headquarters
u.s. military
assistance command
vietnam
monthly summary

DEC 1988
UNCLASSIFIED
FOR THE PRESS:

This release has been prepared to present a review of significant events occurring in this command during December 1968:

It has been organized as follows:

- A summary of December events:
  - General
  - Significant Ground Operations
  - Air Operations
  - Naval Operations
- A detailed chronology of December events
- A review of ground operations

MERRITT G. GARNER
Colonel, USAF
Chief, PTD, MACOI
General: Action increased during the month compared with enemy
initiated activity in November. There were indications that the enemy was
preparing for major offensive action in mid-December, primarily in III
Corps, but he was probably temporarily pre-empted by losses inflicted
during allied sweep operations and other interdiction efforts.

I CORPS

During the month, enemy activity increased from that of November.
Friendly positions south of the DMZ in the Rockpile area received harassing
mortar and rocket attacks from within and south of the DMZ. In the eastern
DMZ, aerial and ground observers reported several sightings of enemy in groups
as large as 30 men.

In Quang Tin and Thua Thien Provinces, the enemy increased his harassing
attacks on population centers and Allied positions. On 4 December, the
Phong Dien District Headquarters, and Nhi Vien Orphanage received an estimated
50 rounds of 82mm mortar and rocket propelled grenade fire. PWs and ralliers
stated that the enemy planned to attack Hue in the near future.

In southern I Corps, the enemy increased his attacks by fire, harassing
attacks, and ground assaults on Allied installations. The air facilities
at Da Nang and Chu Lai were attacked by rockets twice during the month. On
18 December, the enemy conducted three harassing attacks within Tam Ky City,
resulting in minor friendly casualties. In Quang Nam Province, Operation
MINAR RIVER terminated on 9 December, with cumulative results of more than
1,000 enemy killed. As a result of this successful cordon operation, major
elements of the 36th NVA Regiment were considered to be temporarily combat
ineffective. During the period 23-26 December, the enemy suffered an additional
350 killed to ARVN units in contact near An Hoa. The enemy unit was identified
as a regiment of the 2nd NVA Division. An additional 70 enemy were killed
just north of An Hoa on 31 December.

In Quang Ngai Province, PWs and documents indicated that elements of
the 3rd NVA Division were preparing for offensive activity.

II CORPS

Enemy activity was generally at a low level in the western highlands
during the month. The enemy primarily maintained a presence in the Western
Highlands by standoff attacks, which included the use of 122mm rockets against
Kontum City on 22 December, and against Pleiku City early on 23 December.
Elements of the 95B NVA Regiment were probably responsible for attacks by fire
against Camp Radcliff at An Khe on 18 and 23 December, and against a U.S. base
camp 10 km west of An Khe on 23 December.
Activity in Darlac Province was high-lighted by attacks by fire against the Ban Me Thuot City Airfield on three occasions during the month.

Reports continued to indicate enemy plans to attack the Duc Lap Civil Irregular Defense Group Camp in Quang Duc Province; however, the several small contacts in the area were probably only a reflection of the continuing enemy use of his Cambodian base area for infiltration and logistics activity.

Documents captured in Binh Dinh Province revealed enemy plans for a large scale attack against Qui Nhon as part of the Winter-Spring Campaign. However, Korean Army units inflicted heavy losses on enemy units in Binh Dinh Province during the month, significantly reducing the enemy's capability to conduct major offensive activity.

On 1 December, also in Binh Dinh Province, Korean Army forces killed or captured the battalion commander and four company commanders of a Local Force Battalion, two company commanders of one Sapper Battalion, and two officers from another Sapper Battalion. These personnel were enroute to a meeting to discuss future offensive plans. On 2 December, Korean Army elements killed more than 90 members of the Local Force Battalion which lost its battalion commander and four company commanders the previous day. Elsewhere, captured documents, FW statements, and other reports provided indications that a regiment of the 5th NVA Division had returned from a period of refitting in Cambodia and was preparing for offensive activities.

In the remainder of II Corps, enemy activity continued to consist of attacks against isolated outposts, and interdiction of lines of communication, primarily in an enemy effort to disrupt the Revolutionary Development Program.

III CORPS

In III Corps Tactical Zone, the enemy commenced repositioning of his divisional forces in anticipation of coordinated offensive operations. Continued enemy infiltration of men and supplies was evidenced by contacts in the northern and northeastern part of the Corps.

To the west, in Binh Long and northeastern Tay Ninh Provinces, numerous attacks by fire on allied fire support bases and landing zones were apparently conducted to screen the southward redeployment of enemy forces. A regiment of the 5th VC Division, was identified in southwest Phuoc Long Province. The 7th NVA Division was engaged, in the Cambodian border, Tay Ninh, Binh Long Province area.

During the month, the 9th VC Division moved regimental elements in western Tay Ninh Province. The 272nd Regiment, 9th Division lost 103 killed in southern Tay Ninh Province, and an element of the 271st Regiment, 9th Division, was engaged in southwest Tay Ninh Province.

In southeast III Corps, elements of the 274th VC Regiment were noted in contact in central and south-central Bien Hoa Province. Enemy forces in
III Corps generally attempted to avoid major engagements while repositioning their forces. There were indications that an offensive was planned for 17 December following repositioning, however, friendly sweep operations inflicted casualties on many of his units causing a delay of his plans.

IV CORPS

In IV Corps, enemy initiated activity decreased slightly from that of November. However, the night of 5-6 December saw 44 enemy initiated incidents, the highest total since 22 August. Attacks on hamlets and cadre groups involved in the Government of Vietnam's accelerated Pacification Campaign increased, indicating VC concern over their widening loss of popular support. Allied operations in and near the enemy's main staging areas may have preempted the major attacks predicted for December by agents, ralliers, and captured documents.

Operations on 1 and 10 December near Cai Lay, in Dinh Tuong Province, resulted in 129 enemy killed. In Kien Phong Province, 151 enemy were killed during two operations. In Vinh Binh Province, a total of 197 enemy were killed in three operations, and in the U-Minh Forest, ARVN elements conducted operations resulting in 183 enemy killed.

Three caches, located in the U-Minh forest, contained over 4 tons of munitions, 42 radios, a 10-ton printing press, and 2 tons of newsprint.

Naval operations in Chuong Thien Province, resulted in 55 enemy killed and a large amount of arms, ammunition and other materiel and foodstuffs captured or destroyed, including over 26 tons of rice.

Also relating to serious losses among enemy in IV Corps, are the increasing number of VC rallying to the Government of Vietnam. There were 1,991 Hei Chanks in December, the highest monthly total since March 1967.

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SIGNIFICANT GROUND OPERATIONS

HOI AN, 8 DECEMBER

At 1630, elements of the 26th Marine Regimental Landing Team, 5th and 7th Regiments, 1st Marine Division, and an ARVN armored personnel carrier troop, while tightening the cordon in an area 9 miles west-northwest of Hoi An made contact with an unknown size enemy force in bunker complexes and a treeline. The enemy force was supported by organic weapons including mortars, while artillery and helicopter gunships supported the friendly elements in contact. Action continued until 1915 when the remaining enemy avoided contact under cover of darkness. Ninety-one enemy soldiers were killed in the 3-hour battle while U.S. losses were 16 killed and 37 wounded. In addition, one suspect was detained and 15 individual weapons were captured. ARVN casualties were light with no fatalities.

The above action occurred in Operation MEADE RIVER, a multi-battalion search and clear operation in Quang Nam Province which commenced on 20 November, and terminated on 9 December. During the 20-day operation, Marines from the 1st Marine Division and supporting tactical air strikes, artillery and helicopter gunships killed 841 enemy soldiers (712 NVA), detained 2,710 suspects, and captured 164 individual and 15 crew-served weapons. Initial reports indicated that major elements of the independent, North Vietnamese Army, 36th Regiment, were trapped within the highly effective cordon and suffered heavy casualties which temporarily rendered the Regiment combat ineffective. The 36th North Vietnamese Army Regiment has operated in the northern provinces of South Vietnam for almost eight months following infiltration into South Vietnam earlier in the year.

U.S. losses were 107 killed and 523 wounded in Operation MEADE RIVER.

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AN HOA, 18 DECEMBER

At approximately 0900, a company from the U.S. Army’s 196th Light Infantry Brigade, AMERICAL Division, while conducting a combat sweep in an area 6 miles southeast of An Hoa, observed an estimated reinforced enemy company carrying packs and rifles. The infantrymen, supported by tactical airstrikes and helicopter gunships, attacked the enemy force and action continued throughout the morning and afternoon until 1800 when contact was lost. During a sweep of the battle area, 103 enemy bodies were found. U.S. casualties were 3 wounded (minor), with no fatalities.

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- 4 -
8 DECEMBER

91 ENEMY KILLED

103 ENEMY KILLED
AIR OPERATIONS

AIR SOUTH

U.S. Air Force pilots flew 10,605 tactical air sorties in support of Allied ground forces, Marine Corps pilots flew another 7,841 sorties, and Navy pilots flew 153 for a total of 18,599 tactical air sorties during the month. Of the total sorties flown, more than 6,000 were immediate and/or were flown in direct support of ground troops in contact with the enemy.

The aircrews reported killing 678 enemy while destroying or damaging numerous enemy emplacements and crew-served and automatic weapons positions. Their air-delivered ordnance also resulted in 625 secondary explosions.

AIRLIFT

Military Airlift Command (In-Bound and Out-Bound, SVN)

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<th>No. of Passengers</th>
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834th Air Division "Common Service" Airlift System (Within SVN)

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<td>756,468</td>
<td>146,245</td>
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Medical Evacuation

<table>
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<th>No. of Patients (U.S. Outbound, SVN)</th>
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<td>4,565</td>
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</table>

B-52 MISSIONS

Two hundred and seventeen missions were flown during the month by Air Force B-52s. Of these missions, 125 were directed against enemy targets in the III Corps Tactical Zone, 53 in I CTZ, 22 in II CTZ, and 17 in IV CTZ.
NAVAL OPERATIONS

NAVAL GUNFIRE SOUTH VIETNAM

Seventh Fleet ships were kept busy all month, shelling enemy positions along the coast of South Vietnam.

Involved in the gunfire activity were the battleship New Jersey; the cruisers Canberra, Newport News and Oklahoma City; the guided missile destroyers Berkeley, Joseph Strauss, Goldsborough, Towers, Waddell and the Australian guided missile destroyer, the HMAS Perth.


Also participating were the destroyer escort Savage, the Coast Guard Cutters Bibb, Wachusett and Winnebago, the rocket-firing ships Clarion River and White River, and the patrol gunboat Asheville.

The warships destroyed 373 bunkers and damaged another 228. Enemy structures destroyed numbered 554, while another 484 were damaged. The shelling resulted in 137 secondary fires and explosions.

Thousands of meters of trenchlines and trails were rendered unserviceable by the guns of the Seventh Fleet. Numerous enemy killed or wounded in action were reported and 46 sampans were either destroyed or damaged.

NAVAL GUNFIRE DEMILITARIZED ZONE

Seventh Fleet ships fired into the DMZ several times during December. The targets included an antiaircraft site firing at U.S. aircraft, active automatic weapons sites and North Vietnamese troops spotted moving in the area.

Ground and aerial observers operating just south of the DMZ called in the fire from the off shore ships.

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS
DECEMBER 1968

1 December (Sunday)

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 1345, hel gunships fr the air cav elm, US 11th Armd Cav Regt, obs an unk size en force while cdng an aerial recon msn 8 ml S of Phuoc Vinh. The gunships eng the en with MG & rkt fire. Shortly after the contact, air cav trps fr the Regt were aaalt into the vic. While cdng a cbt swp, the inf obs & eng an unk size en force at 1600. The en empl SA & auto wpns fire while the trps rtn fire with organic wpns spt by the gunships. As act cont, an elm of the US 1st Inf Div, under op con of the 11th ACR, was aaalt into the battle area to refnd the trps in contact approx 1 hr later. Res: 24 EK, US 1 KIA & 3 WIA.

- NEVADA EAGLE (Thua Thien Prov): At 1600, an elm of the US 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div (AM), discovered the bodies of 15 en soldiers in graves while searching an area 6 ml ESE of Phu Loc. The apparent time & cause of death has not yet been reptd.

- III MAF (Quang Tin Prov): At approx 1615, a recon elm fr the US 196th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, loc a gp of 15 NVA soldiers while searching an area 10 ml W of Tam Ky. The recon trps reinf by inf fr the Bde, atk the en force killing all 15 NVA soldiers. In addition, 4 I/Wpns were cptrd. US cas were 1 WIA.

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1445, an elm of the US 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, obs a gp of 15-20 NVA soldiers carrying packs & rfls 9 ml W of Hoi An. The MAR dir arty fire onto the en killing 9 NVA soldiers while the remaining en withdrew fr the area.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 1340, an elm of the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, discovered an en ammo cache while swp an area 8 ml SW of Ben Cat. The cache cntn 128 82mm mort rds, 43 cans of mort charges, 30 RFG-7 rkt-grens, 70 RPG-2 rkt grene & 54 RPG-2 boosters.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1600, 2 aerial obs flying recon mns over the S half of the DMZ obs an en auto wpns psn 4 ml N of Gio Linh (approx 300 meters S of the Ben Hai River) & what appeared to be, five 100-lb sacks of sup in a nearby area. One of the AO's rec auto wpns fire fr the en wpns psn & dir tac air onto the loc res in 2 bunkers, 1 small struc & 90 meters of trenchline dest & 1 bunker dam. In addition, 1 sec explosion & 1 sec fire were obs. The AO's then dir arty fire onto the sup area & reptd the sup & 2 lg bunkers dest & 2 sec explosions with 40-ft fireballs. No US cas & neither acrt was hit.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 596 sorties (USAF 334, USMC 261, USN 1). EDA incl dest or dam 483 en ftns, 40 supply craft, & reptd 12 sec explos-

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ions, 33 fires & 13 en kd. 228 of the Air Force sorties sptd US & other allied forces cdtg cbt & off swps; 124 of the flts sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jets flew 20 sorties in spt of Op MEADE RIVER, 18 in spt of Op HENDERSON HILL & 22 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op SCOTLAND II was sptd by 476 MAR hel sorties, Op MEADE RIVER by 412, & Op HENDERSON HILL by 27. A Navy A-4 Skyhawk fr the USS Coral Sea struck an en biv area 4 mi NW of Khe Sanh. Dam assessment not aval.

- USA hel gunships reptd 28 EK, & 18 fttns & 7 sampans dest.

- B-52s flew 6 msns: 8 mi N of Loc Minh in Binh Long Prov, 5 mi W of Ben Cat in Binh Duong Prov, 19 mi NW of Pleiku City, 2 msns 11 mi NE & 7 mi E of Phuoc Vinh in Phuoc Long Prov, & 26 mi WSW of Hue in Thua Thien Prov.

2 December (Monday)

- HARDIN FALLS (Quang Nam Prov): Commenced. The multi-co search & clear op involves elms of the US 198th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAN Div, the armd cav sqdn of the div & VN RF & PF trps along with NP elms. The op area is cen approx 7 mi SE of Hoi An.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1830, an aerial obs flying a recon msn S of the Ben Hai River rec .50 cal fire fr 2 en wpns psns loc 5 & 5½ mi N NE of Con Thien (1 psn was loc 300 meters N of the Ben Hai River in the N half of the DMZ, the other one was loc 100 meters S of the Ben Hai River. US Air Force tac air was dir onto the 2 psns res in 1 wpn psn dam (N half of the DMZ) & 1 dest (S half of the DMZ). The acft were not hit & there were no US cas.

- VERNON LAKE (Quang Ngai Prov): Terminated. Op commenced on 25 Oct 68. During the 8-day op 93 en soldiers were kd, 23 I/Wpns & 1 CSW were cptrd. US losses were 1 kd & 4 wounded.

- KENTUCKY (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 0945, a mech inf elm of the US 1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech), discovered an en cache 2 mi NE of Con Thien. Cache cntn 8,500 12.7mm MG rds, 9,000 7.62mm SA rds, 15,000 60mm mort fuzes, 350 60mm mort rds, 130 blasting caps, 1 RPG rkt gren launcher & 1 ton of polished rice.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 0930, a VN RF trp eng an unk size en force while cdtg a cbt swp 3 mi NW of Can Duoc. The RF inf were sptd by hel gunships & at 1130, an elm of the US 3rd Bde, 9th Inf Div, reinf the contact. Res: 14 EK, 17 suspects dtn & 8 I/Wpns cptrd. No US or VN cas reptd.

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): (a) At approx 0830, a co fr the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, while cdtg a cbt swp 5 mi W of Duc Hoa, eng an unk size en force. The inf were sptd by hel gunships until 0900 when the en withdrew. Res: 9 EK, 2 suspects dtn, 3 I/Wpns & 4 rdos cptrd. No US cas.

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(b) BING DUONG PROV - An aerial rfl plat fr the US 11th Armd Cav Regt cdtg a pre-planned tac airstrike bomb dam assessment msn 11 mi E of Lai Khe found the bodies of 11 en soldiers. In addition, 7 indiv, & 2 CSW wpns & 2 rdos were cptrd. There were no US cas.

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam River): At 1000, an elm of the 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, eng an unk size NVA force while cdtg a swp op 8 mi WNW of Hoi An. The en empl SA & auto wpns fire fr fortified psns in a treeline while the MAR rtn fire with organic wpns sptd by arty. Act cont until 1800 when contact was lost as the en withdrew. Res: 2 EK, US 7 KIA, 8 WIA. During the above act, another elm of the Regt obs 10 en soldiers in the open at 1550, & dirarty fire onto the gp killing 9 en soldiers while the remaining en soldiers withdrew. There were no MAR cas. At 1700, & also in the same area, 2 other elms of the 5th MAR Regt simultaneously eng unk size en forces occupying fortified psns. The en empl SA while the MAR rtn fire with organic wpns sptd by mort, arty & tac air. The bodies of 11 en soldiers were found in a search of the 2 psns. US cas were 6 wounded (2 evac). Cum res of the 4 eng were: 22 EK, US 7 KIA & 14 WIA.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At 1010, an elm of the 199th Lt Inf Bde, was led to an en ammo cache by a detainee. The cache was loc 3 mi N of Ben Luc & cntn 96 RPG-2 rkt grens, 70 RPG-2 boosters, 28 RPG-7 rkt grens, & 30 RPG-7 boosters.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 593 sorties (USAF 347, USMC 246). BDA incl dest or dam 606 en ftns & 35 sampans. 25 fires & 15 sec explosions were also reptd. 250 of the Air Force sorties sptd major allied gnd ops. Op MEADE RIVER was sptd by 13 MAR jet sorties, Op HENDERSON HILL 24 & Op NEVADA EAGLE 27. MAR hel crews flew 758 spt sorties for Op SCOTLAND II & 369 for Op MEADE RIVER.

- USA hel gunships reptd dest 105 en ftns & 13 supply craft, & reptd 33 EK.

- An Army UH-1 hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 8 mi E of Katum in Tay Ninh Prov. 2 US Army pers were wounded & the acft was dest.

- An Army UH-1 hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed in an area 7 mi NW of Dong Xoai in Phuoc Long Prov. 3 US Army pers were wounded & the acft was dest.

- B-52s flew 7 msns: 6 mi ESE of Phuoc Vinh in Binh Duong Prov, 28 mi NE of Tay Ninh City in Tay Ninh Prov, 29 mi NE of Tay Ninh City, 31 mi ESE of Ban Me Thuot in Darlac Prov, 28 mi NNW of Tay Ninh City, & 2 msns 21 & 23 mi NE of Tay Ninh City. Rtng crews reptd causing 7 mln sec explosions in the msn over Binh Duong Prov.
3 December (Tuesday)

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 0830, an aerial obs flying a recon msn over the S half of the DMZ rec auto wpns fire fr an en .50 cal MG psn loc 5 mi NNE of Con Thien (150 meters N of the Ben Hai River) in the N half of the DMZ. US MAR tac air was dir onto the en wpns psn silencing the gun emplacement. No acft were hit in the eng.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 0950 hrs, an aerial obs flying a recon msn over the S half of the DMZ rec .50 cal MG fire fr an en wpns psn 4 mi NW of Gio Linh (approx 200 meters N of the Ben Hai River) in the N half of the DMZ. MAR tac air & 16-in naval gunfire fr the USS New Jersey were dir onto the wpns psn res in the dest of 1 bunker & 200 meters of trenchline, & severe dam to 2 struc. The en wpns psn was also silenced. No acft were hit in the eng.

- TOAN THANG (Phuoc Long Prov): At approx 1025 hrs, an elm of the US 3rd Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM) was aslt into an area 15 mi WSW of Phuoc Binh. At 1045, the unit rec hv SA, auto wpns, RPG rkt-gren & 82mm mort fire fr an est NVA bn. The hv fire was fol by several en gnd asltls which were repelled by the cav trpsempl organic wpns sptd by tac air, arty & aerial rct arty hel gunships fr the div. Act cont into the afternoon until approx 1500 when contact was lost as the en withdrew. US losses in the 4-hr battle were 25 kd & 52 wounded. 1 en body was found. During a swp of the battle area on 4 Dec, another elm of the bde eng an unk size en force at about 1510. Tac air sptd the cav during a 50-min fire fight which fol. Contact was lost at 1600 as the en again withdrew. 13 US soldiers were wounded in this eng. En cas are unk.

- QUYET CHIEN (Kien Phong Prov): Btw 1100 & 1830, F-100 & A-37 tac acft fr the US Air Force 3rd Tac Ftr Wg atkd elms of an est en bn in an area 9 mi NE of Cao Lanh while sptg ARVN trps in the 44th SZ. ARVN units moved into the area & cdrg a swp finding 62 en bodies kd by the airstrikes.

- III MAF (Quang Ngai Prov): At approx 1500, a co fr the AMERICAL Div's 196th Lt Inf Bde, while cdrg a cbt swp 22 mi SW of Quang Ngai City, found a cache that cntn 211 82mm mort rds, 36 RPG rkt-gren rds & 3,200 rds of SA ammo.

- TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): At 1045, an aerial obs flying a msn for an elm of the II Fld Force Arty, sighted 4 sampans & 12 en soldiers 10 mi W of Tay Ninh City. The tgt was taken under fire by arty which res in the dest of all 4 sampans & 10 en soldiers reptd kd.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 597 sorties (USAF 350, USMC 247). BDA incl dest or dam 498 en ftms, 1 wpns psn, & 22 sampans. 19 sec explosions, 30 fires & 67 EK were also reptd. 205 of the Air Force sorties sptd major gnd ops; 119 of the ftms sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 18 sorties in spt of Op MEADE RIVER, 22 in spt of Op HENDERSON HILL, 39 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE, & 9 in spt of Op KEN-
TUCKY. MAR hel crews flew 238 sorties in spt of Op MEADE RIVER, 465 for Op SCOTLAND II & 61 for Op HENDERSON HILL.

- USA hel crews reptd 45 EK, & dest 41 ftms & sinking 40 sampans.

- An Army UH-1 hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 12 mi SSE of Dong Xoai in Phuoc Long Prov. 2 US pers were wounded & the acft was dest.

- NGF: The destroyer USS Ernest G. Small, in her first cbt msn, fired on suspected en psns on coastal hillsides btwn Da Nang & Hue before dawn.


4 December (Wednesday)

- TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): At approx 0245, elms of the US 2nd Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM), in mi def psns 12 mi SE of Katum, rec 75-100 82mm mort rds fol by SA fire fr an unk size en force. The inf were sptd by arty, hel gunships & aerial rkt arty hels until 0515 when contact was lost as the en withdrew. Res: 37 EK, US cas 18 WIA. Also, 9 I/Wpns & 2 CSW were cptrd.

- TOAN THANG (Phuoc Long Prov): At approx 1430, a co fr the US 3rd Bde, 1st Air Cav Div found a cache while swpg an area 9 mi WNW of Song Be. The cache cntn 300 60mm mort rds, 300 92mm mort rds & 100 75mm RR rds.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 627 sorties (USAF 370, USMC 257). BDA incl dest or dam 646 en ftms, 1 wpns psn, & 37 supply craft. 24 EK, 33 sec explosions & 59 fires were also reptd. 215 of the Air Force sorties sptd major gnd ops; 94 of the flts sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 26 sorties in spt of Op MEADE RIVER, 18 in spt of Op HENDERSON HILL & 39 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op SCOTLAND II was sptd by 349 MAR hel sorties, Op MEADE RIVER by 228, & Op HENDERSON HILL by 42.

- USA hel gunships reptd 47 EK, & dest 125 en ftms & sinking 64 sampans.

- An Army UH-1 hel was hit by gnd fire & crashed 7 mi W of An Loc in Binh Long Prov. 6 men aboard were kd & the acft was dest.

- B-52s flew 5 msns: 2 msns 7 mi E & 11 mi NE of Phuoc Vinh, 2 msns 10 & 11 mi NE of Cao Lanh in Kien Phong Prov, & 28 mi NE of Tay Ninh City.

5 December (Thursday)

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam Prov): During a cordon & search op at 1200 in an area 9 mi W of Hoi An, 2 coe fr the US MAR 26th Regt Ldg Tm atkd an
unk size en force in well-fortified psns. The MAR atkd the psns after dir tac air & arty fire onto the extensive bunker complex. Contact was lost at 1700 when the en withdrew. Res: 67 NVA soldiers kd, 5 suspects were dtn & 10 I/Wpns were cptrd. No MAR cas.

- HENDERSON HILL (Quang Nam Prov): A 1st MAR Div Recon Tm cdtg ops at approx 1900 spotted 15 sampans carrying 26 en soldiers in an area 6 mi N of An Hoa. The en soldiers were dressed in black & were carrying packs & rfs. The MAR dir arty fire onto the en psns res in 16 en kd & 4 sampans sunk. The remaining en withdrew. There were no US cas.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1900, a plat fr the US MAR 26th Regtl Ldg Tm, in ni ambs psns 9 mi NW of Da Nang, eng an est 20 en soldiers with organic SA & auto wpns fire. Res: 14 EK, 3 suspects dtn, while US cas were 1 KIA & 3 WIA.

- TOAN THANG (Gia Dinh Prov): At approx 1545, a co fr the US 3rd Bde, 82nd Abn Div while cdtg a cbt swp 7 mi NW of Saigon found 15 compl 107mm rkts. The rkts were buried 200 meters fr a hamlet & under 2 ft of dirt. The rkts were wrapped in plastic & were in excellent cond.

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 1330, an elm of the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, discovered an en cache 6 mi N of Hiep Hoa. The cache ctn 35 ChCom cbns, 35 AT mines & 500 canteens.

- SCOTLAND II (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 1830, an elm of the US 4th Regt, 3rd MAR Div, in ni def psns 4 mi NW of the Rockpile, rec approx 45 rds of en 82mm mort fire res in 1t MAR cas. Counter-mort fire was dir against the suspected en firing psns loc to the N & about 2 mi S of the S edge of the DMZ with unk res.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 0745, 2 aerial obs flying recon mins 3 of the Ben Hai River over the S half of the DMZ obs five .50 cal MG emplacements in a general area 3 mi NE of Con Thien (approx 200 meters N of the S edge of the DMZ). Tac air & naval gunfire fr the USS New Jersey were dir onto the emplacements res in 12 bunkers, five .50 cal MG emplacements & 65 meters of trenchline dest & 3 bunkers dam. The acft were not hit & there were no US cas.

- TOAN THANG (Bien Hoa Prov): At approx 2215, a US Army spt area in the Bien Hoa AB rec approx 25 rds of en 82mm mort fire res in 1t US cas & 1t dam. ARVN cas were very lt with no fatalities. Counter-mort fire was dir against suspected en firing psns with unk res.

- HENDERSON HILL (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1830, a recon tm fr the US 1st MAR Div obs 10 en soldiers in an area 6 mi N of An Hoa. The MAR dir arty fire onto the en trps & reptd sighting the bodies of 8 en in the strike area fol the act. The remaining en withdrew. Later in the ni, at 2045, another Div recon tm obs a gp of 12 en soldiers in the same general area 7 mi N of An Hoa. Arty fire was dir onto the en conc

- 13 -
killing 8 additional en & raising the total to 16 EK in the 2 brief acts. The remaining en immed withdrew. There were no MAR cas in either act.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 612 sorties (USAF 360, USMC 252). BDA incl dest or dam 690 en ftns, 1 wpns psn & 44 supply craft. 22 EK, 20 sec explosions & 46 fires were also reptd. 216 of the Air Force sorties spdt major gnd ops; 101 spdt the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 10 sorties in spt of Op HENDERSON HILL & 45 in spt of Op HENDERSON HILL & 45 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op SCOTLAND II was spdt by 586 hel sorties, Op MEADE RIVER by 262 & Op HENDERSON HILL by 50.

- USA hel gunships reptd 36 EK, & dest 150 en ftns & sinking 16 sampans.

- An Army OH-6 lt obs hel was hit by en gnd fire at 0815. It crashed 6 mi W of Dong Xoai in Phuoc Long Prov killing 2 Army pers & dest the acft.


6 December (Friday)

- TOAN THANG (Binh Long Prov): Btw midnight & 0215, the en dir several harassing atks by fire onto US & ARVN units & GVN installations in the An Loc area as fol: (a) At approx 0010, an elm of the ARVN 5th Inf Div 1 mi NW of An Loc rec about 25 rds of 82mm mort fire res in very lt cas; (b) At approx 0110, the An Loc Dist Hqs area rec approx 20 rds of 82mm mort fire res in no reptd cas or dam; (c) At approx 0110, less than 15 rds of 82mm mort fire impacted in the vic of a LZ occupied by elms of the 1st Cav Div (AM) 4 mi NE of An Loc res in no reptd cas or dam; (d) At approx 0135, less than 5 unk cal rkt impacted in the vic of a LZ 1 mi NE of An Loc occupied by elms of the 1st Cav Div (AM) res in neg cas; (e) At 0215 the same LZ 1 mi NE of An Loc rec approx 15 rds of 60mm mort fire res in no cas. US & ARVN arty fire & hel gunships eng the suspected en firing psn with unk res.

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 0915, a mech inf elm of the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, discovered an en ammo cache 5 mi E of Trang Bang. The cache cntn 110 RPG-2 rkt grens, 127 82mm mort rds, 30 RPG-7 rkt grens, 64 ChiCom hand grens, 41 cans of 82mm mort fuzes, 13 AT mines & 8,500 rds of SA ammo.

- HARDIN FALLS (Quang Nam Prov): Announced. Commenced 2 Dec 68. The multi-co search & clear op involves elms of the US 198th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, the armd cav sqdn of the div & VN RF & PF trps along with NP elms. The op is cen approx 7 mi SE of Hoi An & to date there have been no significant contacts reptd. As of 5 Dec, 17 en have been kd &
3 suspects dtn. In addition, 1 I/Wpn has been cptrd. No friendly cas were reptd.

- III CORPS: Op GIANT SLINGSHOT commenced. The op is cen on the Vam Co Dong & Vam Co Tay Rivers, flowing W fr a pt S of Saigon around the "Parrot's Beak" sect of the Cambodian border. More than 40 USN ptl bts have moved into a "Y"-shaped complex of narrow rivers within 15 mi of Saigon to interdict en movement across the W approaches to SVN's capital city. Taking part in the op are the fiberglass river ptl bts & minesweepers of the Navy's Game Warden River Ptl Force, as well as armd aslt ptl bts, armd trp carriers & "Monitors" of the Navy's River Aslt Flotilla One. Neither river has been ptld reg by USN Forces.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 0935, a US aerial obs on a recon msn over the S DMZ rec hv fire fr an en .50 cal AA MG loc 4 mi NNW of Gio Linh & about 1 km fr the Ben Hai River in the S DMZ. The obs dir US MAR arty fire onto the wpns psn silencing the en wpn. The obs acft was not hit & there were no US cas.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1255, a US aerial obs on a recon msn over the S DMZ obs 31 en soldiers 2 mi NW of Gio Linh (approx 2 mi S of the act en AA MG psn reptd earlier in the day) in the S half of the DMZ. Arty fire was dir onto the en trp conc with unk res as en smoke prevented compl assessment of the strike area.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1810, a US MAR arty forward obs loc S of the DMZ, obs 6 en soldiers in an open area 4 mi N of Gio Linh & 300 meters S of the Ben Hai River. The FO dir arty fire onto the en trps res in 1 sec explosion. En cas are unk.

- HENDERSON HILL (Quang Nam Prov): Terminated. The op commenced 23 Oct 68 under the con of the US 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div & had the specific msn to cptr or eliminate en forces, installations & mat within its area of responsibility. Cum res: 700 EK, 94 suspects dtn, & 41 I/Wpns & 5 CSW were cptrd. US 35 kd & 273 wounded of whom 233 were evac. The op was sptd by 618 tac air sorties.

- TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): Btw 0100 & 0215, 3 en atks by indir fire were reptd as fols: (a) At approx 0100, about 30 rds of 82mm mort fire impacted in the vic of the Phuoc Ninh Dist Hqs 6 mi W of Tay Ninh City res in no reptd cas or dam; (b) At approx 0100, the Tay Ninh Dist Hqs 2 mi NW of Tay Ninh City rec approx 50 rds of 82mm mort fire res in lt ARVN & RF cas; (c) At approx 0215, a LZ occupied by US & VN trps 31 mi NE of Tay Ninh City rec approx 40 rds of 75mm RR fire res in very lt US & VN cas with no fatalities reptd. Arty fire was dir against the suspected en firing psns with unk res.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 1230, an elm of the US 3rd Bde, 9th Inf Div, discovered an en wpns & ammo cache while swpg an area 3 mi
NW of Can Duoc. The cache cntn 15 AK-47 rUs (ChiCom), 34 82mm mort rds & 30 RPG rkt gren rds.

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 2245, an elm of the US 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, rec auto wpns & RPG rkt-gren fire fr an unk size en force inside an area cordoned by allied units 9 mi W of Hoi An. The MAR rtn the fire with organic wpns sptd by arty & hel gunships. Contact was lost at an unreptd time when the en withdrew without breaking through the cordon. As the cordon was tightened the fol morning (7 Dec), at 0915 elms of the 5th Regt & MAR fr an elm of the 26th Regtl Ldg Tm discovered the bodies of 17 NVA soldiers kd in the ni act. In addition, 1 I/Wpn & a small qty of ammo were cptrd. MAR cas were 2 kd & 11 wounded (1 evac).

- III MAF (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 2230, a single span brg loc on Rte #9, 4 mi WSW of Dong Ha, was dest by an unk type en explos device. The brg has been bypassed & traffic cont on the rd. There were no cas reptd.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 642 sorties (USAF 375, USMC 263, USN 4), BDA incl dest or dam 566 en ftns, 1 auto wpns pan, 22 supply craft, & ignited 34 sec explosions & 32 fires. A total of 11 EK were also reptd. 212 of the Air Force sorties sptd major gnd ops; 124 of the flts sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 2 sorties in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 4 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 16 in spt of Op MEADE RIVER, 7 in spt of Op HENDERSON HILL, 40 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE & 2 in spt of Op NAPOLEON/SALINE. Op KENTUCKY was sptd by 13 MAR hel sorties, Op SCOTLAND II by 600, Op MEADE RIVER by 531, & Op HENDERSON HILL by 97.

- USA hel gunships reptd 68 EK, & dest 47 ftns & sank 32 sampans.

- NGF: The battleship USS New Jersey shelled en PfIlls, strucs & a tunnel complex near Da Nang. 7 bunkers & 10 spt strucs were reptd dest in the act. The destroyer USS Walker atkd en assembly areas & bunker complexes in Binh Thuan Prov. 11 bunkers were dest & 3 fires started by the shells.

- B-52s flew 5 mans: 31 mi NNE of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 14 mi E of Cao Lanh in Kien Phong Prov, 19 mi NNE of Dak To in Kontum Prov, & 2 mans 28 to 30 mi NNE of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov.

7 December (Saturday)

- TAYLOR COMMON (Quang Nam Prov): Commenced. The op is cen in an area 10 mi W of An Hoa, & involves elms of the US 3rd, 5th & 7th MAR Regts under the con of the 1st MAR Div. As of 2400, 16 Dec, the MAR & sptg fires have accounted for 123 en kd. In addition, 41 suspects have been dtn & 2 CSW & 18 I/Wpns have been cptrd. MAR cas so far are 18 kd & 73 wounded. A total of 223 tac airs trikes have been flown in spt of the gnd forces.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1215, a US aerial obs on a recon msn over the S
DMZ, obs an en AA pen & 2 en soldiers armed with I/Wpons 4 mi N of Gio Linh & about ½ mi S of the Ben Hai River in the S half of the DMZ. The en fired on the obs acft & the aerial obs dir arty fire onto the en pen res in 1 sec explosion. In addition, the obs reptd 1 bunker dest. En cas are unk. The US acft was not hit & there were no US cas in the eng.

- TOAN THANG (Phuoc Long Prov): At about 1730, a co fr the 1st BDE, 1st Cav Div (AM) discovered a sup cache in a bunker complex while exploiting a B-52 strike area 6 mi NW of Dong Xoa. The cache cntn 4 tons of rice, 40 bicycles, 256 rds of 57mm RR ammo, 876 RPG-2 rkt gren rds, 84 RPG-7 rkt gren rds, & 58,040 rds of SA amino. 4 en bodies were also found in graves nearby.

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 0830, an elm of the US 7th Regt, 1st MAR Div, eng an unk size en force while tightening a cordon in an area 9 mi WNW of Hoi An. The en empl auto wpns & SA fire while the MAR rtn fire with organic wpns sptd by tac air & arty. Contact cont until an unreptd time when the remaining en avoided contact. Res: 22 EK & 7 I/Wpons cptrd. US cas were 8 kd & 17 wounded & evac.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1345, an elm of the US 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, obs & eng 2 en soldiers in a fortified pen while swpg an area 8 mi NE of An Hoa. In a search of the area, the MAR discovered the bodies of the 2 en soldiers & an en rice cache of 50-70 tons, & a lrg qty of en currency totaling 2 million NVA dong (piastres). There were no US cas in the brief act.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 1110, hel gunships fr the air cav sqdn of the 12th Cbt Avn Gp eng an unk size en force while tightening a cordon in an area 12 mi NNW of Tan An. The en empl SA & auto wpns fr fortified pens while the hel empl MG & rkt fire. Act cont until approx 1500 when contact was lost as the remaining en evaded obs & withdrew. Res: hel crews obs the bodies of 18 en soldiers lying in the area fol the eng. There were no US cas.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 1845, a recon ptl fr the US 9th Inf Div eng an unk no of en soldiers 8 mi W of Tan An. The inf empl organic wpns fire sptd by hel gunships while the en rtn fire with SA & auto wpns. Act cont until approx 1930 when the ptl was extracted fr the area by hel. Res: 10 EK, US 1 WIA.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Long Prov): At approx 1630, a LZ 8 mi SW of An Loc, occupied by elms of the 1st Cav Div (AM) & CIDG trps, rec about 100 rds of en 82mm mort fire & one unk cal rkt. Arty was dir onto the suspected en firing pen with unk res. US & CIDG cas were 1t with no fatalities & dam in the area was reptd as 1t.

- IV CORPS (Kien Hoa Prov): At approx 1010, an elm of the US 2nd Bde, 9th Inf Div was asilt into an area 4 mi SE of Ben Tre. The inf immcd rec RPG rkt gren, auto wpns & SA fire fr an est en co in fortified pens near the LZ. The trps rtn fire with organic wpns sptd by tac air, hel gunships
& arty until approx 1400 when the en evaded & withdrew. A short while later, another elm of the Bde was aaslt into the vic & reestablished contact with an unk size en force at approx 1530. Act cont until 1750 when contact was again lost as the en evaded & withdrew. Res: 22 EK, 10 suspects were dtn, 2 MG5 & 2 I/Wpns were cpwr. US cas were 4 WIA.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 642 sorties (USAF 347, USMC 295). BDA incl dest or dam 780 en ftms, 1 rd, 39 supply craft, & ignited 22 sec explosives & 41 fires. 47 EK were also reptd. 250 of the Air Force sorties spdt major gnd ops; 101 of these sorties spdt the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 10 sorties in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 20 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 22 in spt of Op MEADE RIVER, 15 in spt of Op HENDerson HILL & 42 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op KENTUCKY was spdt by 98 MAR hel corties, Op SCOTLAND II by 799 & Op MEADE RIVER by 182.

- USA hel gunships reptd 21 EK, & dest 37 en ftms & sinking 25 supply craft.

- B-52s flew 5 msns: 2 msns 28 to 30 mi NNE of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 12 mi E of Cao Lanh in Kien Phong Prov, 34 mi NW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, & 24 mi NE of Tay Ninh City. Crews reptd 7 lrg sec explosives in the raid in Binh Duong Prov.

8 December (Sunday)

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam Prov): At 1630, elms of the 26th MAR Regtl Ldg Tm, 5th & 7th Regts, 1st MAR Div, & an ARVN armd pers carrier trp, while tightening the cordon in an area 9 mi WNW of Hoi An made contact with an unk size en force in bunker complexes & a treeline. The en force was spdt by organic wpns incl mort, whilearty & hel gunships spdt the friendly elms in contact. Act cont until 1915 when the remaining en avoided contact under cover of darkness. Res: 91 EK, US 16 KIA & 37 WIA. 1 suspect was dtn & 15 I/Wpns were cpwr. ARVN cas were lt with no fatalities.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At 1210, a co fr the US 3rd Bde, 9th Inf Div, discovered an en cache 12 mi NW of Tan An. The cache cntn 193 lbs of TNT, 21,000 rds of AK-47 ammo, 60 AT grens, 43 rds of 75mm RR ammo, 98 rds of 57mm RR ammo, 382 rds of 82mm mort ammo & 40 lbs of med sup.

- TOAN THANG (Dinh Duong Prov): At 1715, an elm of the US 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div, eng an unk size en force 9 mi S of Phuoc Vinh. The inf were spdt by hel gunships & arty. Contact was lost at 1725 as the en withdrew. Res: 16 EK, US 1 KIA & 3 WIA.

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam Prov): At 1400, an elm of the 7th Regt, 1st MAR Div, searching the cordoned area 9 mi WNW of Hoi An, found 12 bunkers & 30 holes cntn the bodies of 47 NVA soldiers. 10 I/Wpns were also found. There was no contact made at this time.

- II FFV (Bien Hoa Prov): At approx 2000, the en dir less than 15 rds of mixed 107mm/122mm rks on a US Army rear area at Long Binh, 4 mi E of
Bien Hoa. Counter-arty fires were dir onto suspected en firing pans with unk res. US forces suffered 1t cas & 1t mat dam. 2 additional en 107mm rktts also landed in Ho Nai village near the Long Binh mil complex dest 5 strucs. There were no reptd VN cas.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 618 sorties (USAF 337, USMC 281). BDA incl dest or dam 714 en ftms, 36 supply craft, & ignited 21 sec explosions & 31 fires. 27 EK were also reptd. 225 of the Air Force sorties sptd major gnd ops; 101 of these flts sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 14 sorties in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 17 in spt of Op MEADE RIVER & 45 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op SCOTLAND II was sptd by 623 MAR hel sorties & Op MEADE RIVER by 233.

- USA hel gunships reptd 71 EK, & dest 65 ftms & sinking 18 sampans.

- B-52s flew 8 msns: 2 msns 27 mi NW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 15 mi SW of Quang Tri City, 24 mi NW of Pleiku City, 9 mi W of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 23 mi NE of Tay Ninh City, 24 mi NW of Pleiku City, & 9 mi W of An Hoa.

9 December (Monday)

- III CORPS: Op GIANT SLINGSHOT was announced. The op commenced 6 Dec 68 & is cen in the Vam Co Dong & Vam Co Tay Rivers, flowing W fr a pt S of Saigon around the Parrot's Beak sect of the Cambodian border.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Long Prov): At approx 1045, a co fr the US 2nd Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM), cdtg a recon-in-force msn 4 mi WSW of An Loc eng an unk size en force. Act cont until 1340 when the en withdrew to the ESE. The cav trps pursued & regained contact a short while later. Act cont until 1630 when the remaining en evaded & withdrew. Res: 93 EK, & 1 CSW, 53 RPG-2 rkt grens, 42 ChiCom hand grens & 34 rds of 60mm mort &ldo were optrd. US cas were 14 kd & 16 wounded.

- NAPOLEON SALINE (Quang Tri Prov): Terminated. Op commenced on 5 Nov 67 under the con of the 3rd MAR Regt, 3rd MAR Div. Cum res: 3,495 EK, 549 suspects dtn, & 631 I/Wms & 200 CSW optrd. US losses were 395 kd & 2,134 wounded of whom 1,680 were evac. The op was sptd by 373 tac air sorties & 197 naval gunfire msns.

- NVN: An Air Force RF-4C recon acft was downed by en gnd fire approx 10 mi N of Dong Hoi & 4 mi off the coast of NVN. The 2-man crew was res by U.S. Air Force hels. Both Navy & Air Force acft flew cover during the pickup, however no suppressive fire was empl.

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam Prov): (a) At approx 1045, elms of the US 26th MAR Regt1 Ldg Tm, while searching an area 9 mi W of Hoi An discovered the bodies of 140 NVA soldiers apparently kd by sptg fires during prev­ious contacts. In addition, the MAR dtn 8 NVA soldiers apprehended in the
search & optrd 32 I/Wpns & 5 CSW which were found scattered in the vic.
Additional items found by the MAR incl approx 1,000 articles of en clothing
& indiv equip, 372 handgrens, 42 RPG rktgrens & misc other SA & auto
wpns ammo. No contact was made during the search & there were no MAR
cas. (b) Later, at approx 1130, elms of the US 26th MAR Regtl Idg Tm
& the US 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, eng an unk size en force in fortified
pans inside a cordoned area 9 mi W of Hoi An & 500 meters N of the previ-
ous swps. Tac air & hel gunships spdt the gnd trps until contact
was lost at approx 1500 when the remaining en avoided further eng. Res:
39 NVA soldiers kd in the act. One NVA soldier was dtn & 14 I/Wpns
were optrd. US cas were 2 WIA.

- MEADE RIVER (Quang Nam Prov): Terminated. The op commenced on 20 Nov
& was cen in an area 9 mi W of Hoi An involving elms fr the US 1st MAR
Div, & in conjunct with ARVN, Korean MAR & VN NP elms. Cum res: 841
EK & dtn 2,710 suspects (of whom 71 were cfm VC Infrastructure pers). In
addition 100 en soldiers were dtn & turned over to the ARVNs as cfm
POW's. Also optrd were 164 I/Wpns & 15 CSW. US losses were 107 kd & 523
wounded (386 evac). Init repts indicate that elms of the indep, NVA, 36th
Regt, were trapped within the highly eff cordon & suffered hv cas which
temp render the regt ctb ineff. The 36th NVA Regt has op in the N provs
of SVN for almost 8 mos fol infiltration fr NVN into SVN earlier this
year.

- IPFW (Khanh Hoa Prov): At approx 0100, the en fired less than 10 rds
of 82mm mort ammo onto the Nha Trang afld res in lt mat dam & lt US
cas with no fatalities. There were no reptd VN cas. Arty & an AG-47
gunship fired on the suspected en mort pans with unk res.

- OPERATION VERNON LAKE II (Quang Ngai Prov): Announced. The multi-bn search
& clear op is also taking place in the same general area as VERNON LAKE
I & involves elms of the 11th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Dong Prov): At approx 1150, a mech inf elm of the US
2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, eng an unk size en force while cdng a ctb swp
6 mi SW of Ben Cat. The en empl SA & auto wpns fire while the inf rtn
fire with organic wpns incl hv,50 cal MG's on their armd pers carriers.
Hel gunships & arty spdt the trps. Res: 14 EK, & 2 indiv & 3 CSW's
were optrd. US cas 2 KIA & 2 WIA while 1 VN en rallier, serving as a
scout, was also kd in the act.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 0800, a 1st MAR Div Recon Tm obs
50 en soldiers in an area 6 mi NW of An Hoa. The MAR dir arty fire onto
the en trps killing 40. There were no US cas.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Long Prov): (a) At approx 2330, the Hon Quan Advisor
Compound (US), about 2 mi ENE of An Loc, rec less than 45 rds of mixed
60mm & 82mm mort fire res in of no reptd dam or cas; (b) At approx 2330,
a LZ of an elm of the 1st Cav Div (AM) about 1 km NE of An Loc rec approx
20 rds of 60mm mort fire res in lt US cas with no fatalities; (c) At approx
2340, another 1st Cav Div (AM) LZ, loc 1 mi S of An Loc, rec less than
30 rds of unk cal indir fire res in lt US cas with no fatalities.

- **TOAN THANG** (Tay Ninh Prov): At approx midnight, an LZ occupied by US & VN trps & loc 14 mi ESE of Katum, rec approx 110 rds of 82mm mort fire & about 40 rds of 107mm rkt fire res in very lt ARVN cas with no fatalities & no rptd US cas.

- **SVN TAC AIR**: US pilots flew 638 sorties (USAF 346, USMC 292). EDA incl dest or dam 942 en flts, 29 supply craft, 1 AA M2 site, & ignited 24 sec explosions & 26 fires. 134 EK were also rptd. 110 of the Air Force flts spd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 1 sortie in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 2 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 4 in spt of Op VERNON LAKE II, 10 in spt of Op MEADE RIVER & 32 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op KENTUCKY was spd by 12 MAR hel sorties, Op SCOTLAND II by 342 & Op MEADE RIVER by 476.

- **USA hel gunships rptd 22 EK, & dest 158 en flts & sinking 35 sampans.**

- An Army OH-6 obs hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 19 mi NW of Bong Son in Binh Dinh Prov. One man aboard was inj & the actf was dest.

- A MAR CH-46 hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 11 mi SE of Khe Sanh. One crew mbr was slightly wounded & all were res. The actf was dest.

- **B-52s flew 9 mms**: 23 mi NE of Tay Ninh City, 5 mi SE of Ben Tre in Kien Hoa Prov, 2 mms 47 mi WSW of Tam Ky in Quang Tin Prov, 9 mi NNE of Trang Bang, 12 mi NE of Dak To in Kontum Prov, & 3 mms 45 mi WSW of Tam Ky.

10 December (Tuesday)

- **MARSHALL MOUNTAIN** (Quang Tri Prov): Commenced. The op is a comb op involving elms of the US 1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech) & the ARVN 1st Bktg, 1st Inf Div. The specific mms are to cdt pacification & off ops in an area cen 3 mi E of Quang Tri City.

- **III MAF (DMZ)**: At approx 0920, a US obs actf on a recon msn over the S DMZ, rec .50 cal M2 & SA fire fr an unk no of en in fortified pns 2 mi NW of Glo Linh & about .5 mi inside the S edge of the DMZ. The aerial obs dir arty fire onto the en loc dest 5 bunkers & silencing the en fire. The actf was not hit by the en fire & there were no US cas. En cas are unk.

- **TOAN THANG** (Binh Long Prov): At approx 0050, a 1st Cav Div (AM) LZ, loc 1 mi S of An Loc, rec 40-50 rds of 107mm rkt fire res in very lt US cas with no fatalities.

- **MACARTHUR** (Pleiku Prov): At approx 1330, a co fr the US 2nd Bde, 4th Inf Div, cdig a cht swp 17 mi NE of Pleiku eng an unk size en force. The inf, empl organic wps & spd by hel gunships, kd 10 en soldiers &
- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 0900, a co fr the US 1st Regt, 1st MAR Div cdtg off swp ops 9 mi WNW of Hoi An found 19 en that were kd either by tac air or arty fire. The time of death was not reptd.

- TOAN THANG (Phuoc Long Prov): 2 cos fr the US 3rd Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM), cdtg cbt swp ops 6 mi N of Dong Xoai, eng an unk size en force at approx 1400. The cav trps, sptd by aerial rkt arty, hel gunships & tac air kd 14 en during a 3-hr battle. 1 CSW & 2 multiple 107mm rkt launchers were cptrd (one 2-tube & one 4-tube). US cas were 3 KIA, 7 WIA.

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 1300, an elm of the US 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div, eng an unk size en force while cdtg a cbt swp 4 mi NE of Trang Bang. The inf empl organic wpns while the en rtn fire with SA & auto wpns fire. Act cont until 1500 when contact was lost as the en withdrew. Act cont with hel gunships & arty sptg the gnd trps until contact was again lost at approx 1815 when the en successfully evaded & withdrew. Res: 14 EK & 1 NVA soldier was dttn. 2 wpns, 1 I/Wpn & 1 cmv, were cptrd. US cas were 2 kd & 5 wounded.

- The Hamlet Eval Sys Res as of 30 Nov 66 completed. They are:

  **Countrywide Population**

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<th>Population Type</th>
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<th>Change</th>
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<td>Contested (D and E)</td>
<td>13.4% (down 1.9%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>VC controlled</td>
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* Represents an increase of 636,800 people

  **Rural Population**

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contested</td>
<td>18.7% (down 2.1%)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>VC controlled</td>
<td>20.6% (down 3.1%)</td>
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* Represents an increase of 586,600 people

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 632 sorties (USAF 323, USMC 303, USN 6). BDA incl dest or dam 388 en ftns, 37 supply craft & ignited 13 sec explosions & 32 fires. 19 EK were also reptd. 204 of the Air Force sorties sptd major allied gnd ops; 110 of the flts sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 8 sorties in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 6 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 10 in spt of VERNON LAKE II & 32 in spt of NEVADA EAGLE. Op KENTUCKY was sptd by 54 hel sorties & Op SCOTLAND II by 467.

- USA hel gunships reptd 51 EK, & dest 60 en ftns & sinking 24 sampans.

- B-52s flew 5 mns: 7 mi WSW of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 10 mi WSW of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 22 mi NW of Pleiku City, 22 mi N of Tay Minh.
City, & 11 mi W of An Hoa.

11 December (Wednesday)

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1510, a US aerial obs on a recon man over the S DMZ, sighted 10-12 en soldiers occupying fortified psns 5 mi WSW of Con Thien & 1 mi inside the S edge of the DMZ. The obs dir arty fire onto the en psns res in 3 sec explosions & dest 12 bunkers. There were no US cas & the acft was not hit. En losses are unk.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): Btwn 1430 & 1930, a recon tm fr the US 1st MAR Div, obs a total of 200 NVA soldiers in several gps in a general area 8 mi NNW of An Hoa. The MAR dir arty fire & tac air onto the en trp conc & reptd sighting the bodies of 34 en soldiers kd in the acts. The remaining NVA soldiers evaded obs & withdrew.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1530, elms of the US 7th Regt, 1st MAR Div, while cdtg a ctb swp 7 mi NNW of An Hoa eng an unk size en force. The MAR, sptd by arty & tac air, kd 12 en soldiers & dtm 7 suspects. There were no US cas.

- III MAF (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 1400, a co fr the US 4th Regt, 3rd MAR Div, on ptl S of the S edge of the DMZ 6 mi NNE of the Rockpile eng an est reinf en co. Later, another co fr the US 4th Regt sptd by arty & tac air reinf the act. Sporadic contact cont until 2400 when the en withdrew to the N & NE. Res: 8 EK, 2 CSW were cptrd & a qty of indiv equip & ammo was left strewn in the area. US cas were 12 kd & 30 wounded.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1130, a recon tm fr the US 1st MAR Div obs 20 en soldiers in an area 8 mi NW of An Hoa. The MAR dir arty fire onto the en trp conc & reptd sighting the bodies of 15 en lying in the strike area while the remaining en withdrew. At 1315, another 1st MAR Div recon tm obs 15 en soldiers approx 1 mi to the SE of the earlier sighting & reptd 7 mi NNW of An Hoa. The MAR dir arty fire onto the en trps & reptd the bodies of 12 en soldiers lying in the area fol the fire man. There were no MAR cas in either act.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 1715, mech inf elms of the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, eng an est en plat 9 mi W of Ben Cat. The en fired on the trps & armd pers carriers with SA fr fortified psns while the inf rtn fire with organic wpns sptd by arty. Act cont until 1915 when contact was lost as the remaining en evaded & withdrew. Res: 10 EK, 1 suspect was dtm, & 1 I/Wpn was cptrd. US cas were 2 wounded with no fatalities.

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 0755, an elm of the US 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div, was aaslt into an area 4 mi NE of Trang Bang. On a swp of the L2, the inf immed eng an est 2 en cos. The en empl SA & auto wpns fire while the trps rtn fire with organic wpns until an unreptd time later when contact was temp lost as the en attempted to withdraw. The inf pursued the en force & reestablished contact in the same general area at 1050. Other elms of the Div reinf the trps in contact, sptd by tac
air, hel gunships & arty. Contact was lost at approx 1745 when the remaining en successfully evaded & withdrew. Res: 10 EK & 2 suspects were dtn. US cas were 2 kd & 6 wounded.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 598 sorties (USAF 333, USMC 265). BDA incl dest or dam 568 en ftnts, 4 auto wpns pans, 1 AAA site, 26 supply craft, & ignited 19 sec explosions & 25 fires. 220 of the Air Force sorties sptd major allied gnd ops; 109 of the fits sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots sptd Op KENTUCKY with 29 sorties, Op SCOTLAND II with 9, & Op NEVADA EAGLE with 27. MAR hel crews flew 73 sorties in spt of Op KENTUCKY & 376 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II.

- USA hel gunships reptd 28 EK, & dest 98 en ftnts & sinking 42 sampans.

- An Army UH-1 hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 18 mi NE of An Khe in Binh Dinh Prov. 5 Army pers aboard were wounded & the acft was dest.

- An Army AH-1 Cobra hel was downed by en gnd fire 30 mi W of Saigon. The crew was not inj but the acft was dest.

- B-52s flew 7 mans: 16 mi SW of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long Prov, 9 mi WSW of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 12 mi W of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 6 mi NW of Ben Cat, 22 mi NW of Pleiku City, & 2 mans 31 mi NE of Tay Ninh City. Crews rtng fr one of the raids in Tay Ninh Prov reptd 11 mdm sec explosions.

12 December (Thursday)

- SCOTLAND II (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 1245, a 3rd MAR Recon Tm while cdng ptl ops 4 mi SW of Khe Sanh found the fol: 380 rds of 60mm mort ammo, 54 rds of 4.2 inch mort ammo, 100 boxes of .30 cal ammo, 5 cases of 75mm RR ammo, 3 cases of .50 cal ammo, 30 blocks of TNT, 1 106mm RR (compl), 1 4.2 inch mort (compl), & 7 rds of 81mm mort ammo. The ammo & wpns were apparently left behind in the Lang Vei area when the en overran the CIDG Camp early this year.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Long Prov): At approx 1230, aero-scouts fr the US 2nd Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM) obs 25-30 en soldiers 2 mi N of An Loc. The air cav trps eng the en force & reptd killing 12 of the en. There were no US cas.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 550 sorties (USAF 307, USMC 243). BDA incl dest or dam 392 en ftnts, 39 supply craft & ignited 21 sec explosions & 19 fires. 10 EK were also reptd. 200 of the Air Force sorties sptd major gnd ops; 92 of the fits sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 10 sorties in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 11 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 8 in spt of VERNON LAKE II, 23 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE & 5 in the A Shau Valley area. Op KENTUCKY was sptd by 20 hel sorties & Op SCOTLAND II by 351.

- USA hel gunships reptd 40 EK, & dest 51 en ftnts & sinking 37 sampans.

- B-52s flew 11 mans: 3 mans 31-32 mi NNE of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 21 mi NW of Tay Ninh City, 13 mi NE of Dak To in Kontum Prov, 16 mi NW of
of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long Prov, 25 mi NW of Tay Minh City, 16 mi W
of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long Prov, 27 mi NE of Saigon in Bien Hoa Prov,
& 22 & 25 mi NW of Kuan Loc in Long Khanh Prov.

13 December (Friday)

- SCOTLAND II (Quang Tri Prov): An elm fr the US 4th Regt, 3rd MAR Div,
while cdg a cbt swp 6 mi NE of the Rockpile found 33 indiv & 3 CSW's
in a bomb crater. Only 2 of the wpns were serviceable.

- III MAF (Quang Tri Prov): At approx noon, an elm of the US 9th Regt,
3rd MAR Div discovered an en bunker complex while swp an area 16 mi SSW
of Quang Tri City. In a search of the 45 bunkers, the MAR found the
bodies of 13 en soldiers & 7 indiv wpns. The apparent time & cause of
death of the en has not yet been reptd.

- III MAF (Quang Tin Prov): At approx 1230, an elm of the US 196th Lt
Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, eng an est en plat while cdg a cbt swp 16 mi
NNW of Tam Ky City. Act cont with USA hel gunships sptg the inf until
1315 when contact was lost as the remaining en withdrew. Res: 20 EK,
no US cas. During the above act, an aero-scout hel fr the Bde obs &
eng 8 en soldiers moving across an open area 600 meters to the SW of the
area of contact. The crew reptd killing all 8 of the en soldiers with
MG fire while there were no US cas.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 2030, an elm of the US
7th Regt, 1st MAR Div, ambs an unk no of en soldiers trans rkts 9 mi
SW of Da Nang. Contact was lost almost immed as the MAR kd 5 en &
cptrd 7 rkts. All of the rkts were ident as 140mm. There were no MAR
cas in the ni act & no contact was made during the subsequent search.

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 1200, a mech inf elm of the US
2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, eng an unk size en force while cdg a cbt swp
5 mi NE of Trang Bang. Other mech inf & inf elms of the 2nd Bde reinfr
the act & contact cont into the early evening until 1845 when the en
evaded & withdraw. Tac air, hel gunships & arty sptd the trps. Res:
22 EK, 3 CSW & 6 I/Wpns were cptrd. US cas were 6 kd & 14 wounded.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 621 sorties (USAF 360, USMC 261). BDA incl
dest or dam 558 en ftns, 31 supply craft & ignited 10 sec explosions &
23 fires. 13 EK were also reptd. 226 of the Air Force sorties sptd major
gnd ops; 148 of the flts sptd the TOAN THANG Off in III Corps. MAR jet
pilots flew 11 sorties in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 2 in spt of Op SCOTLAND
II, 10 in spt of Op VERNON LAKE II, & 32 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op
KENTUCKY was sptd by 42 MAR hel sorties & Op SCOTLAND II by 412.

- USA hel gunships reptd 28 EK, & dest 90 en ftns & sinking 32 sampans.

- An Army OH-6 lt obs hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed in an area 6 mi
SW of Trang Bang in Hau Nghia Prov. One pers was kd & 2 others wounded.
The actf was dest.

- 25 -
B-52s flew 9 mans: 2 mans 25 & 24 mi NNW of Xuan Loc, 2 mans 20 & 19 mi SW of Tay Ninh City in Tay Ninh Prov, 20 mi NNW of Xuan Loc in Long Khanh Prov, 3 mans 32 to 35 mi NW of Saigon, & 30 mi NNE of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov.

14 December (Saturday)

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 0700, a US aerial obs on a recon man over the S half of the DMZ obs 15-20 en soldiers occupying fortified pens 4 mi W of Con Thien & approx 1 mi S of the Ben Hai River in the S DMZ. The obs dir tac air onto the en pens dest 4 bunkers & igniting 1 sec fire. No acft were hit by the en fire & en losses are unk.

- III MAF (DMZ): At about the same time as the above incdt, the same aerial obs sighted another gp of 15-20 en soldiers in a bunker complex 300 meters to the SE of the fortified pens struck by the MAR jets & also in the S half of the DMZ. Arty fire was dir onto the en loc res in 1 sec explosion. The obs acft was not hit by en fire & en losses are unk.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1050, a US aerial obs sighted a bunker complex & 15 en soldiers 4 mi W of Con Thien. Arty fire was dir onto the en trps res in 2 sec explosions. 16 bunkers were dest & 15 dam by the fire msn.

- DAWSON RIVER (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 1630, an elm of the US 9th Regt, 3rd MAR Div, discovered an en wpns cache 14 mi SW of Quang Tri City. The cache cntn 6 AK-47 ChiCom aslt rfls, 8 SKS cbns & 4 ChiCom MG's.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 0600, a co fr the US 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, while cdtg a cbt swp 9 mi NE of An Hoa, rec auto wpns fire fr an unk size en force. As act cont throughout the day, the MAR were sptd by arty & tac air until 1530 when contact was lost. Res: 16 EK & 1 I/Wpn was cptrd. US cas were 7 KIA & 3 WIA.

- TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): At approx 1740, cav trps flying hel gunships fr the US cav sqdn of the 1st Air Cav Div obs an est 30 en soldiers in an area 9 mi N of Tay Ninh City. The en force was atkd by MG & 2.75 in rkt fire res in 20 en retpd kd. There were no US cas.

- TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): At approx 1900, a US II Fld Force arty fire spt base loc 20 mi ESE of Tay Ninh City rec about 100 rds of mixed 82mm & RPG rktgren fire fr an unk size en force res in very 1t US & ARVN cas with no fatalities. Dam at the installation was also reptd as 1t. Counter-arty fire was dir against the suspected en firing pens with unk res.

- 26 -
- **TOAN THANG (Long An Prov):** At approx 1645, arty-men fr an arty elm of
  the US 9th Inf Div, discovered an en rkt launching site while ptg in
  the general vic of their unit's def pns 7 mi E of Tan An. The trps
  otrd flve 107mm rktts on improvised bamboo launchers which were wired
  for firing & aimed at the arty pns less than 1 mi to the NE.

- **SVN TAG AIR:** US pilots flew 677 sorties (USAF 396, USMC 281). BDA inal
  dest or dam 621 en ftns, 28 supply craft, & ignited 12 sec explosions &
  31 fires. 8 EK were also reptd. 258 of the Air Force sorties sptd
  forces dttng gnd ops; the pilots flew 120 tac fts sptg gnd ops in III
  Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 1 sortie in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 6 in spt of
  Op SCOTLAND II, 10 in spt of Op VERNON LAKE II & 26 in spt of Op NEVADA
  EAGLE. Op KENTUCKY was sptd by 44 sorties & Op SCOTLAND II by 548.

- **USA hel gunships reptd 49 EK, & dest 78 ftns & sinking 36 sampans.**

- **B-52s flew 11 mens:** 15 mi ENE of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long Prov, 19 mi NNW of
  Tay Ninh City in Tay Ninh Prov, 34 mi NW of Saigon in Tay Ninh Prov, 15
  mi W of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long Prov, 2 mens 8 mi NW of Phu Vinh in
  Vinh Binh Prov, 32 mi ESE of Ban Me Thuot in Darlac Prov, 21 mi N of
  Tay Ninh City, 2 mens 23 & 28 mi NW of Xuan Loc in Long Khanh Prov, &
  7 mi E of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov.

15 December (Sunday)

- **DAWSON RIVER (Quang Tri Prov):** Announced. The op, which commenced on
  28 Nov, is a multi-bn search & clear op cen in an area 14 mi S of Cam
  Lo. Op is under the con of the US 9th Regt, 3rd MAR Div & as of 1800
  on 13 Dec, 32 en soldiers have been kd & 39 suspects have been dt.
  In addition, 14 indiv & 3 CSW have been otrd. US losses are 2 kd & 19
  wounded of whom 15 have been evac. 145 tac air sorties have been flown in
  spt of the MAR.

- **MARSHALL MOUNTAIN (Quang Tri Prov):** Announced. The op is a comb op
  involving elms of the US 1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech) & the ARVN 1st Regt,
  1st Inf Div, & is cen 3 mi E of Quang Tri City. The op commenced on 10
  Dec. As of 1800, 13 Dec, 6 suspects have been dt while US cas are 9
  wounded (3 evac). There have been no reptd ARVN cas. 4 tac air sorties
  have been flown in spt of the op.

- **FAYETTE CANYON (Quang Nam Prov):** Commenced. The op is a multi-bn
  search & clear op & is cen in an area 7 mi SSE of An Hoa. The op, under
  con of the 196th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, has the specific msn of elimin­
  ating en forces, base camps & mts within its area of responsibility.

- **VALIANT HUNT (Quang Nam Prov):** Commenced. The op is a bn cordon &
  search op & is cen in an area 4 mi S of Hoi An. The op is under the con
  of the Commander, Task Gp 76.4 & involves MAR fr the 26th Regt Ldg Tm.
  The op began with an amph & hel-borne slt into the area of ops & has as
  its msn to establish cordons around selected villages in conjunction with
  VN forces. The obj of the comb cordon & search & clear ops is to elim-
inactivate VC local forces & infrastructure units & pers believed to be op
in the area.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 0430, a base camp of the US
  3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div at Dau Tieng, rec about 30 rds of 82mm mort
  fire res in no reptd cas or dam. Counterm-arty fire was dir against the
  suspected en firing pane with unk res.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1730, a Comb Act Plat cons of US
  MAR & VN PF soldiers discovered a suspected NVA camp 4 mi SW of An Hoa.
  In the camp area, the plat found 2 en strucs, 15 stretchers & misc
  indiv ml equip. In addition, 1 mass grave was discovered which ontn
  the bodies of 25 NVA soldiers.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1400, an elm of the US 196th Lt
  Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, obs 40 en soldiers 6 mi S of An Hoa. The inf
  dirarty fire onto the en trps & reptd obs the bodies of 6 en soldiers
  lying in the strike area fol the mins. The remaining en soldiers disper­
  sed & evaded obs. A short time later, a UH-1 hel fr an elm of the bde
  obs & eng 8 en soldiers moving in the vic of the arty site. The hel crew
  reptd killing all 8 of the en with MG fire. There were no US cas.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 0815, a mech inf elm of the US 1st Bde,
  25th Inf Div eng an est en plat in an area 7 mi NE of Tay Ninh City.
  Arty & hel gunships sptd the inf until approx 1330 when contact was lost
  as the en withdrew. Res: 13 EK. US cas were 2 kd & 3 wounded.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 613 sorties (USAF 349, USMC 247, USN 17).
  BDA incl dest or dam 460 en ftns, 42 supply craft, & ignited 14 sec
  explosions & 11 fires. 22 EK were also reptd. 255 of the Air Force
  sorties sptd gnd ops. MAR jet pilots flew 1 sortie in spt of Op KENTUCKY,
  11 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 4 in spt of Op VERNON LAKE II, 15 in spt
  of Op DAWSON RIVER, & 22 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op KENTUCKY was
  sptd by 27 MAR hel sorties, Op SCOTLAND II by 369, Op MARSHALL MOUNTAIN
  by 51 & Op DAWSON RIVER by 193.

- USA hel gunships reptd 51 EK, & dest 71 en ftns & sinking 79 en sampans.

- B-52s flew 8 msns: 3 msns 6 mi ESE of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 31 mi
  NNE of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 15 mi WSW of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long
  Prov, 6 mi ESE of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 9 mi SSW of Tay Minh City,
  & 16 mi WSW of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long Prov.

16 December (Monday)

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 1045, an elm of the US 3rd
  Bde, 1st Inf Div, discovered the bodies of 16 en soldiers while swpg an
  area 5 mi S of Phuoc Vinh. The en were detm to have been kd by a B-52
  strike on 15 Dec.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 2130, a recon elm of the US
25th Inf Div sends a sampan carrying an unreported number of en soldiers on the Saigon River in an area 6 mi SW of Ben Cat. The inf sent organic SA & auto wpons fire in addition to hand grena. The trps hd 15 en soldiers & dest the sampan in the brief ni act while there were no US cas.

- IFFV (Darlas Prov): At approx 2200, the en fired about 20 rds of 75mm RR ammo onto the Ban Me Thuot City afd. There were no reptd cas & dam was reptd as lt. Hel gunships & arty fired on the suspected en wpns pens to the S & the hel crews reptd rec SA fire fr an unk no of en in the vic of the firing pen. En cas in the ni act are unk.


- USA hel gunships reptd 37 EK, & dest 60 ftms & sinking 98 en sampans.

- B-52s flew 8 msms: 2 msms 17 mi WSW of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long Prov, 7 mi N of Phuoc Vinh, 3 msms 13-14 mi W of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, & 2 msms 12 mi SSE of Tay Ninh City.

17 December (Tuesday)

- TAYLOR COMMON (Quang Nam Prov): Announced. The multi-bn search & clear op began on 7 Dec & is ctn in an area 10 mi W of An Hoa. The op involves elsms of the US 3rd, 5th & 7th MAR Regts under con of the 1st MAR Div.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 1100, a US 25th Inf Div resup convoy, enfr fr Dau Tieng to Tay Ninh Prov, was attk by an unk size en force 4 mi WSW of Dau Tieng. Convoy acty ents eng the en in pens on both sides of the rd & were reinf by mech inf units fr the div's 3rd Bde. Tac air, hel gunships & arty sptd the inf until contact was lost at 1340 as the en withdrew. Res: 73 EK. US losses were 5 kd & 11 wounded. Several trks in the convoy were dam in the init attk.

- III MAF (Quang Tin Prov): At approx 1130, a US Air Force C-123 crashed after takeoff due to unk causes in an area 1½ mi S of Chu Lai. Of the 44 pax & crew mbrs aboard, init repts indicate 14 were kd. The acft was dest.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1700, a US aerial obs, on a recon msn over the S half of the DMZ, rec AA fire fr an en .50 cal MG loc 4 mi NNE of Con Thien & about 100 meters S of the Ben Hai River. The aerial obs dir arty fire onto the en AA wpns pen silencing the fire. The acft was not hit & there were no US cas. En losses are unk.

- 29 -
III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 2300, a US Naval Spt Act storage area ½ mi E of Da Nang rec about 5 rds of unk cal rkt fire res in lt dam & 5 VN civ workers reptd wounded. There were no US cas reptd.

IIFFV (Binh Duong & Hau Nghia Provs): During the evening, 2 US Army Div base camps rec harassing atks by fire res in no reptd cas & very lt dam to mat. In the first atk by fire, the 1st Cav Div (AM) base camp just S of Phuoc Vinh, rec less than 10 rds of 107mm rkt fire at approx 1830. At midnight, the 25th Inf Div base camp just NE of Cu Chi, rec approx 5 rds of 122mm rkt fire. Counter-arty fire was dir onto suspect-ed en rkt pans with unk res.

SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 678 sorties (USAF 378, USMC 286, USN 14). BDA incl dest or dam 575 en ftrns, 22 supply craft, & ign 21 sec explosions & 40 fires. 9 EK were also reptd. Allied gnd forces were sptd by 244 Air Force cbt sorties; 102 sptd gnd ops in III Corps. Op SCOTLAND II was sptd by 8 MAR jet sorties, Op TAYLOR COMMON by 55, & Op NEVADA EAGLE by 49.

USA hel gunships reptd 44 EK, & dest 100 sampans & strucs.

B-52s flew 9 msns: 2 msns 9 mi SSW of Tay Ninh City in Tay Ninh Prov, 10 mi SW of Phuoc Binh in Phuoc Long Prov, 19 mi E of Phuoc Vinh in Long Khanh Prov, 7 mi W of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 2 msns 28 & 29 mi SW of Hoi An in Quang Nam Prov, 9 mi SW of Song Be in Phuoc Long Prov, & 15 mi W of Song Be. In 1 of the Tay Ninh strikes, the rtk crews reptd 5 sec explosions, while 16 more were obs during the strike flown in the same area late last night.

18 December (Wednesday)

III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 0900, a co fr the US 196th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, while cdtg a cbt svp in an area 6 mi SE of An Hoa, obs an est reinf en plat carrying packs & rfls. The inf, sptd by tac air & hel gunships, atk the en force & act cont throughout the morning & afternoon until 1800 when contact was lost. Res: 103 EK. US cas were 3 inf wounded. At 0930, 9 en bodies, apparently kd by SA fire, were found approx 8 mi SE of An Hoa. About 30 mins later, graves cntn 11 en bodies kd by SA fire during the act were found in a nearby area. Cont to search, the inf at noon discovered another 22 en bodies apparently kd by arty fire.

TOAN THANGO (Phuoc Long Prov): Air trps fr the USA's cav sqdn of the 1st Cav Div (AM), cdtg aerial recon ops in an area 12 mi NE of Phuoc Binh obs an eng en est en bn. The trps, sptd by hel gunships & tac air kd 41 en soldiers. There were no US cas.

IIFFV (Binh Dinh Prov): At approx 0130, a base camp of the US 173rd Abn Bde at An Khe rec about 15 rds of unreptd cal mort fire res in lt dam & lt US cas with no fatalities. Counter-arty fire was dir against the suspected en firing pans with unk res.
TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 1000, a mech co for the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, while cdtg an off swp 4 mi NNW of Cu Chi eng an est en sqd. Act cont until 1215 when contact was lost. At approx 1530, the inf eng another unk size en force. The en soldiers empl auto wpns & RPG fire while the mech trps rtn the fire with their organic wpns fr their armd pers carriers. At 1845 contact was again lost when the en force withdrew. Res: 15 EK, US 1 kd & 17 wounded.

TOAN THANG (III CTZ): There were 4 en harassing atks by indir fire against US units in scattered areas of III Corps as fols: (a)(Tay Ninh Prov): At approx 1705, a LZ of an elm of the 2nd Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM) 11 mi SE of Katum rec about 20 rds of 82mm mortar fire res in no reptd cas. (b)(Binh Long Prov): At approx 1710, a 1st Cav Div (AM) LZ 10 mi WSW of An Loc rec less than 30 rds of mixed 107mm rkt & 82mm mortar fire res in very lt US cas with no fatalities. (c)(Bien Hoa Prov): At approx 1900, en elm of the 1st Inf Div under op con of the 11th Armd Cav Regt in ni def psns 9 mi N of Bien Hoa rec about 10 rds of 60mm mortar fire res in 1t cas. (d)(Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 1900, a fire spt base occupied by an elm of the 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, 4 mi NNE of Trang Bang, rec about 10 rds of 82mm mortar fire res in 1t cas. There was no dam reptd at any of the locs. Counter-arty fire was dir against the suspected en firing psns with unk res.

TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): At approx 1300, trps fr the Air Cav Sqdn of the 1st Cav Div (AM) obs an unk no of en occupying fortified psns 9 mi SE of Katum. The inf dir tac air onto the en loc, & in a search of the en bunkers, the bodies of 17 en kd by the airstrikes were found. There were no US cas in the act.

III MAF (Quang Ngai Prov): At approx 1000, an elm of a Comb Act Plat cons of US MAR & VN PF trps, eng an est en plat while swpg an area 15 mi NNE of Quang Ngai City. Act cont past noon with the trps dir 81mm mortar fire fr a US Navy SWIFT bt & arty fire onto the en loc until 1230 when contact was lost as the remaining en withdrew. Res: 14 EK, 1 I/Wpn cptrd. There were no friendly cas.


USA hel gunships reptd 52 EK, & dest 107 en ftns & sinking 61 sampans.

B-52s flew 8 msns: 14 mi W of Song Be in Phuoc Long Prov, 9 mi SW of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 12 mi ENE of Tay Ninh City, 21 mi NNW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 2 msns 23 & 24 mi NNW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov,
& 2 mns 8 mi SE & 7 mi NNW of Phuoc Vinh in Phuoc Long Prov.

19 December (Thursday)

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1500, a def pen occupied by an elm of the US 4th Regt, 3rd MAR Div & loc 6 mi NNE of the Rockpile, rec about 10 rds of en 60mm &/or 82mm mort fire res in no MAR cas & no reptd dam. The MAR pen was loc 1 km S of the S edge of the DMZ & the en fire came fr 2 mort pens loc by counter-mort rdr 1½ km N & 1½ km NNE of the MAR & 500 meters inside the S half of the DMZ. The MAR dir organic 81mm mort fire onto the en pens with unk res.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At 1530, a co fr the 3rd Bde, 82nd Abn Div, discovered an en cache cntn 100 B40 rkt grens & 100 rds of 82Dm mort ammo while swp an area 3 mi NE of Hoc Mon (11 mi NNE of Saigon).

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx noon, an elm of the US 196th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, discovered the bodies of 11 en soldiers while swp the strike area of a B-52 men flown on 15 Dec, 6 mi ESE of An Hoa. The en were in shallow graves & were detm to have been kd in the B-52 strike.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 1330, an elm of the US 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div, cntn a small gp of en soldiers in fortified pens while swp the strike area of a 15 Dec B-52 men about 9 mi N of Phuoc Vinh. One en soldier was kd in the brief contact while the remaining en withdrew. US cas were 2 wounded with no fatalities. The trps cptrd the fol items: 25 pistols, 4 RPO-7 rkt gren launchers, 3 AK-47 rls, 1 SKS cbn, 1 sniper rfl (unreptd type), 2 mort baseplates (60mm), 1 mort sight (82mm), & 2 bicycles. In addition, misc indiv en equip, uniforms & a qty of mort & SA ammo were cptrd. The bodies of 3 en soldiers apparently kd in the B-52 strike were also found.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 643 sorties (USAF 366, USMC 269, USN 8). BDA incl dest or dam 316 en ftms, 18 supply craft, & ign ted 11 sec explosions & 17 fires. 14 EK were reptd. 222 of the US Air Force sorties sptd gnd ops; 104 of the ftms were in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 5 sorties in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 1 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 30 in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, 9 in spt of Op DAWSON RIVER, 5 in spt of Op MARSHALL MOUNTAIN & 16 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op SCOTLAND II was sptd by 216 MAR hel sorties, Op TAYLOR COMMON by 439, Op DAWSON RIVER by 329 & Op MARSHALL MOUNTAIN by 55.

- USA hel gunships reptd 13 EK, & dest 45 en ftms & sinking 24 sampans.

- B-52s flew 8 mns: 9 mi N of Phuoc Vinh in Phuoc Long Prov, 4 mi SE of Phuoc Vinh in Binh Duong Prov, 2 mns 12 mi S & 14 mi SW of An Hoa, 2 mns 14 mi S & 15 mi SW of An Hoa, 15 mi NW of Pleiku City, & 35 mi NW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov. Crews rtng fr a strike in Phuoc Long Prov reptd at least 15 sec explosions. Crews of a later strike in Pleiku Prov reptd 27 sec explosions fr a base camp area 15 mi NW of Pleiku City.
20 December (Friday)

- TAYLOR COMMON (Quang Nam Prov): While ordg a search & clear op, an elm of the 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, discovered a large en base camp complex cons of approx 50 huts & an extensive trail network leading to it. The camp was loc 8 mi WSW of An Hoa. One of the huts cntn misc hosp eqip. There were no en in the camp at the time of its discovery about noon. During a search of the surr area, the MAR found graves cntn the bodies of 35 en soldiers. There were no US cas.

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 1400, a mech co fr the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, while ordg off swp ops 4 mi E of Trang Bang eng an est en bn. The infs were spkd by arty & hel gunships, & later 4 additional cos fr the Bde were inserted into the area as blocking forces. As the blocking pens were established tac air was dir onto the en pens. Act cont until 2130 when contact was lost as the en withdrew. Res: 30 EK while US losses were 1 kd & 6 wounded. 3 I/Wpns & 4 CSW were cptrd.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 1440, an aerial obs flying over a general area 3 mi E of Dau Tieng obs an est 60 en soldiers. The AO dir arty fire onto the en trp pens & reptd 15 en soldiers kd by the arty. There were no friendly cas.

- MACARTHUR (Pleiku Prov): At approx 1100, an elm of the US 3rd Bde, 4th Inf Div, eng an est en plat 14 mi ESE of Pleiku. The en attempted to evade and withdrew to a cave complex & escaped through another exit. A search of the cave complex revealed the fol: 72 82mm mort rds, 97 RPG-2 rkt gren rds, 29 75mm RR rds, 40 sticks of ChiCom TNT, 164 ChiCom hand grens, 7 I/Wpns, 10 dml packs, 7 reels of comm wire, & 1 ton of rice.

- DAWSON RIVER (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 1145, a co fr the US 9th Regt, 3rd MAR Div, ordg a swp 6 mi SE of Ca Lu found a cache cntn the fol: 24,000 rds of 7.62mm ammo, 220,000 rds of 7.92mm ammo, 19,800 rds of .45 cal ammo, 7 cases of TNT.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 694 sorties (USAF 379, USMC 305, USN 10). BDA incl dest or dam 452 en ftns, 19 supply craft, & ignited 50 sec explosions & 41 fires. 5 EK were also reptd. 210 of the US Air Force sorties spkd gnd ops; 96 of the fits were in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 14 sorties in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 8 in spt of Op VERNON LAKE II, 10 in spt of Op DAWSON RIVER, 43 in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, 36 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op MARSHALL MOUNTAIN was spkd by 58 hel sorties, Op SCOTLAND II by 231, Op DAWSON RIVER by 190 & Op TAYLOR COMMON by 194.

- USA hel gunships reptd 22 EK, & dest 61 en ftns & sinking 56 sampans.

- B-52s flew 8 mens: 2 mens 35 mi NW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 29 mi E of Saigon in Bien Hoa Prov, 19 mi SW of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, 3 mens in Quang Nam Prov in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON 16 mi W & 17 & 20 mi WSW
of An Hoa, 14 mi W of Lai Khe.

21 December (Saturday)

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1140, a comd post of the US 4th Regt, 3rd MAR Div loc 6 mi NNE of the Rockpile (3/4 mi S of the S edge of the DMZ) rec approx 10 rds of 60mm mort fire fr 2 en firing pens loc 1 mi N of the S edge of the DMZ & 7 1/2 mi NNE of the Rockpile. Tac airstrikes were dir onto the en firing pens res in 6 bunkers dest. There were no US cas or dam reptd.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At 0940, elms of the 199th Lt Inf Bde cdtg a search & clear op, discovered an en cache 4 mi NE of Ben Luc (12 mi SW of Saigon). The cache cntn the fol: 31 RPG-7 rkt gren rds, 11 AK-47 rfls, 11 rds of 120mm mort ammo, 32 ChiCom grens, & 11 dml charges.

- III MAF (Quang Tin Prov): At approx 0715, the Chu Lai Afd rec less than 5 rds of 140mm rkt fire res in lt cas. There was no reptd dam to the afd.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 1400, hels fr the cav sqdn of the US 9th Inf Div flying in a general area 6 mi NE of Cam Duoc obs an est en sqd. The cav trps eng the en soldiers with MG & 2.75-in rkt fire res in 12 en kd. One I/Wpn was also cptrd. There were no US cas.

- SCOTLAND II (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 1415, a 3rd MAR Div Recon Tm cdtg ops 8 mi NNE of Khe Sanh obs 3 en soldiers hiding in a treeline. The MAR dir arty fire onto the en pens killing all 3. While the MAR were enr to a PZ for extraction, they eng an est 20-25 en soldiers. Tac air & hel gunships sptd the MAR until contact was lost later in the afternoon. The Recon Tm was extracted at 1630. Res: 10 EK, no US cas.

- VERNON LAKE II (Quang Ngai Prov): At approx 1415, a co fr the US 196th Lt Inf Bde of the AMERICAL Div, while cdtg cbt swp ops 19 mi SW of Quang Ngai City, found graves cntn 11 en bodies.


- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 1330, an elm of the Army-Navy MRF cdtg ops 5 mi NE of Cam Duoc was eng by an unk size en force. Hel gunships under op con of the US 3rd Bde, 9th Inf Div sptd the act as a co fr the same bde reinf the contact at 1430. Act cont until 1525 when the en evaded contact & withdrew. Res: 14 EK, 18 suspects dtn & 14 I/Wpns were cptrd. There were no US cas.

- IPPV (Binh Dinh Prov): At approx 1130, a co fr the US 173rd Abn Bde, cdtg an off swp 22 mi NE of An Khe, found a large cache that cntn: 120 sets of black pajamas, 160 sets of white pajamas, 1,400 ft of khaki mat, 85
hammocks, & a qty of thread & needles.

- FAYETTE CANYON (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 1015, a co fr the US 196th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, cdng a search & clear op 7 mi ESE of An Hoa found graves cntn 9 en bodies. The en were apparently kd by B-52 air-strikes cdng in that area on 15 Dec.

- IV CTZ (Dinh Tuong Prov): At approx 1700, a co fr the US 1st Bde, 9th Inf Div, while cdng an aaslt into a hot LZ 1 mi NE of Cai Lay rec hv SA & auto wpns fire fr an unk size en force. The man was aborted & hel gunships flying escort eng the en force. Act cont until 2120 with AC-47 gunships & hel gunships firing onto the en pans. At approx 0545, 22 Dec, five comps fr the 1st Bde & 2 RG cos were inserted into the general area. During the swp op 14 en bodies were found (kd by air) & 6 I/Wpns & 2 CSW were optrd. There were not friendly cas.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 528 sorties (USAF 274, USMC 236, USN 18). BDA incl dest or dam 585 en ftms, 5 supply craft, & ignited 37 sec explos-ions & 20 fires. 6 EK were also reptd. 236 of the US Air Force sorties sptd gnd ops; 104 were flown in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 5 sorties in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 8 in spt of Op DAWSON RIVER, 18 in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON & 33 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op SCOTLAND II was sptd by 496 MAR hel sorties, Op KENTUCKY by 11 & Op DAWSON RIVER by 184.

- USA hel gunships reptd 47 EK, & dest 63 ftms & sinking 118 sampans.

- B-52s flew 7 mans: 31 mi E of Saigon in Bien Hoa Prov, 25 mi NW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 11 mi SW of An Hoa in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, 29 mi NW of Saigon in Hau Nghia Prov, 34 mi WNW of Kontum City, 26 mi NE of Saigon in Bien Hoa Prov, & 16 mi WSW of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov. Crews rtng fr a raid over Bien Hoa Prov reptd 10 mdm to large explos-ions. Rtng crews fr a raid on 20 Dec reptd at least 18 mdm to large explosions.

22 December (Sunday)

- IFPT (Khanh Hoa Prov): Early this morning at approx 0345 the Helisoma, a UK tanker, was hit by an unk type explosion but believed to be a mine while moored in the Nha Trang harbor. The explosion occurred on the port side causing an undetm amount of dam. Oil is leaking fr the tanker but there was no fire. There were no cas.

- FAYETTE CANYON (Quang Nam Prov): Announced. The op is a multi-bn search & clear op & is cen in an area 7 mi SSE of An Hoa. The op, which commenced on 15 Dec, is under con of the 196th Lt Inf Bde, AMERICAL Div, & has the specific man of eliminating en forces, base camps & mnt within its area of responsibility. As of 0600, 22 Dec, the inf & sptg fires have
accounted for 220 en kd. In addition, 2 suspects have been dtn & 14 I/Wpns & 6 CSW have been cptrd. US cas so far are 2 kd & 6 wounded (3 evac). A total of 79 tac airstrikes have been flown in spt of the gnd forces.

- VALIANT HUNT (Quang Nam Prov): Announced. The op is a bn cordon & search op & is cen in an area 4 mi S of Hoi An. The op, which commenced on 15 Dec, involves MAR fr the 26th Regtl Ldg Tm. The obj of the comb cordon & search & clear op is to eliminate VC local forces & infrastructure units & pers believed to be op in the area. As of 2000, 21 Dec, the MAR & sptg fires have accounted for 15 en kd, & 940 suspects dtn. US cas so far are 8 wounded. A total of 74 naval gunfire mens & over 700 hel sorties sptd the op.

- TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): At approx 0015, elms fr the US 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div in ni def psns 7 mi NW of Go Dau Ha rec a mort & gnd atk fr an unkn size en force. US Air Force AC-47 gunships, tac air, arty & hel gunships sptd the inf throughout the ni until 0635 when contact was lost as the en force withdrew. At 1000 this morning an ARVN Abn bn & 2 cos fr the 25th Inf Div were inserted to the N & W of the inf's def psns. A swp of the area was ctd & the cum totals for the act are as fol: 81 EK, 9 mt MG's, 25 AK-47's, 3 9mm pistols, 165 ChiCom hand grens, 26 RPG-2 boosters, 31 RPG-7 boosters, 38 RPG-7 rds, 78 RPG-2 rds, 19,000 SA rds, 59 AK mags with ammo, 30 mt MG clips with ammo, 2 ChiCom rds, 1 back pack, & 2 lbs of docu. On 23 Dec, the US 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div, while cdng a swp of the area loc 22 more bodies bringing the cum total of en kd to 103. A total of 36 indiv & 13 CSW have been cptrd. US losses remained the same, 17 kd & 12 wounded.

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 0630, a comb act plat cdng ops 5 mi W of Da Nang atk an unkn size en force using organic wpns. At 0815 another CAP moving to reinf the CAP in contact was ambs by another en force. At 0830 an aerial obs flying over the area reptd that the amb had been broken but the plat was encd. Contact cont with 81mm morts, hel gunships & tac air sptg the act. A link-up was made at 1030 & sporadic contact cont until 1530 when the en force withdrew. Res: 25 EK, US cas were 3 wounded. PF cas were 1t.

- IFFV (Kontum Prov): At approx 1830, the Kontum City Afld rec less than 20 rds of 122mm rkt fire causing lt dam to a few acft. 1 civ was wounded. There were no US cas.

- VERNON LAKE II (Quang Ngai Prov): At 1630, a co under op con of the 11th Lt Inf Bde of the AMERICAL Div, while cdng a cbt swp 11 mi SW of Quang Ngai City found 15 en bodies lying on the gnd. The en soldiers were apparently kd by SA & airstrikes.

- SVN TAC AIR: Us pilots flew 511 sorties (USAF 327, USMC 163, USN 21). BDA incl dest or dam 417 en fts, 12 supply craft, & ignited 10 sec explosions & 16 fires. 6 EK were also reptd. 240 of the US Air Force sorties sptd gnd ops; 137 of the fts were in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 19 sorties in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, 2 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II,

- USA hel gunships rep'd 66 EK, & dest 58 en ftms & sinking 55 sampans.
- An Army Uh-1 hel was hit by gnd fire 9 mi NW of My Tho in Dinh Tuong Prov at 1645 hrs. There were no inj's but the acft was dest.
- B-52s flew 8 mms: 13 mi E of Tay Ninh City, 26 mi NE of Tay Ninh City, 2 mms 21 & 27 mi NW of Ca Mau in An Xuyen Prov, 3 mms 13-5 mi W of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, & 42 mi NW of Saigon in Binh Long Prov. Crews rtng fr a raid in Tay Ninh Prov rep'd 13 mds-to-lg sec explosions.

23 December (Monday)

- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): Betw the hrs of 0355 & 0415, the US MAR complex at Da Nang & surr area rec approx 10 rds of unk type en rkt fire res in 12 cive kd & 19 wounded. Dam to the installation & US cas were lt. There were no US fatalities. 4 of the rds that kd the 12 cive & wounded 19 impacted outside the Da Nang Afd gate. Counter-arty fire was dir onto suspected en firing pans to the W with unk res.
- IFFV (Pleiku Prov): At approx 0200, the Pleiku City Afd rec less than 30 rds of 122mm rkt fire causing It dam to the installation & mat. US cas were very lt with no fatalities.
- IV CORPS (Dinh Tuong Prov): Ab about 0430, the Dong Tam mil complex 6 mi E of My Tho, rec an indir fire atk of less than 30 rds of 82mm mort fire. The mort atk caused It dam to a few actt & mat. There were no US cas.
- III MAF (Quang Nam Prov): Elms of the US 1st Regt, 1st MAR Div, cdtd off swp ops at approx 1720 6 mi NW of Hoi An rec hv auto wpns fire fr an est 20-30 en soldiers. The MAR were sptd by tks & tac air until an unreptd time later when contact was lost as the en withdrew. Res: 10 EK while US losses were 1d kd & 2 wounded.
- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): Betw the hrs of 1000 & 1115, 2 cos fr the 199th Lt Inf Bde, cdtd off swp ops in a general area 13 mi NNE of Tan An, found 2 cachets that mntn the fol: 212 rds of 60mm mort ammo, 130 RPG rds, 207 cans of charges & fuzes, 180 detonators, 12 rds of 75mm RR rds, 4 indir wpns, 8 Ch1Com grens, & 25 lbs of TNT.
- TAYLOR COMMON (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 0745, a co fr the US 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, cdtd a swp op 9 mi NE of An Hoa rec SA fire fr an est 40 en soldiers. The MAR rtn the fire with organic wpns & dirarty & tac air onto the en pans. Res: 10 EK while US cas were 1 wounded.
- III MAF (Quang Tri Prov): At approx 1215, the Vandergrift Cbt Base loc 5 mi SSE of the Rockpile rec less than 10 rds of 140mm rkt fire. There

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was no reptd dam to the base & cas were lt.

- IV CORPS (Phong Dinh Prov): Betw 2210 & 2220, the Binh Thuy Afd rec approx 40 rds of suspected 75mm MR fire res in no reptd dam or cas.

- III MAF (Quang Ngai Prov): About noon, aero scouts fr the Avn Bn of the AMERICAL Div, while cdng an aerial recon mn 12 mi W of Quang Ngai City, eng an en sqd with MG & rkt fire res in 9 en kd. One I/Wpn & 1 CSW 12.7mm AA MG) were also cpd. There were no US cas.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 538 sorties (USAF 323, USMC 196, USN 19). EDA incl dest or dam 649 en ftns, 1 auto wpsn psn, 59 supply craft, & ignited 17 sec explosions & 37 fires. 21 EK were also reptd. 234 of the Air Force sorties sptd allied forces cdng gnd ops; 114 sptd gnd ops in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 12 sorties in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, 5 in spt of Op DAWSON RIVER, 18 for Op VERNON LAKE II, 20 for Op NEVADA EAGLE, 1 in spt of the 2nd Bde, Korean MAR Corps & 6 in W Thua Thien Prov. Op TAYLOR COMMON was sptd by 259 hel sorties, Op DAWSON RIVER by 28, & the 2nd Bde, Korean MAR Corps by 56.

- USA hel gunships reptd 15 EK, & dest 80 ftns & 38 en sampans.


24 December (Tuesday)

- HEADQUARTERS, MACV (Capital Military District): US & Free World Forces curtained off ops at 1800. As of 0600, 25 Dec there were 80 incdts reptd by US & Free World Forces. Of these, 25 were considered significant (those in which cas occurred). As a res of the incdts, 1 US soldier was kd & 38 US pers were wounded, 22 en were kd, 1 CSW & 12 I/Wpns were cpd.

III MAF:

24 1800 - Quang Nam Prov - As a PF co was curtailing its op 5 mi SSW of Da Nang, they sighted & eng 2 VC in a tunnel with SA fire. 1 VC soldier was kd, 1 was dtn & 3 I/Wpns were cpd. There were no PF cas.

24 1915 - Quang Nam Prov - A co fr the 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, in ni def psns, 6 mi NE of An Hoa, had 1 ChiCom-type gren hurled into their pan fr an unk source. No fire was rtn. 2 MAR were wounded. In a second incdt at 2130, another ChiCom gren was hurled into the pan fr an unk en force. This time, the MAR rtn fire outside their peri with unk res. 2 MAR were wounded in this incdt.
242220 - Quang Tri Prov - A PF scty ptrl fr Hai Lang Hamlet, 1 mi S of Quang Tri City, was atk by 4 or 5 VC. The ptrl rtn fire killing 2 VC soldiers. There were no PF cas. 2 I/Wpns were also optrd.

242115 - Quang Nam Prov - A co fr the 1st Regt, 1st MAR Div, in an area 6 mi SSW of Da Nang, rec fire fr an unk size en force. Fire was rtn with unk res during a brief fight. 2 MAR were wounded while en cas are unk.

242200 - Quang Ngai Prov - A PF scty ptrl was atk by an est VC co in an area 13 mi N of Quang Ngai City. The en withdrew after a brief fire­fight. 2 VC soldiers were kd & 1 CSW was cpd. PF cas were lt.

242215 - Quang Tri Prov - A co fr the 3rd Regt, 3rd MAR Div, 1 mi S of Cam Lo, eng an unk size en force moving toward their pen. The en withdrew immed. One VC soldier was kd & 1 I/Wpn was cpd. There were no MAR cas.

242245 - Quang Tin Prov - A Comb Act Pltn on a scty ptrl 5 mi SE of Tam Ky rec 1 rflgren in their formation. They rtn fire at an unk size en force with unk res. 1 US MAR was wounded.

250100 - Quang Nam Prov - A scty ptrl fr the 26th MAR Reg't Ldg Tm eng 5 en who approached their pen 6 mi NW of Da Nang. 4 VC soldiers were kd while the MAR sustained no cas.

I FFV:

241815 - Kontum Prov - An alert tm fr the 4th Inf Div in an area 13 mi W of Dak To heard movement fr an unk size en force 300 meters W of their pen. At 1935, the en approached the tm pen & fired at the tm with SA as they withdrew to a hel extraction pt. Hel gunships sptd the tm which rtn the SA fire until extracted about 2015. There were no US cas & en cas are unk.

II FFV:

241835 - Binh Duong Prov - A small scty ptrl fr a unit of the 3rd Bde, 1st Inf Div, was eng by an unk size en force 6 mi W of Ben Cat in a 40-min firefight. Arty was dir onto the en trps. 5 en soldiers were kd & 1 CSW & 2 I/Wpns were cpd. There were no US cas.

241850 - Tay Ninh Prov - A small scty ptrl fr a unit of the 2nd Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM), loc 11 mi SE of Katum, was fired on by 2 en soldiers. The ptrl rtn the fire with organic wpns killing 1 en soldier. One I/Wpn was also cpd. There were no US cas.

241850 - Binh Duong Prov - A co fr the 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div, in ni def pens 2 mi NE of Dau Tieng rec approx 10 rds of 82mm mort fire. Arty was dir onto the suspected en firing psns with unk res. 7 US soldiers were wounded.

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241900 - Binh Duong Prov - A small acty ptl fr the 3rd Bde, 1st Inf Div, ptlg 4 mi SW of Lai Khe rec RPG rkt gren & SA fire fr an est en sqd. The ptl rtn the fire with their organic wpns as the contact lasted about 8 mins. En cas are unk. 1 US soldier was WIA.

242020 - Binh Duong Prov - A small acty ptl fr the 11th Arm Cav Regt 9 mi SE of Ben Cat, obs 6 en approaching their psn & eng them with SA fire. The contact was broken immed & there were no US cas. The brief contact res in 1 en kd & 1 I/Wpn cptrd.

242130 - Hau Nghia Prov - A co fr the 199th Lt Inf Bde, 6 mi SE of Duc Hoa while in a def psn rec 1 gren fr an unk size en force. The en withdrew immed. 1 US soldier was wounded. The US trps held their fire.

242140 - Tay Ninh Prov - In the city of Tay Ninh, a terrorist threw a gren into a house causing minor dam to the home & wounding 1 civ. The terrorist escaped.

242040 - Bien Hoa Prov - An ARVN Abn Fire Spt Base 3 ml WNW of Binh Son rec SA fire fol by approx 140 rds of unk type mort fire. An AC-47 gunship sptd the spt base firing on suspected en firing psns with unk res. ARVN cas were 1t.

242155 - Long An Prov - A Navy River Ptl bt challenged a sampan with 3 occupants to halt 2 ml NW of the Ben Luc Brg. The 3 occupants jumped into the water in an attempt to escape. 1 VC suspect was picked up from the water & dtn along with an AK-47 rfl. There were no friendly cas.

250020 - Binh Duong Prov - An outpost for a co fr the 2nd Bde, 1st Inf Div, 6 ml W of Ben Cat rec 1 RPG rkt gren rd in their psn. The outpost rtn fire with their organic wpns with unk res. 2 US soldiers were wounded.

IV CTZ:

241820 - Binh Tuong Prov - An elm of the 1st Bde, 9th Inf Div, 2 ml ENE of Cai Be, while being moved to a new def psn were taken under fire by an unk size en force as they loaded on hels. Fire was rtn as the unit was extracted. The Fwd Air Controller with the unit obs 1 en & eng him with organic wpns. 1 en soldiers was kd. 6 US soldiers were wounded.

241920 - Kien Hoa Prov - An elm of the 2nd Bde, 9th Inf Div, in ni def psns 9 ml SE of Ben Tre was brought under atk by an unk size en force. The en harassed the psn with SA fire for a short period of time. Fire was rtn utilizing organic wpns with unk res. US cas 1 WIA.
242030 - Vinh Binh Prov - A PF obs post, 17 mi WSW of Phu Vinh, rec SA fire fr an est sqd sized en force. No friendly act was taken & the PF sustained it cas.

242125 - Phong Dinh Prov - A PF obs post, 15 mi WNW of Can Tho, rec SA fire fr an unk sized en force. Arty spt was called in with unk res. 1 US soldier was wounded.

242250 - Kien Giang Prov - A Swift bt on ptl, 8 mi NE of Rach Gia, rec rkt gren & hv auto wpns fire causing lt dam to the craft. 1 US pers was wounded. The bt was taken under tow & rtn to Rach Gia.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 514 sorties (USAF 313, USMC 199, USN 2). BDA incl dest or dam 404 en tnts, 4 supply craft, & ignited 8 sec explosions & 33 fires. 196 of the Air Force sorties spt gnd ops; 116 of these were in III Corps. MAR jets flew 4 sorties in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 4 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 4 in spt of Op DAWSON RIVER, 21 in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, & 20 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op SCOTLAND II was sptd by 603 hel sorties, Op DAWSON RIVER by 103 & Op TAYLOR COMMON by 16.

- USA hel gunships reptd 45 EK, & dest 52 en tnts & sinking 37 sampans.

- An Army UH-1 hel was downed by en gnd fire 3 mi E of Cai Be. The acft crashed & was dest. There were no cas.

- B-52s flew 7 mins: 13 mi NE of Phuoc Vinh in Phuoc Long Prov, 33 mi WNW of Kontum, 32 mi WNW of Kontum, 35 mi NE of Tay Ninh City, 26 mi SSW of Quang Tri, 34 mi NE of Tay Ninh City, & 27 mi SSW of Quang Tri in the upper A Shau Valley. An aircrew rtng fr a raid over Binh Duong Prov reptd causing 26 mdm sized sec explosions.

25 December (Wednesday)

- HEADQUARTERS, MACV (Capital Military District): US & Free World Forces curtailed off ops at 1800, 24 Dec. As of 1200, there were 99 incdts reptd by US & Free World Forces. Of these, 30 were considered significant (those incdts in which cas occurred). As a result of the incdts, 1 US soldier was kd & 39 US pers were wounded, 22 en were kd, 1 CSW & 12 I/wpons were cptrd. 2 additional significant incdts involving US forces were as fols:

  250450 - Quang Nam Prov - A plat fr the 1st MAR Div, 5th Regt, while in a ni def psn, had 10 hand grens hurled into their pens 9 mi NE of An Hoa. Friendly forces rtn fire using SA & grens. Contact was lost when en withdrew at 0500. US losses were 5 wounded of which 3 required evac. En cas are unk.

  250350 - Quang Nam Prov - A co fr the 26th MAR Regtl Ldg Tm in ni def pens 8 mi NW of Da Nang rec several rds of SA fire. The size of the en force was undetm & no fire was rtn. There were no US losses. One RF soldier with the MAR was wounded.

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HEADQUARTERS, MACV (Capital Military District): During the 24-hr mil stand-down of off ops by RVNAF, US & Free World Forces that commenced at 1800, 25 Dec, 133 incidts were reptd. Of these, 47 of the incidts were considered significant (those incidts in which cas occurred). As a res of the incidts involving US Forces, 2 US pers were kd & 36 US pers were wounded. En losses during the period were 34 kd, 1 suspect dtn, 1 CSW & 12 I/Wpns cptrd.

TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): At approx 1815, an Air Force FAC flying in spt of the US 1st Cav Div (AM), obs 100-150 en soldiers moving S 12 mi ESE of Katum. At 1830, elms fr the cav sqdn of the 1st Air Cav Div made contact with the en force & sptd by hel gunships & arty kd 12 en soldiers. In addition numerous sec explosion: were obs. There were no US cas in the eng.

IIFFV (Binh Long Prov): At 0930, during the 24-hr mil stand-down, a USA OV-1 acft was hit by auto wpns fire 11 mi NW of An Loc. Dam to the acft was lt; however, 1 crew mbtr was kd.

SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 162 sorties (USAF 90, USMC 72). BDA incl dest or dam 22 en ftms, 2 supply craft, & ignited 6 sec explosions & 5 fires. 26 of the Air Force sorties sptd gnd forces; 20 of these flts were in III Corps. 2 of the MAR jet sorties sptd Op TAYLOR COMMON, 2 sptd Op SCOTLAND II, 9 sptd Op VERNON LAKE II & 6 sptd Op NEVADA EAGLE. Op TAYLOR COMMON was sptd by 419 hel sorties, Op KENTUCKY by 36, Op DAWSON RIVER by 69 & Op SCOTLAND II by 414.

USA hel gunships reptd 17 EK, & dest 3 en ftms & sinking 15 sampans.

B-52s flew 3 msns: 2 msns 33 mi WSW of Kontum, & 35 mi NW of Saigon.

26 December (Thursday)

TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): At approx 0900, elms of the US cav sqdn of the 1st Cav Div (AM) while cdng aerial recon ops 12 mi E of Katum obs 60 en soldiers. The cav trps, sptd by tac air & aerial rkt arty hels, kd 41 en soldiers while sustaining no cas.

TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 1100, a co fr the US 199th Lt Inf Bde, cdng off ops 14 mi SW of Saigon found a wpns cache that cntn 8 122mm rkt motors, 6 122mm rkt warheads with fuses & 100 lbs of TNT. The cache was buried in a metal container & appeared to have been in place 2 mos.

TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 2200, hel gunships fr the US 9th Inf Div, cdng aerial recon ops 4 mi NE of Can Duoc obs 16 en sampans carrying an unk no of en trps. The hel gunners eng the sampans with MG & 2.75 in. rkt & repptd killing 10. In addition, 16 sampans were dest. There were no US cas.

QUYET CHLEN (An Xuyen Prov): Elms of the 32nd Regt of the ARVN 21st
Inf Div cdtg swp ops in an area 22 mi ESE of Ca Mau in exploitation of recent air strikes found the bodies of 38 en soldiers kd by air. In addition, 3 suspects were dtn & 3 I/Wps were cptrd.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 672 sorties (USAF 378, USMC 294). BDA incl dest or dam 574 en ftms, 26 supply craft, & ignited 21 sec explosions & 34 fires. 23 EK were also reptd. 213 of the Air Force sorties spdt gnd ops; 90 of these flts were in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 12 sorties in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 60 in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, 42 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE, 13 in spt of Op VERNON LAKE II & 2 in spt of Op FAYETTE CANYON. Op KENTUCKY was spdt by 156 hel sorties, Op SCOTLAND II by 442, Op TAYLOR COMMON by 407 & Op MARSHALL MOUNTAIN by 14.

- USA hel gunships reptd 89 EK, & dest 144 en ftms & sinking 24 sampans.

- B-52s flew 7 msns: 34 mi NW of Saigon in Tay Ninh Prov, 2 msns 15 mi NW of Ca Mau in An Xuyen Prov, 2 msns 14 & 15 mi ENE of Tay Ninh City, 10 mi E of Loc Ninh in Phuoc Long Prov, & 34 mi W of Kontum City. Crews rtng fr 2 msns over An Xuyen Prov reptd 63 strucs dest or dam, 37 bunkers dest & 10 sec explosions reptd.

27 December (Friday)

- TOAN THANG (Binh Long Prov): At noon, a mech inf co fr the US 1st Inf Div, under op con of the 2nd Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM) while cdtg swp ops 6 mi NW of An Loc made contact with an est NVA co. The mech trps, spdt by tac air, arty & aerial rkt hels, were reinf by another co fr the same unit at an unreptd time. The NVA trps were wearing green uniforms & pith helmets & empl SA, auto wpns & RPC rkt gren fire. Act cont until 1630 when contact was lost as the en withdraw fr the battle area. Res: 52 EK, 3 suspects were dtn, & 3 indiv & 5 CSW were cptrd. US cas were 2 kd & 27 wounded. Dam to the armd pers carriers was lt.

- TOAN THANG (Phuoc Long Prov): Betwn the hrs of 1330 & 1500, trps fr the cav sqdn of the US 1st Air Cav Div cdtg bomb dam assessment ops of prior tac airstrikes 7 mi NE of Phuoc Binh found the bodies of 20 en soldiers kd by air & reptd 2 strucs, 3 .50 cal MG psns & 10 bunkers dest.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 635 sorties (USAF 394, USMC 241). BDA incl dest or dam 549 en ftms, 45 supply craft, & ignited 34 sec explosions & 54 fires. 7 EK were also reptd. 114 of the Air Force sorties were in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 29 sorties in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, 35 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE, 4 in spt of Op FAYETTE CANYON, 6 in spt of Op VERNON LAKE II, 8 in spt of Op DAWSON RIVER & 5 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II. Op TAYLOR COMMON was spdt by 540 hel sorties, Op MARSHALL MOUNTAIN by 13, Op SCOTLAND II by 393 & Op KENTUCKY by 22.

- USA hel gunships reptd 42 EK, & dest 73 en ftms & sinking 23 sampans.

- B-52s flew 5 msns: 2 msns 16 & 17 mi WSW of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov, & 3 msns 16 mi W of An Hoa in Quang Nam Prov.
28 December (Saturday)

- Camp Carroll, a fire spt & cbt base loc in N central Quang Tri Prov btwn Ca Lu & Cam Lo, was inactivated today. The camp was opened Nov 1966 for the purpose of providing scty for Rte 9 & DMZ survl. The inactivation of Camp Carroll was a decision based on taking max advantage of our superior firepower & mobility in continuance of the mbl posture adopted in W Quang Tri Prov with Op PEGASUS in Apr & which res in the inactivation of the Khe Sanh Cbt Base late in June. Mbl forces tied to no specific terrain are rqr to meet any en threat. The 3rd MAR Div's concept of mobility rqr inf bns to be constantly cdtg search & clear ops throughout the div's area of ops. The need for scty units at Camp Carroll rqr units that can better be utilized in the fld for swift moves into en areas. The mobility concept rarely rqr that major mvr elms be within the confines of a static cbt base. Since the role played by Camp Carroll can be satisfied by other fire spt bases in the area with an overall economy of scty forces, Camp Carroll has been inactivated. Camp Carroll was named after Capt. J.J. Carroll, USMC, who was kd in act in Op HASTINGS on 5 Oct 1966. Capt. Carroll was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for heroism during the act in which he was kd.

- TOAN THANG (Phuoc Long Prov): At approx 0930, hels fr the 1st Cav Div's (AM) Air Cav Sqdn, cdtg aerial recon ops 22 mi SW of Phuoc Binh, rec auto wpns & SA fire fr an est en co. US Air Force tac acft - F-100s fr the 37th Tac Ftr Wg & F-4s fr the 12th TFW - along with USA hel gunships atk the en psns. The hels then moved back into the area & the crews reptd counting 59 en bodies lying in the area of the air strikes. There were no US cas & no repts of hels hit by en gnd fire.

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 1530, an aerial obs on a recon man over the S DMZ spotted 7 en soldiers & an unreptd no of bunkers & trails with signs of recent act loc in the S half of the DMZ 6 mi NNE of Gio Linh. The aerial obs called for & rec US MAR arty & US naval gunfire on this tgt with good coverage res in 7 en reptd kd, 15 bunkers dest, 11 bunkers dam & 3 sec explosions. The USS Isbell, a naval destroyer, provided the naval gunfire spt.

- SCOTLAND II (Quang Tri Prov): At 1830, a co of the US 4th Regt, 3rd MAR Div, cdtg a cbt swp found 2 en ammo caches in the same general area 11 mi N of Khe Sanh. The caches cntn the fol: 461 60mm mort rds, 23 82mm mort rds, 125 AT mines, 13 Claymore-type mines, 6,750 rds of 3A ammo, 2,000 rds of .50 cal MG ammo, 59 RPG rkt gns, & 20 blasting caps.

- SVN TAC AIR: US pilots flew 613 sorties (USAF 353, USMC 258, USN 2). BDA incl dest or dam 678 en ftns, 10 supply craft, ignited 26 sec explosions & 19 fires. 16 EK were also reptd. 239 of the Air Force sorties sptd gnd ops; 109 of the flts were in III Corps. MAR jet pilots flew 25 sorties in spt of Op TAYLOR COMMON, 2 in spt of Op KENTUCKY, 16 in spt of Op SCOTLAND II, 7 in spt of Op DAWSON RIVER, 14 in spt of Op VERNON LAKE

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II, 28 in spt of Op NEVADA EAGLE & 4 in spt of Op FAYETTE CANYON. Op TAYLOR COMMON was sptd by 271 MAR hel sorties, Op SCOTLAND II by 437 & Op DAWSON RIVER by 141.

- USA hel gunships reptd 64 EK, & dest 74 en ftms & sinking 25 sampans.

- An Army OH-6 obs hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 12 mi SW of Can Tho in Phong Dinh Prov. 1 crew mbr was inj & the acft was dest.

- An Army UH-1 hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed in an area 5 mi ENE of Dau Tieng in Binh Duong Prov. 2 USA pers were kd & 2 wounded. The acft was dest.

- B-52s flew 7 msns: 31 mi NW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 2 msns 14 mi ENE & 13 mi NE of Tay Ninh City, 2 msns 16 mi NE of Tay Ninh City, 40 mi NE of Saigon in Long Khanh Prov, & 28 mi NNE of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov.

29 December (Sunday)

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At 1300, a mech inf elm of the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div found the bodies of 32 en in an unreptd no of graves while swpg an area 5 mi E of Trang Bang.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 2000, the base camp of the 1st Cav Div (AM) near Phuoc Vinh rec less than 40 rds of mixed 107mm rkt & 75mm RR fire. About 1 hr later, the camp again rec approx 5 rds of unreptd cal mort fire. The 2 en atks by indir fire res in lt dam & lt US cas with no fatalities. Counter-arty fire was dir against the suspected en firing psns with unk res.


- USA hel gunships reptd 20 EK, & dest 60 en ftms & sinking 19 sampans.

- An Army OH-6 lt obs hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 15 mi W of Katum in Tay Ninh Prov. The acft was dest & the 3 pers aboard were wounded.

- An Army UH-1 hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 16 mi SW of Quang Ngai City. 1 soldier was kd & the acft was dest.

- B-52s flew 4 msns: 17 mi WNW of Pleiku, 5 mi SE of Ben Tre in Kien Hoa Prov, 6 mi SE of Ben Tre in Kien Hoa Prov (a FAC obs the strike reptd 19 sec explosions res fr this raid), & 14 mi WSW of An Hoa.

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30 December (Monday)

- III MAF (DMZ): At approx 0950, a US aerial obs acft on a recon msn over the S DMZ rec SA fire fr an unk no of en soldiers in bunkers loc 4 mi NE of Gio Linh & about 1 mi S of the Ben Hai River in the S half of the DMZ. The obs dir US MAR tac air strikes onto the en fortifications res in 1 sec explosion & dest 6 bunkers. No acft were hit by the en fire & there were no US cas in the act. En losses are unk.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At approx 0930, the en fired less than 5 rds of 107mm rktq into a US 25th Inf Div base camp loc at Dau Tieng. The indir atk by fire res in 1 VN civ wounded while US cas were very lt with no fatalities. There was no reptd dam. Counter-arty fire was dir against the suspected en firing psns with unk res.

- TOAN THANG (Binh Duong Prov): At 1300, an elm of the 11th Arm Cav Regt eng an unk size en force 3 mi SE of Lai Khe. SA & auto wpns fire were exchanged by the 2 forces as a hel-born inf plat was landed in the area & other elms of the regt reinf on the gnd. Contact was lost at 1515 when the en withdrew fr the area. Res: 13 EK, 7 suspects dtn, & 1 GSW & 4 I/Wpns were cptrd. 1 US trp was kd & 5 were wounded.

- I FFV (Binh Dinh Prov): At approx 1800, a 173rd Abn Bde fire ept base 19 mi NNW of An Khe rec approx 30 rds of 60mm mort fire. Counter mortarty mans, hel gunships & AC-47 gunship fires were dir onto suspected en firing psns with unk res. US cas were lt while no mat dam was reptd.

- TAYLOR COMMON (Quang Tin Prov): At 1200, a co fr the 3rd Regt, 3rd MAR Div, ptlg an area 11 mi SW of An Hao, found a hut cntn a wpns cache. In the cache were 45 SKS rfls, 1 MG, 10 machetes & 1,000 rds of SA ammo.

- TAYLOR COMMON (Quang Nam Prov): At 1430, a co fr the 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, ptlg 9 mi NE of An Hao, found graves cntn the bodies of 15 en soldiers. The en soldiers appeared to have been dead approx 48 hrs.

- TAYLOR COMMON (Quang Nam Prov): At 1850, an elm of the 5th Regt, 1st MAR Div, obs 11 en soldiers wearing packs in 3 bts crossing the river 8 mi NE of An Hao. The MAR dir arty fire onto the en bts res in 11 en kd & the 3 bts dest. There were no US cas.

- SCOTLAND II (Quang Tri Prov): At an unreptd time, elms of the US 4th Regt, 3rd MAR Div, discovered 3 significant en caches while swpg an area 7 mi W of the Rockpile (10 mi NNE of Khe Sanh). The caches cntn: 515 82mm mort rds, 433 81mm mort rds, 100 RPG rkt gren rds, 41 60mm mort rds, 2,257 82mm mort fuzes, 1,700 .50 cal MG rds, 71 cans of 82mm mort charges, 47 cans of 81mm mort charges, 38 cans of 82mm mort fuzes, 42 cans of .50 cal MG ammo rds, 1,660 SA rds, 14 boxes of SA rds, 30 rds of 20mm cannon ammo, 10 Claymore-type mines, 1 AT mine, 64 blasting caps, 5 122mm rktos, & 2 122mm rkt warheads.

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- **TOAN THANG (Long An Prov):** At approx 1130, USN crewmen on river ptl bts (PER's 761 & 840) discovered an en ammo cache while cdg GIANT SLINGSHOT ptl ops 9 mi N of Tan An. The cache was buried in a river bank & cntn the fol: 36,400 AK-47 SA rds, 21 RPG-7 rkt-gren rds, 34 RPG-7 rkt gren boosters, 11 RPG-2 rkt gren rds, & 23 RPG-2 rkt gren boosters. In addition, a small qty of plastic-type expls was cptrd.


- **USA hel gunships reptd 25 EK, & dest 37 en ftns & 28 sampans.**

- An Army UH-1 hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 7 mi N of Phuoc Vinh in Binh Duong Prov. The acft was dest, but there were no cas.

- An Army OH-6 obs hel was hit by en gnd fire & crashed 6 mi NW of Phan Thiet in Binh Thuan Prov. The acft was dest & 2 USA pers were wounded.

- **B-52s flew 6 mens:** 15 mi WSW of An Hoa, 25 mi NNE of Saigon in Bien Hoa Prov, 11 mi NW of Ben Cat in Binh Duong Prov, 19 mi ENE of Pleiku, 34 mi NW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, & 12 mi W of An Hoa. Crews rtng fr a raid over Quang Nam Prov reptd 10 sec explosions.

31 December (Tuesday)

- **IV CTZ (Kien Giang Prov):** At approx 1330, a USA off held prisoner by the VC for over 5 yrs was recovered during an op being cdtd by elms of the ARVN 21st Inf Div in an area 38 mi SSW of Rach Gia near the N edge of the U Minh forest. The off has been identified as Maj James N. Rowe who was cptrd as a 1st lt when an unk size en force overran a GVN outpost loc 13 mi NE of Can Mau in An Xuyen Prov on the afternoon of 29 Oct 63. At the time of his cptr, Maj Rowe, (then 1st lt) was serving on temp duty fr the US with the US 5th SF Gp as an advisor. Shortly before his recovery, Maj Rowe over-powered an armed en gd & escaped. He is reptd to be in good physical cond.

- **III MAF (DMZ):** At approx 1630, a US obs acft on a recon msn over the S DMZ rec SA fire fr an unk no of en occupying fortified pns 4 mi N of Gio Linh & about 400 meters S of the Ben Hai River. The aerial obs dir
NGF fr the USS Isbell res in 3 sec explosions & fires & the dest of 13 bunkers. The acft was not hit by the en fire & en cas are unk.

- TAYLOR COMMON (Quang Nam Prov): At approx 0945, an elm of the US 1st Regt, 1st MAR Div, obs 20 en soldiers moving in a wooded area 6 mi NE of An Hoa. The MAR dir arty fire onto the en trps with unk res. During a swp of the strike area, the inf discovered the bodies of 10 en kd in the act. There were no MAR cas.

- TOAN THANG (Hau Nghia Prov): At approx 1330, an elm of the US 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div, discovered an unreptd no of graves cntn the bodies of 14 en soldiers while swp an area 9 mi NW of Cu Chi. The en apparently were kd by arty about 3 days ago.

- TOAN THANG (Long An Prov): At approx 1045, an elm of the US 199th Lt Inf Bde discovered an en ammo cache 16 mi NW of Can Duoc. The cache cntn 147 60mm mort rds, 268 60mm mort charges, 150 60mm mort detonators, 75 ChiCom hand grens, 18 cases of TNT, & 70 AT mines.

- TOAN THANG (Tay Ninh Prov): Betwn 1300 & 1420, trps fr the US 1st Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM) discovered 2 en ammo caches while searching an area 6 mi S of Go Dau Ha. The ammo was bured in holes & covered with brush in 2 locs about 100 meters apart. The caches cntn 87,850 SA rds, 45 122mm mkts (compl), 571 60mm mort rds, 162 82mm mort rds, 1,600 rds of 12.7mm hv MG ammo, 140 ChiCom hand grens, 75 RGP-2 rkt gren rds, & 51 82mm mort charges.


- USA hel gunships reptd 30 EX, & dest 49 ftns & sinking 51 en sampans.

- B-52s flew 5 msns: 13 mi W of An Hoa, 28 mi NE of Saigon in Bien Hoa Prov, 31 mi NNW of Saigon in Binh Duong Prov, 32 mi NW of Saigon in Tay Ninh Prov, & 33 mi WSW of Hue in Thua Thien Prov. Crews rtng fr a raid over Bien Hoa Prov reptd 12 sec explosions.