



# VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS

*A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam*

# 1967



**Stéphane Moutin-Luyat**

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**Stéphane Moutin-Luyat – 2011**

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**distribution unlimited**

Front cover:

Members of Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, descend the side of Hill 742 located five miles northwest of Dak To, Operation MACARTHUR, November 1967.  
(Center of Military History)



# VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1967

## A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

This volume is the third in a series of chronologies of Allied combat operations conducted during the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1973, interspersed with significant military events and augmented with a listing of US and FWF units arrival and departure for each month. It is based on a chronology prepared for the Vietnam Combat Operations series of scenarios for *The Operational Art of War III* I've been working on for more than four years, completed with additional information obtained in primary source documents. It does not pretend to be a comprehensive listing, data are scarcely available when dealing with South Vietnamese or Korean operations, for example.

Each operation is presented in the following format:

**Date** **Operation:** name of the operation, when available  
**Location:** population centers, landmarks, province. **Type:** type of operation, when available. **Controlling headquarters:** when available. **Task organization:** friendly units involved, when available. **Intelligence:** enemy situation and forces, when available. **Execution:** brief description, when available. **Results:** friendly and enemy casualties, when available.

A glossary of acronyms and abbreviations is available on page 59.

### Color Code:

	United States Army
	United States Marine Corps
	United States Air Force
	United States Navy
	Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces
	Free World Forces

## JANUARY

**1 Jan.** A new CIDG Camp opens at Con Thien, Quang Tri Province, for detachment A-110.

**1 Jan.** US military strength in the RVN is 395,000.

**1 Jan.** 7<sup>th</sup> Air Force takes over operational control of 140 USA Caribou (CV-2) aircraft, redesignated C-7A and assigned to 834<sup>th</sup> Air Division.

**1 Jan.** MARKET TIME Swift boats intercept 70-foot steel-hulled trawler 20 km off southern coast of An Xuyen; trawler beached and burned.

**1 Jan.-5 Apr.** **Operation:** PAUL REVERE V/SAM HOUSTON  
**Location:** Pleiku, New Plei Djereng, Duc Co, Plei Doc, Edap Enang, LZ 3 TANGO, LZ 501 NORTH, Route 14, Route 19, Route 509, Nam Sathay River, Se San River, Plei Trap Valley, Base Area 702, Pleiku and Kontum Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy.  
**Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization (effective 1 January):** 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf, 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art, D/5-16 Art; 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div<sup>1</sup>: 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 2-9 Art, C/3-4 Cav, B/3-6 Art, D/65<sup>th</sup> Eng; TF 1-10 Cav: 1-10 Cav (-), C/3-4 Cav, Rifle Co 3/25 Inf; Div Arty: 6-14 Art, 5-16 Art (-); Div Troops: 1-69 Arm (-), 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn (-). **Task organization (effective 31 January):** 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 2-8 Inf, 1-12 Inf (-), 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art, A/6-29 Art; TF 2-35 Inf: 2-35 Inf (-), A/2-9 Art, A/1-69 Arm; TF 1-69 Arm: 1-69 Arm (-), C/3-4 Cav (-), B/2-35 Inf, 5-16 Art (-), B/3-6 Art, B/7-13 Art; TF 1-10 Cav: 1-10 Cav (-), C/1-69 Arm, 3-6 Art (-); Div Arty: 6-14 Art, C/5-16 Art, D/5-16 Art; Div Troops: 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn (-), Plat C/1-12 Inf. **Task organization (effective 19 February):** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf, 2-35 Inf, A/1-8 Inf, 6-29 Art (-), A/4-42 Art, C/2-9 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng. 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art (-); TF 1-8 Inf: 1-8 Inf (-), A/6-29 Art, B/6-29 Art; TF 3-8 Inf: 3-8 Inf, C/6-29 Art; TF 1-69 Arm: 1-69 Arm (-), C/3-4 Cav (-), Plat 1-8 Inf, B/3-6 Art, B/7-13 Art; TF 1-10

Cav: 1-10 Cav (-), Co 1-69 Arm, Plat 1-8 Inf, 3-6 Art (-); Div Arty: 6-14 Art, 5-16 Art (-); Div Troops: 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn (-). **Task organization (effective 8 March):** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 6-29 Art (-), C/2-9 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng. 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art (-), B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; TF 2-8 Inf: 2-8 Inf (-), B/6-29 Art, A/4-42 Art; TF 1-69 Arm: 1-69 Arm (-), Plat 2-8 Inf, B/3-6 Art, A/5-16 Art; TF 1-10 Cav: 1-10 Cav (-), Co 1-69 Arm, C/3-4 Cav (-), Plat 2-8 Inf, 3-6 Art (-), B/7-13 Art; Div Arty: 6-14 Art, 5-16 Art (-), Plat 2-8 Inf; Div Troops: 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn (-). **Task organization (effective 28 March):** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 1-12 Inf, C/2-8 Inf, C/3-4 Cav (-), 6-29 Art, B/4-42 Art, C/4-42 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng. 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf (-), 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art (-), C/2-9 Art, A/3-6 Art, Plat B/1-69 Arm, B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); TF 1-69 Arm: 1-69 Arm (-), Plat C/2-8 Inf, B/3-6 Art, A/5-16 Art; TF 1-10 Cav: 1-10 Cav (-), C/3-6 Art; Div Arty: 6-14 Art, 5-16 Art (-), 1-92 Art, D/6-40 Art; Div Troops: 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn (-). **Intelligence:** 1<sup>st</sup> PAVN Div: 32<sup>nd</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> and 66<sup>th</sup> Rgts; 10<sup>th</sup> PAVN Div: 88<sup>th</sup>, 95B and 101C Rgts; 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt; 200<sup>th</sup> PAVN Art Bn; 407<sup>th</sup> PLAF MF Bn; H15 PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** Operation PAUL REVERE V (renamed SAM HOUSTON on 12 Feb) started on 1 Jan 67, but did not really get going until the division crossed the Nam Sathay River in mid February. Then, in the next five weeks, the division had nine major contacts and a small number of contacts with NVA squad or platoon sized elements. The operation unfolded in five phases. During Phase 1 (1 Jan-14 Feb), screening and search and destroy operations were conducted along the Cambodian border while the cavalry squadron and armor battalion conducted route security for Routes 509, 14B and 19W. On 3 Jan, the CP of the 2d Bde at LZ 3 TANGO was hit by a 40-round mortar attack but no other significant contact was made. Phase 2 (15-21 Feb) saw the heaviest contacts during SAM HOUSTON. A build up of intelligence indicated that enemy forces were entering the area west of the Nam Sathay River. The decision was made to commit two infantry battalions into FSBs west of the river. On 15 Feb, 1-12 Inf clashed with the 8<sup>th</sup> Bn, 66<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt on LZ 501 NORTH, killing 113 and suffering 12 KIA and 32 WIA. On 16 Feb, C/2-8 Inf was ambushed by elts of the 32<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt, enemy casualties were 114 KIA while US losses were 23 KIA and 21 WIA. That same day, A/1-22 Inf also made contact with the enemy, killing 33 but losing 20 KIA and 21 WIA. On 19 February, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde HQ began moving from Tuy Hoa to New Plei Djereng and joined the operation. On 21 Feb, B/2-8 Inf investigating the results of a B-52 strike, was ambushed by an estimated NVA battalion east of the Nam Sathay. 43 enemy were killed, 7 US KIA and 34 US WIA. During Phase 3 (22 Feb-15 Mar) the AO was divided between the two brigades, the 1<sup>st</sup> assumed responsibility of the area between the Se San and Nam Sathay Rivers and the 2d operated west of the Nam Sathay to the Cambodian border. On 25 Feb, A/1-12 Inf moving out of FSB 501 detected an L-shaped ambush and engaged the enemy, killing 48 while suffering 1 KIA and 30 WIA. On 27 Feb, a LRP team from the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div on a BDA mission landed on the Cambodian side of the Nam Sathay River by error and had a brief contact with enemy forces before being whisked away. On 12 March, 2-35 Inf made heavy contact near the border, killing 55 by bodycount while losing 14 KIA and 46 WIA. Phase 4 (16-28 Mar) saw the two brigades moving to an area bordered by the Se San to the north, the Pleiku defense sector to the east, the 20 grid line to the south and the Cambodian border to the west. The 2d Bde searched an area called the Plei Doc 15 km southwest of 3 TANGO and an equal distance northwest from Duc Co. On 22 Mar a recondo patrol from 1-8 Inf lost radio contact for an extended period, and A/1-8 Inf was sent to search for them, bumping into a battalion from the 95B PAVN Rgt. 136 enemy were killed while US losses were 27 KIA and 48 WIA. Phase 5 (29 Mar-5 Apr) saw the removal of the bridge across the Se San and extensive cordon and search operations of villages and hamlets within the AO. The Edap Enang resettlement project was started by the GVN during this period and supported by the division. **Results:** 733 enemy killed, 17 detained, 172 US KIA, 802 US WIA.

1 The 3d Bde deployed to Binh Dinh Province on 3 Jan, joining Operation THAYER II and coming under opcon of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div (see VCO 1966, p. 34).

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**2 Jan.** New Year's stand-down period ended 0700. US MACV recorded total 111 incidents during the period and reported 24 to the press as significant.

**2 Jan. Operation: BOLO**

**Location:** Phuc Yen Airfield, Route Package 6A, North Vietnam. **Type:** MiG sweep. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> AF. **Task organization:** 8<sup>th</sup> and 366<sup>th</sup> TFW. **Intelligence:** 16 VPAF MiG-21s. **Execution:** BOLO was a deception operation aimed at luring the VPAF MiG-21s into air-combat. Largest air-to-air battle of the war. **Results:** 7 MiG-21s shot down, 2 probable (VPAF only admitted losing 5).

**2-3 Jan. Operation: GLEN BURNIE**

**Location:** Binh Loc, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 3/11 ACR, 52d ARVN Rgr Bn. **Execution:** A systematic search and interrogation of the villagers produced no significant results but the operation removed the village from Viet Cong domination and opened it for Revolutionary Development. **Results:** 29 enemy detained.

**3 Jan.** In Saigon at 2200, terrorist tossed grenade vicinity 108/60 Tran Quang Dieu. 1 US killed, 5 US wounded and 1 VN child killed.

**3 Jan.-4 Mar. Operation: MAENG HO 8**

**Location:** Cu Mong, Song Cau, Binh Dinh and Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy, cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Task organization:** 26<sup>th</sup> ROK Inf Rgt. **Intelligence:** 5<sup>th</sup> Bn, 95<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, H65 PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** The 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment pushed south from Qui Nhon and into Phu Yen Province, conducting a series of cordon and search operations, trapping many NVA and VC soldiers trying to escape disguised as peasants **Results:** 211 enemy killed, 403 captured, 673 detained, 7 ROK KIA, 17 ROK WIA.

**4 Jan.** A new CIDG Camp opens at Chi Linh, Binh Long Province, for detachment A-333.

**4 Jan.** Two American engineers and a Filipina released vicinity Xuan Loc after seven months as prisoners of the Viet Cong.

**4-9 Jan. Operation: LINCOLN**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/5 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the southern portion of the Da Nang TAOR with light contact. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 captured, 2 detained, 5 US WIA.

**5-7 Jan. Operation: NIAGARRA FALLS**

**Location:** Cau Dinh Jungle, Song Sai Gon, Song Thi Tinh, Rach Ong Nang, Binh Duong Province **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** TF ALPHA: 1-503 Inf, B/2-34 Arm, C/3-319 Art, Tank Plt 1-4 Cav, 35<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Bns, 165A PLAF Rgt, Phu Loi PLAF LF Bn, C63 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** The mission was to conduct a deceptive feint into the Cau Dinh Jungle and begin search and destroy operations in preparation for the larger, multi-division Operation CEDAR FALLS. **Results:** included in Operation CEDAR FALLS.

**5-8 Jan. Operation: COUNTY FAIR 1-25**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines. **Results:** (no info).

**5-14 Jan. Operation: SEINE**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Results:** 140 enemy killed, 76 detained, 31 ROK KIA, 57 ROK WIA.

**6 Jan.** The Thai Government announces more than 1,000 RTA volunteers will soon go to RVN.

**6 Jan.** Two USAF F-4Cs downed 2 MiG 21s 100 miles west of Hanoi, raising total MIGs down to 36.

**6-15 Jan. Operation: DECKHOUSE V/SONG THAN**

**Location:** Song Co Chien, Song Ham Luong, Than Phu Secret Zone, Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Special Landing Force. **Task organization:** SLE: BLT 1/9 Marines; VMMC TF BRAVO: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>

VNMC Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Intelligence:** 261<sup>st</sup> PLAF MF Bn, 516<sup>th</sup> and 518<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bns. **Execution:** The joint amphibious operation assaulted an area of suspected enemy concentrations on the coast of Kien Hoa Province in the Than Phu Secret Zone located between the Co Chien and Ham Luong reaches of the Mekong but produced no significant contact. This was the last SLF operation outside of I CTZ and the Vietnamese Marines returned to their previous landlocked role. **Results:** 21 enemy killed, 25 detained, 7 US KIA and 1 VNMC KIA.

**7 Jan.** at 0135, the enemy attacked Camp Holloway Airfield 4 km east of Pleiku City. Ground assault was supported by mortar. Enemy attacked Pleiku AFB and Lac Trung Sub Sector at same time. Sappers penetrated center of Camp Holloway with satchel charges and grenades. Light equipment and aircraft damage.

**7-9 Jan. Operation: COUNTY FAIR 1-28**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines. **Results:** (no info).

**7-10 Jan. Operation: LIEN KET 80**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 77 enemy killed, 24 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 11 ARVN WIA.

**7-19 Jan. Operation: SILVER LAKE**

**Location:** Binh Son, Phuoc Chi, Bien Hoa and Phuoc Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde: 3-39 Inf, 2-60 Inf, 5-60 Inf (M). **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** Operation SILVER LAKE was the first operation of the 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div in RVN, conducted in the Binh Son rubber plantation with minimal contact. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 27 detained.

**8-26 Jan. Operation: CEDAR FALLS/XAY DUNG/69/SL**

**Location:** Ben Suc, Ben Cat, Tam An Xa, Rach Bap, Iron Triangle, Ho Bo Woods, Thanh Dien Forestry Reserve, Filhol Plantation, Song Sai Gon, Song Thi Tinh, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div: 1-26 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-7 Art; 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div: 1-2 Inf, 1-16 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 2-33 Art; 1<sup>st</sup> Div Arty: 8-6 Art, B/2-32 Art, 2-35 Art (-); 1<sup>st</sup> Div Troops: 1<sup>st</sup> Avn Bn, 1<sup>st</sup> Eng Bn, D/1-4 Cav; TF DEANE: 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 2/11 ACR, 3/11 ACR, D/16 Arm, 1-4 Cav (-), E/17 Cav, 3-319 Art, A/5-2 Art, C/5-2 Art, 173d Eng Co; 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 2-34 Arm, 1-8 Art, 3-13 Art (-), B/65<sup>th</sup> Eng; 196<sup>th</sup> LIB: 2-1 Inf, 1-5 Inf (M), 2-22 Inf (M), 3-21 Inf, B/3-4 Cav, F/17 Cav, 3-82 Art, A/2-77 Art, 175<sup>th</sup> Eng Co; 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Abn TF: 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Abn Bns; 8<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt: 4/7, 2/8, 3/8, 4/8 ARVN Bns, 1<sup>st</sup> Tank Trp, 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN ACR, 35<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 272<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt; 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Bns, 165A PLAF Rgt; C61, C64, C81 and C320 PLAF LF Cos; Z41 Bn, U80 PLAF Art Rgt; Military Affairs Committee MR4; Political Committee MR4. **Execution:** CEDAR FALLS targeted the headquarters of the enemy's Military Region 4 located in the Iron Triangle north-west of Saigon. The seal of the triangle was to be executed in conjunction with an airmobile assault on the village of Ben Suc on D-Day. The 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div with its 2d Bde and the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) was to occupy blocking positions along the east bank of the Saigon River while a cavalry squadron and two battalions of infantry were to occupy blocking positions along the Thi Tinh River from Tam An Xa to Ben Cat. On D+1, four infantry battalions were to conduct airmobile assaults into landing zones north and west of the Thanh Dien Forestry Reserve. The 2d and 3d Squadrons, 11<sup>th</sup> ACR, part of Task Force DEANE and accompanied by supporting engineers would then conduct a thrust westward from Ben Cat, cutting through the Iron Triangle. On D+4, two ARVN battalions would assume the mission of evacuating the inhabitants of Ben Suc to Phu Cuong, the provincial capital. On 8 Jan, the 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div initiated CEDAR FALLS with 1-26 Inf and A/2-18 Inf conducting an air-assault in 60 UH-1D helicopters on Ben Suc, encountering sporadic sniper fire but discovering an extensive underground bunker complex below the village. On 9 Jan, 1-2 Inf, 1-16 Inf, 1-28 Inf and 2-28 Inf air-assaulted into the Thanh Dien Forestry Reserve with minimal

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contact. At the same time the two squadrons of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACR crossed the Thi Tinh near Ben Suc and attacked along a dirt road to cut the Triangle in half and aiming for an enemy headquarters reported to be at the small village of Rach Bap. On 10 Jan, the evacuation of the 6,000 inhabitants of Ben Suc began. It was a helter-skelter affair, thoroughly mixing up the Vietnamese evacuees with the belongings. On 13 Jan, after the departure of the last refugees, the destruction of both the surface and underground facilities commenced, a job completed by 17 Jan after engineers detonated 5 tons of explosives, mostly captured enemy munitions, buried in a hole in the center of what was left of Ben Suc. Elsewhere in the Triangle, Allied forces discovered numerous rice caches and bunker complexes but made no major contact with the enemy until the operation was terminated on 26 Jan. **Results:** 750 enemy killed, 280 captured, 540 returnees, 512 detained, 72 US KIA, 337 US WIA, 11 ARVN KIA, 8 ARVN WIA.

**9 Jan.** An AC-47 gunship was downed by probable ground fire 42 km southeast of Quang Ngai City, 7 US KIA.

**9-10 Jan. Operation: CALOUNDIA**

**Location:** Xa Binh Ba, Route 2, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 103 Fld Bty, one troop A Sqn 3 Cav. **Execution:** CALOUNDIA was a cordon and search of Xa Binh Ba, a village located on Route 2, 7 km north of Nui Dat. **Results:** 9 enemy detained.

**7-9 Jan. Operation: COUNTY FAIR 1-29**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines. **Results:** (no info).

**8 Jan.-7 Feb. Operation: BLACKJACK 31**

**Location:** Long Khanh and Phuoc Tuy Provinces. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** A-304 MGF. **Execution:** A-304 conducted mobile guerrilla operations in southern Phuoc Long and northern Long Khanh Provinces. 55 contacts were made and 77 airstrikes were directed against enemy forces. **Results:** 56 enemy killed, 1 CIDG KIA, 4 CIDG WIA.

**9 Jan.** World's fourth-largest dredge, the JAMAICA BAY, mined and sunk by VC at Dong Tam, Dinh Tuong Province.

**10 Jan.** A new CIDG Camp opens at Tra Cu, Long An Province, for detachment A-352.

**11 Jan.** GVN Constituent Assembly Drafting Committee unveils draft constitution.

**11 Jan.** USMC UH-34D helicopter down off coast of Chu Lai in Quang Tin Province due to engine failure, 9 US KIA and 1 US MIA.

**10 Jan.-23 Mar. Operation: BLACKJACK 41**

**Location:** Chau Doc Province. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Execution:** mobile guerrilla operation conducted in the Seven Mountains region of IV CTZ. **Results:** (no info).

**11-14 Jan. Operation: WOLLONGONG**

**Location:** Route 2, Route 15, Binh Ba Rubber Plantation, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 1<sup>st</sup> Fld Rgt, 3 SAS Sqn. **Execution:** Operation conducted 5 km north-northwest of Nui Dat with negative contact. **Results:** 1 enemy killed.

**12 Jan.** At 0120 in Phong Dinh Province, the enemy attacked the Binh Thuy airfield 10 km northwest of Can Tho with 50 rounds of mortar and recoilless rifle fire.

**14 Jan.** The US Navy announces SEAL units operational in RVN.

**14-16 Jan. Operation: DAN CHI 275/B**

**Location:** Chuong Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 181 enemy killed, 7 detained, 22 ARVN KIA, 43 ARVN WIA.

**14-21 Jan. Operation: LAM SON 142**

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** security **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 70 enemy killed, 3 detained, 14 ARVN KIA, 35 ARVN WIA.

**15 Jan.** A US Army CH-47 helicopter was downed by suspected ground fire 12 km southwest of Can Tho, Phong Dinh Province. 8 US KIA and 1 US MIA.

**16 Jan.** US announces resumption of air strikes in Hanoi area.

**16-17 Jan. Operation: INTOSH JOYCE 2**

**Location:** Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy (no other info).

**16-18 Jan. and 31 Jan.-2 Feb. Operation: CAMDEN**

**Location:** Hoa Long, Route 2, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 1<sup>st</sup> Fld Rgt, A/2-35 Art. **Execution:** Operation conducted 1 km south of Nui Dat with negative contact. **Results:** 10 enemy captured, 19 detained.

**18 Jan.** US announces use of bases in Thailand to support operations in Vietnam.

**20 Jan.** At about 0200, USMC installation at Phu Bai in Thua Thien Province 16 km southeast of Hue received 30-35 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light friendly casualties.

**20-22 Jan. Operation: COUNTY FAIR 1-32**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines. **Results:** (no info).

**20-28 Jan. Operation: COLBY<sup>2</sup>**

**Location:** Phy My, Binh Son, Onq Que Rubber Plantation, Phuoc Chi Secret Zone Bien Hoa and Phuoc Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-39 Inf, 4-39 Inf, 5-60 Inf (M), 3-5 Cav, 3/11 ACR (-). **Execution:** COLBY was the second operation conducted by the 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div in Vietnam, searching the Phuoc Chi Secret Zone in western Phuoc Tuy Province. **Results:** 14 enemy killed.

**20 Jan.-26 Feb. Operation: REGINA**

**Location:** Phuoc Long Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-56 Project SIGMA. **Execution:** Reconnaissance operation conducted in two phases from 20 Jan to 6 Feb and from 13-26 Feb in northeastern Phuoc Long Province. **Results:** (no info).

**21 Jan.-6 Feb. Operation: MA DOO I**

**Location:** Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 28<sup>th</sup> ROK Inf Rgt. **Results:** 160 enemy killed, 57 detained, 3 ROK KIA, 14 ROK WIA.

**22 Jan.-2 Feb. Operation: STARK**

**Location:** Chu Pong Massif, Pleiku Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** B-50 Det Project OMEGA. **Execution:** Long range reconnaissance and intelligence gathering conducted vicinity of the Chu Pong Massif in southwestern Pleiku Province. **Results:** (no info).

**23-25 Jan. Operation: ROOT II**

**Location:** Kannack, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2-5 Cav. **Execution:** Operation conducted west of Kannack in Binh Dinh Province. **Results:** (no info).

**23-28 Jan. Operation: TUSCALOOSA**

**Location:** An Hoa, La Bac, Phu Loc, Song Thu Bon, Arizona Territory, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/5 Marines. **Intelligence:** R20 PLAF MF Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted along the Song Thu Bon 15 km northwest of An Hoa. On 26 Jan, 2/5 Marines made heavy contact with the R20 Bn near La Bac. **Results:** 79 enemy killed, 2 detained, 17 US KIA, 52 US WIA.

**24-25 Jan. Operation: CLEVELAND**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines, B/1<sup>st</sup> Tank Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the southern portion of the Da Nang TAOR with no contact. **Results:** 2 US WIA.

2 Originally EL DORADO.



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**25 Jan.** Soviet mine found in Saigon River, first Russian mine found in war.

**26 Jan.-16 Feb. **Operation:** FARRAGUT I**

**Location:** Phan Rang, Xom Moi, Vinh Hao, Nui Cha Bang, Nui Da, Secret Bases 7 and 35, Ninh Thuan and Binh Thuan Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326 Eng. **Intelligence:** 324<sup>th</sup> Co, 724<sup>th</sup> PAVN Bn; X401 and X435 PLAF LF Cos. **Execution:** On 21 Jan, the brigade began air and overland movement from Kontum to Phan Rang, the last elements closing the Brigade base camp on 26 Jan. That same day, phase I of Operation FARRAGUT was launched with Task Force DOHERTY (C/2-502 Inf, C/2-320 Art, 1 plat A/326 Eng, 1 plat A/2-17 Cav) conducting a deception operation in Secret Base 35 (Nui Cha Bang) located south of Phan Rang and east of Route 1. On 27 Jan, following a B-52 strike, 1-327 Inf and 2-327 Inf conducted airmobile assaults into Base Area 7 (Nui Da) 25 km west of Phan Rang while 2-502 Inf moved overland into the southern portion of the AO. Contact was light; on 28 Jan 2-327 Inf discovered a large base area believed to have been the VC Province Headquarters. On 30 and 31 Jan, 1-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf were extracted from the FARRAGUT AO to Phan Rang and prepared to initiate Operation GATLING I in Lam Dong Province. 2-327 Inf continued the operation alone, making little contact but discovering numerous food caches. On 8 Feb, offensive operations were terminated in the AO in observance of the Tet truce period (8-12 Feb). On 13 Feb, Task Force THUNDERBALL (2-327 Inf, A/2-17 Cav, B/2-320 Art, B/1-30 Art, B/14 Eng) conducted airmobile assaults and overland moves north of Route 1 just across the border of Binh Thuan Province and commenced search and destroy operations to eliminate VC domination of Route 1 between Xom Moi and Vinh Hao while B/14 Eng repaired the road to accommodate military convoys. On 16 Feb, TF THUNDERBALL terminated operations south of Phan Rang and moved to Song Mao to prepare for phase II of Operation FARRAGUT. **Results:** (see Operation FARRAGUT IV).

**26 Jan.-7 Apr. **Operation:** DESOTO**

**Location:** Duc Pho, Sa Huynh, Vinh Binh, Truong Sanh, Tan Tu, Sa Binh, Hai Mon, Nui Dang, Nui Dau, Song Tra Cau, LZ BAT, Duc Pho District, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force X-RAY. **Task organization:** 3/7 Marines, 1/4 Marines (20 Feb-3 Mar), 1/5 Marines (26 Feb-3 Mar), L/3/5 Marines (from 31 Mar), M/3/5 Marines (from 31 Mar), I/3/12 Marines; 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div (elts). **Intelligence:** 38<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bns. **Execution:** Operation DESOTO was mounted to relieve the 4/4 ARVN Bn from outpost duty so that it could be employed in the Revolutionary Development program in the district. On 27 Jan, 3/7 Marines was lifted by helicopter atop Nui Dang, a hill mass overlooking Duc Pho and began patrolling nearby villages, encountering constant sniper fire and fortified hamlets in this heavily VC-controlled area. On 31 Jan Cos L & M, 3/5 Marines reinforced the operation. On 20 Feb, TF X-RAY assumed operational control of the SLF (1/4 Marines) after it had landed near Sa Huynh in Operation DECKHOUSE IV and swept north into the DESOTO AO. On 26 Feb, TF X-RAY with 1/5 Marines and two ARVN Bns from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division joined the SLF in phase II of Operation DECKHOUSE IV, conducting airmobile and amphibious assaults 10 km northwest of Duc Pho where the 38<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bn had been detected, making heavy contact near LZ BAT and killing 76 of the enemy. On 3 Mar, 1/4 Marines reverted to SLF control and 1/5 Marines returned to Chu Lai while 3/7 continued Operation DESOTO alone. On 24 Mar, 250 enemy mortar rounds hit the battalion area, killing 3 and wounding 14 others. By 31 Mar, the battalion had swept approximately 75 percent of the assigned area of responsibility, forcing Communists forces to revert to guerrilla tactics. Despite being a military success, DESOTO generated nearly 11,000 refugees in the Duc Pho area, and the civic action aspects of the operation remained unsolved long after it ended on 7 Apr. **Results:** 383 enemy killed, 378 detained, 76 US KIA

574 US WIA.

**27 Jan.** Deputy Prime Minister Co reported in exile, LTG Vien named as Minister of Defense in addition to duty as CJGS.

**27 Jan.** Newport, Saigon officially opens as a military port terminal facility.

**27-31 Jan. **Operation:** BULLSEYE V**

**Location:** Bon Son, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2-12 Cav, 2 plats 1-9 Cav, 40<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt (elts). **Intelligence:** 8<sup>th</sup> Bn, 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** BULLSEYE V was a sub-operation of THAYER II. On 27 Jan. 2-12 Cav made heavy contact with the 8<sup>th</sup> Bn, 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt northeast of Bong Son, killing 72 and capturing 11. **Results:** included in THAYER II.

**27 Jan.-1 Feb. **Operation:** CUU LONG/51/SD**

**Location:** Go Cong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** Operation conducted 13 km west-southwest of Go Cong with support from RAGs 21 and 27. **Results:** 9 enemy killed, 60 detained, 49 returnees, friendly losses not reported.

**27 Jan.-3 Feb. **Operation:** IOLA**

**Location:** Ba Ria, Phu My, Bearcat, Route 15, Phuoc Tuy and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** TRUSCOTT: 3-5 Cav (-), 3/11 ACR. **Execution:** The operation secured Route 15 between Ba Ria and Phu My for the movement of the 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div from Vung Tau to the Bearcat base camp. **Results:** (no info).

**28-31 Jan. **Operation:** SEYMOUR**

**Location:** Nui Dinh, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, A/5RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav (-), 101 Fld Bty. **Execution:** Operation conducted 7 km southwest of Nui Dat in the Nui Dinh Hills. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 1 AUS KIA, 1 AUS WIA.

**28 Jan.-31 May **Operation:** PALM BEACH**

**Location:** Dong Tam, Ap Bac, 20/7 Heartland Zone, Cam Son Secret Zone, Ban Long Base Area, Base Area 470, Route 4, Song My Tho, Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** security, search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (28 Jan-10 Mar); 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (10 Mar-31 May). **Task organization:** 3-47 Inf, 4-47 Inf, 3-60 Inf, 5-60 Inf (M), 3-34 Art, USN Task Force 117. **Intelligence:** 263<sup>rd</sup> PLAF MF Bn, 514<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** PALM BEACH began as a security operation aimed at protecting engineer parties dredging the future base of the Mobile Riverine Force at Dong Tam. On 10 Mar, the 2d Bde headquarters arrived at Dong Tam, assuming control of the operation, and was joined a few days later by 3-47 Inf which had completed riverine training in the Rung Sat Special Zone. In April, COL Fulton, commander of the 2d Bde, learned that the 514<sup>th</sup> LF Bn had moved into Ap Bac where a much publicized battle had taken place in Jan 1963. Mounting an operation with 3-47 Inf, 3-60 Inf and elements of 5-60 Inf (M), American forces attacked the village on 2 May, killing nearly 200 enemies and losing 15 KIA and 27 WIA. On 13 May, 4-47 Inf joined the brigade after riverine training in the RSSZ. With his full brigade assembled at Dong Tam, COL Fulton began a sustained riverine campaign against the 20/7 Heartland Zone, a major insurgent sanctuary located immediately west of the base. On 15 May an operation was launched with 3-47 Inf and 4-47 Inf on the north bank of the Song My Tho in the western portion of the base area known as the Cam Son Secret Zone, trapping the 514<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bn once again. Enemy casualties were over 100 killed while US forces sustained 1 KIA and 25 WIA. On 18-19 May, a similar operation against Base Area 470 in western Dinh Tuong some 36 km inland from the My Tho turned to be a dry hole. On 31 May, PALM BEACH phased into the CORONADO series of operations. **Results:** 570 enemy killed, 97 detained, 51 US KIA, 321 US WIA.

**29 Jan.-2 Feb. **Operation:** COUNTY FAIR 1-30**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:**

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3/1 Marines. **Results:** (no info).

## 29 Jan.-16 Feb. **Operation:** BIG SPRING

**Location:** Xom Cat, War Zone D, Song Dong Nai, Song Be, Bien Hoa and Long Khanh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde; 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, E/17 Cav, 2-39 Inf, 3-39 Inf, 4-39 Inf. **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Bns, 273<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** The operation was conducted north of Xom Cat in War Zone D. 1,000 bunkers were destroyed and 24 tons of rice captured but no significant contact developed. **Results:** 79 enemy killed.

## 29 Jan.-4 Mar. **Operation:** PENG MA I<sup>3</sup>

**Location:** Nha Trang, Hon Ba Mountain, Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> ROK Inf Rgts. **Intelligence:** 18B PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** BAEK MA I was the first large-scale operation of the 9<sup>th</sup> ROK Infantry Division. Four battalions from the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Regiments assaulted into Hon Ba Mountain 25 km northwest of Nha Trang and destroyed the 8<sup>th</sup> Bn, 18B PAVN Regiment as well as the VC Provincial Headquarters. **Results:** 394 enemy killed, 40 detained, 19 ROK KIA and 35 ROK WIA.

## 30 Jan.-1 Feb. **Operation:** TRINITY<sup>4</sup>

**Location:** Chu Lai TAOR, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force X-RAY. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, 2d ROKMC Bn. **Execution:** Contact during the entire operation was light. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 3 captured, 3 detained, 6 US WIA.

**31 Jan.** MG Douglas Vincent, RAA, arrives in-country and assumes command of Royal Australian Forces, Vietnam.

## 31 Jan.-1 Feb. **Operation:** LONG PHI/999/A

**Location:** Kien Phong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 51 enemy killed, 16 detained, 2 ARVN KIA, 34 ARVN WIA.

## 31 Jan.-3 Feb. **Operation:** CLAY

**Location:** Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines. **Execution:** Contact during the entire operation was light. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 2 detained, 10 US WIA.

## 31 Jan.-9 Feb. **Operation:** SEARCY

**Location:** Thuy Bo, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines. **Execution:** On 31 Jan, H/2/1 Marines bumped into a VC battalion fortified in the hamlet of Thuy Bo, 15 km southwest of Da Nang. **Results:** 101 enemy killed, 5 US KIA, 26 US WIA.

### Arrival:

1 Jan.	3-39 Inf 1-11 Art 154 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co 457 <sup>th</sup> TCS 458 <sup>th</sup> TCS 459 <sup>th</sup> TCS 535 <sup>th</sup> TCS 536 <sup>th</sup> TCS 537 <sup>th</sup> TCS
2 Jan.	529 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co 566 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co
3 Jan.	HQ 1 <sup>st</sup> Bde, 9 <sup>th</sup> Inf Div 2-39 Inf 3-39 Inf Trp A, 3-5 Cav
4 Jan.	59 <sup>th</sup> Signal Co 9 <sup>th</sup> Med Bn
6 Jan.	2/4 Marines
7 Jan.	62d Maint Bn
8 Jan.	127 <sup>th</sup> MP Co

3 Initially BAEK MA I.

4 Reported as Operation SHARK in 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div Command Chronology.

11 Jan.	44 <sup>th</sup> Inf Plt (Scout Dog) 1041 <sup>st</sup> Combat SPS (Test) <sup>5</sup>
12 Jan.	335 <sup>th</sup> ASA Co
13 Jan.	213 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 240 <sup>th</sup> QM Bn
15 Jan.	48 <sup>th</sup> Inf Plt (Scout Dog) 381 <sup>st</sup> AG Co
16 Jan.	A Sqn, 3 Cav <sup>6</sup>
17 Jan.	67 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co 104 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co 222d AG Co 3d Maint Co 40 <sup>th</sup> Ord Co
18 Jan.	HQ 26 <sup>th</sup> General Sup Grp HQ 80 <sup>th</sup> General Sup Grp 218 <sup>th</sup> MP Co HMM-362
20 Jan.	HQ Bty, 8-26 Art (TA)
21 Jan.	196 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
25 Jan.	9 <sup>th</sup> ACS
26 Jan.	562d Supply Co 709 <sup>th</sup> Maint Bn 160 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co
28 Jan.	HQ 2d Bde, 9 <sup>th</sup> Inf Div 2-4 Art 269 <sup>th</sup> Avn Bn
30 Jan.	2-47 Inf (M) 3-47 Inf 4-47 Inf Trp B, 3-5 Cav 9 <sup>th</sup> Avn Bn

### Departure:

1 Jan.	17 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 61 <sup>st</sup> Avn Co 92d Avn Co 134 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 135 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
11 Jan.	3/9 Marines <sup>7</sup>
19 Jan.	HMM-363 <sup>8</sup>

## FEBRUARY

**Feb.** A new CIDG Camp opens at My Phuoc Tay, Dinh Tuong Province, for detachment A-411.

**1 Feb.** US military strength in RVN is 410,000.

## 1-8 Feb. **Operation:** TAMBORINE

**Location:** Dat Do, Song Tre, Route 23, FSB LANCE, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** patrol and ambush **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav (-), 161 Bty, RNZA. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** Operation took place along Route 23 between Dat Do and the Song Tre, 11 km east-southeast of Nui Dat. Contact was minimal. All friendly casualties occurred on 6 Feb when rounds fired by the 161 Bty fell on D/6RAR. **Results:** 7 enemy killed, 4 AUS KIA, 13 AUS WIA.

## 1-9 Feb. **Operation:** INDEPENDENCE

**Location:** An Hoa, Song Vu Gia, Hill 510, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 2/4 Marines, 2/5 Marines, 1/26 Marines, 2/26 Marines (one company each). **Execution:** Operation took place west of An Hoa and south of the Song Vu Gia. **Results:** 139 enemy killed, 106 detained, 9 US KIA and 35 US WIA.

## 1-12 Feb. **Operation:** WILLISTON

**Location:** An Loc, Quan Loi, Minh Thanh, Chon Thanh, Ben Cat, Route 13, Route 245, Binh Long and Binh Duong Provinces.

5 This was the test unit for the combat security police role.  
6 Redesignation of 1APC Squadron.  
7 Battalion departed for Okinawa.  
8 To SLF.

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**Type:** road clearing, search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde: 1-2 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 1/11 ACR, 1-5 Art, A/1<sup>st</sup> Eng; 3d Bde: 1-16 Inf (1-10 Feb, 2-28 Inf (10-12 Feb)), 1-4 Cav, 2-33 Art. **Execution:** The 3d Bde secured the portion of Route 13 between Ben Cat and Chon Thanh while the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde secured Route 13 between Chon Thanh and An Loc and Route 245 between An Loc and Minh Thanh, protecting engineer work parties in the AO. During the second phase (7-12 Feb), search and destroy operations were conducted in the Minh Thanh area but produced no significant contact. **Results:** 15 enemy killed, 2 detained, 9 US KIA, 13 US WIA.

### 1-15 Feb. **Operation:** GATLING

**Location:** Bao Loc, Phan Thiet, Tan Rai, Tan Djiran, LZ MARY, LZ JANE, LZ PEG, LZ LIZ, LZ SHIRLEY, LZ LUCKY STRIKE, Lam Dong, Binh Tuy and Binh Thuan Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-7 Cav (-) (5-15 Feb), Co B, 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA (1-4 Feb), 2-320 Art (-), B/1-30 Art, A/326 Eng (-). **Intelligence:** Headquarters MR 6. **Execution:** Operation GATLING was conceived as a raid against the suspected meeting place of the enemy's Military Region 6 Headquarters northwest of Bao Loc in Lam Dong Province. During phase I (1-4 Feb), the brigade minus was extracted from the FARRAGUT AO and moved secretly to Bao Loc and Phan Thiet. On 1 Feb, following a B-52 strike on a suspected high level enemy conference near Tan Djiran 12 km northwest of Bao Loc, 1-327 air-assaulted into LZ MARY, followed by 2-502 Inf air assaulting into blocking positions near LZ JANE. MIKE Forces from Tan Rai were also inserted into LZs PEG, LIZ and SHIRLEY to complete the trap while a company from 2-7 Cav was moved to Bao Loc to serve as the brigade reaction force. During the following days, the units conducted a thorough search of the objective area but found no sign of the presence of an enemy headquarters and the battalions were extracted back to Bao Loc. Phase II (5-15 Feb) began on 5 Feb with the brigade air assaulting into the suspected location of the MR6 Headquarters northwest of Phan Thiet on the border between Binh Tuy and Binh Thuan Provinces. 2-7 Cav (-) became opcon to the brigade and air-assaulted from the BYRD AO into LZ LUCKY STRIKE. Once again, contact was minimal and on 8 Feb all units terminated offensive operations in observance of the Tet cease fire. On 12 Feb, aggressive search and destroy operations were resumed until 15 Feb when all elements were extracted from the AO to Phan Thiet. **Results:** 19 enemy killed, 6 captured, 19 detained, 5 US KIA, 21 US WIA, 2 ARVN KIA, 11 ARVN WIA.

### 1 Feb.-18 Mar. **Operation:** PRAIRIE II

**Location:** Dong Ha, Cam Lo, Con Thien, Khe Sanh, Gio Linh, Camp Carroll, the Rockpile, Route 9, Song Ben Hai, Hill 124, Hill 162, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div (Fwd). **Task organization:** 1/3 Marines (1-6 Feb), 2/3 Marines, 3/3 Marines, 3/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, F/2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 12<sup>th</sup> Marines (-). **Intelligence:** 324B PAVN Div. **Execution:** PRAIRIE II was a continuation of Operation PRAIRIE in the DMZ area against enemy infiltration in Quang Tri Province. On 6 Feb, due to the lack of activity around Khe Sanh, 1/3 Marines was relieved by Co B 1/9 Marines and departed for Okinawa. After the Tet truce period (8-12 Feb), enemy movement dramatically increased both north and south of the Ben Hai River and on 25 Feb, the Marines were given permission to fire in the DMZ for the first time. On 27 Feb, a Marine Recon team was surrounded by a company from the 812<sup>th</sup> Rgt, 324B Div, 5 km north of Cam Lo. Cos L/3/4 and L/2/3 were sent to the aid of the endangered team and the contact soon developed into a major engagement with additional Marine companies being committed into the fray. When the battle ended on the morning of March 3, more than 200 enemy bodies were found. On 7 March, between 420 and 485 mortar and rocket rounds hit Camp Carroll, including 209 spin-stabilized 122mm rockets. The remainder of PRAIRIE II consisted of a series of battalion sweeps between Cam Lo and

Con Thien. The Marines located several mass graves, the discovery of many abandoned bodies emphasizing the disorganized state of the enemy. **Results:** 694 enemy killed, 20 detained, 93 US KIA, 483 US WIA.

### 1 Feb.-23 Sep. **Operation:** LAM SON 142/AB/P3

**Location:** Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 435 enemy killed, 33 detained, 172 ARVN KIA, 420 ARVN WIA, 31 ARVN MIA.

### 2-5 Feb. **Operation:** -

**Location:** Long Tau Shipping Channel, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC Brigade. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> VNMC Bn, A/VNMC Art Bn, RAG 22. **Execution:** The battalion protected shipping on the Long Tau Channel. **Results:** 1 enemy killed.

### 2-6 Feb. **Operation:** SONG THAN 1

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy, road security. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted between Bong Son and Duong Lieu. **Results:** (no info).

### 2-21 Feb. **Operation:** GADSEN

**Location:** Trai Bi, Trang Sup, Lo Go, Xom Giua, Rach Ben Da, Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div: 2-12 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 2-77 Art; 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt): 2-1 Inf, 1-5 Inf (M), 3-21 Inf, 4-31 Inf, 3-82 Art, F/17 Cav. **Intelligence:** 271<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt, 70<sup>th</sup> PLAF Guard Rgt. **Execution:** Operation GADSEN was mounted as a preliminary operation to JUNCTION CITY to prevent movement along routes crossing the Cambodian border in western Tay Ninh Province. After establishing FSBs at Trai Bi and Trang Sup and securing two bridges across the Rach Ben Da, the two brigades launched towards the border. Operating from Trang Sup, the 3d Bde pushed west toward Xom Giua while the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) starting from Trai Bi swept toward Lo Go. On 7 Feb, 1-5 Inf (M) made contact with an estimated enemy platoon, killing 20. **Results:** 161 enemy killed, 21 detained, 29 US KIA, 107 US WIA.

**3 Feb.** Operation MARKET TIME: first PBR lost to hostile fire.

**3 Feb.** Coast Guard Activities, Vietnam (COGARDACTV) established under operational control of COMNAVFORV.

**3 Feb.** 28 prisoners of war are repatriated to NVN at Ben Hai crossing, DMZ.

### 3-7 Feb. **Operation:** MUERTO DOS

**Location:** Phu Quoc Island, Kien Giang Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** A-427 Phu Quoc. **Execution:** operation conducted on the northwest coast of the island with support from Coastal Groups 42 and 46. **Results:** 13 enemy killed, 1 captured.

### 4-14 Feb. **Operation:** MUNCIE

**Location:** Duc Thanh, Cam My, Courtenay Plantation, Blackhorse, Route 2, Long Khanh and Phuoc Tuy Provinces. **Type:** security, search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 3/11 ACR. **Execution:** The 3d Squadron conducted search and destroy operations and provided security for engineer work parties along Inter-provincial Route 2 south of the Blackhorse base camp. Contact was sporadic with no determined resistance. **Results:** (no info).

**5 Feb.** First defoliation mission flown in southern half of DMZ.

**5 Feb.** Record 565 sorties over RVN flown by USAF and USMC pilots.

### 5-7 Feb. **Operation:** HOA XUAN 532

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 81 enemy killed, 14 ARVN KIA, 20 ARVN WIA.

### 6-24 Feb. **Operation:** GREEN LEAF

**Location:** Binh Son, Nhon Trach, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 3-47 Inf, 3-5 Cav. **Execution:** The operation aimed at preventing enemy



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movement during the Tet holiday period. **Results:** 3 enemy detained.

**8-12 Feb.** At 0700 hours, Allied forces commenced observance of a four-day cease-fire for Tet.

**8-12 Feb. Operation: BEECHMONT**

**Location:** Nui Dat, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** patrolling. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 1 Fld Rgt, 3 SAS Sqn. **Execution:** The Task Force patrolled the immediate vicinity of Nui Dat base camp during the Tet truce period. **Results:** 5 enemy detained.

**8 Feb.67-31 Jan.68 Operation: LAM SON 67**

**Location:** Phu Loi, An My, Ong Dong Jungle, Binh Duong, Bien Hoa and Gia Dinh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, cordon and search, saturation patrolling, security, jungle clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div (8 Feb-17 Mar, 17 Apr 67-31 Jan 68); 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div (17 Mar-17 Apr). **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div Revolutionary Development Task Force (various infantry, cavalry and support units were assigned on a rotation basis during the period). **Execution:** The operation supported the GVN's Revolutionary Development Program in conjunction with ARVN units in Binh Duong, Bien Hoa and Gia Dinh Provinces. LAM SON 67 consisted of cordon and search, reconnaissance in force, harassment, jungle clearing, population control, civic action and psychological warfare operations directed against priority targets. Contact in the AO was characterized by light sporadic incidents with local VC elements. On 6 Jan 68, the Phu Loi base camp received 123 rounds of mixed mortar fire, 46 aircraft were damaged and 6 US WIA. Reacting to the attack, A/2-18 Inf and B/2-2 Inf (M) swept the area to the north of the base and contacted two enemy companies of the Phu Loi PLAF Bn. 92 enemy were killed, 4 US KIA and 14 US WIA. Operation LAM SON 67 was terminated on 31 Jan 68 with the beginning of the enemy's Tet Offensive. **Results:** 527 enemy killed, 263 captured, 2,327 detained, 346 defectors, 56 US KIA, 572 US WIA.

**10-12 Feb. Operation: HAI DUONG/1/67**

**Location:** Tra On, Vinh Binh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 10 km southwest of Tra On by one ARVN battalion and two RF companies with support from RAG 25 and 29. **Results:** none.

**12 Feb. Operation: CHU THANG 8**

**Location:** Chau Vien Mountain, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Execution:** operation conducted on Chau Vien Mountain by Phuoc Tuy Sector forces and VNN Coastal Group 32. **Results:** none.

**12-14 Feb. Operation: BEAUMARIS**

**Location:** Xa An Nhut, Route 23, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 103 Fld Bty, A/2-35 Art, A/1-83 Art, 772<sup>nd</sup> RF Co. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF LF Bn, C25 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** 5RAR cordoned and searched Xa An Nhut hamlet located astride Route 23 between Long Dien and Dat Do, 8 km south-southeast of Nui Dat. **Results:** 6 enemy captured, 14 detained, 3 AUS KIA, 5 AUS WIA.

**12-22 Feb. Operation: STONE**

**Location:** Thuy Bo, Go Noi Island, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 2/1 Marines (10-12 Feb), 1/26 Marines (10-12 Feb). **Intelligence:** R20 PLAF MF Bn. **Execution:** Operation took place on Go Noi Island west of Hoi An. On 19 Feb, 1/1 Marines managed to establish a cordon around the R20 Battalion, killing 68 and capturing 25. **Results:** 291 enemy killed, 74 detained, 9 US KIA, 76 US WIA.

**12-28 Feb. Operation: HOA XUAN 533**

**Location:** Tam Quan, Lai Giang, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 40<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Execution:** this was a companion operation to Operation PERSHING. **Results:** (no info).

**12 Feb. 67-18 Jan. 68 Operation: PERSHING**

**Location:** Bong Son, Tuy An, Tam Quan, Hoa Tan, Sa Huynh, Truong Son, An Qui, Trung Xuan, An Lac, An Lao Valley, Kim Son Valley, Suoi Ca Valley, 506 Valley, Nuoc Dinh Valley, Phu My Valley, Song Re Valley, the Crescent, Nui Mieu, Nui Sang, Cay Giep, Dam Tra-O Lake, Route 1, LZ BRONCO BEACH, LZ CRYSTAL, LZ ENGLISH, LZ GARNET, LZ GERONIMO, LZ GLENN, LZ HAMMOND, LZ IRON, LZ MEADE, LZ PAT, LZ SANDRA, LZ STEEL, LZ TOM, LZ TWO BITS, LZ UPLIFT, Binh Dinh and Quang Ngai Provinces.

**Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div. **Task organization (As of 12 Feb):** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde: 1-8 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 5-7 Cav, 2-19 Art (-), D/2-17 Art, C/1-21 Art, A/3-18 Art; 2d Bde: 2-5 Cav, 1-5 Cav (-), 1-7 Cav (-), 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art (-), B/1-8 Art, A/1-21 Art, C/1-30 Art, B/8<sup>th</sup> Eng; 3d Bde: 2-8 Cav, C/1-5 Cav, 1-21 Art (-), 2-17 Art (-), C/6-16 Art, C/2-19 Art, C/8<sup>th</sup> Eng; 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (12 Feb-19 Apr): 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf (4-19 Apr), 2-9 Art, A/1-77 Art, 5-16 Art, C/3-4 Cav, D/65<sup>th</sup> Eng; Div Arty: 2-20 Art (-), 7-13 Art (-), B/29 Art, E/82 Art, 3-18 Art (-); Div Troops: 1-9 Cav, 8<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn (-). **Intelligence:** 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Div: 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgts, 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** Operation PERSHING was conceived as a prolonged large scale offensive north of the Lai Giang River to extend the former THAYER II AO to the northern marches of Binh Dinh Province. The first objective was to clear the entire Bong Son Plain of enemy forces and the second was to sweep the north-south An Lao Valley that paralleled the plain to the west. Kicking off just after the end of the Tet truce period, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2d Brigades air-assaulted north of Bong Son, hoping to trap the 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt reported in the area. The 3d Bde was kept south of LZ ENGLISH to guard the bridge over the Lai Giang while the 3d Bde TF of the 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div held the Kim Son and Suoi Ca Valleys. During the first week, the enemy was flushed in large numbers from tunnels, wells and hidden bunkers in and around villages, but no major contact was made. The first major engagement came on 18 and 19 Feb when the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde found the 9<sup>th</sup> Bn, 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt in the village of Tuy An west of Tam Quan, killing 68. Heavy contact was reported on 27-28 Feb, again on the Bong Son Plain, but operations were hampered by the large number of booby traps emplaced by the enemy. On 6 Mar, 1-9 Cav made contact with the 9<sup>th</sup> Bn, 18<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt at the hamlet of Hoa Tan on the Dam Tra-O Lake. A five-company task force from the 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div was piled on, killing 82 NVA soldiers. In the same area on 11 Mar, C/2-5 Cav was ambushed by an estimated enemy company. US losses were 19 KIA and 25 WIA; only 10 enemy dead were found. On 19 Mar, while searching the hills west of the small port at Sa Huynh, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde made contact with the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn, 22<sup>nd</sup> Rgt south of Truong Son, killing over 120 enemy while losing 34 KIA. In late March, 1-7 Cav moved into the northern end of the An Lao Valley, looking for the still unengaged 8<sup>th</sup> Bn, 22<sup>nd</sup> Rgt. On 8 Apr the enemy unit was finally found in the hamlet of Hung Long. Additional companies from the 3d Bde were inserted into the area including the tanks of A/1-69 Arm detached from the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div on 30 Mar. The enemy fled north into Quang Ngai Province, leaving 78 of his dead behind. During the period 6-19 Apr, the 2d Bde suspended its participation in the operation and launched Operation LEJEUNE in Quang Ngai Province. It was relieved on 19 Apr by the 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div which was detached from opcon to the division on 22 Apr to join Task Force OREGON. On 4-9 May the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde air-assaulted three battalions into Nuoc Dinh Valley on the border between Binh Dinh and Quang Ngai Province north of the An Lao but made only limited contact with the enemy, killing 22. On 17 May, the division recorded its 10,000<sup>th</sup> enemy killed in Vietnam. From 19-21 May, a battalion raid was conducted west of the An Lao Valley in search of the 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Div Headquarters but found nothing. On 22 May, another battalion raid, called Operation FISHERMAN, was conducted vicinity of Sa Huynh. The next day 8 companies took part in Operation ROUNDUP, searching fishing boats and interrogating villagers along the coast from Sa Huynh to the Crescent area. On 31 May, contact was made with a reinforced

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enemy company near An Qui 4 km southwest of Tam Quan. 77 enemy were killed, 8 US KIA and 30 WIA. On 18 Jun, 3 companies conducted the first US/ROK/ARVN operation since IRVING in the Nui Mieu Mountains with elements of the CRID and 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. An enemy company was engaged on 19 Jun, leaving 24 dead on the battlefield. On 21 Jun, two companies and a company from the 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Division while sweeping the Phu My Valley floor made heavy contact with the enemy, killing 66. On 23 Jun, a battalion task force built around 2-12 Cav was sent west to Dak To and became opcon to the 173d Abn Bde conducting operation GREELEY. The next day the 3d Bde minus was sent to Kontum Province and placed opcon to the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div on Operation FRANCIS MARION. On 28 Jun, a platoon from 1-9 Cav contacted an estimated enemy battalion in bunkers east of the Dam Tra-O Lake. Three infantry companies were piled on, killing 84 NVA and capturing 34. On 1 Jul, two NVA companies were engaged near LZ TOM 15 km north-northeast of Bong Son. TACAIR and CS followed by a tank/infantry attack accounted for 86 enemy killed. US losses were 15 KIA and 39 WIA. On 25 Jul, the 3d Bde returned to the PERSHING AO from the Western Highlands. During the period 1-19 Aug, the 3d Bde conducted a reconnaissance-in-force into southern Quang Ngai Province with 5-7 Cav air-assaulting into the Nuoc Dinh Valley. The next day 2-12 Cav and 2-8 Cav air-assaulted into the Song Re Valley to the north, joined on 6 Aug by 5-7 Cav. On 9 Aug, 2-8 Cav made heavy contact near LZ PAT with an estimated enemy battalion in fortified positions, killing 38. On 18 Aug, the brigade began redeployment back to the PERSHING AO. During the period 22 Aug-3 Sep, A/2-5 Cav besieged an estimated 100 NVA in a cave on the Nui Mieu Mountain, killing 33 and capturing 41. On 28-30 Aug, the 2d Bde with 1-5 Cav made contact with the 95<sup>th</sup> Bn, 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt in the Cay Giep Mountains, killing 25. Operation VOTER (3 Sep) and VOTER II (22 Oct) were conducted by the division to insure that elections held in Binh Dinh Province were not influenced by enemy forces. On 5 Sep, LZ TWO BITS was attacked by an estimated enemy company. Results were 1 US KIA and 9 US WIA. On 6 Sep, the 2d Bde with 1-5 Cav, 1-8 Cav and 2-12 Cav joined elements of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgts, 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div, and two VNMC battalions to conduct Operation JOIN HANDS/SONG THAN/807/67 in the Cay Giep Mountains. Two companies of the 2d Bde made amphibious landings on the beaches along the eastern base of the mountains while other elements assaulted by air. No major enemy force was encountered and the operation ended on 15 Sep. On 17 Sep, B/1-8 Cav engaged an estimated enemy company in the hamlet of Tan Thanh 3 km south of Tam Quan, killing 31. During the period 17 Sep-14 Oct, a task force built around 2-8 Cav was placed opcon to the 173d Abn Bde and joined Operation BOLLING in Phu Yen Province. On 25 Sep, opcon of A/1-69 Arm was released and the company returned to the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. The 1-50 Inf (M) arrived at Qui Nhon during this period and was attached to the division. It was placed opcon to the 2d Bde and became operational in the Crescent area on 29 Sep. On 1 Oct, the 3d Bde with three battalions plus support departed the PERSHING AO and was placed under opcon to the AMERICAL Division in I CTZ, launching Operation WALLOWA in Quang Tin Province. On 10-11 Oct, 1-9 Cav, 1-5 Cav and 1-50 Inf (M) made several contacts with the enemy while searching in the 506 Valley, killing 54 and capturing 5. On 31 Oct, C/1-50 Inf (M) in night defensive positions southwest of the Cay Giep was attacked by an unknown size enemy force. Results were 15 NVA killed, 3 US KIA and 10 US WIA. There was very little contact during the month of November but during the period 6-17 Dec, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde fought the most significant battle to date in the operation, joining forces with the 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div and a VNMC Task Force in destroying the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Bns, 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt near the village of Tam Quan, killing 647 of the enemy and capturing 6. On 14 Dec, the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bn, 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt attacked the PF outpost at Trung Xuan. C/1-50 Inf (M) and elts of the 41<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt reinforced, killing 115. On 22 Dec, the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bn was contacted again in the Nui Mieu by elts of 1-9 Cav, 2-5 Cav and 1-50 Inf (M),

losing an additional 57 killed. During the period 20-24 Dec, the division assisted the Qui Nhon Support Command in Operation FROSTBITE, escorting the newly arrived 11<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade from Qui Nhon to Duc Pho along Route 1. On 29 Dec, a CIDG company from Vinh Thanh made contact with the 9<sup>th</sup> Bn, 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt in Happy Valley. Two companies from 1-5 Cav and two companies from 2-5 Cav reinforced the contact, killing 52. Between 2-4 Jan 68, 1-50 Inf (M), reinforced by elts from 1-5 Cav and 2-5 Cav, engaged an estimated enemy battalion in the hamlet of An Lac east of the Dam Tra-O Lake. 97 enemy were killed and 2 captured. On 11 Jan, elts of 1-9 Cav observed and engaged an unknown size enemy force south of the Nui Mieu, killing 29. This was the last significant contact during PERSHING. On 18 Jan, the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div minus terminated the operation and prepared to depart Binh Dinh Province for northern I Corps **Results:** 5,388 enemy killed, 2,356 captured, 10,609 detained, 221 returnees, 852 US KIA, 4,119 US WIA, 22 US MIA.

**13 Feb.** US military court-martial jurisdiction over all civilian personnel serving with or accompanying US forces is announced.

### **13 Feb. 67-10 Mar. 68** **Operation: ENTERPRISE**

**Location:** Tan An, Rach Kien, Ben Luc, Binh Phuoc, Tan Tru, Doi Ma Creek, Plain of Reeds<sup>9</sup>, Base Area 371, Route 14, Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy, cordon and search, saturation patrolling, eagle flights. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3-39 Inf, 2-60 Inf, 5-60 Inf (M), 2-4 Art, C/15<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF MF Bn, 506<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** ENTERPRISE was the continuation of the pacification effort of Long An Province initiated the previous year by the 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div with Operation LANIKAI. On 13 Feb, 3-39 Inf relieved 2-14 Inf at Rach Kien. Strength of division elements in the province were subsequently increased to brigade size with movement of 2-60 Inf into Tan Tru, 5-60 Inf into Binh Phuoc and Headquarters, 3d Bde into Tan An. The first major engagement occurred on 9 Apr when 3-39 Inf made contact with the 506<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn on the bank of Doi Ma Creek. Additional companies were brought in, killing 247 of the enemy. On 2 May, the 506<sup>th</sup> Bn exacted vengeance on the 3-39 Inf, attacking one of its companies in night defensive position near Route 4. 17 US were KIA and 48 WIA but no enemy bodies were found. The operation was temporarily extended north to the Plain of Reeds area on 8-14 May with sub-operation NIRVANA II directed against the enemy's Base Area 371. Elements of the 3d Bde joined forces with the 4/50 ARVN Bn of the 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div but found nothing, killing only 14 of the enemy. On 14 May, the 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Bn struck the compound of the 2/50 ARVN Bn in Rach Kien, killing 31 South Vietnamese soldiers and wounding 34. 3d Bde units were committed but couldn't regain contact with the attacking force. After that, contact with the enemy dropped sharply for the remainder of 1967, indicating an apparent enemy desire to avoid friendly forces. On 31 Jan 68, the brigade responded to the Tet Offensive, 5-60 Inf engaged in heavy fighting southwest of Saigon in Gia Dinh Province, killing 128 enemy soldiers. From 1-5 Feb, 3-39 Inf and 2-60 Inf were sent to Kien Hoa Province to help recapture Ben Tre, the provincial capital. On 10 Feb, the brigade HQ at Tan An came under attack from an unknown size enemy force. 33 enemy were killed, 4 US KIA and 53 US WIA. During March, brigade elements conducted "Aquabush" operations along the numerous canals south of Saigon in conjunction with the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt). Pacification activities decreased sharply during the Tet Offensive and the operation was terminated on 10 March. **Results:** 2,107 enemy killed, 74 US KIA, 380 US WIA.

**14 Feb.** Two battalions from the 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt attack the 11<sup>th</sup> Co, 2d ROKMC Bde protecting a FSB at Tra Binh Dong south of Binh Son in Quang Ngai Province. Attackers are repulsed with heavy losses. Results are 243 enemy killed, 2 captured, 15 ROK KIA, 33 ROK WIA.

### **14-16 Feb.** **Operation: DAN CHI 279**

**Location:** Bac Lieu and Chuong Thien Provinces. **Type:** search

9 Dong Thap Muoi in Vietnamese.



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and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 331 enemy killed, 35 detained, 30 ARVN KIA, 112 ARVN WIA, 2 US KIA, 7 US WIA.

**14-21 Feb. Operation: TUSCON<sup>10</sup>**

**Location:** Minh Thanh, Michelin Rubber Plantation, Long Nguyen Secret Zone, Binh Duong and Binh Long Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde: 1-2 Inf, 2-2 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav, 1-9 Art, 1<sup>st</sup> Eng (-); 3d Bde: 1-16 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 3-5 Cav (from 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div), 2-33 Art, C/8-6 Art. **Intelligence:** 272<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt, Phu Loi PLAF LF Bn, C61 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** Operation TUSCON had two objectives: sever the VC "Northern Rice Route" between War Zone C and War Zone D in the northern section of the Long Nguyen Secret Zone and to cover the preparations for Operation JUNCTION CITY. Many VC installations were discovered during this operation and 1,700 tons of rice were captured but no major engagement developed. **Results:** 8 enemy killed, 3 US KIA, 29 US WIA.

**14-22 Feb. Operation: SONG THAN 4**

**Location:** Bong Son, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMCM Task Force BRAVO. **Task organization:** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> VNMCM Bns, C/VNMCM Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted near Bong Son in conjunction with PERSHING. **Results:** 54 enemy killed, 51 captured, 90 detained, 3 VNMCM KIA, 27 VBMC WIA.

**14 Feb.-21 Mar. 68 Operation: KITTYHAWK**

**Location:** Long Binh, Xuan Loc, Long Giao, Gia Ray, Suoi Cat, Blackhorse, Route 1, Route 2, Long Khanh and Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force, cordon and search, security, road clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (14 Feb 67-15 Feb 68); 11<sup>th</sup> ACR (15 Feb-21 Mar 68). **Task organization:** 3-5 Cav, 1/11 ACR, 2/11 ACR, 3/11 ACR. **Intelligence:** 275<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** The purpose of KITTYHAWK was to secure LOCs and selected installations within Long Khanh Province, conduct reconnaissance-in-force operations and cordon and search of selected hamlets within the AO, secure Blackhorse base camp and the Gia Ray rock quarry and provide ready reaction forces along Route 1. On 21 May, K Troop, 3/11 ACR was ambushed by an estimated reinforced enemy battalion near Suoi Cat on Route 1. 30 enemy are killed, 12 US KIA and 13 US WIA. On 27 Jun 1/11 ACR moved to reinforce the 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn which was in heavy contact with elements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn, 275<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt, killing 49 of the enemy<sup>11</sup>. On 30 Dec two enemy companies ambushed Troop C, 3-5 Cav on Route 2. Friendly losses are 10 KIA, 29 WIA and 3 MIA. On 31 Jan 68, in reaction to the VC Tet Offensive, the 3-5 Cav was alerted to respond to enemy activity in the Long Binh-Bien Hoa area. A/3-5 Cav bypassed several roadblocks, breaking through enemy forces and reached the Bien Hoa airfield, sweeping nearby wood lines and killing 40. During the period 2-3 Feb, C/3-5 Cav was sent to defend Xuan Loc against an intense ground attack, killing nearly 50 enemy soldiers. On 15 Feb the KITTYHAWK mission was assumed by the 11<sup>th</sup> ACR as the 3-5 Cav (-) was directed by HQ USARV to deploy to Da Nang, I CTZ. On 21 Mar, the operation was phased into Operation ALCORN COVE. **Results:** 201 enemy killed, 7 captured, 1 returnee, 62 US KIA, 224 US WIA.

**15 Feb.** South Korean Prime Minister Chung Il Kwon starts four-day official visit to RVN.

**16 Feb. Operation: DALBY**

**Location:** Dat Do, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, one troop A Sqn 3 Cav, 101 Fld Bty. **Execution:** Operation was conducted by 6RAR just north of Dat Do to revise air-mobile techniques in preparation for future operations. **Results:** 4 enemy captured.

**16 Feb. Operation: BUNKER HILL**

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Execution:** (no

other info).

**16-17 Feb. Operation: QUYET THANG 71**

**Location:** Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Execution:** operation conducted 14 km southwest of Hoi An by Quang Tin Sector forces and VNN Coastal Group 14. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 8 detained.

**16-17 Feb. Operation: LAUREL**

**Location:** Tan Phuoc Khanh, Hoa Nhut, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-16 Inf, 1-18 Inf. **Execution:** This was a sub operation of LAM SON 67. 1-18 Inf and 2-16 Inf cordoned and searched Tan Phuoc Khanh and Hoa Nhut hamlets with negative contact. **Results:** 297 male villagers were evacuated for further interrogation.

**16 Feb-3 Mar. Operation: DECKHOUSE VI**

**Location:** Tach By, Sa Huynh, Sa Huynh salt flats, Nui Dau, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF. **Task organization:** BLT 1/4 Marines, HMM-363. **Execution:** The missions assigned to the SLF ground element was to disrupt enemy movement in the Sa Huynh salt flats, search northward in the Nui Dau area and finally link up with 3/7 Marines, then operating around Nui Dau in Operation DESOTO. On 16 Feb at 0800, BLT 1/4 conducted a simultaneous airmobile and amphibious landing near Tach By. Both were unopposed. On 20 Feb, the BLT passed under opcon to TF X-RAY and joined in Operation DESOTO<sup>12</sup>. **Results:** 280 enemy killed, 21 detained, 6 US KIA, 80 US WIA.

**16 Feb.-22 May. Operation: CHAPMAN/RIVER RAIDER I**

**Location:** Ly Nhon, Tac Ong Nghia, Rach Don, Rung Sat Special Zone, Nhon Trach District, Gia Dinh and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3-47 Inf, 4-47 Inf, C/4-39 Inf (8-12 May), 3-34 Art (-), RAS 9. **Execution:** CHAPMAN was a shake-down operation in the Rung Sat Special Zone to clear the Long Tau Shipping Channel and test the new Mobile Riverine Force concept. There was no contact with large enemy units but numerous base camps, bunkers and supply caches were destroyed. The first portion of the operation (16 Feb-20 Mar) was known as RIVER RAIDER I and conducted by the 3-47 Inf. On 20 Mar 4-47 Inf took over Operation CHAPMAN, conducting many company-size riverine insertions in the AO. During the period 8-12 May, 4-47 Inf and C/4-39 Inf conducted sub-operation SALOMON in the Nhon Trach District north of the RSSZ with negative contact. **Results:** 12 enemy killed, 8 US WIA.

**17 Feb. Operation: HOANG ANH 2**

**Location:** Co Lay, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Execution:** operation conducted just northwest of Co Lay by Tu Hien PF Platoon and VNN Coastal Group 16. **Results:** 6 enemy detained.

**17-18 Feb. Operation: BRIBIE**

**Location:** Phuoc Hai, Dat Do, Route 44, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 101 Fld Bty, 2-47 Inf (M), C/1-11 Art, 1-83 Art. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** Operation BRIBIE was mounted as a result of heavy contact between ARVN units and a battalion-sized enemy force on Route 44 between Dat Do and Phuoc Hai. 6RAR was combat assaulted in the area on 17 Feb, reinforced the next day with a battalion task force from the 9<sup>th</sup> US Inf Div but no significant contact developed. **Results:** 8 enemy killed, 8 AUS KIA, 27 AUS WIA.

**17-22 Feb. Operation: RIO GRANDE/LIEN KET 81/GIANT DRAGON**

**Location:** Ha Thanh, the Horseshoe, Buddha Mountain, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force X-RAY. **Task organization:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines: 1/5, 2/5 and 3/5 Marines; 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div: 4/4 Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> Arm Cav Sqn, 21<sup>st</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> Rgr Bns; 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Abn TF: 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Abn Bns; 2d ROKMC Bde: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> ROKMC Bns. **Intelligence:** 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt; 40<sup>th</sup> Bn, 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** This was the

10 Sometimes reported as Operation TUSCON DELTA.

11 See Operation QUICKSILVER.

12 See p. 6.

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first tri-nation operation in I CTZ to use a combined command post, taking place 6 km east of Ha Thanh. On 19 Feb, ARVN forces recorded their highest one-day kill tally, when the Airborne TF accounted for 750 enemy dead. **Results:** 836 enemy killed, 67 detained; 54 ARVN KIA, 187 ARVN WIA, 2 ARVN MIA (US and ROK losses unknown).

### 17-27 Feb. **Operation:** FARRAGUT II

**Location:** Phan Thiet, Song Mao, Di Linh, Le Hong Phong Forest, Binh Thuan and Lam Dong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326 Eng, 2-7 Cav (17-22 Feb), A-237 Luong Son (two cos), 4<sup>th</sup> Troop 8<sup>th</sup> ARVN ACS. **Execution:** The second phase of Operation FARRAGUT began two days after the termination of GATLING II by the brigade minus and one day after Task Force THUNDERBALL moved to Song Mao. On 17 Feb the brigade initiated search and destroy operations in the western portion of the Le Hong Phong Forest, conducting combat-as-saults with all battalions at first light from Phan Thiet and Song Mao to selected LZs following a B-52 strike. 2-7 Cav from Operation BYRD screened the brigade's southwestern flank while a troop from the 8<sup>th</sup> ARVN ACS reopened Route 1 between Phan Thiet and Song Mao. Contact was light. On 22 Feb, 2-7 Cav returned to Phan Thiet and 2-502 Inf was extracted back to Song Mao. On 23 Feb, the brigade began operations in the eastern portion of the Le Hong Phong Forest, again encountering only light resistance. On 24 Feb, in response to a request for assistance from Lam Dong Province, 2-502 Inf and C/2-320 Art conducted airmobile assaults from Song Mao to selected LZ west of Di Linh and began search and destroy operations to locate an estimated VC battalion which had ambushed local ARVN forces. On 25 Feb, a company from 2-502 Inf made contact with an estimated two-company force southwest of Di Linh, killing 9 while losing 1 KIA and 8 WIA. On 27 Feb, the brigade terminated operations in both areas and extracted to Song Mao to conduct maintenance and prepare for future operations in the FARRAGUT AO. **Results:** (see Operation FARRAGUT IV).

### 18-22 Feb. **Operation:** RENMARK

**Location:** Long Hai Hills, AO PAULINE, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 103 Fld Bty, A/1-83 Art. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF LF Bn, C25 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** RENMARK was a follow-up to Operation BRIBIE with 5RAR looking for the D445 Battalion in the Long Hai Hills 14 km south-southeast of Nui Dat. No contact was made, all friendly casualties being caused by mines and booby traps. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 9 AUS KIA, 24 AUS WIA.

### 19-20 Feb. **Operation:** SUTLAND

**Location:** Tan Hiep, Co Ni Jungle, Dong Nai Sensitive Zone, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy, cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-16 Inf, 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn **Execution:** This was a sub operation of LAM SON 67 consisting of a cordon and search of Tan Hiep and a search and destroy mission in the adjacent Co Ni Jungle 4 km northeast of Di An. **Results:** 18 enemy detained.

### 19 Feb.-4 Apr. **Operation:** CHINOOK II

**Location:** Phong Dien, Ap Trung Kieu, Street Without Joy, Phong Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/9 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/26 Marines, 3/12 Marines (-). **Execution:** Operation took place in the Street Without Joy area, 19 km northwest of Hue. On 21 Feb, author and authority on Vietnam, Dr. Bernard B. Fall, was killed by an enemy mine while accompanying a Marine patrol. **Results:** 104 enemy killed, 226 detained, 12 US KIA, 111 US WIA.

### 20 Feb. **Operation:** BRANDYWINE

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Execution:** (no other info).

### 20-27 Feb. **Operation:** CUU LONG/55/SD

**Location:** Binh Dai Secret Zone, Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted in the Binh Dai Secret Zone by four ARVN battalions, two Ranger battalions and one RF battalion with support from RAGs 21, 27 and 33. **Results:** 51 enemy killed, 19 detained, 3 ARVN KIA, 13 ARVN WIA.

**22 Feb.** USAF/USMC pilots fly a record 575 sorties over RVN.

### 22-27 Feb. **Operation:** DARLAC 21

**Location:** Darlac Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 67 enemy killed, 2 detained, 5 ARVN KIA, 24 ARVN WIA.

### 22 Feb-14 May **Operation:** JUNCTION CITY

**Location:** Katum, Prek Klok, Suoi Da, Quan Loi, Minh Thanh, Bo Tuc, Ap Gu, Suoi Tre, Ap Bau Bang, War Zone C, Dog's Head<sup>13</sup>, FSB II, FSB 20, FSB GOLD, FSB MUSTANG, FSB PANTHER, FSB PARRY, FSB THRUST, Route 4, Route 13, Route 22, Route 246, Route 247, DZ "C", LZ GEORGE, LZ SILVER, Tay Ninh, Binh Long and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV (22 Feb-15 Apr). 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (16 Apr-14 May). **Task organization (Phase I):** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div: 1-2 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 1-5 Art; 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div: 2-2 Inf (M), 1-16 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav, B/2-34 Arm, 2-33 Art, A/5-2 Art; 173d Abn Bde: 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf<sup>14</sup>, 4-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav, 173d Eng Co; 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 1-8 Art; 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-12 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 2-77 Art; 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt): 2-1 Inf, 3-21 Inf, 4-31 Inf, 3-82 Art; 11<sup>th</sup> ACR: 1/11 ACR, 3/11 ACR, 4-23 Inf; 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (from 4 Mar): 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 3-5 Cav, 7-9 Art (-); Task Force WALLACE: 35<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn, 3<sup>rd</sup> Troop 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN ACS; VNMC Task Force ALPHA: 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bns. **Task organization (Phase II):** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div: 1-2 Inf, 1-18 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav (-), 1-5 Art; 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div: 2-16 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 1-7 Art, 2/11 ACR, 36<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn; 173d Abn Bde (20 Mar-13 Apr): 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav, 173d Eng Co; 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-12 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 2-34 Arm (-), 2-77 Art; 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 3-5 Cav, 7-9 Art (-); 196<sup>th</sup> LIB (18 Mar-9 Apr): 2-1 Inf, 3-21 Inf, 4-31 Inf, 3-82 Art; 11<sup>th</sup> ACR (1-15 Apr): 1/11 ACR, 3/11 ACR. **Task organization (Phase III):** 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-12 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 2-77 Art; 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 3-5 Cav, 2-34 Arm (-), 7-9 Art (-), 36<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** COSVN, 9<sup>th</sup> PLAF Div (101<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt, 271<sup>st</sup>, 272<sup>nd</sup> and 273<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Rgts), 70<sup>th</sup> PLAF Guard Rgt.

**Execution:** JUNCTION CITY was the largest Allied military operation to date. The operation was designed to clear War Zone C of enemy forces and installations and to destroy the Communist Office for South Viet Nam (COSVN). The area which had been a major Communist stronghold for the past 20 years, was only 75 miles northwest of Saigon. Phase I (22 Feb-17 Mar) was launched after an extensive preparation conducted primarily by B-52s and close air support aircraft. On D-Day, eight infantry battalions from the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div, 173d Abn Bde and 196<sup>th</sup> LIB conducted airmobile assaults on preselected LZs. This was in conjunction with a parachute drop by a battalion task force built around 2-503 Inf on a large savanna dubbed DZ "C" 4 km north of Katum. Simultaneously, the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div moved into blocking positions along Route 22 in the west. At the same time the 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div also positioned units in the south along Route 247 for an attack to the north. With the seal complete, the objective area was ringed by a "horseshoe" of US forces. On D+1, the 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div and 11<sup>th</sup> ACR (-) thrust northward in an attack through the open end of the horseshoe, methodically searching the objective area. On D+2 Task Force ALPHA of the VNMC conducted an airmobile assault in the northwestern sector, sweeping through its assigned zone without major enemy

13 Also known as the Elephant's Hear.

14 The Airborne Task Force that jumped on Katum on D-Day was made of 2-503 Inf, A/3-319 Art, the Brigade TAC CP, one MP Sqd, one Eng Sqd, one IPW team and one Signal Section.



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contact. Between 22-27 Feb, Allied units did their best to scour all of central War Zone C but the results were unimpressive, killing only 54 of the enemy. After 5 days II FFORCEV appeared to have conducted the largest non-battle of the war. Despite tactical surprise, US Forces had failed to prevent COSVN from escaping into Cambodia. But COSVN did not take the invasion of its base area lightly, and decided to fight back. On 28 Feb, a battalion from the 101<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt ambushed B/1-16 Inf near Prek Klok 15 km north of Suoi Da. B/2-18 reinforced the contact. 167 enemy were killed, 25 US KIA and 28 US WIA. On 1 Mar, the northern positions of the horseshoe were abandoned and operations displaced to the south and west. The 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div and 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) returned to their respective base camps. On 3 Mar, C/2-503 Inf made contact with a battalion of the 70<sup>th</sup> PLAF Guard Rgt northeast of Katum, killing 39 but losing 20 KIA and 28 WIA. On 4 Mar, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div joined the operation, keeping Route 13 opened between Lai Khe and Quan Loi. From 7-10 Mar, the 11<sup>th</sup> ACR (-) made a counter-clockwise sweep of the Dog's Head in the far northwestern corner of Tay Ninh Province, but failed to generate any contact. On 10 Mar, 2-2 Inf protecting the construction of a new CIDG camp at Prek Klok was attacked in its NDP by two battalions of the 272<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt. 196 enemy were killed, 3 US KIA and 38 US WIA. The last significant action during Phase I took place on 11 Mar when 1-503 Inf received a weak ground assault by a battalion of the 101<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt. 29 enemy were killed and 12 US WIA. During phase II of JUNCTION CITY (18 Mar-15 Apr), the area of operation was shifted to the east between Route 4 and Route 13. The 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) and 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div blocked the western flank while the two brigades of the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div operated along Route 246 to the north. The 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div continued its mission along Route 13 and the 173d Abn Bde searched northwest of Minh Thanh. This second phase saw the heaviest fighting of the operation. During the night of 19-20 Mar, A/3-5 Cav guarding FSB 20 on Route 13 near Ap Bau Bang was attacked by the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Bns, 273<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Rgt. 227 enemy were killed, 3 US KIA and 63 US WIA. The next day, 21 Mar, the 272<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt launched an all-out assault on FSB GOLD manned by Cos A and B, 3-22 Inf and the 2-77 Art (-). Reinforcing elements from 2-22 Inf (M), 2-12 Inf and 2-34 Arm helped repel the attack. 647 enemy were killed, 7 detained, 31 US KIA and 109 US WIA. On 1 Apr, 1-26 Inf was attacked on LZ GEORGE near Ap Gu by another regimental-size enemy assault, this time from the 271<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt. 1-2 Inf and 2-16 Inf reinforced the defenders. 609 enemy were killed, 5 detained, 17 US KIA and 102 US WIA. After that, the operation was gradually scaled down. The 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) terminated its participation on 9 Apr to prepare for its move to I CTZ where it would join Task Force OREGON. On 13 Apr, the 173d Abn Bde returned to Bien Hoa, followed two days later by the 11<sup>th</sup> ACR which returned to its base camp east of Saigon. On 15 Apr, the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div terminated its participation and Phase II ended. Phase III continued the objectives of JUNCTION CITY I and II, using the mobile brigade concept to conduct offensive operations in War Zone C. The 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div conducted the operation until relieved on 21 Mar by the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. For the next 20 days search and destroy operations continued in the AO but it became evident that the enemy had dispersed to a new area and JUNCTION CITY was terminated. **Results:** 2,728 enemy killed, 34 captured, 65 detained, 139 returnees, 282 US KIA, 1,576 US WIA.

**23 Feb.** Naval Gunfire against targets in NVN authorized from 17°N to 20°N. SEA DRAGON operations extended to 20°N.

**23 Feb.** Two US POWs are released by the enemy and returned to US control at Lai Khe in Binh Duong Province.

**23-27 Feb. Operation: PULASKI**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines. **Execution:** Contact during the entire operation was light. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 2 detained, 2 US KIA, 3 US WIA.

**23 Feb.-5 Mar. Operation: KIRRIBILLI**

**Location:** Nui Dat, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** patrolling-and-surveillance. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 1 Fld Rgt, 3 SAS Sqn. **Execution:** Operation consisted in a series of company-size patrols around Nui Dat commencing beyond a 5 km radius from the center of the base. No contact was made with the enemy. **Results:** none.

**24 Feb.** MACV announces initiation of use of artillery based in RVN against military targets in and north of the DMZ.

**24-26 Feb. Operation: TRUY KICH**

**Location:** Lam Dong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** Operation was probably in conjunction with FARRAGUT II (?). **Results:** 67 enemy killed, 39 ARVN KIA, 37 ARVN WIA.

**25-28 Feb. Operation: LANOKE**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 2/5 Marines. **Execution:** Contact during the entire operation was light. **Results:** 2 detained, 5 US WIA.

**25 Feb.-2 Mar. Operation: PITTSBURGH**

**Location:** War Zone D, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M). **Execution:** Operation conducted in the southern portion of War Zone D. **Results:** (no info).

**26 Feb.** A new CIDG Camp opens at Prek Klok, Tay Ninh Province, for detachment A-322.

**26 Feb. Operation: SONG THAN 6**

**Location:** Bong Son, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC Task Force BRAVO. **Task organization:** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted near Bong Son. **Results:** 6 detained, 1 VNMC KIA.

**26 Feb.-7 Mar. Operation: LAFAYETTE**

**Location:** Hoi An, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 2/1 Marines, 3/1 Marines, C/1<sup>st</sup> Tank Bn, A/3d Amph Bn. **Execution:** Operation took place 9 km north of Hoi An. **Results:** 77 enemy killed, 170 detained, 6 US KIA, 41 US WIA, 1 US MIA.

**27 Feb.** Russian made 140mm rockets used for the first time in RVN in an attack on Da Nang AB.

**28 Feb.** For the first time radar-guided US jets bomb military sites in the Panhandle and southeast of Hanoi.

**28 Feb.** The Mobile Riverine Force (TF 117) is activated under command of COMNAVFORV.

**28 Feb.-7 Mar. Operation: FARRAGUT III**

**Location:** Song Mao, Tuy Phong, Vinh Hoa, Tuy Tinh Cham, Tuy Tinh Viet, Binh Thuan and Ninh Thuan Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326 Eng. **Execution:** During this phase of FARRAGUT, the brigade secured a beach unloading site near Hoi Tan to help establish a forward supply point at Song Mao. On 1 Mar, 2-327 Inf conducted an air-mobile assault north of Tuy Phong and searched the hamlets of Tuy Tinh Cham and Tuy Tinh Viet, killing 6 VC. On 3 Mar, the same battalion executed a night airmobile raid under flare illumination to cordon and search the village on Vinh Hoa, an important VC tax collection center between Phan Thiet and Phan Rang. No enemies were found but the entire population of 500 was relocated to Tuy Phong. That same day, 1-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf were combat-assaulted north of Song Mao, conducting search and destroy operations with negative result and on 6 Mar, both battalions were extracted to Song Mao. During the period, A/2-17 Cav and 4<sup>th</sup> Troop, 8<sup>th</sup> ARVN ACS provided convoy security on Route 1 between Phan Rang and Song Mao. **Results:** (see Operation FARRAGUT IV).

**Arrival:**

1 Feb.

362d TEWS

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2 Feb.	3-5 Cav (-) 1-84 Art 41 <sup>st</sup> Eng Co 632d Maint Co
5 Feb.	1/9 Marines
10 Feb.	NMCB 133
11 Feb.	8 <sup>th</sup> BS
15 Feb.	VMF(AW)-235
16 Feb.	HMM-361
20 Feb.	176 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 5 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co
23 Feb.	523d Eng Co
28 Feb.	3/9 Marines
<b>Departure:</b>	
8 Feb.	1/3 Marines <sup>15</sup>
11 Feb.	13 <sup>th</sup> BS
15 Feb.	Co E (Signal) 5 <sup>th</sup> SFGA HMM-263 <sup>16</sup> VMFA-115 <sup>17</sup>

## MARCH

**Mar.** A new CIDG Camp opens at My An (My Da) in Kien Phong Province for detachment A-433.

**1 Mar.** US military strength in RVN is 418,000.

**1-9 Mar. Operation: DAN CHI 281/A**

**Location:** Ba Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 109 enemy killed, 83 detained, 3 ARVN WIA.

**2 Mar.** The village of Lang Vei, 15 miles south of the DMZ in Quang Tri Province, is accidentally hit by bombs dropped by two US F-4C Phantom jets, killing at least 83 civilians and wounding 176.

**3 Mar.-3 Apr. Operation: DAWES**

**Location:** Kontum Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-50 Project OMEGA. **Execution:** DAWES was a long-range reconnaissance effort in western Kontum Province along the Cambodian border but no major infiltration was detected in the AO. **Results:** (no info).

**4-7 Mar. Operation: GULF**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/26 Marines. **Execution:** Operation took place in the northern portion of the Da Nang TAOR with light contact. **Results:** 5 US WIA.

**4 Mar.-3 Apr. Operation: 4-67/KNOX**

**Location:** An Lao Valley, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 81<sup>st</sup> ARVN Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted from FOB An Khe in support of PER-SHING. 28 team and 7 ranger company operations were conducted, resulting in 27 enemy contacts. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA, 2 ARVN KIA, 5 ARVN WIA.

**5 Mar.** MACV announces new procedure for reporting US casualties for significant actions numerically, instead of as "light, moderate or heavy."

**6-19 Mar. Operation: OVERLORD II**

**Location:** Loc Thanh Ha Island, Rach Cat, Vam Co, Soirap, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt); 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** OVERLORD II was conducted by elts of the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) and 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div with support from RAG 24 and 28. The objective of the operation was to secure the area around an old French fort on Loc Thanh Ha Island. The fort, located at the junction of the Rach Cat, Vam Co and Soirap Rivers, 24 km

15 To SLF.

16 Squadron returned to Futema at assist in the CH-46 repair program.

17 To Iwakuni.

south of Saigon, was earmarked for permanent use by US troops. **Results:** 15 enemy killed, 16 captured, 101 detained, friendly losses not reported.

**6-Mar-1 Jun. Operation: LEETON**

**Location:** Dat Do, the Horseshoe (Hill 82), Lang Phuoc Hai, Route 44, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** interdiction barrier. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR, 7RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 1 Fld Rgt, A/1-83 Art. **Execution:** Operation LEETON consisted in establishing a company-size defensive position atop the Horseshoe, a low hill north of Dat Do, and building a 10 km long anti-infiltration fence of barbed wire and anti-personnel mines from the Horseshoe to the sea at Lang Phuoc Hai along the eastern side of Route 44. 20,292 mines were laid within the fence system but it proved ineffectual against enemy infiltration as the VC lifted the mines in great numbers and redeployed them against Allied forces. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 7 AUS KIA, 12 AUS WIA.

**6-Mar-1 Jun. Operation: AYR**

**Location:** Xa Binh Ba, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, 101 Fld Bty. **Execution:** Operation AYR was conducted 4 km east-southeast of Xa Binh Ba to practice airmobile assault techniques. It generated no contact with the enemy. **Results:** none.

**7 Mar.** BG W. Pearson, USA, becomes HQ USMACV AcofS for Operations (J3).

**7-8 Mar. Operation: SONG THAN 7**

**Location:** Tam Quan, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMCF TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> VNMCF Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted 5 km west of Tam Quan. **Results:** 7 enemy killed, 6 captured, 8 detained, 17 VNMCF WIA.

**7-11 Mar. Operation: CUMBERLAND**

**Location:** Tan Hiep, Binh Tri, Co Mi Jungle, Dong Nai Sensitive Zone, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy, cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-16 Inf, 35<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn, 58<sup>th</sup> ARVN RF Bn (-). **Execution:** This was a sub operation of LAM SON 67. In Phase I (7-8 Mar) the combined Allied forces searched the villages of Tan Hiep and Binh Tri. In Phase II (9-11 Mar), 2-16 Inf conducted search and destroy operations in the eastern part of the Co Mi Jungle with negative contact. **Results:** 14 enemy detained.

**7 Mar.-3 Apr. Operation: BLACKJACK 23**

**Location:** Suoi Kon Valley, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** A-218 MGF. **Execution:** A-218 conducted mobile guerrilla operations in the Suoi Kon Valley with limited contact. **Results:** 10 enemy killed, 1 captured, 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA, 2 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA.

**7 Mar.-21 Apr. Operation: OH JAC KYO**

**Location:** Phu Yen and Binh Dinh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** ROK Field Command. **Task organization:** CRID (-), WHRID (-) (7 maneuver battalions). **Intelligence:** 95<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, 85<sup>th</sup> PLAF MF Bn. **Execution:** OH JAC KYO was the largest Korean operation conducted to date and was designed primarily to link up the ROK Capital and White Horse Division TAORs, whereby the ROKFV would become responsible for the coastal area from Phan Rang to a point north of Qui Nhon, releasing US forces in the AO for other missions. On 2 Apr, the South Korean assumed control over the Operation ADAMS area, relieving Task Force IVY at Tuy Hoa. The only major contact during OH JAC KYO occurred on 10 Apr when the enemy attacked a company in night laager, losing 50 killed, which led the US observers to question the 22:1 kill ratio claimed by the ROKs during this operation. **Results:** 940 enemy killed, 432 detained, 288 returns, 44 ROK KIA, 165 ROK WIA.

**8-23 Mar. Operation: FARRAGUT IV**

**Location:** Son Hai, Vinh Hao, Secret Base 7, Secret Base 35, Route 1, Route 407, Ninh Thuan and Binh Thuan Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502



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Inf, 2-320 Art, B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326 Eng, 2/44 ARVN Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> Troop, 8<sup>th</sup> ARVN ACS. **Execution:** The fourth phase of Operation FARRAGUT was directed into Secret Base 35 south of Phan Rang and west of Route 1. On 8 Mar, LRRP teams were inserted into the AO to conduct ambush and surveillance patrols, followed the next day by 2-502 Inf executing an airmobile raid to cordon and search the hamlet of Son Hai on the coast. At the same time, 2-327 Inf was combat assaulted into the northern part of the secret base while 1-327 Inf moved overland from Tuy Phong. Contact was light and infrequent. On 10 Mar, the brigade CP was relocated from Song Mao to the brigade main base camp at Phan Rang. On 13 Mar, 2-327 Inf with one battery of artillery terminated its participation in FARRAGUT and was moved overland to Tuy Hoa to reinforce Task Force IVY. On 15 Mar, 2-502 Inf conducted an overland and airmobile movement just to the south of Secret Base 7 but made minimal contact. On 22 Mar, 1-327 Inf returned to Phan Rang while 2-502 Inf conducted a one-day airmobile raid on the deserted hamlet of Vinh Hao in Binh Thuan Province, capturing only 2 ARVN deserters. The following day, Operation FARRAGUT was terminated and all the brigade elements closed Phan Rang. **Results:** (all four phases) 115 enemy killed, 20 captured, 119 detained, 1 returnee, 15 US KIA, 114 US WIA, 5 ARVN WIA.

### 8 Mar.-8 Apr. **Operation:** WAIALUA

**Location:** Tra Cu, Tho Mo, Song Vam Co Dong, FSB TAYLOR, FSB SCOTT, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 1-8 Art (-), 34<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Execution:** Objectives for WAIALUA were to destroy VC supplies and base camps and to interdict the flow of supplies on the Vam Co Dong River in western Hau Nghia Province. No major contact with the enemy was recorded during the operation. **Results:** 67 enemy killed, 14 captured, 52 detained.

9 Mar. President acknowledge US jets based in Thailand are bombing NVN.

### 9 Mar. **Operation:** CUU LONG/77/GC/67

**Location:** Go Cong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 5 km southeast of Go Cong by Go Cong Sector forces, three RF companies and RAG 21. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 6 captured, 7 detained.

10 Mar. US planes bomb the Thai Nguyen iron and steel complex 38 miles north of Hanoi in the first bombing raid on major industrial installations in North Vietnam.

### 10-12 Mar. **Operation:** YUBA

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted southwest of Da Nang in the general area from which the first enemy initiated 140mm rocket attack was launched against Da Nang AB on 27 Feb. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 8 detained, 10 US WIA.

### 10-14 Mar. **Operation:** LAM SON 25

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 191 enemy killed, 3 detained, 27 ARVN KIA, 96 ARVN WIA.

### 10-19 Mar. **Operation:** OCEAN DRIVE

**Location:** Bien Hoa and Long Khanh Provinces. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-56 Project SIGMA. **Execution:** Operation initiated on request from II FFORCEV in western Long Khanh and eastern Bien Hoa Provinces to investigate the presence of a battalion from the 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt along Route 1 between Xuan Loc and Long Binh. **Results:** (no info).

11 Mar. White House announces presidential trip to Guam on 19 March for conference with COMUSMACV, CINCPAC and SECDEF.

### 11 Mar.-11 Apr. **Operation:** RUNG SAT/47/67

**Location:** Rung Sat Special Zone, Gia Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC Brigade. **Task organization:** 4<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bn, A/VNMC Art Bn, RAG 22, RAG 28. **Results:** (no info).

### 12 Mar. **Operation:** SONG THAN 8

**Location:** Bong Son, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted near the Bong Son River. **Results:** 2 enemy captured, 44 detained, 1 VNMC WIA.

### 12 Mar. **Operation:** CUU LONG/78/GC/67

**Location:** Soirap, Go Cong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted at the mouth of the Soirap River by elts of the 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div and RAG 21 and 33. **Results:** 30 enemy killed.

12 Mar. US strike pilots fly 575 tactical air strikes over RVN, tying 22 Feb record.

### 12-13 Mar. **Operation:** PHI PHUNG 5

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 51<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Results:** 125 enemy killed, 5 ARVN KIA, 11 ARVN WIA.

13 Mar. USG announces agreement with RTG to base B-52s in Thailand.

### 13 Mar. **Operation:** TRAN TRUNG TIEN/12/67

**Location:** Vinh Binh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Execution:** operation conducted 32 km south of Phu Vinh by Vinh Binh Sector forces and VNN Coastal Group 36. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 11 detained.

### 13-18 Mar. **Operation:** TIPPECANOE

**Location:** Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted 10 km south of Tam Ky. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 7 detained, 1 US KIA, 4 US WIA.

14 Mar. A steel-hulled trawler intercepted by MARKET TIME units 60 miles southeast of Da Nang. After an exchange of fire the trawler beached at Phuoc Thien and was destroyed. Large amount of weapons and munitions seized.

15 Mar. RAAF Caribou and Iroquois aircraft make their first air strikes of the war.

15 Mar. President Johnson announces AMB Ellsworth Bunker will replace AMB Henry Cabot Lodge in Saigon.

15 Mar. Premier Ky announces he, Chief of State Thieu and CJCS Vien will meet US officials in Guam on 19 March.

### 15 Mar.-3 Apr. **Operation:** BLACKJACK 32

**Location:** Long Khanh, Phuoc Tuy and Binh Tuy Provinces. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** A-304 MGF. **Execution:** A-304 conducted mobile guerrilla operations in southeastern Long Khanh, southwestern Binh Tuy, and eastern Phuoc Tuy Provinces. 8 contacts were made and 24 airstrikes were directed against enemy forces. **Results:** 26 enemy killed, 1 US WIA, 2 ARVN KIA, 6 ARVN WIA.

16 Mar. US cargo ship, SS Conqueror, while heading up the Long Tau River hit by six rounds of 75mm RR fire.

### 16 Mar.-19 May **Operation:** BLACKJACK 24

**Location:** Dak Pek, Kontum Province. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task Organization:** A-219 MIKE Force, A-217 MGF, A-242 CIDG. **Execution:** operation took place in northwestern Kontum Province. 16 contact were made with enemy forces. **Results:** 11 enemy killed, 1 captured, 1 USSF KIA, 1 MIKE KIA, 1 USSF WIA, 9 MIKE WIA.

18 Mar. South Vietnam's Constituent Assembly votes unanimous final approval of entire constitution.

### 18 Mar.-13 Apr. **Operation:** SONG THAN 9

**Location:** An Lao, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the An Lao Valley. On 30 Mar the task force helped evacuate the population from the valley. **Results:** (no info).

### 18 Mar.-20 Apr. **Operation:** PRAIRIE III

**Location:** Dong Ha, Cam Lo, Con Thien, Khe Sanh, Gio Linh, Cua Viet, Ba Long, Mai Loc, Ca Lu, Camp Carroll, the Rockpile, Route 9, Song Ben Hai, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div (Fwd), 3d Mar-

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ines. **Task organization:** 3/3 Marines, 1/4 Marines (28 Mar-1 Apr), 3/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 2/26 Marines, 12<sup>th</sup> Marines (+), 11<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** 324B PAVN Div; 808<sup>th</sup> and 814<sup>th</sup> PAVN Bns. **Execution:** Anticipating renewed NVA efforts, III MAF held five infantry battalions and four artillery battalions in the DMZ area. Battalions at Dong Ha served under the operational control of the 3d Division's forward headquarters, while those at Camp Carroll and the Rockpile came under the control of the 3d Marines. Additional company-strength outposts were at the Cua Viet port facility, Gio Linh, Mai Loc, Ba Long and Ca Lu and a two-company outpost was at Khe Sanh. The operation started on 18 Mar with the opening of a LST ramp at Cua Viet, tripling the daily tonnage that could be brought in by ships. On the 19<sup>th</sup>, the 11<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn opened Route 9 all the way from Dong Ha to Khe Sanh. The next day, the SLF with 1/4 as BLT landed near Gio Linh (see Operation BEACON HILL). During the period 28 Mar-1 Apr, 1/4 came under opcon of the 3d Marines before reembarking on ARG shipping. On 24 Mar, 3/3 and 1/9 made contact with an estimated NVA battalion south-east of Con Thien, killing 33. The battle continued for another 2 days until the NVA broke contact and withdrew into the DMZ. On 30 Mar, I/3/9 was overrun just north of Cam Lo, 67 enemy were killed but the Marines lost 16 KIA and 47 WIA. On 6 Apr, a Viet Cong unit broke into the Quang Tri provincial jail, freeing more than 200 prisoners. During April, as contacts with the enemy dropped off in the PRAIRIE AO, the Marines concentrated on clearing the anti-infiltration trace between Gio Linh and Con Thien and developing the strongpoint system. Approximately half of the strip had been completed when the operation came to an end on 20 Apr. **Results:** 252 enemy killed, 4 detained, 56 US KIA and 530 US WIA.

### 18 Mar.-21 Apr. **Operation:** MAKALAPA

**Location:** Duc Hoa, Luong Hoa, Vinh Loc, Ap Tay, Rach Gau, Cau An Canal, Kinh Xang Canal, the Pineapple, Gia Dinh and Hau Nghia Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (18 Mar-18 Apr); 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (8-21 Apr); 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde: 4-9 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 7-11 Art; 2d Bde: 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 2-14 Inf (-), 1-8 Art; 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div: 1/50 Bn, 51<sup>st</sup> Rgr Bn, 3<sup>rd</sup> Troop, 10<sup>th</sup> ACS. **Execution:** The first phase of MAKALAPA consisted in a battalion-size operation to interdict VC supply routes to and from Saigon and Tan Son Nhut AFB. On 18 Mar, 4-9 Inf established its CP near Vinh Loc and conducted eagle flights and cordon and search operations in the neighboring hamlets. The only significant contact occurred on 27 Mar when B/4-9 Inf killed 12 enemy near the Kinh Xang Canal. On 8 Apr, phase II was launched when the 2d Brigade joined the 1<sup>st</sup> and began search and destroy operations in the Pineapple area, an old abandoned plantation around Luong Hoa. Contacts were minimal but extensive weapon caches were discovered and 3,324 bunkers destroyed. **Results:** 58 enemy killed, 6 captured, 144 detained, 3 returnees; friendly losses unknown.

### 18-23 Mar. **Operation:** INTOSH JOYCE 4

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

**20 Mar.** The South Vietnamese Armed Forces Directorate issues communique stating its intention to accept Constitution as adopted by Constituent Assembly.

**20 Mar.** President Johnson, SECDEF McNamara and CJCS GEN Wheeler arrive in Guam for talks with Premier Ky and Chief of State Thieu. AMBs Bunker, Komer and Lodge and GEN Westmoreland attend.

**20 Mar.** MG John H. Hay, USA, assumes command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division.

### 20 Mar.-1 Apr. **Operation:** BEACON HILL

**Location:** Cua Viet, Gio Linh, Con Thien, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF. **Task organization:** BLT 1/4 Marines, HMM-363. **Execution:** BEACON HILL was mounted to support the 3d Mar Div's Operation PRAIRIE III in the DMZ area. On 20 Mar the SLF landed north of the Cua Viet River and the next day made contact with about 80 NVA troops between Con Thien and Gio Ling, killing 43.

On 28 Mar 1/4 Marines shifted to the operational control of the 3d Marines and occupied a blocking position 1,300 meters south of Con Thien. This was the last phase of BEACON HILL and the operation ended on 1 Apr. **Results:** 334 enemy killed, 29 US KIA, 230 US WIA.

### 21-25 Mar. **Operation:** NEW CASTLE

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 2/5 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the southern portion of the Da Nang TAOR 4 km northwest of An Hoa. On 23 Mar, E/2/5 made significant contact with an estimated enemy battalion, killing 61. The following day, Cos E and F fell in an U-shaped ambush but both units reacted swiftly, killing 42 VCs while losing only 1 KIA. **Results:** 118 enemy killed, 34 detained, 5 US KIA, 55 US WIA.

### 21 Mar.-17 Apr. **Operation:** PORTSEA

**Location:** Dat Do, Xuyen Moc, Song Rai, The Horseshoe, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF (21 Mar-17 Apr); 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (1-17 Apr); 43<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Task organization:** 1ATF: 6RAR, 101<sup>st</sup> Fld Bty, 1/11 ACR, A/2-35 Art; 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 3-5 Cav, 2-47 Inf (M), 2-39 Inf, A/1-11 Art, B/1-11 Art, A/1-84 Art; 43<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Rgt: 1/43 Bn, 35<sup>th</sup> Ranger Bn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Trp, 5<sup>th</sup> ACS. **Intelligence:** 275<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** PORTSEA was a combined search and destroy operation aimed at disrupting VC movement of supplies and equipment from the populated areas to the south of the Province to main force units to the north and northeast of Xuyen Moc. Phase I was conducted by the 1ATF and 43<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Rgt in an AO centered 6 km east-southeast of Dat Do. On 1 Apr, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div joined the operation in an AO 11 km east-northeast of Dat Do. Contact was minimal but numerous caches were found. **Results:** 29 enemy killed, 6 captured, 4 US KIA, 39 US WIA, 3 AUS KIA, 7 AUS WIA.

### 23-24 Mar. **Operation:** EARLY

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 2/4 ARVN ACR. **Execution:** Operation conducted south of Da Nang with light contact. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 3 detained, 2 US WIA.

**24 Mar.** LTG Jonathan O. Seaman, USA, turns over command of Headquarters II FFORCEV to LTG Bruce Palmer, Jr., USA.

### 24-25 Mar. **Operation:** CAI CACH/5/3

**Location:** Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 243 enemy killed, 2 ARVN KIA, 14 ARVN WIA, 14 ARVN MIA.

### 24-26 Mar. **Operation:** CUU LONG/57/SD

**Location:** Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 16 km south of My Tho by elts of the 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div and RAG 21, 23, 27, 31 and 33. **Results:** 15 enemy killed, 171 captured, 72 detained, no friendly casualties.

### 25-28 Mar. **Operation:** PERRY

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 2/7 Marines; one Co from 2d ROKMC Bde. **Execution:** Operation conducted south of Chu Lai with light contact. **Results:** 9 detained, 10 US WIA.

**26 Mar.** III MAF is ordered to prepare a plan for locating, constructing, and occupying a strong point obstacle system south of the DMZ to prevent the North Vietnamese from infiltrating through that zone into South Vietnam. III MAF eventually begins building this strong point system later in the year while under fire by North Vietnamese artillery. This anti-infiltration effort, also known as Dye Marker and Project Nine, is called "McNamara's Wall" by the media. A series of strong points are sited so as to force infiltrators into 'corridors' where they can be located and destroyed by American planes, arty and infantry.

### 26-27 Mar. **Operation:** LONG PHI/999/G

**Location:** Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 142 enemy killed, 4 detained, 14 ARVN KIA, 78 ARVN WIA.

### 26 Mar.-4 Apr. **Operation:** QUYET THANG/56/G

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 74 enemy

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killed, no friendly casualties.

**29 Mar.-29 Apr. Operation: SUMMERALL**

**Location:** Khanh Duong, Buon Mi Ga, Khanh Hoa and Darlac Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, saturation patrolling.

**Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326 Eng. **Intelligence:** 18B PAVN Rgt. **Execution:**

After terminating Operation FARRAGUT, the brigade moved via air and overland from Phan Rang and Tuy Hoa to Khanh Duong in northwestern Khanh Hoa Province. The move consisted in a battalion-size convoy from Tuy Hoa, a multi-battalion convoy from Phan Rang totaling 248 vehicles and an airlift from Tuy Hoa. On 30 Mar, 2-327 Inf began Operation SUMMERALL with an airmobile assault northeast of Khanh Duong as a diversion, covering the brigade's primary intent to move upon the Buon Mi Ga area. Two days later, 1-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf launched operations in the latter area but the continued patrolling produced little contact with the enemy and was halted on 29 Apr when GEN Westmoreland ordered the brigade to leave immediately to join Task Force OREGON in I Corps. **Results:** 70 enemy killed, 14 detained, 7 US KIA, 43 US WIA.

**30 Mar.** President Thieu dismisses six more province chiefs as part of his campaign to eliminate corruption and inefficiency.

**30 Mar-19 Apr. Operation: BLACKJACK 12/OCONEE**

**Location:** Quang Nam and Thua Hoa Provinces. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** A-100 MGF. **Execution:** A-100 conducted this reconnaissance-in-force mission in Quang Nam and southern Thua Thien Provinces. 15 contacts were made and 9 airstrikes were directed against enemy forces. **Results:** 63 enemy killed, 1 AUS KIA, 1 US WIA, 7 ARVN WIA.

**31 Mar.** Phu Cat's new 10,000 foot jet capable airfield opens.  
**31 Mar.** Australian destroyer HMAS Hobart joins US Naval Forces off the coast of Vietnam.

**31 Mar.-7 Apr. Operation: BOONE/LIEN KET 96**  
**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 3/5 Marines, 1/7 Marines; 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div (elts); 2d ROKMC Bde (elts). **Execution:** Operation conducted in the southeast sector of the Chu Lai TAOR with light to moderate contact. **Results:** 39 enemy killed, 8 captured, 66 detained, 2 US KIA, 61 US WIA, 2 US WIA.

**31 Mar.-16 Apr. Operation: PENG MA II**  
**Location:** Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Execution:** (no other info).  
**31 Mar.** During the month of March the enemy loses 9,015 killed and 5,125 returnees, the greatest monthly personnel loss since the war began.  
**31 Mar.** Allied personnel KIA during March reaches a new monthly high of 2,155.

**31 Mar.-16 Apr. Operation: PENG MA II**  
**Location:** Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Execution:** (no other info).

**31 Mar.** During the month of March the enemy loses 9,015 killed and 5,125 returnees, the greatest monthly personnel loss since the war began.

**31 Mar.** Allied personnel KIA during March reaches a new monthly high of 2,155.

## Arrival:

1 Mar.	49 <sup>th</sup> Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
2 Mar.	1 Sqn SASR
3 Mar.	VMA-223
4 Mar.	Qui Nhon Sup Cmd Guard Inf Co (Prov) <sup>18</sup>
6 Mar.	552d Maint Co
7 Mar.	50 <sup>th</sup> Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
9 Mar.	HQ 53d General Sup Grp 5 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co 388 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co
11 Mar.	4-60 Art 1-92 Art E/41 Art 560 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co
15 Mar.	187 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 200 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
21 Mar.	HQ 34 <sup>th</sup> Eng Grp

<sup>18</sup> Formed in Vietnam.

24 Mar.	6-32 Art G/29 Art (Searchlight) H/29 Art (Searchlight) I/29 Art (Searchlight) 573d Eng Co 595 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co 587 <sup>th</sup> Signal Co 758 <sup>th</sup> S&S Co 520 <sup>th</sup> Trans Bn 261 <sup>st</sup> Signal Co
29 Mar.	
<b>Departure:</b>	
1 Mar.	VMA-311 <sup>19</sup>
2 Mar.	3 Sqn SASR

## APRIL

**1 Apr.** US military strength in RVN is 443,000.

**1 Apr.** MG John J. Tolson, USA, assumes command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div, replacing MG John Norton, USA.

**1 Apr.** GVN promulgates new Constitution. Elections for President, VP and Upper House to take place 1 Sep, Lower House on 1 Oct.

**1-10 Apr. Operation: HON HEO**

**Location:** Hon Heo Peninsula, Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Execution:** operation took place on the Hon Heo Peninsula, 27 km north of Nha Trang. **Results:** (no info).

**1-10 Apr. Operation: ANDOVER**

**Location:** Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Execution:** (no other info).

**2 Apr.** First village and hamlet elections held. Election plan includes 961 villages and 4,578 hamlets.

**2 Apr.** A new CIDG Camp opens at Da Diem Bunard in Phuoc Long Province for detachment A-344.

**2 Apr.-9 May Operation: HARVEST MOON**

**Location:** DZ BELLMONT, LZ 1, LZ 2, LZ 3, Bunard CIDG Camp, Phuoc Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA (2-5 Apr); 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div (from 5 Apr). **Task organization:** TF BLUE: A-503, Elts Co E (Prov), 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA, 2d and 3d Cos, 5<sup>th</sup> MSF; 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div: 1-16 Inf (+). **Execution:** HARVEST MOON was mounted to protect the construction of a new CIDG Camp at Da Diem Bunard. On 2 Apr, 18 USSF pathfinders were dropped by a CH-47 helicopter followed by 8 C-123 transports carrying 350 strikers, 29 USSF and 3 LLDB jumping onto dry rice paddies called DZ BELLMONT. Suffering only 10 jump injuries, the strikers immediately secured three landing zones for additional MIKE Force units. On 5 Apr, 1-16 Inf from the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div closed in to Bunard and began offensive operations to protect US engineers building a new C-130 capable airfield there. Several enemy base camps were found but there was no contact or significant enemy activity observed in the area and the operation was terminated on 9 May. **Results:** (no info).

**4-7 Apr. Operation: LIBERTY BLACKJACK**

**Location:** Binh Long Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-56 Project SIGMA. **Execution:** The operation had the mission of liberating American PWs believed to be located in Binh Long Province but no PW camp was found at the designated location. **Results:** (no info).

**4-21 Apr. Operation: BIG HORN**

**Location:** Co Bi-Thanh Tan, Song O Lau, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 2/26 Marines. **Results:** 70 enemy killed, 23 detained, 22 US KIA, 127 US WIA.

**5 Apr. Operation: HAI SON/11/67**

**Location:** Kien Giang Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Kien Giang Sector. **Execution:**

<sup>19</sup> Squadron undergoing rehabilitation at Iwakuni.



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operation conducted in southwestern Kien Giang Province along the coast by two RF battalions and Coastal Groups 43, 44 and 45. **Results:** (no info).

### 5-10 Apr. **Operation:** CANYON

**Location:** Hoi An, Barrier Island, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines. **Execution:** operation conducted just below the southeast sector of the Da Nang TAOR with significant contact. **Results:** 85 enemy killed, 89 captured, 190 detained, 3 US KIA, 40 US WIA.

### 5 Apr.-11 Oct. **Operation:** FRANCIS MARION

**Location:** Plei Me, Duc Co, Plei Djereng, Plei Mrong, Plei Do Lim, Buon Blech, Se San, Ia Drang, Ia Tchar, Dak Ayun, Dak Payou, Chu Prong, Chu Goungot, Chu Groh, Route 14, Route 14B, Route 19E, Route 509, Hill 521, LZ OASIS, LZ JACKSON HOLE, Pleiku and Darlac Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** (effective 7 April): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, 6-29 Art, B/4-42 Art, C/3-4 Cav (-), A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf (-), 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, Plt B/1-69 Arm, 4-42 Art (-), B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); TF 1-69 Arm: 1-69 Arm (-), Plt C/2-8 Inf (-), Cav Plt 1-10 Cav, B/3-6 Art, A/5-16 Art; TF 1-10 Cav: 1-10 Cav (-), 3-6 Art (-); Div Arty: 6-14 Art, 5-16 Art (-), 1-92 Art; Div Troops: D/4-60 Art (-), 4<sup>th</sup> Avn Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn. **Task organization:** (effective 26 April): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, 6-29 Art (-), C/4-42 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf, 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art (-), A/6-29 Art, B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); TF 1-69 Arm: 1-69 Arm (-), 3-6 Art (-); TF 1-10 Cav: 1-10 Cav (-), A/3-6 Art; TF 3-8 Inf: 3-8 Inf, C/6-29 Art, A/5-16 Art; Div Arty: 6-14 Art, 5-16 Art (-), 1-92 Art; Div Troops: D/4-60 Art (-), 4<sup>th</sup> Avn Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn. **Task organization:** (effective 30 May): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, 6-29 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf (M), 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art, B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); 173d Abn Bde: 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav, 173d Eng Co; TF 1-69 Arm: 1-69 Arm (-), 3-6 Art (-); Div Arty: 5-16 Art (-); Div Troops: D/4-60 Art (-), 4<sup>th</sup> Avn Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn. **Task organization:** (effective 24 Sep): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 2-8 Inf (M), 3-8 Inf, 6-29 Art (-), A/4-42 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-12 Inf, 3-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art (-), B/6-29 Art, B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng (-); TF 1-69 Arm: 1-69 Arm (-), 3-6 Art (-); Div Arty: 6-14 Art, 5-16 Art (-), 1-92 Art; Div Troops: 2-1 Cav, D/4-60 Art (-), 4<sup>th</sup> Avn Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** B3 Front, 1<sup>st</sup> NVA Div (32<sup>nd</sup>, 66<sup>th</sup> and 88<sup>th</sup> Rgts), 10<sup>th</sup> NVA Div (95B and 101C Rgts), 200<sup>th</sup> NVA Art Bn, 407<sup>th</sup> PLAF MF Sapper Bn, H-15 PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** Operation FRANCIS MARION was initiated by the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div in the same initial AO as that of SAM HOUSTON. Subsequently, with temporary boundary extensions, the AO took in the whole of Pleiku Province and a portion of northern Darlac Province. At the beginning of the operation, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde was deployed between Plei Djereng and the Ia Drang Valley, the 2d Bde was east of the 1<sup>st</sup> and west of Route 14 with forces deployed from the Chu Prong Mountains to Plei Me, 1-10 Cav was west of Pleiku along Route 508 and the 1-69 Arm was east of Pleiku on Route 19E. The 1<sup>st</sup> Bde established its CP at LZ JACKSON HOLE and pushed its 1-8 Inf south of Duc Co along the border where it made several fleeting contacts with the enemy. Operating from LZ OASIS, the 2d Bde with 2-8 Inf (which was undergoing conversion from straight-leg to mechanized) began a sweep north of Plei Me, making contact with an estimated NVA company on 17 Apr. On 26 Apr a Task Force built around 3-8 Inf was sent to Buon Blech in Darlac Province<sup>20</sup>. On 30 Apr, Co A/1-8 Inf ambushed an enemy company and pursued the survivors into a bunker complex which turned out to be the base camp of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 95B NVA Rgt. With help from 1-10 Cav, the infantrymen swept the area, killing 133 of the enemy at the cost of only 3 US KIA. On 1 May, A/3-8 Inf engaged a NVA company in the Chu Goungot massif, killing 24. During early May, 1-8 Inf continued having scattered contacts south of Duc Co with evasive enemy reconnaissance elements. On 13 May the bat-

alion moved north and established a FSB west of Duc Co, pushing its maneuver elements toward the northwest between the Chu Goungot and the border, an area known as the Ia Tchar Valley. On 18 May, B/1-8 Inf made contact with an NVA battalion from the 32<sup>nd</sup> Rgt. This marked the beginning of what was to be known as the "nine days in May border battles". One platoon became surrounded and cut off. Co A was helilifted into the battle area but couldn't reach the beleaguered platoon until the next day, finding only 8 survivors. 119 enemy bodies were counted on the battlefield. During the night of 20-21 May, 1-8 Inf in night defensive positions 1 km north of the 18 May contact came under a heavy mortar barrage followed by an NVA battalion attacking from the southwest. 38 enemies were killed. Friendly casualties were 10 KIA and 65 WIA. On 22 May, having joined with the 1-8 Inf in the upper Ia Tchar Valley, Cos A and B, 3-12 Inf were attacked as they were preparing to move out of their NDP by an estimated battalion from the 66<sup>th</sup> NVA Rgt. Contact was broken about mid-morning and a sweep of the area produced 79 NVA KIA. 10 US were killed and 77 wounded. On 23 May a break in the fighting came as troops of the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div observed a truce honoring Buddha's birthday. 1-8 Inf was pulled back to JACKSON HOLE and replaced by 3-8 Inf just returning from Darlac Province. On 24 May, C/3-12 Inf replaced Co A. The hueys had hardly departed when the NVA hit the company as it was digging in. 37 enemies were killed while American losses were 4 KIA and 17 WIA. On 26 May, B/3-8 Inf had established its patrol base on Hill 521 in the lower Ia Tchar Valley. As Co C was moving toward Co B from the southwest it was hit by the 6<sup>th</sup> Bn, 32<sup>nd</sup> Rgt at the base of the hill. Reinforced with two platoons from Co B, they formed a defensive perimeter and repelled several enemy attacks, killing 96. This proved to be the last engagement with NVA forces in the Chu Goungot area. As the last big fight ended, the 173d Abn Bde arrived from III CTZ and settled at Catecka (see Operation WINCHESTER II). From 1-18 Jun the brigade searched the Ia Drang Valley without result and the brigade minus departed for Kontum Province<sup>21</sup>. 4-503 Inf remained in the FRANCIS MARION AO and conducted sub operation STILWELL on 20 Jun in the area east of Pleiku until 23 Jun before leaving for the GREELEY AO as well. It was replaced by TF 1-8 built around 1-8 Inf, A/6-29 and C/1-69 Arm until 15 Jul when STILWELL was terminated. Contacts in the FRANCIS MARION AO fell off substantially during the month of June, operations east and northeast of Pleiku in the Chu Groh Mountains and Dak Ayun Valley south of Route 19E produced no significant engagements with the enemy. This month also began the period when units of the division would reach their anniversary date of deployment to Vietnam and large number of personnel began rotating back to CONUS. Some units were now composed almost totally of new personnel and were not employed in areas where sizable contact might be expected. In early July, activity picked up again in the Duc Co area. Cos B and C, 1-12 Inf were inserted 12 km south of the camp to conduct a reconnaissance of the area following an arc light strike. On 12 Jul, both companies ran head on into a battalion of the 66<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt moving east just north of the Ia Drang. Fighting raged all day at extremely closed quarters, one platoon was cut off almost entirely annihilated before reinforcement were piled on. 142 enemy bodies were counted in the battle area; US losses were 31 KIA, 34 WIA and 7 MIA. On 23 Jul, 3-8 Inf made heavy contact with at least two battalions of the 32<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt just south of Duc Co. Massive firepower was employed, including eight artillery batteries firing in support. Results were 189 enemy killed, 10 detained, 18 US KIA and 37 US WIA. This was the last attempt by the NVA to force their way into the Central Highlands during the operation. After refitting from the last two contacts, the NVA forces broke into small groups and during August and September began infiltrating north and south of the two brigades, placing emphasis upon avoiding contact with US forces. During this time, there were numerous indications of an enemy battalion

20 See Operation HANCOCK I.

21 See Operations GREELEY.

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near Plei Mrong, and a possible enemy battalion operating with local VC forces east of Pleiku. During the middle of August and into September the brigades were repositioned with the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde responsible for the surveillance of the border, while two battalions of the 2d Bde operated northwest of Pleiku and the third battalion to the south and east of Pleiku. Reconno patrol operations were begun east of the Dak Payou Valley<sup>22</sup>. During the last half of September, the 2d Bde moved to the Dak Payou Valley with their CP at Plei Do Lim. They conducted extensive search and destroy operations in the valley having only light, scattered contact, but uncovering many caches. As operation FRANCIS MARION concluded, the 2d Bde was preparing to deploy south into Phu Bon Province and the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde continued its surveillance of the border. **Results:** 1,204 enemy killed, 122 detained, 11 returnees, 198 US KIA, 982 US WIA, 8 US MIA.

**6 Apr.** Unknown number of VC attacks the Quang Tri Province jail and release 220 prisoners (enemy guerrillas and cadres). 77 enemy are killed. Friendly losses are 99 KIA and 138 WIA.

**6 Apr.** White House announces assignment of GEN Creighton W. Abrams, Jr., USA, as DEPCOMUSMACV.

**7-10 Apr. Operation: DIXIE**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 2/5 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the southern portion of the Da Nang TAOR with light contact. **Results:** 8 enemy killed, 1 captured, 54 US WIA.

**7-22 Apr. Operation: LEJEUNE**

**Location:** Duc Pho, LZ ENGLISH, LZ MONTEZUMA, RAZORBACK Beach, Binh Dinh and Quang Ngai Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div (7-19 Apr): 1-5 Cav, 2-5 Cav, 1-77 Art; 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (19–22 Apr): 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-9 Art, C/3-4 Cav, B/1-9 Cav. **Execution:** Operation LEJEUNE was mounted as the first in a series of moves to relieve the Marines in southern I Corps with US Army units. On 7 Apr, a task force built around 2-5 Cav moved by helicopter from LZ ENGLISH in Binh Dinh Province to Duc Pho in Quang Ngai Province, relieving 3/7 Marines which was subsequently redeployed. On 8 Apr the remainder of the 2d Bde TF arrived in the Duc Pho area. Operations included securing Vietnamese civilians harvesting rice, securing a beach landing site, providing security for engineers constructing an airstrip and extensive search and destroy operations in the AO. There were numerous light contacts and one heavy contact on 16 Apr. On 12 Apr Task Force OREGON was officially activated, and a day later the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) reached Chu Lai, having been withdrawn a few days earlier from the final phase of JUNCTION CITY. On the 15<sup>th</sup> the 196<sup>th</sup> received operational control of a battalion of the 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, sent from Binh Dinh, and four days later the rest of the 3d Bde left the province for Duc Pho to relieve the 2d Bde TF for the final phase of LEJEUNE. **Results:** 205 enemy killed, 127 detained, 17 US KIA, 81 US WIA.

**7 Apr.-10 Jul. Operation: SABER THRUST**

**Location:** Cu Chi, Trang Bang, Go Dau Ha, Loc Thanh, Phuoc My, Trung Lap, Ap Bau Dung, Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3-4 Cav (+). **Execution:** This operation was conducted by 3-4 Cav (+) as an intermittent security operation. All phases involved search and destroy and patrolling operations in the vicinity of Cu Chi and along the Main Supply Route. Phase I was conducted 7-8 Apr vicinity of Trang Bang; Phase II (9-10 Apr) involved a sweep of Loc Thanh with Trps B & D, C/4-23 Inf (M) and A/2-13 Art. Phase III took place between 13-15 Apr around the hamlet of Phuoc My with Trps B & D and B/1-5 Inf (M). Phase IV (17-19 Apr) involved Trps A & D, A/1-5 Inf (M) and A/2-13 Art conducting search and destroy operations vicinity of Trung Lap. Phase V (20-22 Apr) saw trps A & D, B/4-23 Inf (M) and A/7-11 Art sweeping the village of Ap Bau Dung. Phase VI was conducted from 22 May to 5 Jun throughout Cu Chi and Trang Bang Districts. Finally, Phase VII (5-8 Jun, 2-10 Jul) took place in AO centered north of Go Dau Ha. **Results:**

22 Aka VC Valley.

68 enemy killed, 13 captured, (no info on US losses).

**8-30 Apr. Operation: OREGON**

**Location:** Chu Lai, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** movement. **Controlling headquarters:** III MAF, Task Force OREGON. **Task organization:** 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt); 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div; 2/11 ACR, B/1-9 Cav, C/2-34 Arm, 2-11 Art, 3-18 Art (-), 39<sup>th</sup> Eng C Bn (-), 14<sup>th</sup> Avn Bn. **Execution:** Operation OREGON covered the movement of selected units from II and III CTZ to southern I CTZ where an Army division size task force (TF OREGON) was being assembled to relieve III MAF units for redeployment to the DMZ area. On 13 Apr, the TF advance party and 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) closed in the Chu Lai area and prepared to begin extensive local patrolling and subsequent search and destroy operations. On 18 Apr the main body of the TF OREGON headquarters arrived in Chu Lai and on 22 Apr assumed operational control of the 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div at Duc Pho. On 28 Apr, the 2d Sqn, 11<sup>th</sup> ACR closed into the Chu Lai area and became Opcon to the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt). Two days later, TF OREGON became fully operational and was placed under Opcon to III MAF.

**10 Apr.** USN Hospital Ship SANCTUARY (AH-17) arrives at Da Nang.

**10 Apr.** First B-52s land at U Tapao, Thailand.

**10 Apr.-15 Jun. Operation: 5-67/PIROUS**

**Location:** Khe Sanh, Phu Bai, Dong Da, A Shau Valley, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91<sup>st</sup> Abn Rgr Bn, 281<sup>st</sup> AHC. **Execution:** Project DELTA conducted this reconnaissance operation initially from Khe Sanh and subsequently from Phu Bai with a FOB established at the Dong Da Training Center. A total of 48 reconnaissance and search and destroy operations were conducted during the period in combination with continuous aerial reconnaissance with the assigned AO (A Shau Valley and adjacent areas). **Results:** 46 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 7 US WIA, 4 ARVN KIA, 7 ARVN WIA.

**11 Apr.** Last operational flight of P5M Marlin seaplane from Cam Ranh Bay seadrome.

**11 Apr. Operation: CUU LONG/58/12/67**

**Location:** Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task Organization:** 12<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt, RAGs 21, 27 and 33. **Execution:** Operation took place just north of Vinh Long on the Tien Giang arm of the Mekong. **Results:** 9 enemy killed, 6 detained.

**11-14 Apr. Operation: DAN CHI/285/B/MK**

**Location:** Hung Thanh, Saintenoy Canal, Phong Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Task Organization:** 31<sup>st</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Rgts (elts), 44<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn, RAGs 25, 29 and 32. **Execution:** Operation conducted 10 km west of Can Tho. A major contact occurred on 12 Apr when the 44<sup>th</sup> Rgr Bn bumped into an enemy battalion entrenched in Hung Thanh on the Saintenoy Canal. Four more ARVN Bns were airlifted into the area, killing 243 of the enemy. **Results:** 243 enemy killed, 40 detained, 57 ARVN KIA, 224 ARVN WIA.

**12 Apr-11 May Operation: RUNG SAT/69/67**

**Location:** Rung Sat Special Zone, Gia Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMIC Brigade. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> VNMIC Bn, A/VNMIC Art Bn, RAGs 22, 26 and 28. **Results:** (no info).

**13-17 Apr. Operation: HUMBOLDT**

**Location:** Tu Cau (3), Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted near Tu Cau (3) with light contact. **Results:** 13 enemy killed, 15 detained, 9 US WIA.

**14-16 Apr. Operation: SONG THAN 10**

**Location:** Bong Son, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMIC TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMIC Bns, C/VNMIC Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted north and east of Bong Son. **Res-**

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**ults:** 2 enemy killed, 10 detained, 14 VNMC KIA, 25 VNMC WIA, 1 USMC WIA.

**15 Apr.** GVN announces plan to evacuate 20,000 civilians from area close to DMZ to allow construction of a fortified barrier.

**15 Apr. Operation: CUU LONG/58/SD**

**Location:** Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task Organization:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div (elts), RAGs 21 and 33. **Execution:** Operation took place 15 km south of My Tho. **Results:** 12 enemy killed, 44 detained.

**15 Apr.-15 May Operation: BUCKNER**

**Location:** Kontum Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-50 Project OMEGA. **Execution:** operation took place in western Kontum Province. There were 13 reconnaissance team and two company operations in the AO. **Results:** 12 enemy killed, 4 captured, 1 MIKE WIA.

**15 Apr.-20 May Operation: BLACKJACK 25**

**Location:** Kontum Province. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task Organization:** (no info). **Execution:** operation took place in central Kontum Province. 11 contact were made with enemy forces. **Results:** 19 enemy killed, 7 captured, 2 MIKE KIA, 9 USSF WIA, 20 MIKE WIA.

**17-20 Apr. Operation: LAWRENCE**

**Location:** Chu Lai, Quang Tin and Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt). **Execution:** Operation LAWRENCE was the first combat operation conducted in I CTZ by the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt), it took place west of the Chu Lai airfield along the boundary of Quang Ngai and Quang Tin Provinces and made no contact with the enemy. **Results:** none.

**18-20 Apr. Operation: YELL**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted south of Da Nang with light to moderate contact. **Results:** 17 enemy killed, 32 detained, 6 US KIA, 17 US WIA.

**18-30 Apr. Operation: NEWARK**

**Location:** Song Be, Song Dong Nai, War Zone D, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf (+). **Execution:** (no other info).

**19 Apr.** Eight Australian Canberra bombers of Squadron No. 2 arrive at Phan Rang AB to make Australia the second country to support RVN with a tri-service contingent.

**19 Apr.** Prime Minister Ky announces National Reconciliation Program.

**19-21 Apr. Operation: COUNTY FAIR 1-34**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 4/5 ARVN Bn. **Execution:** (no other info).

**20 Apr.** CG III MAF assumes operational control of TF OREGON.

**20 Apr.** USN aircraft strike inside the ten-mile restricted zone of the port city of Haiphong for the first time. An electric power plant destroyed and the entire city left in darkness.

**20-23 Apr. Operation: GOLDEN FLEECE 196-1**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** rice denial. **Controlling headquarters:** 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt). **Task organization:** 3-21 Inf. **Execution:** (no other info).

**20 Apr.-31 May Operation: PRAIRIE IV**

**Location:** Quang Tri, Dong Ha, Cam Lo, Gio Linh, Mai Loc, Ca Lu, Ba Long, Khe Sanh, Con Thien, Hill 861, Hill 881N, Hill 881N, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div. **Task organization:** 3/3 Marines, 1/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines. **Intelligence:** 325C PAVN Div. **Execution:** The introduction of Task Force OREGON in southern I CTZ allowed the Marines to shift more forces northward with the 9<sup>th</sup> Marines headquarters moving to Dong Ha from Da Nang during the period 12-16 Apr, reinforcing the 3d Marines at Camp Carroll. Operation PRAIRIE IV

covered the same area as PRAIRIE III. The concept of employment placed 3/3 and 3/9 in the northwest portion of the AO while the 9<sup>th</sup> Marines using 1/4, 1/9 and 2/9 Marines was to cover the vital piedmont area in and around Quang Tri City. On 24 Apr a major battle broke out in the western DMZ known as the 'Khe Sanh Hill Fights'. At the time, only B/1/9 Marines was occupying the combat base when forces at Khe Sanh passed under control of the 3d Marines on 20 Apr as an appendage to Operation PRAIRIE IV. On the morning of the 24, Co B made heavy contact near Hill 861, losing 12 KIA, 17 WIA and 2 MIA while only 5 NVA bodies were found. The next day, K/3/3 Marines and the 3/3 CP helicoptered into Khe Sanh and moved to assist B/1/9 but encountered more resistance on Hill 861. On 26 Apr the SLF battalion, 2/3, was pulled from Operation BEACON STAR and flown into Khe Sanh via Phu Bai to join the attack. After intensive air and artillery bombardment, the two battalions resumed the attack on the Hill 861/881 complex on 28 Apr and stormed Hill 861 but the NVA had withdrawn to Hill 881S. Once again, the area was saturated by air power and artillery fire, killing more than 140 of the enemy and on 2 May 2/3 overran the hill. The Marines then moved to their final objective, Hill 881N, where an NVA battalion was still dug in. The enemy defended Hill 881N to the last man, launching some vicious night counterattacks. 137 NVA were killed and 3 captured and, on 5 May, the hill complex was declared secured. The 325C NVA Div lost 940 killed during the battle, but the Marine suffered heavy casualties as well, losing 155 KIA and 425 WIA. In the DMZ area, the NVA harassed the Marines with mortars, rockets and artillery. During the period 27-28 Apr, 850 rounds of artillery blasted Gio Linh while 50 140mm rockets hit Dong Ha. On 8 May, an estimated two NVA battalions using flamethrowers tried to overrun Con Thien defended by elements of 1/4 Marines. The battle raged all night and the perimeter was penetrated by enemy soldiers before being repulsed. 197 NVA were killed and 8 captured while the Marines suffered 44 KIA and 110 WIA. Following this battle, enemy activity intensified throughout the 'Leatherneck Square' area. More than 4,200 mortars, rockets and artillery rounds were fired at Marine positions during the month. During the period 13-16 May, 1/9 Marines made heavy contact with a large NVA force in well prepared positions just south of Con Thien. The enemy fought well and retired north of the DMZ boundary where the Marines couldn't follow. The attack on Con Thien had finally convinced Washington to change the DMZ policy, and MACV authorized III MAF to conduct ground operations into the southern half of the DMZ. Operation PRAIRIE was suspended during the period 19-26 May while the 3d Mar Div reinforced with both SLFs and the 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div launched a major sweep south of the Ben Hai (see Operations HICKORY/LAM SON 54, BELT TIGHT and BEAU CHARGER). At the end of Operation HICKORY, participating forces joined Operation PRAIRIE IV and continued sweeps of 'Leatherneck Square' and the area southwest of Con Thien. On 28 May, 3/4 Marines made heavy contact with the enemy on Hill 174 near Con Thien and it was not until 30 May that the hill was declared secure. This marked the last engagement of the PRAIRIE series of operations. On 1 June, Operation CIMARRON began in the same area and with the same formations. **Results**<sup>23</sup>: 505 enemy killed, 8 detained, 164 US KIA, 1,240 US WIA.

**21 Apr. Operation: SONG THAN 1**

**Location:** An Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Fourth Naval Zone. **Execution:** A VNN landing party was transported in five junks from Coastal Group 41 and landed on a small island just off the coast 55 km north of Ca Mau Point. There was no contact. **Results:** none.

**21 Apr.-14 Jun. Operation: -**

**Location:** Nha Be District, Gia Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC Brigade. **Task organization:** 2<sup>nd</sup> VNMC Bn. **Execution:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> VNMC Bn conducted search and destroy and pacification operations in the Nha Be District in conjunction with Operation FAIR-

<sup>23</sup> Not including casualties for the Khe Sanh Hill Fights



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FAX. **Results:** (no info).

**21-26 Apr. Operation: GRAND**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div. **Task organization:** 3/7 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the southwestern portion of the Da Nang TAOR with insignificant contact. **Results:** 47 detained, 1 US WIA.

**21 Apr.-17 May. Operation: UNION I**

**Location:** Thang Binh, Hiep Duc, Binh Son, Song Chan, Que Son Basin, Hill 110, Nui Loc Son, Nui Nong Ham, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines (21-26 Apr): 1/1 Marines, F/2/1 Marines, 3/1 Marines, 3/5 Marines, 1/11 Marines; 5<sup>th</sup> Marines (26 Apr-17 May): 1/5 Marines, 3/5 Marines, F/2/1 Marines, 1/11 Marines; SLF ALPHA (28 Apr-12 May): 1/3 Marines; 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgr Grp: 21<sup>st</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> Rgr Bns **Intelligence:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgts (2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div). **Execution:** Operation UNION marked the beginning of a bitter campaign for the control of the Que Son Basin. In mid-January 1967, Co F, 2/1 Marines had relieved an ARVN unit on Nui Loc Son to establish a modicum of control over VC/NVA access to this rice-producing area. The arrival of TF OREGON in southern I Corps in April relieved III MAF from its responsibility over the Chu Lai TAOR and freed enough forces to mount a major operation in the Que Son. On 21 Apr, F/2/1 Marines moved out of Nui Loc Son where the CP of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marines had been established and encountered strong enemy resistance at Binh Son, 4 km to the northeast. During the day, 3/1 and 3/5 Marines where helicoptered in to join the battle. At the same time, the 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgr Group at Thang Binh on Route 1 pushed on foot into the valley to link up with the embattled Marines. The Marines drove the enemy out of their positions and maneuvered to force them northward but the pursuit produced only scattered contacts. By 26 Apr, the 5<sup>th</sup> Marines CP arrived at Nui Loc Son, allowing the 1<sup>st</sup> Marines to be returned to their Da Nang TAOR. On 28 Apr, SLF ALPHA landed southeast of Nui Loc Son and joined 3/5 Marines<sup>24</sup>. Both battalions met only light resistance as the swept their respective areas but intelligence reports indicated that major enemy forces were still in the area. On 1 May, 1/5 Marines was inserted by helicopters 13 km east of Hiep Duc and began a sweep along the Song Chan. As the operation progressed, all three battalions had brief contacts with small enemy units, but in each case the NVA withdrew. On 10 May the Marines engaged a large and more determined enemy force entrenched on Hill 110, 4 km north of Que Son; The battle lasted until the evening of 11 May when the Marines forced the enemy to withdraw to the north. 116 NVA bodies were found but US losses were also high with 33 KIA and 135 WIA. On 13 May, 3/5 Marines engaged an enemy battalion 5 km east of Que Son, killing another 122. The last major contact of the operation took place on 15 May when Cos A and M of the 5<sup>th</sup> Marines overran a bunker complex, killing 22. Then next day, the Marines departed the valley and returned to Da Nang and Operation UNION was officially closed down on 17 May. **Results:** 865 enemy killed, 110 US KIA, 473 US WIA, 2 US MIA.

**21 Apr.-12 Jul. Operation: BAC THIEN 817**

**Location:** Tam Quan, Bong Son, LZ ENGLISH, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMCM Task Force ALPHA. **Task organization:** 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> VNMCM Bns, B/VNMCM Art Bn. **Execution:** On 18-19 Apr, Task Force ALPHA flew to LZ ENGLISH to relieve TF BRAVO and began search and destroy and pacification operations in a TAOR including Tam Quan on the north, Bong Son to the south, the portion of Route 1 connecting the two towns, with the South China Sea serving as the eastern boundary, coordinating with the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div's Operation PERSHING. After termination of BAC THIEN, TF ALPHA remained in the area until 26 Jul when it was relieved by TF BRAVO (2<sup>nd</sup> VNMCM Bn and C/VNMCV Art Bn) and returned to Thu Duc to prepare for CORONADO II. **Results:** (no info).

24 See Operation BEAVER CAGE.

**22 Apr.** CG TF OREGON located at Chu Lai, I CTZ, assumes operational control of 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div and 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt).

**22 Apr. Operation: SENECA FALLS**

**Location:** Iron Triangle, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** deception. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** A/2-16 Inf, B/2-16 Inf. **Execution:** SENECA FALLS was a deception operation to establish the Iron Triangle as the next target for the 3d Bde before launching Operation MANHATTAN. Cos A and B, 2-16 Inf simulated air assaults into two LZs but made no significant contact. **Results:** (no info).

**22 Apr.-12 May Operation: BEACON STAR**

**Location:** Song O Lau, Street Without Joy, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO; 3d Marines (from 26 Apr). **Task organization:** BLT 2/3 Marines. **Intelligence:** 6<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, 810<sup>th</sup> and 814<sup>th</sup> PLAF MF Bns. **Execution:** BEACON STAR was the first operation for newly designated SLF BRAVO. The target was a major VC stronghold and supply area along the border of Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces, 27 km northwest of Hue, on the edge of the area known as the Street Without Joy. On 22 Apr, 2/3 Marines conducted heliborne and amphibious assault and proceeded inland along the Song O Lau but met few resistance. On 26 Apr, 2/3 was extracted from its AO and flown from Phu Bai to Khe Sanh to reinforce the 3d Marines which had discovered strong Communist formations in the hills surrounding Khe Sanh<sup>25</sup>. The BLT was heavily engaged in the Khe Sanh Hill Fights until 12 May when it reverted to SLF BRAVO control. **Results:** Included in the Khe Sanh Hill Fights. BLT 2/3 Marines lost 71 KIA and 349 WIA during the period 27 Apr-12 May.

**22 Apr.-21 May Operation: SHAWNEE**

**Location:** Co Bi-Thanh Tan, Hai Lang National Forest, Base Area 114, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 2/26 Marines, 2/12 Marines (-). **Intelligence:** 6<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** The 4<sup>th</sup> Marines mounted Operation SHAWNEE to clear the enemy's Base Area 114 west of Phong Dien, from the Co Bi-Thanh Tan Valley northwest to the Hai Lang National Forest. It produced only light to moderate contacts, uncovering several enemy base camps and supply caches. **Results:** 128 enemy killed, 7 captured, 13 US KIA, 139 US WIA.

**22 Apr.-67-2 Jan 68. Operation: BAKER**

**Location:** Duc Pho, Mo Duc, Vinh Hien, Tan Phong, Dien Truong, An Ba, An Tach, Song Tra Cau, Song Ve, LZ MONTEZUMA (later renamed LZ BRONCO), LZ GUADALCANAL, LZ OLIVE DRAB, LZ LIZ, LZ DRAGON, RAZORBACK Beach, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde TF, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (redesignated 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div on 1 Aug). **Task organization:** 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 2-9 Art, C/3-4 Cav, B/1-9 Cav, C/2-34 Arm. **Intelligence:** 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt, 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt, 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** Passing under operational control of TF OREGON at the end of Operation LEJEUNE, the 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div launched Operation BAKER to locate and destroy enemy forces and infrastructures in the Duc Pho area. 1-35 Inf was assigned the western portion of the AO area while 2-35 Inf with C/3-4 Cav attached provided security between the Sea LOC terminal at RAZORBACK Beach, LZ GUADALCANAL, and the Brigade CP at LZ MONTEZUMA. The first contact came immediately. On the morning of 22 Apr, 1-35 Inf overran a VC fortified hamlet 6 km northwest of Duc Pho, killing 33. The following week, both battalions had frequent contacts with local guerrillas, accounting for over 200 enemy killed. During the first week of May, 1-35 Inf extended its AO to cover the southern portion of the Mo Duc District and established LZ LIZ 9 km northwest of Duc Pho. The arrival of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div at RAZORBACK Beach in early May also freed 2-35 Inf from its security mission and it relocated its CP to LZ LIZ. On 19 May, 2-35 Inf made contact with an estimated battalion of the 22<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt occupying the hamlet of Vinh Hien, 8 km south of MONTEZUMA but failed to encircle the enemy who escaped during the night. 89 NVA

25 See Operation PRAIRIE IV.

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were killed and 3 captured while US losses were 5 KIA and 24 WIA. Three days later on 22 May, 2-35 Inf made another contact, this time with the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn, 22<sup>nd</sup> Rgt 13 km south of MONTEZUMA along Route 1, killing 70. On 27 May, the 3d Bde TF received intelligence that a major enemy force had established its CP at Tan Phong Hamlet in the Tra Cau Valley, 2 km west of LZ LIZ. After the initial contact was made by B/1-9 Cav, C/1-35, A/2-35 and B/2-35 were piled on, killing 116 and capturing 8, all belonging to the 60<sup>th</sup> Bn, 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt. American casualties were 4 KIA and 27 WIA. In early June, the brigade opened LZ DRAGON next to the district headquarters at Mo Duc to protect the town and made several contacts with the 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt, killing another 50. On 23 June, an attack-by-fire struck LZ BRONCO. Results were 3 US KIA and 51 WIA. In July, the brigade had numerous light and moderate contacts, accounting for 260 enemy killed and 47 captured at the cost of only 9 US KIA. On 1 Aug 67, the 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div swapped its designation with the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div operating in III CTZ. On 8 Aug, 2-35 Inf made heavy contact at An Ba, a hamlet on the Ve River, killing 60 Vietcong. Two weeks later another enemy unit was encountered at An Tach just south of An Ba in fortified positions and lost 53 killed. Contacts diminished in September and October in the BAKER AO. On 4 Oct, 1-35 Inf was airlifted to Tam Ky and became opcon to the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div, leaving only 2-35 Inf at LZ LIZ. During this period, the brigade developed the hole hunting technique to locate underground bunkers, caves and spider holes used extensively by the enemy throughout the area. In early November, 1-14 Inf returned to brigade control and operated from LZ THUNDER and into the Cat Mi Valley located at the headwaters of the An Lao River. On 19 Dec, the 2-35 Inf passed under control of the 198<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) and joined in Operation MUSCATINE. The remainder of Operation BAKER was devoted to platoon and company size operations directed against village and hamlet infrastructure. **Results:** (no info).

### 23 Apr.-11 May. **Operation:** MANHATTAN

**Location:** Thanh Dien Forestry Reserve, Michelin Plantation, LZ JOE, LZ AL, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-2 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1/11 ACR, 3/11 ACR, 2-33 Art; 34<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn **Intelligence:** Military Region 4 HQ **Execution:** Operation MANHATTAN reentered the Thanh Dien Forestry Reserve west of Lai Khe already visited during Operation CEDAR FALLS and extended north to the Michelin Plantation. On 3 May a very large cache containing 350 weapons and 314,450 rounds of assorted ammunition was discovered by A/2-18 but VC resistance was limited to harassing tactics. **Results:** 58 enemy killed, 8 detained, 8 US KIA, 57 US WIA.

25 Apr. GEN Westmoreland addresses annual Associated Press luncheon in New York.

25 Apr. AMB Ellsworth P. Bunker arrives in Saigon and assumes duties as American Ambassador to RVN, replacing AMB Henry C. Lodge.

26 Apr. CG 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div turns over responsibility for defense of Chu Lai installation to CG TF OREGON.

### 26-27 Apr. **Operation:** DAN CHI/710/CT/32

**Location:** An Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 50 enemy killed, 5 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 10 ARVN WIA.

### 26 Apr.-22 May **Operation:** HANCOCK I

**Location:** Buon Blech, Mewal Plantation, Darlac Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** TF 3-8 Inf. **Task organization:** TF 3-8 Inf: 3-8 Inf, C/6-29 Art, A/5-16 Art, 1/A/1-10 Cav, 1/A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Div: 2/45 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn, 33<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt; H4 and H5 PLAF LF Cos. **Execution:** On 26 Apr, TF 3-8 Inf moved via motor convoy and CH-47 helicopters from Camp Enari to the Buon Blech CIDG Camp in Darlac Province to determine the presence of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn, 33<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt. Working in coordination with the 2/45 ARVN Bn from the 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Div, 3-8 Inf searched the area but found little. The only significant contact occurred on 2 May when B/3-8 Inf engaged 30 to 40 NVA, killing 2 and capturing 1. On 13 May,

the task force displaced to the Mewal Plantation north of Ban Me Thuot to sweep the area, again with little contact with the enemy. On 22 May, the operation was terminated and 3-8 Inf returned to 1<sup>st</sup> Bde control at LZ JACKSON HOLE. **Results:** 27 enemy killed, 73 detained, 2 US KIA, 9 US WIA.

27 Apr. RADM Kenneth L Veth, USN, relieves RADM Norvell G. Ward, USN, as COMNAVFORV.

### 27-28 Apr. **Operation:** PUCKAPUNYAL

**Location:** Binh Ba, Nui Nghe, Suoi Chau Pha, FSPB ASPRO, LZ BONDI BEACH, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, 161 Bty RNZA. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt, C41 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** Operation took place 6 km west-southwest of Binh Ba with negative contact. **Results:** none.

### 27 Apr.-24 May **Operation:** BLACKJACK 33

**Location:** Phuoc Vinh, Dong Xoai, Chi Linh, War Zone D, Binh Duong and Phuoc Long Province. **Type:** reconnaissance, mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-56 Project SIGMA, A-303/MGF 957. **Execution:** Operation BLACKJACK 33 was conducted on request from the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. It was the first time mobile guerrilla elements were employed in conjunction with long range reconnaissance teams. Operating from FOB Phuoc Vinh, Det B-56 and MGF 957 conducted operations in AO BLACKJACK between Phuoc Vinh, Dong Xoai and Chi Linh. **Results:** 320 enemy killed (friendly losses unknown).

28 Apr. GEN Westmoreland addresses joint session of Congress.

### 28-29 Apr. **Operation:** LAM SON 46/XDNT

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 59 enemy killed, 6 detained, 6 ARVN KIA, 26 ARVN WIA.

### 28 Apr.-12 May **Operation:** BEAVER CAGE

**Location:** Nui Loc Son, Que Son Valley, Quang Tin and Quang Nam Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** (see Operation UNION I). **Results:** 181 enemy killed, 66 detained, 56 US KIA, 183 U WIA.

29 Apr. Village elections completed with 984 elections held with an average turnout of 77 percent of registered voters. During elections VC kill 12 candidates and kidnap 31 others.

30 Apr. USS GALLUP (PG-85), first of a new class of high speed, diesel turbine powered gunboats, arrives CRB for MARKET TIME duty.

### Arrival:

1 Apr.	VMA(AW)-533
2 Apr.	210 <sup>th</sup> Avn Bn 1/4 Marines
4 Apr.	HMM-363
10 Apr.	NMCB 71
11 Apr.	13 <sup>th</sup> BS
12 Apr.	HQ Task Force OREGON
14 Apr.	1-27 Art 554 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn 528 <sup>th</sup> QM Co 815 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn 540 <sup>th</sup> Supply Co
15 Apr.	214 <sup>th</sup> Avn Bn
19 Apr.	2d Sqn, RAAF 7RAR
23 Apr.	3d Force Recon Co
25 Apr.	HQ 26 <sup>th</sup> Marines (Fwd)
26 Apr.	147 <sup>th</sup> Serv Co
28 Apr.	HQ 41 <sup>st</sup> Art Grp
29 Apr.	589 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn 563d S&S Bn 567 <sup>th</sup> S&S Bn
30 Apr.	378 <sup>th</sup> Signal Co

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## Departure:

2 Apr. CAPITAL Avn Bn<sup>26</sup>  
3 Apr. VMA-214<sup>27</sup>  
HMM-164<sup>28</sup>  
11 Apr. 3/4 Marines<sup>29</sup>  
12 Apr. 8<sup>th</sup> BS  
13 Apr. 1/3 Marines<sup>30</sup>  
15 Apr. 416<sup>th</sup> TFS  
17 Apr. 10<sup>th</sup> FS  
26 Apr. HQ Task Force X-Ray<sup>31</sup>  
30 Apr. SRAR  
103 Fld Bty

## MAY

**1 May** US military strength in RVN is 460,000.

**1 May** USN planes from TF 77 hit Kep Airfield. First attack against NVN airfields.

**1 May** USAF pilots fly record 625 tactical air sorties in support of war.

**1-4 May** **Operation:** FORT WAYNE

**Location:** Song Dong Nai, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf. **Intelligence:** C301, C302 and C303 PLAF LF Cos. **Execution:** Operation took place in Long Khanh Province, bounded on the west and north by the Song Dong Nai. Contact with enemy forces was minimal. **Results:** (no info).

**1-4 May** **Operation:** LAM SON 47

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 157 enemy killed, 3 detained, 7 ARVN KIA, 41 ARVN WIA.

**2 May** GEN W. C. Westmoreland returns to RVN from US.

**2 May** A new CIDG Camp opens at Tong Le Chon (Tonle Cham), Tay Ninh Province, for detachment A-334.

**2-8 May** **Operation:** LISMORE

**Location:** Dat Do, Phuoc Hai, Route 23, Song Rai, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav (-), 161 Bty RNZA. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF LF Bn, C25 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** Operation LISMORE took place in area bounded by Route 23, the Song Rai and the fence between Dat Do and Phuoc Hai with minimal contact. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, no friendly casualties.

**2-10 May** The 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division at Khanh Duong is transported by sea lift from Nha Trang to RAZORBACK Beach in I CTZ to become part of TF OREGON.

**2 May-25 Jun.** **Operation:** AN DAN II

**Location:** Lam Dong Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 101 enemy killed, 223 detained, 3 ARVN KIA, 13 ARVN WIA.

**3 May** A returnee leads a company of the 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div to a weapons cache in Binh Duong Province containing 2,000 rounds of mixed mortars, 1,200 grenades, 1,000 pounds of small arms ammunition and 400 CHICOM rifles.

**3 May** USS GALLUP, a new design patrol gunboat, begins MARKET TIME patrols.

**3-4 May** **Operation:** CUU LONG/61/C

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 78 enemy killed, 45 detained, 4 ARVN KIA, 28 ARVN WIA.

**3-5 May** **Operation:** LAM SON 48

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 101 enemy killed, 6 detained, 7 ARVN KIA, 37 ARVN WIA.

26 Assets to 210<sup>th</sup> Avn Bn.

27 To CONUS.

28 To SLF BRAVO.

29 To Okinawa

30 To SLF ALPHA.

31 Deactivated when TF OREGON assumed its mission.

**4 May** GEN Creighton W. Abrams, USA, and AMB Robert Komer arrive in Saigon to take up duties as DEPCOMUSMACV and DEPCOMUSMACV for CORDS, respectively.\*

**4 May** The CIDG Camp at Lang Vei (A-101) receives a ground attack by an estimated enemy company supported by mortars. Results were 7 enemy killed, 5 captured, 17 CUDG KIA, 35 CIDG WIA and 38 CIDG MIA.

**4-11 May** **Operation:** HAPPY DRAGON

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Execution:** (no other info).

**5-17 May** **Operation:** DAYTON

**Location:** May Tao Secret Zone, Blackhorse, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 3-319 Art (-), D/16 Arm. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> and 275<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgts. **Execution:** Operation DAYTON took place in the May Tao Secret Zone and searched for the two regiments of the 5<sup>th</sup> PLAF Division. Operating from BLACKHORSE base camp, the brigade maintained sporadic contact with the enemy but no major fight developed. **Results:** (no info).

**7-8 May** **Operation:** BINH QUANG 4

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 51<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Results:** 82 enemy killed, 10 ARVN KIA, 55 ARVN WIA.

**8-9 May** **Operation:** HAI SU 5

**Location:** Binh Dai Secret Zone, Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Kien Hoa Sector. **Task organization:** 907<sup>th</sup> and 983<sup>rd</sup> RF Cos, Coastal Groups 32, 33, 34 and 37. **Execution:** operation took place at the mouth of the My Tho River. **Results:** 6 enemy killed.

**8-16 May** **Operation:** BINH QUANG/4/11

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 51<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Results:** 95 enemy killed, 49 detained, 10 ARVN KIA, 25 ARVN WIA.

**9-10 May** **Operation:** LONG PHI/999/J

**Location:** Kien Phong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div (elts), RAGs 23 and 31. **Execution:** Operation conducted 15 km north of Sa Dec. **Results:** 10 enemy killed, 10 detained.

**10 May** Kien An Airfield, 5 miles southwest of Haiphong hit for first time.

**10-12 May** **Operation:** BOWEN

**Location:** Long Tan, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** C/6RAR. **Execution:** Operation searched Long Tan for possible presence of VC liaison agents. **Results:** none.

**11 May** Eight-foot center section of Soviet air-to-air missile found by Marines unit in Quang Tri Province.

**11 May** AMB Bunker announces Revolutionary Development programs will be under COMUSMACV.

**11 May-21 Jul.** **Operation:** -

**Location:** Rung Sat Special Zone, Gia Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC Brigade. **Task organization:** 6<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bn, A/VNMC Art Bn, RAG 22. **Results:** (no info).

**11 May-8 Jun.** **Operation:** MALHEUR I

**Location:** Base Area 124, Song Tra Cau, NORMANDY AO, LZ CARENTAN, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, C/2-11 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** After relocating to Duc Pho and establishing a new base camp called CARENTAN near RAZORBACK Beach, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div commenced operations in the enemy's Base Area 124 located in the mountains west of Duc Pho. On 11 May, 1-327 Inf conducted airmobile assaults from CARENTAN into the northwestern portion of NORMANDY AO, followed by 2-502 Inf conducting similar air assaults into the southwestern portion. Both battalions began to sweep east but met little resistance.



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On 13 May, near the headwaters of the Song Tra Cau, twelve separate firefights occurred, the largest against an entrenched enemy company. 29 VC were killed at the cost of 1 US KIA and 7 US WIA. On 18 May, B/2-502 fought a six-hour long engagement with an estimated 100 man VC force. Results were 31 enemy killed, 12 US KIA and 41 US WIA. The brigade completed its scouring of BA 124 in early June with only light contact. **Results:** (see Operation MALHEUR II).

**12 May** Prime Minister Ky announces his candidacy for President.

**12 May.** The 84A PAVN Artillery Regiment attacks Bien Hoa AB with 53 rounds of 122mm rockets and 150 rounds of mortar and recoilless rifle. 49 US and South Vietnamese planes are destroyed or damaged.

**12-13 May** **Operation:** LONG PHI/999/K

**Location:** Phong Ding Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div (elts), RAGs 25, 27, 29 and 32. **Execution:** Operation conducted 25 km southeast of Can Tho. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 25 captured, 4 detained, 3 ARVN WIA, 1 VNN WIA.

**13 May** Seven MIG-17s downed over NVN by USAF pilots.

**13 May** First increment of New Zealand infantrymen arrive in RVN at Nui Dat and are placed under operational control of 1ATF.

**13 May** **Operation:** ARMIDALE

**Location:** Xa Long Phuoc, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR (-), 101 Fld Bty, A Sqn 3 Cav (-). **Execution:** 6RAR responded to sighting of 40 VCs 5 km south of Nui Dat but no contact was made. **Results:** none.

**13-18 May** **Operation:** BLACKJACK 41C/ARROWHEAD

**Location:** Chi Lang, Nui Giai. Seven Mountains, Chau Doc Province. **Type:** search and destroy, mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** A-503, E (Prov)/5<sup>th</sup> SFGA, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Cos, 5<sup>th</sup> MSF, MGF 399, A-149 Binh Gia (elts), A-421 Ba Xoai (elts), A-423 Tinh Bien (elts). **Intelligence:** 512<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** The operation was mounted to exploit intelligence gathered by the IV Corps Company D MSF indicating that the 512<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn was entrenched on Nui Giai Mountain in the Seven Mountains area of Chau Doc Province near the Cambodian border. On 13 May, 374 strikers and 20 USSF from A-503 and the 5<sup>th</sup> MSF were flown from Nha Trang in C-130s and jumped east of the mountain (Operation ARROWHEAD) while other blocking elements sealed off Nui Giai. Contact was made with the enemy everyday except on 15 May but there were simply too many places for the enemy to hide and they used the numerous caves to move from one position to another. The 5<sup>th</sup> MSF was withdrawn on 16 May and the operation was terminated when it became apparent that the VC could not be flushed out. **Results:** 40 enemy killed, 9 CIDG KIA, 1 MSF KIA, 12 CIDG WIA, 4 MSF WIA, 9 USSF WIA.

**13-18 May** **Operation:** AHINA

**Location:** Dau Tieng, War Zone C, Route 13, Nui Dong, Song Saigon, Suoi Ba Hao, Tay Ninh and Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 2-77 Art, B/1-11 Art, C/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-47 Inf (M), 4-39 Inf, 2-12 Inf A/15<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Intelligence:** 101<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt, 82<sup>nd</sup> Rear Service Group. **Execution:** Operation AHINA was a search and destroy operation conducted in the east central portion of War Zone C northwest of Tay Ninh, an area already visited during JUNCTION CITY. On 13 May, the 3d Bde crossed the Saigon river into the AO while the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde established blocking positions along Route 13. Numerous bunkers and caches were found but contact was minimal. **Results:** 9 enemy killed, 15 US KIA, 38 US WIA.

**13 May-16 Jul.** **Operation:** CROCKETT

**Location:** Khe Sanh, Hill 861, Hill 881S, Hill 950, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 26<sup>th</sup> Marines (Forward). **Task organization:** 1/26 Marines, 3/26 Marines (from 13 Jun), A/3d Recon. **Intelligence:** 325C PAVN Div. **Execution:** After the end of the First Battle of

Khe Sanh ('Khe Sanh Hill Fights'), 1/26 Marines replaced the two battalions from the 3d Marines there. The mission was to occupy key terrain, deny enemy access into the vital areas, conduct aggressive patrolling within the AO and provide security for the base and adjacent outposts on nearby Hill 881S, 861 and 950. Numerous sightings of the enemy were made during May but there was only occasional contact. On 6 Jun, the radio relay site on Hill 950 received a ground probe, 10 enemy were killed, 6 US KIA and 2 US WIA. The next day, a patrol from B/1/26 made heavy contact with an estimated enemy company. 66 enemy were killed, 18 US KIA and 28 US WIA. Due to the increasing number of enemy contacts, 3/26 Marines arrived at Khe Sanh on 13 Jun. Both battalions had many contacts with isolated enemy forces during the last weeks of the month. On 27 Jun, I/3/26 ran into two NVA companies, killing 35 but during July enemy activity decreased in the Khe Sanh AO and the operation was terminated on 16 Jul. **Results:** 206 enemy killed, 5 detained, 52 US KIA, 255 WIA.

**14 May** Hamlet elections (to last five weeks) begin in 4,612 out of a total estimated 12,000 hamlets in RVN.

**14 May.-7 Dec.** **Operation:** KOLE KOLE

**Location:** Duc Hoa, Bao Trai, Hiep Hoa, Loc Giang, Trang Bang, Song Vam Co Dong, Rach Tra, Xinh An Ha, Route 10, Hau Nghia and Tay Ninh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 1-8 Art. **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Go Mon and 269<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bns. **Execution:** Operation KOLE KOLE was initiated by the 2d Bde in Hau Nghia Province using EAGLE FLIGHTS and airmobile operations based on current intelligence. Cordon and search, outposting and country fair operations were also conducted in conjunction with the 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div, CIDG and RF/PF. On 17 May, elements of 1/27 Inf and 2/27 Inf fought an eight-hour engagement west of the Vam Co Dong with a VC company. Results were 27 enemy killed, 2 US KIA and 9 US WIA. There was intermittent contact during June and July, particularly along the An Ha canal and near Loc Giang. The brigade also secured engineer operations along Route 10 to improve the GVN's authority and control west of Trang Bang. In early August, the reconnaissance platoon of 1/27 Inf with helicopter support intercepted VC recon elements from Long An Province, killing 26. During September, KOLE KOLE shifted to northern Hau Nghai and southwestern Tay Ninh Province. 1-5 Inf (M) conducted extensive dismounted ambush patrols around Loc Giang along the Vam Co while 2-27 Inf engaged scattered elements of the 269<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn. On 21 Oct, an EAGLE FLIGHT from 1-27 Inf engaged an estimated enemy platoon south of Tay Ninh, killing 18. On 31 Oct, 2-27 Inf made contact with elements of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Go Mon Bn north of the Rach Tra, killing 28 and capturing 2. Enemy activity decreased for the rest of KOLE KOLE and the brigade concentrated on pacification and land clearing operations. **Results:** 797 enemy killed, 150 detained, 34 returnees, 144 US KIA, 876 US WIA

**15 May** 3/4 Marines is flown directly from Okinawa to Dong Ha to participate in Operation HICKORY.

**15 May** **Operation:** LAM SON 57/XDNT

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 188 enemy killed, 4 detained, 8 ARVN KIA, 62 ARVN WIA.

**16 May** Air Commander J. F. Lush, OBE, RAAF, assumes command of RAAF elements in RVN.

**16 May** Constituent Assembly approves presidential election law.

**16-18 May** **Operation:** WEBSTER

**Location:** Thuong Duc, Hill 52, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div. **Task organization:** 3/7 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted between Thuong Duc and Hill 52 with light contact. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 5 detained, 1 US KIA.

**16-27 May** **Operation:** THUNDER DRAGON

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organiza-**

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**tion:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Results:** 147 enemy killed, 6 detained, 14 ROK KIA, 45 ROK WIA.

**17 May Operation: TIEN SHA 1**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** First Naval Zone. **Execution:** The newly activated RAG Detachment at Da Nang transported two platoons of VNSF on the Tien Sha Peninsula, 5 km east of Da Nang. **Results:** none.

**17-23 May Operation: CINCINNATI**

**Location:** Bien Hoa, Long Binh, Cay Gao Plantation, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf 3-319 Art, E/17 Cav, D/16 Arm. **Intelligence:** 273<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Rgt, D800 PLAF LF Bn, 84A PAVN Art Rgt, 58<sup>th</sup> PLAF Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation CINCINNATI was initiated to secure the Bien Hoa-Long Binh area against possible enemy ground, mortar and rocket attacks, such as occurred on the night on 12 May. The brigade maintained sporadic contact with small groups of VC but no major engagement developed and findings were limited to abandoned base camps and bunkers scattered throughout the AO. CINCINNATI was the last operation of the 173d Abn Bde in the III CTZ area, the following day it was alerted for immediate departure for Pleiku Province (see Operation WINCHESTER). **Results:** (no info).

**17-25 May Operation: DALLAS**

**Location:** Tan uyen, Ong Dong Jungle, Vinh Loi Woods, Song Be, Route 16, Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-2 Inf (M), 1-11 ACR, A/2-18 Inf, B/2-34 Arm, 1/7 Art (-). **Execution:** Operation DALLAS was mounted in reaction to the rocket attack on Bien Hoa on 12 May and simultaneous mortar attacks on Phuoc Vinh and Tan Uyen. The AO extended east from Route 16, from the Song Be River south to Tan Uyen and the Ong Dong Jungle, and the Vinh Loi Woods to the west of Route 16. Several small base camps were found but contact was minimal. **Results:** 17 enemy killed, 6 detained, 4 US KIA, 81 US WIA.

**17-28 May Operation: HICKORY/LAM SON 54**

**Location:** Con Thien, Gio Linh, Demilitarized Zone, Song Ben Hai, Hill 117, Route 1, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div; 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 3d Mar Div: 3/4 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 2/26 Marines; 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div: two Inf Bns and three Abn Bns<sup>32</sup>. **Intelligence:** 31<sup>st</sup> and 812<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts. **Execution:** On 8 May, after the Con Thien attack, Washington changed its DMZ policy. MACV then authorized III MAF to conduct ground operations in the southern half of the DMZ. The basic concept called for ground attacks by the 3d Mar Div and 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div along parallel routes, as far north as the Ben Hai River. Operational code names were HICKORY for the 3d Mar Div units and LAM SON 54 for the ARVN forces. Both SLFs were to support the attack with Operations BEAU CHARGER and BELT TIGHT. The ARVN portion of the operation jumped off on schedule. Surprise was complete as ARVN units moved to the Ben Hai along Route 1 then started sweeping their AO east of the road. On 19 May, the airborne battalions engaged elements of the 31<sup>st</sup> and 812<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts and kept constant contact until the operation ended on 27 May. Operation HICKORY commenced on 18 May when 2/9 and 2/26 Marines advanced northward from Con Thien. At the same time, 3/4 Marines was air-assaulted near the Ben Hai to provide blocking forces. Shortly after, 2/26 made contact with an estimated two NVA battalions. Heavy fighting ensued, lasting until nightfall. 31 enemy were killed, 5 US KIA and 142 US WIA. On 19 May, 2/26 finally overran the enemy bunker complex, killing 34 more. That same day, 2/9 Marines also made heavy contact, losing 7 KIA and 12 WIA; enemy casualties were unknown. To the southwest, 3/9 Marines screening the western flank was attacked on 20 May. Losses were heavy with 26 KIA and 59 WIA while the Marines counted only 36 enemy killed. After a brief cease-fire period on 23 May observed for Buddha's

birthday, 3/4 and 2/26 began sweeping the DMZ to the southwest toward the mountains west of Con Thien and made heavy contact on 25 May with a large NVA company in mutually supporting bunker complex near Hill 117. Results for the day were 41 enemy killed, 14 US KIA and 92 US WIA. The next day, after Marine air and artillery had blasted the hilltop during the night, 3/4 Marines secured Hill 117, meeting no resistance. It proved to be the last significant engagement of HICKORY, in the last few days, the Marines found and destroyed numerous well-fortified areas, capturing 50 tons of rice and 10 tons of ordnance. **Results:** 789 enemy killed, 37 captured, 142 US KIA, 896 US WIA, 22 ARVN KIA, 122 ARVN WIA.

**18-26 May Operation: BEAU CHARGER**

**Location:** Demilitarized Zone, Song Ben Hai, LZ GOOSE, LZ OWL, GREEN Beach, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Intelligence:** 812<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** Operation BEAU CHARGER was initiated by SLF ALPHA in support of Operation HICKORY/LAM SON 54. 1/3 Marines conducted amphibious and airmobile assaults along the coast between the Ben Hai and the southern boundary of the DMZ in the ARVN AO. Air assault on LZ GOOSE was aborted due to heavy enemy fire and diverted to LZ OWL 800 meters to the south. At the same time, Co D landed in LVTPs at GREEN Beach. The landing was unopposed and the Marines moved inland to link up with Co A at LZ OWL. Both companies then moved out to rescue a beleaguered platoon at LZ GOOSE with Co B reinforcing. Fighting lasted all day and 67 enemies were killed. Action during the rest of BEAU CHARGER consisted of light contact and continuing artillery harassment until the operation ended on 26 May. **Results:** (included in Operation HICKORY/LAM SON 54).

**18-21 May Operation: DAN CHI/287/C**

**Location:** Vi Thanh, Chuong Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** VNMC TF BRAVO: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Results:** 98 enemy killed, 21 detained, 8 VNMC KIA, 29 VNMC WIA.

**18-22 May Operation: WELLINGTON**

**Location:** Dat Do, The Horseshoe, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** V1 Coy, 1RNZIR. **Execution:** This was the shakedown operation for V Coy where it joined 6RAR at the Horseshoe north of Dat Do. **Results:** none.

**18 May-7 Dec. Operation: BARKING SANDS**

**Location:** Cu Chi, Trang Bang, Phu Hoa, Iron Triangle, Ho Bo Woods, Song Saigon, Hau Nghia and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 7-11 Art. **Execution:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Bde employed counter guerrilla warfare techniques including saturation patrolling, checkmate, bushmaster and cordon and search operations to pacify Cu Chi and Trang Bang Districts in Hau Nghia Province and Phu Hoa District in Binh Duong Province. Buddy operations were also conducted with local PF platoons and RF companies. On 30 Aug, 4-9 Inf conducted an airmobile assault against an entrenched VC battalion in the Iron Triangle resulting in 4 enemy killed, 11 US KIA and 43 US WIA. During September, primary emphasis was placed on denying VC access to populated areas during the National Elections. Land clearing operations were also initiated along the Song Saigon to eliminate VC concealment. In October, 9,645 acres of the Ho Bo Woods were cleared by Rome Plows following Operation KUNIA. Contact during BARKING SANDS was limited to squad and platoon size elements and no major engagement occurred. Four sub-operations were conducted in the BARKING SANDS AO during the period: KAWELA, AKUMU, WAIMEA and KUNIA (see individual operations below). **Results** (inclusive of the four sub-operations): 370 enemy killed, 85 detained, 10 returnees, 110 US KIA, 1114 US WIA.

**18 May-8 Jun. Operation: ASHLAND**

**Location:** Bien Hoa and Long Khanh Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3-

<sup>32</sup> No info on exact units.

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5 Cav. **Execution:** (no other info, might have been a sub operation of KITTYHAWK).

### 18 May-7 Dec. **Operation:** DIAMOND HEAD

**Location:** Tay Ninh West, Dau Tieng, Suoi Da, Prek Klok, Ben Cui, Michelin Plantation, Boi Loi Woods, The Crescent, The Trapezoid, Tay Ninh and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div<sup>33</sup>. **Task organization:** 2-12 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 2-77 Art, 2-34 Arm (-) (from 22 Sep), C/1-10 Cav, C/4<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Execution:** The mission was to conduct search and destroy operations in Tay Ninh Province, cordon and search operations in the Michelin Plantation, and security and reinforcement missions in the Tay Ninh and Prek Klok areas. With one battalion detached to Operation UNIONTOWN and another providing security for the Dau Tieng and Tay Ninh West base camps, contact in the AO were very limited during the months of May, June and July. On 1 Aug, the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div was redesignated the 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. No movement of troops or units were involved in this redesignation. On 15 Aug, an airmobile cordon and search of Thanh An was conducted by 3-22 Inf in conjunction with VN National Police. 6 enemy were killed and 42 detained. In September, the brigade provided security during the National elections. In October, continued battalion size search and destroy operations were conducted in the Michelin Plantation to prevent its use as an enemy haven, in and south of Ben Cui, and in the northern portion of the Trapezoid, which extends 15 km to the southeast of Dau Tieng. Bushmaster operations were conducted in an area known as the Crescent, 8 km northwest of Dau Tieng. All operations were marked by extremely light contact. In November, operations were conducted in the upper Boi Loi Woods and in the Ben Cui Plantation, again with light contact. During this period operations were curtailed due to two battalions being opcon to the other brigades. On 25-25 Nov, 2-22 Inf (M) made contact with a VC company near the Mushroom bend on the Saigon River, killing 20. This was the last contact during DIAMOND HEAD before the operation came to an end on 7 Dec. **Results:** 237 enemy killed, 496 detained, 4 returnees. (US losses unknown).

19 May NGFS forces concentrates at DMZ in support of Operation HICKORY: USS ST PAUL, BOSTON, A. M. SUMMER, JOSEPH STRAUSS, FLETCHER, and HMAS HOBART.

### 19-21 May **Operation:** LAM SON 59

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 352 enemy killed, 5 detained, 53 ARVN KIA, 103 ARVN WIA, 10 ARVN MIA.

### 19-25 May **Operation:** DUVAL

**Location:** Elephant Valley, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted in Elephant Valley 25 km west-northwest of Da Nang with no contact. **Results:** 1 US WIA.

20 May First O-2 aircraft, twin engine Cessna successor to the O-1 Birdog FAC aircraft, arrives in-country at Nha Trang.

### 20-23 May **Operation:** BELT TIGHT

**Location:** Demilitarized Zone, Song Ben Hai, LZ PARROT, LZ MOCKINGBIRD, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 2/3 Marines. **Intelligence:** 31<sup>st</sup> and 812<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts. **Execution:** The initial mission of SLF BRAVO was to land in the north-eastern corner of the 3d Mar Div's HICKORY AO and conduct search and destroy operations. On 20 May, the Bn CP and Cos F and H landed at LZ PARROT, followed by Cos E and G at LZ MOCKINGBIRD. Only light resistance was encountered. During the following days, the BLT attacked south, pushing enemy forces into the 3d Mar Div's AO and meeting heavy resistance, killing 58. On 23 May, BLT 2/3 Marines passed under control of the 9<sup>th</sup> Marine until the end of HICKORY. Instead of reembarking on ARG shipping, 2/3 remained in the DMZ area until 10 Jun, participating in Operation PRAIRIE IV and CIMARRON. **Results:** (included in Operation HICKORY/LAM SON 54).

### 20-28 May **Operation:** LIEN KET 104

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 137 enemy killed.

### 21 May-9 Jul. **Operation:** CHOCTAW

**Location:** Phong Dien, Nam Hoa, Co Bi-Thanh Tan, My Chanh, Route 1, Song Thach Ma, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/4 Marines, 2/4 Marines, 3/12 Marines, BLT 1/3 Marines (12-23 Jun). **Execution:** CHOCTAW targeted the Co Bi Thanh Tan area of Thua Thien Province. Operations were limited to patrol and ambush actions during the deployment of forces to Operation HICKORY. CHOCTAW also provided one rifle company for operations in the Nam Hoa area and security forces for the Quang Tri Provincial Headquarters and the Phong Dien District Headquarters. Operations were characterized by frequent small unit contacts, sniper fire and mine and booby traps incidents. During the period 12-23 Jun SLF ALPHA with BLT 1/3 Marines joined CHOCTAW, sweeping Route 1 along the Thach Ma River, killing only 9 enemy soldiers before returning to Camp Evans. The only major contact in June occurred on the 11<sup>th</sup> when 2/4 ambushed an enemy company near My Chanh, inflicting heavy casualties. **Results:** 160 enemy killed, 216 detained, 18 US KIA and 153 US WIA.

23 May 24-hour Allied stand-down for Buddha's Birthday. No incidents.

### 23 May **Operation:** MUITNAMAH

**Location:** Duc Pho, Mo Duc, Route 1, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** road construction. **Controlling headquarters:** TF OREGON. **Task organization:** 39<sup>th</sup> Eng C Bn. **Execution:** The 39<sup>th</sup> Eng C Bn upgraded Route 1 between Duc Pho and Mo Duc. **Results:** (no info).

### 23-31 May **Operation:** WINCHESTER II

**Location:** Bien Hoa, Pleiku, Catecka Plantation, Pleiku Province. **Type:** movement. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, E/17 Cav, D/16 Arm, 173d Eng Co. **Execution:** On 23 May, II FFORCEV instructed the brigade to prepare for immediate deployment to II CTZ in the vicinity of Pleiku. The brigade's mission was to establish a base camp and act as a reserve force for at least three months. At 0500 on 24 May an advance party flew from Bien Hoa to New Pleiku AF. At 1220, the first C-130 aircraft departed Bien Hoa carrying the brigade's main elements. Air movement continued through 27 May with a total of 2,239 personnel and 2,700 tons of equipment being transported utilizing a total of 208 sorties. A base camp was established at Catecka on Route 19 and the brigade was placed under opcon to 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div to join Operation FRANCIS MARION. **Results:** none.

### 25 May-5 Jun. **Operation:** UNION II/LIEN KET 106

**Location:** Tam Ky, Thang Binh, Vinh Huy, Que Son Basin, Nui Loc Son, LZ EAGLE, LZ ROBIN, LZ BLUE JAY, Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines; 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines: 1/5 Marines, 2/5 Marines (-), 3/5 Marines; 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div: 6<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt (two bns), 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgr Grp (21<sup>st</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> Rgr Bns). **Intelligence:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgts. **Execution:** At the conclusion of UNION I, intel reports indicated that the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgts were moving back into the Que Son Basin, prompting III MAF to launch another joint operation in the Valley. The three ARVN Rgr Bns were to attack southwest from Thang Binh while two units from the 6<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt were to attack northwest from a position near Tam Ky. 1/5 Marines at Nui Loc Son would establish blocking positions in the western portion of the Valley while 3/5 Marines would move by helicopters into the southern portion and sweep northeast. On 26 May, 3/5 Marines met heavy resistance while it landed on LZ EAGLE 5 km east of Nui Loc Son. Fighting continued throughout the afternoon, the Marines counting 118 dead NVA scattered across the battlefield. US losses had been high too with 38 KIA and 82 WIA. In the next few days, all four forces swept the area, meeting only light

33 Redesignated 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div on 1 Aug.



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resistance. Convinced that the NVA had escaped, the ARVN ended their operations, but the 5<sup>th</sup> Marines decided to change the direction of attack toward the hills along the southern rim of the basin. Landing on LZs ROBIN and BLUE JAY on 30 May, both battalions moved abreast to the northwest. On 2 Jun, the two lead companies of 3/5 met an entrenched NVA battalions in the village of Vinh Huy, 3 km east of the 26 May contact. Reinforced by 2/5, the Marines forced the enemy to disengage, withdrawing hastily to the southwest where they were caught in the open by devastating support fires. This action marked the last significant battle of UNION II. **Results:** 701 enemy killed, 40 detained, 110 US KIA, 473 US WIA, 18 ARVN KIA, 111 ARVN WIA.

**26 May** A new CIDG camp opens at Luong Hoa, Long An Province, for detachment A-353.

**26-28 May** **Operation:** LAM SON 60/XDNT

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 146 enemy killed, 8 detained, 26 ARVN KIA, 47 ARVN WIA.

**28 May** All field functions in pacification and nation building combined under COMUSMACV with the merger of the Civil Operations Office (AMEMB) and the Revolutionary Development Directorate (MACV) into CORDS.

**28-30 May** **Operation:** LONG PHI/999/N

**Location:** Can Tho, Phong Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** VNMC TF BRAVO: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** TF BRAVO conducted an unproductive riverine assault 10 miles southeast of Can Tho before returning to Saigon on 31 May. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 6 detained, 7 VNMC WIA.

## Arrival:

1 May	557 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co 525 <sup>th</sup> QM Co 3d MP Bn 106 Fld Bty 108 Fld Bty
2 May	HQ 160 <sup>th</sup> Signal Grp 34 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn 69 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn
3 May	225 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 221 <sup>st</sup> Signal Co 588 <sup>th</sup> Signal Co 520 <sup>th</sup> AG Co 821 <sup>st</sup> Supply Co 20 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co 539 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co
4 May	268 <sup>th</sup> Avn Bn 188 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
7 May	189 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
10 May	658 <sup>th</sup> Med Co 667 <sup>th</sup> Med Co
13 May	V1 Coy, 1RNZIR
15 May	3/4 Marines VMFA-115 HMH-463
19 May	2RAR
22 May	6-15 Art 6-77 Art 92d Eng Bn
23 May	HMH-463 <sup>34</sup>
25 May	191 <sup>st</sup> Avn Co 240 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 137 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co
28 May	MACV CORDS
30 May	205 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co

## Departure:

15 May VMFA-323<sup>35</sup>

<sup>34</sup> Detachment serving with MAG-16 since 23 Dec66.

<sup>35</sup> Squadron undergoing rehabilitation at Iwakuni.

## JUNE

**1 Jun.** US military strength in the RVN is at 484,000.

**1 Jun.** MG Robert C. Cushman, USMC, relieves LTG Lewis W. Walt, USMC, as CG III MAF and CG I CTZ at Da Nang.

**1 Jun.** The Vietnamese Air Force receives its first squadron of F-5 Freedom Fighter aircraft.

**1-3 Jun.** **Operation:** LAM SON 63

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 243 enemy killed, 8 detained, 12 ARVN KIA, 115 ARVN WIA.

**1-3 Jun.** **Operation:** CUU LONG/59/SD

**Location:** Thanh Phu Secret Zone, Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 13 enemy killed, 17 detained.

**1 Jun.-2 Jul.** **Operation:** CIMARRON

**Location:** Con Thien, Gio Linh, Thon Son Lam, Camp Carroll, Demilitarized Zone, Route 9, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div. **Task organization:** 3/3 Marines, 1/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 2/26 Marines. **Execution:** CIMARRON was the successor to Operation PRAIRIE IV in the same area and with the same formations. Several operations of up to two battalion size were conducted during June in the general area between Route 9 and the DMZ, and west of Thon Son Lam. Contact was light and sporadic although mine and booby trap incidents increased. Forces assigned to CIMARRON decreased on 5 June with the deployment of 2/26 to Phu Bai. Operations in connection with the construction of the cleared strip between Gio Linh and Con Thien concluded with the completion of engineer work on 17 June. The Con Thien Special Forces Camp deactivated 12 June with the departure of the CIDG component and CIMARRON forces assuming responsibility for the defense of the camp and its installations. **Results:** 245 enemy killed, 176 detained, 38 US KIA, 470 US WIA.

**1 Jun.-26 Jul.** **Operation:** CORONADO I

**Location:** Dong Tam, Can Giuoc, Can Duoc, Go Cong, Cua Soi Rap, Song Vam Co, Song Rach Cac, FSB TANGO, FSB X-RAY (Fort Courage), Binh Xuan Secret Zone, Rung Sat Special Zone, Dinh Tuong, Long An and Go Cong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF). **Task organization:** 3-47 Inf, 4-47 Inf, 3-34 Art, D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117. **Intelligence:** 514<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bn, 5<sup>th</sup> Nha Be PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** On 1 Jun, the Mobile Riverine Force was officially activated, with the arrival at Dong Tam of its full naval complement. Subsequently, the brigade headquarters, 3-47 Inf, 4-47 Inf and supporting units were placed aboard ship, leaving only 3-60 Inf (TF FUNSTON) ashore to provide base security<sup>36</sup>. During the period 13-17 Jun the fully constituted MRF conducted its first operation in the Rung Sat Special Zone<sup>37</sup>. Full scale operations however started on 19 Jun when CORONADO I finally went underway. Anchoring at the mouths of the Vam Co, Soi Rap and Rach Cac Rivers, the MRF struck at the 5<sup>th</sup> Nha Be Bn near the town of Can Giuoc in Long An Province<sup>38</sup>. On 19 Jun, both battalions converged via helicopter and riverine transports to the target area, meeting heavy resistance. Fighting lasted all day until the remnants of the 5<sup>th</sup> Nha Be escaped across the Rach Nui under the cover of darkness. 256 enemy had been killed, 21 US KIA and 53 US WIA. Following this engagement, the MRF remained in the area, conducting company-size operations in the RSSZ, Can Duoc District and northern Go Cong Province, coordinating with the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) and 3/46 ARVN Bn. On 4 Jul, the MRF attacked the Binh Xuan Secret Zone, located northwest of Go Cong, co-operating with a provisional Popular Forces battalion. During the next three days, contacts with elements of the 514<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn resulted in over 100 enemy killed without a single US casualty. A hundred South

<sup>36</sup> See Operation HOPTAC.

<sup>37</sup> See Operation GREAT BEND.

<sup>38</sup> The Can Giuoc operation is sometimes recorded as operation CONCORDIA I.

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Vietnamese deserters and draft dodgers were also apprehended. The MRF returned to Can Giuoc District after the Go Cong operations, conducting riverine assaults along the Rach Cac during the period 20-22 Jul. On 24 Jul, the MRF with the 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bn and 3/46 ARVN Bn moved to northern Can Giuoc District in an effort to reduce the enemy threat to the district capital. No contact was made and CORONADO I terminated with the MRF returning to Dong Tam. **Results:** 478 enemy killed, 526 detained, 40 US KIA, 173 US WIA.

### 1 Jun.-7 Feb.68 **Operation:** HOPTAC

**Location:** Dong Tam, Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** Task Force FUNSTON<sup>39</sup>. **Execution:** Operation HOPTAC was an internal defense and development operation in Dinh Tuong Province which included security of the Dong Tam base. Task Force FUNSTON provided land and waterborne security for engineer dredging equipment and maintained a ready reaction force to assist local GVN units and installations if needed. In most cases contact with the VC was characterized by light fire fights and sniper fire. On 1 Feb 68 the enemy fired more than 170 82 mm mortar and 75 mm RR rounds into the base resulting in minor damage and 11 US WIA. In the early morning hours of 3, 4, 5 and 7 Feb, the enemy continued to attack the base with mortar and RR fire. The heaviest attack came on 7 Feb with an estimated 200 rounds fired at the base. Elements of 5-60 Inf and 2-39 Inf conducted reaction airmobile assaults and RIF operations 8 km east of Dong Tam, making contact with two VC companies, killing 23 while losing 5 KIA and 11 WIA. **Results:** 296 enemy killed, 11 captured, 3 returnees, 37 US KIA, 364 US WIA.

### 2-5 Jun. **Operation:** BEAR BITE

**Location:** Street Without Joy, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** BEAR BITE was a conventional LVTP and helicopter assault targeting the Viet Cong operating along the coast 40 km southeast of the DMZ in the 'Street Without Joy' region. Starting on 2 Jun, BLT 1/3 spent the next 72 hours probing and destroying unoccupied enemy positions. Enemy snipers and a troublesome Marine tank stuck in a paddy were the only hindrances to the operation. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 9 detained, no friendly casualties.

### 3 Jun.-2 Jul. **Operation:** BLACKJACK 42

**Location:** Vinh Binh Province. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task Organization:** (no info). **Execution:** BLACKJACK 42 marked the first amphibious infiltration conducted by Special Forces advised elements in Vietnam. **Results:** (no info).

### 4 Jun. **Operation:** BAROSSA

**Location:** Xa Binh Ba, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 2RAR, 1 Fld Rgt (-). **Execution:** Operation took place in the Binh Ba area, 12 km north-northeast of 1ATF base. **Results:** none.

### 4-7 Jun. **Operation:** ANGRY DRAGON

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Results:** (no info).

### 5-7 Jun. **Operation:** ROCKET

**Location:** Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-39 Inf, 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 1-11 Art. **Execution:** (no other info)

### 5-9 Jun. **Operation:** BLUEFIELD

**Location:** Lai Khe, Bau Bang, Song Be, Route 302, LZ 16, LZ 28, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-2 Inf (M), 1-16 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav, 2-33 Art. **Execution:** The operation was intended to reassert the influence of the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div in an area 13 km northeast of Lai Khe in which operations had not been conducted, in force since Oct

66. 1-16 Inf, 2-28 Inf and 1-4 Cav conducted air and ground assaults while 2-2 Inf (M) visited Bau Bang and 1-26 secured Lai Khe. No contact was made. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA.

### 5-20 Jun. **Operation:** MA DOO II

**Location:** Nui Chi, Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 28<sup>th</sup> ROK Inf Rgt. **Execution:** The 28<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt cleared Chi Mountain located on the Phu Yen/Khanh Hoa border. **Results:** 139 enemy killed, 12 detained<sup>40</sup>.

### 6-7 Jun. **Operation:** DARWIN

**Location:** Xa Long Tan, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 2RAR, 161 Bty RNZA, 1 Fld Sqn (-). **Execution:** 2RAR air assaulted an LZ 6 km east-northeast of Long Tan and swept west toward 1ATF base. **Results:** none.

### 7-11 Jun. **Operation:** COLGATE

**Location:** Camp Evans, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** (no info).

### 7-13 Jun. **Operation:** BROKEN HILL

**Location:** Xa Binh Ba, Nui Nhon, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, 106 Fld Bty, A Sqn 3 Cav (one trp), 1 Fld Sqn (-). **Execution:** Operation was centered in an area 5 km northwest of Xa Binh Ba. During the period 9-10 Jun, 2RAR provided blocking forces for Operation AKRON. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 2 AUS WIA.

### 7-14 Jun. **Operation:** ANGRY DRAGON II

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Results:** 159 enemy killed, 43 detained, 10 ROK KIA, 56 ROK WIA.

### 7 Jun.-6 Jul. **Operation:** SONG THAN 11

**Location:** Tan Uyen, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bns, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted around Tan Uyen with limited contact. On 19 Jun, the 1<sup>st</sup> VNMC Bn moved to Phuoc Vinh to join in Operation BILLINGS. **Results:** (no info).

### 8 Jun.-2 Aug. **Operation:** MALHEUR II

**Location:** Base Area 122, Base Area 123, Base Area 124, Song Tra Cau, Song Ve, Song Ne, BASTOGNE AO, ZON AO, NORMANDY AO, LZ CARENTAN, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, C/2-11 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Intelligence:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgts. **Execution:** On 8 Jun the brigade reoriented its effort into the BASTOGNE AO to the north with 1-327 Inf and 2-327 Inf air assaulting into Base Area 123 and 2-502 Inf air assaulting into 122 the following day. Contacts on the first day resulted in 19 enemy killed, 6 US KIA and 25 US WIA. Contact was sporadic during the first week and on 14 Jun the brigade commenced the evacuation of the civilian population of the Song Tra Cau and southern portion of the Song Ve Valleys to the Nghia Hanh refugee center. On 16 Jun, 1-327 Inf conducted an airmobile assault in the northern portion of the Song Ve Valley, making contact with an estimated enemy battalion. Results were 17 enemy killed, 5 US KIA and 51 US WIA. Evacuation operations were terminated on 23 Jun with 5,757 refugees, 30 tons of rice and 1,196 heads of cattle relocated. Search and destroy operations continued in the ZON AO to the west with 2-502 Inf and 2-327 Inf searching the Song Ne Valley for the 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt but without result. On 3 Jul, 1-327 returned to CARENTAN to prepare for operation LAKE. The remaining two battalions continued their search and evacuated the population of the Song Ne. On 10-11 Jul, after receiving intelligence indicating that the 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt had returned south to Base Area 124, 2-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf were reinserted into the old NORMANDY AO but

40 Friendly casualties described as 'light' in MACV Command History for 1967.

39 Originally included 3-60 Inf and A/3-34 Art.

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found little. Agent reports, information gained from captured VC and other intelligence indicated that the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgts were at less than 50% strength and that both were attempting to meet in Base Area 123 in order to form one combat effective regiment. The brigade scheduled a B-52 strike followed by an airmobile assault in the area, but once again little was found and the operation was terminated on 2 Aug. **Results** (includes MALHEUR I and MALHEUR II): 869 enemy killed, 80 captured, 81 US KIA, 594 US WIA, 1 US MIA.

### 8 Jun.-15 Sep. **Operation:** CUMBERLAND

**Location:** Nam Hoa, Gia Le, Route 547, Route 548, A Shau Valley, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** security, road construction, artillery raid. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/4 Marines, 2-94 Art. **Execution:** This infantry and engineer operation provided for the upgrading and construction of a land-line of communication from Hue along Routes 547 and 548 toward the A Shau Valley and the establishment of an artillery FSB in the vicinity of YD 605085. On 7 Jul, 1/4 displaced to Dong Ha leaving only A/1/4 to provide security for the working parties. CUMBERLAND resumed on 17 Jul. In Aug, Army 175mm guns from 2-94 Art were introduced into the area to fire H&I missions into the A Shau. Contact with the enemy was very light during the entire operation and CUMBERLAND was terminated at the start of the monsoon season. **Results:** 5 US KIA, 88 US WIA, no info on enemy losses.

### 9-11 Jun. **Operation:** CUU LONG/65/12

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** Operation conducted by the 12<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt with support from RAGs 21 and 27, 16 km north of Vinh Long. **Results:** 112 enemy killed, 10 detained, 16 ARVN KIA, 61 ARVN WIA.

### 9-29 Jun. **Operation:** AKRON

**Location:** Hat Dich Secret Zone (Base Area 303), Route 2, Route 15, Bien Hoa and Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-39 Inf, 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 3/11 ACR, 1-11 Art, Engineer TF (A/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, B/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, A/86<sup>th</sup> Eng); 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** The major objective of the operation was to clear three trails and helicopter landing zones between Route 15 and Route 2 to facilitate future operations in the Hat Dich Secret Zone. 26 bulldozers and 17 Rome Plows cleared 45 km of trails and 1615 acres of jungle. One major engagement occurred on 19 Jun when the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt attacked the 3/11 ACR command post but was unable to breach the perimeter. 65 enemy were killed, 9 US KIA and 32 US WIA. **Results:** 94 enemy killed, 4 captured, 2 returnees, 15 US KIA, 78 US WIA.

### 10-12 Jun. **Operation:** BUTLER

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div. **Task organization:** 3/7 Marines. **Execution:** (no other info).

### 11-25 Jun. **Operation:** KAWELA

**Location:** Song Saigon, Tri Tam District, Binh Duong Province.. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 3-4 Cav (-), 7-11 Art. **Execution:** This operation was a follow up to Operation MANHATTAN to exploit intelligence reports of VC activity along the upper Saigon River and in the Tri Tam District. Although contact was negligible, extensive amounts of enemy munitions and equipment were seized. **Results:** 38 enemy killed (US losses include in BARKING SANDS).

### 11-26 Jun. **Operation:** BILLINGS

**Location:** Phuoc Vinh, Chon Thanh, Chi Linh, War Zone D, FSPB GUNNER 2, LZ RUFÉ, LZ X-RAY, LZ DEFIANT, Binh Duong, Binh Long and Phuoc Long Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-16 Inf (11-18 Jun), 1-18 Inf (17-26 Jun), 2-18 Inf, 1-28 Inf (19-26 Jun), 2-28 Inf, 2-33 Art, 1<sup>st</sup> VNMC Bn (20-26 Jun). **Intelligence:** 271<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** BILLINGS was conducted in the western portion of War Zone D. On 11 Jun, 2-18 Inf moved overland to secure FSPB GUNNER 2. That same day,

the brigade CP and 2-28 Inf moved to an assembly area at Chi Linh. On 12 Jun, 1-16 and 2-28 Inf conducted airmobile assaults on LZ RUFÉ and began search and destroy operations. On 14 Jun, B/1-16 Inf made contact with an estimated enemy company. 60 enemy were killed, 6 US KIA and 12 US WIA. On 17 Jun, both battalions in night defensive positions on LZ X-RAY received a heavy ground attack from the northwest and southwest. Results were 196 enemy killed, 30 US KIA and 108 US WIA. 1-18 Inf was inserted into the position that same day to relieve 1-16 Inf which returned to Lai Khe the following morning. On 19 Jun, 1-28 Inf air assaulted into LZ DEFIANT but the enemy had vanished from the area and BILLINGS was terminated four days later. **Results:** 329 enemy killed, 1 captured, 37 US KIA, 147 US WIA, 9 VNMC KIA, 34 VNMC WIA.

### 11 Jun.-14 Jul. **Operation:** DAN CHI/289/A

**Location:** Phong Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 210 enemy killed, 217 detained, 5 ARVN KIA, 60 ARVN WIA.

**12 Jun.** A new CIDG Camp opens at Ha Tay, Binh Dinh Province, for detachment A-227.

### 12-14 Jun. **Operation:** LAM SON 66/XDNT

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Abn TF. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 1 detained.

### 13-17 Jun. **Operation:** GREAT BEND

**Location:** Nha Be, Long Tau Shipping Channel, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF). **Task organization:** 3-47 Inf, 4-47 Inf, 3-34 Art (-), D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117. **Execution:** On 11-12 Jun, the fully constituted Mobile Riverine Force made its first major move. Leaving Dong Tam, it sailed down the Mekong River and across a stretch of the South China Sea to a temporary anchorage at Vung Tau, and thence to an anchorage south-east of Saigon at Nha Be. At Nha Be operations were conducted from 13-17 Jun to provide security for the Long Tau Shipping Channel in the RRSZ. No contact was established with the enemy. **Results:** (included in CORONADO I).

### 14-22 Jun. **Operation:** ARIZONA

**Location:** An Hoa, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/5 Marines, 2/7 Marines, 3/7 Marines, 3/11 Marines. **Execution:** Operation ARIZONA was conducted north of An Hoa in an area bounded on north by the Song Vu Gia and on east by the Song Thu Bon. **Results:** 80 enemy killed, 2 captured, 118 detained, 8 US KIA, 65 US WIA.

### 15-21 Jun. **Operation:** GERALDTON

**Location:** Dat Do, Route 2, SONG Ba Dap, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 2RAR, 161 Bty RNZA, A Sqn 3 Cav (one trp). **Execution:** Operation was centered in an area 5 km east of Dat Do, between Route 2 and the Song Ba Dap. 90 bunkers and 225 meters of tunnels were destroyed but no contact was made. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 2 AUS WIA.

### 15-25 Jun. **Operation:** ADAIR<sup>41</sup>

**Location:** Thang Binh, Que Son, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines, 3/5 Marines, A/1<sup>st</sup> Tank Bn. **Execution:** Operation took place between Thang Binh and Que Son. **Results:** 74 enemy killed, 6 captured, 40 detained, 11 US KIA, 41 US WIA.

### 15 Jun.-14 Jul. **Operation:** BLACKJACK 26

**Location:** Kontum and Binh Dinh Provinces. **Type:** mobile guerilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** 23<sup>rd</sup> Co, A-219 MIKE Force. **Execution:** operation took place in northeastern Kontum and western Binh Dinh Provinces. Only 4 contacts were made with no confirmed enemy casualties. **Results:** 2 MIKE KIA, 3 USSF WIA, 3 MIKE WIA.

### 16 Jun. **Operation:** CUU LONG 93

**Location:** Go Cong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Go Cong Sector. **Execution:** operation

<sup>41</sup> Also reported as Operation ADAMS.



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conducted at the mouth of the My Tho River with support from Coastal Group 33. **Results:** 13 enemy killed, 1 detained, 3 ARVN KIA, 7 ARVN WIA.

**17-22 Jun. Operation: BROWN**

**Location:** Go Noi Island, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines, C/1/1 Marines, 4/51 ARVN Bn. **Execution:** Operation BROWN took place on Go Noi Island bounded by the Song Ky Lam, Song Dien Binh, Song Cau Lau and Song Hoi An with light contact. **Results:** 18 enemy killed, 1 captured, 7 detained, 23 US WIA.

**17-22 Jun. Operation: PHI PHUNG 27**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 51<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Results:** 60 enemy killed, 44 detained, 14 ARVN KIA, 38 ARVN WIA.

**18 Jun.-12 Oct. Operation: GREELEY**

**Location:** Kontum, Dak To, Tan Canh, Dak Seang, Dak Pek, Toumorong, Dak Poko, Dak Akoi, Hill 830, Hill 1338, FSB 4, Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 173d Abn Bde: 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, E/17 Cav, D/16 Arm, 173d Eng Co; 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div (24 Jun-25 Jul): 1-7 Cav, 5-7 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-21 Art; 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Abn TF (24 Jun-25 Jul): 3d, 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> ARVN Abn Bns; 24<sup>th</sup> STZ: 1/42 Inf. **Intelligence:** 20<sup>th</sup> and 174<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts, K101D PAVN Bn, 304<sup>th</sup> PLAF MF Bn, 200<sup>th</sup> PLAF Art Bn, H-15 PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** From 1-18 Jun, the 173d Abn Bde continued participation in Operation FRANCIS MARION, searching further south and east in the Ia Drang Valley. The brigade deployed the 1-503 Inf and 2-503 Inf into the AO, holding 4-503 Inf in reserve at Catecka. No significant contact was made. On 17 Jun, TF MC QUARRIE (2-503 Inf, E/17 Cav, A/3-319 Art) moved by air and motor convoy to the New Dak To Airfield, joined the following day by 1-503 Inf. The mission, named GREELEY, was to assume opcon of the CIDG Camp at Dak To under threat from the 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt and assist in its defense. On 18 Jun, 2-503 Inf began searching south of Dak To toward the huge mass of Hill 1338 (Ngok Bor Beang). C/1-503 Inf was also inserted into the area to search for a missing SF and CIDG team which had been destroyed by the NVA on 15-16 Jun, 1400 meters southwest of their camp. On 22 Jun, after a fruitless search of Hill 1338, 2-503 Inf was instructed to return to Dak To on foot. Shortly after leaving its NDP, A/2-503 bumped into an enemy battalion from the 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt<sup>42</sup> while descending the slopes of Hill 1338. Two platoons were cut off and annihilated while the rest of the company formed a small perimeter and called supporting fires. Cos B and C were rushed to the rescue but arrived too late. 76 Americans had been killed, some executed point blank by the enemy, and 23 wounded. 106 enemy bodies were counted in the battle area. This action became known as 'The Battle of the Slopes' and as one of the costliest engagements for US forces in Vietnam. Concerned by the size of the battle and the US losses, General Larsen at I FFORCEV decided to reinforce GREELEY. On 23 Jun, 2-12 Cav arrived from the PERSHING AO while the rest of the 173d Abn Bde (CP (-) and 4-503 Inf) closed Dak To from Catecka. The next day, 24 Jun, the 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div (-) and 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Abn TF arrived at Kontum. The Allied forces went after the 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, seeking to destroy it. In the next two weeks, the 173d Abn Bde and 2-12 Cav searched west and south of Dak To while the 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div and the ARVN Abn TF entered the Dak Akoi Valley northeast of Kontum and 35 km east of Dak To. The sweep found little evidence of the enemy's presence and on 25 Jul the cavalry brigade returned to the coast, while the Vietnamese task force stood down at Kontum to serve as a mobile reaction force. Southwest of Dak To on 10 Jul, 4-503 Inf, while searching for a regimental headquarters, found an occupied enemy bunker complex on Hill 830. Battle raged until 12 Jul with 22 US KIA and 62 US WIA but only 9 enemy bodies found. This was the last significant contact on the month. On 19 Jul, 2 NVA soldiers rallied at Dak Pek CIDG Camp, stating that they were

from the newly infiltrated 174<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. They were proved correct on 6 Aug when the 1/42 ARVN Bn made heavy contact with that unit 8 km west of the Dak Seang CIDG Camp. The ARVN Abn TF was rushed into the area and fought a bitter two-day battle to capture a hill believed to have been the location of the regimental CP, killing 189 of the enemy. On 9 Aug, 4-503 Inf moved to Dak Pek, joining the 1-503 Inf already there since 4 Aug, but the two battalions found little. Contacts were so low in August that the 173d Abn Bde was credited with only 4 enemy killed. During the period 1-18 Sep, the brigade continued GREELEY in the Dak To – Dak Seang area, supporting CIDG Operation DARBY, but contact was minimal. On 17 Sep, the brigade (-) began moving by air to Tuy Hoa to begin Operation BOLLING. Only 4-503 Inf and A/3-319 stayed at Dak To, forming Task Force 77 with the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Abn Bn, 1/42 ARVN Bn and 27<sup>th</sup> MIKE Force Co for an expedition in the Toumorong Valley that lasted nearly three weeks but found nothing. On 11 Oct, TF 77 was disbanded and that same day, 2-503 Inf and A/3-319 Art departed for Tuy Hoa, terminating Operation GREELEY. **Results:** 191 enemy killed, 17 captured, 129 US KIA, 210 US WIA. (no info on ARVN losses).

**18 Jun.-2 Jul. Operation: BEACON TORCH/CALHOUN**

**Location:** Hoi An, Cam Son, Barrier Island, Pagoda Valley, Truong Giang, Base Area 116, LZ CARDINAL, LZ WREN, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines (from 25 Jun); SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines, 1/1 Marines, 2/1 Marines, 2/5 Marines, 3/5 Marines. **Execution:** BEACON TORCH started on 18 Jun as elements of BLT 2/3 landed on LZs CARDINAL and WREN located on Barrier Island southeast of Hoi An and east of the Truong Giang. Contact was almost immediate with an estimated enemy company; 5 US were killed and 14 wounded while the Communists left 23 bodies behind. The BLT continued its sweep west the next few days, fording the Truong Giang, but found little. On 25 Jun, the 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div initiated Operation CALHOUN in Base Area 116 with four battalions, joined on 25 Jun by BLT 2/3. The combined force swept Pagoda Valley southwest of Hoi An but only sporadic contact was made with the enemy. CALHOUN was terminated on 1 Jul and BEACON TORCH the following day. **Results:** 94 enemy killed, 31 detained, 12 US KIA, 74 US WIA.

**19-23 Jun. Operation: RHINO**

**Location:** III CTZ. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR **Task organization:** 2/11 ACR. **Execution:** (no other info).

**20 Jun.** Saigon port ship backlog reduced to zero. No ships in waiting statue.

**23-27 Jun. Operation: MARYLAND**

**Location:** Camp Evans, Hai Lang National Forest, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines, F/2/26 Marines. **Execution:** MARYLAND took place in the same general area as Operation COLGATE with light contact. **Results:** 7 enemy killed, 9 captured, 39 detained, 4 US WIA.

**23 Jun.-1 Jul. Operation: COOPAROO<sup>43</sup>**

**Location:** Binh Gia, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, 106 Fld Bty, A Sqn 3 Cav. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** COOPAROO took place 7 km southeast of Binh Gia in a possible transit area of the D445 PLAF Bn. No contact occurred. **Results:** 1 AUS KIA, 2 AUS WIA, no enemy casualties.

**24-28 Jun. Operation: LAM SON 72**

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 120 enemy killed, 81 detained, 19 ARVN KIA, 72 ARVN WIA.

**24 Jun.-5 Jul. Operation: VONH MA I**

**Location:** Hao Chi Hi, Ninh Thuan Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organiza-**

<sup>42</sup> Later identified as the 6<sup>th</sup> Bn, 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt.

<sup>43</sup> This operation was named after Brisbane suburb of Coorparoo, but was misspelt as Cooparoo.

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**tion:** 30th ROK Inf Rgt. **Execution:** The 30th ROK Rgt cleared Hao Chi Hi Mountain north of Phan Rang. **Results:** 13 enemy killed (no info on ROK losses).

**25-28 Jun. Operation: XAY DUNG NONG THON/2/2**

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 222 enemy killed, 76 detained, 18 ARVN KIA, 67 ARVN WIA.

**26-27 Jun. Operation: CUU LONG/61/SD**

**Location:** Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted by elts of the 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div with support from RAGs 21 and 27, 8 km west of Ben Tre. **Results:** 36 enemy killed, 6 captured, 73 detained..

**27 Jun.-2 Jul. Operation: QUICKSILVER**

**Location:** Tuc Trung, Route 20, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 1/11 ACR, 2-39 Inf, 4-39 Inf, A/3-5 Cav, 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 275<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** QUICKSILVER was a sub operation of KITTYHAWK. On 27 Jun, the 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rng Bn was ambushed near Tuc Trung while looking for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn, 275<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. 1/11 ACR was sent to reinforce the embattled rangers, followed the next day by 2-39 and 4-39 Inf. Contact with the enemy was maintained until 28 Jun when the enemy broke contact under the cover of darkness. Searches conducted over the next three days turned up only occasional stragglers. Overall, government forces lost 51 men but claimed 167 enemy killed. The Americans, who had taken few casualties, claimed 49 more. **Results:** (included in Operation KITTYHAWK).

**28 Jun. Operation: HOA BINH/10/67**

**Location:** Loi Quan Island, Go Cong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Third Naval Zone. **Execution:** operation conducted on Loi Quan Island in the Mekong River by Coastal Group 33. **Results:** 6 enemy killed, 5 detained.

**28-29 Jun. Operation: LE DINH DAO 9**

**Location:** Moc Hoa, Kien Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Det B-41. **Task organization:** 10 CIDG companies. **Intelligence:** 263<sup>rd</sup> PLAF MF Bn. **Execution:** On 28 Jun, contact was made 30 km south of Moc Hoa with an estimated enemy company from the 263<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Bn. Additional MIKE and CIDG companies reinforced the battle on 29 Jun until contact was lost. **Results:** 75 enemy killed, 4 captured, 3 USSF KIA, 1 VNSF KIA, 53 CIDG KIA, 1 USSF WIA, 1 VNSF WIA, 21 CIDG WIA.

**29 Jun.** VC detonate mine against side of USS COCONINO COUNTY, offloading cargo at Cua Viet LST Ramp.

**29 Jun.** Premier Nguyen Cao Ky withdraws from presidential race to seek the number two place on a ticket headed by Chief of State Nguyen Van Thieu.

**29 Jun.-2 Jul. Operation: INTOSH JOYCE 7**

**Location:** Phu Yen Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

## Arrival:

1 Jun.	B-57 Det Project GAMMA
3 Jun.	VMA-311
4 Jun.	70 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co
	MACS-4
5 Jun.	262d QM Bn
	NMCB 74
7 Jun.	8 <sup>th</sup> BS
9 Jun.	3-16 Art
13 Jun.	HMM-263
21 Jun.	93d Eng Bn
	258 <sup>th</sup> AG Co
24 Jun.	Da Nang Signal Bn (Prov)
	Nha Trang Signal Bn (Prov)
	Phu Lam Signal Bn (Prov)
29 Jun.	7-8 Art
	21 <sup>st</sup> Avn Co
	51 <sup>st</sup> Maint Co

30 Jun. 185<sup>th</sup> Avn Co

## Departure:

3 Jun. VMA-121<sup>44</sup>

8 Jun. 13<sup>th</sup> BS

14 Jun. 6RAR

28 Jun. HMM-362<sup>45</sup>

## JULY

**1 Jul.** US military strength in RVN is 482,000.

**1 Jul.** LTG Frederick C. Weyand, USA, assumes command as CG II FFORCEV, relieving LTG Bruce Palmer, Jr., USA.

**2-14 Jul. Operation: BUFFALO**

**Location:** Dong Ha, Con Thien, Route 561, The Marketplace, Demilitarized Zone, Song Be Hai, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines, BLT 2/3 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 3/12 Marines. **Intelligence:** 90<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** BUFFALO was the successor to Operation CIMARRON, initially utilizing the same forces. On 2 Jul, while operating northeast of Con Thien along Route 561 in an area called the Marketplace, 1/9 Marines was attacked by an estimated two enemy battalions of the 90<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. Very heavy fighting took place all day, 1/9 receiving more than 700 rounds of mortar and artillery. Co B was virtually destroyed with only 27 survivors. The arrival of 3/9 Marines from Dong Ha in the afternoon forced the enemy to break contact. 1/9 had lost 84 KIA, 190 WIA and 9 MIA. No accurate count of enemy killed could be established. Contact continued during the next three days, 3-5 Jul. On 3 Jul, the 9<sup>th</sup> Marines was reinforced by both Special Landing Forces, SLF ALPHA in Operation BEAR CLAW and SLF BRAVO in Operation BEAVER TRACK<sup>46</sup>. 3/9 and the battered 1/9 pushed north to recover missing bodies, meeting heavy resistance, 3/9 losing 15 KIA and 33 WIA. Contacts diminished on 5 Jul and the grim task of recovering Company B's dead could be completed. On 6 Jul, all four battalions including both BLT 1/3 and BLT 2/3 continued moving north following preparatory fires. As they advanced, they encountered increasingly heavy artillery fire and by 1600 they could go no further. 600 rounds hit 3/9 Marines and about 1,000 landed on BLT 1/3. 400 NVAs were spotted crossing the Ben Hai and heading directly at the two battalions. 3/9 engaged the enemy column at less than 150 meters distance and killed 154 by bodycount, losing only 12 WIA. On 7 Jul, a 152mm howitzer round scored a direct hit on the command bunker of 1/9 at Con Thien, killing 11 and wounding 18. The last significant engagement of BUFFALO took place on 8 Jul southwest of Con Thien when BLT 2/3 discovered a bunker complex. Fighting lasted all day, 118 enemy were killed, 14 US KIA and 43 US WIA. After this action, the Marines encountered only mines and harassing fire and BUFFALO closed on 14 Jul. **Results:** 1,281 enemy killed, 14 detained, 159 US KIA, 885 US WIA, 9 MIA.

**3 Jul. Operation: NGO QUYEN/13/67**

**Location:** Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 19 km southeast of Vinh Long with support from RAGs 23 and 31. **Results:** 28 enemy killed, 8 captured, 9 detained.

**3-8 Jul. Operation: BEAR CLAW**

**Location:** Con Thien, LZ HAWK, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** On 3 Jul, BLT 1/3 was rushed into the BUFFALO AO to reinforce the 9<sup>th</sup> Marines heavily engaged with the 90<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, landing on LZ HAWK a mile southeast of Con Thien and tying in to the right flank of 3/9 Marines. The BLT swept toward the DMZ, helping in the recovery of 1/9 Marines casualties until being withdrawn on 8 Jul<sup>47</sup>. **Res-**

44 Squadron undergoing rehabilitation at Iwakuni.

45 To SLF ALPHA.

46 See individual operations.

47 See Operation BUFFALO for more details.

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**ults:** 424 enemy killed, 8 US KIA, 179 US WIA.

**3-9 Jul. Operation: DRAGON HEAD**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Results:** (no info).

**3 Jul.67-7 Apr.68 Operation: RILEY**

**Location:** Bearcat, Camp Martin Cox, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div; TF FORSYTH (from 10 Feb). **Task organization:** 2-39 Inf, 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 3-5 Cav, 1-11 Art, TF FORSYTH. **Execution:** Operation RILEY was an internal defense and development operation in Bien Hoa Province and included defense of Camp Martin Cox. When not engaged in strike operations, Headquarters, 1<sup>st</sup> Bde assumed opcon of all elements engaged in RILEY, including TF FORSYTH (a provisional Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment located at Camp Martin Cox). In the absence of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, TF FORSYTH was allocated sufficient forces to secure the camp and to conduct limited consolidation operations in the area. On 31 Jan 68 in response to the VC Tet Offensive, elements of the 2-47 Inf (M) and 4-39 Inf moved to Long Binh Post for perimeter security. Working in coordination with 2-3 Inf from the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt), the two battalions had multiple contacts with the enemy during the day near Ho Nai, killing 213 by body-count and capturing 32. US losses were 4 KIA and 23 WIA. On 10 Feb 68, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde moved to Dong Tam and TF FORSYTH assumed responsibility until termination. **Results:** 472 enemy killed, 41 detained, 2 returnees, 64 US KIA, 315 US WIA.

**4-14 Jul. Operation: BEAVER TRACK**

**Location:** Cam Lo, Con Thien, LZ CANARY, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** BLT 2/3 Marines. **Execution:** On 4 Jul, SLF BRAVO was inserted on LZ CANARY north of Cam Lo to reinforce the 9<sup>th</sup> Marines on Operation BUFFALO. BLT 2/3 moved north toward the DMZ on 5 Jul, making several contacts with elements of the 29<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. On 8 Jul, a bunker complex was overrun, with 118 enemies killed. The BLT remained in the area after 12 Jul to join in Operation HICKORY II<sup>48</sup>. **Results:** (included in Operation BUFFALO).

**5-6 Jul. Operation: ELLIOT**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** A/1/1 Marines, A/1/7 Marines. **Execution:** Operation took place 18 km southwest of Da Nang with no contact. **Results:** 1 enemy detained, 1 US KIA, 7 US WIA.

**5-9 Jul. Operation: LION**

**Location:** III CTZ. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Execution:** (no other info).

**5-9 Jul. Operation: CUU LONG/62/67**

**Location:** Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted southeast of Ben Tre with support from RAGs 21, 26 and 33. **Results:** 22 enemy killed, 42 captured, 56 detained, 3 ARVN KIA, 3 VNN KIA, 19 ARVN WIA, 3 VNN WIA.

**6 Jul.** B-52s set record of eight strikes in a 24-hour period.

**6 Jul.** Radio Hanoi announces death of four-star NVA General Nguyen Chi Thanh, reputed to be in charge of VC operations in RVN.

**6-12 Jul. Operation: LAKE**

**Location:** Dien Truong, Sa Huynh, Route 1, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, A/2-17 Cav. 1 Plt C/2-34 Arm. **Execution:** Operation LAKE was conducted concurrently with Operation MALHEUR II to provide security for engineer operations on Route 1 between Sa Huynh and Dien Truong. **Results:** 6 enemy killed, 1 captured, 6 US KIA, 2 US WIA.

**6-16 Jul. Operation: PADDINGTON**

**Location:** Xuyen Moc, FSB TOM, FSB MIKE, FSB BILL, FSB JOHN, LZ BUCK, LZ DICK, LZ BOB, LZ JACK, LZ BERT, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (Fwd). **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inv Div:

2-39 Inf, 4-39 Inf, 3-5 Cav, 1-11 Art (-); 1ATF: 2RAR, 7RAR, 2-47 Inf (M), 1/11 ACR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 4 Fld Rgt, B/1-11, Art, B/2-35 Art, C/1-84 Art; VNMC TF BRAVO: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bns; 18<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div: 2/43 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** Operation PADDINGTON was controlled by the 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div Forward CP established at Nui Dat. It took place in an area northwest of Xuyen Moc, with the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div and VNMC TF operating in the northwestern portion of the AO and the 1ATF in the southeastern portion. The only major contact took place on 12 Jul when the 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bn engaged a battalion from the 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt, killing 40. A major accomplishment of PADDINGTON was the successful employment of a tri-nation force in a previously inaccessible area to significantly disrupt installations an activities of the 5<sup>th</sup> PLAF Div. **Results:** 92 enemy killed, 1 AUS KIA, 1 AUS WIA, 11 VNMC KIA, 31 VNMC WIA (US losses unknown).

**7-9 Jul. Operation: LAM SON 79**

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 207 enemy killed, 12 detained, 14 ARVN KIA, 77 ARVN WIA.

**7 Jul-16 Aug. Operation: 7-67/SAMURAI I**

**Location:** A Shau Valley, Happy Valley, Thuat Thien and Quang Nam Provinces. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 81<sup>st</sup> ARVN Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** Operation searched areas from the northern stretches of the A Shau Valley into Happy Valley, west of Da Nang. **Results:** (no info).

**8-26 Jul. Operation: AKUMU/XAY DUONG**

**Location:** Phu Hoa Dong, Filhol Plantation, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div; 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 3-4 Cav (-), 7-11 Art; 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt (-). **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Go Mon PLAF LF Bn, 7<sup>th</sup> Cu Chi PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** Operation AKUMU was a sub operation of BARKING SANDS. The mission was to conduct a cordon and search and pacification operation in Phu Hoa Dong village located 5 km northeast of the Cu Chi Base Camp. The 1<sup>st</sup> Bde would cordon the village in Operation AKUMU while the 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt would conduct search and clearing of the village in Operation XAY DUONG. Contact with the enemy was minimal but 273 bunkers and 74 tunnels were destroyed. **Results:** 15 enemy killed, 1 returnee (friendly losses unknown).

**8 Jul.-26 Aug. Operation: HONG KIL DONG**

**Location:** Dong Tre, Cung Son, The Hub, Song Ky Lo, Phu Yen, Phu Bon and Khanh Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** ROK Field Command, Vietnam. **Task organization**<sup>49</sup>: CRID (-), WHRID (-). **Intelligence:** 5<sup>th</sup> PAVN Div (18B and 95<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts). **Execution:** The first phase of Operation HONG KIL DONG, named after a legendary Korean folk hero, was targeted at the 95<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt believed to be located in the mountainous area known as 'The Hub', northwest of Tuy Hoa. Four battalions from the CRID deployed south of Dong Tre to attack southeast and three battalions of the WHRID staged at Cung Son to assault northeast while two battalions from the 47<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt would occupy blocking positions to the east. Moving out after B-52s had blanketed the target, the Koreans met little resistance at first, pressing forward methodically and encountering several company-size base camps and caves, claiming 500 enemy killed by 25 Jul. On 12 Aug, the second phase of HONG KIL DONG began with the two divisions conducting separate offensives. The CRID moved northeast into the Song Ky Lo Valley, searching the headquarters of the 5<sup>th</sup> PAVN Division. The drive ended on the morning of 25 Aug when the Koreans reached the Phu Yen-Phu Bon provincial border without making any significant contacts. Meanwhile, the WHRID sent three battalions into a base area along the Phu Yen-Khanh Hoa border but they too found no trace of their target, the 18B PAVN Rgt. **Results:** 638 enemy killed, 88 captured, 26 ROK KIA, 63 ROK WIA.

48 See Operation BUFFALO for more details.

49 Exact units unknown.



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**8 Jul.-30 Oct. Operation: MARCH I**

**Location:** Plei Trap Valley, Kontum Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** B-50 Det Project OMEGA. **Execution:** Long range reconnaissance and intelligence gathering conducted in the Plei Trap Valley. **Results:** (no info).

**9 Jul.** VC terrorists detonate claymore mine at Capital BEQ in Saigon, and scattered sniper fire breaks out after explosion. Results are 17 US WIA, 2 VN civilians killed and 19 wounded.

**9-11 Jul. Operation: QUYET THANG/96/G**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 53 enemy killed, 4 detained, 5 ARVN WIA, 2 ARVN MIA.

**10 Jul.** GEN Westmoreland departs on 13-day visit to US. GEN Abrams assumes temporary command.

**10 Jul.** Battle of Xan Tan Hung. Shortly, after midnight, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 141<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt launched a ground assault on the hamlet of Xa Tan Hung 5 km southeast of An Loc defended by a company from the 9<sup>th</sup> Rgt, 5<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div and supported by US artillery and gunships. 144 enemy are killed and 10 captured at the cost of 15 ARVN KIA and 46 ARVN WIA.

**10-14 Jul. Operation: AN DAN 85**

**Location:** Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 52 enemy killed, 15 ARVN WIA.

**10 Jul.-31 Oct. Operation: FREMONT**

**Location:** Camp Evans, Hill 51, Hill 67, Phong Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines (10 Jul-14 Sep), 3/26 Marines (14 Sep-31 Oct). **Execution:** The 4<sup>th</sup> Marines initiated Operation FREMONT with its own 2/4 to provide security for Camp Evans, Hill 51, the Phong Dien District Headquarters and a radio transmission site on Hill 67. On 20 Jul, 2/4 provided blocking forces near My Chanh for SLF BRAVO in Operation BEAR CHAIN. BLT 2/3 became opcon to 4<sup>th</sup> Marines on 22 Jul and joined FREMONT, until back loading on 21 Aug. Contact was sporadic in Aug with only 13 US KIA for the month. During Sep, 2/4 in conjunction with ARVN forces helped secure nearby villages and hamlets during the National Elections. On 14 Sep, 2/4 joined Operation KINGFISHER and was replaced by 3/26 Marines. Contacts remained low until termination, being limited to harassing tactics, mines incidents and sniper fire. **Results:** 123 enemy killed, 8 captured, 17 US KIA, 196 US WIA.

**11 Jul.** Newport marine terminal (Saigon) officially opens).

**11-12 Jul. Operation: LAM SON 82/XDNT**

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 76 enemy killed, 6 ARVN KIA, 24 ARVN WIA.

**11-16 Jul. Operation: GEM/BINH QUAN 6**

**Location:** Arizona Territory, Song Vu Gia, Song Thu Bon, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines, Quang Da STZ. **Task organization:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines: 3/7 Marines; Quang Da STZ: 37<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn, 1/51 ARVN Bn. **Execution:** Operation took place in the 'Arizona Territory' northwest of An Hoa. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 1 captured, 2 detained, 1 US WIA.

**13 Jul.** SECDEF and COMUSMACV meet with President at the White House and announce troop increase for RVN. Precise figures not announced.

**13-15 Jul. Operation: NINH THUAN/17/67/20**

**Location:** Son Hai, Ninh Thuan Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Ninh Thuan Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted near the village of Son Hai, 16 km south of Phan Rang with support from Coastal Group 26 and 27. **Results:** 2 enemy captured, 25 detained.

**13-16 Jul. Operation: LAM SON 83**

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 98 enemy killed, 11 ARVN KIA, 34 ARVN WIA.

**14 Jul.** An unknown number of VC attacks Hoi An in Quang

Nam Province and the Hoi An Prison. Results are 5 enemy killed, 5 ARVN KIA, 11 ARVN WIA, 4 VN civilians killed, 29 VN civilians wounded. Of the escapees, 30 are killed, 206 recaptured and 960 escape.

**14-16 Jul. Operation: HICKORY II**

**Location:** Con Thien, Demilitarized Zone, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines, BLT 2/3 Marines, 1/4 Marines, 1<sup>st</sup> Amtrac Bn. **Execution:** HICKORY II employed both SLFs and 1/4 Marines as a continuation of Operation BUFFALO in the same area northeast of Con Thien. The 1<sup>st</sup> Amtrac Bn, adopting an infantry role, accounted for 54 of the 57 confirmed kills. **Results:** 57 enemy killed, 4 US KIA, 97 US WIA.

**14-17 Jul. Operation: DRAGON HEAD II**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Results:** (no info).

**15 Jul.** An unknown number of VC attacks Da Nang AB with an estimated 50 rounds of 122mm rockets. Results are 8 USAF KIA, 138 USAF WIA, 37 USMC WIA, 10 aircraft destroyed and 41 damaged.

**15 Jul.** Units of TF 115 intercept and beach NVN trawler as it attempts to land at Cape Batangan, Quang Ngai Province. Results are 23 enemy killed, 4 ROKMC KIA and 6 ROKMC WIA. The trawler contains 394,560 rounds of 7.62mm incendiary, 311,520 rounds of 7.62mm ball, 1,960 antipersonnel mines, 1,734 hand grenades, 5,750 rounds of 12.7mm ammo, 43 rounds of B40 rockets, 996 rounds of 82mm mortars, 6,880 lbs of C-4 plastic, 5,148 lbs of TNT, 900 non-electric detonators and 444 electric detonators.

**15 Jul.** LTG Bruce Palmer, Jr., USA, officially opens the new USARV HQ at Long Binh.

**15 Jul. Operation: PHI PHUNG 30**

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 51<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Execution:** operation conducted 15 km south of Da Nang with support from Coastal Group 14. **Results:** 4 enemy captured, 38 detained.

**15 Jul. Operation: QUYET THANG/71/G**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted just east of Quang Ngai City with support from Coastal Group 16. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 25 detained.

**16-21 Jul. Operation: BLACKJACK 34**

**Location:** Binh Long and Phuoc Long Provinces. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task Organization:** 3d MSF (B-36). **Execution:** operation took place in northeastern Binh Long and northwestern Phuoc Long Provinces. **Results:** 126 enemy killed, 1 MIKE KIA, 3 USSF WIA, 32 MIKE WIA.

**16 Jul.-31 Oct. Operation: KINGFISHER**

**Location:** Dong Ha, Con Thien, Gio Linh, Cua Viet, Ca Lu, Route 9, Route 561, Route 606, Hill 216, C-2, Demilitarized Zone, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d and 9<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 3/3 Marines, 2/4 Marines (14 Sep-31 Oct), 3/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 3/26 Marines (15 Aug-11 Sep), 1<sup>st</sup> Amtrac Bn. **Intelligence:** 90<sup>th</sup> and 812<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts. **Execution:** KINGFISHER was a continuation of Marine operations south of the DMZ following BUFFALO and HICKORY II. Contact was light during the first week. On 21 Jul, 3/3 Marines securing a portion of Route 9 for a 'Rough Rider' convoy bound for Khe Sanh found a NVA battalion dug in on Hill 216 overlooking the road. Tanks, 40mm dusters and artillery pounded the hill and forced the enemy to withdraw. On 28 Jul, 2/9 Marines reinforced with tanks, LVTs and Ontos was pushing into the DMZ north on Route 606 when it was attacked by an estimated NVA battalion. The column was split in company-size segments and fought desperately all day until reinforcements from 3/4 Marines forced the enemy to break contact. 23 Americans were killed and 251 wounded with only 32 NVA confirmed killed. Ground action was light in early Aug with the largest part of the activity involving

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artillery attacks on Gio Linh, Con Thien, Cua Viet and Dong Ha. On 21 Aug, an NVA battalion ambushed a small Marine convoy moving from the Rockpile to Ca Lu. Elements form 3/3 were brought in, fighting a six-hour engagement until night fell and the enemy fled to the west. 6 US were killed and 35 wounded, Enemy loses were unknown. The NVA tried again on 7 Sep at almost the same location. This time the battle lasted more than 8 hours. The Marines killed 92 of the enemy while losing 5 KIA and 56 WIA. The Communists tried to disrupt the National Elections on 3 Sep, firing more than 41 rounds of artillery into Dong Ha, damaging 17 helicopters. This attack ended the use of Dong Ha as a permanent helicopter base facility. Con Thien however, remained the primary artillery target for the NVA. On 25 Sep alone, 1,200 rounds slammed into the combat base. On 10 Sep, 3/26 Marines made heavy contact with what seemed to be the entire 812<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt 4 miles southwest of Con Thien. The action lasted for four hours until the enemy broke contact, leaving 140 dead on the battle field. Marine losses had been high also with 34 KIA and 192 WIA, forcing 3/26 to return to Phu Bai the next day to refit. On 21 Sep, 2/9 Marines started a search and destroy operation 1,800 meters east of Con Thien when it ran into heavy resistance from an element of the 90<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. The battle turned into a stalemate after rain had made the area impassable and both sides withdrew. US casualties were 31 KIA and 118 WIA. Enemy killed were reported at 39. The enemy intensified its attack-by-fire against Con Thien in late Sep, hitting the base with over 3,000 rounds during the period 19-27 Sep. The Americans retaliated by massing one of the greatest concentrations of firepower in support of a single division in the history of the Vietnam War. Marine artillery, ships of the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet, Marine and Air Force jets and B-52 bombers poured tons of ordnance into known enemy positions in and north of the DMZ. By the end of Sep, NVA pressure of the outpost had subsided. On 14 Oct, 2/4 Marines was guarding a bridge north of Strong point C-2 when it received a ground attack from an unknown size enemy force. AC-47 gunships helped repel the assault during the night. 21 Americans were killed and 23 wounded. Only 24 NVA bodies were found in the area. The last major action of KINGFISHER took place during a 9<sup>th</sup> Marines operation on 25-28 Oct. 2/4 Marines was sweeping north of Con Thien on Route 561 when it was hit by an enemy battalion, beating back several attacks and losing 8 KIA and 45 WIA. **Results:** 1,117 enemy killed, 5 captured, 340 US KIA, 1,461 US WIA.

### 17-18 Jul. **Operation:** INTOSH JOYCE 9

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

### 17-20 Jul. **Operation:** CUU LONG 63

**Location:** Binh Dai Secret Zone, Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted in the Binh Dai Secret Zone with support from RAGs 21, 23, 26, 31, 32 and 33. **Results:** 4 enemy killed.

### 17-26 Jul. **Operation:** DRAGON HEAD III

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Results:** (no info).

### 17 Jul.-31 Oct. **Operation:** ARDMORE

**Location:** Khe Sanh, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 26<sup>th</sup> Marines (Forward). **Task organization:** 1/26 Marines, 3/26 Marines, 1/13 Marines. **Execution:** Operation ARDMORE was a continuation of Operation CROCKETT and involved the same mission and the same forces. On 21 Jul, B/1/26 and M/3/26 fought a NVA battalion dug on Hill 216 along Route 9 in conjunction with 3/3 Marines from Operation KINGFISHER. Contacts in August were minimal and 3/26 was moved to the KINGFISHER AO on 15 Aug. 1/26 Marines continued patrols and company-size search and destroy operations around Khe Sanh, but with limited contact with the enemy. **Results:** 113 enemy killed, 6 detained, 10 US KIA, 39 US WIA.

18 Jul. National Assembly disqualifies 7 of 18 presidential candidates.

### 19 Jul.-11 Sep. **Operation:** PAUL BUNYAN

**Location:** Binh Duong, Binh Long and Phuoc Long Provinces. **Type:** land clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Eng Bn, 168<sup>th</sup> Eng C Bn. **Execution:** Operation PAUL BUNYAN covered intensive land clearing operations conducted in the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div's TAOR using newly arrived Rome Plows. **Results:** (no info).

20 Jul. GVN ceases censorship of Vietnamese press.

### 20-26 Jul. **Operation:** BEAR CHAIN

**Location:** Dong Que, Route 555, Street Without Joy, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** BLT 2/3 Marines. **Intelligence:** 806<sup>th</sup> PLAF MF Bn. **Execution:** BEAR CHAIN targeted the coastal area between Quang Tri and Hue. The mission was to attack the exposed flank of the 806<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn and to destroy it, or at least drive it westward toward ARVN forces engaged in Operation LAM SON 87. The operation produced the desired result as the enemy reacted as the BEAR CHAIN planners had hoped<sup>50</sup>. On 21 Jul, BLT 2/3 passed under control of the 4<sup>th</sup> Marines and joined in Operation FREMONT. On 24 Jul, the battalion discovered a 37-ton rice cache in the village of Dong Que and flew it out before going back to sea. **Results:** (included in Operation FREMONT).

### 20-27 Jul. **Operation:** PECOS<sup>51</sup>

**Location:** Happy Valley, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, H/2/7 Marines; G/3/11 Marines. **Execution:** Operation PECOS was a reconnaissance-in-force operation into Happy Valley west of Da Nang. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 1 US WIA.

### 21-24 Jul. **Operation:** LAM SON 87/XDNT

**Location:** Route 1, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Intelligence:** 806<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn. **Execution:** On 21 Jul, the 806<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn, retreating west toward Route 1 to escape Operation BEAR CHAIN, was intercepted by elements of the 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div, losing 252 killed. **Results:** 252 enemy killed, 20 detained, 25 ARVN KIA, 81 ARVN WIA.

### 21-30 Jul. **Operation:** BEACON GUIDE

**Location:** Phu Loc, Bowling Alley, Route 1, GREEN Beach, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** BLT 1/3 executed an amphibious and helicopter assault over GREEN Beach located 12 km northeast of Phu Loc and conducted search and destroy operations in the area known as Bowling Alley east of Phu Loc along Route 1. Almost no contact was made during the operation. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 4 captured, 16 detained, 5 US WIA.

### 21 Jul.-2 Aug. **Operation:** EMPORIA I

**Location:** Xa Gia Tan, Ap Binh Hoa, Song La Nga, Route 20, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** land clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 3/11 ACR, 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 275<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt, D800 PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** EMPORIA was designed as a land clearing operation along Route 20 from Gia Tan to the La Nga River bridge. On 21 Jul, Troop L, 3/11 ACR was ambushed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 275<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt 4 km northwest of Ap Binh Hoa. Troops I and K reinforced the contact and routed the enemy but US losses had been high with 14 KIA and 63 WIA. 96 enemy bodies were counted in the area. The rest of the operation was uneventful and terminated on 2 Aug with the completion of a class 60 engineer float bridge on the La Nga. **Results:** (no info).

### 22-28 Jul. **Operation:** SOUTHPORT

**Location:** Xa Bang, Xa Binh Ba, Ngai Giao, Route 2, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** road clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** D/2RAR, 7RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 4 Fld Rgt, 1 Fld Sqn. **Execution:** The ATF helped secure Route 2 from Nui Dat to Xa Bang 15 km to the north and secured the construction of a RF outpost there to maintain a GVN presence in a

50 See Operation LAM SON 87.

51 Originally called Operation BOULDER.

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former major supply area from the enemy. **Results:** none.

**23 Jul.** GEN Westmoreland returns to RVN and resumes command of MACV.

**24-27 Jul.** **Operation:** LAM SON 91

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 85 enemy killed, 14 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 32 ARVN WIA.

**25 Jul-1 Aug.** **Operation:** CAIRNS

**Location:** Dat Do, the Horseshoe, AO BANANA, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 2RAR (-), 161 Bty RNZA. **Execution:** Operation took place in an area centered 2 km south-east of Dat Do between the Horseshoe and the coast. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 2 AUS KIA, 6 AUS WIA.

**25 Jul.-4 Aug.** **Operation:** CUU LONG/64/SD

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 234 enemy killed, 217 detained, 16 ARVN KIA, 102 ARVN WIA.

**26-27 Jul.** **Operation:** INTOSH JOYCE 10

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

**27-29 Jul.** **Operation:** STOCKTON

**Location:** Hoi Vuc, Da Nang Rocket Belt, Song Thuy Loan, LZ TIGER, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines. **Execution:** Operation STOCKTON took place 4 km northwest of Hoi Vuc to investigate routes of ingress to the area used to launch the rocket attack on Da Nang on 15 Jul. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 4 US WIA.

**27-31 Jul.** **Operation:** DRAGON HEAD IV

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 3d ROKMC Bns.. **Results:** (no info).

**27 Jul.-3 Aug.** **Operation:** CORONADO II/SONG THAN 63

**Location:** Dong Tam, Ap Binh Thoi, Song My Tho, Song Ba Rai, Song Tra Tan, 20/7 Heartland Zone, Ban Long Secret Zone, Cam Son Base Area, Route 4, Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (Forward). **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF): 3-47 Inf, 4-47 Inf, 3-34 Art, D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117; 3d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 3-39 Inf, TF 5-60 Inf (M); 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 7-11 Art (-); VNMC TF ALPHA: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bns; 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div: 44<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 263<sup>rd</sup> and 514<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bns. **Execution:** Operation CORONADO II was initiated as a result of hard intelligence indicating an enemy build up west of My Tho in an area between Route 4 and the My Tho River known as the 20/7 Heartland Zone. Seizing the opportunity, GEN Westmoreland decided to strike hard at the enemy, assembling a formidable armada consisting not only of the MRF but also from elements of the 3d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, VNMC TF ALPHA and 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div<sup>52</sup>. Returning from its anchorage on the Soirap, the MRF landed two battalions on five beaches in the southern Cam Son on 28 Jul and swept north toward blocking positions established by 5-60 Inf (M). That same day, TF ALPHA and the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div CP arrived at Dong Tam. Search of the Cam Son Base Area proved fruitless as only small groups of VC were encountered. On 30 Jul, emphasis shifted to the Ban Long Secret Zone to the east. The two VNMC battalions were air-assaulted just south of the Tra Tan and immediately made heavy contact with a large enemy force, later identified as the 263<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Bn. Two battalions from the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div were airlifted from Hau Nghia Province and established blocking positions. Desperate to escape the trap, the enemy attacked the VNMC positions during the night, suffering heavy losses. 108 VC were killed including the battalion commander. Pursuit was organized the following days with 3-39 Inf being inserted into the AO. The search of the village of Ap Binh Thoi produced 83 prisoners, all from the 263<sup>rd</sup> Bn. **Results:** 441 enemy killed, 177 captured, 10 US KIA, 65 US WIA, 44 VNMC KIA, 115 VNMC WIA, 17 ARVN KIA, 105 ARVN WIA.

<sup>52</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div operation was CUU LONG 64, no other info.

**27 Jul.-8 Nov.** **Operation:** SONG THAN 14

**Location:** Bong Son, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> VNMC BN, 2<sup>nd</sup> VNMC Bn (27 Jul-4 Oct), 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bn (4 Oct-6 Nov), C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** On 27 Jul, TF BRAVO relieved TF ALPHA at Bong Son AF and continued search and destroy operations south of Bong Son in conjunction with Operation PERSHING. **Results:** (no info).

**28-31 Jul.** **Operation:** INTOSH JOYCE 11

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

**29 Jul.** MACV staff begins relocation to new headquarters near Tan Son Nhut.

**29 Jul.** GEN Harold K. Johnson, Army CofS, arrives in RVN on routine visit to Army units.

**29 Jul.** Fuel from ruptured aircraft tank ignites on after flight deck of USS FORRESTAL in Gulf of Tonkin. Results are 113 US KIA, 62 US WIA, 26 aircraft destroyed, 42 aircraft damaged.

**31 Jul.-?** **Operation:** WINFIELD SCOTT

**Location:** II CTZ. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** 5<sup>th</sup> MSF. **Execution:** (no other info).

**31 Jul.** LTG William B. Rosson, USA, assumes command of I FFORCEV, relieving LTG Stanley R. Larsen.

**31 Jul.-3 Nov.** **Operation:** DAN QUYEN 822

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 141 enemy killed, 181 detained, 44 ARVN KIA, 74 ARVN WIA 3 ARVN MIA.

### Arrival:

1 Jul.	7-15 Art
3 Jul.	1 <sup>st</sup> ASA Co
13 Jul.	HMM-164
15 Jul.	31 <sup>st</sup> SPS
18 Jul.	199 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
	173d Signal Co (Prov)
19 Jul.	45 <sup>th</sup> Med Co
22 Jul.	327 <sup>th</sup> Signal Co
23 Jul.	1/13 Marines
	5 <sup>th</sup> 155mm Gun Bty
	608 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co
24 Jul.	15 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co
	124 <sup>th</sup> Trans Bn
27 Jul.	591 <sup>st</sup> Eng Co
29 Jul.	244 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
30 Jul.	212 <sup>th</sup> Avn Bn
	82d Eng Co
	111 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co
31 Jul.	57 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co
<b>Departure:</b>	
4 Jul.	1041 <sup>st</sup> Combat SPS (Test)
12 Jul.	HMM-265 <sup>53</sup>
15 Jul.	MACS-7

## AUGUST

**1 Aug.** US military strength in RVN is 485,000.

**1 Aug.** The 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div is redesignated 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div at Dau Tieng. At the same time, the 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div at Duc Pho is redesignated 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div.

**1 Aug.** SS BIENVILLE arrives in Da Nang, inaugurating container ship service in RVN.

**1 Aug.** DoD announces USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62) to be recommissioned.

**1 Aug.** NVACOMSTA CRB is commissioned and becomes principal Navy relay station in RVN, providing multichannel and fleet broadcast service to SEVENTHFLT units.

**1 Aug.** A-37, the first light attack counterinsurgency aircraft, arrives in RVN at Bien Hoa AB for combat evaluation.

<sup>53</sup> To SLF BRAVO.



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### 1-3 Aug. **Operation: KANGAROO KICK**

**Location:** Song O Lau, Street Without Joy, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** BLT 2/3 Marines. **Execution:** The operation was another sweep over the now familiar sand dunes, graves and rice paddies of the Street Without Joy. KANGAROO KICK, almost a carbon copy of the two previous operations along the O Lau, precipitated the standard VC reaction; they fled, only to return after the BLT departed. On 4 Aug, BLT 1/3 passed under opcon 4<sup>th</sup> Marines and joined Operation FREMONT **Results:** (included in Operation FREMONT).

### 1-4 Aug. **Operation: PIKE**

**Location:** Barrier Island, Song Thu Bon, Song Ly Ly, Truong Giang, Route 1, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 3/5 Marines. **Execution:** Operation PIKE swept Barrier Island south of Hoi An between the coast and the Ly Ly River with significant contact. **Results:** 100 enemy killed, 4 captured, 54 detained, 8 US KIA, 60 US WIA.

### 1-9 Aug. **Operation: DRAGON HEAD V**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3d ROKMC Bns. **Execution:** Operation executed in coordination with HOOD RIVER/LIEN KET 110. **Results:** (included in Operation HOOD RIVER/LIEN KET 110).

### 2-12 Aug. **Operation: KHAM ZEI 167**

**Location:** Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 24<sup>th</sup> STZ. **Task organization:** 42<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgt (-). **Execution:** (KHAM ZEI probably covered the Battle of Dak Seang, no other info, see Operation GREELEY for more detail). **Results:** 209 enemy killed, 2 detained, 12 ARVN KIA, 66 ARVN WIA.

### 2-13 Aug. **Operation: HOOD RIVER/LIEN KET 110**

**Location:** Ha Thanh, Minh Long, Nui Thien An, Base Area 121, VEGHEL AO, Song Tra Khuc, the Horseshoe, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Bde; 2d ROKMC Bde, 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div: 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, 3-18 Art, C/2-11 Art, A/2(17 Cav, A/26<sup>th</sup> Eng, LRRP Plt; 2d ROKMC Bde: two bns; 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div: two inf bns, two ranger bns. . **Intelligence:** 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt, 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt, 409<sup>th</sup> PLAF Sapper Bn. **Execution:** Learning that the 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt was regrouping in Base Area 121 west of Quang Ngai and would soon be joined by the 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt in preparation for an attack on the town planned before the elections on 3 Sep, a spoiling operation was mounted named HOOD RIVER. A tripartite CP was established at the Nui Thien An monastery northeast of Quang Ngai City. The plan called for the 2-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf to stage and Quang Ngai AF and launch airmobile assaults to encircle the target area from the west, while a similar-size force of Korean marines from Operation DRAGON HEAD V moved in from the north and two ARVN ranger battalions closed the gap on the south. North of the ROK Marines, an infantry-armored task force from the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) would patrol Route 529 from Chu Lai to Tra Bong to reinforce the cordon. To the south, 1-327 Inf, staging from the Minh Long CIDG Camp, would back up the ranger force. Once the cordon was in place, two battalions from the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div would move overland and attack from the east, while the other units pushed to the center. Despite of the careful planning and coordination, HOOD RIVER fell short of expectations as no major contact developed. Caught partly by surprise, small groups of enemy soldiers fought back at first, but as the cordon tightened over the next several days, resistance dropped off. **Results:** 166 enemy killed, 7 captured, 3 US KIA, 38 US WIA, 7 ROK KIA, 51 ROK WIA, 11 ARVN KIA, 44 ARVN WIA.

**3 Aug.** White House announces 45,000-man increase in personnel for RVN.

**3 Aug.** RVN presidential campaign opens.

**3 Aug.** An unknown size enemy force attacks NSA detachment,

Nha Be, and POL tank farm. Results are 24 USN WIA, 6 USA WIA, 1 USAF WIA, 3 VNN WIA, 8 RF WIA, 44 VN civilians wounded, 1,000 55-gal drums of mogas destroyed, 5,000 55-gal drums of mogas damages.

### 3-18 Aug. **Operation: EMPORIA II**

**Location:** Song La Nga, Route 20, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** land clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 3/11 ACR, 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn, 919<sup>th</sup> Eng Co. **Execution:** On 3 Aug, 3/11 ACR joined the 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn and crossed then bridge over the La Nga to help secure Route 20 all the way to the Long Khanh/Lam Dong border for land clearing operations. **Results:** (no info).

**4 Aug.** The MACV Command Center, moves from MACV I to new HQ at Tan Son Nhut.

### 4-16 Aug. **Operation: BALLARAT**

**Location:** Binh Ba, Nui Nghe, AO LION, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1 ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, 106 Fld Bty. **Intelligence:** 5<sup>th</sup> PLAF Div (rear services), C41 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** BALLARAT took place in an AO centered 7 km west-northwest of Xa Binh Ba to investigate possible enemy return in the area after Operations AKRON and BROKEN HILL. Contact was minimal.. **Results:** 7 enemy killed, 1 captured, 6 AUS KIA, 20 AUS WIA.

### 5-9 Aug. **Operation: RUSH**

**Location:** Phu Bai, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines, 2/26 Marines (two cos), 4/12 Marines (-). **Execution:** Operation RUSH was conducted in conjunction with 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div forces in the area southwest of Phu Bai Combat Base. Only minor contact with small groups of enemy resulted from this action. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 2 US KIA, 24 US WIA.

### 5-17 Aug. **Operation: CORONADO III**<sup>54</sup>

**Location:** Long Tau Shipping Channel, Can Gio and Quang Xuyen Districts, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF). **Task organization:** 3-47 Inf, 3-60 Inf, 3-34 Art, D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117. **Execution:** After termination of CORONADO II, 3-60 Inf replaced 4/47 Inf as a riverine unit, the latter remaining at Dong Tam to provide security in Operation HOPTAC. On 4 Aug, the MRF moved to Vung Tau and began operations along the Long Tau Shipping Channel in the Rung Sat Special Zone to provide training for 3-60 Inf in Delta warfare and to disrupt possible enemy attacks on shipping in the channel. At the same time; 4-47 Inf conducted refresher training on drier terrain east of the Rung Sat. **Results:** 1 enemy captured, no friendly casualties.

**6 Aug.** GEN Wallace M. Greene, USMC, Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps arrives in RVN for a routine visit to USMC/USN units.

**7 Aug.** The 165<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt attacks the Tong Le Chon CIDG Camp 10 km south of the Fishhook in Tay Ninh Province. 1-2 Inf, 1-28 Inf and four MSF companies reinforced the camp the following day. Results are 152 enemy are killed, 1 captured, 3 US WIA, 25 CIDG KIA, 90 CIDG WIA and 14 CIDG MIA..

**7 Aug.** Two enemy companies overrun the VNN Coast Group Base 16 Camp in Quang Ngai Province. Results are 11 enemy killed, 14 VNN KIA, 35 VNN WIA, 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA and 3 VN civilians killed.

### 7-11 Aug. **Operation: BEACON GATE**

**Location:** Barrier Island, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Intelligence:** V25 PLAF MF Bn. **Execution:** The operation searched Barrier Island southeast of Hoi An, making only minimal contact with the enemy. On 11 Aug, BLT 1/3 passed under control of Task Force X-Ray and joined Operation COCHISE. **Results:** 12 enemy killed (no info on friendly casualties).

**11 Aug.** US planes bomb Hanoi's Doumer Bridge, the first air strike on Hanoi in two months.

<sup>54</sup> Originally GREAT BEND IV.

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### 11-28 Aug. **Operation:** COCHISE/LIEN KET 112

**Location:** Hiep Duc, Que Son Basin, Nui Loc Son, LZ HAWK, LZ DOVE, LZ EAGLE, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force X-Ray. **Task organization:** TF X-Ray: 1/3 Marines, 1/5 Marines, 3/5 Marines, 2/11 Marines, A/1<sup>st</sup> Tk Bn; 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div: Ranger TF (2 bns), 6<sup>th</sup> Rgt (3 bns), 3/4 ARVN Bn, . **Intelligence:** 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt, 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** After reactivating TF X-Ray on 9 Aug, the 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div initiated operation COCHISE in the Que Son basin in reaction to reports indicating that the 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt had moved from Quang Ngai Province to a new location east of Hiep Duc. On 11 Aug, both battalions from the 5<sup>th</sup> Marines and the ARVN Ranger TF were combat assaulted on two LZs south of Nui Loc Son and swept eastward to the coastal plain where 1/3 Marines and two bns from the 6<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt had established blocking positions. On 12 Aug, the ARVN Ranger TF was attacked by an estimated three battalions from the 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt. The battle raged until nightfall, the rangers barely holding on thanks to USMC helicopter resupply. 197 enemy had been killed, 81 ARVN KIA and 153 ARVN WIA. During the next 3 days, only sporadic contacts were made with small enemy elements. On 16 Aug, BLT 1/3 repulsed a night attack on its NDP, killing 36 of the enemy. On the afternoon of 18 Aug, the first phase of COCHISE ended with 1/3 Marines returning to SLF ALPHA's control. 1/5 and 3/5 Marines were air-assaulted into the Hiep Duc Valley but although the marines anticipated a sizable enemy force in this region, only small contacts were made. The final phase of the operation took place on 25-28 Aug with contact limited to sniper fire and booby traps. **Results:** 362 enemy killed, 12 captured, 10 US KIA, 93 US WIA, 83 ARVN KIA, 174 ARVN WIA, 3 ARVN MIA.

### 11 Aug.-21 Oct. **Operation:** SONG THAN/701/67

**Location:** Tan Uyen, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMCM TF ALPHA. **Task organization:** 2<sup>nd</sup> VNMCM Bn (10-21 Oct), 4<sup>th</sup> VNMCM Bn (11 Aug-10 Oct), 5<sup>th</sup> VNMCM Bn (11 Aug-15 Sep), 6<sup>th</sup> VNMCM Bn (15 Sep-21 Oct), B/VNMCM Art Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the Tan Uyen area in coordination with the US 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Results:** (no info).

### 12-21 Aug. **Operation:** PORTLAND

**Location:** Lai Khe, Minh Thanh, Chon Thanh, Xa Thon Kai, Route 13, Song Saigon, FSB BRAVO, FSB WHISKEY, Binh Long and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-2 Inf (M), 1-16 Inf, 1-18 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 2-28 Inf. **Intelligence:** 141<sup>st</sup> and 165<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts. **Execution:** Operation PORTLAND was conducted in response to intelligence information indicating concentrations of VC/NVA forces in the area northeast of Minh Thanh and in the area west and northwest of Lai Khe. No significant contact with the enemy resulted, however, recently occupied base camps were discovered. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 23 detained, no friendly casualties.

### 12 Aug.-15 Sep. **Operation:** -

**Location:** Rung Sat Special Zone, Gia Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMCM Brigade. **Task organization:** 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMCM Bn, A/VNMCM Art Bn, RAG 22. **Results:** (no info).

**13 Aug.** The USAF reveals officially, for the first time, that American war planes have been bombing communist targets in Laos since May 1964.

**13 Aug.** US planes bomb railroad yard and bridge ten miles from Red Chinese border and hit two other nearby rail centers in the closest American raids to China since the Korean War.

### 13 Aug.-1 Sep. **Operation:** BENTON

**Location:** Tien Phuoc, Base Area 117, GOHR AO, Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force OREGON. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div: 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, C/3-16 Art, A/326<sup>th</sup> Eng, two MIKE Cos from 1<sup>st</sup> MSF, two CIDG Cos from Tien Phuoc; 196<sup>th</sup> Lt Inf Bde: 2-1 Inf, 1-14 Inf, 3-82 Art (-). **Intelligence:** 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** On 10 Aug, a Catholic priest reported that the 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN regimental headquarters had

moved into the portion of his parish that extended into Base Area 117 west of Chu Lai. Acting on this intelligence, TF OREGON mounted Operation BENTON. The plan called for two bns from the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div to conduct air-assaults on the western border of BA 117 while two bns of the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) would be inserted in the eastern portion. On 12 Aug however, the 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt assaulted an ARVN Ranger TF in the LIEN KET 112 AO, about 10 km north of 117. Anticipating that the attackers would withdraw south, the plan was changed to try to intercept and cut them off. On 13 Aug, 2-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf completed air-assaults without opposition and turned north. At 1700, B/2-502 Inf engaged an unknown size enemy force, killing 35 while losing 5 KIA and 15 WIA. Later that day, the CP of 2-327 Inf received a mortar and grenade attack, killing 1 and wounding 13. On 14 Aug, the two battalions of the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) were inserted into the AO, followed the next day by 1-327 Inf held in reserve at Chu Lai. On 18 Aug, a platoon from C/1-327 Inf was ambushed by an estimated enemy company, losing 6 KIA and 13 WIA. Only 1 enemy was killed. Contact for the remainder of the operation became less and less frequent until termination, although enemy antiaircraft guns accounted for 20 UH-1s damaged in the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde sector. **Results:** 390 enemy killed, 17 captured, 45 US KIA, 291 US WIA.

**15 Aug.** Premier Ky confirms that General Nguyen Duc Thang will be appointed CofS JGS (Deputy to General Cao Van Vien) and Commander RF/PF.

### 15-18 Aug. **Operation:** DAN CHI/295/B/SD

**Location:** Chuong Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 54 enemy killed, 10 detained, 4 ARVN KIA, 11 ARVN WIA.

### 16-18 Aug. **Operation:** INTOSH JOYCE 12

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

### 16-24 Aug. **Operation:** ATHERTON

**Location:** Dat Do, AO PINEAPPLE, Route 23, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 2RAR, 161 Bty RNZA. **Execution:** Operation took place east of Dat Do to clear enemy infiltration routes prior to the National Elections. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 2 AUS KIA, 8 AUS WIA.

### 16 Aug-31 Oct. **Operation:** 8-67/SAMURAI II & III

**Location:** A Shau Valley, Happy Valley, Thuat Thien and Quang Nam Provinces. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 81<sup>st</sup> ARVN Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** Operation searched areas from the northern stretches of the A Shau Valley into Happy Valley, west of Da Nang. **Results:** (no info).

**17 Aug.** Combination tear-nerve gas dropped from Marine helicopter gunships for first time in RVN.

**17 Aug.** GEN Omar N. Bradley, General of the Army, arrives in RVN for 13-day orientation visit.

### 18 Aug. **Operation:** AN DAN/109/67

**Location:** Vam Co Dong, Vam Co Tay, Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Long An Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted between the Vam Co Dong and Vam Co Ty 32 km southwest of Saigon by four RF companies supported by RAG 24. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 12 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 1 ARVN WIA.

### 18 Aug. **Operation:** MOSMAN

**Location:** Hoa Long, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, 106 Fld Bty, 1 Sqn ASAS. **Execution:** Operation was a search of Hoa Long village 3 km south of Nui Dat prior to the National Elections. **Results:** none.

**19 Aug.** US planes fly one-day record of 209 missions over NVN.

### 19-31 Aug. **Operation:** EMPORIA III

**Location:** Route 20, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** land clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 1/11 ACR, 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Results:** (no info).

### 19 Aug.-4 Sep. **Operation:** BEAUTIFUL PLUM

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy.

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**Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ROKMC Bns. **Execution:** The Blue Dragon Brigade conducted this operation in support of the National Elections. **Results:** 32 enemy killed, 1 captured, 3 ROK KIA, 19 ROK WIA.

**20-22 Aug. Operation: LONG PHI/999/W**

**Location:** Sa Dec Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 54 enemy killed, 8 detained, 23 ARVN KIA, 56 ARVN WIA.

**20 Aug.-9 Sep. Operation: CORONADO IV**

**Location:** Ben Luc, Song Vam Co Dong, Rung Sat Special Zone, Long An, Go Cong and Kien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF). **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 3-47 Inf, 3-60 Inf, 4-39 Inf (7-9 Sep), 3-5 Cav (7-9 Sep), 3-34 Art, D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117; An Dan Bde (20-23 Aug): 3/50 ARVN Bn, 4/50 ARVN Bn, 684<sup>th</sup>, 726<sup>th</sup>, 761<sup>st</sup> and 825<sup>th</sup> RF Cos; 199<sup>th</sup> Lt Inf Bde (25-30 Sep): 2-3 Inf. **Intelligence:** 506<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** CORONADO IV was conducted in response to intelligence indicating an enemy buildup of elements of the 506<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn in western Ben Luc District. Phase I began on 20 Aug when the two battalions of the MRF landed north of Ben Luc on the west bank of the Vam Co Dong and swept the area in coordination with the An Dan Brigade of the 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. Numerous contacts were reported with 59 enemy killed, mostly by helicopter gunships. During phase II (23-24 Aug), the 3-47 Inf returned to the Rung Sat while 3-60 Inf operated in eastern Long An Province. Extensive search and destroy operations were conducted in both areas without contact. Phase III began on 25 Aug with the MRF joining elements of the 2-3 Inf and 46<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt in response of continued enemy operations in eastern Long An, but no major engagement developed. On 1 Sep, 3-47 Inf and 3-60 Inf conducted search and destroy operations in northern Go Cong Province with only light contacts and both units were extracted the next day. This was followed by the MRF returning to Long An, again with minimal contact. On 7 Sep, the final phase began in the northeastern portion of the RSSZ. 4-39 Inf and 3-5 Cav participated in this phase but once again no major fight occurred. **Results:** 101 enemy killed, 148 detained, 3 US KIA, 27 US WIA.

**21 Aug.** Six US jets lost over NVN, a record number for a single raid.

**21-25 Aug. Operation: INTOSH JOYCE 14**

**Location:** Kien Phong Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

**22-26 Aug. Operation: WAIMEA**

**Location:** Tan Than Dong, Bao Tram, Song Saigon, Rach Tra, Hau Nghia and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf, 4-12 Inf<sup>55</sup>, 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 7-11 Art; 2/7 ARVN Bn, 4/7 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Bn. **Execution:** Operation WAIMEA was conducted as part of BARKING SANDS with the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div coordinating with the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) and two ARVN battalions to search a small base area located between the Rach Tra and Song Saigon, east of Cu Chi and just southwest of Phu Cuong where the 2<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Bn of the VC's Military Region 4 was located. Contact was limited, however, to engagement of VC in sampans and destruction of fortifications, many of which were booby trapped. **Results:** (included in BARKING SANDS).

**22-27 Aug. Operation: AKRON II**

**Location:** Hat Dich Secret Zone (Base Area 303), Route 2, Route 15, Bien Hoa and Phuoc Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-39 Inf, 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 3-5 Cav. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div continued search and destroy and land clearing operations in the Hat Dich Secret Zone. **Results:** 52 enemy killed, 8 captured, 6 US KIA, 15 US WIA.

**23-24 Aug. Operation: LAM SON 113**

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Con-**

**trolling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 57 enemy killed, 15 detained, no friendly casualties.

**24 Aug. Operation: BURNSIDE**

**Location:** Dat Do, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, 4 Fld Rgt, A Sqn 3 Cav (one trp), 1 Sqn ASAS. **Execution:** Operation was a search of Dat Do, the rice-marketing center of Phuoc Tuy Province, prior to the National Elections. **Results:** none.

**26 Aug. Operation: ULMARRA**

**Location:** Lang Phuoc Hai, Route 44, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, 4 Fld Rgt, A Sqn 3 Cav (one trp), 1 Sqn ASAS. **Execution:** Operation was a search of Lang Phuoc Hai, a fishing village 6 km south-southeast of Dat Do on Route 44, prior to the National Elections. **Results:** 24 detained.

**27 Aug.-5 Sep. Operation: BELT DRIVE**

**Location:** Song Nhung, Hai Lang District, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** BLT 2/3 Marines. **Execution:** The BELT DRIVE objective was the densely vegetated high ground on both sides of the Nhung River, less than 9 km south of Quang Tri City. The operation involved a spoiling attack against Communist units that could have interfered with the voting in Quang Tri during the National Elections, but contact was only sporadic. From 1-4 Sep, the BLT passed under control of the 4<sup>th</sup> Marines and joined in Operation LIBERTY to block enemy approaches to Route 1 during the elections. On 4 Sep, BELT DRIVE resumed but ended the next day with no contact. **Results:** 19 enemy killed, 5 US KIA, 59 US WIA.

**27 Aug.-5 Sep. Operation: YAZOO**

**Location:** Happy Valley, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, 2/7 Marines, 3/11 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted in Happy Valley west of Da Nang with very light contact **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 4 US KIA, 9 US WIA.

**28 Aug.** Elements participating in Operation KINGFISHER at Gio Linh in Quang Tri Province receive artillery airbursts. First time enemy employ airburst shells.

**28 Aug.** US Observer Team of 22 prominent persons, headed by former AMB Lodge, arrives to observe RVN elections at invitation of GVN.

**29 Aug.** MG Yose Devhasdin assumes command of RTFV.

**30 Aug. Operation: QUYET THANG/77/G**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 81 enemy killed, 2 ARVN KIA, 30 ARVN WIA, 5 ARVN MIA.

**31 Aug.-1 Sep. Operation: STRIKE FORCE**

**Location:** Lang Di, Quyet Thang, Dak Roman, Song Re, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** airmobile raid. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 2-502 Inf **Execution:** 2-502 Inf conducted airmobile raids on two enemy POW camps located at Lang Di in the Dak Roman Valley 30 km northwest of Gia Vuc and Quyet Thang in the Song Re Valley 27 km north-northwest of Gia Vuc. Although both camps had been moved about two weeks prior to the raid, 16 VN were liberated and the camps destroyed. **Results:** none.

**31 Aug.-21 Sep. Operation: AINSLIE**

**Location:** Xa Bang, Duc Thanh, Ngai Giao, Slope 30, Route 2, FSB ALLANBROKE, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy, road clearing, resettlement. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 4 Fld Rgt, 1 Fld Sqn, 1 Sqn ASAS. **Execution:** Operation AINSLIE involved the resettlement of the civilian population living in the 'Slope 30' area near Xa Bang to a resettlement hamlet 3 km north of Nui Dat, followed by road clearing and search and destroy operations along Route 2 from Nui Dat to the 11<sup>th</sup> ACR's TAOR at Camp Blackhorse. Contact was limited but 1,132 persons were resettled. **Results:** 22 enemy killed, 1 AUS KIA, 2 AUS WIA.

55 From 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt).



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## Arrival:

1 Aug. B-36 Det (Prov) Project RAPID FIRE  
13<sup>th</sup> BS  
32d NMCB  
2 Aug. NMCB 121  
3 Aug. HQ 20<sup>th</sup> Eng Bde  
12 Aug. 190<sup>th</sup> Avn Co  
242d Avn Co  
13 Aug. 8-4 Art  
15 Aug. VMFA-323  
19 Aug. 43d Inf Plt (Scout Dog)  
45<sup>th</sup> Inf Plt (Scout Dog)  
23 Aug; HMM-265  
29 Aug. 1-1 Cav  
337<sup>th</sup> Signal Co  
30 Aug. 2-1 Cav  
363d Trans Co  
5<sup>th</sup> Bn, 2d ROK Mar Bde  
31 Aug. 610<sup>th</sup> Eng Co

## Departure:

2 Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> BS  
16 Aug. VMFA-314<sup>56</sup>  
10 Aug. 347<sup>th</sup> Trans Co  
23 Aug. HMM-262<sup>57</sup>  
31 Aug. VMF(AW)-232<sup>58</sup>

## SEPTEMBER

**1 Sep.** US military strength in RVN is 492,000.

**1-6 Sep. Operation: BEACON POINT**

**Location:** Street Without Joy, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** Operation BEACON POINT swept the southern portion of the Street Without Joy without making contact. On 5 Sep, BLT 1/3 marched to an assembly area near Camp Evans and joined Operation FREMONT. **Results:** (no info).

**1-6 Sep. Operation: VALDOSTA I**

**Location:** Hung Nghia, Route 1, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 3/11 ACR. **Execution:** VALDOSTA I was initiated to preclude enemy interference during the National Elections period. Roadblocks were established along Route 1 and security provided to engineer parties repairing the road. On 3 Sep, Trp K, 3/11 ACR made contact with an estimated 40 VC just south of Hung Nghia, killing 8. **Results:** (no info).

**1 Sep.-17 Nov. Operation: STRIKE I**

**Location:** Bien Hoa, Long Binh, AO STRIKE, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-47 Inf (M). **Execution:** Operation STRIKE I was conducted to provide security for the Bien Hoa-Long Binh complex and to prevent rocket attacks. On 17 Nov, STRIKE I was combined with Operation UNIONTOWN. **Results:** (no info).

**2-9 Sep. Operation: COOK**

**Location:** Song Ve, Base Area 121, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, A/2-11 Art, A/326<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Execution:** Operation COOK saw the return of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde to Quang Ngai Province. The mission was to neutralize enemy forces located in Base Area 121 and the northern portion of the Song Ve Valley. On 2 Sep, 2-327 Inf conducted airmobile assaults in the Song Ve and commenced search and destroy operations in zone. On 4-5 Sep, 1-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf were inserted into LZs west of the valley but no major contact was made. Operation COOK ended prematurely with all elements displacing to Chu Lai in preparation of Operation WHEELER. **Results:** 54 enemy killed, 3 detained, 3 US KIA,

13 US WIA.

**3 Sep.** General Nguyen Van Thieu is elected President of the Republic of Vietnam with Nguyen Cao Ky as Vice President.

**4-8 Sep. Operation: LAM SON 120/XDNT**

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 78 enemy killed, 22 detained, 15 ARVN KIA, 42 ARVN WIA.

**4-14 Sep. Operation: EMPORIA IV**

**Location:** Ba Bien, Blackhorse, Route 2, Long Khanh and Phuoc Tuy Provinces. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 1/11 ACR, 3/11 ACR. **Execution:** EMPORIA IV provided security to engineer work parties along Route 2 south of Blackhorse. Several light contacts were made in the Ba Bien area east of the base camp. **Results:** (no info).

**4-15 Sep. Operation: SWIFT/LIEN KET 116<sup>59</sup>**

**Location:** Thang Binh, Dong Son, Chau Lam, Vinh Huy, Que Son Basin, Hill 43, Hill 48, Route 534, Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines; Task Force X-Ray (from 7 Sep). **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines, H/2/5 Marines, 3/5 Marines, 2/11 Marines, 1-14 Inf; 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div (elts). **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div (1<sup>st</sup> PLAF and 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgts). **Execution:** Operation SWIFT was an outgrowth of one of the election day screening sweeps conducted near Dong Son, 8 miles southwest of Thang Binh along Route 534. At dawn of 4 Sep, the enemy struck the night defensive position of Co D, 1/5 Marines. As the battle intensified, Co B arrived on the scene, followed in the afternoon by two more companies from 3/5 Marines. Battle raged all day until nightfall when supporting fires reduced the hamlet of Dong Son (1) to smoldering ruins. A search of the battle area on 5 Sep reported 130 enemy killed but Marine losses had been high with 54 KIA and 104 WIA. Pursuit began immediately, on the morning of 6 Sep, 1/5 made contact with two battalions from the 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt near Vinh Huy. The enemy soldiers nearly overran Co B but were repulsed after a tear gas attack and danger close artillery fire. The VC withdrew during the night, leaving 61 bodies behind. Marine casualties were 35 KIA and 92 WIA. That same day, Sep 6, 3/5 Marines also ran into trouble northeast of 1/5 near Hill 48, with furious hand-to-hand fighting that repulsed two determined NVA assaults. 88 enemy were killed, 34 US KIA and 109 US WIA. On 7 Sep, TF X-Ray was again activated and 1-14 Inf joined the operation. Simultaneously, the 2d ARVN Div started its companion Operation LIEN KET 116. On 10 Sep, a patrol from Co H, 2/5 Marines fought a reinforced NVA company near Hill 43, killing 40 while losing 9. On 12 Sep, a patrol base held by Co I, 3/5 Marines was attacked by two enemy companies but they were repulsed with 35 killed and 4 captured. During the same period, the 37<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn received a ground assault in the LIEN KET 116 AO by an estimated enemy battalion on 10 Sep; 70 enemy were killed, 13 ARVN KIA and 33 ARVN WIA. Elements of two enemy battalions hit the rangers again on 13 Sep. Reinforcements from 1/5 and 3/5 Marines were helicoptered in to relieve the pressure and by dawn the NVA broke contact, leaving 49 dead behind. The Rangers had lost an additional 15 KIA and 69 WIA. This was the last sizable encounter of the operation as the 2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div had been driven out of the Que Son once more, but would soon return. **Results:** 729 enemy killed<sup>60</sup>, 67 detained, 127 US KIA, 352 US WIA, 32 ARVN KIA, 86 ARVN WIA, 11 ARVN MIA.

**5-21 Sep. Operation: RAPID FIRE I**

**Location:** War Zone C, Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-36 Project RAPID FIRE. **Execution:** The RAPID FIRE concept involved the tactical deployment of combined recon teams in order to locate VC forces followed by the commitment of a larger mobile reaction force to disrupt or destroy the enemy force. **Results:** 38 enemy killed, 6 captured. (no info on friendly casualties).

<sup>56</sup> Squadron undergoing rehabilitation at Iwakuni.

<sup>57</sup> To SLF BRAVO.

<sup>58</sup> To CONUS.

<sup>59</sup> LIEN KET 116 commenced 7 Sep 67.

<sup>60</sup> 517 for SWIFT and 212 for LIEN KET 116.

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### 5 Sep.-30 Oct. **Operation: DRAGON FIRE**

**Location:** Batangan Peninsula, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2d and 5<sup>th</sup> ROKMC Bns. **Execution:** The 2d ROKMC Bde conducted this operation to clear insurgent elements from the Batagan Peninsula. **Results:** 541 enemy killed, 17 captured, 121 detained, 45 ROKMC KIA, 200 ROKMC WIA, 3 USMC WIA.

### 6-12 Sep. **Operation: LIEN KET 114/P1**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 138 enemy killed, 38 detained, 24 ARVN KIA, 101 ARVN WIA.

**7 Sep.** SECDEF announces decision to construct a wire and electronic barrier across RVN south of the DMZ.

### 7 Sep. **Operation: CUU LONG/45/10**

**Location:** Ben Tre District, Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted at the confluence of the Ben Tre and Ham Luong rivers by the 10<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt supported by RAGs 21 and 33. **Results:** 6 enemy killed, 6 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 3 ARVN WIA.

### 7-8 Sep. **Operation: DAN CHI/300/A**

**Location:** Ba Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 54 enemy killed, 12 detained, 4 ARVN WIA.

### 7-11 Sep. **Operation: INTOSH JOYCE 15**

**Location:** Bien Hoa Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

**9 Sep.** DEPCOMUSMACV, GEN Creighton W. Abrams, USA, establishes office of the Deputy CofS of Military Assistance, later changed to ACofS for Military Assistance.

**10 Sep.** NVN port of Cam Pha bombed by US war planes for first time.

### 11 Sep-25 Nov. **Operation: WHEELER**

**Location:** Tien Phuoc, Hiep Duc, Song Tranh, Song Chang, Base Area 116, Base Area 117, UDEN AO, Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 1-14 Inf (11-24 Sep), 1-35 Inf (4 Oct-4 Nov), 2-320 Art, A/2-9 Art (4 Oct-4 Nov), B/2-9 Art (11-24 Sep), C/3-16 Art, B/1-9 Cav (2-4 Oct), A/2-17 Cav (17-25 Nov), A/326<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div (1<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgts). **Execution:** The first phase of Operation WHEELER (11-25 Sep) was conducted in Base Areas 116 and 117, north and east of the Tien Phuoc CIDG Camp receptively. The objective was to intercept the 1<sup>st</sup> PLAF and 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgts thought to be withdrawing south from the Operation SWIFT AO and to locate the third regiment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div, the 21<sup>st</sup>, believed to be regrouping west of Tam Ky. The three battalions of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde conducted airmobile assaults into selected landing zones in BA 116 while the opconed 1-14 Inf was employed in BA 117 to the southeast. This first phase produced no significant contact but numerous small scale engagement accounted for 200 enemy killed during the first two weeks of the operation. On 24 Sep, 1-14 Inf was released from brigade control and returned to Duc Pho. For the second phase of WHEELER (26 Sep-8 Oct), all three battalions conducted an aerial envelopment of the Hiep Duc area while USMC and ARVN reconnaissance units occupied the high ground to the north. On 27 Sep, the tactical CP of 2-502 Inf receive a badly coordinated ground assault that was quickly repulsed. Fighting continued over the next week amid increasingly heavier downpours with Americans slowly closing the ring around Hiep Duc where the presence of an enemy headquarters was suspected. Worried about a possible infiltration of the 21<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt back into BA 116, the brigade requested a fourth infantry battalion. On 4 Oct, 1-35 Inf was airlifted from Duc Pho to Tam Ky and inserted in the northern portion of BA 116. Numerous contacts continued as the brigade employed an increasing number of air strikes, combat skyspots and artillery missions throughout the AO. Bad weather began to seriously hamper ground and air operations, and when numerous sampans were sighted to the west of the AO moving what was believed to be elements of the enemy

headquarters, action other than Combat skyspots could not be employed. On 7 Oct, A/2-502 Inf was attacked while resupplying by an estimated enemy company. 18 enemy were killed, 7 US KIA and 6 US WIA. The next day, A/2-327 Inf, soon enforced by Co B and the battalion reconnaissance platoon, made contact with two NVA companies. 60 enemy were killed at the cost of 17 US KIA and 3 WIA. On 9 Oct, A/1-35 Inf engaged an enemy company. Heavy fighting developed until nightfall when the NVA broke contact. Results were 24 enemy killed, 10 US KIA and 17 US WIA. That same day, WHEELER entered its third phase (9 Oct-5 Nov) with the brigade reorienting itself on the original AO, Base Area 116, where 1-35 Inf was making daily contact with enemy forces. Simultaneously, the brigade began rotating companies back to Chu Lai for stand down after nearly a month in the field. On 15 Oct, Bty A, 2-320 Art co-located with the 1-327 CP and protected by a CIDG company from Tien Phuoc received a mortar and ground attack by an estimated 40 enemy soldiers. Results were 6 enemy killed, 5 US KIA, 21 US WIA, 6 CIDG KIA and 4 CIDG WIA. On 22 Oct, the reconnaissance platoon of 1-35 Inf made contact with an estimated enemy battalion 12 km west of Tam Ky. Reinforcements arrived with Cos C & D but the enemy broke contact by night fall leaving only 6 bodies behind. On 27 Oct, B/2-327 Inf made contact with a well entrenched enemy company. Fighting lasted throughout the afternoon until the enemy withdrew. Results were 9 enemy killed, 11 US KIA and 18 US WIA. With the 2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div elements avoiding contact during the period 28 Oct-4 Nov, increased emphasis was placed on attempting to locate the division. On 5 Nov, 1-35 Inf was released from operational control of the brigade and placed under opcon of the 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div conducting Operation WALLOWA in the Que Son Basin. The last phase of WHEELER (6-25 Nov) saw 2-327 Inf being air-assaulted into the western portion of BA 116 while 1-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf established blocking positions. On 11 Nov, C/2-327 Inf engaged an NVA company in the Song Chang Valley 4 km east of Hiep Duc. 14 enemy were killed, 4 US KIA and 5 US WIA. This marked the last significant contact of WHEELER, after that, the badly hurt 2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div avoided any further contact. From 23-25 Nov, brigade elements were relieved in place by elements of the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt)<sup>61</sup> and displaced to Tam Ky Airfield to move by air to the brigade main base camp at Phan Rang for a four-day stand down and preparation for future operations. **Results:** 1,105 enemy killed, 50 captured, 445 detained, 11 returnees, 124 US KIA, 465 US WIA.

### 12 Sep. **Operation: DONG TAM 12**

**Location:** Rung Sat Special Zone **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** RSSZ. **Execution:** operation conducted 40 km km south of Saigon by three RF companies supported by RAG 22. **Results:** 1 US WIA.

### 12-19 Sep. **Operation: INTOSH JOYCE 16**

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

### 12 Sep-10 Oct. **Operation: CORONADO V**

**Location:** Dong Tam, Cai Lay, Cam Son Secret Zone, Ban Long Base Area, Loi Quan Island, Song My Tho, Rach Ba Rai, Rach Ben Tre, Route 20, Ding Tuong and Kien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF); 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div; 3-47 Inf (12-17 Sep), 4-47 Inf (17 Sep-10 Oct), 3-60 Inf, 5-60 Inf (M), 2-60 Inf (-)(15-17 Sep), 3-34 Art, D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117; 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div: 10<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt, 41<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 263<sup>rd</sup> and 506<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bns. **Execution:** On 11 Sep, the MRF shifted its anchorage from Vung Tau to Dong Tam again and began Operation CORONADO V aimed at the 263<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Bn which had returned to the Cam Son Secret Zone. On 12 Sep, 3-47 Inf swept north from landing sites on the My Tho but turned up almost nothing. The next day, 3-60 Inf and 5-60 Inf (M) with help from the 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div<sup>62</sup> began a sweep of the Ban Long area to the east and made contact with what appeared to be a VC covering force near the site of the VNMC heavy contact in

61 See Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA.

62 See Operation CUU LONG/63/2.

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July. The enemy withdrew under cover of darkness, leaving 63 bodies behind. As US and ARVN forces left the Ban Long on 14 Sep, the 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div reported that a large force, presumably the 263<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Bn, remained in the Cam Son, only a few kilometers north from areas previously swept. On 15 Sep, as 5-60 Inf (M) moved overland via Route 20, 3-60 Inf and 3-47 Inf sailed via the Song My Tho up the Rach Ba Rai between the My Tho and the town of Cai Lay. While 3-47 Inf landed unopposed over WHITE Beach, 3-60 Inf ran into two companies of the 263<sup>rd</sup> lined up in ambush positions along the east bank of the Ba Rai. Some of the boats managed to run the gauntlet but were forced to turn back as most of the column failed to follow. Two companies from 2-60 Inf were helicoptered from Long An Province to encircle the enemy. The battle lasted until nightfall but when the Americans entered the deserted ambush site the next day they found only 24 enemy killed. On 17 Sep the MRF returned to Dong Tam where 4-47 Inf rotated aboard the ships of the MRF replacing 3-47 Inf. On 20 Sep, the MRF displaced to Kien Hoa Province and began widely separated operations in Ham Long, Giong Trom and Huong My Districts, looking for the 516<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn but no major contact took place. On 27 Sep, ATCs performing mine sweeping duties along the Rach Ben Tre received heavy RPG, recoilless and automatic weapons fire. 3 sailors were killed and 6 wounded. On 28 Sep, the MRF shifted its anchorage from Dong Tam to the northern end of Loi Quan Island between the Cua Dai and Cua Tieu to reduce logistic distances. Operations in Kien Hoa were in close cooperation with the 10<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt and a composite RF battalions but only sporadic contact was made. On 5-7 Oct the MRF returned to the Ban Long but had only limited contact with elements of the 263<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Bn and on 10 Sep it displaced to Vung Tau to prepare for CORONADO VI. **Results:** 330 enemy killed, 235 detained, 2 returnees, 35 US KIA, 175 US WIA.

### 14-15 Sep. **Operation:** CUU LONG/63/2

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** Operation conducted in conjunction with CORONADO V. **Results:** 70 enemy killed, 51 detained, no friendly casualties.

### 15 Sep. **Operation:** CRIMSON TIDE

**Location:** Can Tho, Tan Dinh Island, Bassac River, Phong Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** TF 116 GAME WARDEN. **Task organization:** River Section 511 and 512, HAL-3, three SEAL platoons, RAG 25. **Execution:** Strike operation conducted along a five-mile stretch of the Bassac River on the mainland opposite Tanh Dinh Island. 120 sampans and 75 bunkers were destroyed. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 1 USN WIA.

### 16-22 Sep. **Operation:** BALLISTIC CHARGE

**Location:** Dai Loc, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** The operation involved a simultaneous heliborne and surface assault of an objective area four miles southeast of Dai Loc followed by a rapid sweep to the north. Contact was limited to sniper fire. On 22 Sep, the BLT passed under control of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marines and joined Operation SHELBYVILLE. **Results:** 3 enemy captured, 55 detained, no friendly casualties.

### 16 Sep.-29 Oct. **Operation:** KUNIA

**Location:** Ho Bo Woods, Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, land clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 3-22 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 7-11 Art. **Execution:** Operation KUNIA was conducted as part of BARKING SANDS with the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div initiating search and destroy operations in the Ho Bo Woods in preparation for the arrival of a land clearing team of thirty Rome Plows. By the end of October 9,645 acres of the Ho Bo Woods had been cleared. **Results:** (included in BARKING SANDS).

### 17-25 Sep. **Operation:** FORTRESS SENTRY

**Location:** An My, Cua Viet, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** BLT 2/3 Marines, 1<sup>st</sup> Amph Tractor Bn. **Execu-**

**tion:** On 17 Sep the BLT landed toward the northern bank of the Cua Viet and began a sweep north toward the DMZ with the 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div screening the left flank. On 23 Sep, about 100 NVA soldiers attacked the battalion, but it broke up the probe with the assistance of helicopter gunships. On the morning of 24 Sep, the Marines engaged another enemy force near the village of An My, 5 km east of Gio Linh. The following day the operation ended and BLT 2/3 phased into Operation KINGFISHER to the west. **Results:** (no info).

### 15-23 Sep. **Operation:** ARKANSAS CITY I

**Location:** Duc Thanh, Xa Bang, Rouye 2, Base Area 303 (Hat Dich Secret Zone), Phuoc Tuy and Long Khanh Provinces. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M), 3/11 ACR, 1-11 Art. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** The brigade conducted this operation in the Hat Dich Secret Zone with the 3/11 ACR providing blocking Positions along Route 2 to the east. Contact was minimal but several base camps were discovered and destroyed. **Results:** 14 enemy killed, 1 captured, no friendly casualties.

**18 Sep.** Official results of Upper House (Senate) elections announced.

**19 Sep.** Enemy terrorists detonate 20-30 lbs of explosives contained in a suitcase in the passport office of the Embassy of the Republic of China in Saigon. 1 civilians is killed and 26 wounded.

### 19 Sep. 67-31 Jan. 69 **Operation:** BOLLING/DAN HOA

**Location:** Tuy Hoa, Phu Hiep, Binh Tinh, Ma Hoa, AO BLACK, Song Ky Lo, Song Da Rang, Suoi Cai, Phu Yen and Phu Bon Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, reconnaissance-in-force, pacification, rice protection. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde (19 Sep 67-8 Feb 68, 1 Apr 68-31 Jan 69); I FFORCEV (8 Feb-1 Apr 68); 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf (19 Sep-6 Nov 67), 2-503 Inf (12 Oct-6 Nov 67), 3-503 Inf (5 Nov 67-16 Jan 68), 4-503 Inf (19 Sep-1 Nov 67, 16 Dec 67-31 Jan 69), TF 2-8 Cav (17 Sep-14 Oct 67), 3-319 Art, C/2-19 Art (17 Sep-14 Oct 67), E/17 Cav, D/16 Arm, 173d Eng Co; 47<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Intelligence:** 5<sup>th</sup> PAVN Div (18B and 95<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts), 30<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bns, K65 and K76 Sapper Cos. **Execution:** During the period 14-19 Sep, the bulk of the brigade (minus 2-503 Inf and A/3-319 Art) was relocated by air from Dak To to Tuy Hoa to commence long-term Operation BOLLING in cooperation with the 47<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt. The 2-8 Cav was opended to the brigade until 14 Oct to compensate for 2-503 Inf remaining at Dak To, and was air-assaulted into the BOLLING AO on 19 Sep. The operation was designed to provide security for the local rice harvest. Daily contact was maintained with enemy forces in September and October but seldom larger than squad size. During October, the brigade relocated its rear base camp facility from Bien Hoa to An Khe, moving by sea via Saigon and Qui Nhon. On 12 Oct, 2-503 Inf and A/3-319 returned from the Highlands, relieving TF 2-8 Cav and on 22 Oct, the new 3-503 Inf arrived in-country from Fort Bragg, undergoing jungle training in An Khe prior to deployment to the BOLLING AO. On 1 Nov, 4-503 Inf was alerted for immediate departure for Dak To, followed five days later by the brigade minus (headquarters, 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 3-319 Art). On 5 Nov, 3-503 Inf arrived at Tuy Hoa from An Khe and assumed responsibility for Operation BOLLING. Contact continued to be light in November; on 16 Dec, the brigade headquarters, 4-503 Inf and C and D/3-319 Art were redeployed from Operation MACARTHUR, closing into the BOLLING AO that same day. On 27 Dec, 3-503 Inf conducted a series of combat assaults into the Song Ky Lo Valley 15 km northwest of Dong Tre and engaged two enemy companies. Elements of 4-503 Inf reinforced the battle area until contact was lost on 29 Dec. Results were 62 enemy killed, 12 US KIA and 34 US WIA. Contact was infrequent in January and a battalion task force built around 3-503 Inf moved to An Khe on 16 Jan 68 to assume responsibility of the Operation DAZZLEM AO<sup>63</sup> from the departing 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div. On 30 Jan, the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn, 95<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt attacked several targets in the Tuy Hoa area as part of the enemy's Tet Offensive, including a FSB held by C/6-32 Art, the

63 See Operation DAZZLEM in VCO 1966.



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Binh Tin hamlet, Tuy Hoa North AF and the provincial prison. D/4-503 Inf and two companies from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 28<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt counterattacked toward the airfield and by 0730 on 31 Jan, the enemy force was surrounded and destroyed in Binh Tin hamlet. On 5-6 Feb, two battalions of the 47<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt and RF elements reduced an enemy strong point in the center of Tuy Hoa. During the fighting in and around Tuy Hoa, 316 enemy had been killed and 104 captured. During February, 4-503 Inf in conjunction with Strike Force elements from Cung Son and Dong Tre CIDG Camps, and Task Force MITCHELL (E/17 Cav, D/16 Arm) conducted search and destroy operations west of Tuy Hoa and helped mop up the aftermath of the Tet Offensive. It also provided security for the 577<sup>th</sup> Eng C Bn and 173d Eng Co working on Routes 7B and 436. On 8 Feb, the 173d Abn Bde (-) departed Tuy Hoa to assumed Opcon of TF POWERHOUSE (1-503 and 2-503 Inf) in Kontum Province in the MACARTHUR AO. Operation BOLLING passed under control of I FFORCEV which assumed opcon of TF 4-503 build around 4-503 Inf, Btys C and D, 3-319 Art and D/16 Arm. A major contact developed on 4 Mar when the 47<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt contacted the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn, 95<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt and 85<sup>th</sup> PLAF Bn in three hamlets along the coast just north of Tuy Hoa. D/16 Arm and elements of the 28<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt counterattacked while the 47<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt provided blocking positions. D/16 was credited with 137 NVA killed during the action while suffering 10 KIA and 21 WIA. Contact during the rest of March was sporadic in the BOLLING AO. On 1 Apr, the brigade returned from the Highlands, relieving the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div at Bong Son<sup>64</sup> and assumed control over TF 4-503 again. Contact was light during the month of April except on the 5<sup>th</sup> when D/16 Arm again supported the 47<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt in heavy contact with two enemy battalions at Ma Hoa village in Tuy Hoa Valley just off Route 7B north of the Song Da Rang. In May, 4-503 Inf conducted extensive bushmaster operations, on 2 May, Co B killed 8 enemy soldiers in the Suoi Cai Valley 18 km west of Tuy Hoa. In June, the enemy continued to avoid decisive contact with Allied force, relying on harassing tactics instead. During the period 16-27 Jul, 4-503 Inf conducted search and clear operations in AO BLACK located 25 km southwest of Cung Son on the Phu Bon and Darlac provincial boundary but there was no significant contact. On 30 July, 4-503 Inf joined the 3/47 ARVN Bn and elements of the 26<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt to conduct a combined operation in the Song Ky Lo Valley but contact was again limited. Prisoners confirmed that the bulk of the 18B and 95<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts had departed Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa Province to refit in Cambodia. Contact remained light for the rest of Operation BOLLING, limited to engagements with squad-size enemy forces and booby traps incidents. On 1 Feb 69 the BOLLING/DAN HOA AO became a permanent TAOR called LY DO/WAINWRIGHT. **Results:** 715 enemy killed, 72 US KIA, 307 US WIA (no info on ARVN casualties).

**20 Sep.** First Armored Support Patrol Base (ASPB) arrive at Vung Tau to MRF.

**21 Sep.** Gunship II, a modified C-130A configuration designed to replace the older AC-47 for an improved aerial fire support role, arrives in-country at Nha Trang for evaluation.

**22 Sep.** Task Force OREGON is officially redesignated AMERICAL Division.

**22-28 Sep.. Operation: RICHMOND**

**Location:** Dinh Quan, Route 20, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 3/11 ACR, 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn, 5<sup>th</sup> ARVN ACR (elts). **Execution:** The squadron provided security for engineer road repair efforts north of Dinh Quan along Route 20 in coordination with ARVN forces. There was no contact with enemy forces. Upon termination, the squadron returned to Blackhorse to resume Operation KITTYHAWK. **Results:** (no info).

**22-28 Sep. Operation: SHELBYVILLE**

**Location:** Hoi An, Dai Loc, Liberty Bridge, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mar

Div. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines, 3/5 Marines, BLT 1/3 Marines, 1/11 Marines. **Execution:** SHELBYVILLE took place west of Hoi An, 6 km southeast of Dai Loc. BLT 1/3 conducted an airborne assault on the objective area while 2/1 Marines occupied blocking positions to the east and 3/5 Marines blocked to the south. No major contact developed however but there were numerous cases of booby traps incidents. **Results:** 50 enemy killed, 1 captured, 59 detained, 10 US KIA, 69 US WIA.

**22-29 Sep. Operation: DO KAE BI 3**

**Location:** Canh Phuoc, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 28<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt (-). **Execution:** operation took place 8 km south of Van Canh. **Results:** 103 enemy killed (no info on friendly casualties).

**23 Sep.** Official communique from Moscow announces signing of USSR/NVN military assistance agreement whereby the USSR will furnish "airplanes, anti-aircraft and rocket equipment, artillery and small arms, ammunition and other military equipment."

**23-28 Sep. Operation: BLUEFIELD II**

**Location:** Lai Khe, Bau Bang, Bo La, Route 301, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-2 Inf, 2-2 Inf (M), 1-26 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav (-), 2-33 Art. **Execution:** (no info). **Results:** 2 enemy captured, 1 US WIA.

**24 Sep.-9 Oct. Operation: ARKANSAS CITY II**

**Location:** Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Execution:** (no info).

**25-26 Sep. Operation: LONG PHI/9/130**

**Location:** Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 15 km west of Vinh Long by elts of the 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div supported by RAGs 23 and 31. **Results:** 6 enemy killed, 6 captured, 14 detained.

**26 Sep.** HMAS PERTH joins NGFS replacing HMAS HOBART, to become the second Australian ship to operate with SEVENTHFLT.

**26 Sep.-21 Oct. Operation: AKRON III**

**Location:** Base Area 303 (Hat Dich Secret Zone), Phuoc Tuy and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, land clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-39 Inf, B/2-47 Inf (M), 3-5 Cav, 1-11 Art, 2/48 ARVN Bn, 52<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** AKRON III was a continuation of land clearing and search and destroy operations in Base Area 303 (Hat Dich Secret Zone). Contact with the enemy was light and sporadic throughout the operation but the largest known weapons cache in the III CTZ to date was discovered, contacting over 200,000 rounds of small arms, 1,022 small arms and 125 crew served weapons. **Results:** (no info).

**27-28 Sep. Operation: CUU LONG/48/10**

**Location:** Ben Tre District, Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted at the confluence of the Ben Tre and Ham Luong rivers by the 10<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt supported by RAGs 21 and 33. **Results:** 7 enemy captured, 9 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 8 ARVN WIA.

**28 Sep.** Militant Buddhist Thich Tri Quang starts 13-day vigil in front of independence Palace.

**28 Sep. Operation: HAI DUONG 18**

**Location:** Nai Island, Bassac River, Ba Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Ba Xueyn Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted on Nai Island on the Bassac, 22 km downstream from Can Tho by Ba Xueyn Sector forces, one PRU, one combined LDNN/SEAL squad and with support from RAG 25. **Results:** 3 enemy captured, 12 detained, 4 returnees.

**29 Sep.** The office of the ACofS for Military Assistance is established as a result of the study of MACV Military Assistance and Advisory Resources.

**29 Sep.** President Johnson outlines terms for peace negotiations in a speech in San Antonio, which becomes labeled the "San Antonio Formula."

64 See Operation COCHISE GREEN in VCO 1968.

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**29 Sep.** New American Embassy Chancery dedicated in Saigon.

**29 Sep.-1 Oct. Operation: LAM SON 132**

**Location:** Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 31 enemy killed, 12 captured, 29 detained.

**29 Sep.-11 Nov. Operation: KENMORE**

**Location:** Xuyen Moc, AO WARATAH, AO BANKSIA, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 4 Fld Rgt, A/1-35 Art, A/1-83d Art.

**Execution:** Operation took place in AOs WARATAH and BANKSIA, 6 km southeast of Xuyen Moc and bordering 24 km of coastline with infrequent contact. **Results:** 16 enemy killed, 1 captured, no friendly casualties.

**29 Sep.-19 Nov. Operation: SHENANDOAH II**

**Location:** Lai Khe, Loc Ninh, Chon Thanh, Suoi Ong Thanh, Michelin Plantation, Long Nguyen Secret Zone, Route 13, LZ APPLE, FSB CAISSON II, FSB CAISSON III, FSB CAISSON IV, FSB CAISSON V, FSB CAISSON VI, FSB CAISSON VII, FSB LORRAINE II, Binh Duong and Binh Long Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div; 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div (29 Sep-19 Nov); 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div (30 Sep-30 Oct).

**Task organization:** 1-2 Inf (29 Sep-18 Oct; 21-28 Oct), 2-2 Inf (M)(29 Sep-23 Oct), 1-16 Inf (29 Sep; 18-29 Oct; 8-19 Nov), 1-18 Inf (4-13 Oct; 29 Oct-19 Nov), 1-26 Inf (31 Oct-8 Nov), 1-28 Inf (29 Sep-10 Oct; 13 Oct-11 Nov), 2-28 Inf (7-18 Oct; 30 Oct-19 Nov), 2-12 Inf (2-7 Nov), 1-4 Cav (29 Sep-30 Oct), 1-5 Art (29 Sep-19 Nov), 6-15 Art (30 Oct-19 Nov), 2-33 Art (30 Sep-30 Oct). **Intelligence:** 9<sup>th</sup> PLAF Div (271<sup>st</sup>, 272<sup>nd</sup>, 273<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Rgts). **Execution:** Operation SHENANDOAH II initially covered an area from slightly south of Lai Khe, north approximately 18 miles and west to the edge of the Michelin Plantation, a region known as the Long Nguyen Secret Zone where the 271<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt was reported. The AO was expanded later to include the area between Lai Khe and Loc Ninh and between Route 13 west to the 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div AO. On 29 Sep, 1-2 Inf began search and destroy operation in AO MIKE 12 miles north of Lai Khe while 1-28 Inf displaced via motor convoy from Phuoc Vinh to Chon Thanh. Simultaneously, 1-4 Cav with A/2-2 Inf (M) opcon began clearing Route 13 From Lai Khe to Chon Thanh and secured FSBs CAISSON II & III. The first engagement with the VC took place on 4 Oct when 1-2 Inf made contact with an unknown size enemy force 10 km southwest of Chon Thanh. 12 enemy were killed, 4 US KIA and 26 US WIA. In reaction, 1-18 Inf moved by helicopter from Phuoc Vinh to Chon Thanh and was air-assaulted into an LZ 1 km west of the 1-2 Inf contact. The LZ was cold but 29 enemy bodies KBA were found in the immediate vicinity. On 6 Oct, 1-18 Inf received mortar fire followed by a heavy ground assault. Result was 50 enemy killed, 3 US KIA and 4 US WIA. On 7 Oct, another battalion, 2-28 Inf, was added to the operation, moving via road convoy to Chon Thanh and then to field location. On 10 Oct, 1-28 Inf, having made little contact, was extracted from the field and returned to Phuoc Vinh. The next major engagement occurred on 11 Oct when B/1-18 Inf made contact with an estimated 100-150 enemy 31 km west of Highway 13, killing 21 while losing 1 KIA and 4 WIA. On 13 Oct, 1-28 Inf returned to the SHENANDOAH II AO, relieving 1-18 Inf in place. Contact during the next few days was limited but on 17 Oct, Cos A & D, 2-28 Inf were ambushed while following a trail south of the Suoi Ong Thanh. Contact began at 1015 when Co A received sniper fire. Close fighting began to develop rapidly and the two companies were soon engulfed by a very heavy volume of fire. The battalion's CO<sup>65</sup>, S-2, SGM and both company commanders became casualties. Both companies pulled back under fire to allow for close air support and artillery fire as Co B and C were rushed in to reinforced, followed by Co D, 1/16 inf later in the afternoon when the enemy broke contact. Losses had been very heavy for the Americans with 52 KIA, 72 WIA and 2 MIA. 103 enemy bodies were counted in the battle area the next day. On 18 Oct, 2-28 Inf was relieved in place by the rest of 1-16 Inf and was extracted to Lai

Khe, followed by 1-2 Inf which returned to Phuoc Vinh. On 19 Oct, 1-16 Inf continued search and destroy operations in the vicinity of the 17 Oct battle while 1-28 Inf was extracted briefly to Chon Thanh to allow for a B-52 strike to take place before returning to the field. On 21 Oct, 1-2 Inf was inserted into the AO again after a road march from Phuoc Vinh to Chon Thanh but contact remained low for the rest of the month. At 0115 on 29 Oct, two battalions of the 273<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Rgt launched a ground assault on the Loc Ninh District Headquarters and Loc Ninh CIDG Camp. Two reconnaissance companies from the 5<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div reacted immediately, being airlifted from Phu Loi to Loc Ninh and counterattacking along with two CIDG companies to regain the northern part of the sub sector compound, clearing it by 1300. At that point, Operation SHENANDOAH II was expanded to include the battle of Loc Ninh, with 1-18 Inf deploying to the battle area to occupy blocking positions 4 km west of the town. 2/9 ARVN Bn was also brought in and deployed in and around the sub sector compound. On 30 Oct, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde CP arrived at Quan Loi to control US forces at Loc Ninh. That same day, A/1-18 Inf made contact with an enemy company, killing 85. At 0100 on 31 Oct, elements of the 272<sup>nd</sup> and 273<sup>rd</sup> PLAF Rgts renewed their attacks on the sub sector and SF compounds. Very heavy fighting took place all night with TACAIR and AC-47 gunships supporting the defenders until 0700 when the enemy broke contact. Later that day, 1-28 Inf conducted an air-assault 4 km southeast of Loc Ninh while 1-26 joined the operation, securing FSB CAISSON VII near An Loc where the 5<sup>th</sup> ARVN TAC CP was also established. 126 enemy had been killed during the night attack at the cost of 9 KIA and 56 WIA for the Allied forces. 1 Nov was relatively quiet but starting at 0045 on 2 Nov, a third attack was launched, this time on the sub sector compound, CIDG camp, 1-18 Inf NDP and the 6-15 Art FSB near the Loc Ninh Airfield. All were repulsed with a combination of heavy, accurate fire by the defenders, artillery and effective close air support. At 0820, 1-26 Inf conducted an airmobile assault 6 km northwest of Loc Ninh, followed later in the afternoon by 2-12 Inf detached from the 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. 296 more enemies had been killed during the attack at the cost of 7 killed and 36 wounded to friendly forces. On 3 Nov, the 36<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn arrived to participate in reconnaissance-in-force operations with the four US infantry battalions. On 7 Nov, 1-26 Inf engaged an unknown size enemy force 6 km northeast of Loc Ninh, killing 66 but losing 17 KIA and 21 WIA. This was the last major engagement of SHENANDOAH II, the 272<sup>nd</sup> and 273<sup>rd</sup> avoiding any further contact with Allied forces. **Results:** 956 enemy killed, 63 detained, 107 US KIA, 322 US WIA.

**30 Sep.-1 Oct. Operation: INTOSH JOYCE 19**

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

**30 Sep.-2 Oct. Operation: QUYET THANG 614**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 65 enemy killed, 16 detained, 9 ARVN KIA, 28 ARVN WIA.

### Arrival:

1 Sep.	36 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn VMFA-122 MACG-18 H&HS-18 MWCS-1 MWFS-1
2 Sep.	544 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co
5 Sep.	VMA-121
8 Sep.	HMM-362
15 Sep.	609 <sup>th</sup> SOS
19 Sep.	RTA Volunteer Regiment
20 Sep.	588 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co 590 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co
22 Sep.	1-50 Inf (M)
24 Sep.	HQ 67 <sup>th</sup> Med Grp 46 <sup>th</sup> Inf Plt (Scout Dog)

65 LTC Terry de la Mesa Allen, Jr., KIA 17 Oct 67.

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25 Sep.	HQ 23d Inf Div (AMERICAL) <sup>66</sup> E/20 Inf F/51 Inf 17 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
26 Sep.	8 <sup>th</sup> BS
<b>Departure:</b>	
1 Sep.	Co E (Prov) 5 <sup>th</sup> SFGA
3 Sep.	VMA-211 <sup>67</sup>
8 Sep.	HMM-163 <sup>68</sup>
22 Sep.	HQ Task Force OREGON <sup>69</sup>
26 Sep.	13 <sup>th</sup> BS

## OCTOBER

**1 Oct.** US military strength in RVN is 476,000

**1 Oct.** National Assembly validates presidential election shortly before midnight deadline.

**3 Oct.** US aircraft strike key bridges at Loc Binh and Cao Bang in North Vietnam on 15 km from the Chinese border.

**3 Oct.** **Operation:** CRIMSON TIDE II

**Location:** Can Tho, Tan Dinh Island, Bassac River, Phong Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** TF 116 GAME WARDEN. **Execution:** USN SEAL and RF troops supported by RAGs 25 and 29 searched Tan Dinh Inland again, destroying 75 bunkers and 18 sampans. **Results:** 4 USN WIA.

**4 Oct.** Sydney, Australia becomes R&R Center.

**4-6 Oct.** **Operation:** CUU LONG/215/DT

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Division. **Results:** 70 enemy killed, 3 detained, 3 ARVN KIA, 10 ARVN WIA.

**4 Oct.-11 Nov.** **Operation:** WALLOWA

**Location:** Tam Ky, Van Dong, Dong Tri, Ha Tay, Barrier Island, Que Son Basin, Truong Giang, Route 1, LZ BALDY, LZ COLT, Quang Tin and Quang Nam Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1-7 Cav, 5-7 Cav, 2-12 Cav, B/1-9 Cav, 1-1 Cav (-), A/2-17 Cav, 1-21 Art (-), C/1-77 Art, C/2-20 Art, C/8<sup>th</sup> Eng, 227<sup>th</sup> AHB (-), A/228<sup>th</sup> ASHB, C/8<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Intelligence:** 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** On 28 Sep, IFFORCEV notified the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div that a rapidly deteriorating situation in I CTZ required that III MAF be reinforced. On 30 Sep, an advance party moved north, followed on 1 Oct by the 2-12 Cav and the 3d Bde CP departing for Chu Lai. By that evening, 3d Bde CP, 2-12 Cav, B/1-9 Cav and C/1-77 Art were closed and the 3d Bde became open to the AMERICAL Div. 1-7 Cav moved the following day and by 3 Oct, 5-7 Cav and all combat support elements had closed Chu Lai. On 4 Oct, Operation WALLOWA began with the brigade setting up its command post on LZ BALDY (Hill 63), replacing the departing 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. 1-7 Cav displaced to BALDY also while 2-12 Cav occupied a former Marine outpost near the village of Que Son and 5-7 Cav established LZ COLT on Hill 23, 10 km south of BALDY. The first contact occurred on 9 Oct when B/1-9 Cav engaged an estimated enemy platoon, killing 15. On 10 Oct, elements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt probed LZ COLT before the Americans had completed even basic defense. Infiltrating enemy soldiers with US uniforms headed straight for the battalion's TOC, killing or wounding everyone inside it. 7 US were KIA and 17 WIA but only a few enemy bodies were found in the morning. On 20 Oct. 1-7 Cav made contact with an unknown size enemy force in a cluster of hamlets a few kilometers east of BALDY on the west bank of the Truong Giang, killing 44. During 22-23 Oct, 5-7 Cav engaged the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn, 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt near the hamlet of Van Dong on Barrier Island, killing 98 enemy soldiers. On 27 Oct, 1-7 Cav and two troops from 1-1 Cav again made contact with elements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt fortified in the village of Ha Tay along the

66 Activated in Vietnam using assets from Task Force OREGON.

67 Squadron undergoing rehabilitation at Iwakuni.

68 To SLF ALPHA.

69 Replaced by AMERICAL Division.

coast 5 km north of Van Dong, killing an additional 48. Contact tapered-off after that as the 3<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt retreated toward the Que Son Valley and Operation WALLOWA was combined with Operation WHEELER on 11 Nov<sup>70</sup>. **Results**<sup>71</sup>: 675 enemy killed, 17 captured, 46 US KIA, 480 US WIA.

**5 Oct.** **Operation:** INTOSH JOYCE 23

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

**5 Oct.** **Operation:** BLUE MAX

**Location:** Bu Prang, Quang Duc Province. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** TF ALPHA: A217, C-2 C&C elts, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Cos, II CTZ MSF; TF BRAVO: A-326, two CIDG Cos from Lac Thien. **Execution:** On 1 Oct, Camp Lac Thien in II CTZ was converted to Regional Forces and its A-Team was assigned to open a new camp at Bu Prang, 45 miles southwest of Ban Me Thuot near the Cambodian Border. To secure the construction site the II CTZ MIKE Force jumped two companies from six C-130s on 5 Oct. There was no enemy resistance and the site was secured. A-326 and two companies from the former Lac Thien Camp were then helicoptered in, took over site security and commenced camp construction. **Results:** (no info).

**6 Oct.** RVN Lower House election campaign begins.

**7 Oct.** US aircraft strike at Soviet-built helicopters on the ground 45 km west of Hanoi.

**7-8 Oct.** **Operation:** XAY DUNG NONG THON 16

**Location:** Dam Cau Hai, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Thua Thien Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted on the north shore of Cau Hai Bay by Thua Thien Sector forces supported the First Naval Zone RAG Detachment. **Results:** 45 enemy killed, 3 ARVN KIA, 53 ARVN WIA.

**8 Oct.** The new Huey Cobra, designed especially for ground support in RVN, is used for the first time in a combat operations.

**8 Oct.** First air attack, conducted by aircraft from the carrier CONSTELLATION on the MIG capable Cat Bi Airfield, 6 km south-east of Haiphong.

**8 Oct.** **Operation:** DONG TAM 13

**Location:** Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** RSSZ. **Execution:** operation conducted in the southern Rung Sat Special Zone, 24 km northwest of Qui Nhon by two RF platoons supported by RAG 22. **Results:** none.

**9-10 Oct.** **Operation:** DAN CHI/360/SD

**Location:** Dung Island, Bassac River, Ba Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Division. **Execution:** operation conducted on the northern end of Dung Island on the Bassac, 22 km northeast of Soc Trang by two battalions of the 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div supported by RAGs 25 and 29 **Results:** 40 enemy killed, 9 captured, 9 detained.

**10-13 Oct.** **Operation:** SONG THAN/803/67

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> VNMC Bn, 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bn, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** Sub-operation of SONG THAN 14, conducted in coordination with the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div's Operation PERSHING. **Results:** (no info).

**10-14 Oct.** **Operation:** LARDYAR

**Location:** Bien Hoa Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** RTAVR. **Execution:** This was the shakedown operation for the newly arrived Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment. **Results:** (no info).

**10-24 Oct.** **Operation:** BEAUTIFUL PLUM II

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ROKMC Bns. **Execution:** operation produced very little contact. **Results:** 29 enemy detained, 1 ROK KIA, 6 ROK WIA.

**11 Oct.** Chief of State Thieu officiates at the installation of the new 60-seat Senate.

70 See Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA.

71 As of 31 Oct 67.



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## 11-18 Oct. **Operation:** CORONADO VI

**Location:** Long Tau Shipping Channel, Rung Sat Special Zone.  
**Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF). **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 4-47 Inf, 3-60 Inf, 3-34 Art, D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117. **Execution:** After relocating to Vung Tau on 10 Oct, the MRF commenced operations in the RSSZ. Minor engagements took place and small lots of weapons and supplies were discovered. On the night of 16 Oct the MRF sent out 48 ambush patrols and 22 boat patrols to insure the security of the Long Tau Shipping Channel with negative contact. **Results:** (no info).

## 11-20 Oct. **Operation:** MEDINA/BASTION HILL/LAM SON 138

**Location:** Base Area 101, Hai Lang National Forest, LZ DOVE, LZ BUZZARD, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines; SLF ALPHA; 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 2/1 Marines 1/4 (-) Marines, BLT 1/3 Marines, two ARVN airborne bns. **Intelligence:** 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts. **Execution:** After displacing from the 1<sup>st</sup> Mar Div's TAOR to Quang Tri on 5 Oct, the 1<sup>st</sup> Marines began Operation MEDINA in the enemy's Base Area 101 located in the Hai Lang National Forest south of Quang Tri City. On 11 Oct, 1/1 and 2/1 combat-assaulted into LZ DOVE in the forest and swept in a northeasterly direction while BLT 1/3 from SLF ALPHA on Operation BASTION HILL blocked to the east and two ARVN airborne bns conducted Operation LAM SON 138 northeast of the MEDINA AO. On the night of 11 Oct, C/1/3 came under mortar and small arms fire followed by a ground assault. The company drove off the attackers and the fighting subsided. On 12 Oct, C/1/1 was attacked by three NVA companies and drove off the enemy force with the help from D/1/1. 40 enemy dead were counted around the Marines position, friendly casualties were 8 KIA and 39 WIA. After these two fights the enemy avoided further contact and MEDINA turned into a search for small groups of NVA in the nearly impenetrable forest. On 20 Oct, the 416<sup>th</sup> Bn of the 5<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, in an effort to elude the sweeping Marine units, attacked an ARVN airborne company in the LAM SON 138 AO. The airborne company held and, after reinforcements, killed 179 NVA in the day-long battle. The operation ended on 20 Oct with the SLF battalion transferring to the FREMONT AO. **Results:** 237 enemy killed, 26 detained, 34 US KIA, 225 US WIA, 18 ARVN KIA, 107 ARVN WIA.

## 12 Oct. 67-31 Jan. 69 **Operation:** MACARTHUR/BINH TAY

**Location:** Pleiku, Kontum, Ban Me Thuot, Dak To, Tan Canh, Ben Het, Plei Mrong, Suoi Doi, Polei Kleng, Duc Lap, Dak Poko, Dak Hodrai, Ngok Bor Beang, Ngok Kom Leat, Hill 724, Hill 823, Hill 875, Hill 882, Hill 889, Hill 990, Hill 1338, Hill 1416, AO SPAATZ, AO JULIAN, FSB 14, FSB 16, FSB 29, FSB BRILLO PAD, Route 512, Kontum, Pleiku, Phu Bon and Darlac Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div; 24<sup>th</sup> STZ. **Task organization** (effective 22 Oct 67): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, 1-10 Cav, 6-29 Art, C/3-6 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art (-), B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; TF 2-8: 2-8 Inf (M), B/1-69 Arm, Plt 2-1 Cav, A/4-42 Art, Plt 4<sup>th</sup> Eng; Div Troops: 1-69 Arm (-), 2-1 Cav (-), 5-16 Art, A/3-6 Art. **Task organization** (effective 2 Dec 67): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, 1-12 Inf (-), B/1-69 Arm, Plat 2-1 Cav, 6-29 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art (-), B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 173d Abn Bde: 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 1-12 Inf (-), E/17 Cav, 3-319 Art (-), 173d Eng Co; TF 22: 2-8 Inf (M), 1-10 Cav (-), 3-6 Art (-); Div Troops: 1-12 Cav, 1-69 Arm (-), 2-1 Cav (-), 7-17 Cav (-), 5-16 Art, A/3-6 Art. **Task organization** (effective 31 Jan 68): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 1-12 Inf, 3-12 Inf, B/1-69 Arm, 6-29 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf (Mech), 1-22 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 1-10 Cav, 4-42 Art, B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; TF POWERHOUSE: 1-503 Inf, A/3-319 Art, B/3-319 Art, Div Troops: 1-69 Arm (-), 2-1 Cav (-), 7-17 Cav (-), 5-16 Art, 3-6 Art. **Task organization** (effective 30 Apr 68): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, C/2-1 Cav, 6-29 Art 6-14 Art (-), A/5-16 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf (M)(-), 1-10 Cav (-), 4-42 Art (-), 3-6

Art (-), A/6-14 Art, B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, B/1-10 Cav, A/2-8 Inf (M), 2-9 Art, 1-92 Art (-), 5-16 Art (-), C/6-14 Art, C/5-22 Art, C/4-42 Art, C/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; Div Troops: 2-1 Cav (-), 7-17 Cav (-), A/5-22 Art. **Task organization** (effective 31 Jul 68): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, B/2-1 Cav, 6-29 Art, 5-16 Art (-), B/6-14 Art, A/1-92 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 2-35 Inf, B/1-10 Cav, A & D/7-17 Cav, 4-42 Art (-), B/2-9 Art, B/5-16 Art (-), C/1-92 Art, B/5-22 Art, B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf (M), 1-14 Inf, 1-10 Cav (-), 2-9 Art (-), 3-6 Art (-), 6-14 Art (-), B/1-92 Art, A/5-16 Art, C/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; Div Troops: 1-35 Inf, 2-1 Cav (-), 7-17 Cav (-), A/5-22 Art. **Task organization** (effective 31 Oct 68): 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, C/2-1 Cav, 6-29 Art (-), 5-16 Art (-), B/6-14 Art, A/1-92 Art, A/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 2d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (TF SPOILER): 1-12 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 1-10 Cav (-), 4-42 Art (-), B/2-9 Art, B/5-16 Art (-), C/1-92 Art, B/5-22 Art, B/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-8 Inf (M)(-), 3-8 Inf, 1-14 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 1-69 Arm (-), A & C/1-10 Cav, 2-9 Art (-), 3-6 Art (-), 6-14 Art (-), C/6-29 Art, C/4-42 Art, B/1-92 Art, A/5-16 Art, C/7-15 Art, D/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; Div Troops: C/2-8 Inf Inf (M), 2-1 Cav (-), 7-17 Cav (-), A/5-22 Art. **Intelligence:** B3 Front, 1<sup>st</sup> PAVN Div, 325C PAVN Div, 32<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Rgt (aka 320<sup>th</sup> Rgt), 33<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt, 66<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, 95B PAVN Rgt, 95C PAVN Rgt, 101D PAVN Rgt, 174<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, 209<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, 40<sup>th</sup> PAVN Art Rgt. **Execution:** On 12 Oct, Operations GREELEY and FRANCIS MARION were combined into Operation MACARTHUR, initially covering an AO encompassing Kontum, Pleiku and northern Darlac Province. The operation developed into seven different phases: the Battle of Dak To (25 Oct 67-1 Dec 67), Pre-Tet period (2 Dec 67-29 Jan 68), Tet Offensive (30 Jan 68-10 Feb 68), Post-Tet period (11 Feb 68-20 Mar 68), operations in the Polei Kleng – Dak To area (21 Mar 68-18 Jul 68), operations in the Ban Me Thuot – Duc Lap area (18 Jul 68-31 Oct 68) and Pacification (1 Nov 68-31 Jan 69). On 12 Oct, 2-503 Inf terminated Operation GREELEY and was replaced at Dak To by 2-8 Inf (M). In the later part of the month the 1<sup>st</sup> NVA Division was detected just opposite the tri-border region, indicating a strong enemy interest in the Dak To area. At that time, disposition of the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div's forces were as follows: the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde with two inf bns and one cav sqn was screening the Cambodian area in western Pleiku Province from New Plei Djereng to the Ia Drang River. The 2d Bde with three inf bns was in northern Darlac Province to block the suspected infiltration into that area of the 33<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt. A mechanized task force was located at Dak To to provide security for the Dak To complex and the other cav sqn and the tank bn were securing Routes 19E, 14N and 14S. On 28 Oct, decision was made to replace 2-8 Inf (M) at Dak To with 3-12 Inf. The 1<sup>st</sup> Bde headquarters deployed there on 29 Oct, followed the next day by 3-8 Inf. 3-12 Inf moved to the ridge line immediately south of Dak To on 1 Nov while 3-8 Inf was placed to the southwest. That same day, I FFORCEV made available a battalion of the 173d Abn Bde, 4-503 Inf, which closed Dak To on the evening of 1 Nov and was attached to the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde. On 2 Nov, a sergeant of the 66<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt turned himself in as a Hoi Chanh at the village of Dak Ri, declaring that the 66<sup>th</sup> Rgt was moving from the southwest towards Ben Het and the 32<sup>nd</sup> Rgt was moving towards Dak To to cover the attack by the 66<sup>th</sup>. He also revealed that the 174<sup>th</sup> Rgt which had been north of Dak Seang had moved down along the border to act as reinforcements and that the 24<sup>th</sup> Rgt was going to move down and hit the Dak To area from the northeast. The 40<sup>th</sup> PAVN Art Rgt was split to support the 24<sup>th</sup>, 32<sup>nd</sup> and 66<sup>th</sup> Rgts. All the intelligence the division had gathered indicated that what the hoi chanh had said was correct. The division followed through on the information and it was exactly the way it worked out in the entire operation. On 3 Nov, 4-503 Inf displaced to Ben Het where a new CIDG camp was being built and was directed to move out south. That day, the first contact of the Battle of Dak To occurred on the high ridge south of Dak To only 900 meters from the 22 June engagement between the 173d Abn Bde and

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the 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt<sup>72</sup>. Two companies from 3-12 Inf encountered a very strong NVA position, losing 4 KIA and killing 13 of the enemy before heavy supporting fires drove off the NVA. On 6 Nov, three companies of 4-503 Inf moving south of Ben Het made simultaneous contacts along the Ngok Kom Leat ridge. Concurrently, the remaining company (Co A) was air-assaulted on top of Hill 823 and quickly got itself surrounded by the enemy which had a large base camp on the hill. Battle raged into the night and part of the following morning. 104 NVA were killed and 16 US KIA. Also on 6 Nov, the rest of the 173d Abn Bde (less its 3-503 Inf left behind at Tuy Hoa to continue Operation BOLLING) was made available by I FFORCEV. The TAC CP and 1-503 Inf closed Dak To and moved to Ben Het. On 7 Nov, 2-503 Inf deployed to the area as well and set-up at the Old Dak To Airfield near Tan Canh. With the arrival of the Sky Soldiers, the battle area south of Route 512 was divided with the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde on the east and the 173d Abn Bde on the west. At the same time, 1-8 Inf was released from opcon 2d Bde and displaced from northern Darlac to Dak To and the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div opened a tactical command post there to provide better command and control. Also during this period, the 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Abn Bn was flown from Saigon and oriented itself to the northeast to work against the 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. The 24<sup>th</sup> ARVN STZ provided the 1/42 ARVN Bn to secure the area around the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde CP and the bridge west of Dak To and Trp A, 2-1 Cav and a company of 1-69 Arm secured Route 14 from Pleiku to Tan Canh. On 8 Nov, two companies of 3-8 Inf made heavy contact with up to two NVA battalions while in NDP on the Ngok Dorlang ridge 12 km south-southeast of Ben Het. The enemy penetrated the perimeter but was driven back with heavy casualties. In a sweep of the battle area the next day, 232 NVA bodies were counted. On 10 Nov, a third company was lifted into the area as 3-8 Inf moved toward Hill 724. The battalion was hit by another ground assault, losing 18 KIA, 118 WIA and killing an additional 94 NVA. On 11 Nov, the three companies consolidated on top of Hill 724 to lick their wounds. In the area to the southwest of Hill 823, 1-503 Inf replaced 4-503 Inf in the field and on 11 Nov made heavy contact near Hill 889 with the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Bns of the 66<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. 161 enemies were killed, 20 US KIA and 154 US WIA. To block the enemy's retreat, 2-503 Inf was combat-assaulted into FSB 16, 2 km south of Hill 882, the objective of 1-503 Inf, and began moving west, running into sporadic engagements. Additional forces were poured into the area with the arrival on 11 Nov of 1-12 Cav detached from the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div, followed on 18 Nov by 2-8 Cav. In the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde portion of the battle area, 3-12 Inf made a very heavy encounter on 12 Nov on Hill 1338, killing 49 NVA and losing 8. 1-8 Inf had arrived from Darlac on 10 Nov and on 12 Nov was combat-assaulted south of 3-8 Inf but made only light contact. The next day, the 3d ARVN Abn Bn arrived from Saigon to relieve the 9<sup>th</sup> and with 3/42 ARVN Inf Bn was employed northeast of Tan Canh against the 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, followed two days later by the 2d ARVN Abn Bn. On 15 Nov, Dak To received a heavy mortar attack that destroyed 1,100 tons of ammunition. On 18 Nov, 1-503 Inf clashed again with elts of the 66<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt on Hill 882, losing 6 KIA and 34 WIA but killing 51 NVA soldiers. At the same time, 2-503 Inf was pushing southwest with three companies and laagered that evening about 1 km north of Hill 875. The following morning, 19 Nov, Cos C & D moved out toward the hill but met heavy resistance halfway up the slope from the dug-in 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 174<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. Co A bringing up the rear was ordered to cut a one-ship LZ at the base of the hill to evacuate the wounded but was attacked and overrun by another battalion (the 3<sup>rd</sup>) from the 174<sup>th</sup> Rgt. Fighting its way out, what was left of Co A joined Cos C & D uphill and all three formed a single perimeter. Casualties were already heavy, between 30 and 40 killed, about a hundred wounded and several missing when a 500-pound bomb dropped from one of the supporting jets exploded in an ear-splitting airburst right in the center of the perimeter where the wounded were being assembled. The explosion killed 42 men and wounded another 45, rendering

the battalion combat-ineffective. As a result, 4-503 Inf was heli-coptered into FSB 16 and moved overland on 20 Nov to link up with 2-503 Inf and resume the attack up Hill 875 but little progress was made. On 20 Nov, 1-12 Inf was moved up from Darlac Province after I FFORCEV had secured 4-39 Inf from the 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div to replace it and two companies were placed under opcon of the 173d Abn Bde to help capture Hill 875. Back at Dak To, the arrival of 2-8 Cav allowed its sister battalion, 1-12 Cav, to be combat-assaulted into the Dak Hodrai Valley south of the battle area but no enemy was found. Meanwhile, 2-8 Cav moved into the hills east of Tan Canh and encountered strong enemy defenses, killing 22 in six days of fighting. Northeast of Dak To, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Abn Bn and 3/42 ARVN Inf Bn assaulted Hill 1416, later reinforced with the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Abn Bn. 247 NVA were killed during the two days of fighting while RVN forces lost 49 KIA. On 22 Nov, 4-503 Inf and the two companies from 1-12 Inf tested the defense of Hill 875 again and found it was still strongly occupied. Instead of risking further casualties, both units pulled back and massive air and artillery support were employed. On 23 Nov, 4-503 Inf and 1-12 Inf again climbed the slopes of Hill 875, meeting only light resistance, and secured it. The 173d Abn Div suffered 113 KIA in four days of fighting, mostly from 2-503 Inf, while 322 NVA bodies were counted in the battle area. On 22 Nov, reacting to intelligence that the 4<sup>th</sup> Bn, 95B PAVN Rgt was moving into the Plei Mrong – Kontum area, 1-12 Cav was combat assaulted on the reported location but no contact was made. As contact diminished in the Dak To area, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div and 2-8 Cav were withdrawn on 25 Nov and airlifted back to Bong Son. The last significant contacts of the battle were made by ARVN troops. The 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Abn Bn and 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn had arrived at Dak To and moved to the northwest, making contact on 25 Nov and killing 31. To the northeast, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Abn Bns continued to clash with elts of the 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt, killing 109 before losing contact with the retreating enemy. The last action occurred on 1 Dec when twenty-two 122mm rockets landed on Ben Het, killing one and wounding nine. The total enemy killed by FVMAF during the Battle of Dak To was 1,644 by bodycount, and 22 captured. US forces had 290 KIA and RVN forces had 73 KIA. The month of December was relatively quiet in the MACARTHUR AO, the enemy avoiding any major contact in preparation for its Tet Offensive. On 11 Dec, 1-12 Inf conducted an overland movement to Plei Mrong and came under opcon of the 2d Bde. That same day, 4-39 Inf completed airlift from Ban Me Thuot East back to Bearcat and was replaced by TF WAINWRIGHT built around 1-22 Inf and A/4-42 Art. On 14 Dec, the 173d Abn Bde and 4-503 Inf departed Dak To for Tuy Hoa, leaving behind TF POWERHOUSE (1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, A/3-319 Art, B/3-319 Art) at Camp Enari. On 10 Jan 68, enemy sappers breached the Kontum Airfield perimeter, destroying seven UH-1H helicopters. 7 US were KIA and 21 WIA. The next day, A/7-17 Cav made contact with an enemy company 17 km northwest of Polei, Kleng, killing 14. On 20 Jan, Cos A and C, 3-12 Inf made contact with an estimated NVA battalion 4 km north of Ben Het, killing 21 while losing 26 WIA and 5 MIA. On 21 Jan, TF WAINWRIGHT displaced to Ban Me Thuot East Airfield and returned to Camp Enari. In the early morning hours of 30 Jan, in violation of the declared Tet truce the enemy attacked key population centers throughout the MACARTHUR AO. Ban Me Thuot was attacked by the 33<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Rgt and the E301 PLAF LF Bn. By noon, the 23d ARVN Div with its 45<sup>th</sup> Rgt and the 8<sup>th</sup> ACS were all in heavy contact. On 1 Feb, the 23d Rgr Bn was deployed to the city, followed the next day by 2-503 Inf from Pleiku. Final search and clear operations were completed on 6 Feb. 919 enemies had been killed and 23 captured. Pleiku was attacked by the H15 LF Bn, the 40<sup>th</sup> Sapper Bn and four local companies. Co A, 1-69 Arm and the 4<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn assisted the 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn and 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN ACS in clearing the city until 4 Feb, killing 632 enemy soldiers and capturing 182. Kontum was struck by the whole 24<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt assisted by the 304<sup>th</sup> LF Bn and 406<sup>th</sup> Sapper Bn. 1-22 Inf, D/7-17 Cav and C/1-69 Arm joined elements of the 24<sup>th</sup> STZ and cleared the city by 4 Feb. 1,039 enemies

72 See Operation GREELEY.

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had been killed and 20 captured. Following Tet, enemy forces avoided contact and withdrew from populated areas. The 66<sup>th</sup> and 174<sup>th</sup> Rgts retreated from the Dak To area to BA 609, the 24<sup>th</sup> Rgt moved to the northeast of Kontum City and the 33<sup>rd</sup> Rgt exfiltrated to Cambodia. On 8 Feb, TF POWERHOUSE with 2-503 Inf and 2-1 Cav moved to Suoi Doi and began operations in AO JULIAN south of the town with negative contact. On 9 Feb, C/1-8 Inf was attacked by a company size enemy force 4 km north of Dak To. Results were 20 enemy killed, 2 US KIA and 25 US WIA. On 15 Feb, TF POWERHOUSE with 2-503 Inf displaced to New Pleiku Airfield and moved via air to Ban Me Thuot East to join 1-503 Inf and began search and destroy operation south of the town but found no enemy. On 24 Feb, 1-503 Inf moved via air to Kontum City by direction of I FFORCEV due to heavy contacts the 1-22 Inf had been having, joined a few days later by the rest of TF 173d Abn Bde (-). On 26 Feb, Cos A and B of the 3-12 Inf conducted a combat assault 4 km northwest of Ben Het and made contact with an unknown size enemy force. Results were 21 enemy killed, 1 US KIA and 9 US WIA. The following day, both companies were attacked by an estimated enemy battalion. The contact lasted all day. Results were 49 enemy killed, 2 US KIA and 15 US WIA. Still on 27 Feb, 2-503 Inf began movement to An Khe to exchanges places with 3-503 Inf as the Camp Radcliff Quick Strike battalion. During March, TF 173d Abn Bde (-) with 1-503 Inf, 3-503 Inf, TF 1-22 Inf, E/17 Cav and A&B/3-319 Art continued operations west of Kontum with moderate contacts. In the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div sector, 1-12 Inf moved to the Ban Me Thuot area in the first weeks of March but made little contacts. Action picked up late in the month as the 1<sup>st</sup> PAVN Div infiltrated again from BA 609 to a position west and south of Polei Kleng. On 20 Mar, Cos A and D, 3-8 Inf conducted a combat assault to establish FSB 14 for Bty C, 6-29 Art, 8 km west of Polei Kleng. On 26 Mar, two battalions from the newly infiltrated 209<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt launched a heavy assault against FSB 14 and were repulsed. Results were 135 enemy killed, 4 captured, 19 US KIA and 53 US WIA. On 30 Mar, the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div arrived at Kontum City, replacing TF 173d Abn Bde (-) which in turn departed for Bong Son. Contacts remained moderate during April after the drive of the 1<sup>st</sup> PAVN Div on Kontum had been stopped by the ring of 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div FSBs west of the city. TF 1-12 Inf returned from Ban Me Thuot during this period. By the end of the month, the 325C PAVN Div had arrived from Khe Sanh with the 95C and 101D Rgts and prepared to launch an offensive to take Ben Het and Dak To while the 2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div had moved from Danang into the Laos border area north of Dak Pek for an attack on the SF camp. On 29 Apr, 1-14 Inf was attacked by an estimated NVA battalion on a ridge overlooking the Plei Trap Valley 23 km west-southwest of Polei Kleng. Results were 46 enemy killed, 2 US KIA and 20 US WIA. On 9 May, the 325C launched its offensive to overrun the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div and seize Dak To. A Camp Strike Force company was overrun on Hill 990 just west of Ben Het. On 10 May, Cos C and D, 3-8 Inf were attacked by an estimated enemy battalion 4 km north of Ben Het. Results were 47 enemy killed, 6 captured, 3 US KIA and 12 US WIA. To counter the enemy threat, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div initiated Operation MATHEWS with its 1<sup>st</sup> Bde and the 3d Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div airlifted from III CTZ<sup>73</sup>. On 25 May, C/2-1 Cav made contact with an enemy company on Route 512, killing 50. That same day, FSB 29 defended by A and C Cos, 1-8 Inf was attacked by an estimated enemy battalion. Results were 129 enemy killed, 2 captured, 14 US KIA, 56 US WIA and 2 US MIA. Also on 25 May, FSB BRILLO PAD near Polei Kleng and occupied by elts of 1-12 Inf received over 250 rounds of mortar and RR fire. 4 US were KIA and 34 WIA. On 30 May, D/3-12 Inf received a ground attack on Hill 990. results were 43 enemy killed, 1 captured, 7 US KIA and 10 US WIA. Ground action diminished during June as the enemy disengaged from the Ben Het area in early June and from the Dak Pek and Polei Kleng areas later in the month. As a result, Operation MATHEWS was terminated on 12 Jun and the 3d Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div returned to III CTZ. Offensive opera-

tions were expanded northeast of Kontum City, the Dak Payou Valley, and into both the Se San and Ia Drang Valleys of Pleiku Province but the enemy appeared to have completely withdrawn its main forces. On 15 Jul, Operation MACARTHUR was renamed Operation MACARTHUR/BINH TAY in keeping with the practice of conducting combined operations with ARVN and territorial units wherever possible. In the later part of July, an increasing enemy threat against Darlac Province became evident and the 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div was directed to expand its operations to include a brigade AO centered around Ban Me Thuot. This was established by 22 Jul when the 2d Bde was deployed with 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 2-35 Inf and A/7-17 Cav but while there were increasing indications of a large enemy buildup by the 1<sup>st</sup> PAVN Division, no decisive contact was established. By the middle of August, the enemy was conducting his final reconnaissance of the city, with the 66<sup>th</sup> Rgt north of the city, the 320<sup>th</sup> Rgt to the west, and the 95C to the south. With the arrival of 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div units in the Ban Me Thuot area, however, the enemy was forced to switch his objective, and he redeployed the 320<sup>th</sup> and 95C Rgts to Duc Lap. On 23 Aug, the Duc Lap CIDG Camp and the sub-sector headquarters were attacked by an estimated PAVN regiment. The 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Division and II MIKE Force launched a major operation to relieve the besieged camp which lasted until 9 Sep<sup>74</sup>. 2d Bde units, forming Task Force SPOILER and augmented with 4-503 Inf from the BOLLING AO, were inserted into the area to provide artillery support for the camp but did not participate in any major ground actions. During the month of September, contacts throughout Darlac Province were usually limited to small local forces elements after the 1<sup>st</sup> PAVN Div had retreated across the border into BA 740. The decrease in enemy activity continued in October, and 4-503 Inf returned to the coast on 14 Oct. On 29 Oct, 1-22 Inf was replaced at Duc Lap by 2-35 Inf and subsequently returned to Camp Enari while 1-12 Inf operated in the Mewal Plantation area. At the beginning of November, TF SPOILER was disbanded and 2d Bde elements returned to Pleiku and Kontum, leaving behind only 2-35 Inf. In the rest of the MACARTHUR AO, enemy actions were limited to stand-off attacks for the remainder of 1968, with 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div units participating in the Accelerated Pacification program launched by the GVN. Offensive operations continued in the Plei Trap, Ia Drang and Dak Payou Valleys, but with limited contacts. **Results:** 5,731 enemy killed, 1,707 detained, 955 US KIA, 4,437 US WIA, 7 US MIA.

**13-18 Oct. Operation: INTOSH JOYCE 29**

**Location:** Long Khanh Province. **Execution:** (no other info).

**15-17 Oct. Operation: ONSLOW**

**Location:** Hoi An, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines, 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Execution:** The purpose of ONSLOW was to deter an attack by enemy forces on the city of Hoi An during the pre-election and election period, but contact was insignificant. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 detained, 9 US WIA.

**15 Oct.-16 Nov. Operation: BLACKJACK 22A/BOUDINOT**

**Location:** Trang Phuc, Darlac Province. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** 27<sup>th</sup> MSF Co. **Execution:** Operation BOUDINOT took place in north-west Darlac Province with little contact but was successful in capturing large quantities of enemy supplies. **Results:** 14 enemy killed, 2 captured, 1 USSF KIA, 1 USSF WIA, 2 CIDG WIA.

**17 Oct.** Australia and New Zealand announce troop increases for RVN from 6,300 to 8,000 and 376 to 546, respectively.

**17 Oct.** Hanoi Radio reports that the NLF has formed a new organization designed to spur antiwar sentiment in the United States.

**17-20 Oct. Operation: DON CHED**

**Location:** Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-39 Inf, RTAVR. **Execution:** This was the second shake down operation for the newly arrived RTAVR. **Results:** (no info).

73 See Operation MATHEWS in VCO 1968.

74 See Operation TIEN BO in VCO 1968.



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**17-24 Oct. Operation: FORMATION LEADER<sup>75</sup>**

**Location:** Phu Loc, Vinh Loc, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** BLT 2/3 Marines, . **Execution:** BLT 2/3 conducted this area control operation to stabilize coastal Thua Thien Province east of Route 1 in Phu Loc and Vinh Loc Districts during the RVN National Assembly elections, but contact was negative. **Results:** none.

**20 Oct. Operation: BINH DINH 189**

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Binh Dinh Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted 13 km north of Qui Nhon by Binh Dinh Sector forces supported by Coastal Group 22. **Results:** 20 enemy detained.

**20-23 Oct. Operation: VALDOSTA II**

**Location:** Route 20, Long Khanh Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 3/11 ACR. **Execution:** VALDOSTA II was designed to prevent the VC attempts to disrupts the RVN National Assembly elections on 23 Oct by positioning reaction forces throughout the central portion of Long Khanh Province. **Results:** (no info).

**20 Oct.-67-20 Jan.68 Operation: OSCEOLA**

**Location:** Base Area 101, Hai Lang National Forest, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 2/1 Marines. **Intelligence:** 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgts. **Execution:** OSCEOLA was a follow-up to Operation MEDINA and was a systematic search of the Hai Lang Forest, aka Base Area 101. There were numerous small unit sightings and contacts but no major engagement developed. **Results:** 76 enemy killed, 4 captured, 17 US KIA, 199 US WIA.

**20 Oct.-67-7 Apr.68 Operation: NARASUAN**

**Location:** Nhon Trach District, Route 15, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** RTAVR. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** The RTAVR conducted extensive reconnaissance-in-force, saturation patrolling, riverine, airmobile and roadrunner operations to help pacify the Nhon Trach District in coordination with RVN forces. On 20 Dec, elts from the 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt attacked the 1<sup>st</sup> Co, RTAVR in NDP 12 km south of Long Thanh. Contact lasted all night until 0645 when the enemy withdrew. Results were 66 enemy killed, 6 RTA KIA and 13 RTA WIA. Contact for the remainder of NARASUAN was limited to infrequent squad/platoon size encounters. **Results:** 158 enemy killed, 5 captured, 28 RTA KIA, 99 RTA WIA, 9 US WIA.

**21-29 Oct. Operation: CORONADO VII/CORONADO VIII**

**Location:** Soi Rap, Vam Co and Thi Vai Rivers, Can Giuoc District, Nhon Trach District, Long An and Bien Hoa Provinces, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF). **Task organization:** 4-47 Inf, 3-60 Inf, 3-34 Art, D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117. **Execution:** On 20 Oct, the MRF moved to the juncture of the Soi Rap and Vam Co Rivers and began CORONADO VII in southeastern Can Giuoc District of Long An Province to secure the waterways while RVN National Assembly elections were being held. On 24 Oct, the brigade shifted its AO to southern Bien Hoa Province to conduct CORONADO VIII in coordination with the RTAVR and 3-5 Cav to locate and destroy supply caches along the Thi Vai River. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 11 detained, 8 US WIA.

**22 Oct.** A total of 72.9 percent of registered voters turn out for Lower House elections.

**22 Oct.-8 Nov. Operation: SONG THAN/702/67**

**Location:** Hoc Mon, Tan Binh and Binh Chau Districts, Capital Military District, Gia Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMCM TF ALPHA. **Task organization:** 4<sup>th</sup> VNMCM Bn, 5<sup>th</sup> VNMCM Bn, 6<sup>th</sup> VNMCM Bn, B/VNMCM Art Bn. **Execution:** TF ALPHA provided area and road security in the Capital Military District with light contact. **Results:** (no info).

**23 Oct.** First C-130 lands at Quang Tri Airfield, eight days ahead of scheduled operational date.

**24 Oct.** USAF, USN and USMC jets, in a coordinated raid, bomb Phu Yen Airfield, the control center for enemy air defense, 40 km northwest of Hanoi, for the first time in the war. Ten MIG aircraft destroyed – nine on the ground and one in the air – and one other probable kill listed in addition to extensive damage to the air complex.

**24 Oct.** General Thieu signs decree calling for partial mobilization of the nation's human and national resources.

**24 Oct. Operation: AN DAN**

**Location:** Vam Co Dong, Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 50<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt, two RF Cos, RAG 24. **Intelligence:** 506<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** operation conducted along the Vam Co Dong 31 km southwest of Saigon. **Results:** 20 enemy killed, 6 captured, 2 ARVN WIA, 1 USN WIA.

**24-28 Oct. Operation: NINH HOA 1**

**Location:** Ninh Hoa, Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 29<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt. **Execution:** (no other info).

**24 Oct.-4 Nov. Operation: KNOX**

**Location:** Phu Loc, Hai Van Pass, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/7 Marines, BLT 2/3 Marines. **Execution:** On 24 Oct, BLT 2/3 from SLF BRAVO shifted to the operational control of the 7<sup>th</sup> Marines and moved by truck to a new assembly 11 km east of Phu Loc. There, it began sweep operations in coordination with 2/7 Marines moving north via the Hai Van Pass. Contact was insignificant. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 7 captured, 2 US KIA, 15 US WIA.

**25 Oct.** Resolution 14 is passed by the Central Committee of the Lao Dong (Worker's) Party in Hanoi, ordering a "general offensive – general, uprising".

**25 Oct.** Prime Minister Ky signs implementing order for conscription of men between ages of 18 and 33.

**25 Oct.-4 Nov. Operation: GRANITE/LAM SON 140**

**Location:** Base Area 114, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/4 Marines, BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** Operation GRANITE was conducted in conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div's Operation LAM SON 140 along the border of Quang Tri and Thua Thien Province in the enemy's Base Area 114, east of Camp Evans and south of the OSCEOLA AO. On 27 Oct, 1/4 made contact with an estimated enemy company, killing 13. **Results:** 34 enemy killed, 25 US KIA, 88 US WIA.

**26-28 Oct. Operation: SONG THAN/804/67**

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMCM TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> VNMCM Bn, 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMCM Bn, C/VNMCM Art Bn. **Execution:** Sub-operation of SONG THAN 14, conducted in coordination with the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div's Operation PERSHING. **Results:** (no info).

**27-28 Oct. Operation: LONG PHI/9/135**

**Location:** Vung Liem, Cai Hap, Song Co Chien, Vinh Long and Vinh Binh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Division. **Execution:** operation conducted in the Cai Hap canal complex southwest of Vung Liem with support from RAGs 21 and 33. **Results:** 40 enemy killed, 9 captured, 9 detained.

**27 Oct.-67-5 Jan. 68 Operation: SANTA FE I**

**Location:** Gia Ray, Ham Tan, May Tao Secret Zone, Nui Be, Route 1, Route 23, Route 332; Long Khanh and Binh Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div; 1ATF, 18<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (3 Nov-5 Jan): 2-39 Inf, 2-47 Inf (M); 1ATE (27 Oct-18 Nov): 7RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 3-5 Cav, 4 Fld Rgt, A/2-35 Art, A/1-83 Art, 1 SAS Sqn; 18<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div (27 Oct-5 Jan): 43<sup>rd</sup> Rgt. **Intelligence:** 274<sup>th</sup> PLAF Rgt. **Execution:** Operation SANTA FE I was initiated to clear, upgrade and open Route 1 from Gia Ray to the II/III CTZ boundary and Route 23 from the junction with Route 1 to Ham Tan, and to conduct search and destroy operations in the May Tao Secret Zone. Contact during SANTE FE I was light and sporadic but the May Tao sanctu-

<sup>75</sup> Renamed LIBERTY II on 18 Oct.

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ary was neutralized and 8,000 acres of jungle were cleared.

**Results:** 126 enemy killed, 2 US KIA, 1 ARVN KIA, 3 AUS KIA, 13 US WIA, 13 ARVN WIA, 9 AUS WIA.

**29 Oct.** RTG announced its forces in RVN will be boosted by a full Army brigade to 12,000.

**29 Oct.** First NVN firing of SAMs at B52s (near DMZ).

**30 Oct.** Vice President Humphrey arrives in RVN for presidential inauguration and tour of the country.

**30 Oct.-7 Nov. Operation: DO HAE DI 3**

**Location:** Tan My, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy.

**Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 28<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt. **Execution:** (no other info).

**30-31 Oct. Operation: CUU LONG 178**

**Location:** Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 75 enemy killed, 54 detained, 2 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA.

**30-31 Oct. Operation: DONG TAM 16**

**Location:** Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** RSSZ. **Task organization:** 908<sup>th</sup> and 999<sup>th</sup> RF Cos, RAG 22. **Execution:** operation conducted north of the Long Tau Shipping Channel in the Rung Sat Special Zone to locate and destroy the D-1 LF Co. **Results:** 11 enemy killed, 1 captured, no friendly casualties.

**31 Oct.** Newly elected President Thieu and Vice President Ky are inaugurated. The Directorate is dissolved. The new Lower House is installed and the Constituent Assembly passes out of existence. President Thieu appoints Nguyen Van Loc as Prime Minister.

**31 Oct.** Enemy forces mortar Presidential Palace in Saigon with four rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Results are 1 enemy killed, 1 VN killed and 2 wounded.

## NOVEMBER

**1 Nov.** US military strength in RVN is 487,000.

**1 Nov.** As the results of the efforts of the US Naval Advisory Group, four Vietnamese Navy Fleet Command ships relieved US units in four coastal patrol areas in the most significant integration of the VNN into Operation MARKET TIME to date.

**1 Nov. 67-18 Jan. 68 Operation: CORONADO IX**

**Location:** My Tho, Dong Tam, Sa Dec, Vinh Long, Cai Lay, Cai Be, An Quoi, Ap Bac SZ, Ban Long SZ, Cam Son SZ, Tien Giang, Song My Tho, Kinh Xang, Rach Luong, Base Area 470, Base Area 471, Route 4, Long Dinh District, Ham Luong District, Don Nhon District, Binh Phuoc District, Dinh Tuong, Sa Dec, Vinh Long, Kien Hoa, Long An and Kien Phong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (MRF).

**Task organization:** 3-47 Inf, 4-47 Inf, 3-60 Inf, 3-34 Art, D/15<sup>th</sup> Eng, USN TF 117; 5<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bn. **Intelligence:** 261<sup>st</sup>, 263<sup>rd</sup> PLAF MF Bns, 502<sup>nd</sup>, 514<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bns. **Execution:** In late October, the MRF relocated its anchorage from Vung Tau to Dong Tam to begin a series of operations into the VC redoubts and sanctuaries of Dinh Tuong Province. During this initial period, 3-60 Inf debarked and assumed the TF FUNSTON mission for Dong Tam base and was replaced aboard MRF ships by 3-47 Inf. While the switch was taking place, 4-47 Inf initiated a one-day operation on 2 Nov into the southeast sector of Giao Duc District in western Dinh Tuong. Contact was negative but 141 bunkers were destroyed. On 5-6 Nov, both battalions conducted a search of the Cam Son Secret Zone north of the My Tho River but there was no contact. The operation concluded with helicopter insertions into the adjacent Ban Long area, but again no contact was made. On 6 Nov, the 5<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bn arrived at a shore camp near My Tho and joined the MRF as its third maneuver element. On 9 Nov, the MRF returned to the Cam Son with 3-47 Inf and the 5<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bn conducting beach assaults while 4-47 Inf was combat assaulted from Dong Tam. The following day, activities shifted to the Ban Long and Ap Bac Secret Zones but no engagement developed and all elements returned to their bases. On 14 Nov, 4-47 Inf and the 5<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bn conducted saturation patrols in Dinh Tuong Province to provide security for Route 4. On 18 Nov, the MRF displaced to Sa Dec and swept BA 470 in western Dinh Tuong Province, killing 34 enemy, half of them with helicopter gunships. After returning to Dong Tam, the MRF swept the Cam Son Secret Zone again on 23 Nov following a B-52 strike but no contact occurred. In the final days of November, the MRF cleared the Kinh Xang Canal from Dong Tam on the My Tho to the northern sector of the Ap Bac Secret Zone, cutting VC escape routes into the Plain of Reeds and increasing security for Dong Tam. On 4 Dec, the MRF returned to Sa Dec and reentered Base Area 470 on the Dinh Tuong/Kien Phong border. The following day, heavy contact was made when the 502<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Bn was taken by surprise in one of its fortified base along the Rach Luong. Contact lasted all afternoon and into the morning of 5 Nov when the enemy broke contact. 266 bodies were counted in the battle area. From 6-11 Dec, the MRF relocated to Vinh Long and conducted operations in southern Cai Be District with light contact. The Cam Son Secret Zone was swept again during the period 14-16 Dec but no contact was made. On 17 Dec, the MRF returned to Dong Tam and 3-60 Inf replaced 4-47 Inf as an MRF component on 18 Dec. From 19-22 Dec, the MRF operated along the Kinh Xang Canal again and established numerous ambush sites to preempt attacks by fire on Dong Tam. During the Christmas truce, the MRF conducted interdiction and saturation patrols with 3-47 Inf operating in Long Dinh District and 3-60 Inf operating in Kien Hoa Province. On 28 Dec, 3-60 Inf was inserted 11 km west of Dong Tam and swept toward Cai Be while 4-47 Inf conducted beach assaults in north and west Ham Luong District in Kien Hoa Province. On 30 Dec, 4-47 Inf was extracted from its AO and joined 3-60 Inf in continued search and destroy operations in Cai Be and Cai Lay Districts but contact was light and both units

### Arrival:

3 Oct.	135 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
8 Oct.	245 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
	9 <sup>th</sup> Sup Bn
17 Oct.	C/2-26 Art (TA)
20 Oct.	203d Avn Co
21 Oct.	HQ 198 <sup>th</sup> Light Inf Bde
	11 <sup>th</sup> ROK Avn Co
22 Oct.	1-6 Inf
	1-46 Inf
	3-503 Inf
	H/17 Cav
	326 <sup>th</sup> Med Bn
23 Oct.	1-14 Art
	156 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co
	635 <sup>th</sup> MI Co
24 Oct.	57 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
	NMCB 128
25 Oct.	3-506 Inf
	25 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
	324 <sup>th</sup> Signal Co
	14 <sup>th</sup> ACS
26 Oct.	201 <sup>st</sup> Avn Co
28 Oct.	HQ 108 <sup>th</sup> Art Grp
	7-17 Cav
29 Oct.	304 <sup>th</sup> S&S Co
	549 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co
	HMM-364
30 Oct.	3/17 Cav
	192d Avn Co
	243d Avn Co
	HMM-163
31 Oct.	555 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co

### Departure:

20 Oct.	972d Signal Bn
	344 <sup>th</sup> Trans Co
31 Oct.	HMM-263 <sup>76</sup>

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closed on Dong Tam on 2 Jan 68. On 5 Jan, both battalions conducted a search and rescue mission for a light observation aircraft that had been downed near Long Dinh. The next mission (7-8 Dec) was a search of the Don Nhon District in Vinh Long Province. 3-60 Inf made contact with an estimated two VC platoons, killing 28. From 9-11 Jan, the MRF returned to the Cai Be District and made heavy contact on a hot LZ with elts of the 261<sup>st</sup> PLAF Bn, killing 47 by bodycount while suffering 18 KIA and 50 WIA. On 12-13 Jan, the MRF conducted operations along the Cho Gao Canal in eastern Binh Phuoc District in Long An Province in coordination with the 3d Bde, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, but no contact was made. The final operation of CORONADO IX was a cordon-and-search of An Quoi by 3-47 Inf but no VC was found. **Results:** 448 enemy killed, 31 captured, 18 US KIA, 260 US WIA.

### **1 Nov.-20 Jan. 68** **Operation:** LANCASTER I

**Location:** Ca Lu, the Rockpile, Camp Carroll, Route 9, DMZ, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Marines. **Task organization:** 3/3 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines. **Intelligence:** 324B PAVN Division. **Execution:** On 1 Nov the western portion of the KINGFISHER TAOR came under the control of the 3d Marines with Operation LANCASTER. Contact in November and December was insignificant. On 13 Jan 68, I/3/9 escorting an engineer convoy was ambushed while en route from the Rockpile to Ca Lu. Results were 14 enemy killed, 1 captured, 19 US KIA and 77 US WIA. On 20 Jan, responsibility of the LANCASTER AO was transferred to the 4<sup>th</sup> Marines at Camp Carroll<sup>77</sup>. **Results:** 46 enemy killed, 8 captured, 27 US KIA, 141 US WIA.

### **1 Nov.-20 Jan.68** **Operation:** NEOSHO

**Location:** Camp Evans, Co Bi-Thanh Tan Valley, Song Bo, Street Without Joy, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 3/26 Marines. **Intelligence:** 6<sup>th</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** The 4<sup>th</sup> Marines commenced Operation NEOSHO with 1/4 and 3/26 to provide security for Camp Evans and to conduct extensive patrolling and small unit search and destroy missions in the AO. 1/4 operated along the Song Bo while 3/26 searched the Co Bi-Thanh Tan Valley but contact was light. On 19 Nov, 1/9 replaced 1/4 Marines and on 13 Dec, 3/26 Marines left the NEOSHO area and was airlifted to Khe Sanh to join its parent regiment. Operations continued in the Co Bi-Thanh Tan Valley and Street Without Joy areas in conjunction with ARVN forces and SLF BRAVO but with no major engagements. NEOSHO terminated on 20 Jan when the 4<sup>th</sup> Marines redeployed to Camp Carroll. **Results:** 77 enemy killed, 17 captured, 12 US KIA, 99 US WIA.

### **1 Nov.67-28 Feb.68** **Operation:** NAPOLEON

**Location:** Cua Viet, C-4, DMZ, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Amph Tractor Bn. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Amtrac Bn, C/1/3 Marines, F/2/4 Marines. **Execution:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Amtrac Bn, acting in an infantry role, and with an infantry company under operational control, conducted Operation NAPOLEON to protect the Cua Viet Port Facility and to support DYEMARKER projects into their area. On 11 Dec, F/2/4 and D/1<sup>st</sup> Amtrac Bn made heavy contact 4 km north of the Cua Viet. Results were 54 enemy killed and 20 US WIA. On 16 Dec, F/2/4 was replaced by C/1/3. On that day, SLF BRAVO conducted a three-day amphibious operation in the vicinity of C-4. On 20 Jan 68, C/1/3 contacted an unknown size enemy force north of C-4, killing 23 while losing 3 KIA and 23 WIA. On 27 Jan, control of BLT 3/1 from SLF BRAVO which had been conducting Operation BADGER CATCH<sup>78</sup> in the area, was passed to the 1<sup>st</sup> Amtrac Bn. BLT 3/1 then commenced Operation SALINE west of the Cua Viet in the Lam Xuan-My Loc area. Contact in the NAPOLEON AO was light in February and the operations was discontinued and combined with Operation SALINE on 29 Feb<sup>79</sup>. **Results:** 251 enemy killed, 68 detained, 3 captured,

30 US KIA, 231 US WIA.

### **1 Nov.-31 Mar.68** **Operation:** SCOTLAND

**Location:** Khe Sanh, Lang Vei, Hill 861, Hill 881N, Hill 881S, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 26<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/9 Marines, 1/26 Marines, 2/26 Marines, 3/26 Marines, 1/13 Marines, 37<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn. **Intelligence:** 304 and 325C PAVN Divs. **Execution:** On 1 Nov, Operation ARMORE was replaced with Operation SCOTLAND in the same general area under control of the 26<sup>th</sup> Marines with a single battalion assigned (1/26). Contact with the enemy was non-existent during November. On 13 Dec, intelligence reports indicated increased enemy activity in the Khe Sanh area and 3/36 was airlifted there but contact remained moderate. The buildup of enemy forces noted the previous month continued to increase however. In order to reinforce the 26<sup>th</sup> Marines, 2/26 was deployed to Khe Sanh on 17 Jan 68, followed by 1/9 on 23 Jan. On 27 Jan, the 37<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn was also deployed there. During the first part of the month there were numerous sighting and contacts, increasing in size and intensity each day. On 20 Jan, I/3/26 patrolling from Hill 881S to Hill 881N made heavy contact with an unknown size enemy force. Results were 60 enemy killed, 2 US KIA and 29 US WIA. On 21 Jan, the Khe Sanh Combat Base and Hill 881S and 861 came under heavy mortar and rocket attack. Concurrently, the Huong Hoa District Headquarters and CAC OSCAR in the village of Khe Sanh were attacked by an estimated NVA battalion. On 22 Jan, friendly forces in the Khe Sanh village withdrew to the Combat Base. The civilians in the area also fled to the base and during the next two days several thousands were airlifted to Quang Tri. On 24 Jan, a heavy artillery attack was received throughout the Khe Sanh Combat Base and Hill 881S and 861, 7 US were KIA and 62 WIA. The next day, F/2/26 engaged an unknown size enemy force in concealed positions, killing 17. Heavy enemy mortar, rockets and artillery fire was continual from 20-31 Jan when NVA forces unsuccessfully tried to take Khe Sanh area. On 5 Feb, E/2/26 on Hill 861A came under heavy attack from the north. Some enemy penetrated the defensive wire but were repulsed, 109 enemy bodies were counted. On the morning of 7 Feb, the Lang Vei CIDG Camp was overrun by NVA using tanks. Relief elts of USSF personnel from Khe Sanh were unable to effect relief due to heavy enemy opposition on Route 9. During the afternoon, the survivors of the camp were extracted by helicopter and brought to KSCB. The following day, A/1/9 came under heavy ground attack, 21 US were KIA but 124 enemy were killed in the fighting. Throughout the month of February, the base was continually subjected to attacks by fire with 1,367 rounds hitting Khe Sanh on 23 Feb alone. During March, the enemy did not launch any large scale attacks but the east end of the KSCB defended by the 37<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn was probed repeatedly. On 6 Mar, a USAF C-123 was downed by enemy ground fire while approaching the combat base and crashed without survivors. On 24 Mar, A/1/9 made contact with an estimated two enemy platoons 3 km east of the base, killing 31. On 30 Mar, B/1/26 made contact with an estimated battalion occupying a well organized trench and bunker system. B/1/26 assaulted the position and drove the enemy off. Results were 115 enemy killed, 9 US KIA, 63 US WIA and 6 US MIA. On 30 Mar, Operation SCOTLAND was terminated with all units joining Operation PEGASUS. **Results:** 1,602 enemy killed, 9 captured, 205 US KIA, 1,668 US WIA, 21 US MIA.

### **1 Nov.67-28 Feb.69** **Operation:** KENTUCKY

**Location:** Gio Linh, Con Thien, Cam Lo, Dong Ha, Mai Loc, Phu Tho, Cam Vu, Ha Loi Trung, Vinh Dai, Xuan Khanh, A-2, A-3, C-2, C-3, Khe Chua Valley, Leatherneck Square, DMZ, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Marines (1 Nov 67-15 Jul 68); 1<sup>st</sup> Marines (15 Jul-26 Aug 68); 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 5<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (M)(26 Aug-1 Nov 68); 3d Marines (1 Nov-9 Dec 68); TF BRAVO (9 Dec 68-18 Feb 69); 3d Marines (18-28 Feb 69). **Task organization**<sup>80</sup>: 1/1 Marines, 2/1 Mar-

77 See Operation LANCASTER II in VCO 1968.

78 See Operation BADGER CATCH in VCO 1968.

79 See Operation NAPOLEON/SALINE in VCO 1968.

80 Participated on a rotation basis, exact dates unknown.



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ines, 2/3 Marines, 3/3 Marines, 1/4 Marines, 3/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 2/26 Marines, BLT 1/3 Marines, 1-11 Inf, 1-61 Inf (M), 1-77 Arm. **Intelligence:** 324B and 325C PAVN Divs. **Execution:** On 1 Nov the 3d Mar Div split the KINGFISHER TAOR in two with the 9<sup>th</sup> Marines taking responsibility for the KENTUCKY AO embracing the region known as Leatherneck Square. Contact was light during November expect on the 7<sup>th</sup> when A/1/9 engaged an unknown size enemy force while on a sweep from Con Thien, killing 17 NVA while suffering 14 WIA. In December, BLT 1/3 Marines provided security for the engineers clearing the trace around A-3. On 15 Dec, 1/1 engaged an estimated enemy battalion in a three-hour contact. Results were 46 enemy killed, 3 US KIA and 32 US WIA. On 7 Jan 68, L/3/4 made heavy contact near Con Thien, killing 29 NVA and losing 6 KIA and 36 WIA. On 18 Jan, 3/4 had a day-long contact with a reinforced enemy company in the same general area. Results were 162 enemy killed, 11 US KIA and 36 US WIA. On 2 Feb, the Cam Lo District Headquarters was attacked as part of the enemy's general offensive. Reaction forces converged on Cam Lo and drove off the attacked. Results were 96 enemy killed, 22 captured, 3 US KIA and 18 US WIA. On 7 Feb, K/3/3 made contact with an enemy battalion in and around Phu Tho village. Other companies from the battalion were piled on and broke the enemy's resistance, killing 139 by bodycount. On 3 Mar, L/3/3 made contact with a battalion-size force and with the aid of FOs and artillery accounted for 115 NVA killed. Contact was insignificant force rest of the month and most of April but on 29 Apr, TF ROBBIE with D/1/9 Marines engaged a dug-in enemy force at Cam Vu. The engagement lasted all afternoon and into the night. 26 NVA were killed, 11 US KIA and 22 WIA. This action was the initial contact of what was to become known as the Battle of Dong Ha<sup>81</sup>. From 25-30 May, 3/3, 1/4 and element of 1/9 were engaged by a large NVA force that was well entrenched just south of the trace. A cordon operation encircled the enemy positions and pounded them with artillery before the infantry swept through. Results were 157 enemy killed, 26 captured, 41 US KIA and 99 US WIA. Contacts in June and July were few and light. By mid-July, the 1<sup>st</sup> Marines assumed responsibility for the KENTUCKY AO with 2/26 and TF MIKE as the 9<sup>th</sup> Marines displaced to Vandegrift Combat Base. During the first twenty days of Aug contact was light but during 25-27 Aug, 3/9 and 1/3 with Army elements form the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 5<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (M) killed 53 NVA in the eastern portion of Leatherneck Square. On 26 Aug, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 5<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (M) assumed control of the KENTUCKY AO from the 1<sup>st</sup> Marines which returned to Da Nang. That day 1-11 Inf engaged an enemy force in a bunker complex 1 km north of Con Thien in a 7-hour contact. Results were 65 enemy killed, 19 captured, 2 US KIA and 24 US WIA. On 11 Sep, D/1-11 Inf conducted a search and cordon operation in the vicinity of the market place northeast of Con Thien, making heavy contact with an unknown size enemy force resulting in 35 NVA killed. From 20-23 Sep, 1-61 Inf (M) and 1-77 Arm swept the Khe Chua Valley northwest of Cam Lo, killing 15 NVA soldiers. Action was light during the first half of October but on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 1-61 Inf (M) engaged an enemy platoon in fortified position, killing 26 while losing 3 KIA and 17 WIA. On 23 Oct, TF 1-61 on conjunction with the 2d ARVN Rgt attacked into the DMZ north of Ha Loi Trung and made contact with an NVA battalion in well fortified bunkers. The battle lasted until 25, Oct, accounting for 231 enemy killed. Friendly losses were 4 KIA and 24 WIA. After the departure of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 5<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (M) at the beginning of November, responsibility of the KENTUCKY AO passed under control of the 3d Marines with 2/3 and 3/3, but contact during the month was insignificant. On 9 Dec, control of KENTUCKY passed to TF BRAVO (2/3 Marines, 1<sup>st</sup> Amtrac Bn, 3d Tank Bn) and the 3d Marines departed for Operation TAYLOR COMMON on 13-14 Dec. Three cordon and search operations were conducted during December, vicinity of Vinh Dai (29 Nov-3 Dec), Cam Lo (16-19 Dec) and Xuan Khanh (27-30 Dec), but contact was light during the period. On 18 Jan 69, 3/4 Marines commenced cor-

don and search operations with the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Rgt in the Leatherneck Square area but contact was sporadic. On 18 Feb, the 3d Marines returned from Operation TAYLOR COMMON and resumed responsibility for the KENTUCKY AO but no major enemy contacts developed and the operation was terminated on 28 Feb.

**Results:** 3,921 enemy killed, 117 detained, 521 US KIA, 3,078 US WIA, 1 US MIA.

**2-5 Nov. Operation: LAM SON 142/XDNT**

**Location:** Thu Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 3<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Rgt, First Naval Zone RAG Det. **Execution:** operation conducted 8 km southeast of Hue. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 2 captured, 17 detained, 4 ARVN WIA.

**3-13 Nov. Operation: RAPID FIRE III**

**Location:** Ham Tan, Binh Tuy Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-36 Project RAPID FIRE. **Execution:** The operation gathered intelligence in the Ham Tan area during the 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div's Operation SANTA FE. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 2 captured, 2 USSF WIA.

**6 Nov.** Estimated enemy company kidnaps 245 Montagnard civilians, 9 km west of An Khe in Binh Dinh Province.

**6-8 Nov. Operation: NINH HOA 2**

**Location:** Ninh Hoa, Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 29<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt. **Execution:** (no other info).

**6-11 Nov. Operation: HUNG DAO VUONG**

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 57 enemy killed, 130 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 7 ARVN WIA.

**6-17 Nov. Operation: ESSEX**

**Location:** An Hoa, Antenna Valley, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** D/1/5 Marines, G & H/2/5 Marines, M/3/5 Marines. **Execution:** Operation ESSEX was conducted 10 km southeast of An Hoa Combat Base in Antenna Valley. On 6 Nov, H/2/5 ran into a heavy volume of fire coming from a fortified village. G/2/5 reinforced the contact and with supporting artillery fire and air strikes cleared the village on 7 Nov, counting 32 NVA killed. On 8 Nov, M/3/5 assaulted another fortified village and with help from D/1/5, broke the enemy resistance. Light to negative contact was experience for the rest of ESSEX. **Results:** 72 enemy killed, 2 captured, 16 detained, 37 US KIA, 122 US WIA

**7-9 Nov. Operation: PHUOC DOC 1**

**Location:** Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 28<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt. **Execution:** (no other info).

**9 Nov.-13 Dec. Operation: BLACKJACK 23A/PIBURN**

**Location:** Plei Trap Valley, Kontum Province. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** CSF Co from A-251 Plei Djereng. **Execution:** Operation BLACKJACK 23A searched the lower Plei Trap Valley for enemy base camps but found nothing. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 1 USSF WIA, 3 CIDG WIA.

**10 Nov.-21 Dec. Operation: DRAGON TRAIL**

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROKMC Bde. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> ROKMC Bn (10 Nov-21 Dec), 2d, 3d and 5<sup>th</sup> ROKMC Bns (10-14 Nov) **Execution:** The 2d ROKMC Bde conducted search and destroy operations in its assigned TAOR in Quang Ngai Province. On 14 Nov, DRAGON TRAIL was scaled down to battalion-size due to lack of enemy contact. **Results:** 31 enemy killed, 1 captured, 9 ROKMC WIA.

**8 Nov.-29 Dec. Operation: SONG THAN/711/67**

**Location:** Bong Son, Duong Lieu, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC TF ALPHA. **Task organization:** 3<sup>rd</sup> VNMC Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> VNMC Bn, C/VNMC Art Bn. **Execution:** On 8 Nov, TF ALPHA deployed to the Bong Son area and relieved TF BRAVO. **Results:** (no info).

**11 Nov.** Admiral Ulysses S. G. Sharp, USN, Commander in Chief, Pacific arrives in RVN for update briefings on military

<sup>81</sup> See VCO 1968.

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**11 Nov.** NLF turns three NCO PWs over to US "peace group" representative in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

**11-30 Nov. Operation: ROSE**

**Location:** Secret Base 35, Ninh Thuan and Binh Thuan Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Task organization:** 3-506 Inf, 3/45 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 112<sup>th</sup> and 270<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Cos. **Execution:** ROSE was a shakedown operation for 3-506 Inf recently arrived from the US, conducted in the central portion of Secret Base 35 in southern Ninh Thuan Province. **Results:** 8 enemy killed, 4 US WIA..

**11 Nov. 67-11 Nov. 68 Operation: WHEELER/WALLOWA**

**Location:** Tam Ky, Que Son, Thang Binh, LZ BALDY, LZ LESLIE, LZ ROSS, Hill 63, Pineapple Forest, Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 23d Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div (11-25 Nov): 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, C/3-16 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326<sup>th</sup> Eng; 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div (11 Nov 67-26 Jan 68): 1-7 Cav, 5-7 Cav, 2-12 Cav, B/1-9 Cav, 1-1 Cav (-), 1-21 Art (-), C/1-77 Art, C/2-20 Art, C/8<sup>th</sup> Eng, C/8<sup>th</sup> Eng; 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) (25 Nov 67-19 Apr 68; 13 May-11 Nov 68): 2-1 Inf, 1-20 Inf, 3-21 Inf, 4-31 Inf, 3-82 Art, C/7-17 Cav, F/17 Cav; 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (26 Jan-28 Feb): 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 2-9 Art, C/3-4 Cav, C/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 198<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) (1 Mar-9 Apr): 1-6 Inf, 1-46 Inf, 1-52 Inf, 1-1 Cav (-), 1-14 Art (-). **Intelligence:** 2<sup>nd</sup> PAVN Div. **Execution:** Operation WHEELER and Operation WALLOWA were combined into Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA On 11 Nov 67 under control of the 23d Inf Div. During the period 23-25 Nov, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div was relieved in place by the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) and displaced to Tam Ky to prepare for air movement back to Phan Rang. On 23 Nov, D/4-31, B/3-21 and F/17 Cav made heavy contact with an estimated enemy company, killing 76 while suffering 7 KIA. During December, contact was moderate to significant with helicopter gunships from C/2-20 Art accounting for 97 enemy killed on 9 Dec. On 2 Jan 68, 2-12 Cav and B/1-9 Cav had a 5-hour contact with an unknown size enemy force, killing 36 while suffering 1 KIA and 9 WIA. On 3 Jan, heavy ground assaults were launched on LZ ROSS and LZ LESLIE defended by elts of the 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div. Results were 274 enemy killed, 16 US KIA and 116 US WIA. That same day, A/5-7 Cav received a ground attack by an estimated enemy platoon. Results were 30 enemy killed, 2 US KIA and 16 US WIA. On 5 Jan, C/2-1 Inf was ambushed by an estimated enemy company. Results were 24 enemy killed, 19 US KIA and 64 US WIA. On 8 Jan, A/2-12 Cav came under a heavy attack and was reinforced by C/2-12 Cav and B/1-1 Cav. Results were 147 enemy killed, 7 US KIA and 44 US WIA. Contact diminished for the rest of the month and on 26 Jan, the 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div departed for northern I CTZ, replaced in the field by the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. There were two significant contacts in February. On 9 Feb, C/1-14 Inf and C/1-35 Inf became heavily engaged by an estimated 300 enemy 10 km southwest of Hoi An. Results were 173 enemy killed, 12 US KIA and 43 US WIA. On 27 Feb, 1-1 Cav and C/7-17 Cav became heavily engaged with an unknown size enemy force 4 km west of Tam Ky in the Pineapple Forest area. Results were 148 enemy killed, 2 US KIA and 14 US WIA. On 28 Feb, the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div terminated its participation in the operation and departed for Bong Son. Contact was moderate in March except for two significant engagements. On 11 Mar, B/3-21 Inf made heavy night contact while moving from their NDP 22 km west of Tam Ky. Additional companies were piled on, accounting for 78 enemy killed. Friendly casualties were 2 KIA and 29 WIA. On 19 Mar, E/1-6 Inf and F/17 Cav made contact with a large enemy force 8 km south of Hoi An. Results were 112 enemy killed and 18 US WIA. There were few contacts in April and WHEELER/WALLOWA was suspended on the 19<sup>th</sup> when the 196<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde moved to Phu Bai to act as corps reserve during Operation DELAWARE/LAM SON 216. The brigade returned on 13 May and resumed operations in the WHEELER/WALLOWA AO. On 14 May, A/B/1-20 Inf and

A/D/1-6 Inf commenced an assault on the Nui Hoac Ridge, killing 35 enemy by bodycount while suffering 1 KIA and 35 WIA. On 25 May, Cos B and D, 1-52 Inf while conducting a combat sweep made contact with a well dug-in enemy force. Results were 86 enemy killed, 4 US KIA and 11 US WIA. Contact was light and sporadic in the AO the following months until 17 Aug when C/4-31 Inf engaged an unknown size enemy force, killing 37. On 19 Aug, 4-31 Inf in a series of contacts with small groups of enemy accounted for 62 VC killed. After that contact diminished in the WHEELER/WALLOWA AO and the operation came to and end on 11 Nov. **Results:** 10,020 enemy killed, 683 US KIA, 3,599 US WIA.

**13-29 Nov. Operation: FOSTER/BADGER HUNT**

**Location:** Dai Loc, Duc Duc, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines; SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 3/7 Marines, BLT 2/3 Marines. **Intelligence:** R20 and V25 PLAF MF Bns. **Execution:** Following two savage VC attacks against the district headquarters and refugee settlement at Duc Duc and Dai Loc, 23 km southwest of Da Nang which killed 35 VN civilians and wounded 42, the Marines retaliated with Operation FOSTER conducted by 3/7 Marines and Operation BADGER HUNT utilizing SFL BRAVO's BLT 2/3. Contact was light during most of the operation except on 26 Nov when 3/7 came under heavy fire from a large enemy force in well fortified positions. Fighting lasted until dark when the enemy withdrew, leaving 20 of his dead behind. During the operation, 11,668 refugees were evacuated to Dai Loc and An Hoa from the Communist-dominated area. **Results:** 125 enemy killed, 72 detained, 22 US KIA, 136 US WIA.

**14 Nov.** MG Bruno Hochmuth, USMC, Commander of the 3d Mar Div, is killed in a helicopter explosion near Dong Ha in Quang Tri Province. Rathvon McC. Tompkins, USMC, is named as his replacement.

**14 Nov. Operation: PLAQUEMINES**

**Location:** Tra On, Tanh Dinh Island, Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CTU 116.1.1. **Execution:** operation conducted with PBRs, helicopters and USN SEALs against a target area located 25 km southwest of Can Tho along the east bank of the Tanh Dinh Canal opposite Tra On. **Results:** 1 US WIA, unknown enemy losses.

**14-26 Nov. Operation: RAPID FIRE IV**

**Location:** FOB Phuoc Vinh, Binh Duong and Long Khanh Provinces. **Type:** interdiction. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-36 Project RAPID FIRE. **Execution:** Operating from FOB Phuoc Vinh, Det B-36 was assigned the mission of interdicting enemy LOCs in Binh Duong and Long Khanh Provinces. **Results:** 16 enemy killed, 4 USSF KIA, 1 CIDG KIA, 7 USSF WIA, 18 CIDG WIA.

**15 Nov.** GEN Westmoreland and AMB Bunker fly to Washington D.C. For talks.

**15-17 Nov. Operation: THUA THIEN 22**

**Location:** Vinh Loc Island, Thu Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Thua Thien Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted on Vinh Loc Island by Thua Thien Sector forces with support from Coastal Group 13. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 7 captured, 123 detained.

**15-24 Nov. Operation: CUU LONG/69/SD**

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** Operation conducted in coordination with CORONADO IX. **Results:** 68 enemy killed, 165 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 32 ARVN WIA.

**16 Nov.** Hanoi Shipyard No. 2 bombed by jets from USS CORAL SEA. First time any Hanoi shipyard has been hit.

**16-22 Nov. Operation: KHAM ZEI 180**

**Location:** Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 24<sup>th</sup> STZ. **Results:** 393 enemy killed, 23 detained, 34 ARVN KIA, 161 ARVN WIA.

**16-24 Nov. Operation: KIEN GIANG 9-1**

**Location:** Base Area 470, Dinh Tuong and Kien Phong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Divs. **Execution:** Operation conducted in

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coordination with CORONADO IX. **Results:** 73 enemy killed, 48 detained, 16 ARVN KIA, 113 ARVN WIA.

**17-19 Nov. Operation: LONG PHI/9/139**

**Location:** Kien Phong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 12 km west of CUU/LONG/69/SD and 25 km northwest of Vinh Long with support from RAGs 23, 26, 31 and 32. **Results:** 47 enemy killed, 5 captured, 1 ARVN KIA, 36 ARVN WIA.

**17-26 Nov. Operation: COVE**

**Location:** Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 1/4 Marines, 2/26 Marines, 3/26 Marines, 3/12 Marines. **Execution:** Operation COVE utilized elements of three infantry battalions in the Phu Loc District south of Phu Bai. Contact was negative during the two phases of the operation. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 13 US WIA.

**17 Nov.-17 Dec. Operation: STRIKE/UNIONTOWN**

**Location:** Bien Hoa, Long Binh, Dong Nai, AO STRIKE, AO UNIONTOWN, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (17-30 Nov); 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) (1-17 Dec). **Task organization:** 2-3 Inf (14-17 Dec), 3-7 Inf (1-17 Dec), 4-12 Inf, 3-17 Cav; F/51 LRP. **Execution:** On 17 Nov, Operations STRIKE I and UNIONTOWN were terminated and Operation STRIKE/UNIONTOWN was initiated under control of the 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. STRIKE was an offensive reconnaissance-in-force operation directed against enemy units north of the Dong Nai while UNIONTOWN was primarily a security mission designed to prevent rocket and mortar attacks against the Bien Hoa-Long Binh complex. After terminating Operation FAIR-FAX in the Capital Military District, the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) assumed operational control of the STRIKE/UNIONTOWN AOs on 1 Dec. On 6 Dec, 3-7 Inf, 4-12 Inf and D/17 Cav made contact with an estimated enemy battalion. Results were 64 enemy killed, 25 US KIA and 82 US WIA. On 17 Dec, the operation was renamed MANCHESTER/UNIONTOWN. **Results:** 160 enemy killed, 9 detained, 38 US KIA, 128 US WIA.

**18 Nov.** Korean civilian workers at Cam Ranh Bay start two-day riot over working conditions.

**18 Nov.** SS BUCHANAN attacked and hit 19 times by RR and MG fire on Long Tau Shipping Channel 18 km northwest of Vung Tau. No US casualties. Reaction forces kill 16 enemy.

**18 Nov.-19 Dec. Operation: EAGLE THRUST**

**Location:** Fort Campbell, Bien Hoa, Cu Chi, Phuoc Vinh, Bien Hoa, Binh Duong and Hau Nghia Provinces. **Type:** air movement. **Controlling headquarters:** 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div, USAF Airlift Command. **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div: 1-501 Inf, 2-501 Inf, 1-502 Inf, 1-321 Art; 3d Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div: 3-187 Inf, 1-506 Inf, 2-506 Inf, 2-319 Art; Div Troops: 2-17 Cav (-), 326<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn (-), 101<sup>st</sup> Avn Bn. **Execution:** Operation EAGLE THRUST, the largest and longest military airlift into a combat zone to date, brought the 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div (-) from Fort Campbell, KY, directly to Bien Hoa, RVN. The move required 369 sorties by USAF C-141 aircraft to carry 9,541 personnel in five echelons: Advance Command and Control Group (18-19 Nov), Advance Party (21-25 Nov), 3d Bde TF (2-7 Dec), Div Troops (7-13 Dec) and 2d Bde TF (14-19 Dec). The 2d and 3d Bdes were then sponsored and escorted to base camps at Cu Chi and Phuoc Vinh by the 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div and 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div, respectively, while the Div HQ, Support Command and 2-17 Cav established their base camp at Bien Hoa in the facilities vacated by the 173d Abn Bde. **Results:** none.

**19 Nov.** Two US correspondents release details and photos of a VC campsite, four miles inside Cambodia, discovered by them. Prince Sihanouk later labels story fabrication.

**19 Nov.-12 Dec. Operation: QUYET THANG/135/II**

**Location:** Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 117 enemy killed, 46 detained, 14 ARVN KIA, 21 ARVN WIA.

**22-30 Nov. Operation: KHAM ZEI 182**

**Location:** Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Con-**

**trolling headquarters:** 24<sup>th</sup> STZ. **Results:** 189 enemy killed, 2 detained, 13 ARVN KIA, 48 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA.

**23 Nov.67-5 Jan.68. Operation: FORREST**

**Location:** Ba Ria, Xuyen Moc, Binh Gia, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** rice denial, reconnaissance in force. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 4 Fld Rgt, A/1-35 Art, A/1-83 Art. **Execution:** Operation conducted in south central Phuoc Tuy Province to deny enemy access to rice harvest. Contact was light throughout the entire operation. **Results:** 51 enemy killed, 58 detained, 5 AUS KIA, 31 AUS WIA.

**24 Nov. Operation: OODNADATTA**

**Location:** Hoa Long, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, D/2RAR, One Trp A Sqn 3 Cav, 106 Fld Bty. **Execution:** Operation OODNADATTA was a cordon and search of Hoa Long, 3 km south of Nui Dat (subsidiary of Operation FORREST). **Results:** none.

**24-27 Nov. Operation: BALLISTIC ARCH**

**Location:** Mai Xa Thi, DMZ, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF ALPHA. **Task organization:** BLT 1/3 Marines. **Execution:** BALLISTIC ARCH aimed at Communist sympathizers reported in and around the hamlet of Mai Xa Thi, 7 km south of the southern DMZ boundary. The amphibious landing presented the amphibian tractors with a serious problems as they started to take on more water than the pumps could handle but was completed without losses. The expected contact did not materialize however, and on 27 Nov 1/3 Marines passed under 9<sup>th</sup> Marines control. **Results:** none.

**25-31 Nov. Operation: CUU LONG/70/67**

**Location:** Than Phu Secret Zone, Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** This was the first ARVN/VNN operation in recent years where large-size troop lifts were made over a significant distance. Departing from Cai Be and My Tho, crafts from RAGs 21 and 33 transported troops of the 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div into the Than Phu Secret Zone located between the mouths of the Co Chien and Ham Luong Rivers. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 10 captured, 36 detained.

**25 Nov.-4 Dec. Operation: BLACKJACK 24A/GLENDALE**

**Location:** Lam Dong Province. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** 27<sup>th</sup> MSF Co. **Execution:** Operation GLENDALE took place in southwestern Lam Dong Province with no contact. **Results:** 1 CIDG WIA.

**26 Nov.** B-52s strike area just north of Mu Gia Pass, deepest B-52 penetration of NVN yet.

**26-28 Nov. Operation: DIEN KHANH 1**

**Location:** Dien Khanh, Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 30<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt. **Execution:** (no other info).

**27 Nov. Operation: SUN DEVIL**

**Location:** Phong Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** River Div 51. **Execution:** operation conducted south of Tan Dinh Island. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 USN WIA.

**29 Nov.** President Johnson announces SECDEF McNamara will resign to head World Bank.

**29 Nov.** The Bo Duc District Headquarters defended by ARVN RF/PF elts and the 5<sup>th</sup> ARVN Recon Co receives a heavy ground attack from three directions by the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Bns, 272<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt that penetrates the southern part of the compound. Massive supporting fires help the ARVN in expelling the enemy by 0630. Results are 96 enemy killed, 1 captured, 15 ARVN KIA and 57 ARVN WIA. The nearby Bu Dop CIDG Camp also comes under mortar attack but no ground assault develops.

**29 Nov. Operation: LE LOI 2**

**Location:** Vam Co Dong, Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Long An Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted 30 km southwest of Saigon along the



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Vam Co Dong by Long An Sector forces and RAG 24. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 4 captured, 2 VNN WIA.

## 29 Nov.-29 Dec. **Operation:** BU DOP CONTINGENCY

**Location:** Bu Dop, Bo Duc, Phuoc Thien, Phuoc Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-28 Inf (29 Nov-10 Dec), 2-28 Inf (4-16 Dec), 1-2 Inf (6-20 Dec), 1-16 Inf (20-29 Dec), A/1-5 Art (6-29 Dec), A/2-33 Art (29 Nov-16 Dec). **Intelligence:** 271<sup>st</sup> and 272<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgts. **Execution:** This unnamed contingency operation was mounted to relieve the Bo Duc District Headquarters and Bu Dop CIDG Camp. On 29 Nov, 1-28 Inf and A/2-33 Art at Phuoc Vinh were alerted to move to Bu Dop by helicopter and establish a NDP and FSB for subsequent operations. That evening, a mortar and rocket attack was launched against the NDP followed by a ground attack across the Bu Dop Airfield by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn, 271<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt. Results were 31 enemy killed, 7 US KIA and 11 US WIA. Mortar attacks continued against the positions of 1-28 Inf the following days and on 4 Dec, 2-28 Inf was committed to the vicinity of Bu Dop, followed two days later by 1-2 Inf and A/1-5 Art. On 8 Dec, 1-2 Inf was attacked, again by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn, 271<sup>st</sup> Rgt. Accurate artillery fire and air strikes broke the enemy assault. Results were 48 enemy killed, 6 captured, 4 US KIA and 14 US WIA. On 10 Dec, 1-2 Inf extracted from its field position and replaced 1-28 Inf at the airfield, the latter returning to Quan Loi. Enemy forces exfiltrated from the Bu Dop area during this period and 2-28 Inf was withdrawn on 16 Dec without having encountered significant activity. On 20 Dec, 1-16 Inf replaced 1-2 Inf at Bu Dop until withdrawn on 29 Dec without making any contact. **Results:** 139 enemy killed, 6 captured, 20 US KIA, 76 US WIA.

### Arrival:

1 Nov.	CCN MACV-SOG CCC MACV-SOG CCS MACV-SOG 195 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 235 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co 16 <sup>th</sup> Signal Co HMM-163
12 Nov.	V2 Coy, 1RNZIR
15 Nov.	604 <sup>th</sup> ACS
16 Nov.	VMFA-314
18 Nov.	HQ 2d Bde, 101 <sup>st</sup> Abn Div HQ 3d Bde, 101 <sup>st</sup> Abn Div 101 <sup>st</sup> AG Co
19 Nov.	HQ 101 <sup>st</sup> Abn Div 2-319 Art 1-321 Art 501 <sup>st</sup> Supply Co
20 Nov.	1 <sup>st</sup> MI Bn (Prov)
21 Nov.	13 <sup>th</sup> BS 61 <sup>st</sup> Avn Co
22 Nov.	134 <sup>th</sup> Avn Co
23 Nov.	92d Avn Co
24 Nov.	326 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn <sup>82</sup>
25 Nov.	265 <sup>th</sup> ASA Co 101 <sup>st</sup> MI Co
26 Nov.	Cam Ranh Bay Trans Cmd (Prov)
30 Nov.	2/3 Marines

### Departure:

13 Nov.	V1 Coy, 1RNZIR
15 Nov.	VMFA-542
16 Nov.	HMM-361 <sup>83</sup>
22 Nov.	8 <sup>th</sup> BS
30 Nov.	3/1 Marines <sup>84</sup>

82 Except Co A already in-country.

83 To SLF ALPHA.

84 To SLF BRAVO.

## DECEMBER

1 Dec. US military strength in RVN is 480,000.

1 Dec. A new CIDG Camp opens at Duc Hue, Hau Nghia Province, for detachment A-351.

### 1 Dec. **Operation:** PHI PHUNG 57

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 51<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Execution:** operation conducted just south of the Cau Cai River, 24 km south-southeast of Da Nang by 1/51 ARVN Bn and one ARVN Rgr Bn with support from Coastal Group 14. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 3 captured, 10 detained.

### 1-25 Dec. **Operation:** 9-67/SULTAN I

**Location:** FOB Kontum, Upper Plei Trap Valley, Kontum Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 81<sup>st</sup> ARVN Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the upper Plei Trap Valley from Kontum with the forward launch base at Polei Kleng CIDG Camp. Contact was minimal. **Results:** 2 USSF WIA, 6 ARVN KIA, 38 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA, enemy losses unknown.

### 1 Dec.67-8 Jan.68 **Operation:** KLAMATH FALLS

**Location:** Phan Thiet, Song Mao, Bao Loc, Di Linh, Route 1, Binh Thuan and Lam Dong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div; 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div: 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 3-506 Inf, TF 2-7 Cav, E/20 Inf (LRP), 2-320 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326<sup>th</sup> Eng; 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Div: 2/44 ARVN Bn, 3/44 ARVN Bn, 4/44 ARVN Bn, 11<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bn, one NPFF Co. **Intelligence:** MR-6, 186<sup>th</sup> PLAF MF Bn, 482<sup>nd</sup> PLAF LF Bn. **Execution:** The concept of Operation KLAMATH FALLS was to locate and destroy the headquarters of the enemy's MR-6 in southern Lam Dong and northern Binh Thuan Province and, in coordination with the 23<sup>rd</sup> ARVN Div, open Route 1 from Phan Rang to the II/III CTZ boundary. On 30 Nov, using a cover and deception plan, 3-506 Inf was air-assaulted from its field position southwest of Phan Rang to an AO vicinity of Song Mao while 2-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf moved by air to a staging area at Bao Loc. On 1 Dec, these two battalions conducted airmobile assaults into the northwestern and northeastern portions of the brigade AO as the 1-327 Inf moved by air to Phan Thiet. On 2 Dec, 1-327 Inf was combat-assaulted into the southern portion of the AO. On 12 Dec, 3-506 Inf was air-assaulted from an area near Song Mao into the northern portion of the brigade AO and, on 28 Dec, in an area east of Di Linh. On 4 Jan 68, 2-327 was extracted back to Bao Loc, followed on 7 Dec by 2-502 Inf. That same day, 1-327 was extracted to Phan Thiet. On 8 Jan, 3-506 Inf displaced to a pick up point and subsequently moved by convoy to Phan Rang. Contact during the entire operation was light and sporadic but the 5<sup>th</sup> ARVN Area Logistical Command conducted 131 vehicle convoy from Nha Trang to Phan Thiet and back with TF 2-7 Cav from Operation BYRD providing security. **Results:** 156 enemy killed, 11 captured, 28 US KIA, 138 US WIA.

2 Dec. PBR Mobile Base I arrives at Da Nang (ten PBRs follow on 5 Dec). Second time PBRs have been located in I CTZ.

### 2 Dec. **Operation:** AN DAN 219

**Location:** Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 19 km north-northeast of My Tho with support from RAG 24. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 2 detained.

3 Dec. A new CIDG Camp opens at Tieu Atar, Darlac Province, for detachment A-231.

### 3-4 Dec. **Operation:** CANUNGRA

**Location:** Hoi Bai, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 2RAR (-), One Trp A Sqn 3 Cav, 108 Fld Bty. **Execution:** Operation CANUNGRA was a cordon and search of Hoi Bai, 13 km east-southeast of Nui Dat (subsidiary of Operation FORREST). **Results:** (Included in Operation FORREST).

4 Dec. A squadron at 14 A7A, the new Corsair II aircraft, join the Vietnam conflict for the first time in a bombing raid over

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NVN.

**4 Dec.** USN Patrol Air Cushion Vehicle (PACV) return to Vietnam as part of TF 117 (Mekong Delta Mobile Riverine Force). These vehicles were previously in RVN in 1966 as part of TF 115, Coastal Surveillance Force (Operation MARKET TIME).

**4 Dec. Operation: NGO QUYEN 123**

**Location:** Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Vinh Long Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted by Vinh Long Sector forces with support from RAGs 23 and 31. **Results:** 10 enemy detained.

**4 Dec. Operation: DAN CHI/3/13/A**

**Location:** Bac Lieu Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 15 km east of Bac Lieu with support from RAGs 25 and 29. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 3 ARVN KIA, 11 ARVN WIA.

**4-8 Dec Operation: LAM SON 154**

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 16 km east-northeast of Quang Tri City by elts of the 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt with support from Coastal Group 11. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 32 detained, 4 ARVN WIA.

**4-21 Dec. Operation: QUICKSILVER IV**

**Location:** Ben Cat, Phuoc Vinh, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 1/11 ACR, 2/11 ACR. **Execution:** QUICKSILVER IV provided road security between Ben Cat and Phuoc Vinh for the deployment of the newly arrived 3d Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. **Results:** (no info).

**5 Dec.** An unknown number of enemy, supported by 82mm mortar force, attacks Dak Son Village, 2 km northeast of Song Be in Phuoc Long Province. Losses are 2 RF KIA, 4 RD killed, 108 civilians killed, 3 RF WIA, 4 RD wounded, 151 civilian wounded, 400 civilians missing, 1,382 refugees and 5 enemy killed.

**5 Dec.** Official fixed-wing aircraft losses due to hostile action in Vietnam are 974; 759 of these occurred over NVN. Fixed-wing aircraft lost to non-hostile action total 841. Official helicopter losses due to hostile action in Vietnam are 439; 8 of these over NVN. Helicopters lost to non-hostile action total 740.

**5 Dec.** The Constituent Assembly is formally disbanded after the convening of the first National Legislative Assembly.

**5 Dec. Operation: NGO QUYEN 124**

**Location:** Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Vinh Long Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted 24 km south of Vinh Long by Vinh Long Sector forces with support from RAGs 23 and 31. **Results:** 1 enemy killed.

**5-9 Dec. Operation: CHINH NGHIA 117**

**Location:** Ha Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted 24 km northwest of Saigon with support from RAG 24. **Results:** 13 ARVN KIA, 1 VNN KIA, 30 ARVN WIA, 2 VNN WIA, unknown enemy losses.

**5-12 Dec. Operation: PITT**

**Location:** Elephant Valley, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 2/7 Marines. **Execution:** 2/7 Marines conducted an helicopter assault in Elephant Valley followed by a sweep of the area but contact was minimal. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA.

**6-8 Dec. Operation: DAN CHI/3/15/B**

**Location:** Cai Nuoc, An Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted near Cai Nuoc with support from RAG 25. **Results:** (no info).

**7-18 Dec. Operation: BUENA VISTA/SONG THAN 808**

**Location:** AO Strike,, FSBP NASHUA, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt), VNMCF TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 4-12 Inf, 2<sup>nd</sup> VNMCF Bn. **Execution:** On 7 Dec, the 2<sup>nd</sup> VNMCF Bn was airlifted to FSBP NASHUA in AO STRIKE 10 km northwest of Bien Hoa and con-

ducted operations in the STRIKE/UNIONTOWN AO. **Results:** 2 VNMCF KIA, 10 VNMCF WIA.

**8-9 Dec Operation: LAM SON 156**

**Location:** Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 106 enemy killed, 10 ARVN KIA, 26 ARVN WIA.

**8-10 Dec. Operation: DAN CHI/315/C**

**Location:** Chuong Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 456 enemy killed, 16 detained, 73 ARVN KIA, 142 ARVN WIA.

**8 Dec.67-24 Feb.68 Operation: YELLOWSTONE**

**Location:** Trai Bi, Prek Klok, Thien Ngon, Katum, Bo Tuc, Route 4, FSB BAILEY, FSB BEAUREGARD, FSB BURT, FSB CUSTER, FSB HILL, FSB KNOX, FSB SCOTT, FSB WAINWRIGHT, FSB WAINWRIGHT II, War Zone C, Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (8 Dec-24 Feb): 4-9 Inf (8 Dec-2 Jan; 16 Jan-28 Feb), 2-14 Inf, TF 1-5 Inf (M)(20 Dec-1 Jan; 23-27 Jan; 31 Jan-10 Feb), 2-22 Inf (M)(27-28 Dec), 2-12 Inf (28 Dec-16 Jan), 3-22 Inf (2-5 Jan), 2-27 Inf (17-18 Feb), 1/49 ARVN Bn (8-17 Dec), TF 2-34 Arm<sup>85</sup>, 1-27 Art, 7-11 Art, C/2-32 Art, B/65th Eng; 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (8-18 Dec; 27 Dec-24 Feb): 2-12 Inf (16 Jan-24 Feb), 2-22 Inf (M)(29 Dec-24 Feb), 3-22 Inf (8 Dec-1 Jan; 6 Jan-24 Feb), 4-9 Inf (3-15 Jan), TF 1-5 Inf (M)(2-22 Jan; 28-29 Jan; 11-24 Feb), 3/11 Cav (10-23 Jan), 2-77 Art, A/3-13 Art; **Div Troops:** 3-17 Cav, 3-13 Art (-). **Intelligence:** 9<sup>th</sup> PLAF Div, 271<sup>st</sup> and 272<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgts. **Execution:** The primary objective of YELLOWSTONE was neutralizing War Zone C and interdicting known invasion and escape routes to and from War Zone C. It also provided security for the relocation of CIDG camps at Trai Bi and Prek Klok to the new fighting camps at Thien Ngon and Katum. On 9 Dec, 4-9 Inf discovered 390 tons of rice in a cache 6 km northwest of Katum. On 20 Dec, 4-9 Inf in NDP vicinity of Bo Tuc received approximately 250 rounds of mixed mortar followed by a ground assault by an estimated enemy battalion. Results were 40 enemy killed, 6 US KIA and 22 US WIA. The expected violent enemy reaction to operations in War Zone C occurred on 1 Jan 68 while the New Year's truce was still in effect. FSB BURT defended by elts of 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, A & C/2-77 Art and A/3-13 Art received a very heavy attack by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Bns, 271<sup>st</sup> PLAF Rgt and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Bns, 272<sup>nd</sup> PLAF Rgt. Fighting lasted all night and into the morning. Results were 406 enemy killed, 3 captured, 23 US KIA and 153 US WIA. On 5 Jan, B/4-9 Inf was engaged by an estimated enemy company while extracting from an LZ 3 km south of the Fishhook. Results were 68 enemy killed, 7 US KIA and 16 US WIA. On 17 Jan, while conducting a RIF 4 km east of Katum, 2-14 Inf received fire from two enemy companies. The contact resulted in 17 enemy killed, 5 US KIA and 21 US WIA. The commencement of the Tet Offensive on 31 Jan accelerated the redeployment of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3d Bde assets to support Operation SARATOGA and the Capital Military District for the defense of Saigon. As a consequence, contact diminished in the YELLOWSTONE AO and the operation was terminated on 24 Feb. **Results:** 1,170 enemy killed, 182 detained, 137 US KIA, 1,085 US WIA.

**8 Dec.67-10 Mar.68 Operation: SARATOGA**

**Location:** Trang Bang, Trung Lap, Trung An, Binh My, Hoc Mon, Phu Trung, Ap Cho, Boi Loi Woods, Ho Bo Woods, Filhol Plantation, Song Saigon, FSB BOWIE, FSB CROCKETT, FSB HULL, FSB LOGAN I, FSB LOGAN II, FSB SCARLET, FSB WAINWRIGHT II, Hau Nghia, Binh Duong, Tay Ninh and Gia Dinh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (8 Dec-10 Mar): 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 1-5 Inf (M), 2-12 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 3-4 Cav (-), 1-8 Art, 3-13 Art (-), 6-77 Art (-); 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div (25 Feb-10 Mar): 2-14 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), D/3-17 Cav, 7-11 Art, 1-27 Art, 2-32 Art (-), 5-2 Art (-). **Intelligence:** 101<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt, 269<sup>th</sup> PLAF MF Bn, D-14, 2<sup>nd</sup> Go Mon and 7<sup>th</sup> Cu Chi PLAF LF Bns. **Execu-**

85 A & B/1-5 Inf (M), C/2-34 Arm. On 2 Feb, TF 2-34 Arm released B/1-5 Inf (M) and received C/2-14 Inf.

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**tion:** Operation SARATOGA was a search and destroy and reconnaissance-in-force operation in support of pacification activities in Hau Nghia Province. On 8 Dec, TF 4-23 Inf (M) began land clearing operations in the AO until 23 Dec when it returned to Cu Chi base camp. On 11 Dec, 1-27 Inf was combat-assaulted west of Trung Lap, killing 12 enemy in scattered contacts. On 12 Dec, the night defensive position of 1-27 Inf was attacked by an estimated battalion of the 101<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt. This was the first contact with a PAVN unit in the 2d Bde TAOI. Results were 39 enemy killed and 11 US WIA. On 17 Dec, the 2d Bde began operations in the Ho Bo and Boi Loi Woods. On 22 Dec, 3-4 Cav killed 10 VC near the Saigon River 10 km northeast of Trung Lap. On 3 Jan, activity shifted to the Filhol Plantation where the brigade protected land clearing operations by 28 Rome Plows. On 4 Jan, 1-27 Inf combat-assaulted into FSB CROCKETT 11 km northeast of Cu Chi. A/1-27 Inf made heavy contact with an estimated enemy company near Trung An resulting in 40 enemy killed, 16 US KIA and 44 US WIA. That same day, 2-27 Inf was inserted near Binh My and began operations along the Saigon River. On 10 Jan, while conducting a RIF 5 km east of Trang Bang, 1-27 Inf was attacked by the 7<sup>th</sup> Cu Chi Bn. D/3-4 Cav was inserted to along suspected escape routes. Results for the day-long action were 110 enemy killed, 6 US KIA and 29 US WIA. On 29 Jan, 2-27 Inf conducted a night combat assault into the northern Ho Bo Woods to reinforce D/3-4 Cav. All units were extracted the next day. The operation took on an entirely different aspect with the launching of the enemy's Tet Offensive on 30-31 Jan. Divisional assets committed to YELLOWSTONE were redeployed to support SARATOGA. 3-4 Cav was rushed to the defense of the heavily besieged Tan Son Nhut Airbase while other 2d Bde units were redeployed near Hoc Mon to prevent the enemy from cutting Route 1. On 3 Feb, 3-22 Inf attacked Tan Hoa while 2-12 Inf engaged enemy forces in the Tan Phu Trung-Ap Cho area while 1-27 and 2-27 Inf passed under control of II FFORCEV and were sent to the Capital Military District. 219 enemy were killed in the Hoc Mon area during the ten-day battle to prevent Communist forces from cutting Route 1. On 20 Feb, the 2d Bde headquarters moved to Hoc Mon where it remained until 4 Mar with units conducting operations north and east of the town. After terminating Operation YELLOWSTONE, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bde joined SARATOGA on 25 Feb to provide security for the main supply roads between Tay Ninh and Bau Co, Tay Ninh and Dau Tieng and Tay Ninh and Go Dau Ha. **Results:** 3,836 enemy killed, 581 detained, 374 US KIA, 1,855 US WIA.

### 10-13 Dec **Operation:** LONG PHI/9/143

**Location:** Vinh Binh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 99 enemy killed, 16 captured, 6 ARVN KIA, 38 ARVN WIA, 1 US MIA.

11 Dec. Mark II PBR combat patrols commence.

11 Dec. Senator C. H. Percy (R-III) caught in VC fire at Dak Son (III CTZ) and evacuated to Song Be, while on inspection trip.

### 11-12 Dec. **Operation:** SHEPPARTON

**Location:** Phu My, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, One Trp A Sqn 3 Cav, 106 Fld Bty. **Execution:** Operation SHEPPARTON was a cordon and search of Phu My, 20 km west-northwest of Nui Dat (subsidiary of Operation FORREST). **Results:** (included in Operation FORREST).

### 12 Dec. **Operation:** CUU LONG 126

**Location:** Go Cong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Go Cong Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted 10 km east-southeast of Go Cong by three RF companies, one PRU platoon and with support from Coastal Group 36. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 1 captured.

### 13-14 Dec. **Operation:** BAK JUL 1

**Location:** Ninh Heung Valley, Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 29<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt. **Execution:** (no other info).

### 13-14 Dec. **Operation:** DIMBOOLA

**Location:** Ong Trinh, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:**

7RAR, One Trp A Sqn 3 Cav, 106 Fld Bty. **Execution:** Operation DIMBOOLA was a cordon and search of Ong Trinh, 17 km west of Nui Dat (subsidiary of Operation FORREST). **Results:** (included in Operation FORREST).

### 13-15 Dec. **Operation:** HONG LAC 958

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 22<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 104 enemy killed, 2 captured, 12 ARVN KIA, 10 ARVN WIA.

### 13 Dec.67-10 Jan.68 **Operation:** SONG BE CONTINGENCY

**Location:** Song Be (Binh Phuoc), Phuoc Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div (13-17 Dec), 1<sup>st</sup> Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div (17 Dec-10 Jan). **Task organization:** 1-28 Inf (13-23 Dec), 1-2 Inf (23 Dec-10 Jan), 2/A/1-4 Cav, B/1-5 Art, B/2-33 Art. **Intelligence:** 5<sup>th</sup> PLAF Div.

**Execution:** In reaction to increased activity in the Song Be area by elements of the 5<sup>th</sup> PLAF Div, the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Div mounted this contingency operation, moving 1-28 Inf (-) and B/1-5 Art to Song Be North and A/1-28 Inf, Recon/1-28 Inf, 2/A/1-4 Cav and B/2-33 Art to Song Be South. Search and destroy operations were conducted without significant findings and 1-28 Inf was replaced by 1-2 Inf on 23 Dec. The reinforcing action ended on 10 Jan 68 with non contact but deterred further activity in the area. **Results:** (no info).

### 14-17 Dec. **Operation:** CUU LONG/72/SD/67

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 109 enemy killed, 52 detained, 14 ARVN KIA, 86 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA.

### 14 Dec.67-3 Jan.68 **Operation:** BLACKJACK 25A/BRUSH

**Location:** Binh Thuan, Lam Dong and Binh Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA.

**Task organization:** 25<sup>th</sup> MSF Co. **Execution:** Operation conducted in conjunction with Operation KLAMATH FALLS. The MSF Co was inserted in the AO upon departure of conventional forces in a stay behind role designed to capitalize on the enemy habit of returning to an area after Allied units had departed. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 1 USSF WIA, 1 AUS WIA, 4 CIDG WIA.

### 15-16 Dec. **Operation:** MELBOURNE

**Location:** Lang Phuoc Hoa, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, One Trp A Sqn 3 Cav, 106 Fld Bty. **Execution:** Operation MELBOURNE was a cordon and search of Lang Phuoc Hoa, 16 km west-southwest of Nui Dat (subsidiary of Operation FORREST). **Results:** (included in Operation FORREST).

### 15-21 Dec. **Operation:** LORNE

**Location:** Nui Bao Quan, Nui Dinh Hills, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 7RAR, C/2RAR, 161 RNZA Bty. **Intelligence:** C41 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** Operation LORNE was a search and destroy operation on Nui Bao Quan, 10 km west of Nui Dat (subsidiary of Operation FORREST). **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 1 AUS WIA.

### 15 Dec.67-31 Jan.68 **Operation:** RANG DONG II

**Location:** Gia Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Group. **Task Organization:** 30<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgr Bns. **Execution:** On 14 Nov, the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) terminated Operation FAIRFAX and transferred sole responsibility of Gia Dinh Province to the 5<sup>th</sup> ARVN Ranger Group. **Results:** (no info).

### 15-23 Dec. **Operation:** CITRUS

**Location:** Arizona AO, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 3/7 Marines. **Execution:** Operation CITRUS was conducted in the ARIZONA AO with moderate contact. **Results:** 35 enemy killed, 47 detained, 2 captured, 4 US KIA, 50 US WIA.

16 Dec. President Thieu at Bien Hoa rules out acceptance of coalition government that includes NFL.

### 17-19 Dec **Operation:** LONG PHI/9/144

**Location:** Vinh Binh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 110 enemy killed, 9 captured, 3 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA.



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## 17 Dec.67-30 Jan.68 **Operation:** MAENG HO 9

**Location:** Phu Cat, Qui Nhon, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> ROK Rgt, Cav ROK Rgt. **Execution:** Operation MAENG HO 9 took place north of Qui Nhon and east of Phu Cat. During the period 23-29 Jan 68, an enemy battalion was encircled near Phu Cat, losing 278 killed. **Results:** 749 enemy killed, 64 ROK KIA, 96 ROK WIA.

## 17 Dec.67-8 Mar.68 **Operation:** MANCHESTER/UNION-TOWN

**Location:** Bien Hoa, Long Binh, Phuoc Vinh, Dong Nai, Route 1A, AO MANCHESTER, AO UNIONTOWN, FSB DAVE, FSB NASHUA, FSB KEENE, Bien Hoa Province.. **Type:** search and destroy, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) (17 Dec-12 Jan); 3d Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div (12 Jan-8 Mar). **Task organization:** 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt): 2-3 Inf, 3-7 Inf, 4-12 Inf, 2-40 Art (-), D/17 Cav, 87<sup>th</sup> Eng Co; 3d Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div: 1-506 Inf, 2-506 Inf, 3-187 Inf, 2-319 Art, B/1-84 Art, A/2-35 Art, A/3-17 Cav, B/326<sup>th</sup> Eng. **Execution:** On 17 Dec AO STRIKE was renamed AO MANCHESTER but operations remained unchanged under control of the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) with 4-12 Inf at FSB NASHUA, 3-7 Inf at FSB KEENE and 2-3 Inf in AO UNIONTOWN. On 27 Dec, 4-12 Inf made contact southeast of NASHUA with an unknown size enemy force. Results were 30 enemy killed, 3 US KIA and 28 US WIA. On 12 Jan 68, the 199<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) terminated its participation in the operation and transferred responsibility of the MANCHESTER AO to the 3d Bde, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div. Only 4-12 Inf remained in AO UNIONTOWN to provide security for the Long Binh complex. 1-506 Inf was helicoptered into FSB KEENE with A/2-319 Art and 2-506 Inf occupied FSB DAVE with B/2-319 Art. Concurrently, 3-187 Inf conducted a road clearing operation from Phuoc Vinh south along Route 1A into the AO. The first significant contact occurred on 16 Jan when B/2-506 Inf engaged an estimated enemy platoon, Results were 3 enemy killed, 5 US KIA and 20 US WIA. Contact remained light during the rest of January. On 30-31 Jan, the enemy's Tet Offensive broke out in the II CTZ and brigade units were rushed to hot spots in AO UNIONTOWN and the Capital Military District<sup>86</sup>. Operations resumed in the MANCHESTER AO in February but contact remained light for the rest of the period. **Results:** 1,378 enemy killed, 50 US KIA, 401 US WIA.

## 18-27 Dec. **Operation:** CAMDEN

**Location:** Trapezoid, Boi Loi Woods, Hau Nghia and Tay Ninh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 3-17 Cav, 1-8 Art (-); 3d Bde, 25<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 2-12 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 2-77 Art, D/65<sup>th</sup> Eng; 25<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div: 1/49 ARVN Bn, 3/49 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 101<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt. **Execution:** On 18 Dec, the 2d and 3d Bdes suspended their participation in Operations SARATOGA and YELLOWSTONE respectively and reacted to intelligence reporting the 101<sup>st</sup> PAVN Rgt in the Trapezoid-Boi Loi Woods area. The 3d Bde operated in the Trapezoid area just south of the Michelin Plantation using mostly company size airmobile assaults for interdiction purpose while the 2d Bde operated in the Boi Loi Woods. Contact was light to moderate except on 21 Dec when 2-27 Inf fought a day-long action 5 km northeast of Trung Lap, killing 42 enemy soldiers while losing 4 KIA and 17 WIA. **Results:** 109 enemy killed, 29 detained, 1 returnee, 25 US KIA, 118 US WIA.

## 18 Dec.67-6 Jan.68 **Operation:** BLACKJACK 26A/HALL

**Location:** Mao Chu Hi, Ninh Thuan Province. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** 21<sup>st</sup> MSF Co. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the Mao Chu Hi Mountains. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 1 USSF WIA, 1 AUS WIA, 4 CIDG WIA.

## 19-24 Dec. **Operation:** DAN CHI/315/D

**Location:** Chuong Thien and Phong Dinh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 93 enemy killed, 46 detained, 9 ARVN KIA, 24 ARVN WIA.

## 19-31 Dec. **Operation:** SYLVESTER

**Location:** Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search & destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> SFGA. **Task organization:** CSF Co, A-223 Van Canh. **Execution:** Operation directed at enemy forces in the vicinity of the Qui Nhon Command Ammunition Supply Point. There was no contact. **Results:** none.

## 19 Dec.67-10 Jun. 68 **Operation:** MUSCATINE

**Location:** Son Tinh, Binh Son, An Tinh, Phu Nhieu, My Lai, My Khe, Song Tra Khuc, Mui Ba Lang An (Batangan Peninsula), LZ DOTTIE, LZ GEORGE, LZ SUE, LZ UPTIGHT, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** 48<sup>th</sup> and 86<sup>th</sup> PLAF LF Bns. **Controlling headquarters:** 23d Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div: 1-14 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 4-3 Inf (19-25 Jan), 2-9 Art (-), C/1-10 Cav, C/4<sup>th</sup> Eng; 198<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt): 1-6 Inf, 1-46 Inf, 5-46 Inf, 1-52 Inf, 1-14 Art, H/17 Cav; 11<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt): 3-1 Inf, 4-3 Inf, 1-20 Inf, 4-21 Inf, TF BARKER, 6-11 Art, E/1 Cav. **Intelligence:** enemy situation and forces, when available. **Execution:** Operation MUSCATINE was initiated to relieve the departing 2d ROKMC Bde in its TAOR and begin search and destroy and pacification operations in the Sonh Tinh and Binh Son Districts of Quang Ngai Province north of the Song Tra Khuc. On 19 Dec, 2-35 Inf and C/2-9 Art became opcon to the newly arrived 198<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) and displaced from LZ LIZ to the Quang Ngai Airfield. The following day, the battalion was air-assaulted into LZ SUE near Chu Lai and relieved the 3d Bn, 2d ROKMC Bde. Contact was light in December. On 2 Jan, the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div assumed responsibility for the MUSCATINE AO west of Route 1. On 17 Jan, 1-14 Inf had a major contact with four VC LF companies occupying the village of Phu Nhieu just north of the Batangan Peninsula with 1-52 Inf providing blocking forces. Results were 80 enemy killed, 7 captured and only 3 US WIA. On 25 Jan, the 3d Bde, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div terminated its participation in MUSCATINE and departed for Quang Tin Province to relieve the 3d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div in the WHEELER/WALLOWA AO. Responsibility for the MUSCATINE AO was transferred to the 11<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde (Lt) with Task Force BARKER (A/3-1 Inf, B/4-3 Inf and C/1-20 Inf) operating from LZ DOTTIE east of Route 1 and 4-3 Inf (-) operating from LZ SUE west of Route 1. On 12 Feb, TF BARKER made contact with the 48<sup>th</sup> LF Bn 8 km northeast of Quang Ngai, killing 78 while suffering only 1 KIA. On 23 Feb, A/3-1 Inf made contact with the 48<sup>th</sup> LF Bn again in the same area, killing 68 while losing 2 KIA. On 16 Mar, TF BARKER reported killing 128 enemy near the hamlets of My Lai (4) and My Khe (4), Son My Village. It was later determined that between 300-500 VN civilians had been executed by members of Co C, 1-20 Inf. On 9 Apr, Task Force BARKER was disbanded with the beginning of Operation NORFOLK VICTORY and 4-3 Inf assumed sole responsibility for the MUSCATINE AO. The enemy avoided major contact for the rest of the operation, concentrating instead on small scale harassing attacks and extensive use of mines and booby traps. **Results:** 1,129 enemy killed, 86 US KIA, 580 US WIA.

20 Dec. The 100<sup>th</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> MIG of the war downed near Hanoi.

## 20 Dec. **Operation:** PHI PHUNG 62

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 51<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Execution:** operation conducted 1 km north-northwest of the Cua Dai River mouth with support from Coastal Group 14. **Results:** 15 enemy detained.

21 Dec. The SS SEATRAN TEXAS is mined in Nha Be River, 15 km southeast of Saigon. Proceeds under own power to Saigon.

## 21-22 Dec. **Operation:** BAK JUL 4

**Location:** Ninh Heung Valley, Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** WHRID. **Task organization:** 29<sup>th</sup> ROK Rgt. **Execution:** (no other info).

## 21-23 Dec. **Operation:** BOLD CAROUSEL

**Location:** Tanh Dinh Island, Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** (no info). **Execution:** operation conducted by elts of the 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div with support from PBRs, Seawolves helicopters USN SEALs and RAG 25 on Tan Dinh Island. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 1 captured, 35 detained.

86 Tet battles will be detailed in VCO 1968.

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## 21-24 Dec. **Operation:** FORTRESS RIDGE

**Location:** Gio Linh, Ha Loi Tay, Giem Ha Trung, Cua Viet, RED Beach, DMZ, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** BLT 3/1 Marines. **Intelligence:** 803<sup>rd</sup> PAVN Bn, K400 PLAF LF Co. **Execution:** Operation FORTRESS RIDGE involved seaborne and heliborne landings on the beach area south of the DMZ. M/3/1 landed on RED Beach while L/3/1 landed on the north bank of the Cua Viet and Cos H & I, 3/1 Marines were combat assaulted in the sand dunes 4 km inland. Contact was made late in the afternoon of 21 Dec near the hamlets of Ha Loi Tay and Giem Ha Trung but the enemy withdrew under cover of darkness. The rest of the operation proved uneventful as the enemy had clearly fled the area. **Results:** 10 enemy killed, 10 US KIA, 27 US WIA.

## 21 Dec.67-21 Jan.68 **Operation:** FARGO

**Location:** An Loc, Loc Ninh, Bu Dop, Song Be, Route 13, Binh Long and Phuoc Long Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR. **Task organization:** 1/11 ACR, 2/11 ACR, 3/11 ACR (30 Dec-21 Jan). **Execution:** 11<sup>th</sup> ACR initiated FARGO on 21 Dec to open Route 13 from An Loc to Loc Ninh, secure the construction of a heavy artillery FSPB at Loc Ninh and destroy enemy forces in the Loc Ninh – Bu Dop – Song Be area. The only significant contact of the operation occurred on 6 Jan 68 when Troops E and H engaged enemy forces near the Fishhook, killing 34. **Results:** 49 enemy killed, 2 detained, 6 US KIA, 47 US WIA.

22 Dec. Air America indigenous employees strike for 40 percent wage increase.

22 Dec. LTG W. Momyer, COMUSAFV and CG 7AF promoted to General.

## 22 Dec. **Operation:** PHI HO/15/80

**Location:** Tan Dinh Island Vinh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted on Tan Dinh Island by elts of the 15<sup>th</sup> ARVN Rgt with support from RAGs 25, 26, 29 and 32. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 captured, 2 detained, 8 US WIA, 4 ARVN WIA.

## 22-23 Dec. **Operation:** LAWLEY

**Location:** Ngai Giao, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 2RAR, 7RAR, A Sqn 3 Cav, 4 Fld Rgt, 161 RNZA Bty. **Execution:** Operation LAWLEY was a cordon and search of Ngai Giao, 12 km north of Nui Dat (subsidiary of Operation FORREST). **Results:** (included in Operation FORREST).

23 Dec. President Johnson makes brief Christmas visit to US troops at Cam Ranh Bay.

24-25 Dec. A 24-hour stand down is observed during the Christmas 1967 truce.

## 25-28 Dec. **Operation:** LAM SON 166

**Location:** Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1<sup>st</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 217 enemy killed, 6 detained, 15 ARVN KIA, 39 ARVN WIA.

## 26-27 Dec. **Operation:** LONG PHI/9/145

**Location:** Nha Man Canal, Cai Tau Canal, Vinh Long and Sa Dec Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Execution:** operation conducted along the Nha Man and Cai Tau Canals between Vinh Long and Sa Dec with support from RAGs 23 and 31. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 1 captured, 1 detained, 16 ARVN WIA.

## 26 Dec.67-2 Jan.68 **Operation:** BADGER TOOTH

**Location:** Thon Tham Khe, Thon Trung An, Street Without Joy, GREEN Beach, LZ FINCH, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF BRAVO. **Task organization:** BLT 3/1 Marines. **Intelligence:** 816<sup>th</sup> PAVN Bn. **Execution:** After the Christmas truce, SLF BRAVO landed again, this time in the Street Without Joy area on the southern Quang Tri border. Co L landed over GREEN Beach against very light opposition and proceeded to LZ FINCH where the rest of the BLT was air-assaulted. The Marines then advanced northwest into the build-up area along the coast, clearing the villages of Thon Tham Khe and Thon Trung An without opposition. After a quiet

night, the battalion moved out again for another sweep of the two villages when it was met by a very heavy volume of fire coming from an unknown size enemy unit. Several frontal assaults were made with support from a couple of tanks but only a limited penetration into the village complex was achieved before night fell. The enemy unit managed to escape during the night through a gap in American lines, leaving only 31 of his dead behind. Marine losses had been heavy with 48 KIA and 86 WIA. The BLT remained in the area during the New Year's stand-down until reembarking on 2 Jan 68. **Results:** 31 enemy killed, 48 US KIA, 86 US WIA.

## 27-30 Dec. **Operation:** PHI PHUNG 65

**Location:** Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 51<sup>st</sup> ARVN Rgt. **Results:** 70 enemy killed, 34 detained, 8 ARVN KIA, 60 ARVN WIA.

## 27 Dec.67-3 Jan.68 **Operation:** CUU LONG/73/SD/67

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7<sup>th</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 164 enemy killed, 53 detained, 38 ARVN KIA, 123 ARVN WIA.

## 28 Dec. **Operation:** BIET CHINH

**Location:** Ba Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Ba Xuyen Sector. **Execution:** operation conducted on the south bank of the lower Bassac by the Ba Xuyen Sector forces with support from Coastal Group 36. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 5 captured.

## 28 Dec.67-1 Jan.68 **Operation:** AUBURN

**Location:** Duy Xuyen, Go Noi Island, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5<sup>th</sup> Marines. **Task organization:** 3/5 Marines, E/2/3 Marines. **Execution:** Operation conducted in the Duy Xuyen/Go Noi Island area. From the initial landing by E/2/3 and continuing throughout the insertion of I/3/5 and 3/5 command group, all units in the LZ received continuous enemy fire. Heavy contact continued until the next day when the enemy withdrew. **Results:** 37 enemy killed, 2 detained, 22 US KIA, 53 US WIA.

## 29-30 Dec. **Operation:** DONG TAM 17

**Location:** Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** RSSZ. **Execution:** operation conducted in the Rung Sat Special Zone by three RF companies and with support from RAG 22. **Results:** (no info).

## 29-31 Dec. **Operation:** SONG THAN/809/67

**Location:** Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** VNMC TF BRAVO. **Task organization:** 1<sup>st</sup> VNMC Bn, 2<sup>nd</sup> VNMC Bn, B/VNMC Art Bn. **Results:** (no info).

## 30-31 Dec. **Operation:** QUYET THANG 724

**Location:** Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div. **Results:** 111 enemy killed, 10 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 7 ARVN WIA.

31 Dec. A 36-hour stand-down is observed for New Year.

31 Dec. Total Chieu Hoi returnees for year is 27,178 (compared to 20,242 in 1966, a 34.2 percent increase).

31 Dec. End of year US military strength is 486,000 (320,000 USA; 31,000 USN; 78,000 USMC; 56,000 USAF; 1,200 USCG). End of year FWMAF strength is: Australia – 6,812; Republic of Korea – 48,739; New Zealand – 516; Thailand – 2,205; Philippines – 2,020.

31 Dec. At end of year, US casualties since 1 January 1961 are 16,106 KIA; 100,830 WIA; 584 MIA and 231 PWs.

## Arrival:

1 Dec.  
HQ 4<sup>th</sup> PsyOp Grp  
2d MI Bn (Prov)  
3d MI Bn (Prov)  
4<sup>th</sup> MI Bn (Prov)  
5<sup>th</sup> MI Bn (Prov)  
6<sup>th</sup> MI Bn (Prov)  
7<sup>th</sup> PsyOp Bn  
8<sup>th</sup> PsyOp Bn  
10<sup>th</sup> PsyOp Bn  
VMA-211

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8 Dec.	123d Avn Bn 26 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn 23d MP Co 981 <sup>st</sup> MP Co 23d AG Co 23d S&T Bn
10 Dec.	101 <sup>st</sup> Avn Bn
12 Dec.	2-17 Cav 67 <sup>th</sup> Maint Co
16 Dec.	3-187 Inf 1-501 Inf 2-502 Inf 1-502 Inf 1-506 Inf 2-506 Inf
17 Dec.	W Coy, 1RNZIR
18 Dec.	1-20 Inf
19 Dec.	HQ 11 <sup>th</sup> Light Inf Bde 3/1 Inf E/1 Cav 70 <sup>th</sup> Inf Det (LRP) 6 <sup>th</sup> Sup Bn
20 Dec.	HQ 16 <sup>th</sup> Avn Grp HQ 164 <sup>th</sup> Avn Grp 4-3 Inf 6-11 Art 307 <sup>th</sup> Avn Bn 308 <sup>th</sup> Avn Bn 71 <sup>st</sup> Inf Det (LRP) 74 <sup>th</sup> Inf Det (LRP)
22 Dec.	273d Avn Co 22d Surgical Hosp
23 Dec.	723d Maint Bn
24 Dec.	5-22 Art 501 <sup>st</sup> Signal Bn
26 Dec.	321 <sup>st</sup> Trans Co
27 Dec.	3RAR
28 Dec.	101 <sup>st</sup> MP Co 23d Med Bn
31 Dec.	6 <sup>th</sup> Eng Co
<b>Departure:</b>	
3 Dec.	VMA-223 <sup>87</sup>
8 Dec.	161 <sup>st</sup> Avn Bn <sup>88</sup> 188 <sup>th</sup> Maint Bn <sup>89</sup> 163d Trans Co
15 Dec.	101 <sup>st</sup> ASA Co <sup>90</sup> 175 <sup>th</sup> ASA Co <sup>91</sup>
20 Dec.	1 <sup>st</sup> ACS <sup>92</sup>
21 Dec.	1 <sup>st</sup> AT Bn <sup>93</sup>

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- 87 Squadron undergoing rehabilitation at Iwakuni.  
 88 Transferred to 123d Avn Bn.  
 89 Assets to 723d Maint Bn.  
 90 Redesignated USASA Security Co, Saigon.  
 91 Redesignated USASA Operations Co, Saigon.  
 92 Redeployed to Thailand.  
 93 Battalion deactivated, reinforced company formed with assets and attached to 1<sup>st</sup> Tank Battalion



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## ABBREVIATIONS

**AA:** Anti-Aircraft  
**ABG:** Air Base Group  
**Abn:** Airborne  
**ACG:** Air Commando Group  
**ACR:** Armored Cavalry Regiment  
**ACS:** Air Commando Squadron  
**ACW:** Air Commando Wing  
**AF:** Airfield  
**AFB:** Air Force Base  
**AG:** Adjutant General  
**AHC:** Assault Helicopter Company  
**AML:** Airmobile (Light)

**Amph:** Amphibious/Amphibian  
**ANGLICO:** Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company  
**AO:** Area of Operation  
**AP:** Airport  
**APC:** Armored Personnel Carrier  
**ARG:** Assault Ready Group  
**Arm:** Armor/Armored  
**Art:** Artillery  
**ARVN:** Army of the Republic of Viet Nam  
**AS:** Attack Squadron  
**ASA:** Army Security Agency  
**ASHC:** Assault Support Helicopter Company  
**AT:** Anti Tank  
**ATF:** Australian Task Force  
**Avn:** Aviation  
**(AW):** All-weather  
**AWC:** Aerial Weapon Company  
**Bde:** Brigade  
**BEQ:** Bachelor Enlisted Quarters  
**BG:** Brigadier General  
**BLT:** Battalion Landing Team  
**Bn:** Battalion  
**BOQ:** Bachelor Officer Quarters  
**Brig:** Brigadier  
**BS:** Bomb Squadron  
**Bty:** Battery  
**BW:** Bombardment Wing  
**C:** Combat  
**CA:** Civil Affairs  
**CAC:** Combined Action Company  
**Cap:** Capital  
**CAP:** Civic Action Platoon  
**Cav:** Cavalry  
**CCC:** Command and Control Central  
**CCN:** Command and Control North  
**CCS:** Command and Control South  
**CC&S:** Collection, Classification & Salvage  
**CG:** Coastal Group  
**CHEM:** Chemical  
**CIDG:** Civilian Irregular Defense Group  
**CINC:** Commander-in-Chief  
**CINCPAC:** Commander-in-Chief, Pacific  
**CJGS:** Chief of the Joint General Staff  
**CMAC:** Capital Military Assistance Command  
**CMD:** Capital Military District  
**Cmd:** Command  
**Co:** Company  
**COL:** Colonel  
**Comp:** Composite  
**COMUSMACV:** Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam  
**COMNAVFORV:** Commander, Naval Forces, Vietnam  
**CONUS:** Continental United States  
**CORDS:** Civil Operations and Rural Development Support  
**COSVN:** Communist Office for South Viet Nam  
**CP:** Command Post  
**CRID:** Capital ROK Infantry Division  
**CSF:** Camp Strike Force  
**CSG:** Combat Support Group  
**CTZ:** Corps Tactical Zone  
**CVA:** Attack Aircraft Carrier  
**CVW:** Carrier Air Wing  
**DEPCOMUSMACV:** Deputy Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam  
**Det:** Detachment  
**Div:** Division  
**DMZ:** Demilitarized Zone  
**DoD:** Department of Defense  
**DRAC:** Delta Regional Assistance Command  
**Elts:** Elements  
**Eng:** Engineer

# VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1967

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**Exp:** Expeditionary  
**FA:** Field Artillery  
**FANK:** *Forces Armées Nationales Khmères* (Khmer National Armed Forces)  
**FFV/FFORCEV:** Field Force, Vietnam  
**FLB:** Forward launch Base  
**Fld:** Field  
**FOB:** Forward Operating Base  
**FRAC:** First Regional Assistance Command  
**FS:** Fighter Squadron  
**FSB:** Fire Support Base  
**FSPB:** Fire Support Patrol Base  
**FULRO:** Front Uni de Lutte des Races Opprimées (United Front for the Liberation of Oppressed Races)  
**FW:** Fighter Wing  
**FWA:** Free World Allies  
**FWF:** Free World Forces  
**GEN:** General  
**GHQ:** General Headquarters  
**Grp:** Group  
**GVN:** Government of (South) Viet Nam  
**GOER:** M520 Caterpillar Goer Truck  
**HAL:** Helicopter Attack Squadron Light  
**HH:** Heavy Helicopter  
**HHC:** Headquarters & Headquarters Company  
**HHT:** Headquarters & Headquarters Troop  
**HMH:** Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron  
**HML:** Marine Light Helicopter Squadron  
**HMM:** Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron  
**H&HS:** Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron  
**H&MS:** Headquarters & Maintenance Squadron  
**Hosp:** Hospital  
**How:** Howitzer  
**HQ:** Headquarters  
**HS:** Helicopter Squadron  
**H&S:** Headquarters & Service  
**HW:** Heavy Weapons  
**Inf:** Infantry  
**JGS:** Joint General Staff  
**KB:** Ky Binh (Cav)  
**KR:** Khmer Rouge  
**(L):** Light  
**LAAM:** Light Anti-Aircraft Missile  
**LF:** Local Force  
**LIB:** Light Infantry Brigade  
**LOC:** Line of Communication  
**Log:** Logistical  
**LRP:** Long Rang Patrol  
**LRPD:** Long Range Patrol Detachment  
**LRRP:** Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol  
**LTG:** Lieutenant General  
**LZ:** Landing Zone  
**MAB:** Marine Amphibious Brigade  
**MABS:** Marine Air Base Squadron  
**MACG:** Marine Air Control Group  
**MACS:** Marine Air Control Squadron  
**MACV:** Military Assistance Command, Vietnam  
**MAF:** Marine Amphibious Force  
**MAG:** Marine Air Group  
**Maint:** Maintenance  
**Mar:** Marine/Marines  
**MASH:** Mobile Army Surgery Hospital  
**MASS:** Marine Air Support Squadron  
**MAW:** Marine Aircraft Wing  
**MEB:** Marine Expeditionary Brigade  
**Med:** Medical  
**Mech:** Mechanized  
**MG:** Major General  
**MGF:** Mobile Guerrilla Force  
**MH:** Medium Helicopter  
**MI:** Military Intelligence  
**MIKE:** Mobile Strike Force  
**Mil:** Military  
**MP:** Military Police  
**MR:** Military Region  
**MSF:** Mobile Strike Force  
**MSFC:** Mobile Strike Force Command  
**Mtr:** Mortar  
**MWCS:** Marine Wing Communication Squadron  
**MWFS:** Marine Wing Facilities Squadron  
**MWHG:** Marine Wing Headquarters Group  
**MWSG:** Marine Wing Support Group  
**Nat:** National  
**NDP:** Night Defensive Position  
**NGFS:** Naval Gunfire Support  
**NMCB:** Naval Mobile Construction Battalion  
**NMCR:** Naval Mobile Construction Regiment  
**NPFF:** National Police Field Force  
**NVA:** North Vietnamese Army  
**NZ:** New Zealand  
**OPCON:** Operational Control  
**OPORD:** Operational Order  
**Ord:** Ordnance  
**ORLL:** Operational Report – Lessons Learned  
**PACFLT:** Pacific Fleet  
**PACV:** Patrol Air Cushion Vehicle  
**PAVN:** People's Army of Vietnam  
**Phibron:** Amphibious Squadron  
**PHILCAGV:** Philippines Civic Action Group, Vietnam  
**PLAF:** People's Liberation Armed Forces  
**Pit:** Platoon  
**POL:** Petrol, Oil, Lubricant  
**Prov:** Provisional  
**PsyOp:** Psychological Operations  
**QM:** Quartermaster  
**RAA:** Royal Australian Artillery  
**RAAF:** Royal Australian Air Force  
**RAG:** River Assault Group  
**RAID:** River Assault Interdiction Division  
**RAR:** Royal Australian Regiment  
**RCLR:** Recoilless Rifle  
**Rcn:** Recon  
**RD:** Revolutionary Development  
**RF:** Regional Forces  
**Rgr:** Ranger  
**Rgt/Regt:** Regiment  
**RIF:** Reconnaissance-in-force  
**Riv:** Riverine  
**RL:** Rocket Launcher  
**RLG:** Royal Laotian Government  
**RMG:** River Mine Group  
**RNZA:** Royal New Zealand Artillery  
**ROK:** Republic of Korea  
**ROKMC:** Republic of Korea Marine Corps  
**RPG:** River Patrol Group  
**RR:** Recoilless Rifle  
**RSSZ:** Rung Sat Special Zone  
**RTA:** Royal Thai Army  
**RTAVF:** Royal Thai Army Volunteer Force  
**RTAVR:** Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment  
**RTG:** Royal Thai government  
**RVN:** Republic of Viet Nam  
**RVNAF:** Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces  
**SAS:** Special Air Service  
**SASR:** Special Air Service Regiment  
**SEAL:** Sea, Air and Land  
**SEALORDS:** South East Asia Lake-Ocean-River-Delta Strategy  
**Sec:** Security  
**Sep:** Separate  
**Serv:** Service  
**SFGA:** Special Forces Group, Airborne  
**SLF:** Special Landing Force

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**SLR:** Self-Loading Rifle  
**SMEH:** Semi Mobile Evacuation Hospital  
**SMG:** Sub Machine gun  
**SOG:** Studies & Observation Group  
**SOS:** Special Operations Squadron  
**SOW:** Special Operations Wing  
**Spec:** Special  
**SPS:** Security Police Squadron  
**Sqn:** Squadron  
**SRAC:** Second Regional Assistance Command  
**Strat:** Strategic  
**S&T:** Supply & Transport  
**STZ:** Special Tactical Zone  
**S&S:** Supply & Service  
**Sup:** Support  
**SW:** Strategic Wing  
**TA:** Target Acquisition  
**TAOI:** Tactical Area Of Interest  
**TAOR:** Tactical Area Of Responsibility  
**TASG:** Tactical Air Support Group  
**TASS:** Tactical Air Support Squadron  
**TC:** Troop Carrier  
**TCS:** Troop Carrier Squadron  
**TDY:** Temporary Duty  
**TEWS:** tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron  
**TFS:** Tactical Fighter Squadron  
**TFW:** Tactical Fighter Wing  
**TF:** Task Force  
**TG:** Tactical Group  
**TCG:** Troop Carrier Group  
**TCS:** Troop Carrier Squadron  
**TRAC:** Third Regional Assistance Command  
**TRS:** Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron  
**TRW:** Tactical Reconnaissance Wing  
**Trans:** Transportation  
**Trp:** Troop  
**USAHAC:** United States Army Headquarters Area Command  
**VC:** Viet Cong  
**VMCJ:** Marine Composite Reconnaissance Squadron  
**VMF:** Marine Fighter Squadron  
**VMFA:** Marine Fighter Attack Squadron  
**VMO:** Marine Observation Squadron  
**VN:** Vietnamese  
**VNAF:** Viet Nam Air Force  
**VNMC:** Viet Nam Marine Corps  
**VNN:** Viet Nam Navy  
**VNSF:** Viet Nam Special Forces  
**Vol:** Volunteer  
**WESTPAC:** Western Pacific  
**WHRID:** White Horse ROK Infantry Division

## GLOSSARY OF RVNAF OPERATION NAMES

**AN DAN:** People's Peace  
**BAC THIEN:** Advancing North  
**BIET CHINH:** Far Away Expedition  
**BINH TAY:** Conquering the West  
**CAI CACH:** Reform  
**CHINH NGHIA:** Just Cause  
**CUU LONG:** Vietnamese name for the Mekong River  
**DAN CHI:** People's Will  
**DAN HOA:** Reconciliation  
**DAN QUYEN:** Civil Right  
**DONG TAM:** United Hearts and Minds  
**HOA BINH:** Peace  
**HOA XUAN:** Spring Flower  
**LAM SON:** Blue Mountain  
**LE LOI:** Vietnamese Emperor of the 14<sup>th</sup> Century  
**LIEN KET:** (Inter)Connection  
**LONG PHI:** Flying Dragon  
**NGO QUYEN:** Vietnamese national hero from the 10<sup>th</sup> century

**PHI HO:** Flying Tiger  
**PHI PHUNG:** Flying Phoenix  
**QUYET THANG:** Resolved to Win  
**SONG THAN:** Big Wave (Tsunami)  
**TRUY KICH:** Pursuit Attack  
**XAY DUNG NONG THON (XDNT):** Rural Development

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## APPENDIX 1 RVNAF ORDER OF BATTLE 1967

### JOINT GENERAL STAFF:

Headquarters: Saigon  
Commanders: LTG Cao Van Vien

### GENERAL RESERVE

#### Airborne Division

Headquarters: Tan Son Nhut  
Commander: MG Du Quoc Dong  
Composition: TF 1, 2, 3; Airborne Battalions: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup><sup>94</sup>. Artillery Battalion: 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### VNMC Brigade

Headquarters: Camp Song Than, Thu Duc  
Commander: LTG Le Nguyen Khang  
Composition: TF ALPHA & BRAVO; Marine Battalions: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>.

### I CORPS

Headquarters: Da Nang  
Commander: LTG Hoang Xuan Lam  
Independent Regiment: 51<sup>st</sup>.  
Armored Cavalry Squadrons: 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Artillery Battalion: 44<sup>th</sup>.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> RANGER GROUP

Ranger Battalions: 21<sup>st</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, 39<sup>th</sup>.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Hue  
Commander: MG Ngo Quang Truong  
Regiments: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 54<sup>th</sup>.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Quang Ngai  
Commander: MG Hoang Xuan Lam, MG Nguyen Van Toan (from 10 Jan)  
Regiments: 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>.

### II CORPS

Headquarters: Pleiku  
Commanders: LTG Vinh Loc  
Armored Cavalry Squadrons: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>.  
Artillery Battalions: 37<sup>th</sup>, 63<sup>rd</sup>, 69<sup>th</sup>.

#### 24<sup>th</sup> SPECIAL TACTICAL ZONE

94 Activated on 1 December 1967.

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Headquarters: Kontum  
Independent Regiment: 42<sup>nd</sup>.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> RANGER GROUP

Ranger Battalions: 11<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Ba Gi  
Commanders: BG Nguyen Van Hieu  
Regiments: 40<sup>th</sup>, 41<sup>st</sup>, 47<sup>th</sup>.

### 23<sup>rd</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Ban Me Thuot  
Commanders: BG Truong Quang An  
Regiments: 44<sup>th</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup>.

### III CORPS

Headquarters: Bien Hoa  
Commanders: LTG Le Nguyen Khang<sup>95</sup>.  
Armored Cavalry Squadrons: 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Artillery Battalion: 46<sup>th</sup>, 61<sup>st</sup>.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> RANGER GROUP

Ranger Battalions: 31<sup>st</sup>, 34<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup>, 36<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup>, 52<sup>nd</sup>.

### 5<sup>th</sup> RANGER GROUP

Ranger Battalions: 30<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup>, 38<sup>th</sup>.

### 5<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Phu Loi  
Commanders: MG Pham Quoc Thuan  
Regiments: 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>.

### 18<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION<sup>96</sup>

Headquarters: Xuan Loc  
Commanders: BG Do Ke Giai  
Regiments: 43<sup>rd</sup>, 48<sup>th</sup>, 52<sup>nd</sup>.

### 25<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Duc Hoa  
Commanders: MG Phan Trong Chinh  
Regiments: 46<sup>th</sup>, 49<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>.

### IV CORPS

Headquarters: Can Tho  
Commanders: MG Nguyen Van Manh  
Armored Cavalry Squadrons: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Artillery Battalion: 47<sup>th</sup>, 67<sup>th</sup>, 68<sup>th</sup>.

### 4<sup>th</sup> RANGER GROUP

Ranger Battalions: 32<sup>nd</sup>, 41<sup>st</sup>, 42<sup>nd</sup>, 43<sup>rd</sup>, 44<sup>th</sup>.

### 7<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: My Tho  
Commanders: BG Nguyen Viet Thanh

95 Also commander of the VNMC.

96 On 1 Jan 67, the 10<sup>th</sup> Inf Div became the 18<sup>th</sup> Inf Div because of the unfavorable connotations of the expression "number ten".

Regiments: 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>.

### 9<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Sa Dec  
Commanders: MG Lam Quang Thi  
Regiments: 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup><sup>97</sup>.

### 21<sup>st</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Bac Lieu  
Commanders: MG Nguyen Van Minh  
Regiments: 31<sup>st</sup>, 32<sup>nd</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup>.

## APPENDIX 2 1967 PAVN/PLAF CAMPAIGNS

Chiến dịch Quảng Ngãi (8/1/1967 – 28/3/1967).  
Chiến dịch Sa Thầy 2 (14/2/1967 – 30/4/1967).  
Chiến dịch đánh bại cuộc hành quân Junction City của Mỹ (22/2/1967 – 15/4/1967).  
Chiến dịch Lộc Ninh (27/10/1967 – 10/12/1967).  
Chiến dịch Đắc Tô (3/11/1967 – 22/11/1967).

## APPENDIX 3 PAVN/PLAF DIVISIONS 1965-1975

### Division 1

-Division 1/B3: Established Dec 1965, consisted of Regiment 66, 88, 320. Early 1967 received Regiment 174 replacing Regiment 88. Late 1968 moved to B2 (except Regiment 66), received Regiment 101D. Practically all regiments separated to reinforce other fronts. Late 1973 officially disbanded.

### Division 2

-Division 2/MR5: Established 20 Oct 1965, consisted of Regiment 1, 21. Oct 1966 received Regiment 31. Jul 1970 received Regiment 141 replacing Regiment 21. Summer 1972 received Regiment 52/Division 320A replacing Regiment 31. Jun 1973 transferred Regiment 141 to Division 3, separated Regiment 52, received Regiment 31, 38.

### Division 3

-Division 3/MR5, AKA Division "Sao Vàng" (Gold Star). Established 2 Sep 1965, consisted of Regiment 2, 12, 22. Feb 1970 disbanded Regiment 22. Jul 1970 disbanded. On 29 Jun 1971 reestablished with Regiment 2, 12, 21. Late Jun 1973 disbanded Regiment 21 and received Regiment 141/Division 2.

-Division 3/B2, AKA Division "Phước Long". Established late 1973, consisted of Regiment 201, 205, 271A.

### Division 4

-Division 4/MR9: Established Jul 1974, consisted of Regiment 2, 10, 20.

### Division 5

-Division 5/B2: Established 2 Sep 1965, consisted of Regiment 4, 5. Sep 1967 received Regiment 88 (until Nov 1967). Apr 1968 separated Regiment 4. Jul 1968 received Regiment 33, 88. Oct 1968, Regiment 174 replaced Regiment 88. Late 1969 or early 1970 separated Regiment 33. Jun 1970 separated 2 battalions of Regiment 5 and established Regiment 1 with left battalion. Established Regiment 3 at the same time.

-Division 5/MR5: Established Sep 1965, consisted of Regiment

97 On 1 Mar 67 the 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment was redesignated the 16<sup>th</sup> Regiment to rid it of the bad luck associated with the number 13.



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10, 20. Fought in the area of Phú Yên, Khánh Hoà, Đắk Lắk 1965-1966. No more information, maybe disbanded in 1966.

### Division 6

-Division 6/MR7. Established Nov 1974, consisted of Regiment 4, 33.

### Division 7

-Division 7/B2: Established on 13 Jun 1966, consisted of Regiment 12, 14, 16. Early 1967 separated Regiment 16, received Regiment 52/Division 320. Apr 1967 received Regiment 16 replacing Regiment 52. Oct 1967 separated Regiment 16. Aug 1968 received Regiment 320. Nov 1968 separated Regiment 320. Late 1968 early 1969 received Regiment 209/Division 1.

### Division 8

-Division 8/MR8: Established 20 Oct 1974, consisted of Regiment 24, 88, 320. Early 1975 received Regiment 207 replacing Regiment 88.

### Division 9

-Division 9/B2: Established on 2 Sep 1965, consisted of Regiment 1, 2, 3. Early 1969 separated Regiment 3, received Regiment 88(A)/Division 308 which redesignated as Regiment 3B. Oct 1969 separated Regiment 88, received Regiment 95C/Division 325B which redesignated as Regiment 3/Division 9.

### Division 10

-Division 10/B3: AKA Division "Đắk Tô" (Dakto): Established on 20 Sep 1972, consisted of Regiment 28, 66, 95. May 1973 received Regiment 24(B) replacing Regiment 28.

### Division 31

-Division 31/MR4: Established on 11 Jul 1974, consisted of 335, 866. Fought in Laos.

### Division 304

-Division 304(A), AKA Division "Vinh Quang" (Glory): Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 9, 57, 66. Mar 65 received Regiment 42 replacing Regiment 57 which redesignated as Regiment 24. Summer 1965 moved to the South, disbanded and separated regiments to reinforce fronts.

-Division 304B: Established Aug 1965 and became official Division 304, consisted of Regiment 9(B), 57(B), 66(B).

### Division 305

-Division 305: Established Jul 1954. In 1960 became Brigade 305. In 1964 became Parachute Brigade. Apr 1967 combined with other units to form Đặc Công (Sapper) Command.

### Division 308

-Division 308, AKA Division "Quân Tiên Phong" (Vanguard): Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 36, 88, 102. Late 1965 early 1966 transferred Regiment 88(A) to B3 and established new Regiment 88/Division 308 in the North. Feb 1968 transferred Regiment 36(A) to MR5 and established new Regiment 36/Division 308.

-Division 308B: AKA Division 338, numbering used when it was reorganized as a combat division Jul 1972.

### Division 312

-Division 312, AKA Division "Chiến Thắng" (Victory): Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 141, 165, 209. In 1966 transferred Regiment 141 (141A), 165 (165A) to the South to create Division 7 and established new Regiment 141 (141B), Regiment 165 (165B) in the North. Jan 1968 transferred Regiment 141B, 209A to the South. Aug 1968 reestablished with Regiment 141, 165, 209.

-Division 312B: Established May 1972 from cadets of military schools as reserved division of General Staff. No more information, maybe disbanded the same year.

### Division 316

-Division 316, AKA Division "Bông Lau": Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 98, 174, 176. In 1958 reduced to brigade. May 1964 reorganized as full division, consisted of Regiment 148, 174, 673. Apr 1966 separated Regiment 174, 673. May 1966 established new Regiment 174(B). In 1974 received Regiment 149.

### Division 320

-Division 320A, AKA Division "Đồng Bằng" (Plain): Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 48, 52, 64. Early 1966 transferred Regiment 52 to the South and established new Regiment 52/Division 320A. Sep 1966 transferred Regiment 52 to B2 and established new Regiment 52/Division 320A. Jan 1971 transferred Regiment 52 to B2, received Regiment 46/MR3 which redesignated as Regiment 52/Division 320A. Jun 1972 transferred Regiment 52 to MR5. Early 1975 received Regiment 9/Division 968.

-Division 320B: Established middle 1965, consisted of Regiment 48, 64, 52. In 1972 transferred Regiment 52 to Division 341 and received Regiment 27.

### Division 324

-Division 324, AKA Division "Ngự Bình": Established Jun 1955, consisted of Regiment 90, 93, 803. Feb 961 reduced to brigade. May 1965 reorganized as full division 324 with Regiment 90, 803, 812. Late 1966 disbanded. Feb 1969 reestablished with Regiment 29, 803, 812 which redesignated as Regiment 1, 2, 3.

### Division 325

-Division 325(A), AKA Division "Bình Trị Thiên": Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 18(A), 95(A), 101(A). Moved to the South Nov 1964 and disbanded, regiments reinforced other fronts.

-Division 325B: created from elements of Division 325. In 1964, consisted of Regiment 18B, 95B, 101B. Middle 1965 transferred Regiment 101B to the South and established Regiment 101C. Moved to the South Dec 1965 and disbanded, regiments reinforced other fronts.

-Division 325C: Established late 1965, consisted of Regiment 18C, 95C, 101D. Moved to Central Highlands Apr 1968 and disbanded, regiments reinforced other fronts.

-Division 325D: Established Summer 1968, consisted of Regiment 18D, 95D, 101E. Moved to Quảng Trị early 1969. From late 1969 to late 1971 on training duty. Nov 1971 reorganized as full and official Division 325, consist of Regiment 18, 95, 101. Early 1975 transferred Regiment 95(D) to Central Highlands. Mar 1975 received Regiment 46.

### Division 330

-Division 330: Established In 1954. In 1962 reduced to Brigade 330 and maybe disbanded later.

### Division 335

-Division 335, AKA Division "Thảo Nguyên" (Steppe): Established May 1955. Sep 1959 reduced to Brigade, fought in Laos. In 1965 reduced to Regiment 335.

### Division 338

-Division 338: Established late 1956. Mar 1958 reduced to Brigade. Aug 1966 reorganized as training division. Jul 1972

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became combat division 308B, consisted of Regiment 36B, 88B, 102B. Oct 1972 transferred Regiment 36B to Division 341. Apr 1973 received Regiment 52/Division 341. Aug 1973 transferred Regiment 88B to Division 316. Mar 1974 redesignated as Division 338 with Regiment 52, 102. Stayed in the North during the war.

### Division 341

-Division 341, AKA Division "Sông Lam" (Lam River): Established in 1955 (?). In 1960 reduced to Brigade. Feb 1962 reorganized as Division 341. In 1964 sent all units to the South and disbanded. Mar 1965 reestablished. Late 1966 sent all units to the South and disbanded. Nov 1972 reestablished with Regiment 52/Division 320B and 270. Mar 1973 received Regiment 36B replacing Regiment 52 which redesignated as Regiment 273. Jun 1973 received Regiment 266.

-Division 341B: Established Mar 1975. No more information.

### Division 350

-Division 350: Established on 21 Sep 1954. Mar 1958 reduced to Brigade 350. Apr 1965 reorganized as Division 350. Stay in the North during the war.

### Division 711

-Division 711/MR5: Established Nov 1971 consisted of Regiment 31, 38. Apr 1972 received Regiment 9(A)/Division 304(A). Jun 1973 disbanded. Some elements transferred to create Brigade 52.

### Division 968

-Division 968/Group 559: Established 28 Jun 1968 as Đoàn 968/MR4, fought in Laos. In 1972 became Division 968, consisted of Regiment 9, 19, 39. Nov 1972 received Regiment 52, 102 established Regiment 59. In 1974 returned to Vietnam with Regiment 9, 19, 29 and under MR4. Late 1974 or early 1975 transferred Regiment 9 to Division 320A.

## APPENDIX - 4 PAVN/PLAF REGIMENTS 1965-1975

### Regiment 1

-Regiment 1/Division 2, AKA Regiment "Ba Gia", also former Regiment 1/MR5. Under Division 2 when Division 2 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 1/Division 9, AKA Regiment "Bình Giã", also former Regiment 1/B2 (AKA Regiment Q761, 271). Established Jul 1961. Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 1/Division 324, AKA Regiment 803/Division 324 redesignated since Aug 1969.

-Regiment 1/Division 5: Established Jun 1970 with a battalion of Regiment 5/Division 5.

-Regiment 1/MR8 AKA Regiment "Đồng Tháp": Established late 1967 with the name "Task Force 1". Early 1968 officially became Regiment 1 "Đồng Tháp".

-Regiment 1 "Quyết Thắng": under Sài Gòn – Gia Định Command. Established Apr 1975, AKA Regiment Gia Định 1.

-Regiment 1/MR5 = Regiment 1/Division 2.

-Regiment 1/B2 = Regiment 1/Division 9.

-Regiment 1/MR9 (1) = Regiment 2/Division 4/MR9: Established Sep 1963. Jun 1964 transferred to B2, redesignated Regiment 3/B2 (AKA Regiment 273). Under Division 9 when Division 9

established Sep 1965. Sep 1969 separated from Division 9, reinforced MR9, redesignated Regiment 2/MR9. Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 1/MR9 (2), AKA Regiment "U Minh": Established Jun 1964.

-Regiment Gia Định 1 = Regiment 1 Quyết Thắng.

### Regiment 2

-Regiment 2/Division 3, AKA Regiment "An Lão", also former Regiment 2/MR5: Established May 1962. Under Division 3 when Division 3 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 2/Division 9, AKA Regiment "Đồng Xoài", also former Regiment 2/B2 (AKA Regiment Q762, 272). Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 2/Division 324: Regiment 812/Division 324 redesignated since Aug 1969.

-Regiment 2/Division 4/MR9, AKA Regiment "Lộc Ninh": former Regiment 1/MR9 (1). Established Sep 1963. Jun 1964 transferred to B2, redesignated Regiment 3/B2 (AKA Regiment 273). Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965. Sep 1969 separated from Division 9 to reinforce MR9, redesignated Regiment 2/MR9. Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 2 "Quyết Thắng" under Sài Gòn – Gia Định Command: Established Apr 1975, AKA Regiment Gia Định 2.

-Regiment 2/MR8 (1): Established late 1967 with the name "Task Force 2". Early 1968 officially Regiment 2/MR8. Middle 1970 disbanded.

-Regiment 2/MR8 (2) = Regiment 320/Division 8: numbering of Regiment 320 when transferred to MR8 Mar 1969.

-Regiment 2/MR9 (1): Established Nov 1963, disbanded Sep 1966.

-Regiment 2/MR9 (2): Established before 2nd phase of Tet 1968, Early 1969 disbanded to reinforce Regiment 1/MR9 (2).

-Regiment 2/MR9 (3) = Regiment 2/Division 4.

-Regiment 2 Gio An: Fought in Huế 1968. No more information.

-Regiment 2/MR5 = Regiment 2/Division 3.

-Regiment 2/B2 = Regiment 2/Division 9.

-Regiment 2/Division 5 = Regiment 174/Division 316: Regiment 174/Division 5 redesignated Jun 1970.

-Regiment Gia Định 2 = Regiment 2 Quyết Thắng.

### Regiment 3

-Regiment 3/Division 9 (1) = Regiment 1/MR9. Jun 1964 moved to B2, became Regiment 3 (AKA Regiment 273). Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965. Sep 1969 separated from Division 9, transferred to MR9, redesignated Regiment 2/MR9 (3) = Regiment 2/Division 4.

-Regiment 3/Division 9 (2): former Regiment 88(A)/Division 308. In 1969 Under Division 9 as Regiment 3B. Oct 1969 separated from division.

-Regiment 3/Division 9 (3): former Regiment 95C/Division 325B. Oct 1969 under Division 9.

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-Regiment 3/Division 5: Established May 1970.

-Regiment 3/Division 324, AKA Regiment 29/Division 324 redesignated Aug 1969. Also former Regiment 18C/Division 325C.

-Regiment 3/MR8 = Regiment 88/MR8: Numbering of Regiment 88 when transferred to MR8 Sep 1969.

-Regiment 3/MR9, AKA Regiment "Cửu Long": Established Apr 1968.

-Regiment 3/B2 = Regiment 3/Division 9.

### Regiment 4

-Regiment 4/Division 6, AKA Regiment "Đồng Nai": Established 3/Feb 1965. Under Division 5 when Division 5 established Sep 1965. Apr 1968 separated from Division 5, under B2. Under Division 6/MR7 when Division 6 established.

-Regiment 4/Division 5 = Regiment 4/Division 6.

-Regiment 4/B2 = Regiment 4/Division 6.

-Regiment 4/B4 (MR Trị Thiên), AKA Regiment "Phong Quảng": Established Apr 1973.

-Regiment 4/MR8: Numbering of Regiment 24/Division 8 when reinforced MR8 middle 1972.

### Regiment 5

-Regiment 5/Division 5: also former Regiment 5/B2: Established May 1965. Under Division 5 when Division 5 established Sep 1965. Jun 1970 disbanded. 2 battalions to establish Regiment 205, the remaining to establish Regiment 1/Division 5.

-Regiment 5/B2 = Regiment 5/Division 5.

-Regiment 5/MR8 = Regiment 207/Division 8: Numbering of Regiment 207 when transferred to MR8 1972.

### Regiment 6

-Regiment 6/B4 (MR Trị Thiên) AKA Regiment Phú Xuân: Established Oct 1965.

### Regiment 9

-Regiment 9/Division 304, AKA Regiment Quang Trung. Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 9(A) separated from Division 304 Jan 1965. Regiment 9B/Division 304B established Aug 1965, became official Regiment 9/Division 304.

-Regiment 9/Division 968 = Regiment 9(A)/Division 304(A).

-Regiment 9/Division 320A = Regiment 9 (A)/Division 304(A).

-Regiment 9/Division 711 = Regiment 9(A)/Division 304(A).

-Regiment 9(A)/Division 304(A): separated from Division 304 1/1965, Fought in Laos and Trị Thiên (Jul 1967). Fought in Laos late 1971 early 1972. Apr 1972 under Division 711/MR5. Jun 1973 became independent regiment. Then under Division 968. Early 1975 transferred to Division 320A.

-Regiment 9(B)/Division 304B: Established Aug 1985, became official Regiment 9/Division 304.

### Regiment 10

-Regiment 10/Division 4, AKA Regiment "Ngô Quyền": Also former Regiment 95(A)/Division 325(A). Moved to Central Highlands late 1964, early 1965. Early 1966 moved to MR5, redesignated as Regiment 10. Early 1968 moved to B2. Early 1970

transferred to MR9. Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 10/MR5 = Regiment 10/Division 4.

-Regiment 10/MR9 = Regiment 10/Division 4.

### Regiment 12

-Regiment 12/Division 3/MR5, AKA Regiment "Tây Sơn": Also former Regiment 18(A)/Division 325(A), which moved to MR5 Feb 1965 and redesignated. Under Division 3 when Division 3 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 12/Division 7/B2: Also former Regiment 165(A)/Division 312 which moved to the South in 1966 and redesignated. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Sep 1966. AKA Regiment 165/Division 7.

### Regiment 14

-Regiment 14/Division 7/B2: also former Regiment 141(A)/Division 312 which moved to the South in 1966 and redesignated. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Sep 1966. AKA Regiment 141/Division 7.

### Regiment 16

-Regiment 16/MR7: also former Regiment 101(A)/Division 325(A) moved to B2 Middle 1965, redesignated as Regiment 16 (AKA Regiment Q16). Under Division 7 when Division 7 established. Separated to become independent regiment. Under Division 7 and Division 9 in short terms, then under MR7.

-Regiment 16/Division 7 = Regiment 16/MR7.

-Regiment 16/Division 9 = Regiment 16/MR7.

### Regiment 18

-Regiment 18/Division 325, AKA Regiment "Lê Trực". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 18(A) moved to the South Feb 1965. Regiment 18B moved to the South Dec 1965. Regiment 18C separated from division Mar 1968. Regiment 18D under Division 325D when division reorganized as combat division Nov 1971, then became official Regiment 18/Division 325.

-Regiment 18(A)/Division 325(A) = Regiment 12/Division 3. Moved to MR5 Feb 1965 and redesignated as Regiment 12. Under Division 3 when Division 3 established Sep 1965

-Regiment 18B/Division 325B = Regiment 20/Division 4. Established early 1964, moved to the MR5 Dec 1965. Redesignated as Regiment 20. Dec 1968 moved to B2. Early 1970 moved to MR9. 1974 Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 18C/Division 325C: Established late 1965. Jan 1968 moved to Trị Thiên. Mar 1968 separated from division. Redesignated as Regiment 29 and then became Regiment 3/Division 324.

-Regiment 18D/Division 325D: Established summer 1968. From late 1969 to late 1971 on training duty. Nov 1971 reorganized and became official Regiment 18/Division 325.

### Regiment 19

-Regiment 19/Division 968: Established Apr 1972, Fought Laos. Then under Division 968.

### Regiment 20

-Regiment 20/Division 4, AKA Regiment Trần Hưng Đạo: also former Regiment 18B/Division 325B moved to the MR5 Dec 1965 and redesignated as Regiment 20. Dec 1968 moved to B2. Early 1970 moved to MR9. 1974 under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.



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-Regiment 20/MR9 = Regiment 20/Division 4.

-Regiment 20/Division 5/MR5 = Regiment 20/Division 4.

### Regiment 21

-Regiment 21/Division 2: Established early 1965 in the North and moved to the South. Under Division 2 when Division 2 established Sep 1965. Nov 1971 transferred from Division 2 to Division 3. Jun 1973 Disbanded.

-Regiment 21/Division 3 = Regiment 21/Division 2.

### Regiment 22

-Regiment 22/Division 3: Established summer 1965 in the North and moved to the South. Under Division 3 when Division 3 established Sep 1965. Disbanded Feb 1970.

### Regiment 24

-Regiment 24/Division 304: Regiment 24(A)/Division 304(A) also former Regiment 42/ MR Tả Ngạn, moved to the South 1965. Regiment 24B/Division 304B established in the North and became official Regiment 24/Division 304.

-Regiment 24/Division 10: also former Regiment 42 reestablished. Late 1968 combined with Regiment 42/Division 350 to form Regiment 42 MR Tả Ngạn. Oct 1971 transferred to B3, redesignated Regiment 24. May 1973 under Division 10.

-Regiment 24/Division 8: also former Regiment 42 MR Tả Ngạn redesignated. In 1965 joined Division 304(A), then separated and transferred to MR5. In 1966-1969 transferred to B3. In 1970 fought in Laos and Cambodia. In 1972 transferred to B2. Jun 1972 transferred to MR8. Under Division 8/MR8 when Division 8 established Oct 1974.

-Regiment 24/B3 = Regiment 24/Division 10.

-Regiment 24B/Division 304B: established Aug 1965 became official Regiment 24/Division 304.

### Regiment 25

-Regiment 25/B3: Established Early 1975.

### Regiment 27

-Regiment 27/Division 320B, AKA Regiment "Triệu Hải": Established Feb 1968, under MR4 then transferred to B5. From Jun 1972 under Division 320B.

-Regiment 27/B5 = Regiment 27/Division 320B.

### Regiment 28

-Regiment 28/B3: Established 1968. Under Division 10 when Division 10 established Late 1972. May 1973 separated from Division 10 to become independent regiment.

- Regiment 28/Division 10 = Regiment 28/B3

### Regiment 29

-Regiment 29/Division 324 = Regiment 3/Division 324, also former Regiment 18C/Division 325C.

-Regiment 29/Division 968, AKA Regiment "Vĩnh Thắng": Established May 1974, then under Division 968.

-Regiment 29/B2: Established May 1968. No more information.

Regiment 31:

- Regiment 31/Division 2: also former Regiment 64/Division 320. Feb 1966 transferred to MR5 and redesignated as Regiment 31. Oct 1966 under Division 2.

- Regiment 31/B5, AKA Regiment 31/Division 341/MR4 transferred to B5 (1966-1967).

### Regiment 32

-US designation of Regiment 320.

### Regiment 33

-Regiment 33/B3 = Regiment 101B/Division 325B. Late 1968 moved to B2. Under Division 6/MR7 when Division 6 established.

### Regiment 36

-Regiment 36/Division 308, AKA Regiment "Bắc Bắc". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 36A/Division 308 transferred to MR5 Feb 1968, Regiment 36B/Division 308 established in the North and became official Regiment 36/Division 308.

-Regiment 36A/Division 308: transferred to MR5 Feb 1968.

-Regiment 36B/Division 308B = Regiment 273/Division 341.

-Regiment 36/MR5 = Regiment 36A/Division 308.

### Regiment 38

-Regiment 38/Division 2: also former Regiment 90/Division 324. Then separated from Division 324, transferred to MR5 and redesignated as Regiment 38. Jun 1973 under Division 2.

### Regiment 39

-Regiment 39: Established 1/1972. Fought in Laos. Then under Division 968.

### Regiment 42

-Regiment 42 (1) = Regiment 24/Division 8: In 1965 joined Division 304(A) and redesignated as Regiment 24(A).

-Regiment 42 (2) = Regiment 24/Division 10, transferred to B3 Oct 1971.

### Regiment 46

-Regiment 46/Division 325: Under MR3, transferred to B4 (MR Trị Thiên) early 1975. Then transferred to Division 325.

### Regiment 48

-Regiment 48/Division 320A, AKA Regiment Thăng Long. Established in 1st Indochina War.

-Regiment 48/Division 320B, AKA Regiment Thạch Hãn. Under Division 320B when Division 320B established

### Regiment 52

-Regiment 52/Division 320A, AKA Regiment Tây Tiến. Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 52/Division 320A (1) moved to the South early 1966. Regiment 52/Division 320A (2) moved to the South Sep 1966. Regiment 52/Division 320A (3) moved to the South early 1971. Regiment 52/Division 320A (4) Jun 1972 separated from Division 320A.

-Regiment 52/Division 320A (1): moved to B2 early 1966. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Jun 1966. Apr 1967 separated from Division 7. No more information.

-Regiment 52/Division 320A (2): Established Jun 1966. Moved to B2 Sep 1966. No more information.

-Regiment 52/Division 320A (3): Established Oct 1966, moved to B2 early 1971. No more information.

-Regiment 52/Division 320A (4): Under Division 320A. Jun 1972 separated from division, transferred to MR5. Then under Division 2 MR5. Jun 1973 separated from division, reorganized as Bri-

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gade 52/MR5.

-Regiment 52/Division 320B = Regiment 52/Division 338: Late 1972 transferred to Division 341. Mar 1973 transferred to Division 308B (338).

-Regiment 52/Division 2 = Regiment 52/Division 320A (4): Separated from Division 320A, transferred to Division 2 from Jun 1972-Jun 1973.

-Regiment 52/Division 341 = Regiment 52/Division 320B.

-Regiment 52/Division 338 = Regiment 52/Division 320B.

### Regiment 59

-Regiment 59: under Division 968 in Laos, established 1972.

### Regiment 64

-Regiment 64/Division 320A, AKA Regiment "Quyết Thắng". Note: it's neither Regiment 1 or 2 Quyết Thắng of Sài Gòn-Gia Định Command. Regiment 64 transferred to MR5 Feb 1966 and redesignated as Regiment 31. Regiment 64/Division 320A then reestablished in the North.

-Regiment 64/Division 320B: Under Division 320B when Division 320B established

### Regiment 66

-Regiment 66/Division 304, AKA Regiment "Ký Con". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 66A/Division 304A moved to the South late 1965. Regiment 66B/Division 304B established in the North and became official Regiment 66/Division 304.

-Regiment 66/Division 10, AKA Regiment "Plây Me" (Plei Me): Also former Regiment 66A/Division 304A which moved to the South late 1965. Under Division 1 when Division 1 established Late 1966. Separated from Division 1 to under B3 when Division 1 moved to B2. Under Division 10 when Division 10 established Late 1972.

-Regiment 66/B3 = Regiment 66/Division 10.

-Regiment 66/Division 1 = Regiment 66/Division 10.

### Regiment 88

-Regiment 88/Division 308 AKA Regiment "Tu Vũ". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 88A/Division 308 moved to the South Dec 1965. Regiment 88B/Division 308 established in the North and became official Regiment 88/Division 308.

-Regiment 88/MR8: also former Regiment 88(A)/Division 308. Moved to Central Highlands Dec 1965. Under Division 1. Moved to B2 In 1967. Under Division 5 since Sep to Nov 1967 and during Jan 1968. Under Division 9 in 1969 as Regiment 3B. Separated after that and moved to MR8. Under Division 8/MR8 when Division 8 established Oct 1974. Early 1975 separated to become independent regiment.

-Regiment 88/Division 5 = Regiment 88/MR8.

-Regiment 88/B3 = Regiment 88/MR8.

-Regiment 88B/Division 308B = Regiment 149/Division 316: Regiment 88B under Division 308B (Division 338) when Division 338 reorganized as combat Division 308B Jul 1972. Jun 1973 transferred to Division 316, redesignated as Regiment 149.

### Regiment 90

-Regiment 90/Division 324 = Regiment 38/Division 2.

### Regiment 93

-Regiment 93/MR5: Established late Mar 1975, under Bình Định Command.

### Regiment 94

-Regiment 94/MR5: Established Feb 1975, under Quảng Ngãi Command.

### Regiment 95

-Regiment 95/Division 325, AKA Regiment "Nguyễn Thiện Thuật". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 95(A)/Division 325(A) moved to the South late 1964. Regiment 95B/Division 325B moved to the South late 1965. Regiment 95C/Division 325C moved to the South early 1968. Regiment 95D/Division 325D established summer 1968 and late 1971 became official Regiment 95/Division 325.

-Regiment 95A/Division 325A: Established Early 1964. Moved to Central Highlands Late 1964, Early 1965. Early 1966 moved to the South Trung Bộ, redesignated as Regiment 10. Early 1968 moved to B2. Early 1970 transferred to MR9. Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 Established.

-Regiment 95B/Division 325B: Established early 1964. Moved to Trị Thiên Dec 1965. Then transferred to B3. During 1975 period it also called "Regiment 95A" to distinguish from "Regiment 95B" which arrived B3 later ("Regiment 95B" is Regiment 95D).

-Regiment 95C/Division 325C: Established late 1965. Moved to Khe Sanh Feb 1967. Moved to Central Highlands Apr 1968. Moved to the B2 Jun 1968, under Division 9 and redesignated as Regiment 3/Division 9.

-Regiment 95D/Division 325D: Established summer 1968. Fought in Trị Thiên in Division formation. From late 1969 to late 1971 on training duty. Nov 1971 reorganized and became official Regiment 95/Division 325. Early 1975 separated from Division 325 and transferred to B3. During 1975 period it also called "Regiment 95B" to distinguish from "Regiment 95A" which already in B3 ("Regiment 95A" is Regiment 95B).

### Regiment 96

-Regiment 96/MR5: Established Feb 1974.

### Regiment 101

-Regiment 101/Division 325, AKA Regiment "Trần Cao Vân". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 101(A)/Division 525(A) moved to the South late 1964. Regiment 101B/Division 325B moved to the South middle 1965. Regiment 101C/Division 325B moved to the South late 1965. Regiment 101D/Division 325C moved to the South middle 1968. Regiment 101E/Division 325D became official Regiment 101/Division 325 Nov 1971.

-Regiment 101(A)/Division 325(A): Established early 1964. Moved to Central Highlands late 1964 early 1965. Moved to B2 Middle 1965, redesignated as Regiment 16 (AKA Regiment 16).

-Regiment 101B/Division 325B: Established early 1964. Moved to Central Highlands middle 1965. Middle 1966 combined with Regiment 101C to form Regiment 33.

-Regiment 101C/Division 325B: Established middle 1965, moved to Trị Thiên Dec 1965. Middle 1966 moved to Central Highlands combined with Regiment 101B to form Regiment 33.

-Regiment 101D/Division 325C: Established late 1966. Moved to Quảng Trị Jun 1967. Moved to Central Highlands Apr 1968. Moved to B2 late 1968, Under Division 1 fought in Cambodia. Late 1973 transferred to MR9.

-Regiment 101E/Division 325D: Established summer 1968, during 1969-1970 on training duty. Nov 1971 reorganized and

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became official Regiment 101/Division 325.

-Regiment 101/MR9 = Regiment 101D.

### **Regiment 102**

-Regiment 102/Division 308, AKA Regiment "Thủ đô" (Capital). Established in 1st Indochina War.

-Regiment 102/Division 338 AKA Regiment 102B/Division 308B: Under Division 338 when Division 338 reorganized as combat Division 308B Jul 1972.

-Regiment 102B/Division 308B = Regiment 102/Division 338.

### **Regiment 141**

-Regiment 141/Division 312, AKA Regiment "Ba Vì". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 141A/Division 312 moved to the South 1966. Regiment 141B/Division 312 moved to the South 1968. Regiment 141/Division 312 then reestablished in the North.

-Regiment 141A/Division 312, moved to the South 1966 and redesignated as Regiment 14. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Sep 1966. Both called as Regiment 141/Division 7 and Regiment 14/Division 7.

-Regiment 141B/Division 312, AKA Regiment "Hoài Ân". Established in 1966 after Regiment 141A moved to the South. Jan 1968 transferred to MR5. Jul 1970 under Division 2. Jun 1973 transferred from Division 2 to Division 3.

-Regiment 141/Division 2 = Regiment 141B/Division 312..

-Regiment 141/Division 3/MR5 = Regiment 141B/Division 312 .

-Regiment 141/Division 7 = Regiment 141A/Division 312.

### **Regiment 148**

-Regiment 148/Division 316, AKA Regiment Sơn La: Established in 1st Indochina War. Jun 1964 transferred from MR Tây Bắc (North West) to Division 316.

### **Regiment 149**

-Regiment 149/Division 316: former Regiment 88B/Division 308B (Division 338) transferred to Division 316 and redesignated in 1973.

### **Regiment 165**

-Regiment 165/Division 312, AKA Regiment "Lao Hà Yên": Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 165(A)/Division 312 moved to the South 1966. Regiment 165/Division 312 then reestablished in the North.

-Regiment 165/Division 7 = Regiment 12/Division 7.

-Regiment 165A/Division 312 = Regiment 12/Division 7: Moved to B2 1966 and redesignated as Regiment 12. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Sep 1966. Both called as Regiment 165/Division 7 and Regiment 12/Division 7.

### **Regiment 174**

-Regiment 174/Division 316, AKA Regiment "Cao Bắc Lạng". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 174(A) separated from Division 316 early 1965. Regiment 174B established May 1966 became official Regiment 174/Division 316.

-Regiment 174/Division 5 = Regiment 174(A)/Division 316: Fought in Laos early 1965. Separated from Division Apr 1966. Moved to Central Highlands Mar 1967. Transferred to B2 Jul 1968. Under Division 5 since Oct 1968. Jun 1974 redesignated

as Regiment 2/Division 5.

-Regiment 174/B3 = Regiment 174/Division 5.

-Regiment 174B/Division 316: Established May 1966, became official Regiment 174/Division 316.

### **Regiment 176**

-Regiment 176: Established in Laos Mar 1973

### **Regiment 201**

-Regiment 201/Division 3/B2: Established Oct 1970 in Cambodia. Under Division 3/B2 (Division "Phước Long") when Division 3 established.

### **Regiment 205**

-Regiment 205/Division 3/B2: Established Jul 1970 based on 2 battalions of Regiment 5/Division 5. Under Division 3/B2 when Division 3 established.

### **Regiment 207**

-Regiment 207/Division 8: Established 1970 in Cambodia. In 1972 under MR8. Oct 1974 under Division 8/MR8 when Division 8 established.

### **Regiment 209**

-Regiment 209/Division 312, AKA Regiment "Sông Lô" (Lô River). Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 209A moved to the South Jan 1968. Regiment 42/MR Tà Ngạn transferred to Division 312 and became official Regiment 209/Division 312.

-Regiment 209A/Division 312: moved to the South Jan 1968 and under Division 7.

-Regiment 209/Division 7 = Regiment 209A/Division 312.

### **Regiment 238**

-Regiment 238/B5: under Quảng Trị Command in 1968. No more information

### **Regiment 246**

-Regiment 246, AKA Regiment "Tân Trào". Established in 1st Indochina War. Under MR Việt Bắc, transferred to B5 1967-1968.

### **Regiment 266**

-Regiment 266/Division 341: Established Sep 1973.

### **Regiment 268**

-Regiment 268 under Sài Gòn - Gia Định Command: expanded from Battalion 268 in 1968, in 1970 reduced to battalion.

### **Regiment 270**

-Regiment 270/Division 341 = Regiment 270/MR4 Established in 1954, reorganized many times. Expanded to Brigade 341 (1957) and Division 341 (1962), disbanded 1964. Oct 1970 reestablished Regiment 270 and transferred to Quảng Trị until Nov 1971. Aug 1972 transferred all battalions to Laos. Nov 1972 reestablished Regiment 270 under Division 341.

-Regiment 270/B5 = Regiment 270/Division 341

-Regiment 270/Division 341B: AKA Regiment 57, redesignated and under Division 341B Mar 1975.

### **Regiment 271**

-Regiment 271/Division 3/B2, AKA Regiment 271A: former Regiment 812 established in 1st Indochina War. Moved to the South late 1971 and under B2. Under Division 3/B2 when Division 3/B2 established.

-Regiment 271/MR4: transferred to Quảng Trị in Sep 1972.



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-Regiment 271/MR8: AKA Regiment 271B. Established Jan 1975 based on a battalion of Regiment 271A. Apr 1975 transferred to MR8.

-Regiment 271/Division 9 = Regiment 1/Division 9.

-Regiment 271/B2 = Regiment 1/Division 9.

-Regiment 271A = Regiment 271/Division 3/B2.

-Regiment 271B = Regiment 271/MR8.

## **Regiment 272**

-Regiment 272/Division 9 = Regiment 2/Division 9.

-Regiment 272/B2 = Regiment 2/Division 9.

## **Regiment 273**

-Regiment 273/Division 341: also former Regiment 8 MR Tà Ngạn. Aug 1972 under Division 308B and redesignated as Regiment 36B. Feb 1973 transferred to Division 341 and redesignated as Regiment 273.

-Regiment 273/Division 9 = Regiment 3/Division 9.

-Regiment 273/B2 = Regiment 3/Division 9.

## **Regiment 274**

-Regiment 274 AKA Regiment 4/Division 5. US designation only.

## **Regiment 275**

-Regiment 275 AKA Regiment 5/Division 5. US designation only.

## **Regiment 320**

-Regiment 320: Established in 1964. Transferred to B3 early 1965. Under Division 1/B3 when Division 1 established late 1965 early 1966. Late 1968 moved to the South and separated from Division 1. Then transferred to MR8. Under Division 8/MR8 when Division 8 established Oct 1974.

## **Regiment 335**

-Regiment 335: former Division 335 and Brigade 335. In 1965 reduced to regiment. Fought in Laos. Under Division 31 when Division 31 established Jul 1974.

## **Regiment 803**

-Regiment 803/Division 324 = Regiment 1/Division 324.

## **Regiment 812**

-Regiment 812/MR6: Established May 1974.

-Regiment 812/Division 324 = Regiment 2/Division 324.

## **Regiment 866**

-Regiment 866: Established Aug 1966. Fought in Laos. Under Division 31 when Division 31 established Jul 1974.

## **CONTACT AND CREDITS**

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