59 percent. The decrease in effectiveness was due in part to the reduced number of receipts acquired because of the Tet Offensive. In addition, a sharp increase in demands contributed to the reduction.

NAVSUPPACT Saigon's warehouse space was rapidly being depleted during the month, as additional material continued to arrive. A trade-off of facilities with the U.S. Army temporarily provided relief but at month's end a critical shortage of space still existed.

NAVSUPPACT Saigon's March aircraft inventory included three C-117s, three UH-34 helicopters and two US-2Bs.

A total of 3,440 passengers and 510,418 pounds of cargo were air transported by NAVSUPPACT Saigon assets during March. During the same period, assigned surface craft transported a total of 3,595 short tons of cargo.

At the end of March, NAVSUPPACT Saigon had a total on board count of 2,765 personnel, an increase of 275 over February's total.

*****
Aerial view shows one of the two new steel bridges being constructed by the men of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 10 on Vietnam's National Route 1. The original structures were blown up in Viet Cong night raids.
The overall level of enemy activity decreased during the month of March, but artillery and mortar attacks continued. All Seabee base camps north of the Hai Van Pass received incoming fire sometime during the month. Mortar and artillery attacks, mining incidents and sabotage initiated by the enemy during March resulted in 440 lineal feet of bridging destroyed or damaged, 29 pieces of automotive and construction equipment damage, 8 structures in Seabee camps damaged or destroyed, 37 Seabees wounded and 9 killed in action.

As the level of enemy initiated incidents and the threat of enemy attack decreased during the month of March, Seabee efforts increased on road and bridge upgrading as well as on construction in outlying areas.

Availability of shipping to northern I CTZ ports improved over the previous month; however, lack of shipping remained a major restriction in the accomplishment of vertical work during March. The expeditious repair of national Route 1 allowed movement of cargo truck convoys throughout the month which improved the vertical construction outlook for the future.

Seabee work on POL facilities was also greatly accelerated during the month. Improvements of the overall POL system in northern I CTZ progressed rapidly with the completion of a 10.5-mile six-inch POL pipeline from Hue to Phu Bai and 8 miles of similar pipeline from Dong Ha to the Quang Tri combat base. A 4 inch line was installed from the Dong Ha
ramp to the bladder fuel farm. In addition to these projects, the Seabees repaired damage to POL lines which resulted from the Tet Offensive and constructed two 3,000-barrel tanks at Phu Bai and one 3,000-barrel tank at Dong Ha.

The first AMMI pontoon bridge to be installed in Vietnam was opened for traffic on 30 March. Spanning a 140-foot river on Route 1 south of Danang, the bridge, constructed by Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FIFTY-THREE (MCB-53), was being used to evaluate the AMMI bridge concept under actual conditions.

During the month, Seabees of MCB 10 completed the construction of a pioneer road eastward from National Route 1 near Quang Tri City to the terminal facilities area at Wunder Beach. On 1 March only 2.6 miles of the 8-mile road could accommodate two-way traffic, but by 23 March, 18,000 cubic yards of fill and 11 culverts had been placed and two-way traffic was possible for the entire length of the road.

Construction on Ammunition Supply Points (ASPs) continued at an accelerated rate during the month. All earth-work at ASP 2 in Danang was completed by MCB 62 and all modules were made available for use. At ASP 1 in Danang, MCB 128 continued construction of roads, ammunition pads, security fencing, perimeter lighting and general site preparation. At month's end 18 pads had been completed and were in use. At Chu Lai MCB 6 completed an ASP for the Army's Americal Division.

During the month MCB 58 completed a 90,000 square-foot helicopter
pad for the Force Logistics Command at Danang. This pad was urgently required in order to expedite the loading of cargo for lifts by helicopter to Northern I CTZ.

A Seabee razes an obsolete bridge on Vietnam's Route 9 as upgrading of the highway system continues.

Other significant projects completed during March included the construction of concrete pads for the GCA vans at Phu Bai and Quang Tri by MCEs 121 and 10 respectively. These much needed facilities improved aviation safety during periods of marginal weather.

Road upgrading projects continued to receive special emphasis.
during the month. By the end of March, five of the seven bridges on Route 9 west of Dong Ha had been upgraded to MACV standards. One of the bridges on Route 1 between Dong Ha and Quang Tri was completed and work was underway on three additional bridges with a total span of 470 feet. A 3-mile segment of Route 1 south of Dong Ha was straightened and widened by Seabees of MCB 5. Construction of the last bridge on the Hue bypass was over 33 percent completed by month's end, but clearing activity for the widening of the northern portion of the bypass was curtailed because of real estate availability problems. However, significant progress was made on clearing and widening of the southern portion of the Hue bypass and of Co Co Road. Five of the 10 bridges in this section of the road have been completed. A 1.5-mile segment of the southern bypass has been widened and four turnarounds were completed on Co Co Road.

Development of the Phu Loc quarry and crusher site continued during March. The primary section of the crusher was installed and at month's end was producing rock which was used for site improvement and various other construction projects. Security considerations prevented operating more than one shift daily during most of the month; however, further development of the site and receipt of additional required equipment should allow full crusher operations during April. The quarry/crusher site at Nam Hoa continued operations although only minimal production was permitted because of enemy interdiction of the
haul road. Logistics problems caused by lack of shipping, security problems and road conditions continued to restrict both hauling supplies into the site and hauling rock out. Quarry sites near Camp Carroll and Khe Sanh could not be established because of the high level of enemy activity in those areas. Despite the progress made during March to commence crusher and quarry operations, the rock production schedule in Northern I CTZ was not being met at month's end.

*****
The children of Saigon's Hoi Duc Anh Orphanage surround Captain Clifford R. DUNNING (USMC), Marine Advisory Team 43, at Nha Be, as he prepares to distribute shoes donated by the Baltimore Chapter of the American Legion. The chapter donated 594 pairs of shoes, in response to a request by Captain DUNNING.
PSYCHOLOGICAL AND CIVIC ACTION OPERATIONS

Psychological operation efforts continued to be directed to the exploitation of the Viet Cong Tet Offensive via increased loud-speaker broadcasts and leaflet distribution. One fertile field exploited was the recruitment of juvenile males and females by the Viet Cong. Among captured Viet Cong were youths as young as 11 years of age who were used in combat. Capitalizing on this action, broadcasts were directed to parents in contested, insecure and secure areas stating that although the Viet Cong promised not to use their sons and daughters in the front lines they failed to honor their pledge.

The capability of naval units to engage in surface broadcasts increased substantially as new equipment continued to be provided to the task force commanders. The effectiveness of the surface broadcasts was best evidenced by the increased Viet Cong attacks on the broadcasting vehicles. Boats from each task force (115, 116 and 117) received enemy fire during psychological operation missions. During one incident on 23 March, a PBR patrol conducting a broadcast mission on the Bassac River received withering automatic-weapons and B-40 rocket fire just south of Tra On. Two Navymen were seriously wounded and another received minor wounds in the firefight.

The results of a broadcast conducted on the Ham Luong River were somewhat more fruitful. On 27 March a Viet Cong rallied to a PBR patrol after hearing PBRs conduct a broadcast the night before. The Hoi Chanh
provided information that prompted a SEAL operation on 29 March culminating in the seizure of a significant ordnance cache and destruction of a Viet Cong weapons factory. (See GAME WARDEN Operations - Ham Luong River). The Hoi Chanh stated that his reason for rallying was because of the lack of food and the failure of the Viet Cong to allow him to visit his parents.

Naval units dropped 511,000 leaflets, hand-delivered 37,600 leaflets and conducted 138.5 hours of surface and aerial broadcasts.

During March, civic action activity increased as naval units gradually returned to a pre-Tet posture of readiness allowing an opportunity to perform these functions. Freedom of movement, however, throughout the countryside continued to be restricted by the threat of enemy activity and reprisals by the Viet Cong against the villagers. In most cases the major civic action effort was assisting the refugees to resettle and repair their damaged dwellings.

The number of Seabee teams, engaged in civic action work increased to 13 during the month. The construction emphasis of the work began to return to pre-Tet programs with the return of security in rural areas. About 25 to 35 percent of the team efforts was directed to the repair of damaged civilian facilities. The return of team members to areas where pre-Tet construction was underway revealed that no action had been directed toward team efforts. Detailed reports from all teams showed that although the teams were located in priority Viet Cong target areas, no Seabee team received attacks directed specifically against them. There
were no personnel casualties or compound damages sustained.

Voluntary contributions were made by naval personnel throughout Vietnam to assist in the Tet Aggression Relief Project (TARP). In one instance MARKET TIME sailors located at Vung Tau contributed $160.00 to enable a student nurse at the Long Xuyen Hospital to continue her education. The student nurse was one of several who were unable to continue their studies due to family loses incurred during the Viet Cong attack.

The MEDCAPs conducted, although not as numerous as previous months due to the prevailing conditions, nevertheless paid dividends. In the Second Coastal Zone there was an increased awareness of the GVN and greater cooperation shown by the people. In Hon Mien Hamlet, the hamlet chief turned in a Viet Cong suspect during a MEDCAP at that location.

In the Delta, a MEDCAP conducted by units of PBR River Division 53 on the Con Dai River resulted in valuable intelligence concerning Viet Cong tax collectors and recruiters.

As United States troops waged a running battle in Hue with the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces, members of the Naval Support Activity, Danang's Preventive Medicine Unit (PMU) carried on their own offensive in the city against another and just as deadly enemy - disease. An estimated 29,000 refugees from Communist-held sectors of the city poured into reoccupied areas of Hue, camps sprung up in school yards, on the hospital grounds or wherever people could find room. The PMU's assistance was needed in preventing an epidemic in view of the miserable sanitary conditions. The 36-man PMU team, one of five such Navy teams and
the only one in Vietnam, swung into action and in less than 3 weeks about 70,000 cholera and typhoid inoculations were given. To prevent rats and insects from spreading disease, members of the unit sprayed and dusted insecticide. The team followed close behind the fighting and as an area became relatively secure, they moved in to perform their duties while sniper fire harassed the unit, making their work both difficult and dangerous. When the Citadel area in northwest Hue was retaken, about 40,000 refugees jammed into five new camps, increasing the threat of disease and the team's work load. The measure of success by PMU is achieved in negative terms. "If nothing happens after we've done our job," Commander Charles E. ALEXANDER, MC, USN, officer-in-charge of the team said, "we're successful." At Hue - nothing happened.

The Vietnamese Navy was also active in providing assistance to their fellow countrymen. To assist the refugees in I Corps and II Corps Tactical Zones the Vietnamese hospital ships, HQ 400 and HQ 401, called at Hue, Nha Trang and Phan Thiet. The coastal groups performed MEDCAPs and other humanitarian actions to the extent of their resources. In the Saigon area the Vietnamese Navy in cooperation with the Naval Advisory Group obtained and distributed food, clothes, cloth, building supplies, soap, blankets and other large quantities of relief items. The Vietnamese Navy also assumed the primary responsibility for three relief centers in the Saigon area.
USN Civic Action Statistical Summary
March 1968

PROGRAMS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Man Days</th>
<th>Expenditures (VN$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development</td>
<td>122.5</td>
<td>136,246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>132.0</td>
<td>256,487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Welfare</td>
<td>1169.5</td>
<td>3,744,130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>123,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee Assistance Support</td>
<td>446.0</td>
<td>590,461</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>1822.0</td>
<td>4,850,502</td>
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</table>

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutes Assisted</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals/Dispensaries</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orphanages</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PERCENT OF U.S. CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS CONDUCTED JOINTLY WITH:

- Other FMAP: 21%
- RVNAF: 55%
- U.S. civilian voluntary agencies: 28%
- Average percent of self-help by VN civilians: 31%

************
YLLC conducting salvage operations.
Salvage operations for ASPB-112-4 which was sunk by enemy B-40 rockets on 27 February on the Can Tho River approximately 6 miles southwest of Can Tho were hindered on 1 March by adverse tidal conditions and equipment problems. The stricken ASPB was raised sufficiently to be beached and emergency repairs were commenced on 2 March.

Salvage operations continued on 3 March with two salvage craft, YLLC 3 and YLLC 4, on station. ASPB-112-4 was raised and successfully moved to the Can Tho Vietnamese River Assault Group pier on 4 March. YLLC-3 lifted ASPB-91-1, which had sunk on 2 March, and moved the boat to the same location on 6 March. Emergency repairs were accomplished at the RAG facilities and the boats were made ready for the arduous 110-mile transit from Can Tho to Dong Tam.

At 1656 on 7 March, the two Light Lift Craft and the two salvaged ASPB's, towed and escorted by units of RAD 111, went up the Bassac River, stopping at the Vam Co Crossover for the night because of heavy fog. The convoy arrived at the Dong Tam basin at 2200 on 8 March, and completed the frustrating, long and tedious salvage operation.

On 14 March YLLC-4, with divers from Teams Three and Five embarked, sailed to My Tho to commence operations on the Kien Hoa ferry landing which was sunk during the Tet Offensive. Due to higher priority salvage operations for the recovery of the sunken ferry landing was not commenced until 16 March, when a salvage survey indicated that the pontoon had a
Confidential

A large hole approximately five feet by six feet wide blown in it.

Additional inspections revealed several smaller holes in the bottom of the pontoon, which were not detected initially, due to the barge being imbedded in the mud. On 19 March seven of the nine compartments were pumped free of water and the sunken ferry landing came to the surface. After patching the remaining small holes and pumping out the last two compartments, the salvage job was successfully completed, and the ferry pontoon was delivered to the owner on 21 March.

*****

Confidential
COMMUNICATIONS

During the month of March, the COMNAVFORV Message Center processed a total of 110,470 messages. This new monthly high in message handling was a marked increase of 16,071 messages over the February totals.

Project CLARINET RAMROD (Improve communications at NAVCOMSTA Cam Ranh Bay) continued to show favorable progress as the no-break power capability at the communications center became 98 percent complete. The transmitter permanent power plant was approximately 80 percent completed, with the remainder of the task consisting primarily of testing and electrical work.

Meanwhile Project CLARINET TACK (the use of air-transportable communication vans) suffered a setback when one complete set of CLARINET TACK contingency vans was destroyed by enemy action on 10 March at the Naval Support Activity Cua Viet Task Force CLEARWATER base. As a result of this loss, the Chief of Naval Operations authorized the procurement of one AN/TRC-153 and one AN/TRC-154 to be used as an interim measure to meet in-country contingency requirements which could arise in the immediate future. Of the two remaining sets of CLARINET TACK HF/VHF/UHF vans, one complete set was employed at Tan My in I Corps, and the other was sent to Cua Viet, replacing the set which was destroyed. The Naval Electronics System Command was directed by the Commander Naval Communications Command to obtain one AN/TRC-97A from USAF assets in the Philippine Islands for shipment to the Naval Support Activity, Danang. The
MONTHLY MESSAGE TRAFFIC

[Graph showing monthly message traffic from January to December with categories for Total, Incoming, and Outgoing.]
estimated date of delivery of the Lenkurt microwave vans (DCA standards) remained at 6 September 1968.

Project CLARINET SEAWARD (upgrading communications facilities at COMNAVFORV, the Coastal Surveillance Centers and GAME WARDEN bases) also evidenced considerable progress as the sites at COMNAVFORV, Qui Nhon, Sa Dec, Cat Lo and Vinh Long were deemed ready for the electronics installation team which was due to arrive in-country early in April. The installations at My Tho and An Thoi were expected to be ready for the team during the month of May. At month's end, the remaining two uncompleted sites at Vung Tau and Nha Trang still had an indefinite beneficial occupancy date; however, strong efforts were being made to expedite their construction.

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ORGANIZATION AND COMMAND

On 9 March at the Binh Thuy GAME WARDEN base, Commander Sayre A.
Swarzauber, USN, relieved Commander Paul E. KANE, USN, as Commander
River Squadron FIVE.

Rear Admiral K. L. Veth, COMMAFORTH, presents Presidential Unit Citation
to Lieutenant Jarvis MACE, USN, officer-in-charge of MINERON 11 Detach-
ment ALFA, at Nha Be on 14 March 1968.

On 11 March at the Nha Be Navy base in Gia Dinh Province, Rear
Admiral Kenneth L. Veth, USN, on behalf of the President of the United
States of America, presented the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) to
Mine Squadron ELEVEN, Detachment ALFA. The PUC, accepted for the
detachment by its officer-in-charge, Lieutenant James A. MACE, U.S.N., was the first award of this type presented to a U.S. Navy unit engaged in combat operations in South Vietnam. The citation was awarded for exceptionally meritorious and heroic service from 1 June 1966 to 18 February 1967 while conducting minesweeping operations in the Rung Sat Special Zone of the Republic of Vietnam. During the period, the minesweeper detachment was responsible for keeping the Long Tau/Saigon shipping channel open to friendly merchant ships delivering large quantities of vital supplies to the Saigon port complex.

On the same day, Commander Service Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Rear Admiral Walter V. COMBS, Jr., USN, accompanied by Captain Burns W. SPOR, USN, Commander Naval Support Activities, Saigon, commenced an extensive nine-day indoctrination and orientation tour of various naval activities in South Vietnam. Rear Admiral COMBS' itinerary included visits to the Naval Support Activity detachments at An Thoi, Cat Lo, Dong Tam, Vinh Long, Sa De', Binh Thuy and Qui Nhon; the Coastal Surveillance Center at Nha Trang; the Coastal Surveillance Force (CTF 115) headquarters and the Naval Support Facility at Cam Ranh Bay; the River Patrol Force (CTF 116) headquarters at Binh Thuy, the Mobile Riverine Force (CTF 117) at Dong Tam, and the Naval Support Activity at Danang.

On 27-28 March, Rear Admiral Chester R. BENDER, USCG, Commander Western Area/Commander TWELFTH Coast Guard District, and Rear Admiral Benjamin F. ENGEL, USCG, Commander FOURTEENTH Coast Guard District,
visited U.S. Coast Guard installation at An Thoi, Con Son Island, and Cam Ranh Bay. While at Cam Ranh Bay, the two admirals were also briefed on MARKET TIME concepts and operations at the Coastal Surveillance Force headquarters.

*****
RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Religious programs, conducted by chaplains serving with commands and units under the control of Commander Naval Forces, Vietnam, were administered under more favorable conditions during the month of March. Having more freedom to travel between units and less dangers to cope with, the chaplains extended their coverage of units and detachments as before the Tet Offensive. Nevertheless, intermittent mortar/rocket and small arms attacks occurred which served as constant reminders that danger was always imminent. Capitalizing on many opportunities, the chaplains encouraged attendance at worship services while visiting their men in offices, shops and barracks, on piers, aboard boats, in the field and at hospitals. The chaplains found that they must seize whatever time was available between operations and jobs in order to hold divine services.

As in former months, it was not uncommon for the chaplains to average one or more services of some type a day. Weddings, funerals, baptisms, memorial services, devotional services, and instructional classes on religion, marriage, family, psychology and sociology packed the chaplains' days. Special Lenten services and daily Catholic Masses held in March also contributed to the demands upon our chaplains. The addition of such services as individual counselling, hospital ministry, guest speaker at Vietnamese churches, and conducting civic action projects, topped off with normal Sunday divine worship services caused Chaplain Max A. ELLER, Assistant Force Chaplain, to remark, "It is
unending work, but most rewarding."

Although the threat in travel was probably less than in the previous months, several incidents experienced by the chaplains emphasized the reality of war. Chaplain Carl W. Erickson, travelling from Red Beach to Phu Bai, about 50 miles northwest of Danang, relates: "...once over Hai Van Pass it was a bone chilling, damp, dusty rough ride...huddled on sandbags on the flat bed of the truck, shielding each other from the rain, whipped by the truck's motion, C-rats was the luncheon fare for the chaplain and crew...thanks to a bone bruising ride, the first night in Phu Bai was spent in sleep except for one flight to the mortar holes. The previous night one hundred rounds of rocket and mortar fire exploded in the Phu Bai combat base. What churches, pagodas, and imperial palace buildings and stores on street and province headquarters have in common is matte, jagged holes of conflict and busy, grimly smiling residents of their city in search of day to day living."

In the Delta at Can Tho, intelligence indicated that attack was considered imminent on two consecutive nights. Chaplain Charles J. McCoy responded to a request from an Army doctor at the Army air field infirmary and remained with the patients both nights. The next night when the chaplain had returned to Binh Thuy, the Can Tho Air Field was mortared, however, no casualties were incurred. Although Chaplain McCoy was not present during the actual attack, his visits just prior to the attack afforded an opportunity to provide encouragement and spiritual strength to the
personnel. Another example of the dangers confronted is intrinsic in the following story of Chaplain F. P. BURCHELL: "While waiting in a jeep at An Thoi airport (7 March) for a plane to take me to Saigon a bullet came through the canvas top and struck the chapel offering which was in my hip pocket. The bullet hit three gifts and bounced off. The only injury I received was a red welt."

The danger, hardship and frustration these dedicated chaplains face is awesome, indeed. Yet they seek a common goal and are not dismayed by bad fortunes; rather they exploit good fortune. Chaplain J. J. KILLEN, NAVFORV Chaplain, enthused by a highly successful civic action project, stated, "The result was joy in many hearts. What a happy place this world could be!"

The following is a statistical summary of religious services/activities - January - March 1968:

1. Religious Services:
   a. Divine Services
      (1) U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam installations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Services</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>9,935</td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td>11,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communed</td>
<td>2,655</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>3,401</td>
</tr>
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</table>

(2) Other military installations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of services</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>155</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>5,130</td>
<td>851</td>
<td>5,981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communed</td>
<td>1,407</td>
<td>1,927</td>
<td>3,334</td>
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115
(3) Civilian churches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Services</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communed</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
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b. Religious services conducted by lay leaders and chaplains other than those attached to NAVFORV:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Denomination</th>
<th>Chaplains</th>
<th>Lay Leaders</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>8,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protestant</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al-Islam</td>
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c. Other services in which chaplains participated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memorial service</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2,832</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weddings</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funerals</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bible classes</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>635</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>124</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choir rehearsal</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious instruction</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>161</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counselling</td>
<td>1,914</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moral Leadership Lectures</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>355</td>
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<tr>
<td>FilmShown</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3,863</td>
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</table>
During the month of March the Vietnamese Navy (VNN) demonstrated excellent progress by assuming additional tasks and successful prosecution of responsibilities. The participation of the Fleet Command ships and Coastal Group junks in the destruction of a North Vietnamese infiltration trawler on 1 March prompted Rear Admiral Kenneth L. Veth, USN, COMNAVFORV/CHNAADVGRP MACV, to remark, "The outstanding performance of the Vietnamese Navy in the successful action against the NVA trawler attempting to infiltrate arms and ammunition at Hon Heo Peninsula on the 1st of March has once again demonstrated the fighting spirit and professionalism that is becoming its hallmark." Regarding the VNN ships and junks he continued, "Their courage, their splendid fighting ability and their determination has helped to add another bright page in the illustrious history of the VNN."

Minesweeping craft of the VNN continued to perform the essential task of mine detection in the rivers of the Mekong Delta and the Rung Sat Special Zone (RSSZ). On 17 March, a plan was promulgated that provided for the eventual assumption of total responsibility by the VNN for mine countermeasures on the Long Tau and Dong Nai rivers. Landing Craft Medium Minesweepers (LCMMs) were introduced into the VNN to accomplish the detection sweeps.

Taking an additional step forward, on 24 March, permanent responsibility for two more MARKET TIME stations was undertaken by the VNN;
A Vietnamese Navyman plots a course aboard a U.S. Navy "Swift" boat in the Gulf of Thailand. Vietnamese Navymen are training aboard U.S. Navy "Swifts" before being assigned PCFs of their own to patrol the South Vietnamese coastline.
the total number of MARKET TIME stations manned by VNN ships is now six. The gradual assumption of MARKET TIME responsibility was no longer in the ideological stage. The increasing scope of responsibility assumed and operations conducted was indicative of the continuing growth of the VNN, increasing sophistication of personnel training and the continuing improvements of its maintenance capability.

VIETNAMESE NAVY

The personnel strength of the VNN on 31 March was 16,919 officers and enlisted men; of this number 1,327 were officers, 3,234 were NCOs and 12,358 were enlisted men. The number of unauthorized absentees stood at 368, and 36 men were discharged as deserters in March.

On 11 March, 16 members of the Coastal Zone Mobile Training Teams commenced a 5-week instructor training course at the Vietnamese Naval Training Center, Saigon. On 13 March, the Vietnamese Naval Training Center, Nha Trang, graduated men from Electronic Technician "A" School and 25 men from Radioman "A" School. At Cam Ranh Bay, the Vietnamese Naval Recruit Center completed training for 500 recruits on 16 March and on 25 March another 500-man recruit training class commenced a 12-week course.

Formal training in PCFs and PBRs was conducted in conjunction with plans for the VNN's future employment of these craft. Eight crews each were engaged in PCF training at An Tho and PBR training at Nha Be.
LDNN (VNN UDT) personnel conduct diving operations. During March LDNN teams operated with U. S. Navy SEAL detachments of TF 116.

Fleet Command

During March the Fleet Command had a daily average of 22.1 ships available and maintained 13 ships on station off the coast of South Vietnam, 6 ships on river patrol and 3 ships for static defense and naval gunfire support duty. One hundred and thirty-one gunfire support missions were fired, 1,136 junks and 5,252 persons were searched and 3 junks and 45 persons were detained.

Patrol Craft (PCs and PCEs) in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Naval Zones,
Patrol Motor Gunboats (PGMs) in all four naval zones and the RSSZ, Landing Support Ships (LSSLs and LSILs) in the RSSZ, 3rd Naval Zone and the Fourth Riverine Area, and Minesweeping Craft (MSCs in the Fourth Naval Zone and MIMs in the Saigon, Long Tau, Wha Be and Dong Nai rivers) met all of their commitments.

LDNN (VNN UDT) operated with Navy SEAL detachments of TF 116 in the RSSZ and Delta areas and continued nightly hull inspection of ships in the port of Saigon. Twenty-six combined operations with SEALs accounted for 34 Viet Cong killed, 2 Viet Cong captured and 28 enemy suspects detained. Additionally, LDNN were employed in hydrographic reconnaissance and salvage operations.

Coastal Force

During the month, the Coastal Force searched 33,203 junks and sampans and 109,867 persons, detaining 7 junks and 349 persons. On a daily average 90 percent of the force's 191 available junks were on patrol.

On 1 and 2 March three junks from Coastal Group 15 were involved in mop-up operations 25 miles south of Cape Batanga on the coast of Quang Ngai Province where the North Vietnamese infiltration trawler was beached. Through self-destructive methods, the trawler had succeeded in damaging beyond use all weapons and ammunition that the coastal group recovered. (See APPENDIX I)

During the early morning hours of 7 March, the Coastal Group 16 base east of Quang Ngai was subjected to a series of attacks with heavy small
arms, mortar and automatic-weapons fire. The VNN PGM 619 and U. S. MARKET TIME units in the area provided gunfire support and the Viet Cong force, estimated to be 200 men, was dispersed. Three VNN sailors were wounded during this attack. The following morning the base again received harassing mortar fire. One coastal group junk was slightly damaged and four more VNN sailors were wounded as VNN PCE 07 and the "Swift" boats returned fire on suspected enemy positions.

On 13 March, two PF platoons and one Coastal Group 13 platoon conducted a sweep operation in the land area north of Cau Hai Bay, near Hue/Phu Bai. Contact was made with an estimated 50 Viet Cong and artillery was called in. The land sweep resulted in 15 Viet Cong killed, 2 of the enemy wounded, 2 captured, and 8 suspects detained. Two Chinese Communist mines were captured; one of the mines exploded, killing one VNN sailor and wounding three others. Based on information provided by one of the prisoners, a Coastal Group 13 platoon returned to the area on 17 March and uncovered a cache of several weapons, a typewriter and rice.

Coastal Group 12 and a PF platoon, on 14 March, conducted Operation HUYNH THIET near the mouth of the Perfume River. Six Viet Cong were captured, 22 suspects were detained and 12 grenades were seized. Meanwhile, Operation LAM SON 189 was being conducted by Coastal Group 12 units, USN and USMC units, an ARVN Ranger unit, an infantry regiment and PF troops off Cau Hai Bay, 10 miles southeast of Phu Bai. The combined force conducted daily operations from 5 through 15 March in this vicinity.
and netted 40 Viet Cong killed, 4 female Viet Cong and 4 defectors captured and numerous weapons seized. Other units of Coastal Group 12 and 13, Vietnamese Marine Corps Task Force "B", two ARVN infantry battalions and an ARVN Ranger brigade conducted LAM SON 194 (13-17 March) in an area north and west of Hue. The forces efforts were reflected in the 49 Viet Cong killed, at least 15 others killed or wounded but carried away, 58 of the enemy captured and 101 suspects detained. Numerous weapons and ammunition were seized. One-hundred and twenty government officials and civilians, who had been captured by the Viet Cong, were liberated in this action.

On 19 March, five Coastal Group 12 units, two PF platoons, and one USA infantry company combined for Operation HUYNH THIET 3 miles north of Hue. This joint operation accounted for 7 Viet Cong killed, 7 captured and 40 enemy suspects detained. Coastal Group 12 units conducted two separate actions on 23 March in the Phu Vang sub-sector, the land mass across the Thanh Lam Bay east of Hue. In one, coastal group junks provided troop-lift and blocking support to two PF platoons and sub-sector police units as a sweep of the area yielded 4 Viet Cong killed, 7 captured, 18 suspects detained and numerous weapons seized. Meanwhile, 6 Coastal Group 12 units, 1 coastal group ambush-team, TF 116 PBRs and approximately 170 RF/PF troops operating just to the north, evacuated over 400 Catholic civilians from the Phu Vang sub-sector across the bay to the mainland.

During the 10-hour operation, three NVA and eight Viet Cong suspects were captured, one Viet Cong was killed and one wounded.

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Early on 25 March, while conducting an ambush based on information provided by a Hoi Chanh, three junks from Coastal Group 13 observed an unlighted junk in northwest Cau Hai Bay. As the coastal group junks attempted to search the boat, a number of Viet Cong escaped to the shore. The coastal group junks opened fire and the enemy junk was sunk, killing one Viet Cong. At this time Coastal Group 12 base came under mortar attack. There was negligible damage to the base; one VNN sailor was wounded slightly. At first light, a 30-man team from Coastal Group 12 conducted a sweep of a small island to the south of the base suspected to be the Viet Cong gun position. Ten Viet Cong suspects were detained, several mortar rounds, Chinese Communist grenades and aiming stakes were uncovered.

Two Coastal Group 12 units, supported by TF 116 PBRs and PF troops, engaged an estimated 100 NVA in a counterattack after a river ambush on 27 March. For the next 30 hours the friendly troops directed their firepower toward a village north of Hue in which the enemy was entrenched. Fifty Viet Cong were killed during this battle and numerous weapons and ammunition were seized. To the east, a Coastal Group 12 reconnaissance squad and a PF unit engaged an unknown number of the enemy in a two-hour firefight. Six Viet Cong were killed, one other was killed or wounded but carried away, while there were four VNN sailors wounded in the action. On the 28th, a Coastal Group 12 ambush team made contact with an estimated company of Viet Cong in the Phu Vang sub-sector. PF troops swept a village with the ambush team reconnoitering. Seven Viet Cong suspects were captured, three VNN
Junks of Coastal Group 25 conduct a salvage operation aboard the wrecked trawler in the Second Naval Zone.

A total of 70 of the enemy were captured and numerous weapons and ammunition were seized. Twelve ARVN soldiers were wounded.

At the same time, 28-30 March, other Coastal Group 12 units, three RF companies and one ARVN infantry battalion conducted Operation THUA THIEN 36, ten miles northwest of Phu Bai. Eight Viet Cong were killed and a number were killed or wounded but carried away. A quantity of war
materials was captured in this encounter.

On 1 March in the 2nd Naval Zone, junks and a landing party from Coastal Group 25 were engaged in securing the area of the wrecked trawler at Hon Heo (See APPENDIX I).

In a combined operation on 5 March, Coastal Group 22 units and 5 RF companies, supported by U. S. Army artillery battalions, killed 34 Viet Cong and captured 4 of the enemy. Numerous weapons and documents plus ammunition were seized after this engagement, 7 miles north of Qui Nhon. The next day 20 miles south of Qui Nhon, one platoon from Coastal Group 23 engaged the enemy in a firefight and accounted for 10 Viet Cong killed.

Having been subjected to harassing small-arms fire for several days, Coastal Group 23 conducted a cordon and search operation north of the base at Song Cau on 11 March. Four junks and 2 RF companies swept a 10-mile area, detaining 80 Viet Cong suspects that day. Further south, near Tuy Hoa, on the night of 13-14 March, a Coastal Group 24 junk, a Provincial Reconnaissance Unit (PRU) platoon, an Army platoon, reconnaissance aircraft and TF 115 PBRs conducted a reconnaissance-in-force operation which netted 4 Viet Cong and a quantity of goods captured and 20 enemy suspects detained. That morning, 14 March, 52 draft dodgers were captured in a police action conducted by Coastal Group 22, two RF companies and one Republic of Korea platoon. Five Viet Cong suspects were also captured and turned over to authorities in Qui Nhon in this successful operation east of Qui Nhon.
Four junks from Coastal Group 23 supported a ROK battalion in a
four-day search operation (20-23 March) 10 miles north of Song Cau. One
coastal group platoon and VNN PCE 10 also participated in this action
which routed 15 Viet Cong. Meanwhile, on the 22nd, two junks from Coastal
Group 23, RF companies and two ARVN infantry companies came to the defense
of two RF outposts southwest of Song Cau. After the attack, two Viet Cong
were reported killed while three VNN sailors were wounded. Combined forces
of the 2nd Naval Zone coastal groups and ROK units continued operations
throughout the month; on 31 March, Coastal Group 25 and two ROK battalions
were engaged in cordon and search operations in Khanh Hoa Province, 15
miles north of Nha Trang.

In the 3rd Naval Zone, operations were characterized by combined unit
area sweeps, predominantly conducted close to the coastal group bases and
composed of ambush parties from the bases and RF/PF and ARVN troops.

Coastal Group 34/37 units inserted two ARVN battalions and one
coastal group company in Kien Hoa Province north of their base on the Ham
Lucong River on 1 March. The cordon and search operation resulted in eight
Viet Cong suspects captured and numerous bunkers destroyed. On 2 March,
Coastal Group 36 conducted operations in Ba Xuyen Province, inserting one
RF company, one PF platoon, plus one coastal group reconnaissance platoon,
from the Bassac River on the north and from the Saintard Canal from the
west. Six Viet Cong and numerous documents were captured while several
punji stake booby traps in the area were destroyed. Two other Coastal
Group 36 junks inserted a PRU team in the area from the Saintard Canal. This team made contact and captured seven more Viet Cong.

LSSL 230 cruises off coast of Ba Xuyen Province for gunfire support mission. The mission was in support of a Coastal Group 36 ambush team which landed inland while TF 116 "Seawolves" hovered overhead.

On the night of the 7th, two Coastal Group 36 units transported a 50-man PRU team from the base on the lower Bassac River, south of the mouth of the river. Landing the team on the west bank, the junks maintained a blocking force. The PRUs were extracted the next day after having killed five Viet Cong and capturing five more. Two miles down the Bassac River from the Coastal Group 36 base, VNN LSSL 230 fired on
the west bank of the river in Ba Xuyen Province on 10 March. A secondary explosion occurred and a Coastal Group 36 ambush team proceeded inland with TF 116 "Seawolves" overhead. Rice straw was ablaze from the heat of the LSSLs fire and numerous booby traps set by the Viet Cong were "cooking off" in rapid succession. The ambush team swept 2 miles to the west, destroying 15 booby traps by gunfire. The fire was fed by the exploding booby traps for three hours. During the sweep, the ambush team encountered no enemy but destroyed two Viet Cong bunkers. Six Viet Cong suspects were captured on the morning of 14 March when two Coastal Group 36 junks landed a 50-man PRU team for a sweep from the Saintard Canal 7 miles west of the base.

On the afternoon of 14 March, four Coastal Group 34/37 junks and three RF companies conducted a cordon and search operation in Kien Hoa Province, 8 miles northwest of the coastal group base. One Viet Cong was killed, 3 of the enemy were captured, 18 suspects were detained, 6 locally made grenades were seized and two base camps were destroyed as a result of this sweep. The next day, one company from Coastal Group 34/37, a PF company, and units of the 10th ARVN Infantry Regiment were inserted to the north of the coastal group base. Enemy contact resulted in three Viet Cong killed, four suspects captured and four grenades and numerous documents seized. One VNN sailor was killed in the firefight. On the 17th, a Coastal Group 34/37 company, a PF platoon, three RF companies and two ARVN infantry battalions returned to the area north of the
coastal group base. This sweep netted one Viet Cong killed and one captured. The force destroyed three structures, including the house of a Viet Cong hamlet chief and two bunkers in the five-mile sweep inland.

Later that night, a Coastal Group 35 patrol intercepted and fired upon a Viet Cong sampan in the Co Chien River, near the coastal group base. Carrying 21 recruits, the sampan was sunk and 19 of the enemy were killed by the coastal group junk's gunfire.

Coastal Group 36 units participated in an area sweep on Dung Island in the Bassac River from 21-23 March. Two 15-man ambush teams were inserted on the island by coastal group junks on the evening of 21 March. The junks remained as a blocking force as the teams conducted reconnaissance operations. One team was extracted as a ruse while the other team remained on the island throughout the night. The procedure was repeated on the 22nd. The operation was terminated on the 23rd; four Viet Cong had been captured and one had been killed.

One of the last sweeps for the month of March in the vicinity of the Coastal Group 34/37 base was conducted on 24 March. Three more of the enemy were killed in this effort by a coastal group company, one PF company and two RF companies. A Coastal Group 35 ambush team captured the Viet Cong liaison chief of a Vinh Binh Province village on 26 March.

Despite daily search and ambush operations conducted in their area of responsibility, coastal groups of the 4th Naval Zone experienced light contact with the enemy. Nevertheless, Kien An-based coastal
groups were again plagued by harassing Viet Cong attacks as was the case last month. The base took three 82-mm mortar rounds and one B-40 rocket on 2 March, which destroyed 2 buildings and damaged another; 10 people were wounded, 6 VNN sailors and 4 civilians, including 1 child. Five rounds of 82-mm mortar on 21 March were received but no significant damage was reported.

Between 12 and 16 March, An Thoi-based Coastal Group 42 units, PRUs, U. S. and ARVN Special Forces and VNN PGM 607 conducted policing and patrolling operations on the north and west coast of Phu Quoc Island. Viet Cong fishing nets were destroyed, enemy flags, banners and leaflets were seized and a total of five Viet Cong were killed during this effort. On 14 March, Coastal Group 43/44/45 junks and ARVN troops conducted an area sweep of the northern bank of the Cai Lon River which netted a weapons cache of considerable size containing B-40 rockets, 81-mm mortar rounds, grenades, mines and rifle cartridges. Maps, charts and other documents were seized when three Viet Cong were captured nearby; one Viet Cong was killed in the action.

**Riverine Area Naval Commands**

Supporting amphibious operations, on river patrols, in static defense or on other province assignments, 93.5 percent of the available 155 craft of the River Assault Groups (RAGs) and River Transport and Escort Group (RTEG) were utilized daily. In March the RAG craft searched 3,543 people (detaining 2 suspects) and 9,798 junks while on river patrols.
In an effort to prohibit the Viet Cong from escaping the city of Saigon as the Tet Offensive waned, Third Riverine RAG craft operated in close coordination with U.S. and ARVN units on the fringe of the city. RAG 30 craft supported ARVN Ranger units in the Cholon District, southwest Saigon, at the first of the month. Transporting and landing troops, providing blocking support and removing elements ashore, the riverine assault group was instrumental in policing the areas in which the VC/NVA were entrenched. During daily operations the combined forces detained suspects and engaged insurgents occasionally encountered; otherwise, contact with the enemy was light. Moving south and west of Saigon on the Can Giuoc and Ben Luc rivers, and on to canals leading therefrom, the RAG 30 craft, with troops embarked, continued landing and blocking operations, more often locating ammunition caches and shelters than contacting the enemy.

Meanwhile RAG 27, operating with ARVN troops on the Vam Co Dong River, north and south of Ben Luc, was seeking out the enemy evading south to that area. On 13 March, providing blocking and gunfire support to ARVN units ashore, the riverine assault group was responsible for 40 bunkers destroyed and 20 detainees interrogated. On the 21st, five Viet Cong were captured and five more of the enemy were detained by an ARVN infantry battalion as RAG 27 provided mobility, blocking and gunfire support from the Vam Co River.

RAG 30, on 19 and 20 March, transported ARVN soldiers to their reconnaissance area east of the Can Giuoc River, 2 1/2 miles south of
Saigon. The forces ashore made contact with an estimated platoon-size enemy force as the riverine assault group craft provided blocking and gunfire support. Artillery and VNAF air strikes were called in. Twenty Viet Cong were killed on 19 March and the force seized numerous weapons and ammunition. The troops embarked on the western bank of the river the next day and met with the enemy again. That day 11 more Viet Cong were killed and 8 were captured along with a quantity of war materials including weapons, ammunition, medical supplies and documents.

RAG 28, operating in the Saigon River north of Saigon, conducted Operation QUIET THANG 82 with two ARVN infantry battalions on 25-27 March. The riverine assault group craft provided mobility, blocking and gunfire support to the elements placed ashore in Binh Duong Province, mid-way between Saigon and Phu Quong cities. One hundred and three Viet Cong were killed by the friendly forces while 7 were captured, along with 10 sub-machine guns and 39 individual weapons.

In the RSSZ, VNN Commandos intercepted a sampan and four Viet Cong in a mangrove swamp, 12 miles southeast of Saigon on 9 March. Receiving fire from the sampan, the Commandos returned fire, felling one Viet Cong. TF 116 PBRs and "Seawolves" provided firepower as the sampan was recovered containing a 8-40 rocket round and launcher, an AK-47, a Chinese Communist claymore mine and 100-meters of command detonation wire. Three Viet Cong were confirmed killed in this action. Two miles to the southeast, Commandos, PBRs and "Seawolves" again made contact with the enemy on 14 March.
Combined with the firepower of the Royal Thai Artillery, the PBRs successfully extracted the Commandos who had been ambushed by an unknown size enemy force. Sweeps of the area yielded three Viet Cong bodies, while the Commandos suffered four wounded.

On 21 March during Operation STARDUST "2", two vacated base camps
with numerous bunkers and equipment were destroyed in the RSSZ. CS-1, contained in drums, was dropped from Chinook aircraft on targets to the east and west of the Dong Tranh River, near the mouth of the Soi Rap River. VNN Commandos on RAG 22 craft, and U.S. Navy SEALs on PBRs, took blocking and ambush positions. Despite negative contact with the enemy, the operation demonstrated solid procedures upon which to base future operations utilizing this agent. One mile to the north-east of the Dong Tranh River another base camp was located and destroyed on 23 March. RF troops, inserted by RAG 28 craft, reported destroying several bunkers and various items of equipment at the camp.

Operations in the Fourth Riverine Area were not only reflected in the extent of Viet Cong activity, but also in the stepped-up offensive endeavors by the riverine assault groups. On 1 March, in response to a call from 7th ARVN Division units for support, three river craft of RAG 33 delivered naval gunfire and received counter fire in Dinh Tuong Province, west of My Tho. One of the commandments was struck by a B-40 rocket in its 81-mm mortar stowage locker; a major explosion resulted, followed by secondary explosions in the craft's magazines. The craft sank within 5 minutes in 15 feet of water having sustained major hull damage. Two VNN sailors lost their lives and five more were wounded. RAG 21 craft and LSSL 228 responded immediately and delivered 40-mm, 81-mm, .50 and .30 caliber fire which suppressed the enemy fire. RAG 21/33 craft provided security as VNN LCU 537 conducted salvage operations.
throughout the month of March.

RAG 25/29 based craft, escorting a convoy on the Can Tho River and Xa No Canal between Can Tho and Vi Thanh, were ambushed on 2 March. Fire was returned on the ambush site by the riverine craft. Overhead protection by U. S. Army helicopters enabled the convoy to continue without further incident. One FOM (a V-bottomed river craft about the size of an LCVP) and an LCM had minor damage and one VNN sailor was slightly wounded during the ambush.

On the night of 4-5 March, the southern Mekong Delta city of Ca Mau was subjected to a massive Viet Cong attack. Mortar rounds were walked into an area toward the POL yards. Thatched and wooden structures near the house of the province chief were consumed by fire, and a chain reaction was set off when a 2.75 rocket storage area was hit by an incoming mortar round. While the RAG 25/29 detachment rallied to the city's defense, a RAG 25/29 river team hastened to provide security from its beaching site outside the city. The Viet Cong attacked this convoy, flooding one LCM and inactivating the 40-mm mount on a monitor, killing 2 VNN sailors, wounding 10 others; 1 sailor was declared missing in action. Upon cessation of the attack on the city, RAG 25/29 had accounted for 40 Viet Cong killed while having 3 men killed, 1 missing in action and 5 others wounded.

Five RAG craft from RAGs 26/32 supported two RF companies in Khanh Phong Province during Operation DAN THANG 30 on 6 March. Providing the
blocking force from the My Tho River, 5 miles northwest of Sa Dec, the river craft received B-40 and automatic-weapons fire from the beach. Return fire from the boats resulted in a secondary explosion and cessation of the harassing fire from the insurgents. Area sweeps in the vicinity resulted in a total of 30 Viet Cong killed, 41 captured and 21 suspects detained for interrogation. Operation HAI LONG 2/68 on the night of 8-9 March was conducted by PRUs and RAG 25/29 in Phong Dinh Province. The riverine craft provided transport, river blocking and gunfire support as the PRUs accounted for six of the enemy killed and eight Viet Cong and several weapons captured.

The Operation TRUONG CONG DINH series, commencing in March, were ARVN-controlled offensive attempts to seek out the enemy in the Delta. Riverine assault craft of the Fourth Riverine Area were utilized for mobility, security and gunfire support. TRUONG CONG DINH 7/10/1 (11-13 March), an amphibious assault on Oc Island in the Ham Luong River with RAG 21/33 providing the blocking support, resulted in five Viet Cong captured and one of the enemy killed. From 14-16 March, TRUONG CONG DINH 7/10/1 netted 33 Viet Cong suspects. RAG 23/31 boats transported Sa Dec Province troops 8 miles east of the city of Sa Dec and served as a blocking force for the operation. RAG 26 craft transported four RF companies up the My Tho River, near Cao Lanh during Operation TRUONG CONG DINH 7/10/1 netted 33 Viet Cong suspects. RAG 23/31 boats transported Sa Dec Province troops 8 miles east of the city of Sa Dec and served as a blocking force for the operation. RAG 26 craft transported four RF companies up the My Tho River, near Cao Lanh during Operation TRUONG CONG DINH 4/1 where 26 enemy suspects were captured on 16 March. Thirty more Viet Cong suspects were detained after Operation