ORIGINAL
IN BAD
CONDITION

BEST
AVAILABLE

NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER
ALL MATERIAL ON THIS FICHE HAS BEEN DECLASSIFIED
SUBJECT: U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam, Monthly Historical Summary, May 1968; submission of

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (7) are submitted.

2. The data contained in enclosures (6) and (7) is based on information available at this date and is subject to revisions as later information is received. Any adjustments to enclosures (6) and (7) will be reflected in May's historical supplement.

S. T. CRME
Chief of Staff
Routine MARKET TIME activity remained at a high level during May as the aggregate of indigenous junk and sampan traffic along the coast and harbors of South Vietnam reached near normal proportions. Fair weather throughout the major portion of the month and the relaxation of the more stringent curfew restrictions contributed to the increase of activity.

In May MARKET TIME units detected 106,493 junks and sampans; 39,247 of these were inspected and 21,521 were boarded. The boardings resulted in the detention of 752 suspicious persons, including 14 Viet Cong suspects. In addition, 1,368 steel-hulled craft were detected transiting MARKET TIME areas during the month.

The month's activity also included providing numerous exfiltration/infiltration patrols in support of ground operations, 357 naval gunfire missions and 46 hostile fire incidents. As a result of these operations, 82 enemy structures and 33 junks/sampans were destroyed. In addition, 43 Viet Cong were killed (25 probable).

During the late afternoon of 3 May, PCF 73 responded to an urgent request for naval gunfire support from a Vietnamese outpost 15 miles northwest of Rach Gia that was receiving hostile fire. As the PCF closed the reach to render assistance, it received heavy automatic-weapons fire; two .30 caliber rounds hit the Swift boat, slightly injuring one crewman. The PCF commenced firing her .50 caliber machine gun.

GROUP 4
Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years
guns and 81-mm mortar into the area from which the hostile fire originated and suppressed the enemy fire without further incident.

On 5 May PCF 78 received a call from the 1st Marine Division Fire Support Control Center requesting urgent naval gunfire in support of ground troops who were under a mortar and small-arms attack near the coast of Thua Thien province. Firing her 81-mm mortar, in rapid response to the request, the Swift boat destroyed two enemy emplacements and killed two Viet Cong.

On 7 May USCGC MINNETONKA (WHEC 67) responded to a request from sector authorities and took an estimated Viet Cong company under fire 25 miles north-northeast of Ca Mau Point. Firing her 5"/38 gun, the cutter killed three enemy troops and wounded an estimated 15 more. A few hours later, a second gunfire mission by the cutter in the same general area killed an additional four Viet Cong and wounded seven others.

On 12 May PCF 98, in company with PCF 102, received heavy automatic-weapons and 57-mm recoilless-rifle fire while trying to investigate a radar target 30 miles northeast of Ca Mau Point. The PCFs were unable to suppress the enemy fire and PCF 98 received several bullet holes as a result of the fire fight. Three PCF 98 crewmembers were wounded by shrapnel during the attack.

On 13 May USCGC POINTE BANKS closed the beach at Ca Mau Point on an assigned mission to destroy a bridge with naval gunfire. As the cutter
approached the area, personnel and sampans were observed in the vicinity of the bridge. The cutter destroyed the bridge and cleared the surrounding area with mortar and machine gun fire and then put ashore a landing party to reconnoiter the area. The landing party reported the bridge, a bunker and seven sampans destroyed, and captured a large amount of food supplies, personal belongings, Viet Cong documents and small-arms ammunition. All of the captured material was either destroyed or confiscated and later turned over to intelligence personnel.

Enclosure (1)
Activity in the GAME WARDEN area of operation continued at an active pace. As the PBRs conducted patrols along the waterways, enemy harassment continued; however the number of rocket attack incidents initiated by the enemy lessened. In one engagement with the VC on the upper Bassac in the vicinity of Chau Doc a PBR was struck by two 75-mm recoilless rifle rounds killing two Navy men, wounding two and severely damaging the boat. The CIN C of RIVSEC 511 was one of those killed.

U. S. Navy "Seawolves", piloting their helicopters gunships, continued to strike enemy positions throughout the Mekong Delta and Rung Sat Special Zone exacting their toll of enemy casualties. On three separate occasions along the Bassac, Ham Luong and Mekong Rivers the armed helicopters killed 44 VC. The enemy, attempting to counter this dreaded air threat, scored several hits on the helicopters inflicting minor damage and on one occasion killed a door gunner and wounded a pilot. The SEALs continued their stealthful forays into enemy-controlled areas collecting valuable intelligence and initiating ambushes against the Communist insurgents. On 14 May, a SEAL squad engaged in a fierce firefight with 87 well-disciplined and equipped Viet Cong troops along the Cambodian border, about 12 miles southwest of Chau Doc. Navy "Seawolves" and an Army aircraft supported the SEALs ground fighting. The enemy troops that had crossed the border from Cambodia sustained casualties of...

Enclosure (2)

GROUP 4
Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years
24 killed and 40 wounded. There were no friendly casualties. However, another platoon operating on the upper Ham Luong River four miles east southeast of Cho Lach sustained heavy casualties, on the morning of 15 May. Just as the SEALs were preparing to land from their supporting LCPL a violent explosion of unknown origin occurred, killing one SEAL and wounding seven others. A GAM WARDEN support LST, USS JENNINGS COUNTY conducted H & I fire on 9 May in an area of VC activity north of Phu Vinh, along the Co Chien River. The ship's 40-mm cannon fire barrage killed 17 Viet Cong and wounded three. During the month the number of enemy initiated incidents on the Long Tau shipping channel rose and was indicative of the enemy's aim to intensify the harassment of friendly shipping on this vital waterway. There were ten attacks made against merchant ships flying the flag of the U. S., Japan, England and the Philippines. There were two mining attempts, with the remainder being automatic weapons and rocket attacks. In all instances PBRs, Navy and Army helicopters were rapidly on the scene suppressing the enemy fire. During the attack on the British merchantman ANCO QUEEN on 19 May, five PBR sailors were wounded in the ensuing firefight with the enemy. PF troops landed at the ambush site killed 11 Viet Cong and captured two 122-mm rocket launchers of a very simple design. Damage sustained to the merchant ships in all incidents was minor. On 1 May five more PBRs

Enclosure (2)
were assigned to CTF CLEARWATER in I CTZ to reinforce the river security on the Cau Vist River, the vital logistics route to Dong Ha. This now brings to 15 the number of PBRs operating in I CTZ (10 at Tam Ky and 5 at Cua Vist). Five more boats are scheduled in the near future. On 3 May PBRs commenced operations on the upper Bassac in the vicinity of Chau Doc and the upper Mekong in the vicinity of Tam Chau. The assigned mission was to show the presence of U. S. Naval forces, curtail the infiltration of arms, ammo and explosives, collect intelligence, conduct psyops, enforce the curfew and render necessary assistance to U. S. and VN Forces in case of a VC attack.
During the month of May, the Viet Cong initiated several ambushes against the heavily armed gunboats of the ARVN. A post-operative evaluation of the extensive rocket ambushes encountered on 26–27 May in the Chua Su district of Kien Hoa province indicated that the Viet Cong were firing at the boats while far back from the river banks. Presumably this was in recognition of the boats' direct fire power and flamethrower capabilities. As a result, there were an unusually large number of misses; otherwise, the damage and personnel losses would have been much greater.

On 8 May, 14 enemy were wounded in two separate ambushes of R.N.
91 units, along the Doi Ali river eight miles southeast of Ty Tho. In the first attack, two monitors and two AS2s were struck with highly accurate M-7 rocket and 75-mm recoilless-rifle and automatic-weapons fire, wounding four sailors and causing moderate to heavy damage on all four craft. About an hour later, a monitor and a flamethrowing troop carrier sustained light damage when assailed with recoilless-rifle and automatic-weapons fire from the same general area as the first attack. Four enemy were wounded in this attack while enemy casualties were unobserved in both encounters. Meanwhile, the assault forces of the ARVN continued their reconnaissance-in-force operation against the communist insurgents in Kien Hoa province. The cumulative results of the

Enclosure (3)

Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years
CONFIDENTIAL

Four-day operation (8-11 May) amounted to 18 Viet Cong killed, 40 bunkers destroyed and six weapons captured. U.S. Army losses were two soldiers killed and 41 wounded.

On 14 May the ARVN commenced a two-battalion operation near Ho Cay in Kien Lon province to locate and engage elements of the Viet Cong 516th battalion. The next day, they established heavy contact with a well-entrenched enemy and killed 48 guerrillas in a day-long battle three miles southwest of Ho Cay. The Ho Cay operation (14-16 May) resulted in the death of 57 enemy combatants, while friendly forces suffered the loss of six soldiers and 14 were wounded. During this period, there were also four sailors wounded in a series of riverine ambushes.

Based on intelligence estimates that a lucrative target existed in the area southeast of Can Giooc in Long An province—the southern approach to Saigon—the ARVN launched strike operations on 17 May into the area. Riverine units of the ARVN conducted waterblocks as the ground forces swept the area just 12 miles south of Saigon, killing 41 Viet Cong while capturing five prisoners and seizing 52 suspects. On the next afternoon, RAD 91 units were involved in a heated skirmish when they were ambushed from both banks of the Lo Canal five miles east of Can Giooc in Long An province. The units, which were in the process of landing troops, suppressed the intense enemy fire while the troops continued their landing; however, 12 sailors and one soldier were wounded in the attack. As usual in these

Enclosure (1)
densest and restricted waterways, enemy casualties could not be
determined; however, the total enemy losses for the two-day operation
were 126 Viet Cong killed, 130 bunkers destroyed, five prisoners and 22
weapons captured. U. S. forces had six soldiers killed, and 38 men
wounded, 14 of whom were Navymen.

In 26 May the ARF commenced riverine operations in the Giong Iron
district of An Hoa province to locate and destroy the Viet Cong 57th
marine force battalion. In a series of bitterly contested ambushes along
the Ben Tre river and the Long Binh stream eight miles southeast of Ben
Tre, the riverine craft were subjected to repeated rocket/recoilless
rifle attack on 26-27 May. There were two sailors killed and 23 Navymen
wounded in seven separate ambushes which also caused light to heavy
battle damage to 16 riverine units of the ARF. U. S. Army forces had
eight infantrymen killed and 26 men wounded. Enemy losses amounted to
41 killed, 66 bunkers destroyed, four prisoners captured and 30 suspects
detained for further interrogation.

Enclosure (3)
NAVAL ADVISORY GROUP SUBGROUP
May 1968

During the month the Fleet Command had a daily average of 23.6 ships available and employed an average of 22 daily. These ships provided 70 gunfire support missions. At the same time the Coastal Force had an average of 189.4 junks available and employed an average of 183.2 of them daily. The NVA utilized 141 of their 147.3 available craft during May. Meanwhile the six infantry battalions and one artillery battalion of the VNNC were committed to operations 100 percent of the time.

Task Force K, composed of the 1st, 5th and 6th Infantry Battalions, VNNC, continued operation TAN VIET under the operational control of the Capital Military District throughout the month. Heavy enemy contact was made as the VNNC sought out the harassing enemy encased in northeast Saigon. During the early morning hours of 5 May, each battalion of the task force received coordinated ground and mortar attacks at their respective positions on the northeast perimeter of Saigon. Repelling the attacks, the battalions made sweeps of the areas of battle, claiming a total of 53 enemy killed, four Viet Cong captured and one suspect detained. The Task suffered five killed and 19 wounded that day. A similar encounter on 31 May but of greater magnitude saw the Task Force pitted against an estimated two enemy battalions near the Bien Loi bridge in northeast Saigon. Although at the close of the day the engagement had

Enclosure (4)
not been broken, the VNMC accounted for 101 of the enemy killed during this first day of battle.

Task Force 3, the 3rd and 4th Infantry Battalions, remained in IV Corps Tactical Zone under the operational control of the ARVN 21st Infantry Battalion. Reconnaissance in force and ambush operations were conducted daily; light contact was made with the enemy. Returning from operations with the ARF in IV Corps Tactical Zone on 10 May, the 2nd Battalion conducted search and clear operations in Cholon, southwest of Saigon, for the remainder of the month. The battalion experienced moderate enemy contact until 29 May when, in combined force with ARVN units, the VNMC engaged an undetermined number of the enemy. Just as Task Force 5 to the northeast, this battalion was waging battle as the month drew to a close. A reported cumulative total of enemy dead by 31 May was 270. Accurate results are not available at this writing.

On 5 May, VNQ PG. 611 went hard aground while on patrol near the northern tip of Phu Quim Island, 25 miles north of An Thi. The ship's stern was impaled on rock formations; the rudder, screws, and struts were torn off and all after compartments were flooded. While awaiting salvage assistance, the ship was stripped of all ordnance, communications equipment and other salvageable items. After an initial survey was made by a salvage officer from 3CG-1, Detachment Yung Tau, USS DELIVER (ARS 23) was dispatched to conduct salvage operations. Assisting in the salvage
operations and providing a vital deterrent force against enemy attack were units of the VNA patrol forces; a VNA officer was in charge of the Navy salvage operations. After two and one-half days of around-the-clock pumping and patching, operations were discontinued when the VNA PGM 600 pulled the stricken vessel free of the rocks. Then the towed the vessel to the open, while pumping continued on the still flooding, though light, ship. On 15 May, the VNA LSSL 225 relieved TADIVAR of her tow and the vessel brought to the VNA shipyard in Saigon where the extensive repairs were begun by VNA shipbuilders.

River Assault Groups of the 4th Riverine Area continued supporting such troops during the month conducting the Operation TRUONG CONG DINH series. Of significant note were two such operations, TRUONG CONG DINH 7/8/14 and TRUONG CONG DINH 8/9/22 which cumulatively yielded 302 enemy killed, five Viet Cong captured and a quantity of enemy weapons and equipment seized. Conducted on 2-4 May along the Cho Goa canal in Go Cong Province, 25 miles south-southwest of Saigon and on 18 May along the Mu Sen canal, four miles east of Sa Dec respectively, RAGs 21, 23, 28, 31 and 33 provided mobile support, blocking and patrolling operations, covering support and retraction for the ARVN 7th and 9th Infantry Divisions during the amphibious assaults. Friendly losses were 22 ARVN troops killed and 45 wounded.

Enclosure (4)
Psychological operations were continued by all naval units in their respective operational areas of responsibility during the month. A psychological operations conference was held at Cam Ranh Bay on 25–26 May and attended by navy representatives from navy units throughout the republic. It was the consensus of the attendees that the navy had made definite inroads in the field of psychological operations and that efforts were achieving some desired results. It was also a conference consensus that better organization and authorized psyop personnel must be forthcoming if a truly progressive and continuous psyop program is to be achieved. There were nine enemy troops that rallied to naval craft in May; three in I CTZ, near the DMZ, five in II CTZ that hailed PCFs and one in IV CTZ that rallied to a PBR. Leaflet distribution and surface broadcasts continued to be the main avenue of addressing the various target audiences. On 15 May, however, TF 116 PARRs assisted in the execution of the IV CTZ CORDS-initiated Operation KONTIKI. The mission of the operation was to reach the people in the Delta that lived in areas completely controlled by the VC. The PARRs floated plastic packages, containing psyop material and small gifts, into the rivers and canals leading into the Viet Cong-controlled areas allowing the tide to carry the packages to the targeted areas. Harassment of Navy boats conducting psyop missions continued at an accelerated pace. It was stated by a PBR
sailor that "if you wanted to draw enemy fire start broadcasting."

In the field of civic action naval units mostly directed their efforts to aiding the Vietnamese rebuild battle-damaged homes wrought by Viet Cong assaults. In most cases the Navymen provided technical expertise and material to assist in those self-help projects coordinated with Vietnamese local officials. Projects were carried out by naval units and in the Than Kham area alone, in II CTZ, Seabees Team 6201 treated 2,076 patients during the month. In Quang Tri Province, Seabees of SSC 10 presented a total of seven new bicycles and numerous sacks of cement to a protestant church-orphanage, a Catholic mission and a Buddhist Pagoda as a token of their friendship. As a result of the NVA/VC attack on Saigon in early May, many civilians were killed and their homes lost due to artillery from both sides. In order to restore the U.S. image which suffered in Districts 6 and 8 of Saigon primarily, a crash cleanup and buildup program was initiated by C.A.MUSMACV with heavy participation by ACs 51.

Enclosure (5)

2
**VN/VHC Statistical Summary**

**May 1968**

**VIETNAMESE NAVY:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coastal Force</th>
<th>Searched</th>
<th>Detained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junk</td>
<td>People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I NZ</td>
<td>28,129</td>
<td>81,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II NZ</td>
<td>21,378</td>
<td>69,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III NZ</td>
<td>13,620</td>
<td>40,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV NZ</td>
<td>6,423</td>
<td>22,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-totals</strong></td>
<td>69,030</td>
<td>216,180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fleet Command</th>
<th>Searched</th>
<th>Detained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junk</td>
<td>People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,864</td>
<td>8,655</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Riverine Area</th>
<th>Searched</th>
<th>Detained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junk</td>
<td>People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>604</td>
<td>28,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>71,498</td>
<td>253,188</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VIETNAMESE MARINE CORPS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VC/NVA:</th>
<th>KIA 768</th>
<th>VC CAPTURED 62</th>
<th>VC SUSPECTS 339</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VNMC:</td>
<td>KIA 88</td>
<td>WIA 477</td>
<td>KIA 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USMC:</td>
<td>WIA 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Enclosure (3)**

GROUP 4,
Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years
### USN Statistical Summary
**May 1968**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MARKET TIME</th>
<th>GAME WARDEN</th>
<th>Mobile Riverine Forces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Detections</td>
<td>107,861</td>
<td>112,189</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspections</td>
<td>40,171</td>
<td>28,412</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boardings</td>
<td>21,619</td>
<td>48,633</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craft detained</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons detained</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Cong suspects</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostile fire incidents</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Enemy Casualties:
- a. Killed: 43 (25 prob)
- b. Wounded: 25 (23 prob)
- c. Captured: 22

#### USN Casualties:
- a. Killed: 0
- b. Wounded: 4
- c. Captured: 0
- d. Missing: 0

#### Enemy Material Losses:
- a. Destroyed:
  - (1) Junk or sampans: 133
  - (2) Structures: 82
- b. Captured:
  - (1) Junk or sampans: *
  - (2) Weapons: *
  - (3) Ammunition (rounds): *
  - (4) Rice (tons): *
- c. Damaged:
  - (1) Junk or sampans: 16
  - (2) Structures: 60

#### USN Material Losses:
- a. Destroyed:
  - (1) Surface craft: 0
  - (2) Helicopters: *
- b. Damaged:
  - (1) Surface craft: 3
  - (2) Helicopters: *

#### USN Missions
- *: Information not applicable or not available this date.
- **: One USN KIA was non-hostile. In addition three sailors and seven soldiers drowned.
- ***: Two US soldiers wounded in non-hostile action.
- ****: Includes three grenades and 13 mines.
- *****: Includes 44 mortar, rocket and recoiless rifle rounds.

**Remarks:**

Enclosure (6)

**GROUP 4**

**Downgraded at 3 year intervals**

**Declassified after 12 years**
From: Commander U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam
To: Distribution

Subj: U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam Monthly Historical Supplement; forwarding of

Encl: (1) U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam Monthly Historical Supplement, May 1968

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded.

Distribution:
CINCPACFLT (4)
COMUSMACV (Hist., Branch, SJS)
COMUSMACV (Doctrine Branch, J-343)
COMUSMACV (COC, JOD)
Director of Naval History (3)
CNO (OP-34)
CNO (OP-92)
CNO (Ops., Eval. Group)
CINCLANTFLT
COMFIRSTFLT
COMSECONDFLT
COMSIXTHFLT
COMSEVENTHFLT
CHNAVMAT (Code OL)(2)
COMSEVENTHFLT(Hist., Team)
Pres., NAVWARCCL
COMPHIBLANT
COMPHIBPAC
COMCBPAC
COMCBLANT
COMINPAC
COMNAVFAENGCOM
SUPT., USNA

CONFIDENTIAL
Distribution: (Cont'd)

CHINFO
CO NAVPHIBSCHOL, LCREEK
CO NAVPHIBSCHOL, CORONADO
PHIBTRADET MARIS
NDF PANFLA

Project Manager, Naval Inshore Warfare Project, Washington, D.C., 20360
CI, Aerospace Studies Institute (Code ASAD), Maxwell AFB, Ala., 36112
Govt., and Humanities Dept., Post Graduate School, Monterey, Calif.,
Commandant, Armed Forces Staff College
CHNAVSEC, C and GS Col., Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, 66027
CHNAVSEC, Air University, Maxwell, AFB, Ala., 36112
USA Special Warfare School (Attn: USMC Liaison Off.), Ft. Bragg, N.C., 28307
USA Special Warfare School (Attn: Navy Rep.) JFK Center for Special Warfare
(Airborne) Ft. Bragg, N.C., 28307
USMC Rep., U.S. Army Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Ga., 31905
DIA (DIAAP-LA2/Pentagon)
NAVFORVINST 05215.2B
List I, (Case I)
List II, A(5), B(l), C, (Case II)
List III, A, B, (Case I); E, I., (Case II)
List IV, A, B(6), C, I(l), F, I., (Case II)
List V, (Case II)
List VI, A, B, I(l), B, 2., (Case II), B, 8(2), B, 10(l), B, 11(l)
UNITED STATES
NAVAL FORCES, VIETNAM
MONTHLY HISTORICAL SUPPLEMENT
MAY 1968
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreword</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Charts/Graphs/Photographs</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronology</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Surveillance Force</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation MARKET TIME</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARKET TIME Units</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARKET TIME Statistical Summary</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation STABLE DOOR</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Patrol Force</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I CORPS River Patrol Group</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rung Sat Special Zone River Patrol Group</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta River Patrol Group</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAME WARDEN Units</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAME WARDEN Statistical Summary</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverine Assault Force</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverine Assault Force Units</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task Force CLEARWATER</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. S. Naval Support Activity, Danang</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. S. Naval Support Activity, Saigon</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Naval Construction Brigade</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Psychological and Civic Action Operations</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvage Operations</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization and Command</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Activities</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Advisory Group</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese Navy</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese Marine Corps</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPENDIX I - Project "JENNY"

APPENDIX II - Glossary

1
The month of May saw a continuation of hostile action on all fronts. The Vietnamese Navy assisted by their U.S. Navy advisors continued to demonstrate a willingness and ability to meet and defeat the enemy.

U.S. Navy forces engaged in a large variety of actions which included river ambushed, gunfire support, amphibious landings and salvage operations. Acts of valor by Navymen were numerous. One example occurred on 12 May when the hamlet of Giang Long, located about 3 miles northwest of Phu Vinh, was attacked and overrun by the Viet Cong. Storekeeper Third Class Donald H. ZILGITT, USN, a SEAL, led the Tra Vinh Provincial Reconnaissance Unit (PRU) and two companies of Regional Force troops to counterattack and drive the enemy from the hamlet. The units came under heavy fire and were pinned down in a rice paddy. Heroically exposing himself, Petty Officer ZILGITT led his unit in an attack which forced the enemy to withdraw. Still leading his unit, and under intense fire, ZILGITT continued to advance until he was mortally wounded, however, the PRU's continued to press forward, gained their objective and routed the enemy.

Petty Officer ZILGITT's heroic actions prevented the PBR's from being overrun during their initial engagement and enabled them to gain the initiative and drive the Viet Cong from their prepared positions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>LIST OF CHARTS/GRAPHS/PHOTOGRAPHS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. (C)</td>
<td>First Coastal Zone Operations</td>
<td>Page</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. (P)</td>
<td>&quot;Swift&quot; boat crewmen search junk in Gulf of Tonkin</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. (C)</td>
<td>Second Coastal Zone Operations</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. (C)</td>
<td>Third Coastal Zone Operations</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. (C)</td>
<td>Fourth Coastal Zone Operations</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. (G)</td>
<td>MARKET TIME Detections, Inspections, Boardings</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. (G)</td>
<td>STABLE DOOR Detections, Inspections, Boardings</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. (P)</td>
<td>&quot;Seawolves&quot; make rocket run on Viet Cong ambush site</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. (P)</td>
<td>LST pours 40-mm explosive rounds into enemy position</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. (C)</td>
<td>Rung Sat Special Zone Operations</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. (C)</td>
<td>My Tho River Operations</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. (C)</td>
<td>Co Chien River Operations</td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. (C)</td>
<td>Bassac River Operations</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. (P)</td>
<td>Damaged PBR-130</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. (G)</td>
<td>GAME WARDEN Detections, Inspections, Boardings</td>
<td>43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. (P)</td>
<td>A trooper wading through mud in the Mekong Delta</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. (P)</td>
<td>Army/Navy medicalmen render medical aid</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. (P)</td>
<td>Flamethrower destroys possible enemy ambush site</td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. (C)</td>
<td>Cua Viet River Operations</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. (P)</td>
<td>Monitor Boat Captain eyes the shoreline of Cua Viet River</td>
<td>74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. (G)</td>
<td>Cargo Processed at Danang</td>
<td>78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. (P)</td>
<td>A portion of the widened Col Co Road</td>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. (P)</td>
<td>Corpsman examines a young infant</td>
<td>88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. (P)</td>
<td>PGH 607 rides peacefully at anchor</td>
<td>94</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. (P)</td>
<td>ADM HYLAND, USN and RADM VETH, USN</td>
<td>98</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. (G)</td>
<td>VNN's Searches and Detentions</td>
<td>104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. (C)</td>
<td>VNN Delta Operations</td>
<td>114</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. (C)</td>
<td>VNN and VNMC Operations</td>
<td>133</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. (P)</td>
<td>&quot;Project JENNY&quot; aircraft</td>
<td>147</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CHRONOLOGY

Date  Event
1 May  USS VALLEY FORGE (LPH6) requested PCF 15, PCF 80 and USCGC POINT LOMAS to proceed to the scene of a helicopter crash at sea approximately 22 miles northwest of Tan My. Four survivors were rescued. A fifth man was listed as missing when the search ended at 0105. p. 4

Commander Task Force CLEARWATER received five additional PBR’s, bringing their strength up to 15, p. 29

Three ATC’s were damaged and three RAD 112 sailors wounded by enemy artillery fire directed on Naval Support Activity Cuu Viet, p. 70

RAG’s 21/33 and 23/31 participated in Operation TRUONG CONG DINH 7/SD/14 on the Cho Gao Canal, 10 miles northeast of My Tho. During the 2-day operation there were 19 Viet Cong killed, 3 Viet Cong and 64 weapons captured, p. 139-140

RAG 25 craft were ambushed on the Mang Thit/Nicholai Canal, 10 miles east of Can Tho. B-40 and recoilless rifle rounds struck a monitor, a commandant and an LCM, killing 2 VNN sailors and wounding 10 others, including 2 USN advisors and an ARVN soldier, p. 139

PCF 55 poured 600 rounds of 50 caliber fire into an enemy position in the afternoon in response to a request by the 5/46th Infantry Battalion, Americal Division. It was later determined that the PCF’s gunners had killed seven Viet Cong and flushed out a hardcore Viet Cong who was captured by the Americal troops, p. 4

Elements of the MRF landed Vietnamese Marines and the 4/17th Battalion in Giong Trom District for Operation TRUONG CONG DINH. During the 2-day operation light enemy contact was made with only one Viet Cong killed, 38 suspects detained and 32 bunkers/structures destroyed or damaged, p. 53-54

CONFIDENTIAL
Coastal Group 35 units, three RF companies and eight FF platoons, participating in Operation TRUONG CONG DINH VB/30, killed 5 Viet Cong, uncovered a sizeable ammunition cache and destroyed 30 huts in Vinh Binh Province. p. 126

Admiral HYLAND visited Mobile Riverine Base. p. 71

RAG 25 craft debarked an ambush team which netted 5 Viet Cong killed, 1 Viet Cong and 3 weapons captured. p. 140

RAG 22 river craft transported an AKWN reconnaissance company along the Vam Co Dong River, 13 miles southwest of Saigon, for a cordon and search operation. The operation netted 10 Viet Cong killed, 2 B-40 rockets and a launcher captured. p. 134

PCF 78 answered an urgent gunfire support request from the First Marine Division. The PCF hurled 16 rounds of 81-mm mortars into enemy mortar and small arms positions 19 miles north of Danang. A sweep of the area the next day confirmed 2 mortar positions destroyed and 2 Viet Cong killed. p. 4-5

Task Force "A", composed of the 1st, 5th, and 6th Infantry battalions and Battery "A" and "B", VNNC artillery battalion, received coordinated ground and mortar attacks, east of the Saigon River, at the Bien Loi Bridge in northeast Saigon; and at the Xa Lo Bridge (Route 1A) on the eastern part of the city. Sweeps conducted of these areas resulted in 56 Viet Cong killed, 4 captured and one suspect detained. The marines remained in their positions killing 11 more Viet Cong and captured 3 the next day. p. 146-147

Coastal Group 35 supported a PRU company during Operation TRUONG CONG DINH VB/27, north of Phu Vinh. One PRU was killed as were four Viet Cong. p. 126

RAG 26/32 units provided transport, blocking and gunfire support for three RF/FF companies during an operation in Kien Phong Province, 13 miles northwest of Sa Dec City, which resulted in 25 Viet Cong killed and eight captured with individual weapons. p. 141
Date       Event
5 May      PBR 130 while investigating reported enemy recoilless rifle positions on the upper Bassac River, was hit by recoilless rifle and automatic weapon fire, resulting in two Revolutionary Development (RD) cadre and two USN killed, three USN wounded and 80 percent of the boat demolished, p. 41-44.

- Coastal Groups 12 and 13 ambush teams engaged the enemy, resulting in one Viet Cong captured and one wounded by Coastal Group 12, three miles southeast of their base at the mouth of the Perfume River; and one Viet Cong killed by Coastal Group 13 sailors, two miles west of the CG 13 base at Cau Hai Bay, p. 118-119.

6         A RAG 26 river team supported an RF company in a land sweep along the Upper Bassac River, north of Chau Doc City, which netted 20 Viet Cong killed and 7 captured, in addition to a small weapons cache, p. 141.

- Coastal Group 35 surprised an enemy platoon on the Co Chien River, killing two Viet Cong and capturing significant amounts of weapons and documents, p. 126-127.

6         A RAG 26/32 LCM was attacked and 80 percent of the boat was destroyed west of Chau Doc. Five VNN sailors were wounded, p. 141.

- LSSL 226 sustained minor damage and five VNN sailors were wounded while transiting the Co Chien River, six miles east of Vinh Long. The ship returned the enemy fire, p. 116.

7         PCF 40 destroyed four structures, heavily damaged two bunkers and claimed a probable kill of two Viet Cong seen running from a bunker south of Vung Tau. The "Swift" boat was operating in response to a naval gunfire support request, p. 13.

- USC 30 MINNETONKA unleashed 40 rounds of 5" gunfire on enemy positions 27 miles north of Ca Mau Peninsula. During the shelling one secondary explosion and fire were observed. Later intelligence revealed the cutter's guns had killed three and wounded 15 Viet Cong, p. 16.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>A sweep by Task Force A resulted in 17 Viet Cong killed and 4 captured. p. 148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Repeated mortar attacks emanated from Kien Hoa Province; one mortar round narrowly missed the USS BENVWAH (APB35). p. 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal Group 12 units swept the northern tip of Phu Vang sub-sector netting 20 suspects, including 20 persons without proper identification papers and 20 draft dodgers and deserters. p. 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>USCGC MINNETONKA's gunfire, directed in the same area as the previous evening, killed four Viet Cong and wounded seven (probable). p. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Three monitors, two ASPB's and an ATC flamethrower were hit in two separate ambushes, with a total of 24 U.S. Navymen wounded. p. 56-57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two Coastal Group 23 junks teamed up with two RF companies in Song Cau sub-sector in a search operation which resulted in two Viet Cong killed and four captured. p. 123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal Group 23 units, in response to intelligence reports, swept a village in northern Qui Nhon Peninsula. A brief firefight resulted in the capture of three Viet Cong. p. 123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sweep operations by MRF elements in the Ba Lai area resulted in heavy enemy contact. During the 1-day operation there were 18 Viet Cong killed, 40 bunkers destroyed, 30 suspects detained and many weapons captured. p. 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USS JENNINGS COUNTY killed 17 Viet Cong and wounded 3 others while bombarding Viet Cong positions along the Co Chien River, north of Phu Vinh. p. 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal Group 25 units and three RF platoons detained seven Viet Cong suspects in Van Ninh Peninsula. p. 123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The merchant ship HYRIA came under attack 12 miles southeast of Saigon on the Long Tau River. Enemy fire returned but no contact. p. 136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 May</td>
<td>A RAG 24 commandment was hit by two B-40 rockets, killing two VNN sailors and wounding two others, while transiting the Doi Canal near southern Saigon. p. 134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>RAO 24 units killed eight Viet Cong and captured two weapons during a cordon and search operation in Gia Dinh Province, near Thu Doc. p. 134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PBR’s 72 and 75, assigned to provide a security force for the grounded 17,000-ton merchant ship, STEEL RECORDER, demonstrated versatility by changing from river surveillance to salvage in clearing the grounded ship. p. 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two Coastal Group 13 junks while firing on suspected Viet Cong junks were taken under fire by a 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines’ helicopter. The mishap, resulted in one VNN sailor killed and three wounded. p. 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LSSL 229 suffered seven wounded when ambushed on the My Tho River, 5 miles north of Vinh Long. The ship’s pilot house was hit and after steering was employed. p. 116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Four Coastal Group 12 junks were credited with five Viet Cong killed during a blocking and NGFS operation for a USMC and PF sweep of Phu Vang sub-sector. p. 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RAG 25/29 detachment on the Canh Hoa River, 8 miles southeast of Ca Mau, accounted for 50 Viet Cong killed while providing gunfire support for ARVN units ashore. p. 142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Three U.S. Navymen were wounded, one seriously injured, following an enemy automatic weapons attack on PCF’s 98 and 102 on routine patrol near the mouth of the Bo De River. p. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A SEAL, SK3 Donal H. ZILGIIT, USN, led PRU’s in successful counter-attack on entrenched Viet Cong positions, recapturing a village; killing 17 Viet Cong and capturing several weapons. p. 38-39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|      | Coastal Group 35 craft participated in a joint-operation on the south bank of the Co Chien River, resulting
12 May (Cont'd)

in at least 52 enemy killed and 5 Viet Cong taken prisoner. p. 127-128

Navy "Seawolves" sank three enemy craft and killed 17 Viet Cong in three separate actions in the Vinh Long-Ben Tre area. p. 38

Coastal Group 14 sailors with the aid of other American and Vietnamese forces fought off a massive enemy attack on the group base at Hoi An. At least 20 Viet Cong were killed; friendly forces sustained 4 VNN killed, 20 PK troops and numerous civilians wounded. p. 119-120

Vietnamese marines, with the aid of U.S. Army gunships and Vietnamese Air Force air strikes, repulsed an enemy advance leaving 63 enemy dead on the battlefield. p. 148

ATC-112-2 sustained two RPG-7 rocket hits while anchored on the Cua Viet River, 1 1/2 miles from Cua Viet. p. 70-71

"Seawolves" supporting an RF security patrol in the 9th sub-sector accounted for 11 Viet Cong killed and 9 wounded. p. 35

Coastal Group 35 killed seven Viet Cong who were engaged in an attack on a friendly village 2 1/2 miles west of the group base. p. 128

SEAL Team Detachment ALFA, Eighth Platoon engaged an 82-man Viet Cong force along the Cambodian border. With "Seawolf" and U.S. Army air cover the Viet Cong were driven back into Cambodia suffering 24 killed and 40 wounded. p. 25-27

CPT James E. WILLIAMS, USN, received the Medal of Honor from the President of the United States in ceremonies held in Washington, D.C. p. 28-29

Coastal Group 22 personnel captured five Viet Cong in Lower Qui Nhon Peninsula. A subsequent sweep of the area located 20 caves with multiple Viet Cong stores. p. 124

Small unit patrols accounted for 19 Viet Cong killed and one enemy officer captured. p. 148
The merchant ship TRANSGLOBE came under attack while transiting the Long Tau River. p. 138

Army elements of the MRF killed 17 enemy troops in a day-long battle, 3 miles southwest of No Cay. p. 62

Coastal Group 36 sunk a Viet Cong junk near Dung Island on the Bassac River, killing seven Viet Cong and capturing arms and documents. p. 128

An infantry sweep, supported by Coastal Group 12 units during Operation LAM SON 224, uncovered 15 Viet Cong bodies, while suffering one ARVN killed and 7 wounded during the operation. p. 121-122

Coastal Group 11 units destroyed 53 bunkers during a sweep of an island in the De Vong River. p. 120

U. S. Army forces, supported by RAG 30, destroyed more than 100 bunkers and killed 20 Viet Cong southwest of Saigon. p. 135

MRF units provided transportation, NGFS and blocking forces in support of a sweep operation which netted 11 Viet Cong killed, 5 captured and 52 suspects detained. p. 63

RAG 26 boats landed and supported RF/PF companies in a sweep operation which resulted in 16 confirmed and 9 probable Viet Cong killed; one Viet Cong, a suspect one deserter, and several weapons were captured. p. 143-144

VNMG 6th Battalion, conducting area searches, engaged an estimated enemy company killing 30 Viet Cong and capturing assorted weapons and war materials. p. 148-149

In the final engagement of a tri-service, 2-day operation in Can Giouc, 17 Viet Cong were killed. The overall operation netted 126 Viet Cong killed, 180 bunkers destroyed, 5 bunkers and 22 prisoners captured. p. 64

Operation TRUONG CONG DINH SD/9/22, a joint effort which included RAG 23/31, tallied 108 Viet Cong, one Viet Cong and 3 suspects captured. p. 143-144
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>Three MRF craft were damaged, 14 sailors and a soldier wounded, in an ambush on the Lo Canal, p. 63-64.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>PBR's landed an Army patrol and provided gunfire support when the patrol came under enemy fire. When the patrol was backloaded, PBR's illuminated and shelled the area killing 6 Viet Cong and destroyed a decoy sampan. An Army patrol landing the next morning accounted for 9 Viet Cong killed, one sampan and several weapons captured. p. 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>The ANCO QUEEN came under attack while transiting the Long Tau River. Relief units killed 12 Viet Cong and captured a rocket launcher and 2 AK-50's. p. 138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-20</td>
<td>U. S. Army forces, with RAG 30 in continual support, captured 2 Viet Cong, destroyed 78 bunkers, and uncovered significant enemy arms caches. p. 136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Coastal Group 13 junks sunk one sampan west of the coastal group base. p. 121.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Responding to a call for immediate illumination, USCGC POINT COMFORT, encountered heavy .50 caliber enemy fire. The ship directed 169 rounds of 81-mm fire into the source of the hostile fire, in addition to providing the requested illumination. An unconfirmed report revealed that 15 Viet Cong were killed as a result of the ship's action. p. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>RAG 30 supported U. S. Army units operating south of Saigon; two Viet Cong were killed, two sampans and 15 bunkers destroyed, and four automatic weapons captured. p. 136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>POINT ORIENT captured six North Vietnamese officers (1 Captain, 5 Warrant Officers) during a spot-check aboard a junk. p. 7-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>A Coastal Group sweep with &quot;Seawolf&quot; support, accounted for five Viet Cong killed; quantities of food and equipment captured; three bunkers and other equipment destroyed. p. 129-130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A village, where Coastal Group 33 personnel were conducting &quot;psywar&quot; operations, was overrun. p. 124</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONFIDENTIAL
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 May</td>
<td>Action involving Coastal Group 32/33 and RF/PF units resulted in three Viet Cong killed and three captured; three bunkers destroyed; and amounts of enemy equipment and documents captured. p. 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal Group 24 and Tuy Hoa sub-sector police nabbed 19 draft age males during a sweep of Hon Chau Isle. p. 125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>TRUONG CONG DINH/SD 7/20 yielded nine Viet Cong killed, seven captured and three suspects detained. p. 144-145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate enemy contact was encountered by task force battalions resulted in 15 Viet Cong killed and 13 suspects detained. p. 149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VNNC Task Force B engaged an unknown-sized enemy force, resulting in 33 enemy killed. p. 152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Seawolves&quot; accounted for an estimated 16 Viet Cong killed during an air strike against a reported Viet Cong battalion in a treeline north of Sa Dec. p. 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>USCGC ANDROSCOGGIN killed seven Viet Cong and wounded one during a naval gunfire support mission. p. 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The 1st and 2nd battalions engaged an estimated enemy battalion; 32 Viet Cong killed, 5 enemy and numerous weapons and equipment captured, and 3 suspects detained. p. 149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-27</td>
<td>In 7 separate ambushes, 16 MRF craft were damaged, 2 sailors killed and 23 wounded. p. 65-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Coastal Group 12 units conducted Operation NGUYEN PHOUNC 2, resulting in 4 Viet Cong suspects, 8 deserters and 11 people without proper papers detained. p. 122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Task Force units were credited with 34 enemy killed while defending their Gia Dinh positions. p. 149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>TRUONG CONG DINH/DT/41, an effort by RAG 21/33 and 6 RF companies, accounted for 22 Viet Cong killed and numerous weapons and documents captured. p. 145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>The 2nd Battalion, encountering heavy enemy contact, killed 28 Viet Cong and captured 5 near Cholon. p. 151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-30</td>
<td>A RAG 30 Vedette was sunk by enemy B-40 rockets on the Dong Ngai River. p. 137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>A MRAP 2-battalion strike operation resulted in 15 Viet Cong killed, 1 captured, 81 bunkers destroyed and 100 suspects detained. p. 69-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Coastal Group 26 personnel and Cam Ranh Special Zone police netted 7 junks and 13 suspects. p. 125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>The 2nd Battalion uncovered 217 enemy graves and captured 17 enemy personnel and numerous weapons north of Cholon. p. 151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enemy recoilless rifle rounds slammed into the barrackship USS COLLETON (APB36), anchored near Ben Tre, p. 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Task force units engaged two enemy battalions in a furious battle, killing 121 Viet Cong, capturing 5 Viet Cong, along with numerous weapons. p. 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The total strength of U. S. Naval personnel under the operational control of COMNAVFORV was 32,666. In addition, U. S. Navy personnel assigned to III Marine Amphious Force was 3,865, while U. S. Coast Guard strength was 461.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*****
COASTAL SURVEILLANCE FORCE (TASK FORCE 115)

Generally excellent weather conditions brought junk and sampan activity in the coastal waters and harbors to a high level during May. Units of Operation MARKET TIME and Operation STABLE DOOR detected 147,950 craft this month. A total of 45,087 of these craft were inspected and 23,122 were boarded by the coastal and harbor patrols. Some 131 junks and sampans and 949 suspicious persons were detained for investigation as a result of the boardings.

In addition, efforts to fully employ the naval gunfire capabilities of Task Force 115 ships and craft continued to show results. During May the total number of missions of all types fired by these units increased to over 350 from the 242 missions carried out in April. Improvements in the nature and number of targets assigned, as well as increased utilization of the naval units in exfiltration patrols during ground sweeps, have resulted from the experience and better coordination with ground forces acquired over the past months.

OPERATION MARKET TIME

The weather conditions which favored the heavy fishing and coastal traffic during May also permitted all MARKET TIME stations to be manned through most of the month. Operation MARKET TIME units detected 106,493 junks and sampans. Of these, 39,247 were inspected and 21,521 were boarded. An additional 1,368 steel-hulled craft were detected in MARKET TIME patrol areas with 924 of them inspected and 98 boarded by patrol.
OPERATIONS IN THE FIRST COASTAL ZONE

A-PCF 55 - 1 May.
B-USCGC PT ORIENT - 22 May.
units. The boardings and searches resulted in the detention of 124 junks or sampans and 752 suspicious persons.

Along the coast MARKET TIME forces carried out 357 naval gunfire missions for support of ground units, harassment and interdiction, suppression of hostile fire, or against targets of opportunity observed during patrols. Ground operations were supported by gunfire and/or exfiltration patrols on 16 occasions during May. Action was initiated by hostile fire 45 times and there were 6 additional cases of evading junks or sampans being taken under fire. Most of the action was concentrated in the First and Fourth Coastal Zones, accounting for over 240 of the total missions fired. Other than in the Fourth Coastal Zone many of the missions were unobserved by spotters. However, the results which were verified by spotters, ground sweeps, or intelligence include:

- 13 Viet Cong killed (25 probable, 18 by body count)
- 25 Viet Cong wounded (23 probable)
- 33 Junks or sampans destroyed
- 82 Structures destroyed
- 16 Junks or sampans damaged, and 60 structures damaged

**First Coastal Zone**

With the weather steadily improving throughout the month patrols in the First Coastal Zone were able to maintain maximum coverage of their areas. A total of 51,017 junks and sampans were detected with 16,522 of them inspected and another 10,392 craft boarded. Although many of the
more than 140 naval gunfire missions were conducted without a spotter
for harassment and interdiction, First Coastal Zone units also fired on
over 30 targets in response to calls from ground units and authorities
along the coast. In addition, they participated in eight ground opera­
tions and fired their guns in response to hostile fire on five occasions.

In response to a request from USS VALLEY FORGE (LPH8) on the evening
of 1 May, PCF 15, PCF 50 and USCOC POINT LOMAS were sent to the scene of
a helicopter crash at sea about 22 miles northwest of Tan My. The MARKET
TIME units arrived in the area by 2130. Four survivors were rescued after
having been in the water since 2056. The search for the fifth man in the
aircraft continued until 0105 when normal patrol operations were resumed.

At about 1430 on the 2nd, PCF 55 received an urgent naval gunfire
support request from the 5/46 Infantry Battalion, Americal Division. A
reconnaissance sweep of an area 14 miles southeast of Chu Lai by A Company
of the 5/46th was taken under enemy automatic weapons fire. The "Swift"
boat complied by firing 600 rounds of .50 caliber fire into the enemy posi­
tion. As the ground operation continued it was determined that the PCF's
gunfire had killed seven Viet Cong and flushed out another captured by the
Army force. It was later reported that the prisoner was a hard core Viet
Cong and the "best intelligence source from this area to date."

Another urgent request was received from the First Marine Division
late on the night of 5 May. In this action PCF 78 was called on to silence
enemy mortars and small arms firing at a Marine combined action company near
a coastal village 19 miles north of Danang. The enemy fire was sup-
pressed with 16 rounds from the PCF's 81-mm mortar. Two mortar positions
were destroyed and two Viet Cong were killed according to reports from
a sweep of the area the next day.

After 2 days of rehearsals on 4 and 5 May PCF 18 and PCF 57 success-
fully landed a 26-man reconnaissance platoon from the 5/46th Infantry at
a point 6 miles south of Danang between C200 and 0245 on the 7th. Using
two UDT rafts for the final transit to the beach and engine noise and
supporting cover from PCF 57, PCF 18 quietly approached the shoreline to
land the troops in two waves.

At 1930 on 6 May PCF 19 closed the shore to investigate a report of
two junks closing the beach in response to light signals on the southern
shores of Chon May Bay. Following warning shots at the two junks being
pulled up on the beach the "Swift" boat came under automatic weapons fire
from the treeline, PCF 19 fired illumination and .50 caliber fire into
the area destroying the two junks and later directed Marine artillery fire
into the area.

On the 16th, PCF 101 received a call for urgent naval gunfire support
from Vinh Loc subsector authorities. A large number of Viet Cong had been
observed leaving a position about 3 miles east of Vinh Loc and were believed
to be preparing for a mortar attack on the subsector location. From 2045
to 2130 PCF 101 fired her 81-mm mortar on the suspected enemy positions
resulting in the destruction of four structures and unknown personnel
casualties. Later at 0415 on the 17th, PCF 16 conducted a harassment and interdiction mission into the same general area at the request of the Vinh Loc subsector. Two structures and a large rice cache were destroyed and two Viet Cong were probably killed by 16 high explosive rounds from the "Swift" boat's mortar.

At 0615 on the 17th, a shore party from USS DIACHENKO (APD123) conducted beach survey operations, received automatic weapons fire at a location 38 miles southeast of Danang. PCF 81 was directed to provide covering fire and support extraction of shore party. The "Swift" boat expended 1,000 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition and was joined in firing on the enemy position by units of Coastal Group 15. In addition a spotter aircraft from Quang Ngai called in fighter bombers which bombed and strafed the area. All personnel ashore were recovered with no injuries. On the 19th, USCGC POINT GAMMON provided cover for the DIACHENKO during beach survey operations 40 miles south of Quang Ngai.

At 0115 on the 24th, PCF 78 observed muzzle flashes from enemy artillery firing on Marine positions at Cua Viet. The enemy battery was silenced within 15 minutes by mortar fire from the MARKET TIME craft. The next day between 2345 and 0025 at the request of the Third Marines PCF 13 and USCGC POINT GAMMON teamed up against an unknown number of North Vietnamese troops dug into foxholes just north of Cua Viet. With the "Swift" boat providing illumination fire and Marine spotting, POINT GAMMON saturated the target area with high explosive and white phosphorous fire from
"Swift" boat crewmen search a junk during a routine boarding in the Gulf of Tonkin. The Vietnamese Navy petty officer (extreme left) acts as interpreter and checks the cargo manifest, junk book and identification papers of the persons on board.

Two incidents involving the inspection of fishing junks were especially significant. During the inspection of a 45-foot junk containing six Vietnamese miles at a point about 20 miles off the coast, 45 miles south of Quang Ngai on the 22nd, USCGC POINT ORIENT became suspicious of the junks registration papers and cargo. The papers appeared almost brand new but were dated from four to six years old and
did not contain any Vietnamese Navy stamps. The cargo consisted of large amounts of rice and salt plus a small quantity of medicines. The suspects were turned over to Vietnamese Navy officials whose interrogation revealed that the alleged fishermen were actually a North Vietnamese Army captain and five warrant officers. On the 28th, about 5 miles north of Cua Viet, PCF 58 intercepted a small junk containing three males waving a white flag. The men stated that they were North Vietnamese fishermen and wanted to Chieu Hoi in order to come to South Vietnam to avoid service in the North Vietnamese Army. They were turned over to the nearest induction center.

Second Coastal Zone

Coastal traffic was light in the Second Coastal Zone during May. Junk and sampan detections totaled 36,781 with 16,163 inspections and 6,519 boardings. Support of ground operations by infiltration/exfiltration patrols or naval gunfire was provided on six occasions. Additional requests for naval gunfire support and harassment and interdiction missions by Second Coastal Zone units numbered more than 50. Hostile fire initiated significant action by "Swift" boat patrols during the month.

Two actions on the 6th and 9th were typical of the support provided for ground operations along the coast. Sector authorities requested PCF 97 to seal off a Viet Cong escape route during a coordinated VNN and ARVN sweep of an area 8 miles east of Phan Rang on the 6th. As the ground forces moved through the operating area toward the sea PCF 97 fired 35 rounds from her 81-mm mortar into the most likely avenue of escape by the Viet Cong.
Target coverage was reported as outstanding by the ground units. A two
platoon sweep of a narrow peninsula 32 miles northeast of Nha Trang by
Popular Force troops on the 9th was supported by PCF 44. After escorting
the civilian junk carrying the Popular Force troops from an early morning
rendezvous in northern Hon Khoi Bay to the landing point, the "Swift"
boat proceeded to the seaward side of the peninsula where a blocking patrol
was maintained during the sweep.

While investigating a possible infiltration attempt about 10 miles
southwest of Phan Thit on the evening of 17 May, PCF 96 came under enemy
fire when 200 yards from the shoreline. The hostile fire was quickly
suppressed by the "Swift" boat's gunners. Normal patrol of the area was
resumed after a check of the beach revealed no sign of an infiltration
attempt.

A 0200 attack on Phan Rù on the 20th brought a call for immediate
illumination to USCGC POINT COMFORT (WPF-82317) from the Phan Ly Sub-
sector. As the cutter closed the beach to comply she came under .50
caliber enemy fire. Illumination was provided as requested and 49 rounds
of 81-mm mortar fire were directed into the source of hostile fire. An
unconfirmed report of 15 enemy killed was received following this action
which eventually involved U. S. Air Force and VNN units as well as the
POINT COMFORT.

A Chieu Hoi who surrendered to an IUWU-1 unit near Qui Nhon on the
28th indicated that other Viet Cong in his hamlet guerrilla platoon also
desired to rally and his willingness to make a live psyops broadcast to his friends. The Chieu Hoi, the Assistant Naval Intelligence officer from Qui Nhon, two officers from IUWU 1, and Coastal Division 15 Psyops officer were taken to the village about 10 miles south of Qui Nhon by PCF 91 the next day. After encountering a group of about 10 Viet Cong in the village, who fled into the mountains to the north, the "Swift" boat continued to move south and resumed the broadcast. After about a half hour four men were observed on the beach a mile south of the village waving a white flag. Broadcasting by the five Hoi Chanhns continued for more than an hour without further results.

On 30 May, USCGC POINT GLOVER was requested to provide naval gunfire support against an enemy position 30 miles southwest of Phan Rang by Tuy Phong Subsector authorities. The Coast Guard vessel complied with 12 rounds from her 81-mm mortar killing two of the enemy and wounding two others.

Third Coastal Zone

Junk and sampan activity in the Third Coastal Zone remained much lighter than in the First or Second Coastal Zones. However, the 9,645 detections of indigenous craft during May represented an increase of nearly 4,000 over the April figure. More than 40 percent of the craft detected were inspected and another 22 percent were boarded. More than 40 naval gunfire missions were carried out and "Swift" boats were engaged by hostile fire 10 times during the month.
OPERATIONS IN THE THIRD COASTAL ZONE

A-PCF 98 - 12 May.

SCALE:

0 Nautical Miles

CONFIDENTIAL
Four beached sampans were sighted by PCF 54 in Kien Hoa Province about 22 miles southwest of Vung Tau on the 6th. Three of the craft were carried off out of sight when taken under fire by the "Swift" boat. Small arms fire was received from the area during the action. Damage to the enemy included the destruction of two structures and one damaged sampan. Personnel casualties were unknown. No hits were scored on the MARKET TIME unit by the enemy. In the same general vicinity on the 7th, PCF 40 responded to a sector request for naval gunfire on a Viet Cong base camp. During this mission four structures were destroyed, two bunkers heavily damaged, and two Viet Cong seen running from a bunker were probably killed.

On the 9th, PCF 40 acted as a blocking force for an ARVN sweep of an area about 5 miles east of Go Cong. During the operation heavy automatic weapons fire was directed at the ground unit from a position within range of the "Swift" boats mortar. The enemy fire was quickly suppressed and Viet Cong troops observed moving across an open area were also taken under fire. The weapons of PCF 40 killed at least three of the enemy with two more probably killed in the action.

Hostile fire greeted PCF psyops/Chieu Hoi broadcasts directed at the Than Phu Secret Zone on five occasions between the 9th and 19th of the month. The enemy fire was quickly silenced each time and the broadcasts were continued. The targets were not taken under heavy mortar fire due to the nature of the broadcasts. When PCF 40 returned heavy small arms
OPERATIONS IN THE FOURTH COASTAL ZONE

A- USCGC MINNETONKA - 7 May.
B- USCGC POINT BANKS - 13 May.

SCALE:
0 NAUTICAL MILES 30