First Coastal Zone

During October adverse weather in the First Coastal Zone forced patrol units off station on several occasions. As a result, the number of detections of watercraft dropped from 13,475 in September to only 7,221 for October. Surveillance results were not as high as usual with only 59% of those detected being inspected and boarded. There were 2,064 inspections and 2,243 boardings resulting in the detention of 21 craft and 170 persons for violation of restricted zones, lack of or faulty identification papers, draft dodgers, and incorrect or faulty manifests.

There were approximately 100 naval gunfire support and Sea Tiger missions conducted by First Coastal Zone units. Gun damage assessment was high since only 24 missions reported no damage observed due to darkness, heavy foliage or the calls of troops available to sweep the area.

On the afternoon of 7 October, while on normal Sea Tiger patrol, PCF's 61 and 69 were destroying fishing wiers on the Truong Giang River about 17 miles southeast of Danang (BT 188 487) when they received heavy semi-automatic (S/A) weapons fire. The "Swift" boats withdrew to the northwest and saturated the area with 81mm mortars and then made a .50 caliber strafing run on the enemy positions. After rearming both units proceeded north to exit the Truong Giang River when they received heavy automatic weapons, semi-automatic and 57mm recoilless rifle fire from bunker positions. In the general hail of fire, the helmsmen, Officer-in-
Charge of PCF 61, LTJG Kenneth Dean NORTON, USN, 717895/1100, was killed and PCF 61 ran hard aground while traveling at full speed. At the same time, both "Swift" boats received 57mm R/2 rounds close aboard resulting in minor damage to PCF 69 and punctured the port fuel tank of PCF 61 causing minor flooding. Both units suppressed the enemy fire. PCF 101, helo gunships and a dustoff helo arrived on the scene at 1310H. The helo gunships saturated the area with rocket and mini gun fire while LTJG NORTON was MEDVACED. PCF's 69 and 101 pulled PCF 61 free at 1600H and proceeded without further incident to Coastal Group 14 headquarters, with the helo gunships providing cover. There were 20 structures destroyed in the operation. One U.S. sailor received a minor wound, was treated, and returned to duty. Enemy casualties are unknown.

A Sea Tiger mission was conducted on the morning of 18 October about 15 miles southeast of Danang (MT 143 530), with units of Coastal Group 14 and River Assault Group 32 inserting a Vietnamese Navy (VNN) sweep and security team followed by the insertion of an Underwater Demolition Team (UDT), Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team and a Duffel Bag Team by PCF's 13 and 69. The VNN landing team conducted a sweep to the southwest and provided security while the EOD and UDT teams conducted beach reconnaissance and bunkers destruction, and the Duffel Bag team surveyed the area for sensor implmentation. The helo gunships, that were providing cover, took uniformed Viet Cong under fire 300 meters to the south of the insertion point. The Duffel Bag Team successfully implanted the sensor string and all personnel proceeded along the south bank and were extracted without incident. After all units had departed, the helo gunships returned.
to the area, took a lone VC in a sampan under fire, and spotted the 81mm mortar fire of PCF 69 into the area. The morning operation resulted in 45 bunkers, nine structures, one sampan and one 155mm projectile destroyed. The VNN personnel captured large amounts of rice and fish. There were five VC killed (1 body count, 4 probable) and no friendly casualties.

On the afternoon of 25 October, a Sea Tiger mission was carried out about 15 miles southeast of Danang (BT 197 566) with two units of Coastal Group 14 (CG 14) inserting EOD, UDT and Duffel Bag personnel. The EOD and UDT teams conducted a reconnaissance of the beach while Duffel Bag personnel removed a sensor string that had been rendered inactive during recent high flood waters. PCF's 75 and 80 and two skimmers provided offshore support. Helo gunships and an Air Force O-2 observation aircraft provided air cover. After the troops had been extracted a CG 14 junk ran aground and began receiving heavy S/A and A/W fire from three positions. The two skimmers made strafing runs, and the PCF's and CG 14 junk fired their 81mm mortars. During the 55 minutes required to free the junk from the sand bar, the VC fired at the junk and skimmers on numerous occasions. Once the junk was afloat and out of danger, the "Swift" boats and skimmers inserted the EOD, UDT and Duffel Bag personnel two to four miles southwest of the original insertion point and removed inoperative sensors without incident. All personnel were extracted and exited the area while the helo gunships took uniformed VC under fire along the river banks. The PCF's destroyed four large bunkers and killed five Viet Cong. The
helo gunships accounted for three structures and seven large bunkers
destroyed and six Viet Cong killed. One U.S. sailor received a minor
leg wound from an AK-47 round.

On the evening of 20 October the PT SLOCUM (USCG WPB) provided
emergency naval gunfire support about 11 miles southeast of Quang Ngai
(38 755 593). The Tra Bong Sector Advisor had requested assistance
when his units came under enemy attack. Helo gunships were requested
and arrived on the scene within 10 minutes. The WPB was credited with
six Viet Cong killed in this action.

A Sea Tiger mission to destroy concrete pilings which were blocking
river traffic along the Song Ba Ren took place on 26 October. Four units
of the VNN River Assault Group 32 inserted a RF Company about 18 miles
southeast of Danang (14 51 144 527) for a sweep south along the river bank.
Several VC were sighted to the west and were taken under fire by helo
gunships. The RF troops quickly surrounded the area. The enemy initiated
firefight (ENIFF), produced several dead or captured VC. The troops
continued their sweep south and established a security perimeter for the
UDT and EOD teams. PCFs 75 and 80, Coastal Group 14 and River Assault
Group 32 waterborne units took station to provide gunfire support. The
EOD and UDT teams were inserted and commenced destroying the pilings. The
helo gunship spotted several VC moving toward the river and when the VC
fired at the helos, the PCFs, RAG 32, and gunships saturated the area with
40mm, 81mm, 2.75 inch rockets, and mini gunfire. The river obstacles were
destroyed and the EOD and UDT teams cleared the area without further
OPERATIONS IN THE FIRST COASTAL ZONE

A. Sea Tiger - 7 OCT
B. Sea Tiger - 18 OCT
C. PT SLOCUM - 20 OCT
D. Sea Tiger - 25 OCT
E. Sea Tiger - 26 OCT
F. Sea Tiger - 30 OCT

SCALE:

0 NAUTICAL MILES 30
incident. The RF troops were extracted by NAG 32 units and all forces returned to their bases. There were 15 structures and 12 cement pilings, 3'x5'x6', destroyed. Enemy casualties were 10 VC killed and one captured along with several individual weapons.

Coastal Group 14, junks inserted a VNN sweep and security force and PCF's 15 and 69 inserted a Duffel Bag team for a sensor string implantation about 18 miles southeast of Danang (BT 146 524) on the morning of 30 October. During the operation the helo gunships, providing support, sighted several VC moving into the area and took them under fire. After the sensor string implant was completed, the Duffel Bag and VNN troops were extracted without incident. The operation resulted in 11 structures and three bunkers destroyed. There were no friendly casualties, and four VC were killed.

Second Coastal Zone

There were over 100 naval gunfire support missions conducted in the Second Coastal Zone area of operations during October with 94 missions reporting no gun damage assessment (GDA). A minimum amount of damage was reported from the other missions. As in the First Coastal Zone, the main reasons for lack of GDA were darkness, no spotter available, heavy foliage, or no troops available for an area.

The rough seas in area 3 during the month and the assumption of additional patrol areas by VNN units are partially reflected in the lower surveillance statistics in October. There was a total of 20,017 detections of craft, with 9,618 inspections, and another 5,156 boardings.
There were 24 evading craft 23 detained craft in October. Two hundred eighty-two persons were held for possession of contraband, restricted zone violators, deserters, draft dodgers, lack of or faulty identification papers, and curfew violators. Fourteen Viet Cong suspects, one confirmed VC were taken into custody.

On 2 October the PT KENNEDY (USCG WPF) detected two Nationalist Chinese fishing vessels 17 miles southeast of Phan Thiet (EM 0995). The two vessels, HWA FUNG 11 registration number CT5/1035 and HWA FUNG 12 registration number CT5/0135 were fishing inside the 12 mile limit. The heavy seas prevented the WPF from boarding the vessels, but she did give them a close visual inspection. The vessels hauled in their fishing nets and were escorted beyond the 12 mile limit without incident.

The same day the PT MAST (USCG WPF) was informed by Coastal Group 21 (CG 21) that one of their junks had lost power and had parted the anchor line and was in need of assistance. The WPF proceeded to the scene about 60 miles south southeast of Quang Nga (CR 030 820). Two hours later the WPF saw the junk already on the beach tracking around in about five foot of surf and suds. Initial attempts to attach a tow line were unsuccessful because of the high surf and the junk being full of sand and water. Members of the WPB's crew were put ashore to provide security for the rest of the night. The following afternoon a tow line was successfully passed to the junk via a helo. Upon taking a strain, the tow line parted. CG 21 advised to strip the junk of all available items and leave the junk beached. Upon completion of stripping the junk of all gear and taking five Vietnamese sailors aboard, the PT MAST secured all salvage efforts.
OPERATIONS IN THE SECOND COASTAL ZONE

A. PT KENNEDY - 2 OCT
B. PT MAST - 2-3 OCT
On 18 October the PT GloVeil (USCG WPB) was requested to provide assistance in salvaging the junk's engine. The WPB's small boat was used to land a salvage pump to remove water from the junk and the engine.

**Third Coastal Zone**

Indigenous coastal traffic increased in October as weather conditions continued to improve in the Third Coastal Zone. Surveillance results were impressive as more than 81% of the 13,266 craft detected were either inspected or boarded. The 5,543 inspections and 5,275 boardings resulted in the detention of only 44 persons for lack of or faulty identification papers, violating curfew, or entering restricted zones. There were no incidents of evading craft. The "Swift" boats continued their patrols of the lower Bassac and Co Chien Rivers, detecting 6,919 and inspecting 2,470 and boarding 3,256 craft. Of these 47 craft and 17 persons were detained.

During October the "Swift" boats of the Third Coastal Zone conducted more than 200 naval gunfire support missions in response to urgent naval gunfire support, H and I targets of opportunity, or in pre-planned river and canal incursions.

On 12 October, PCF's 21, 24 and 17 entered a canal off the Bassac River about 37 miles southeast of Can Tho (XR 353 713) and established a blocking force and waterborne guardpost in support of Mobile Assault Troops (MAT) from Long Phu. The troops were inserted by Coastal Group 36 Yabuta junks for a sector sweep of Dung Island. The "Swift" boats extracted 100 troops and reinserted them about 10 miles to the west. Light enemy fire
was received and suppressed during the troop extraction. The ground forces destroyed a munitions shop and a hospital, and captured 12 kilos of medicine. Two Viet Cong were killed and one was captured without friendly losses.

PCF's 17 and 54 provided a blocking force for an ARVN troop sweep about 20 miles southeast of Can Tho (XR 135 873) on 14 October. Shortly after the "Swift" boats were in position, they came under heavy automatic weapons fire from an estimated 60 Viet Cong. The "Swift" made five firing runs and each time counter battery was received. Helo gunships were called in and placed strikes on the enemy positions. The PCF's continued a close surveillance of the area; however, no further enemy fire was received. The troops, sweeping the area found it to be heavily booby trapped. There were seven Viet Cong killed (3 body count, 4 probably). Friendly forces suffered no casualties.

On the morning of 18 October, the PT COMFORT (USCG WPB) and PT ELLIS (USCG WPB) assisted Coastal Group 35 ground forces on a coastal raid about 20 miles southeast of Phu Vinh (XR 796 870). The WPB's and their skimmers took targets of opportunity under fire at ranges from 20 to 2,600 yards. In two hours the firepower of the WPB's destroyed 11 sampans, five structures, one bunker and 1,200 yards of fish net in addition to damaging 18 structures and nine bunkers.

On the night of 21 October, the PT BANKS (USCG WPB) and Coastal Group 34 skimmers conducted a covert surveillance of the Ham Luong River
about 71 miles east of Phu Vinh (XII 825 976). An evading sampan was destroyed and the three occupants as they taken under fire fled into a marsh. Later, four Viet Cong were spotted on the beach and taken under fire. There were no friendly casualties in the operation while six VC were killed (3 body count, 3 probable).

The USCGC TANEY (WHEC 37) conducted five naval gunfire support missions on 29 October along the Thanh Phu coastline about 12 miles southeast of Thanh Phu (XR 802 875). The missions were in support of the 9th ARVN Division conducting operations in the area and were aimed at bunkers, structure complexes, and Viet Cong built up areas. The five inch guns of the cutter destroyed 26 structures, 21 bunkers and one sampan and heavily damaged 23 structures and 16 bunkers. Two large secondary explosions were observed.
OPERATIONS IN THE THIRD COASTAL ZONE

A. PCF's 21, 24, 17 - 12 OCT
B. PCF's 17 & 54 - 14 OCT
C. PT COMFORT/PT ELLIS - 18 OCT
D. PT BANKS - 21 OCT
E. Skimmer Ops - 23 OCT
F. USCGC TANEY (WHEC 37) - 24 OCT

SCALE:

0  Nautical Miles  30
Operation Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III

Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III Operations continued in October with over 50 Sea Float and SEAL missions recorded. There were from six to ten PCF's, three ATC's, three ASPB's, one Zippo, a Zippo refueler, a PG, and LST assigned to these operations in various mixes. The following Vietnamese units supplemented U.S. Forces during October: PCF's 04, 06 and 08, LSSL HQ 226, LSSL HQ 228, LSSL HQ 326, LSSL HQ 328, LSM(H) HQ 401, LSM HQ 405, LSSL HQ 327, Coastal Groups 33, 35, 36 and 41, the VNN FULMAR Team, Mobile Strike Team TWO, VNN Reaction Force, Regional Force Troops, PRU's and VNN Hiet Hai. These missions supported SEAL, EOD and UN team operations. Air cover was provided by Seawolves, Clicks, and OV-10's. Day and night PSYOPS patrols were pursued along the rivers and canals of the Sea Float operating area with airborne units conducting similar missions in these areas inaccessible to the craft. The "Swift" boat, in addition to supporting ground operations, provided gunfire support, waterborne guardposts, blocking forces and escort service for logistic craft along the Bo De and Cua Lon Rivers and adjacent canals. The PCF's also participated in Sea Lords missions in areas adjacent to the Sea Float AO. All afloat units and the Mobile Advance Tactical Support Base conducted nightly H and I fire into known VC base camps and extortion areas.

On 24 October the nickname Solid Anchor was activated. The unclassified meaning is a combined USN/VNN operation to construct a coastal group junk and PCF base at Old Nam Cam. The location of Solid Anchor is on the Song Cua Long (p 990 675).
In September, River Assault Craft consisting of two ASPB's, three ATC's, one Zippo and one Zippo Recharger were assigned to Sea Float for a thirty day trial period. The Commander Sea Float considered the trial very successful as indicated by the ever increasing traffic on the Rach Cai Nhap and the resulting rapid growth of the no fire zone (NFZ) community. In addition to the increased security along the Rach Cai Nhap, these units have proven their firepower, armore and expertise in other Sea Float operations. Based on this evaluation of the capabilities of the River Assault Craft and potential employment in the Sea Float AO, Commander, Sea Float recommended that the RAC units be continued at Sea Float, but that the composition be modified to consist of the following units: one 105mm monitor, one Zippo with Recharge and five ATC's.

The Kit Carson Scout (KCS) program has continued to be a valuable asset in Sea Float operations. With the establishment of their own agent net, the KCS have been able to gain valuable intelligence leading to several successful operations. One large arms cache destroyed was the result of KCS intelligence, planning, and implementation with minimal SEAL assistance. The KCS accompanied SEAL groups regularly, and have established themselves as competent and dependable assets. Their strengths are patrolling abilities, indigenous characteristics, and sources intelligence while their weaknesses, which are correctable, are fire discipline, sanitary/medical training, animosities between other KCS and VNN, and the language barrier between KCS and USN. By month's end there were 23 Kit Carson Scouts employed at Sea Float. All of the KCS moved ashore during
the latter part of October to supplement the operation Solid Anchor Base Defense Force.

On 1 October additional PRU's arrived Sea Float to replace those transferred on 28 September.

Vice Admiral E. R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN, Commander Naval Forces, Vietnam; Commodore Tran Van Chon, Vietnamese Navy Chief of Naval Operations; Captain C. F. Rauch, Jr., USN, Senior Naval Adviser, Staff NAVFORV and party visited Sea Float on 6 October and received formal briefings by VNN and USN members of Sea Float, a visit to the Sea Float Annex, and an inspection tour of Old Nam Can city. Commodore Chon talked to representative of all VNN units and stressed the fact that Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III was a combined operation and that there would be separation of commands or forces within Sea Float. He requested that all personnel work closely with their VNN counterparts and strive to train them in all aspects of the Sea Float operation.

Captain W. E. Marquadt, CEC, USN, Commander Third Naval Construction Brigade, Representative Saigon and party arrived Sea Float on 7 October for an inspection of the Old Nam Can base camp area in preparation for Operation Solid Anchor.

On 9 October Captain R. E. Pyle, USN and a CNO briefing officer arrived Sea Float for a briefing and an airborne tour of the Sea Float AO.

Admiral John J. Hyland, USN, CINCPACFLT, Vice Admiral E. R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN, Commodore Tran Van Chon, VNN and party visited Sea Float on 13 October.
and received briefing and toured the Sea Float Annex. Admiral Hyland presented the Bronze Star Medal to QM1 Francis Q. Lopiccolo, USN and Commodore Chon presented the VNN Gallantry Cross to Petty Officer Lopiccolo.

On 15 October, Rear Admiral John D. Dillon, CEC, USN, Commander Third Naval Construction Brigade and Vice Admiral Zumwalt visited Sea Float and were briefed on operations, and PSYOPS and toured the Solid Anchor site.

Captain J. J. Shanahan, USN, Commander Task Force 115, visited Sea Float on 24 October for discussions on Base Defense and departed in the afternoon for a meeting with the An Xuyen Province Chief.

Also on the 24th 85 members of the VNN Biet Hai reported to Sea Float for duty and established perimeter security on the north shore.

One 31 October, SEAL's of MLKB platoon, Detachment GOLF arrived Sea Float and KILO platoon departed after a distinguished record of service.

On the morning of 2 October SEAL Team ONE, Detachment GOLF, KILO Platoon, five Kit Carson Scouts and 11 PRU's were inserted by Slicks in an attempt to located a suspected VC controlled hamlet about 20 kilometers southwest of Old Nam Can (Vv 8850). The SEAL's were inserted in two elements, 100 meters north and south of the objective area and began patrolling toward the hamlet. The element to the north received small arms fire which they quickly suppressed. After the area was secured, the patrol began a systematic search of the hootch complex. The complex was found to contain a small sampan factory, a garment factory, a cache of
tools and a messing area for twelve. Before departing the area they destroyed the entire hootch complex. One Viet Cong hiding under a hootch was detained. The second element captured two Viet Cong outside a bunker. Continuing the patrol another hamlet was located and sniper fire was received wounding two PRU's slightly. After all enemy fire was suppressed, the hamlet was searched and 40 pounds of medicine, numerous documents North Vietnamese supplies and money, 17 VC flags, one Russian flag, wooden training carbines, and pistols were captured. The hooches were destroyed, and 36 women and children were detained. Both elements then departed via sampans as Seawolves and Black Pony air strikes were called in to destroy the remaining hooches and sampans in the hamlets. There were four Viet Cong killed, one wounded, and three detained, and one 50CAL and two PRU's were slightly wounded. Damage inflicted by the patrols and aircraft included: 1 sampan factory destroyed; 1 large tool cache destroyed; 19 hooches/structures destroyed; 4 structures damaged; 18 bunkers destroyed; 24 sampans destroyed; 1 sampan damaged; 1,100 lbs. rice destroyed, and 40 lbs. medicine captured. The interrogation of detainees revealed that of those killed, one was the Chief Extortionist of the area, one was the second in command and his wife was a commando cadre. One of the detainees was also a VC extortionist.

Seawolves had one of their biggest days on 6 October. While enroute to Sea Float, six sampans fully loaded with supplies were spotted about 16 miles southwest of the MATSB (VQ 745C). They were taken under fire and destroyed. Three large secondary explosions were observed. The
Seawolves returned to the target area an hour later and sighted several VC attempting to salvage supplies from the sunken sampans. They struck again destroying two more sampans while suppressing light automatic weapons fire. Two OV-10s and Black Ponies 101 and 103 were directed to the scene and sunk three more sampans. At 1215H the Seawolves were again airborne and destroyed seven loaded sampans. Later in the afternoon, while on a visual reconnaissance patrol with SEAL's aboard, the Seawolves spotted several camouflaged sampans and destroyed five and damaged two others. On this strike Seawolf 11 was hit by HMG fire, but there were no casualties. The total destruction for the Seawolves was three VC killed (2 body count, one probable) and 20 sampans and 1,000 pounds of supplies destroyed. The Black Ponies probably killed two VC and destroyed three sampans.

Underwater Demolition Team 12 (UDT 12) and two Kit Carson Scouts conducted a Sea Float mission on 13 October along the Cua Long River about eight miles east of Sea Float (N 16 56 680). The troops were embarked on the T-4 with T-9 in company. After inserting the troops on the south bank of the Cua Lon River the USS CROCKETT (TP 88) stoodby for support. Following a troop sweep to the east which destroyed bunkers and structures, they were extracted and returned to Sea Float. The operation resulted in 27 bunkers and four structures destroyed. There was no contact made with the enemy.

Early on the morning of 13 October, SEAL Team ONE, Detachment GULF accompanied by a Kit Carson Scout conducted an intelligence and reconnaissance patrol on an unnamed canal off the Cua Lon River about 16
kilometers east of Old Nam Can (4° 15' 168'). The patrol departed Sea Float by LCPL and were inserted along the canal where they traveled north along the west bank. At 0820 a motorized sampan moving south was hailed, and when two male occupants attempted to evade, they were taken under fire and killed. A short time later a sampan with two occupants was detained. The patrol then proceeded in the sampan south to the insertion point where the LCPL took the sampan in tow and returned them to Sea Float. There were two Viet Cong killed and two detained. The SEAL's captured three sampans, two engines and one kilo of documents, and destroyed two engines, 1,500 pounds of rice, 20 gallons of gas, 20 gallons of kerosene, 50 pounds of sugar, one box of engine tools and five gallons of liquor.

A Sea Float mission was conducted on 16 October along the Rach Buong about four miles east of the Sea Float MATSB (WQ 074 676) with the following units: POF's 36, 31, 72 and 82, River Assault Craft T-4, T-9, T-13 and 2-2, USS CROCKETT (PG 88), two Seawolves, two OV-10, EOD and UDT teams, and Regional Force troops. The RAC units and POF's entered the Rach Buong and commenced prep fire of both banks, while the OV-10's placed strikes in the area. While the preparatory fire was in progress the enemy fire which included one 81mm rocket hit T-4 on the port side, an 81mm rocket embedded in T-9, one claymore detonated alongside T-4, one claymore detonated alongside T-13 and AK-47 fire was received. After this had been suppressed, the troops were inserted 100 meters from the site of the ambush and swept to the north along the east bank. They found a nine bunker and trench complex and various weapons and munitions which were destroyed by the
BOD and UDT personnel. Two sampans jettisoning cargo were spotted by the Seawolves and destroyed. An 81mm rocket was found embedded in the T-4 and was removed and destroyed by BOD personnel. The "Swift" boats took the ambush site under 81mm fire. There were nine bunkers and one structure destroyed in the operation, while the ground forces destroyed five claymore mines, one B-40 rocket, one 81mm rocket, two 81mm rocket launching tubes, one B-40 rocket launching tube and several grenades and electrical firing mechanisms. There were no friendly casualties and only minor material damage to the RAC units.

LSSL HQ 223 embarked 20 members of the VNN reaction force and Underwater Demolition Team 12, Detachment GOLF at the Sea Float Annex on the morning of 21 October for a ground sweep just east of the Sea Float Annex (WQ 105 700). The UDT destroyed bunkers encountered during the patrol. There was no enemy contact as the troops were inserted at two other locations for sweeps. The troops were extracted about noon and returned to the Sea Float Annex without incident. The UDT destroyed 22 bunkers and four structures. There were no friendly casualties.

SEAL Team ONE, Detachment GOLF and 2 Kit Carson Scouts conducted a mission on the night of 22-23 October that was designed to obtain intelligence on a POW camp located north of the Song Qua Lon about 16 kilometers east of Old Nam Can (WQ 153 685). The SEAL's departed Sea Float via an LCPL, transited the Song Qua Lon and were inserted on an unnamed canal where they patrolled 300 meters to the surveillance site. At 0345H on the morning of the 23rd a sampan approached the site. When
it was hailed by the KCS, it attempted to evade. It was immediately taken under fire and burst into flames from the gasoline engine and fuel supply. The sampan was searched until the flames became too intense. The team proceeded to the extraction point and were returned to Sea Float. There were four Viet Cong killed and no friendly casualties. A small amount of medicine was captured and one sampan, two gas engine, 1,000 pounds of rice and 500 pounds of yams were destroyed.
### Statistical Section

#### Average number U.S. ships/craft on patrol during month.

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<th></th>
<th>MSO</th>
<th>MSC</th>
<th>WPB</th>
<th>PCF</th>
<th>LST</th>
<th>FG</th>
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#### Average number VNN ships/junks employed during month.

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<th>Coastal Force</th>
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<tr>
<td>River Force</td>
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#### U.S. Activity:

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<th>Steel - Day</th>
<th>Steel - Night</th>
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<td>Total Detected</td>
<td>28,556</td>
<td>13,311</td>
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<td>Total Inspection</td>
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<td>Total Boarded</td>
<td>11,311</td>
<td>2,335</td>
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#### VNN Activity:

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#### U.S. Activity:

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#### Stable Door Statistics:

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<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
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<td>60,221</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Inspections</td>
<td>16,945</td>
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<td>Number of Boardings</td>
<td>5,389</td>
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CONFIDENTIAL
A. SEAL's - 2 OCT
B. Seawolves/Black Pony - 6 OCT
C. Seafloat - 13 OCT
D. SEAL's - 13 OCT
E. Seafloat 780 - 16 OCT
F. Seawolves - 20 OCT
G. LSSL & UDT - 21 OCT
H. SEAL's - 22-23 OCT

SCALE:
0 NAUTICAL MILES 30

LEGEND:
- Coastal Surveillance Center
X = Hostile Fire/Evasion Incident
# = SAR/MEDEVAC Incident
Operation Stable Door

Stable Door units maintained active patrol in their areas of responsibility during October. There was one successful enemy mining attempt in the Nha Trang harbor on 15 October. Patrol units continued to support ground operations with blocking forces and reconnaissance patrols. There was a total of 60,221 craft detected during the month and of these, 16,945 were inspected and 5,389 were boarded.

Unit ONE - Vung Tau

During October, there were a total of 476 junks inspected resulting in 9 junks and 24 personnel being detained for curfew violations, improper identification or registration papers.

The USNS ERONSTROM while transiting the harbor to anchorage G-13 ran aground at a position 265 degrees, 4,350 yards from the Harbor Entrance Control Post. After several attempts, she was freed by AB&T tug on 3 October. There was no report of any damage sustained.

Unit ONE was given its semi-annual inspection on 16 October with LCDR J. V. Cooper, USN, Oinc Unit TWO, the senior inspector and assisted by members from the Staff, Unit FOUR and Naval Support Activity Detachment, Cat Lo. A copy of the inspection report had not been received.

On 24 October, the Officer in Charge, Unit ONE, requested the United States Embassy, Singapore to pass to the Western Pacific Maritime Limited that the Panamanian registered CG ANK-5AS, anchored in Vung Tau harbor since 14 October, has refused to honor harbor patrols' request to show
proper anchor and waterline lighting recommended for Vietnamese waters. This has caused a hazard to shipping and has placed the CG ANTILLES in danger of possible swimmer/sapper attacks.

A proposal to permit night fishing in certain areas was not concurred in by Unit ONE as it would eliminate four anchorages and provide an excellent location for the enemy to launch mining attacks. It was further pointed out that concussion grenades were expended nightly averaging 600-1000 per week and that this would hamper fishing operations in the area. Commander Coastal Surveillance Force (CTF 115) recommended to Commander Naval Forces, Vietnam that the proposed fishing restriction changes not be approved.

Unit TWO - Cam Ranh Bay

There were 1,162 junks inspected resulting in the detention of 19 junks and 21 persons during October. Reasons for detainment were lack of or improper identification or registration papers and curfew violations.

On 19 and 26 October, Unit TWO personnel, with medical personnel from the 568th Medical Company, made civic action and MEDCAP visits to the village of Binh Hung on Hon Chut Island. Building materials and school supplies were delivered to the Village Chief for distribution. The Village Chief and Assistant Chief were given a tour of the Market Time Base on 28 October.

Unit TWO skimmers were fired on three times by U.S. Army power ship guards on 19 and 20 October. One incident took place in daylight when the Harbor Patrol Officer boarded a skimmer from the power ship piers and was
fired at while leaving the ships. All incidents were in clear weather
with good visibility. The Army guards were uncooperative when confronted
by the boat coxswain. On 20 October, the Officer in Charge, Unit TWO
and representatives of the 124th Transportation Command and 36th Transportation Company met to discuss these problems. An interim solution was adapted, that when any boat of Unit TWO approaches the generator ships, they will signal by three flashes of the spotlight and to be answered by the guards on the ship by one flash with his light. Other possible solutions were also discussed.

While on routine patrol on 20 October, LCPL 23, operating in the
vicinity of the anchored LONDON STATESMAN, made a radar contact and proceeded to investigate. The contact turned and started towards the main pier area. The LCPL 23 fired a flare and identified the contact as a Maritime Police Boat No. 143. The LCPL then turned and resumed normal patrol. The police boat also turned and followed and when approximately 300 yards off the LONDON STATESMAN, the police boat pulled alongside the LCPL and aimed her .50 caliber machine gun directly at LCPL 23. The gun was loaded and locked. The police boat remained alongside for approximately five minutes and then pulled away. There have been several similar incidents previously reported in this area; however, on previous occasions a policeman would sit on the bow and play with a fragmentation grenade while cruising alongside the LCPL on patrol.

Unit THREE - Qui Nhon

There were three junks and 15 persons detained during October as a result of 3,582 junks being inspected. The detainments were for lack
of or improper identification, curfew violations, and no boat registration papers.

LCDR H. L. Barnes, USN, relieved LCDR W. W. Poole, Jr., USN, as Officer in Charge of Unit THREE on 16 October. LCDR Poole was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" for meritorious service as the Officer in Charge.

Sea Cobras participated in a week long operation in conjunction with a land sweep by U.S. Army elements. On 15 October the Sea Cobras' skimmer destroyed a sampan and killed two Viet Cong while in a waterborne observation post off Phuoc Mai Peninsula. On 21 October, Sea Cobras with two skimmers and PCF 74, while in a waterborne guardpost, destroyed one sampan and killed one VC and captured one wounded VC. The captured VC was taken to the Quy Nhon hospital and interrogation revealed that he was a member of the Qui Nhon City Committee and manager of the Committee Hospital. The Viet Cong killed was part of the 589th Sapper Company consisting of 16 men which manned a Vinnel Power Ship in the inner harbor of Qui Nhon on 11 July 1969.

Unit FOUR - Nha Trang

During October, there were 843 junks inspected resulting in the detention of 40 junks and 120 persons for curfew violations, no boat registration papers, and lack of or improper identification papers.

LCPF 46, while on routine patrol on 7 October, collided with a 25-foot fishing junk with 10 persons aboard. The junk sank in 50 feet of water; however, all persons were recovered without any injuries being
sustained. Stable Door EOD personnel attached flotation gear and raised the junk. It was then towed to the Cau Da pier. There was no damage to LCP: 46 and the junk had a 1x2 foot hole in the part bow. The junk's engine was restored to operating condition the next day by IUWG personnel.

On 16 October, the cargo vessel KIN WAH, under Panamanian registry, was mined and sunk in the Nha Trang Harbor. She had arrived in Nha Trang on 11 October and was assigned anchorage A-2 by the Harbor Entrance Control Post. She was informed of measures employed by harbor defense for protection of shipping from swimmers/sappers and recommended certain procedures for self protection, including waterline and anchor chain lighting and the posting of sentries. During her stay it was noted that her lighting was insufficient and only one sentry was assigned to patrol the entire ship. Approximately 45 minutes prior to her sinking, Unit FOUR EOD personnel made an inspection of the KIN WAH, including sides and anchor chain. A subsequent investigation concluded that the Inshore Undersea Warfare Group ONE, WestPac Detachment, Unit FOUR had done everything possible to prevent swimmer/sapper attacks.

During the period 24-29 October, Unit FOUR personnel conducted visits to Vung Me, Hon Mot and Yung Ngam villages where foodstuffs and PSYOPS literature were handed out. U.S. Army personnel, Nurses and Unit FOUR personnel assisted by an interpreter conducted MEDCAPS on the visits. The villages reported no enemy contact.

On 23 October, at the request of the U.S. Army 18th Quartermaster Terminal, Stable Door EOD personnel were attacking a marker buoy to an
underwater pipe line at the POL anchorage when they received 10 rounds of semi-automatic small arms fire from the U.S. Army Port Security personnel aboard the powership TAMALPIA. There were no personnel as material casualties. The security guard stated that the standing orders required that warning shots be fired at boats and personnel not clear of all buoys. The outpost commander was notified and an agreement was reached whereas Unit FOUR will notify the outpost commander's office and port security office prior to any approaches to the vicinity of the powerships by Unit FOUR boats.

Unit FOUR provided a waterborne blocking force for a two week Republic of Korea Infantry sweep which commenced on 10 October. On 27 October, Recondos swept Hon Mot Island and discovered parts of a tail assembly of a U.S. 750 pound bomb. It was believed that the explosives used to mine the KIN WAH on 16 October were obtained from this bomb.
FBR's On River Patrol
RIVER PATROL FORCE SUMMARY

The command missions of the River Patrol Force of Operation Game Warden are to maintain naval superiority on the inland waterways and contingency waters; interdict the enemy's com-communication routes; conduct coordinated counter-infiltration operations in coastal and inland waterways of III and IV Corps Tactical Zones; conduct operations to open and pacify assigned riverine areas; conduct coordinated and combined offensive operations in conjunction with friendly forces; and to destroy enemy forces, base areas and logistics systems by riverine and coastal assault/raiding operations. The River Patrol Force is composed of River Patrol Boats (PBR's), Light Helicopter Fire Teams (LHFT's), Fixed Wing Tactical Aircraft OV-10A (Black Pony), Mine Countermeasure Craft, Support LST's, SEAL Team Detachments, and various support craft. The River Patrol Force is currently organized into four River Patrol Groups; they are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designator</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Headquarters Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Task Group 116.1</td>
<td>Lower Bassac Patrol Group</td>
<td>Binh Thuy</td>
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<td>Task Group 116.3</td>
<td>Central Delta Patrol Group</td>
<td>My Tho</td>
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<td>Upper Delta Patrol Group</td>
<td>YRBK-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task Group 116.9</td>
<td>Rung Sat Special Zone Patrol Group</td>
<td>Nha Be</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additionally, River Divisions are assigned Sea Lords Interdiction Operations under the operational control of designated Sea Lords Commanders. River Division 521 and River Division 543 are assigned operational control of Command Task Force Clearwater in I Corps Tactical Zone.

The River Patrol Force's resources and population control activities throughout the Delta and the Rung Sat Special Zone. A majority of PBR's
(140 out of 160) were engaged in the support of Sea Lords campaigns
Giant Slingshot, Barrier Reef, and the newly activated Ready Deck (which
was transferred from Task Force 116 to Task Force 194 during the middle
of October). River Division 593 was rotated to Phu Cuong to assume
Command Task Unit 194.6.2's Operation Ready Deck and River Division 571
returned to Nha Be to assume command Task Unit 116.9.1. Noteworthy is
the fact that 49 PBR's were turned over to the Republic of Vietnamese Navy
as part of the ACTOV Program (Accelerated Turnover Program) at the Saigon
shipyard 10 October. Thirty of these PBR's were from River Division 533,
534, 591 (which were disestablished that date). Ten boats belonged to
former River Division 574 and the remaining nine were drawn from River
Divisions of River Patrol Flotilla FIVE.

In a continuing effort to keep pressure on the enemy in the T-10
area, Rung Sat Special Zone and Doung Island complex, cordon and search
operations were used against individuals providing Viet Cong support in
three areas. Task Group 116.9 conducted night patrols which supported
small units operations or provided waterborne guardpots in the area. The
Rung Sat Special Zone Regional Forces conducted daily sweeps along the
Long Tau shipping channel as directed by their respective district chiefs.
SKAL Teams of Task Group 116.9 conducted operations based upon intelligence
reports within the Rung Sat Special Zone and the adjacent areas of Phuoc
Tuy, Hon Trach, and Long An with the support of 116.9 Task Group PBR's,
LHPT's, GV-10A's, and Provincial Reconnaissance Units.
Operation Wolf Pack was activated 9 October to conduct extensive sweeps of the Rung Sat Special Zone. The operation contained combined forces of United States Navy, Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, and Free World Military Armed Forces was composed of 18 ASPB's/PBR's, one CCB, and Navy SEAL Teams for the Naval forces; units of the 6th Army of the Republic of Vietnam; and units of the Republic of Thailand Armed Forces.

Operation Game Warden aircraft assets at the end of October were 31 UH-1B helicopters deployed as follows: Detachment ONE (two helos) aboard the USS TERREL COUNTY (LST 1157) supporting Task Force 115 in Operation Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III in the Lower Cau Mau Peninsula; Detachment TWO (four helos) at Nha Be; Detachment THREE (two helos) aboard USS JENNINGS COUNTY (LST 846) in an area five miles south-southwest of Ha Tien; Detachment THREE is attached to 194.4 Task Group; Detachment FOUR (two helos) at Ben Luc; Detachment FIVE (two helos) aboard IRBM-16 on the Upper Bassac River southeast of Chau Pho (Chau Doc); Detachment SIX (two helos) aboard USS GARRETT COUNTY (LST 748) in the lower Cau Mau Peninsula area; Detachment EIGHT (two helos) aboard USS HARMETT COUNTY (LST 821) approximately 10 miles west of Bach Gia; Detachment NINE (two helos) aboard IRBM-21 located approximately three miles northwest of An Long; and a maintenance pool of 11 helicopters at Binh Thuy. The 13 OV-1OA's (Black Pony) aircraft were deployed as follow: Detachment A (five planes) at VNAF, Binh Thuy; Detachment B (five planes) at Vung Tau; and a maintenance pool of three aircraft at Binh Thuy. The aircraft (OV-1OA) accounted for over 1322.1 flight hours in combat missions in addition
to their normal surveillance patrols. A breakdown of these missions follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UH-1B</th>
<th>OV-10A</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preplanned Strikes</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Strikes</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Targets of Opportunity</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Missions</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PBR patrols conducted in the execution of Game Warden resources and population control, consisting of two boat patrols were 3,021. Detections, inspections, and boardings were 100,983, 40,864, 31,331 respectively.

Clearwater Operations

Task Force Clearwater was established February of 1968 with the primary mission of maintaining the security of the Cua Viet River and the Perfume River in I Corps Tactical Zone. Because of the necessity of restricting enemy movements and interdicting enemy infiltration routes as near the DMZ as possible, it is important to maintain a responsive, capable security force on the Cua Viet and Perfume Rivers. Insuring the safe movement and protection of LCU's (landing craft utility) and LCM's (landing craft mechanized) through the inland waterways to the Hue ramps is another function of Task Force Clearwater. During the month of October Clearwater assets were a total of 20 PBR's. Ten PBR's each were assigned to River Division 521 and River Division 543.
Clearwater Operations were hampered during the first part of October due to flood conditions in the Cua Viet and Perfume Rivers. As a result of almost a week of rain (3 October to 7 October) in I Corps Tactical Zone all lowlands experienced flooding. On 7 October the Cua Viet River was about three feet above the high water level and currents of approximately seven knots were common in the main channel. On 8 October the water level in the Perfume River was approximately ten feet above the high water mark. Clearwater PBR daytime patrols were held during the period of high water but nighttime patrols were secured due to difficulties in navigation as most river banks and navigational aids were submerged. By 10 October the flood conditions in Cua Viet and Perfume Rivers had started to recede and routine operational patrols were resumed.

Clearwater Operations during the month of October involved resource and population control, daily chain drag sweeps of the Cua Viet and Perfume Rivers, canal incursions for waterborne traffic inspection, distribution of Psyops material, and Medcaps (see Psychological Operations and Civic Action Summary for detailed Psyops and Medcap missions). Clearwater River Patrol Units inspected 28,627 personnel and detained 22 persons who were inspected of being Viet Cong during the month of October.

Game Warden PBR, UH-1B, and OV-10A Operations

Two OV-10A's of Task Unit 116.4.8 placed a strike on the location of three camouflaged sampans four miles east of Giang Thanh (VS 625 267)
in the early morning hours of 1 October. Light small arms fire was received at the scene of the action. The OV-10A strike resulted in three sampans destroyed. Enemy personnel casualties were listed as six probably killed. There were no U.S. casualties.

On the early morning of 3 October PBR 755 and PBR 841 inserted two members of the Rung Sat Special Zone Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team, two members of the Rung Sat Special Zone Intelligence Squad, one informer, and ten members of Regional Forces Company 117 into an area 8.5 miles southeast of Can Giuoc (XS 965 662). At 1200H the group discovered an arms cache containing three 81mm mortar rounds, three 57mm R/R rounds, two 2.75 rocket heads, and one conical water mine. The Rung Sat Special Zone Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team destroyed all of the aforementioned items. Continuing the sweep the ground forces discovered an old Viet Cong base camp consisting of six old bunkers and six destroyed hooches. There was no contact with the enemy during their sweep. The PBR’s extracted the group at 1345H. PBR 775 and PBR 841 reinserted their groups in the vicinity of XS 984 665 at 1400H and discovered one dud 500 pound U.S. bomb which the EOD Team destroyed. PBR 775 and PBR 841 extracted the team at 1445. There were no friendly or enemy casualties during the operation.

While positioned as a waterborne guardpost seven miles northwest of Phu Cuong (XS 773 204) on the morning of 8 October, PBR 78 and PBR 133 detected a sampan entering the Saigon River from the Bach Tong The (JS 733 202) heading north. The sampan contained four Viet Cong.
PBR 78 opened fire on the sampan at 50 meters and PBR 135 came to assist. Neither PBR received return fire. Four Viet Cong were killed. The sampan was discovered to contain one AK-47 with magazine, 20 packages of cigarettes, 20 packages of cocoa (U.S. issue), ten cans of macheral, four cans of milk, eight flashlight batteries, and many other supply items. The sampan was destroyed and the captured items were retained. There were no U.S. casualties.

Black Pony (OV-10A) 104 and Black Pony 107 were on patrol cleared by CTG 194.9 on the evening of 11 October 10 miles east of Moc Hoa (WS 885 945) to place a strike on an evading sampan. The results of the strike were one sampan destroyed and four enemy personnel probably killed.

Black Pony 106 and Black Pony 113 were scrambled to place strikes on structures 12 miles east of Soc Trang on the Doang Island Complex (XR 275 676 and XR 003 744) on the afternoon of 15 October. Intelligence sources indicated that there was a high level VC meeting taking place. The exact position for which the strike was to be made was given by a unit of CTF 116 who was taking enemy ground fire at the time of the strike. Black Pony 106 and Black Pony 113's strike consisting of 24-5" rockets, 19-2.75" rockets, 350-20mm rounds, and 3500-7.62mm rounds silenced the ground fire and destroyed four structures, damaged seven structures and left one structure burning. Thirty enemy personnel were killed in the strike.

Black Pony 106 and Black Pony 101 were scrambled to place strikes on the Doang Island Complex (XR 292 683, XR 297 687) between 1415H and 1425H on 17 October. Friendly units in the area were reported to have received
ground fire from this area. All ordnance was directed against the targets and 10 bunkers were destroyed and 20 enemy personnel were killed.

On a routine patrol flight during the night of 23 October, Black Pony 102 and Black Pony 115 of task unit 116.4.8 placed strikes on eleven sampans which were attacking a friendly waterborne guard post approximately five miles west of Vinh Cia (V3 730 630). Black Pony strikes were countered by small arms fire from the enemy sampans. Due to low fuel, Black Pony 102 and Black Pony 115 were relieved by Black Pony 03 and Black Pony 06 who continued making strikes upon the enemy positions. The results of the encounter were eleven sampans destroyed and thirty three enemy personnel probably killed. There were no reported friendly casualties suffered during the encounter.

On a Game Warden patrol cleared by Command Task Group 194.9 to place strikes on a position on the banks of the Rach Cai Rang (WS 888 954) approximately three miles south-southwest of the Cambodian Border. Black Pony 112 and Black Pony 105 engaged the enemy on the night of 25 October. An estimated 20 to 50 enemy personnel troops were positioned in the area and were engaging units of CTU 194.9.6 in a firefight. The strikes were placed and the enemy fire was temporarily silenced by the LAFT's (light attack fire team OV-10A's) rocket and machine gun fire. The Black Ponies returned to their base and were relieved by LHFT (light helicopter fire team UH-1B). The LHFT received automatic weapons fire and the LAFT were scrambled to their aid. Combined LAFT and LHFT strikes silenced the enemy fire. The casualties were reported as eight enemy personnel probably killed. There were no reported friendly casualties.
Acting upon intelligence reports of a high level Viet Cong meeting, five SEAL's of Detachment ALFA, 9th Platoon, Squad A, CTU 116.9.6 and six PRU personnel (Provincial Reconnaissance Unit) departed Nha Be by Slick (helicopter UH-1B) on the morning of 11 October. The SEAL team and the PRU were inserted by Slick in an area approximately 7 1/2 miles southwest of Nha Be (XS 877 685) and set up a trail guardpost. At 1500H the six PRU personnel conducted a false extraction by Slick leaving the five SEAL personnel in their guardpost position. At 1800H the SEAL squad took the Viet Cong under fire and immediately received automatic weapons return fire from several positions. The SEAL squad called a Navy LHPT (light helicopter fire team) to place strikes upon the enemy automatic weapons positions. One wounded Viet Cong was captured by the SEAL squad and medevaced, another Viet Cong was killed. Enemy activity continued to threaten the SEAL squad and another LHPT strike was called. The SEAL squad was extracted by Slick (UH-1B) at 1900H and artillery strikes were placed in the area by the 46th Army Republic of Vietnam. Because of the outstanding manner in which the SEAL team pursued the operation, LCDR D. D. ELLIS (squad leader) was awarded the Bronze Star; GMGI F. F. THORNTON was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal; and petty officer K. E. CYRUS was awarded the Navy Commendation with Combat "V" award. There were no friendly casualties during the engagement.

SEAL Team Detachment ALFA, Squads A and B departed Nha Be by LSSC (light surface craft) at 2400H on 12 October. The detachment set a canal guardpost on the Rach Ong Keo (YS 037 792) 6 1/2 miles east of Nha Be. At
0530H two Viet Cong in a sampan traveling west toward Rach Ong Kao passed in front of the detachment's waterborne guardpost position. The SEAL detachment took the sampan under fire and a LCM (landing craft mechanized) placed 106mm recoilless rifle and 81mm fire into the surrounding river banks. The SEAL's requested a LHPT which placed intensified strikes into the area. There were two Viet Cong killed in the encounter. The SEAL's captured one M-16 (U.S.), one RPG (rocket propelled grenade), four B-40 rockets, four initiators, two kilos of documents, two flashlights, two sets of web gear, and twenty pounds of clothing. There were no friendly casualties.

In reaction to PRU (Provincial Reconnaissance Unit) intelligence, SEAL Team Detachment ALFA was inserted by Slick two miles southeast of Can Giuoc (XS 871 689) on the afternoon of 16 October. The detachment engaged in searching structures which were reported to be Viet Cong frequented. At 1830H the SEAL Detachment took four VC under fire who were moving across a rice field from east to west. The detachment called in a LHPT to place strikes on the detected enemy position. At 1900H the SEAL's extracted by Slick. The operation accounted for one Viet Cong killed and one AK-47 and one kilo of personal clothing being captured.

In Bien Hoa Province, approximately eight and one half miles east of Nha Be (XS 055 785) SEAL team, Detachment GOLF, BRAVO Squad, of CTE 116.9.7.1 and one interpreter observed two sampans being beached by a number of Viet Cong personnel in the pre-dusk hours of 25 October. The SEAL team engaged an unknown enemy force in a firefight and called in a LCPL (landing craft, personnel large) and UH-1B's to saturate the area.
with strikes. The team extracted at 0500 by LCPL and were reinserted by LCPL at 0630 to re-check the area and to destroy the sampans which had been observed being beached earlier. The team discovered one bunker in the immediate area of insertion and destroyed it. The enemy casualties are unknown. The team returned to Nha Be and suffered no casualties.

On the morning of 27 October, SEAL Detachment ALFA, 9th Platoon of Can Giuoc (XS 885 628). The detachment was searching four suspected Viet Cong frequented houses when they captured one local Viet Cong guerrilla. The detachment extracted at 1015H and returned to Nha Be. There were no friendly casualties during the operation.

At a point eight miles east of Nha Be (YS 067 788) in Bien Hoa Province, on the evening of 27 October, SEAL Team Detachment ALFA, 9th Platoon, Squad A, of CTU 116.9.6 observed a sampan with five Viet Cong leave a small canal on the east bank at YS 066 787 and enter the main canal proceeding north toward the detachment's guardpost. The SEAL's took the Viet Cong under fire and called in a Navy LHFT to place strikes on the west bank of the canal. After the strike had been completed, the detachment called in an LCM and conducted a false extraction while remaining in a "stay-behind" guardpost. At 1935H the detachment heard shots being directed toward their position. At 1945 the detachment heard a Viet Cong on the west bank of the canal directly across from their guardpost. The detachment took the Viet Cong under fire and requested another Navy LHFT who placed strikes on the west bank along
Protection of international merchant shipping bound to and from Saigon is the responsibility of RIVDIV 593 PBR's when they are assigned to the Rung Sat Special Zone. Ships travelling the Long Tau River are frequently subjected to enemy rockets and mining activity.
with a LCM who provided illumination and placed 81mm mortar and 106mm recoilless strikes. After the strikes were completed, the SEAL detachmen searched the area and uncovered five Viet Cong who had been killed. The detachment was extracted by LSSC at 2100H and returned to Nha Be. There were no friendly casualties.

**Enemy Mining/Harassment/Attacks on Merchant Shipping**

There were no reported incidents of enemy harassment/attack on Allied shipping on the Long Tau shipping channel during the month of October.
### USN Statistical Summary

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Detections</td>
<td>47,581</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspections</td>
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<td>Boardings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craft detained</td>
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<tr>
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<td>32</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>a. Killed</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Wounded</td>
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<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Captured</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Captured</td>
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<td>195</td>
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<td>(4) Rice (tons)</td>
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Remarks: * Information not available or not applicable

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**GROUP 4**
Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years

Enclosure
CONFIDENTIAL
NAVAL ADVISORY GROUP SUMMARY
Vietnamese Navy

Fleet Command

Fleet Command units patrolled 21 Market Time stations in October. This was an increase of one station, 7C, which was filled by the VNN WPB's in the Third Coastal Zone. Operating in all four Coastal Zones, the Fleet Command ships, including the PCF's and WPB's, searched 14,927 people and 4,124 junks in October. No detainments were reported by the Fleet Command. The search and detainment figures of the Fleet Command were only slightly higher than those reported in September.

In the RSSZ, at Sea Float, in Operation Tran Hung Dao, and on the major rivers in the Third and Fourth Corps Tactical Zone, the Fleet Command ships were employed in river patrols, PSYOPS missions, NGFS, and escort duties.

During an escort operation from Tan Chau to Vung Tau on 6 October, the LSIL 229 was the target of enemy recoilless rifles and automatic weapons. This was the second time in as many weeks that merchant convoys had come under enemy attack from the same approximate location eight miles east southeast of My Tho on the My Tho River (XS 357 4C1). In this antenna and signal halyards. The LSSL expended over 5000 rounds of .30 cal., .50 cal., 20mm, 40mm and 81mm ammunition in the process of silencing the enemy positions.

On the afternoon of 10 October the LSSL 229 returned to this enemy ambush site and expended another 660 rounds of various calibers ammunition.
A Vietnamese crew fires the 40mm gun on the bow of the Vietnamese Navy ship Long-Dao (LSIL-327). The target is a Viet Cong stronghold in the Rung Sat Special Zone southeast of Saigon.
as a planned H and I mission. The total number of NGFS missions that all Fleet Command ships fired in October was 52.

**River Patrol Groups**

With the christening of TF 212 on 10 October, the size of the VVN PBh force increased to 83 boats. At the conclusion of the ceremony, RPG 51 returned to its home at Cat Lai and resumed operations on the upper Dong Nai River. The RPG 52 transited to its home base of Nha Be and reinstated the regular river patrols on the Long Tau shipping channel and the associated operations in the RSSZ.

Arriving at Ben Luc on the afternoon of fourteen October, RPG 53 conducted training at its new home base until 24 October when it detached ten boats to Tan An for introduction and relief of the tactical area that extended from Tan An northwest on the Vam Co Tay to a position (XS 390 775) five miles east of Tuyen Nhon from River Division 573. The remaining units of RPG 53 assumed the responsibility for the section of the Vam Co Dong that runs from Ben Luc northwest to a point four miles southeast of Tra Gu (XS 935 930). Ten PBR’s of RPG 54 officially commenced operations on the Vinh Te Canal of the Tran Hung Dao I area of operation on 24 October. Chau Doc is presently serving as their base. The other ten PBR’s of RPG 54 have been assigned operations on the major rivers adjacent to the city of My Tho and on the Cho Gao Canal.

**Coastal Junk Forces**

The October coastal surveillance figures of the Coastal Junk Forces were somewhat lower than those reported in September. The inclenent
weather that was experienced by the 1st Coastal Zone forces was reflected in the substantial reduction in their statistics. This in turn affected the overall lower figures. The totals for the entire Coastal Junk Force in October were 48,564 junks and 182,747 people searched; 78 junks and 311 people detained.

First Coastal Zone

As in the past months, activity in the First Coastal Zone has centered around the operations of RAG 32 and CG 14 in the Cua Dai River basin. Four male Hoi Chanh were received by units of RAG 32 on 15 October five miles almost due south of Hoi An (§1 176 543). Lack of food and medical supplies and the knowledge that it was easy to rally to the boats were the reasons they stated for abdicating to the GVN. RAG 32 had significant action again on the evening of 20 October. A RAG 32 waterborne guardpost engaged a sampan that was attempting to cross the Cua Dai River (ET 105 557). Two VC were killed during the action, and one AK-47 and four hand grenades were recovered from the sampan. (See summary of CTG 115.1 in Coastal Surveillance Summary for discussion of incident surrounding the grounding of a CG 14 junk on 25 October.)

Second Coastal Zone

An extensive PSYOPS campaign implemented by the Second Coastal Zone coastal forces dominated their operations conducted during October. The continued low level of enemy activity was reflected in the infrequency of contact with the enemy by the coastal junk forces. A typical operation involved two platoons and two junks of CG 21 near the CG 21 base