A river assault group FOM on river patrol inspects a junk for enemy weapons or unusual cargo as part of the VNN effort to halt enemy infiltration of men and supplies in South Vietnam.

north of the RSSZ. Transport, landing and blocking missions were conducted with U.S. and ARVN units throughout the month. The river craft of RAG 30 maintained perimeters and provided naval gunfire support and mobility to the ground troops as land sweeps sought out the enemy and his base camps and caches. On 2 April RAG craft supported an ARVN Ranger group from the Tam River, 7 miles southwest of Saigon. Landing the troops on the north bank, the RAG boats served as a blocking force.
Several cordon and search operations throughout the day netted five Viet Cong killed and a sizable cache containing various weapons, rockets and grenade launchers and several thousand rounds of ammunition.

During the period 4-7 April, RAG 30 operated with U.S. "Charlie Company" 2nd Battalion 3rd Infantry, 199th Light Infantry Brigade south of Saigon and east of the Can Giuoc River. Reconnaissance, ambush and cordon and search operations were conducted by the ground troops as the RAF craft provided mobility, barrier and naval gunfire support.
The four days of sweeps in the area dotted with small base camps, shelters and caches dealt a severe blow to the enemy; over 60 bunkers were destroyed, including sleeping huts, firing positions, and mortar bases, most of which were believed to have been utilized recently. Clothing, foot prints and new graves discovered lent credence to that belief.
Three sampans were destroyed and two others were captured. The enemy remained elusive, however, as no contact was made by the friendly forces.

Meanwhile to the north of Saigon, RAG 28 river craft supported Operation QUYET THANH 15/SD on 6 April with elements of the 5th ARVN Infantry Division. The RAG boats provided troop lift, beaching and medevac for the ARVN units, 15 miles north-northwest of Saigon on the Saigon River. Three Viet Cong were killed while 3 more were captured along with 200 pounds of rice, 51 rounds of 82-mm mortar and numerous other weapons and ammunition. On 8 April, RAG 22, operating on the Van Co Dong River, southwest of Saigon, joined ARVN troops and VNAF
aircraft; the ground sweep, west of the river, resulted in one Viet Cong killed and one Viet Cong and a small weapons cache captured. A series of bunkers were destroyed by the combined fire power.

Operation TOAN THANG 211/SD was conducted just east of the provincial capital city of Phu Cuong on 15 and 16 April. RAG 28 river craft provided support to elements of the 5th ARVN Infantry Division. The two-day sweep netted 30 of the enemy killed while a quantity of war materials including mortar and rocket launchers, mines, individual weapons and ammunition were captured. On the 19th, river craft of RAG 28 again transported troops and provided naval gunfire support to 5th ARVN Infantry Division elements during Operation TOAN THANG 212/SD north of Phu Cuong on the Saigon River. In this operation 6 Viet Cong were killed and 1 was captured, and 23 complete 122-mm rockets, numerous plastics and TNT blocks were uncovered.

The next day RAG 28 units conducted Operation TRUONG CONG DINH 227/SD with elements of the 5th ARVN Infantry Division, just south of the city of Phu Cuong. This day’s operation netted one Viet Cong killed, while three Viet Cong, one B-40 and five B-41 rockets, a quantity of ammunition, eight bags of rice and numerous documents were captured.

Also on 20 April, TOAN THANG 139, with RAG 22 and the 50th ARVN Infantry Regiment, was conducted west from the Vam Co Dong River, 13 miles southwest of Saigon. Just to the east of the Vam Co Dong River, on 23 April, the RAG craft supported the ARVN troops during Operation TOAN THANG 151.
Vietnamese Commandos and their U. S. advisors probe the Rung Sat Special Zone during a recent offensive operation.
Although the enemy casualties were unknown, 20 shelters were leveled in the sweep, communications equipment, a generator and numerous documents were captured, and two junks and a quantity of ammunition were captured, and two junks and a quantity of ammunition were destroyed.

Continuing the campaign to the south of Saigon, RAG 30 and the U.S. 199th Light Brigade troops swept the areas from the rivers and canals for enemy caches and base camps. On the 25th, fifteen bunkers were located and destroyed by the combined powers, and on the 29th, 33 more were leveled. At these locations the ground troops uncovered quantities of medical supplies, food, clothing, documents, weapons and ammunition and other war materials. The combined amphibious operations definitely denied the enemy the convenience of his base camps and various necessities for life and battle located near Saigon.

Vietnamese Navy controlled offensive operations in the RSSZ were pursued by the VNN Commandos and RF troops with their USN, USMC, and USA advisory personnel. Enemy activity was at a low level during the month as the friendly forces scourc the marshy land ribboned with rivers and streams. Numerous base camps and strongholds were encountered this month. Bunkers and firing positions, rest areas and medical aid stations, newly established or worn with age and weather, were destroyed by the joint efforts of the allies, VNN and U.S. ground, river and air power.

On 4 April acting on intelligence provided by a POW captured on 24 March, a Commando platoon and RF troops and their U.S. advisors
conducted Operation DONG TAM 11. The area, northeast of the mouth of the Soi Rap River, had just been hit by air and artillery fire. The Commandos found a base camp and hospital complex of seven well camouflaged hootches, two bunkers, a well, and a cooking area where the coals were still hot. Food and equipment were strewn about indicative of a hasty evacuation. The ground troops destroyed the camp, including a sampan nearby and captured two sampans, clothing, medicine, medical equipment, 18 mines, several hundred rounds of ammunition, two pounds of documents and 100 pounds of rice. The next day, 10 miles to the north, RAG 22 river craft transported RF troops to a Viet Cong base camp area. This operation, DONG TAM 12, resulted in six more bunkers and two sampans destroyed.

DONG TAM 13 was a five-company search and destroy operation held on 9 April, 5 miles east of Nha Be. River craft from RAG's 27 and 28 were utilized to transport a Commando platoon and the RF companies to two separate landing points; one element sweeping southward to the Upper Dong Tranh River and the other element northward from that river. This area was the site of numerous Viet Cong attacks on river craft along the Upper Dong Tranh and Long Tau rivers. The land force was supported by Army LHF't's, PER's and RSSZ artillery batteries. Two sampans, one with four Viet Cong embarked, the other with one, were taken under fire and destroyed. All occupants were killed. The troops encountered no more enemy; four hand grenades, a set of binoculars and two rifles were
captured that day.

Commandos, transported by RAG 27 craft and led by a Viet Cong POW, once again uncovered a base camp on 14 April. Deep in the RSSZ 16 miles southeast of Saigon, this base camp of four huts and four bunkers, apparently not used for several months, was destroyed. On the 20th, Commandos and two U.S. advisors were inserted by Army "Slick" helicopters, 6 miles east of the convergency of the Vam Co and Soi Rap rivers. The Commandos destroyed seven bunkers while encountering no enemy. Further north that day, east of Nha Be, RAG 27 and two RF companies conducted Operation DONG TAM II. The river craft transported and provided blocking support to the ground troops who destroyed two sampans, killed six Viet Cong and captured clothing and documents.

RAG's of the Fourth Riverine were actively engaged in the Delta-wide THUONG CONG DINH campaign; a series of ARVN-inspired offensive operations which significantly suppressed the enemy. Mobility in the tangled rivers and streams of the Delta was provided the ARVN forces by the RAG craft. Thus the amphibious operations, necessitated by the water-logged character of the Delta, were carried out by the joint forces of the VNN and ARVN. In each operation, the multi-purpose RAG craft carried troops to and from the areas of operations, maintained perimeter and blocking support and provided naval gunfire support to the forces ashore. The routine mission of the RAG's was also pursued this month as the craft patrolled the rivers, ran logistic lifts and provided
RAG 21/33 convoy transiting the My Tho River with ARVN troops and equipment embarked during one operation of the TRUONG CONG DINH Campaign.
escort support to the river convoys.

TRUONG CONG DINH 21/06, which commenced on 31 March, was conducted by RAG’s 25/29 boats, two VNMC battalions and five ARVN battalions and terminated on 5 April. The VNMC battalions were credited with 14 Viet Cong killed and two captured while suffering 14 of their own wounded. The ground troops swept north and east of the Can Tho River toward Can Tho City, destroying a Viet Cong base camp and a grenade factory containing molds and equipment. The forces destroyed or captured a lengthy list of weapons and ammunition, rice and gasoline. Meanwhile on 3 April, craft from RAG 25/29 detachment at Ca Mau lifted the ARVN 32nd Infantry Regiment and An Xuyen Province forces up the Quan Lo Den Phung Hiep Canal, 12 miles northeast of the city of Ca Mau. This operation, TRUONG CONG DINH 11/SD/21, yielded one Viet Cong killed and seven captured.

RAG’s 21/31 and 23/31 river craft and the VNN Fleet Command ship LSSL 225 embarked the ARVN 10th Infantry Regiment Command and two battalions, the 10th Reconnaissance Company, an ARVN Ranger battalion and U.S. 9th Infantry Division elements for Operation TRUONG CONG DINH 7/10/7. On Island in the Ham Luong River during the period 4-7 April was the scene for repeated ground sweeps as the VNN river craft and U.S. PBR’s maintained blocking and gunfire support positions encircling the island. Intermittent but heated battles were waged for the four days during which time the RAG craft provided much needed mortar illumination and medevac runs. The U.S. forces were credited with killing 71
of the enemy and capturing 13, while suffering 39 of their own killed and another 146 wounded. The ARVN forces killed 13 Viet Cong while capturing 15 of the enemy and sustaining 5 ARVN fatalities of their 59 casualties. A quantity of weapons and ammunition, 30 bunkers and 100 liters of gasoline were destroyed or captured by the allied forces.

The FOM, which was sunk in the Can Tho River in March (see March COMNAVFORV Monthly Supplement, page 142), was successfully raised on 5 April by the VNN salvage LCM's and was towed to Can Tho the next day. Repair operations then commenced on the B-40 and B-41 rocket-scared hull.

TRUONG CONG DINH 7/SD/7 was conducted by RAG's 21/33 and 23/31 river craft and ARVN 7th Division personnel in Dinh Tuong Province north of the My Tho River. Between the period 7 through 10 April the RAG craft carried troops, maintained blocking positions and provided naval gunfire support from the My Tho River at the convergence of the Go Chien River. Although only one of the enemy was killed, 18 others were captured and the ground forces liberated four ARVN troops who had been held by the enemy. Besides the numerous weapons and ammunition captured during this operation, a PRC-10 radio and E-8 telephone, diving gear, two tractors, 11 mines and 4 flame throwers were seized and a weapons shop and two first aid stations were destroyed with attendant equipment and supplies.

On 10 April river craft of RAG's 23/31 and 21/33 transported the
VNMC Task Force B Command and two battalions, three ARVN battalions, two reconnaissance companies and a Ranger battalion to Ving Long Province just east of Tan Dinh Island in the Bassac River. As the mobile, blocking and naval gunfire support for Operation TRUONG CONG DINH SD/9, the RAG craft patrolled the river between the island and the main bank. Fire received from the island was returned and silenced by the VNN craft.

The next day the forces ashore were back-loaded and returned to Can Tho. One Viet Cong had been killed and six were captured along with clothing, knapsacks and six sewing machines. Two Viet Cong were captured and five suspects were detained as a result of Operation TRUONG CONG DINH 7/10/8 conducted on 15 April. ARVN 7th Division troops were landed in Vinh Binh Province from the Ham Luong River southeast of Ben Tre by RAG's 21/23 and 23/31.

ARVN 7th Division units and the four RAG's participated in TRUONG CONG DINH 7/10/9 east of My Tho on 16 April. As the VNN river craft patrolled the My Tho River, the ground troops swept westward to My Tho. Six Viet Cong were captured including two female cadre and three suspects were brought in. There were two enemy killed while there were no friendly casualties. For the next three days, TRUONG CONG DINH SD/7/10 was conducted in Dinh Tuong Province, 7 miles northwest of Dong Tam. RAG 21/33 craft provided mobile, gunfire and blocking support to two ARVN battalions, a Ranger battalion, a reconnaissance company and units of the U. S. 2nd Brigade 9th Infantry Division. This combined operation
left 149 of the enemy dead on the battlefield; 13 Viet Cong and 3 suspects were captured. A quantity of war materials, weapons and ammunition, was captured or destroyed. Army losses were 4 killed with another 50 wounded and ARVN forces suffered 13 killed and 55 wounded in this confrontation.

On 21 and 22 April RAG's 23/31 supported an ARVN battalion, two RF companies and a PF platoon in Vinh Long Province, 5 miles northeast of Vinh Long during Operation TRUONG CONG DINH VL/32. This land sweep netted 7 Viet Cong killed, 3 Viet Cong and 30 suspects captured along with assorted weapons and ammunition, ARVN losses were 9 killed and 17 wounded.

The RAG 33 commandant which was sunk on 1 March west of My Tho (see March COMNAVFORV Monthly Supplement, page 137), was raised and towed to Dong Tam on 22 April.

On 22 and 23 April, RAG 25/29 provided troop lift and river blocking support during Operation TRUONG CONG DINH SD/21/11 conducted by two VNMC battalions, two ARVN battalions and VNAF aircraft. The ground troops killed three Viet Cong and captured a carbine and a case of miscellaneous ammunition as they attacked from the Can Tho River northeast toward Can Tho.

***

VIETNAMESE MARINE CORPS

During the month the six infantry battalions of the VNMC operated
in III and IV Corps Tactical Zone, the Capital Military District and with the Mobile Riverine Force (MRF). The infantry battalions and the artillery battalions were committed to combat operations 100 percent of the time during the month of April.

Task Force A, composed of the 1st, 5th and 6th battalions (and the 4th battalion, 1-8 April, see page 138) continued Operation QUIET THANG under the operation control of the CMD. Small unit patrols conducted by the Marines throughout the month swept the areas north and east of Saigon which in the past harbored the treacherous enemy. Opposition was negligible as the Marines secured each area of operation and moved forward relocating command posts. The enemy remained undercover and/or elusive this month except on 20 April when the 5th and 6th battalions made heavy enemy contact. In close coordination with two companies of the 2nd Brigade, 18th Infantry, 1st U.S. Infantry Division in blocking positions and U.S. Army gunships overhead, the VNMC battalions achieved every objective and accounted for 21 Viet Cong killed, including 2 females. They captured 10 individual weapons and one crew-served weapon as well as assorted amounts of ammunition, rice and documents. There were 9 VNMC personnel wounded during the battle.

Meanwhile Task Force B, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th battalions, participated in the TRUONG CONG DINH campaign in IV CTZ throughout the month of April (2nd battalion, 1-16 April only). During Operation TRUONG CONG DINH 21/06 the marines were credited with killing 14 Viet Cong (see
page 131). Under the operational control of the ARVN 21st Infantry Division, the Marines continued to sweep and advance in their assigned areas of operation. Besides joint operations such as TRUONG CONG DINH SD/9 and TRUONG CONG DINH SD/21/11 (see pages 133, 135), the marines participated in battalion-sized operations such as Operation SONG THAN 622-68 on 18 April. Having engaged an unknown size enemy force in Phong Dinh Province, 8 miles south of Can Tho, the 3rd battalion secured the area, resulting in 6 Viet Cong killed while 2 of their own were killed and 4 wounded.

The 2nd battalion left Task Force B on 17 April to augment the MRF as a two company ready-reaction force at Dong Tam. Daily operations in Dinh Tuong Province resulted in light contact with the enemy. On 23 April the MRF craft landed the 2nd battalion in Kien Phong Province east of Sa Dec. Sweeping north and west, the battalion contacted what was suspected to be the 207th Viet Cong Anti-Aircraft Battalion about 6 miles north of Sa Dec. VNMC artillery and Army helicopter gunships were utilized throughout the day. When the heated contest was over, the Marines had found 15 Viet Cong bodies. The Marines suffered 39 wounded and 3 killed in the action. The next day the battalion killed 5 more Viet Cong in a sweep of the previous day's area of operations. The 2nd battalion remained with the MRF throughout the month, not gaining any additional significant enemy contact.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Operational Control</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Battalion</td>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>III Corps Tactical Zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2-30 April</td>
<td>Task Force A, VNMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Battalion</td>
<td>1-16 April</td>
<td>IV Corps Tactical Zone in close coordination and cooperation with the Mobile Riverine Force (MRF)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17-30 April</td>
<td>Task Force B, VNMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Battalion</td>
<td>1-30 April</td>
<td>Task Force B, VNMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth Battalion</td>
<td>1-8 April</td>
<td>Task Force A, VNMC</td>
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<td>9-15 April</td>
<td>III Corps Tactical Zone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>16-30 April</td>
<td>Task Force B, VNMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth Battalion</td>
<td>1 April</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2-7 April</td>
<td>III Corps Tactical Zone</td>
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<td>8-30 April</td>
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<td>Sixth Battalion</td>
<td>1-30 April</td>
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<td>A Battery</td>
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<td>B Battery</td>
<td>1-30 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>C Battery</td>
<td>1-30 April</td>
<td>Task Force A, VNMC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX I
SECTION I
GLOSSARY

ANGLICO
Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (U.S.)

ARVN
Army of the Republic of Vietnam

CG
Coastal Group (VNN) - A coastal patrol command consisting of six to 10 junks with the responsibility of patrolling from 30-60 miles of coastline.

CIDG
Civilian Irregular Defense Group (VN) - Para-military troops used in their local area for limited area operations.

CHIEU HOI
"Open Arms" (VN) - The Republic of Vietnam's amnesty program of rehabilitation and re-location of Viet Cong who voluntarily return to government control.

CLEARWATER
Task Force CLEARWATER was activated in February 1968 with the mission of expediting and improving naval supply to combat forces in the northern I CTZ by exercising overall coordination of activities concerning movement and protection of logistic craft on the Perfume River and Cua Viet River lines of communication. This special task force was created in response to heavy enemy pressure directed at these LOC at a time of increasing combat operation and logistic requirements by the built-up Northern ICTZ forces.
CONFIDENTIAL

CLEARWATER (Con't.) Two river security groups were formed from River Patrol Force and River Assault Force craft. Supporting forces available on request included artillery and naval gunfire units, helicopter gunships, logistic craft, and ground reaction forces.

CORDS Civil Operations for Revolutionary Development Support.

COSURFOR Coastal Surveillance Force (USN) TF-115 - The U. S. forces participating in Operation MARKET TIME and STABLE DOOR.

COSVN Central Office for South Vietnam - The highest Viet Cong headquarters in South Vietnam.

CTZ Corps Tactical Zone - The major divisions of South Vietnam into military regions.

DAI DOAN KET National Reconciliation Program - Program which is aimed at helping qualified returnees find employment commensurate with their previous training and experience.

FMFAF Free World Military Assistance Forces (all engaged in South Vietnam.)

GAMS WARDEN The operation performed by U. S. Navy forces to interdict Viet Cong movement on the major waterways
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GAME WARDEN (Con't.)</td>
<td>of the Mekong Delta and the RSSZ. The force is composed of River Patrol Boats, Minesweepers, helicopter fire teams and SEAL teams.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEAT</td>
<td>High Explosive Anti-Tank - A shaped-charge normally used in 57-mm or 75-mm recoilless rifles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEFT</td>
<td>Heavy Helicopter Fire Team (U. S.) - A helicopter fire team with three or more gunships used in support of ground and waterborne units. The use of three helicopters allows continuous firing on the target.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOI CHANH</td>
<td>&quot;Returnee to the Just Cause&quot; (VN) - An individual (Viet Cong) who returns under the Chieu Hoi program.</td>
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<tr>
<td>IUWU</td>
<td>Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit (U. S.) - The U. S. forces conducting Operation STABLE DOOR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWCS</td>
<td>Integrated Wideband Communication System.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCM M</td>
<td>Landing Craft Medium Minesweeper.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDNN</td>
<td>Lien Doc Ngoc Nhia (VNN) - Literally &quot;soldiers who fight under the sea.&quot; UDT force of the VNN.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LHFT</td>
<td>Light Helicopter Fire Team (U. S.) - A helicopter fire team composed of two gunships used in support of ground and waterborne units.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LRKP</td>
<td>Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The operation conducted by U. S. and Vietnamese naval forces to interdict Viet Cong infiltration of men and supplies from the sea.

Marine Amphibious Force

Medical Civic Action Program

Machine Gun - An automatic, crew-served weapon adaptable to many mountings. The four types of machine guns currently used by USN and VNN forces are the M-60, the .30 caliber light machine gun, the .50 caliber heavy machine gun, and the 7.62-mm mini gun.

Military Provincial Health Assistance Program - MILPHAP teams, normally staffed by three doctors; a Medical Service Corps officer and 12 corpsmen, work with Vietnam's Ministry of Health at the province hospital level to improve health services available to Vietnamese civilians.

Mobile Riverine Force (U. S.) - A force made up of Navy craft and Army units designed and trained for amphibious assaults in the Mekong Delta and the RSSZ.

Naval Gunfire Support (USN-VNN) - Naval gunfire used to assist operations ashore, often spotted and corrected by spotter aircraft or forward observers.

Naval Intelligence Liaison Officer
CONFIDENTIAL

NLF
National Liberation Front - Actually the "National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam." A Communist political-front used to give the appearance of popular non-Communist support to their insurgency activities in South Vietnam.

NJOC HAM
(VN) - A fermented fish sauce served with almost any dish. A national delicacy.

NVA
North Vietnamese Army

PF
Popular Forces - Military forces recruited and employed within a district; organized in platoons and squads.

PRU
Provincial Reconnaissance Unit (VN) - Para-military personnel whose principal mission includes clandestine operations designed to destroy the Viet Cong infrastructure. Each unit consists of one or more teams of 13 to 20 civilians who have had prior military service.

RAF
Riverine Assault Force (USN) - The U.S. Navy contingent of the MRF.

RAG
River Assault Group (VN) - An amphibious warfare command with the capability to transport and support a battalion of infantry. Similar to a boat division in the RAF.

RED HAZE
Infrared Detector (U.S.) - Sensitive heat detectors used as an airborne locator of personnel, equipment and military sites.

I-1-5
CONFIDENTIAL
Regional Force (VN) - Forces under ARVN control which operate within their home province.

River Patrol Force (USN) TF-116 - The forces used in conducting Operation GAME WARDEN.

Republic of Korea.

Rocket Propelled Grenade - A Soviet or Chinese Communist-manufactured, fin-stabilized, anti-tank grenade. RPG-2 (B-40), RPG-7 (B-41).

Rung Sat Special Zone - Literally "forest of assassins." A special military area located about 21 miles southeast of Saigon in Gia Dinh Province and composed of Can Gio and Quang Xuyen districts.

River Transport and Escort Group.

Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces - Consists of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and RF/PF.

Sea, Air, Land. (USN) - Special duty personnel qualified as underwater demolition, paratroop and jungle warfare specialists.

A Viet Cong-dominated area utilized as a base, training camp and logistic resupply area.

Side Looking Airborne Radar (U. S.) - An accurate airborne radar for detecting small, moving objects.

The U. S. Navy operation conducted to provide harbor defense.
**STAR LIGHT**

Ambient light equipment (USN) - A portable system to enhance vision under conditions of starlight or moonlight.

**UDT**

Underwater Demolition Team (USN) - Specially trained swimmers used for underwater work in the Navy.

**USAID**

United States Agency for International Development.

**USSF**

United States Special Forces (USA) - Army personnel specially trained for use as advisors to indigenous personnel.

**VIET CONG**

Vietnamese citizens under the control and leadership of North Vietnam. These persons may be local sympathizers, guerrillas, or hard-core full-time workers for the Communist domination of South Vietnam.

**VNAF**

Vietnamese Air Force.

**VNMC**

Vietnamese Marine Corps.

**VNN**

Vietnamese Navy.

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APPENDIX II

SECTION 2

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOME OF THE SHIPS, SMALL CRAFT AND AIRCRAFT
UNDER THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF CONNAVFOR

AFDL

Auxiliary Floating Dry Dock, Light - A non-self-propelled, open-ended dry dock with a 1,000-ton capacity. It measures 64 by 200 feet and has two 3-ton derricks and a machine shop. The craft mounts no armament.

AKL

Cargo Ship, Light - A small cargo ship used for resupplying small bases and outposts in the Mekong Delta and along the coast. The ship is 177 feet long, can carry 340 tons of cargo, has a 4-ton boom, and mounts two to four .50 caliber and two .30 caliber machine guns and one 81-mm mortar. It has a speed of 13 knots and a crew of four officers and 33 enlisted men.

AHML
(Pontoon)

A multi-purpose barge. It is 5 by 28 by 90 feet and is sectioned into 12 interior spaces. Each barge contains six fittings for columns to raise or lower the barge on pilings, fittings to connect several barges end-to-end for causeway use, and fittings to allow side-mounting on ESTs and L9Ds.
-In addition to causeway use, the barges can be positioned to embark and debark troops and to serve as platforms for patrol craft hull maintenance.

-Personnel Barracks Ship - An LST converted to provide berthing for an Army battalion and a River Assault Squadron. The ship is 328 feet long with berthing spaces for 122 officers and 1,180 enlisted men, and mounts four 4.2-inch mortars, two 40-mm quad gun mounts, two 20-mm twin gun mounts, and ten 7.62-mm machine guns. It has a speed of 12 knots and carries a crew of 11 officers and 161 enlisted men.

-Personnel Barracks, Lighter - A non-self-propelled barge with accommodations for the crews of 20 PBRs or 10 PBRs and 10 PCFs. It is 49 by 261 feet, has transient berthing spaces for 39 officers and 290 enlisted men, and mounts six .50 caliber machine guns. The crew consists of five officers and 84 enlisted men.

-Repair Ship, Internal Combustion Engine - A repair ship converted from a C-2 freighter and capable of repairing ships and craft with gasoline or diesel propulsion plants. This ship is 442 feet long and...
ARG (Con't.)

- Mounts three 3"/50 caliber guns. It has a speed of 11.5 knots and a crew of 19 officers and 493 enlisted men.

ARL

- Repair Ship, Landing Craft - An LST converted to repair landing craft and support amphibious ships. The ship is 328 feet long and mounts two 40-mm quad gun mounts. It has a speed of 10.6 knots and a crew of 12 officers and 178 enlisted men.

ASPB

- Assault Support Patrol Boat - A special configured craft designed principally for use by the Riverine Assault Force. The boat is 50 feet long and mounts one 20-mm gun mount, one 3"-mm mortar, two MK-18 40-mm grenade launchers, and one twin-.50 and four .30 caliber machine guns. The ruggedly-constructed, high-speed (14.8 knots) boat, with a crew of seven enlisted men, is used as a minesweeping and escort craft for the troop carriers.

ATC

- Armored Troop Carrier - A modified, armored LCM-6 designed principally for use by the Riverine Assault Force. The boat is 56 feet long with an extended deckhouse mounting two 20-mm guns, two .50 caliber machine guns, and four M-60 machine guns. The craft can carry approximately 40 combat troops.
ATC (Cont.)

-or two and a half to three tons of cargo. It has a speed of eight and a half knots and carries a crew of seven enlisted men. Special bar-and-plate armor has been added to provide protection for the hull and deckhouse against projectiles up and including 57-mm HEAT rounds.

ATC(H)

-Armored Troop Carrier (Helicopter) - An ATC with a portable helicopter landing platform mounted above the craft's well-deck. The platform provides faster handling of medical evacuees and enables the MRF to conduct certain airborne re-supply and assault missions more expeditiously.

BOSTON WHALER

-A 16' fiberglass, shallow-draft motor boat.

CCB

-Command and Communications Boat - A modified, armored LCM-6 designed for use by the RAF as a task group flagship and afloat command post. The command center is situated in the craft's well. The boat is 60.5 feet long, is equipped with radar, and mounts one 40-mm and one .50 caliber machine gun in a forward turret, and one 20-mm gun, two .50 caliber machine guns and two M-60 machine guns in the deckhouse. It has a speed of eight and one-quarter knots and a crew of 11 enlisted men. The craft also has special armor similar
C-47

Heavy Lift Craft - A non-self-propelled hull, capable of partial submersion, used in salvage work to lift hulks. The craft is 39 by 140 feet, has two 10-ton booms as well as auxiliary equipment for pumping and can raise 300 tons in a bow lift or 750 tons in a midships lift. HLCs are normally used in pairs. Each craft mounts four .50 caliber machine guns. The crew consists of two officers and 20 enlisted men.

LCPL (Mark XI)

Landing Craft, Personnel, Large - A boat used primarily for harbor defense and to guide larger landing craft. The boat is 36 feet long, is equipped with radar, and mounts two .50 caliber machine guns. It has a speed of 19 knots and a crew of one officer and seven enlisted men.

LCU

-Landing Craft Utility - Used to deliver cargo throughout the Republic of Vietnam. The primary source of
-delivering cargo to Dong Ha and Hue in I Corps. The
boat is 118 feet long and has a maximum speed of 8
knots. The boat captain is usually a Chief Petty
Officer, who commands an enlisted crew of 13 enlisted
men.

-Light Lift Craft - A converted LCU designed to perform
limited salvage duty. The craft is 119 feet in length,
and has a sheel-leg crane capable of 30-ton lifts.
Light Lift Craft have four .50 caliber machine guns, a
speed of seven knots, and carry a crew of two officers
and 15 enlisted men.

-A 548-Class tank landing ship specially configured
for GAME WARDEN Operations. The cargo hatch has been
enlarged to 13- by 32-feet to permit lowering PBRS
and helicopters to the tank deck for repairs and main-
tenance. The main deck forward of the cargo hatch has
been strengthened and life-saving nets have been added
port and starboard to support helicopter operations.
A 10-ton boat lifting boom has been added on the star-
board side just forward of the deckhouse. In addition,
the transient berthing facilities on board have been
increased to accommodate eight officers and 112 enlisted
men. An ancillary role performed by the LST is radar
-surveillance in support of MARKET TIME units in the area. The ship's speed is 12 knots, and the crew consists of 17 officers and 123 enlisted men.

-Monitor - A modified LCM-6 designed primarily for use as a fire support ship by the RAP. The craft has bar-and-plate armor along the hull and deckhouse similar to that of ATCs and CCBs. The boat is 60.5 feet long, is equipped with radar, and mounts one 40-mm and one .50 caliber machine gun in a forward turret, one 81-mm mortar and two M-60 machine guns amidships, and one 20-mm gun, two .50 caliber machine guns and four M-60 machine guns in the deckhouse. It has a speed of eight and one-quarter knots and a crew of 11 enlisted men.

-Minesweeper, Boat - A small minesweeper designed for clearing sheltered waters, e.g., the Long Tau River. The boat is 57 feet long, mounts one .50 caliber and one .30 caliber machine gun, two Mark 18 grenade launchers, and is equipped with radar. It has a speed of 11 knots and carries a crew of six enlisted men.

-Patrol Air Cushion Vehicle - The new craft is an all-metal peripheral jet-type hovercraft powered
by a single marine gas turbine engine, enabling the craft to reach approximately 50 knots under optimum conditions. With a crew of one officer and four enlisted men, the craft is equipped with radar and mounts one twin .50 caliber machine gun, three MK21 7.62-mm machine guns and one MK18 40-mm grenade launcher. The PACV, with a length of 38.7 feet, a width of 23 feet and a height of 16.5 feet (cushion-borne), is to be used primarily as a rapid reaction craft, a high-speed, logistic re-supply craft for small quantities of high priority material, and for SAR missions with the MRF.

-Patrol Boat, River - A military adaptation of a fiberglass, civilian pleasure boat. The boat is 31 feet long, uses twin water jets as a propulsion system, and mounts one twin .50 caliber machine gun and one .50 caliber machine gun with a Mark 18 grenade launcher. The craft is equipped with radar, has a speed of 25 knots and carries a crew of five enlisted men. PBRs normally patrol in pairs and constitute the principal craft of Operation GAME WARDEN.

-Patrol Boat, River - An improved version of the PBR with the same basic design; principal changes include
PBR (MK II) (Con't.)

-a lower silhouette, and modifications to the armament.

PCF

-Patrol Craft, Fast (Swift) - An aluminum-hulled, offshore patrol craft, used extensively for coastal surveillance in Operation MARKET TIME. The craft is 50 feet long, mounts one twin .50 caliber machine gun and a .50 caliber machine gun with an 81-mm mortar. It has radar, a speed of 23 knots, and a crew of one officer and five enlisted men.

PCG

-Patrol Gunboat - A patrol boat for use in offshore waters. It is a new design with an all-aluminum hull and a combination diesel/gas turbine propulsion plant. The boat is equipped with radar, is 165 feet long, mounts one 3"/50 caliber gun, one 81-mm mortar and two .50 caliber machine guns. The craft's speed is 37 knots under turbine power and 16 under diesel power. The crew consists of three officers and 21 enlisted men.

PICKET

-A 45-foot, 13-knot craft designed for harbor defense and anti-swimmer patrols. The boat has radar, mounts one .50 caliber machine gun, and normally carries a crew of five enlisted men.

P-3A

-Orion - A long-range patrol aircraft used extensively in Operation MARKET TIME. The plane is powered by
P-3A (Con't.)

-four turbo-prop engines, carries 11,000 pounds of bombs, and has a maximum take-off weight of 127,500 pounds. Orions have a range of 3,700 miles, a cruising speed of 310 knots, and a crew of four officers and nine enlisted men.

SSB

-Swimmer Support Boat (Skimmer) - The military version of the civilian, fiberglass, triple-V-hulled "Boston Whaler"; used for harbor patrols and UDT, SEAL, and EOD operations. The outboard-powered boat is 16.5 feet long, is controlled from a steering console amidships, and mounts one M-60 machine gun forward. It has a speed of 25 knots and a crew of two enlisted men.

STAB

-SEAL Team Assault Boat - A armed version of the civilian runabout; used to land and recover SEAL units. The boat is 20 feet long, mounts one .50 caliber machine gun, one M-60 machine gun, one Mark 18 grenade launcher, and can also carry a 57-mm recoilless rifle. The boat is powered by two 50-horsepower outboard motors and has a speed of 40 knots.

VEDETTE

-A general term referring to any of several classes of old French river boats—utilized by VNN RAGs and GVN police units.

UNH-13

-Helicopter (Iroquois) - A U. S. Army helicopter on
- Loan to the U. S. Navy in South Vietnam. Alternatively referred to as a "Huey" or a "Gunship" or a "Seawolf," the aircraft mounts four \(7.62\)-mm machine guns in pairs, two \(5.56\)-mm machine guns in pairs, two \(7.62\)-mm machine guns and two pods capable of firing 14 \(2.74\)-inch rockets. The helicopter has a range of 250 miles, a speed of 125 knots, and carries a crew of two officers and two enlisted men.

- The unarmed version of the "Huey," commonly referred to as a "Slick." It can carry 10 troops, four litters, or 2,000 pounds of cargo.

- High Endurance Cutter (USCG) - An ocean-going Coast Guard patrol ship, earmarked as a replacement for DEs and DEGs in Operation MARKET TIME. The radar-equipped ship is 311 feet long, mounts one \(5"/38\) gun, six \(30\)-caliber machine guns, one Mark 10 torpedo launcher with six torpedoes, and two \(81\)-mm mortars. The ship has a speed of 19 knots and carries a crew of 13 officers and 110 enlisted men.

- Cutter (USCG) - A modified version of the Coast Guard's offshore, rescue vessel, used extensively in Operation MARKET TIME. The boat is 82 feet long, mounts one \(50\)-caliber machine gun with an \(81\)-mm mortar, and four \(30\)-caliber machine guns. The radar-equipped craft has a
Diving Tender - A non-self-propelled lighter equipped with a deckhouse containing accommodations and working spaces for a salvage team. The tender is 54-by-260 feet, has a 12-ton crane, and mounts six .50 caliber machine guns for self-defense. The craft carries a crew of 15 officers and 76 enlisted men.

Patrol Boat Tender - A non-self-propelled barge equipped with a large deckhouse containing shops and maintenance facilities for small craft. Currently in use in the Mekong Delta supporting PBRs, the barge has six .50 caliber machine guns and four 81-mm mortars for self-defense. It carries a crew of four officers and 31 enlisted men.

Utility Yard Craft - The newest version of this craft is called the SKILAK and is capable of carrying 330 short tons of dry cargo or 86,000 gallons of liquid cargo at a speed of 10 knots.

Repair, Berthing and Messing Barge - A converted YFNB equipped with a large deckhouse containing shops and maintenance areas for small craft, and berthing and messing facilities for boat crews.
The craft can berth 97 boat-crew personnel. The armament and the size of the permanent crew are the same as that of a YFNB.

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