160145 — Two suspected 122mm rocket rounds impacted in southeastern Saigon in the 9th Precinct. One of the rounds landed in the Saigon river. One Vietnamese guard was slightly injured. Counter-rocket artillery fire was directed onto suspected enemy launching sites with unknown results. No damage was reported from the enemy rockets.

HQ MACV — During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 50 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, 29 of which were against U.S. units or installations. Seventeen of the 50 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were 23 wounded, with no fatalities.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE) — At 0845 an element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), seven miles south of Katum, engaged an unknown size North Vietnamese Army force in an exchange of small arms and automatic weapons fire. U.S. Army artillery, helicopter gunships, and USAF tactical aircraft supported the troopers. At 1230, the enemy withdrew, leaving 25 of his dead and two individual weapons. U.S. casualties were one killed, and three wounded.

OPERATION IRON MOUNTAIN (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) — At 1100 an element of the 11th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 10 miles WSW of Duc Pho (95 miles SSE of Da Nang) engaged in an exchange of small arms and automatic weapons fire with an unknown size enemy force. A short while later, the enemy withdrew, leaving five of his dead. U.S. casualties were two wounded. In a sweep of the area, an additional 12 enemy bodies were found. All had been killed by air strikes, seven since yesterday.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) — At 0120 a landing zone of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, and elements of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division six miles south of Hoi An (20 miles SSE of Da Nang) received about ten rounds of an unknown type of mortar fire, followed by a ground probe by an unknown size enemy force. The troopers fought back with unit weapons, and the remaining enemy withdrew at 0230, leaving behind seven bodies. U.S. casualties were eight wounded, no fatalities.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE) — At 0245 a landing zone of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) four miles NW of An Loc (65 miles north of Saigon) received an unknown number of rounds of an unknown type of indirect fire, followed by a ground attack by an estimated enemy battalion. The troopers fired back with unit weapons, and were supported by U.S. Army artillery and helicopter gunships. The enemy withdrew at 0420. A sweep of the battlefield at first light revealed ten enemy bodies, three individual weapons and two crew-served weapons. Also captured were 25 B-40 rounds, 16 CHICOM grenades, and three bangalore torpedoes. U.S. casualties were five wounded with no fatalities.

III MAF (DMZ) — At 0740 a U.S. aerial observer reconnoitering the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone directed U.S. Army artillery fire onto two enemy soldiers and a bunker complex he had sighted six miles WSW of Con Thien (105 miles NW of Da Nang) and one-half mile inside the southern edge of the DMZ. The observer reported two secondary explosions and the destruction of two bunkers. Enemy losses are unknown. No U.S. casualties.
- HQ MACV — Another unit, of 524 men, departed the Republic of Vietnam today. The 1st Battalion, 84th Artillery, departed Bien Hoa for Hawaii for deactivation at Schofield Barracks.

- SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 466 sorties (USAF 282, USMC 158, and USN 26), killing seven enemy soldiers, triggering 45 secondary explosions, and igniting 48 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 265 fortifications, 294 bunkers, and five enemy sampans.

- B-52s flew 6 missions: 8 and 9 miles NW of Loc Minh; 4 miles SSE of Katum; 25 miles WSW of Katum; 6 miles east of Katum; 8 miles south of Katum;

17 August (Sunday)

- HQ MACV — During the night, 10 significant indirect fire harassing attacks were reported throughout the country, seven of which were against U.S. units or installations. Twenty-two other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no damage or casualties. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

III MAF:

161925 — THUA THIEN PROVINCE — A base camp of Hq 1st Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division five miles SE of Hue (45 miles NW of Da Nang) received about five rounds of 122mm rocket fire. Light casualties and damage.

161835 — QUANG NAM PROVINCE — An element of the 5th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division in night defense 21 miles SW of Da Nang received about 10 rounds of 122mm rocket fire. U.S. casualties were light, no fatalities or damage.

161930 — QUANG NAM PROVINCE — The same element of the 5th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, received less than five rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

161935 — QUANG NAM PROVINCE — An element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, in night defense 11 miles SSW of Da Nang received about 10 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

161916 — QUANG NGAI PROVINCE — An element of the 11th Brigade, AMERICAN Division, in night defense 23 miles SSW of Quang Ngai City (95 miles SSE of Da Nang) received about 60 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. No casualties or damage.

II FFV:

170300 — BINH DUONG PROVINCE — A fire support base of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division, six miles SE of Dau Tieng (35 miles NW of Saigon) received less than 10 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage or fatalities.

170629 — HAU NGHIA PROVINCE — The base camp of Hq U.S. 25th Infantry Division at Cu Chi (18 miles NW of Saigon) received less than five rounds of 107mm rocket fire. Light damage, no casualties.
- **HQ MACV** -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 39 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, 23 of which were against U.S. units or installations. Nine of the 39 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were two killed and 29 wounded.

- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE)** -- Two events occurred, both of which were close in proximity and time:

  1. At 2200, helicopter gunships of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division detected an unknown size enemy force four miles NW of Phu Cuong (19 miles NW of Saigon). The area was illuminated with searchlights on the helicopters and an estimated 50 to 70 enemy soldiers were observed. The helicopters engaged them with machinegun and rocket fire, killing 33. No U.S. casualties.

  2. Earlier in the evening, at 2040, U.S. Navy River Patrol Boats (PERs) contacted and engaged an estimated 50 to 60 enemy soldiers near the Saigon River in the same general area, three miles NW of Phu Cuong (18 miles NNW of Saigon). The enemy employed heavy automatic weapons fire, and rocket-propelled grenades. The PER crews returned fire with unit weapons, and were supported by helicopter gunships, artillery, and USAF AC-47 and AC-119 gunships. At 2210, the enemy withdrew, leaving eight of his dead. No U.S. casualties.

- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE)** -- At 1640 helicopter gunships of the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) sighted and attacked seven enemy soldiers nine miles north of Loc Ninh (83 miles north of Saigon), killing all of them with machinegun and rocket fire. No U.S. casualties.

- **III MAF (QUANG TRI PROVINCE)** -- At 1700 an element of the 3rd Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division, observed 30 to 40 enemy soldiers two miles north of the Rock Pile (105 miles NW of Da Nang) and three miles south of the Demilitarized Zone. An aerial observer spotted another seven enemy soldiers in the same area. Marine mortar fire, and artillery and tactical aircraft were directed onto the enemy location, killing 11 of them. No U.S. casualties.

- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE)** -- At 1430 an element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), 10 miles NE of Phu Khuong (60 miles NNW of Saigon), engaged an unknown number of enemy in a fire fight. The troopers fired unit weapons, and were supported by helicopter gunships, artillery, and USAF tactical aircraft. The enemy returned fire with automatic weapons, and were supported by 60mm mortars. At 1630, the enemy withdrew, leaving nine of his dead and three individual weapons in the area. U.S. casualties were one killed and two wounded.

- **III MAF (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE)** -- At 0730 a U.S. Army Engineer element, on a road-clearing sweep along Highway One, was ambushed by an estimated enemy company 12 miles SSE of Duc Pho (115 miles SE of Da Nang). The convoy security elements, armored self-propelled vehicles with 40mm automatic weapons, returned fire, and were supported by artillery. At an unreported time, an element of the 11th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, reinforced the troops in contact and engaged the enemy. At an unreported time, the enemy withdrew, leaving 11 bodies in the battle area. In addition, one crew-served and six individual weapons were captured. U.S. casualties were 21 wounded, no fatalities.
- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE)** — At 0820 helicopter crewmen of the air cavalry squadron of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) sighted an unknown number of enemy soldiers 10 miles NNW of Loc Ninh (80 miles north of Saigon) and two miles from the Cambodian border. U.S. Army artillery fire directed onto the location killed eight of them. No U.S. casualties.

- **OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** — At 1645 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, engaged in an exchange of small arms and automatic weapons fire with an estimated enemy company 17 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles south of Da Nang). The enemy withdrew at 1915, leaving behind five bodies. U.S. casualties were one killed and five wounded.

- **I FFV (BINH DINH PROVINCE)** — At 1240 an air cavalry element of the U.S. 4th Infantry Division directed USAF tactical aircraft and U.S. Army helicopter gunships onto an unknown size enemy force observed 17 miles NNW of Bong Son (310 miles NNE of Saigon). Eleven enemy dead were counted after the strike. No U.S. casualties.

- **OPERATION LAMAR PLAIN (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** — terminated 13 August, and it was announced today. A multi-battalion search and clear operation, it involved elements of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), under the operational control of the AMERICAL Division, and was centered in an area 10 miles SW of Tam Ky (45 miles SSE of Da Nang). Elements of the North Vietnamese Army 2nd Division were contacted during the three-month period. Enemy losses were 524 killed, and 256 individual and 62 crew-served weapons captured. U.S. casualties were 105 killed and 332 wounded, of whom 297 were evacuated. The operation, which began 16 May, was supported by 1,342 tactical air strikes.

- **OPERATION KENTUCKY JUMPER (THUA THIEN PROVINCE)** — It was announced today that this operation terminated 14 August. A multi-battalion search and clear operation involving elements of the 101st Airborne Division, the operation began 1 March and was centered in an area 13 miles SW of Hue (50 miles WNW of Da Nang). Enemy losses were 317 killed, and 55 crew-served and 254 individual weapons captured. U.S. casualties were 61 killed and 409 wounded, of whom 355 were evacuated.

- **HQ MACV** — It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that four 9th Infantry Division units will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow from Bien Hoa. The four are: Hq and Hq Battery, Division Artillery; the 9th Medical Battalion; the 9th Military Intelligence Detachment; and the 584th Military Intelligence Detachment. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release).

- **SVN TAC AIR**: U.S. pilots flew 423 sorties (USAF 251, USMC 133, and USN 39), killing 33 enemy soldiers, triggering 55 secondary explosions, and igniting 68 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 346 fortifications, 402 bunkers, and 17 enemy sampans.

- An Army OH-6 light observation helicopter was downed by enemy ground fire two miles west of Song Mao in Binh Thuan Province, wounding two men aboard and destroying the aircraft.
An Army OH-6 light observation helicopter was downed by enemy ground fire 27 miles SSW of Hue in Thua Thien Province, killing two men aboard, and destroying the aircraft.

An Army OH-6 light observation helicopter was downed by enemy ground fire three miles NW of Phu Cuong in Binh Duong Province, wounding one man aboard and destroying the aircraft.

B-52s flew 10 missions: 8 miles SSE of Katum; 16 miles north of Song Be; 15, 16, and 17 miles NNE of Song Be; 17 and 18 miles north of Song Be; 19 and 20 miles NNE of Song Be.

18 August (Monday)

HQ MACV — During the night, four significant indirect fire harassing attacks were reported throughout the country, one of which was against a U.S. unit. Fourteen other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no damage or casualties. The following significant attack was against U.S. forces:

II FFV:

172325 — BINH LONG PROVINCE — A landing zone of the air cavalry squadron of the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) four miles NW of An Loc (65 miles north of Saigon) received about 30 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage.

HQ MACV — During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 24 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country. Ten of these attacks were against U.S. units or installations. Five of the 24 attacks caused damage or casualties. U.S. casualties were 3 killed and 6 wounded.

OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — Two events occurred, both close in proximity and time, and involving the same unit:

1. At 1145 an element of the 196th Brigade, Americal Division, 18 miles west of Tam Ky (33 miles south of Da Nang), engaged in an exchange of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire with an unknown size enemy force. As fighting continued into the afternoon, helicopter gunships, tactical aircraft and an Air Force AC-47 gunship supported the infantrymen. At 2000, the enemy withdrew, leaving 97 of his dead in the battle area. U.S. casualties were six killed and 21 wounded.

2. During the above action, at 1335 in the same general area (23 miles NW of Tam Ky), 30 miles south of Da Nang, another element of the brigade also engaged an unknown size enemy force. Heavy fighting continued throughout the afternoon and into the night. Again the troopers were supported by helicopter gunships, tactical aircraft, and a USAF AC-47 gunship. At 2105 the enemy withdrew, leaving 91 bodies in the battle area. U.S. casualties were nine killed and 27 wounded.

Cumulative results for the two engagements were 188 enemy killed. U.S. casualties were 13 killed and 48 wounded.
- III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 2130 an element of the 5th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, sighted and engaged 25 enemy soldiers moving towards the southeast in an area 10 miles SE of Hoi An (15 miles south of Da Nang). The Marines and the enemy soldiers exchanged small arms and automatic weapons fire until the enemy withdrew, at an unreported time. The bodies of nine enemy soldiers were found in the battle area. U.S. casualties were 5 wounded.

- III MAF (QUANG TRI PROVINCE) -- At 1855 an element of the 3rd Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division, observed 37 North Vietnamese Army soldiers moving toward an ambush site prepared by another element of the unit three miles north of the Rockpile (105 miles northwest of Da Nang) and two mile south of the Demilitarized Zone. The Marines at the ambush site were alerted and ambushed the enemy force, killing 10 NVA soldiers. The remaining enemy fled. One Marine was wounded.

- CMAC (GIA DINH PROVINCE) -- At 1855 a USAF RF-4C aircraft crashed on takeoff six miles NW of Tan Son Nhut Air Base due to unknown causes. Both crewmembers successfully ejected and were recovered with minor abrasions. The aircraft impacted in a populated area, killing two Vietnamese civilians, injuring six others, and destroying two civilian homes. The injured were evacuated to the 3rd Field Hospital by U.S. Army medical evacuation helicopters, and were later taken to the Cong Hoa Hospital in Saigon. Troopers of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 82nd Airborne Division were in the crash area and gave medical aid and assistance. The aircraft was destroyed. The incident is being investigated.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE) -- At 1520 an element of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, in tanks and armored personnel carriers, engaged an unknown number of enemy soldiers four miles north of Loc Ninh (80 miles north of Saigon) and five miles from the Cambodian border. Automatic weapons fire was exchanged, and the troopers directed artillery fire onto the enemy positions. About ten minutes later, the enemy withdrew, leaving five of his dead, three rocket-propelled grenades, and one AK-47 assault rifle. No U.S. casualties.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (LONG AN PROVINCE) -- At 1540 helicopter crewmen of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 9th Infantry Division, four miles south of Ben Luc (20 miles south of Saigon), sighted and attacked ten enemy soldiers with aerial machine-gun fire, killing eight of them. Three individual weapons were also captured in a later sweep of the area. No U.S. casualties.

- I FFV (BINH DINH PROVINCE) -- At 1515 helicopter crewmen from an air cavalry element of the U.S. 4th Infantry Division, 18 miles NW of An Khe (246 miles NE of Saigon), sighted and engaged an estimated enemy squad moving on a trail. Air cavalry troopers, air-assaulted in the area a short while later, found five enemy bodies, but made no contact. No U.S. casualties.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE) -- At 1735 an element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), nine miles SE of Katum (60 miles NNW of Saigon), engaged in an exchange of small arms and automatic weapons fire with seven enemy soldiers, killing all of them in about ten minutes. Six individual weapons and two 107mm rockets were captured. No U.S. casualties.
- **II FFV (BINH LONG PROVINCE)** — At 1520 the base camp of Hq 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), at a landing zone near Quan Loi (60 miles north of Saigon), received less than five rounds of 107mm rocket fire. U.S. casualties were light, no fatalities or damage.

- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (LONG KHANH PROVINCE)** — At 1355 infantrymen from the 199th Light Infantry Brigade received small arms, automatic weapons, and rocket-propelled grenade fire from an estimated two enemy platoons 12 miles NE of Xuan Loc (50 miles ENE of Saigon). The troopers returned fire with unit weapons and were supported by helicopter gunships. After a 30-minute contact, the enemy withdrew, leaving two of his dead, and one crew-served and two individual weapons. U.S. casualties were two killed and 13 wounded.

- **OPERATION MONTGOMERY RENDEZVOUS (THUA THIEN PROVINCE)** — It was announced today that this operation terminated 15 August, 1969. A multi-battalion search and clear operation, it began on 8 June and was centered in an area 28 miles NSW of Hue (70 miles WNW of Da Nang). It involved elements of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). Enemy losses were 393 killed, and 174 individual and 47 crew-served weapons captured. U.S. casualties were 87 killed and 408 wounded, of whom 373 were evacuated.

- **III MAF (DMZ)** — At 1420 a U.S. aerial observer reconnoitering the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone received small arms fire from an unknown number of enemy soldiers occupying a bunker complex two miles NE of Gio Linh (100 miles NW of Da Nang) and about 200 meters inside the southern edge of the DMZ. Tactical air strikes were directed onto the enemy location, resulting in one secondary explosion and the destruction of two bunkers. Enemy losses are unknown. No U.S. casualties.

- **HQ MACV** — It was announced today that four 9th Infantry Division units departed the Republic of Vietnam. The 181-man headquarters element of the 9th Infantry Division Artillery, the 252-man Medical Battalion and the 30-man 9th Military Intelligence Detachment departed Bien Hoa Air Base for Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, where the personnel will be processed for reassignment or discharge. The 584th Military Intelligence Detachment departed Bien Hoa Air Base for McChord AFB, Washington, where the 13-man unit will be inactivated at Fort Lewis, Washington.

- **HQ MACV** — It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that the 480-man 9th Signal Battalion of the 9th Infantry Division will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release).

- **SVN TAC AIR**: U.S. pilots flew 514 sorties (USAF 311, USMC 157, and USN 46), killing six enemy soldiers, triggering 30 secondary explosions, and igniting 64 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 240 fortifications, 490 bunkers, and 13 enemy sampans.

- An Army UH-1 helicopter was downed by enemy ground fire 59 miles WSW of Tam Ky in Quang Tin Province, destroying the aircraft. There were no casualties.

- **B-52s flew 1 mission**: 17 miles north of Phuoc Binh.
19 August (Tuesday)

HQ MACV -- During the night, nine significant indirect fire harassing attacks were reported throughout the country, seven of which were against U.S. units or installations. Fifteen other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no damage or casualties. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

III MAF:

182055 -- QUANG TIN PROVINCE -- An element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAN Division, in night defense six miles NNW of Tam Ky (32 miles SSE of Da Nang) received an unknown number of rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

190205 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- The Marble Mountain Air Facility two miles SE of Da Nang received less than ten rounds of 122mm rocket fire, one of which landed on a 1st Marine Air Wing dispensary, causing all casualties. U.S. casualties were light. There was light damage to materiel.

182220 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- The night defensive positions of an element of the 1st Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, 10 miles west of Hoi An (14 miles south of Da Nang) received less than five rounds of an unknown type mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage.

190145 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- The night defensive positions of an element of the 1st Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, 10 miles west of Hoi An (14 miles south of Da Nang) received less than five rounds of an unknown type mortar fire. Light casualties.

I FFV:

181850 -- BINH THUAN PROVINCE -- An element of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) under the operational control of Task Force South, 10 miles NE of Phan Thiet, received less than five rounds of an unknown caliber rocket fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

182359 -- BINH DINH PROVINCE -- A I FFV engineer element one mile west of Qui Nhon (270 miles NE of Saigon) received about 20 rounds of mixed unknown mortars and rockets. Light casualties, no fatalities.

II FFV:

182230 -- BINH LONG PROVINCE -- A fire support base near Loc Minh (73 miles north of Saigon) occupied by elements of the U.S. 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment received about 30 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

182020 -- HAU NGHIA PROVINCE -- A base camp of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division, nine miles ENE of Trang Bang (28 miles NW of Saigon), received about 15 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.
- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE)** — At 0945 a mechanized infantry element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division, nine miles NE of Co Dau Ha (32 miles NW of Saigon), engaged an unknown size enemy force. The enemy employed heavy small arms and automatic weapons, while the troopers returned fire with unit weapons, including the heavy machineguns on their armored personnel carriers, and were supported by helicopter gunships and artillery. U.S. Air Force F-100's and F-4's from the 3rd and 12th Tactical Fighter Wings also supported the ground elements. Fighting continued into the afternoon until 1430, when the enemy withdrew. The bodies of 23 enemy soldiers were found in the battle area, and three individual weapons were captured. U.S. casualties were five killed and three wounded.

- **III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE)** — At 0045 an element of the 1st Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, in night defense seven miles SW of Da Nang, received an unknown number and caliber mortar rounds, followed by a ground attack by an unknown size enemy force employing small arms, automatic weapons, and rocket-propelled grenades. The Marines defended with unit weapons, and at an unreported time the enemy withdrew. In a search at first light, 12 dead enemy were counted, and three individual weapons were captured. U.S. casualties were 14 wounded, no fatalities.

- **III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE)** — At 0230 an unknown size enemy sapper force attacked the headquarters area of the 5th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division at the An Hoa Combat Base, 22 miles SSW of Da Nang. The attack was preceded by about 15 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. The enemy used small arms, automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades as well as hand grenades. The Marines defended with unit weapons and were supported by helicopter gunships and a USAF AC-47 gunship. Fighting continued for two hours until 0440 when the enemy withdrew, leaving six of his dead and two individual weapons. U.S. casualties were one killed and 10 wounded. It is unknown if any enemy penetrated the perimeter; however, there was no reported materiel damage.

- **OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** — At 2240 an element of the 196th Brigade, U.S. AMERICAL Division, in night defense 18 miles west of Tam Ky (33 miles south of Da Nang) detected an unknown number of enemy moving near their perimeter, and — about ten minutes later — the unit was attacked by an unknown size enemy force using small arms and automatic weapons fire. The troopers fought back with unit weapons until an unreported time when the enemy withdrew, without having penetrated the perimeter. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were one killed and 14 wounded.

- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE)** — At 0135 the base camp of Hq 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) at a landing zone near Quan Loi (60 miles north of Saigon) received a ground probe from an unknown size enemy force using small arms and automatic weapons. The troopers fired back with unit weapons, and were supported by artillery, helicopter gunships and tanks from an element of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment collocated at the camp. At 0200, the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. During the action, a tank gun accidentally fired in the direction of friendly troops assembling near the NW perimeter to form a reaction element. The round killed nine U.S. soldiers, and wounded five more. The incident is being investigated.
III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1730 a reconnaissance element of the U.S. 1st Marine Division directed air strikes onto 35 enemy soldiers they had observed 11 miles SW of Hoi An (20 miles south of Da Nang). The Marines reported 11 enemy killed by the strikes. No U.S. casualties.

OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- Late this afternoon a U.S. Army UH-1 helicopter of the AMERICAL Division was hit by enemy ground fire. It exploded in the air, and crashed 18 miles west of Tam Ky (34 miles south of Da Nang). Apparently killed in the crash were all four crewmen and Associated Press photographer Oliver Noonan.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 0930 an element of the 7th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, observed 48 enemy soldiers near a treeline nine miles SE of An Hoa (25 miles south of Da Nang). Tactical air strikes and artillery were directed onto the enemy location and 36 dead enemy were counted in the strike area following the engagement. No U.S. casualties.

OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- At 0820 an armored cavalry element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 17 miles west of Tam Ky (34 miles south of Da Nang) engaged an enemy .50 caliber machine gun position with their unit weapons, including the heavy machine guns of their armored personnel carriers and their tank guns. The enemy gun position was silenced, and the bodies of five enemy soldiers were found. At 1000 another element of the brigade found the bodies of ten additional enemy soldiers believed to have been killed in the earlier action. No U.S. casualties.

HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 29 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, seventeen of which were against U.S. units or installations. Twelve of the 29 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were six killed and 68 wounded.

HQ MACV -- It was announced today that the 480-man 9th Signal Battalion departed Bien Hoa for Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of August. The unit's personnel will be reassigned or discharged at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

HQ MACV -- It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that major elements of the 709th Combat Support Battalion, 9th Infantry Division, will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release.)

SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 445 sorties (USAF 276, USMC 151, and USN 18), killing 6 enemy soldiers, triggering 41 secondary explosions, and igniting 72 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 228 fortifications, 458 bunkers, and 12 enemy sampans.

An Army UH-1 helicopter was downed by enemy ground fire 35 miles south of Da Nang in Quang Tin Province, destroying the aircraft, and wounding two men aboard.

20 August (Wednesday)

- HQ MACV -- During the night, seven significant indirect fire harassing attacks were reported throughout the country, of which six were against U.S. units or installations. Fifteen other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no damage or casualties. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

III MAF:

191815 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- An element of the 5th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, in night defense 20 miles SW of Da Nang received about five rounds of 122mm rocket fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

191800 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- An element of the 5th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, in night defense 21 miles SW of Da Nang received about 100 rounds of 60mm and 82mm mortar, and 122mm rocket fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

191800 -- QUANG TRI PROVINCE -- A U.S. artillery fire support base 1 mile north of Gio Linh (95 miles NW of Da Nang) and one mile south of the Demilitarized Zone received about five rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage or fatalities.

191910 -- BINH DINH PROVINCE -- An I FFV artillery element 12 miles SE of Bong Son (290 miles NE of Saigon) received less than 10 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

II FFV:

191923 -- BINH DUONG PROVINCE -- The base camp of Hq U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) received about five rounds of 122mm mortar fire. Light casualties and damage.

200250 -- TAY NINH PROVINCE -- A base camp of the U.S. 25th Infantry Division three miles west of Tay Ninh City (55 miles NW of Saigon) received less than 10 rounds of 120mm mortar fire. Light damage, no fatalities or casualties.

- HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 28 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, fourteen of which were against U.S. units or installations. Ten of the 28 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were four killed and 21 wounded.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (LONG AN PROVINCE) -- At 1100 elements of the 3rd Regiment, U.S. 9th Infantry Division, five miles north of Can Duoc (15 miles SSW of Saigon), engaged an estimated enemy company in an exchange of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire. U.S. Army artillery and helicopter gunships supported the troops, and at 1300 the enemy withdrew. The infantrymen pursued and re-established contact with an unknown number of enemy at 1500 in the same general area. After a brief exchange of fire, the enemy again withdrew. The bodies of 35 enemy dead were counted, and two enemy soldiers rallied to the Government of Vietnam. U.S. casualties were one killed, and two wounded.
OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- Three events, close in proximity and involving the same units, occurred:

1. At 0750 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, received heavy small arms, automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenade fire from an unknown size enemy force 16 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles south of Da Nang). The infantrymen engaged the enemy with unit weapons, and were supported by artillery and tactical aircraft. At 1110 the enemy withdrew, leaving 20 of his dead. U.S. casualties were seven killed and 17 wounded.

2. In the same general area, four miles to the southeast, an element of the same unit sighted nine enemy soldiers at 1800. They directed artillery fire onto the position, and reported five enemy dead after the strike.

3. At 1910, the same unit above (number 2) received less than five 82mm mortar rounds while in night defense. No casualties or damage.

I FFV (BINH DINH PROVINCE) -- At 0930 a U.S. Army UH-1 helicopter was hit by enemy ground fire 12 miles west of An Khe (253 miles NE of Saigon), crashed into a tree, and landed on an element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 4th Infantry Division, killing two soldiers and wounding two others. The crew was not injured. The helicopter received major damage.

OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- At 1630 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, in night defense 14 miles SSE of Hoi An (33 miles south of Da Nang), received an unknown number of rounds of an unknown type of mortar fire. Light casualties. No damage.

III MAF (QUANG TRI PROVINCE) -- At 0715 an element of the 4th Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division, five miles NNW of the Rockpile (105 miles NW of Da Nang) and about two miles south of the Demilitarized Zone, engaged an unknown size enemy force. The Marines fired unit weapons and were supported by Marine artillery. The enemy withdrew at an unreported time. Enemy losses are unknown at this time. U.S. casualties were two killed and eight wounded.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE) -- At 0940 an air cavalry element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), three miles WSW of Loc Ninh (70 miles north of Saigon), engaged an unknown number of enemy in an exchange of small arms fire. The troopers were supported by U.S. Army artillery and helicopter gunships until the enemy withdrew at 1130, leaving 10 dead NVA on the battlefield. U.S. casualties were one killed and none wounded.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 170 a reconnaissance team from the 1st U.S. Marine Division directed F-4's of the 37th USAF Tactical Fighter Wing onto 35 enemy soldiers the Marines had observed 10 miles SW of Hoi An (20 miles south of Da Nang). After the strike, the Marines reported ten dead enemy. No U.S. casualties.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (LONG AN PROVINCE) -- At 0840 an element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 9th Infantry Division, while operating six miles north of Can Duc (15 miles SSE of Saigon), discovered the bodies of 11 enemy soldiers. They had apparently been killed by air strikes yesterday.
- **OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG NAM PROVINCE)** — At 1020 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, was attacked by an unknown size enemy force 23 miles west of Tam Ky (32 miles south of Da Nang). The enemy attacked with small arms fire, grenades, and an unknown number and type of mortar rounds. The troopers returned fire with their unit weapons, and were supported by artillery, helicopter gunships, and tactical aircraft. At 1900, the enemy withdrew, leaving 103 of his dead on the battlefield. U.S. casualties were four killed and 22 wounded.

- **OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** — At 0900 an artillery element of the AMERICAL Division engaged an unknown size enemy force eight miles NNW of Tam Ky (30 miles SE of Da Nang). In a brief fire-fight, the artillerymen killed five enemy. No U.S. casualties.

- **SVN TAC AIR:** U.S. pilots flew 517 sorties (USAF 288, USMC 182, and USN 47), killing 24 enemy soldiers, triggering 66 secondary explosions, and igniting 86 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 249 fortifications, 336 bunkers, and 12 enemy sampans.

- **B-52s** flew 7 missions: 8 miles SW of Loc Ninh; 9 miles WSW of Loc Ninh; 6 miles SW of Loc Ninh; 6 miles NNW of Loc Ninh; 7 miles NW of An Loc; 9 and 10 miles NW of An Loc.

**21 August (Thursday)**

- **HQ MACV** — During the night, 12 significant indirect fire harassing attacks were reported throughout the country, six of which were against U.S. units or installations. Six other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no damage or casualties. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

  **III MAF:**
  
  **201950** — THUA THIEN PROVINCE — The base camp of Hq U.S. Army XXIV Corps at Phu Bai (40 miles NW of Da Nang) received less than five 122mm rockets. No casualties or damage.

  **201915** — QUANG NAM PROVINCE — A landing zone of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division near Que Son (26 miles south of Da Nang) received about 30 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage.

  **202120** — QUANG NGAI PROVINCE — A U.S. Army combat support element in night defense six miles NNW of Duc Pho (95 miles SSE of Da Nang) received about 15 rounds of an unknown type of mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage or fatalities.

  **I FFV:**

  **202245** — BINH THUAN PROVINCE — A fire support base of an I FFV artillery element four miles north of Phan Thiet (95 miles east of Saigon) received less than ten rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.
202105 -- TAY NINH PROVINCE -- A base camp of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division one mile west of Go Dau Ha (35 miles NW of Saigon) received about five rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

201900 -- QUANG NGAI PROVINCE -- An artillery element of the AMERICAL Division in night defense 14 miles SW of Quang Ngai (85 miles SSE of Da Nang) received about 70 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 25 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, sixteen of which were against U.S. units or installations. Twelve of the 25 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were two killed and 27 wounded.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE) -- At 0150 an element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division, in night defense five miles NE of Tay Ninh (53 miles NNW of Saigon), was attacked by an estimated enemy company firing small arms, rocket-propelled grenades, and an unknown type of mortar. The troopers fired back with unit weapons, including the heavy machineguns of their armored personnel carriers, and were supported by U.S. Army artillery, helicopter gunships, and an AC-47 gunship. At 0715 the enemy withdrew, leaving 41 of his dead on the battlefield. Three enemy soldiers were detained, and four individual and three crew-served weapons were captured. U.S. casualties were six wounded and no fatalities.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE) -- At 1250 a mechanized infantry element of the 1st Infantry Division, attached to the U.S. 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, while escorting a convoy on Highway 13, received small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force six miles south of Loc Ninh (69 miles north of Saigon). The troopers fired back with unit weapons, including the heavy machineguns of their armored personnel carriers, and were supported by helicopter gunships. The enemy withdrew at 1400, leaving 11 of his dead in the battle area. One enemy soldier was detained, and five AK-47 assault rifles and one rocket-propelled grenade launcher were captured. U.S. casualties were four wounded, no fatalities. The enemy soldier identified his unit as an element of the North Vietnamese Army 7th Division. The convoy continued on to Loc Ninh.

III MAF (THUA THIEN PROVINCE) -- At 1700 an element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), two miles south of A Shau (60 miles WNW of Da Nang) and two miles east of the Laotian border, discovered an enemy cache containing 20 cartines, a light machinegun, a 2½ ton truck, and a bulldozer.

OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG BINH PROVINCE) -- At 1730 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, received heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from an unknown size enemy force 17 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles south of Da Nang). The infantrymen returned fire with unit weapons and were supported by artillery. At an unreported time, the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were one killed and ten wounded.
- III MAF (DMZ) -- Two events occurred, both in the same general area.

1. At 1140 a U.S. aerial observer reconnoitering the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone sighted nine enemy soldiers five miles west of Con Thien and 300 meters south of the Ben Hai River in the southern half of the DMZ. He directed U.S. Army artillery onto the location, and reported five enemy dead after the strike.

2. At 1330 another aerial observer in the same area sighted six enemy soldiers near a bunker complex 800 meters south of the earlier fighting and one mile inside the southern edge of the DMZ. He directed artillery fire onto the location and reported two bunkers destroyed, two more damaged, and one enemy killed, following the strike. No U.S. casualties in either action.

- III MAF (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 1700 the night defensive positions of the armored cavalry squadron of the AMERICAL Division seven miles north of Quang Ngai (70 miles SSE of Da Nang) received about 35 rounds of an unknown caliber mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

- III MAF (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 1915 the city of Duc Pho (100 miles SSE of Da Nang) received about ten 120mm mortar rounds. Seven Vietnamese civilians were killed and 16 others wounded. The extent of materiel damage is unknown. The attack is included in the significant indirect fire attacks which occurred overnight.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (HAU NGHIA PROVINCE) -- At 1655 elements of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division, three miles east of Trang Bang (25 miles NE of Saigon), engaged an unknown size enemy force in an exchange of fire. The troopers used the heavy machineguns mounted on their personnel carriers, and were supported by artillery and helicopter gunships. At 1845 the enemy withdrew, leaving six of his dead, one individual and one crew-served weapon. U.S. casualties were two wounded, no fatalities.

- OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- Two events occurred, both in close proximity and involving the same units.

1. At 0830 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 17 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles south of Da Nang), engaged an unknown size enemy force in an exchange of small arms fire. At an unreported time, the enemy withdrew, leaving nine dead. U.S. casualties were two wounded, no fatalities.

2. At 1100 another element of the brigade engaged in a fire fight with an unknown size enemy force 19 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles south of Da Nang). The enemy withdrew at an unreported time, leaving eight dead. U.S. casualties two killed and seven wounded.

- III MAF (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 1600 an element of the 198th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 13 miles west of Quang Ngai (70 miles SSE of Da Nang), found 7 dead enemy, who had been killed by air strikes. No U.S. casualties.
- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (HAU NGHIA PROVINCE)** -- At 1300 mechanized infantrymen of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division, three miles east of Trang Bang (25 miles NW of Saigon), engaged and killed six enemy soldiers, and captured one individual weapon in the brief action. No U.S. casualties.

- **OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** -- At 1530 a U.S. forward air controller directed F-4's of the 37th Tactical Fighter Wing onto an unknown size enemy force he had sighted 17 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles south of Da Nang). Following the engagement the air controller reported 14 dead enemy in the strike area.

- **HQ MACV** -- It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that the 387-man 9th Aviation Battalion of the 9th Infantry Division will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow from Bien Hoa Air Base. (The complete text of the release is in the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT in this summary).

- **SVN TAC AIR** -- U.S. pilots flew 476 sorties (USAF 299, USMC 156, and USN 21), killing 21 enemy soldiers, triggering 73 secondary explosions and igniting 47 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 250 fortifications, 374 bunkers, and three enemy sampans.

- B-52s flew 14 missions: 9 and 10 miles SSW of Ben Het; 7 and 9 miles SW of Ben Het; 3 miles SSW of Ben Het; 10 miles SSW of Ben Het; 6 miles SW of Ben Het; 6 miles SW of Ben Het; 5 and 7 miles WSW of Ben Het; 6 miles SSW of Ben Het; 9 miles NW of An Loc; 6 miles SSW of An Loc; 14 miles NNE of Phuoc Binh.

22 August (Friday)

- **HQ MACV** -- During the night, nine significant indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, of which five were against U.S. units or installations. Eleven other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no casualties or damage. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

  **III MAF**

  212022 -- **THUA THIEN PROVINCE** -- The night defensive positions of an element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division 11 miles ESE of A Shau (50 miles west of Da Nang) received less than five rounds of an unknown size mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage.

  212030 -- **QUANG NAM PROVINCE** -- The night defensive positions of an element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division two miles north of Que Son (25 miles south of Da Nang) received less than 15 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

  220136 -- **QUANG NAM PROVINCE** -- The U.S. Air Base at Da Nang received about ten rounds of 122mm rocket fire. Light casualties and damage.

  220215 -- **QUANG NAM PROVINCE** -- The base camp of Hq 1st Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, 10 miles west of Hoi An (9 miles south of Da Nang) received less than five rounds of an unknown size rocket. Light casualties and damage, no fatalities.
++FPV:

220011 -- BINH DUONG PROVINCE -- The base camp of Hq 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division at Dau Tieng (40 miles NW of Saigon) received about 40 rounds of 120mm mortar fire. Light casualties and damage.

HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 25 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, 15 of which were against U.S. units or installations. Ten of the attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were two killed and 72 wounded.

III MAF (QUANG TRI PROVINCE) -- At 1830 an element of the 3rd Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division, four miles NW of the Rockpile (105 miles NW of Da Nang) and two miles south of the southern edge of the Demilitarized Zone, engaged in an exchange of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire with an unknown size North Vietnamese Army force. The Marines were supported by artillery and helicopter gunships until 2200, when the enemy withdrew, leaving eight of his dead. U.S. casualties were six killed and 13 wounded.

III MAF (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 1620 the base camp of Hq 11th Brigade, AMERICAL Division near Duc Pho (98 miles SSE of Da Nang), received less than 10 rounds of 140mm rocket fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

OPERATION GENEVA PARK (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 0940 troopers of the 198th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City (70 miles SSE of Da Nang), found the graves of nine enemy soldiers, all killed since yesterday by artillery fire.

OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- Two events occurred, both in close proximity to each other, and involving the same units:

1. At 1320 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 17 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles south of Da Nang), engaged an unknown size enemy force in fortified positions in an exchange of small arms and automatic weapons fire. The enemy withdrew at an unreported time, leaving eight of his dead. U.S. casualties were two wounded, no fatalities.

2. At 1335 another element of the same unit, one-half mile farther east, engaged an unknown size enemy force in an exchange of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire. As fighting continued into the afternoon, the troopers were supported by helicopter gunships, artillery, and tactical air strikes. At 1830 the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were one killed and 12 wounded.

OPERATION IRON MOUNTAIN (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 1435 a U.S. Army Engineer element on a road clearing operation on Highway One 2 miles south of Duc Pho (100 miles SSE of Da Nang) was ambushed by an unknown size enemy force using small arms, automatic weapons, and an unknown number and caliber of mortar rounds. The troopers fired back with unit weapons, and at 1630 the enemy withdrew, leaving five of his dead, one crew-served and two individual weapons. U.S. casualties were two killed and nine wounded. Light damage.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) -- At 1745 a helicopter crew of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division, seven miles WNW of Phu Cuong (22 miles NNW of Saigon), attacked with aerial rockets and machineguns seven enemy sol-
diers they had sighted. They also directed artillery fire onto the location. Following the strike, all seven enemy were dead. No U.S. casualties.

- III MAF (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- At 2130 the enemy fired six 122mm rockets and 35 rounds of 82mm mortar ammunition into the city of Tam Ky (38 miles SSE of Da Nang), killing one Vietnamese civilian and wounding four others. Republic of Vietnam Army casualties were very light with no fatalities. The extent of damage is unknown. Tam Ky is the provincial capital with a population of more than 38,000.

- III MAF (QUANG TRI PROVINCE) -- At 0410 a mechanized element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 5th Infantry Division (mechanized), in night defense four miles west of Gio Linh (100 miles NW of Da Nang) and two miles south of the Demilitarized Zone, received an unknown number and caliber of mortar rounds. The indirect fire attack was followed by a ground attack from an estimated enemy platoon, using small arms, automatic weapons, and satchel charges. The troopers defended with unit weapons, including heavy machineguns, and were supported by artillery and a USAF AC-47 gunship. At an unreported time the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were one killed and seven wounded.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) -- At 0050 an element of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division, four miles WSW of Phu Cuong (12 miles NNW of Saigon) received an unknown number of 60mm mortar rounds and automatic weapons fire from an unknown size enemy force. Another element of the brigade reinforced later, and additional support came from helicopter gunships, artillery, and a USAF AC-47 gunship. At 0120 the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were two killed and 12 wounded.

- HQ MACV -- It was announced today that the ships USS NUECES (APB 40) and USS MERCER (APB 39), departed the Republic of Vietnam today as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of August. Designated "self-propelled barracks ships," the 328-foot vessels, each manned by about 190 sailors, were major units of the former Army-Navy Mobile Riverine Force (MRF) in the Mekong Delta. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release).

- HQ MACV -- It was announced today that the Republic of Vietnam Army Transportation Corps will accept control of 19 boats and 10 vehicles from a departing American unit during a ceremony to be held at Vung Tau 23 August. ARVN 203d Medium Boat Group, 2d Area Logistic Command, Qui Nhon, will accept 19 Landing Craft Mechanized (LCM-6s) and 10 vehicles from the 231st Medium Boat Company, 159th Transportation Bn., U.S. 4th Transportation Command. The 231st is an Army Reserve unit returning to its home in St. Petersburg, Fla.

- HQ MACV -- The 9th Aviation Battalion departed the Republic of Vietnam today as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 men by the end of August. The 387-man 9th Infantry Division unit departed Bien Hoa for Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The personnel will be processed for reassignment or separation at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

- SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 468 sorties (USAF 264, USMC 159, and USN 45), killing 58 enemy soldiers, triggering 36 secondary explosions, and igniting 64 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 263 fortifications, 274 bunkers, and 6 enemy sampans.
- B-52s flew 10 missions: 6 miles SW of An Loc; 14 miles NE of Phuoc Binh; 7 miles WSW of An Loc; 7 miles SW of An Loc; 13 miles NE of Phuoc Binh; 27 miles SE of Ban Me Thuot; 6 miles NNE of Loc Ninh; 16 miles NE of Phuoc Binh; 10 miles NE of Loc Ninh; 8 miles NE of Loc Ninh.

- III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) — At 0845 the U.S. Marine Combat Base at An Hoa (23 miles SSW of Da Nang) received less than five 122mm rockets. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

23 August (Saturday)

- HQ MACV — During the night, seven significant enemy indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, of which three were against U.S. units or installations. Six other indirect fire attacks were considered insignificant, causing no damage or casualties. Included in the total of significant attacks were rocket and mortar attacks against the cities of Hue and Tam Ky. The following were significant attacks against U.S. forces:

III MAF:

221840 — QUANG TIN PROVINCE — An element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, in night defense 16 miles west of Tam Ky (33 miles south of Da Nang) received about five rounds of 82mm mortar fire, resulting in very light U.S. casualties, with no fatalities or material damage.

221850 — QUANG TIN PROVINCE — Another element of the 196th Brigade, in night defense 15 miles west of Tam Ky (32 miles south of Da Nang) received about 10 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties and damage.

221830 — QUANG NGAI PROVINCE — The base camp of Hq 11th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, near Duc Pho, 98 miles SSE of Da Nang, received less than five rounds of 140mm rocket fire. Very light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

- HQ MACV — During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 22 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, 14 of which were against U.S. units or installations. Thirteen of the 25 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were one killed and 26 wounded.

- III MAF (THUA THIEN PROVINCE) — At 0115 the enemy fired two 122mm rockets into the city of Hue, killing one Vietnamese civilian and destroying one house. Artillery fire was directed onto suspected enemy firing positions, five miles to the west, with unknown results. Hue is the third largest city in the Republic of Vietnam with a population of about 150,000.

- OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — At 1410 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 22 miles west of Tam Ky (34 miles south of Da Nang), engaged in an exchange of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire with an estimated enemy platoon. The infantrymen were supported by helicopter gunships. After a short while, the enemy withdrew, leaving 11 of his dead in the battle area. U.S. casualties were two wounded, no fatalities.
I FFV (BINH DINH PROVINCE) -- At 1035 two U.S. Army convoys, while passing each other at a point 10 miles west of An Khe (240 miles NE of Saigon) on Highway 19, were ambushed by an estimated 40 enemy soldiers firing 82mm mortar rounds, small arms, automatic weapons, and rocket-propelled grenades. The convoy security element fired back with unit weapons, and in about ten minutes the enemy withdrew. A short while later, armored cavalry elements of the U.S. 4th Infantry Division in tanks and armored personnel carriers arrived, and swept the area without making contact. The bodies of four enemy soldiers killed in the brief action were found during the sweep. U.S. casualties were eight wounded with no fatalities. The convoys, only lightly damaged, continued to their destinations.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1900 a reconnaissance patrol of the U.S. 1st Marine Division directed artillery fire onto an enemy force of 60 to 80 soldiers sighted moving east from a location five miles NW of An Hoa (22 miles SW of Da Nang), killing six of them. No U.S. casualties.

III MAF (QUANG TRI PROVINCE) -- At 1130 an element of the 3rd Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division, five miles NW of the Rockpile (108 miles NW of Da Nang) and two miles south of the Demilitarized Zone, received about five rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties.

III MAF (THUA THIEN PROVINCE) -- At 1710 a fire support base occupied by elements of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), four miles south of A Luoi (65 miles west of Da Nang) and five miles east of the Laotian border, received about 20 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage.

I FFV (PLEIKU PROVINCE) -- At 1525 a patrol of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 4th Infantry Division, contacted an unknown size enemy force 18 miles NE of Pleiku (265 miles NNE of Saigon) and directed tactical air strikes and helicopter gunships onto the location. Following the strikes, the patrol counted eight enemy dead in the area. No U.S. casualties.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE) -- At 1250 an element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), discovered the bodies of 40 enemy soldiers in graves four miles WSW of Loc Ninh (74 miles NNW of Saigon) and six miles east of the Cambodian border. They had been killed by small arms and artillery fire within the past week.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH HOA PROVINCE) -- At 1715 an element of the U.S. 199th Infantry Brigade discovered a 2,500-lb. enemy cache 16 miles NNE of Bear Cat (30 miles NE of Saigon). It had been in place about ten days and contained the following items: 67 rounds of B-40 ammunition; one-hundred and twenty-five 82mm mortar rounds; 14 pounds of TNT in ½ pound blocks; four 20-lb. CHICOM claymore; 25 CHICOM grenades; three 122mm rocket warheads; 5,000 AK-47 rounds; 34 cans of 82mm mortar fuzes and primers; 13 individual weapons; sixty-one 60mm mortar rounds; one 107mm rocket warhead; two rocket-propelled grenade launchers and one sewing machine.

HQ MACV -- It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that two 9th Division units, the 9th Combat Support Battalion and the remaining elements of the 709th Combat Support Battalion will leave Vietnam today. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release).
III MAF (DMZ) — At 1208 an element of the 3rd Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division, five miles NW of the Rockpile (108 miles NW of Da Nang) received about 30 rounds of 82mm mortar fire from an enemy location two miles to the north of their position and about 200 meters north of the southern boundary of the Demilitarized Zone. U.S. Marine Corps artillery struck the enemy position, silencing the mortars. No U.S. casualties.

HQ MACV — Two U.S. 9th Infantry Division units departed the Republic of Vietnam today as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops. The 348-man 9th Combat Support Battalion departed Bien Hoa Air Base for Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The personnel will be processed for reassignment or separation at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The remaining elements of the 125-man 709th Combat Support Battalion left from Bien Hoa and will arrive at McChord AFB, Wash. The personnel will be processed for reassignment or separation at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 448 sorties (USAF 290, USMC 134, and USN 24), killing 33 enemy soldiers, triggering 112 secondary explosions, and igniting 74 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 187 fortifications, 420 bunkers, and two sampans.

B-52s flew 9 missions: 5 and 7 miles SW of An Hoa; 6 miles SW of An Hoa; 9 miles south of An Loc; 4 miles SW of Katum; 10 miles south of An Loc; 9 miles south of Katum; 16 miles NE of Phuoc Binh.

24 August (Sunday)

HQ MACV — During the night, 11 significant enemy indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, of which 10 were against U.S. units or installations. Eight other indirect fire attacks were considered insignificant, causing no damage or casualties. The following were significant attacks against U.S. forces:

III MAF:

231931 — THUA THIEN PROVINCE — The base camp of Hq 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) four miles SE of Hue (47 miles NW of Da Nang) received less than five rounds of 122mm rocket fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

231935 — QUANG TIN PROVINCE — An element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, in night defense 20 miles west of Tam Ky (33 miles south of Da Nang) received about five rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Very light casualties, no fatalities.

231815 — QUANG TIN PROVINCE — An element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, in night defense 19 miles west of Tam Ky (34 miles south of Da Nang) received about five rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Very light casualties, no fatalities.

232135 — QUANG NAM PROVINCE — An element of the 1st Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, in night defense eight miles SSW of Da Nang, received about five rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Very light casualties, no fatalities.
231805 -- QUANG TIN PROVINCE -- An armored cavalry element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, in night defense nine miles SW of Tam Ky (43 miles SSE of Da Nang), received less than five rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Very light casualties, no fatalities.

II FFV:

231955 -- PHUOC LONG PROVINCE -- The base camp of an air cavalry element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), 16 miles NW of Song Be (85 miles north of Saigon) received less than five rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

232108 -- BINH DUONG PROVINCE -- A fire support base of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division, nine miles ESE of Dau Tieng (35 miles NW of Saigon), received about 10 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. U.S. casualties were light with no fatalities. ARVN casualties were light. No materiel damage.

232229 -- BINH DUONG PROVINCE -- A fire support base of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division, six miles SE of Dau Tieng (34 miles NNW of Saigon), received about 40 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage.

240407 -- BINH LONG PROVINCE -- The base camp of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) at Quan Loi (63 miles north of Saigon) received less than five rounds of an unknown caliber and type of indirect fire. U.S. casualties were light, no damage.

I FFV:

232307 -- KHANH HOA PROVINCE -- The U.S. Army convalescent hospital north of Cam Ranh Air Base (195 miles NE of Saigon) received less than 10 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. One round impacted on a ward, wounding 21 U.S. personnel (mostly patients), but causing no fatalities. The damage to the ward is yet unknown. This is the same hospital which was attacked by enemy sappers early in the morning of 7 August. U.S. casualties in that attack were two killed and 98 wounded.

- HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 25 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, 17 of which were against U.S. units or installations. Fourteen of the 25 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were three killed and 78 wounded.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) -- Two events occurred, both of which were in the same general area:

1. At 1200 an element of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division, eight miles SW of Ben Cat (25 miles NW of Saigon), engaged in an exchange of small arms and automatic weapons fire with an unknown size enemy force. The troopers were supported by U.S. Army artillery, helicopter gunships, and USAF tactical aircraft. Fighting continued until 1845, when the enemy withdrew under cover of darkness, leaving 48 of his dead. One enemy soldier was detained, and 21 individual weapons were captured. U.S. casualties were two killed, and four wounded.
2. Eight miles to the northwest and earlier in the day, at 0900, a mechanized infantry element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division, 8 miles SE of Dau Tieng (33 miles NW of Saigon), engaged an estimated 20 to 30 enemy soldiers in an exchange of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire. The troopers were supported by U.S. Army artillery and helicopter gunships, and USAF tactical aircraft. Other infantry elements of the 1st Brigade reinforced during the morning and fighting continued into the afternoon until 1540, when the enemy withdrew. The troopers pursued and re-established contact with an unknown number of enemy a short while later. Another infantry element from the 1st Brigade reinforced and action continued until 1735 when the enemy again withdrew. The bodies of 28 enemy soldiers were found in the battle area. U.S. casualties were six wounded with no fatalities.

- II FFV (BINH DINH PROVINCE) -- At 0400 an armored cavalry element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 4th Infantry Division, while securing a bridge on Highway 19 four miles west of An Khe (260 miles NNE of Saigon), was attacked by an estimated 20 enemy soldiers supported by about fifteen 82mm mortar rounds and firing small arms and rocket-propelled grenades. The troopers fired back with their unit weapons, including the heavy machineguns on their armored personnel carriers, and were supported by artillery. Contact was lost at 0425. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were two killed and four wounded. Light materiel damage was reported.

- III MAF (THUA THIEN PROVINCE) -- At 1200 an element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), 22 miles SW of Hue (60 miles west of Da Nang), found the bodies of seven enemy soldiers in individual graves. They apparently had been killed by air strikes two to three weeks ago.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE) -- At 1345 an element of the 1st Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), received about 20 rounds of enemy 60mm mortar fire while operating nine miles SE of Katum (60 miles NNW of Saigon). Artillery and helicopter gunship fire was directed onto the suspected enemy firing positions with unknown results. At 1500, the same unit received small arms and automatic weapons fire from an unknown size enemy force in the same general area. The troopers were supported by helicopter gunships and artillery until 1640, when the enemy withdrew. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were one killed and ten wounded.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE) -- At 1445 a reconnaissance element of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division observed 17 enemy soldiers ten miles SSE of An Loc (50 miles north of Saigon). Helicopter gunship and artillery fire was directed onto the enemy and the bodies of 10 enemy soldiers were sighted lying in the strike area following the engagement. No U.S. casualties.

- III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCES) -- At 2000 a reconnaissance team from the U.S. 1st Marine Division observed approximately 200 enemy soldiers in several small groups eight miles east of An Hoa (18 miles south of Da Nang). The enemy were moving along trails in both easterly and westerly directions. The team directed artillery fire onto the location, and counted 27 enemy bodies after the strikes. No U.S. casualties.

- III MAF (THUA THIEN PROVINCES) -- At 1603 an element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), in night defense 23 miles SW of Hue (63 miles west of Da Nang) received about ten rounds of 60mm mortar and 122mm rocket fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.
III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) — At 1230 an element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, 13 miles SE of An Hoa (20 miles south of Da Nang), received small arms fire from an estimated eight enemy. The Marines fired back with unit weapons and were supported by tactical aircraft. After the air strikes, the Marines found the bodies of seven enemy in the area, and captured one individual weapon. U.S. casualties were three killed, two wounded.

III MAF (THUA THIEN PROVINCE) — At 0325 a fire support base of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), 23 miles SW of Hue (63 miles west of Da Nang), received an attack by an estimated enemy squad, firing small arms and rocket-propelled grenades. The troopers, supported by artillery, and firing small arms, repulsed the enemy. At 0415 an estimated enemy company assaulted the fire support base with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades, but were again repulsed. At 0515 the enemy fired an unreported number and type of mortar rounds at the base. The troopers fired back with unit weapons, and were supported by artillery and a USAF AC-47 gunship. At first light, the enemy withdrew, leaving 29 bodies on the battlefield. Six individual and eight crew-served weapons were captured. U.S. casualties were three killed and 8 wounded.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) — At 0445 the base camp of Hq U.S. 1st Marine Division three miles WSW of Da Nang was attacked by an unknown size enemy force. An unreported number of enemy penetrated the perimeter before being repulsed by the Marines firing small arms and automatic weapons. The Marines were supported by Marine air strikes. The bodies of five enemy soldiers were found in the battle area after the action, and two enemy soldiers were detained. U.S. casualties were one killed and three wounded.

OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — At 0950 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, reached the area in which a U.S. Army UH-1 helicopter was downed by enemy groundfire 19 August, and recovered the bodies of all eight personnel aboard. Positive identification has not yet been made. Among the passengers were Colonel Eli P. Howard Jr., a battalion commander in the AMERICAL Division, and Associated Press photographer Oliver Noonan.

III MAF (QUANG TREL PROVINCE) — At 1700 a mechanized element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), three miles SW of Con Thien (103 miles NW of Da Nang) and about one-half mile south of the Demilitarized Zone, found the bodies of 15 enemy soldiers lying on the ground. All apparently had been killed by artillery fire three days ago.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (HAU NGHIA PROVINCE - LONG AN PROVINCE) — At 1000 helicopter gunships from an air cavalry element of the U.S. Army 12th Combat Aviation Group sighted an unknown number of enemy soldiers 11 miles SW of Tra Cu near the Long An - Hau Nghia Province border (30 miles WSW of Saigon) and five miles SE of the Cambodian border. The gunships engaged the enemy with aerial machinegun and rocket fire with unknown results. A short while later, a Ranger element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 9th Infantry Division, was air-assaulted into the vicinity and engaged several enemy with unit weapons. A total of nine enemy soldiers were killed by the gunships and the infantrymen, and one enemy soldier was detained. The detainee identified himself as a North Vietnamese Army captain and battalion commander. One of the enemy soldiers killed by the Rangers was identified by the captain as Colonel Hai Tram, Commander of the enemy's Sub-Region 3 with several battalions operating in the area of Long An Province.
southwest of Saigon. Documents found on the body and photographs corroborate the captain's identification of the dead colonel. In addition, the troopers captured four individual weapons left in the area. The NVA captain stated that he and the colonel were on their way to Cambodia when intercepted by the gunships and Rangers. There were no U.S. casualties in the engagement.

- HQ MACV -- It was announced today that the final contingent, of some 330 U.S. Navy men, from the Army-Navy Mobile Riverine Force (MRF) will leave the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow from Tan Son Nhut Air Base for the United States. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release).

- HQ MACV -- It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) -- that the 9th Administration Company, 9th Infantry Division; the 116th Engineer Battalion (Combat), Engineer Troop; and the 231st Transportation Company (Medium Boat), Saigon Support Command, will leave the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release).

- SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 449 sorties (USAF 288, USMC 143, and USN 18), killing 37 enemy soldiers, triggering 36 secondary explosions, and igniting 63 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 306 fortifications, 362 bunkers, and 59 sampans.

- B-52s flew 9 missions: 18 and 19 miles NE of Phuoc Binh; 6 miles NW of Tri Ton; 17 miles NE of Phuoc Binh; 6 miles NW of Tri Ton; 7 and 9 miles NNE of Loc Ninh; 11 miles NE of Loc Ninh; 10 miles NE of Loc Minh.

25 August (Monday)

- HQ MACV -- During the night, nine significant indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, three of which were against U.S. units or installations. Sixteen other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no casualties or damage. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

**III MAF:**

241830 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- An element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, in night defense six miles SSE of An Hoa (27 miles SSE of Da Nang), received about 40 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

250515 -- QUANG NGAI PROVINCE -- An element of the 11th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, in night defense 19 miles south of Quang Ngai (93 miles SSE of Da Nang), received less than 15 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

**II FFV:**

241923 -- BINH LONG PROVINCE -- The base camp of Hc 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) received less than five rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.
- **MACV** — During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 29 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, of which 17 were against U.S. units or installations. Nine of the 29 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were 35 wounded with no fatalities.

- **OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** — At 1510 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, on a reconnaissance patrol, engaged an unknown size enemy force 23 miles west of Tam Ky (32 miles SSW of Da Nang). Heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire was exchanged and other elements of the brigade reinforced at an unreported time. The troopers, supported by U.S. Army helicopter gunships and artillery, attacked the enemy. Fighting continued for about two hours until 1715 when the remaining enemy withdrew and evaded. The bodies of 74 enemy soldiers were found in the battle area, and 10 individual weapons were captured. U.S. casualties were one killed and 49 wounded.

- **III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE)** — At 1320 an element of the 7th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, received heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from an unknown size enemy force while operating 11 miles SE of An Hoa (30 miles south of Da Nang). The Marines fired back with unit weapons, and supported by artillery and tactical aircraft, attacked the enemy positions. Fighting continued until evening when the enemy withdrew under cover of darkness. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were 11 killed and 41 wounded. This contact was two miles northeast of the above engagement between the enemy and the 196th Brigade in which 74 enemy were killed.

- **DMAC (DINH TUONG PROVINCE)** — At 1350 a convoy of U.S. Army combat support elements received rocket-propelled grenade fire from an unknown size enemy force four miles WNW of My Tho (38 miles SW of Saigon). The troopers fired back and were supported by helicopter gunships. U.S. casualties were two killed and six wounded. Enemy losses are three dead. There was no materiel damage.

- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE)** — At 1445 a mechanized infantry element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division, five miles NE of Tay Ninh City (53 miles NNE of Saigon), engaged an estimated enemy squad in an exchange of small arms fire. The troopers used unit weapons, including the heavy machine-guns on their armored personnel carriers, and were supported by helicopter gunships and USAF tactical aircraft. The enemy withdrew at 1525, leaving seven of his dead. There were no U.S. casualties.

- **III MAF (DMZ)** — At 2150 a U.S. forward observer located south of the southern boundary of the Demilitarized Zone observed an unknown number and type of lights four miles NNE of Gio Linh and about two kilometers north of the southern edge of the DMZ. He directed U.S. Naval gunfire onto the location, extinguishing the lights, and causing 25 secondary explosions.

- **OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** — At 1030 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 24 miles west of Tam Ky (32 miles south of Da Nang) received small arms and mortar fire from an unknown size enemy force. The soldiers returned the fire and were reinforced by another element of the same brigade. The enemy withdrew at 1350, leaving behind the bodies of 12 NVA soldiers. U.S. casualties were seven wounded, no fatalities.
- III MAF (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — At 1545 elements of the Republic of Vietnam 5th Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, sighted an estimated 200 enemy soldiers 17 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles south of Da Nang). Artillery fire from the U.S. AMERICAL Division was directed onto the location, and 52 dead enemy were found in the strike area after the mission by the ARVN troops. There were no friendly casualties.

- OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — At 1455 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 17 miles west of Tam Ky (34 miles south of Da Nang), found a large grave containing 12 enemy bodies. They apparently had been killed by small arms fire three days ago.

- OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — At 0900 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, found nine graves 17 miles west of Tam Ky (34 miles south of Da Nang). Each grave contained the body of one enemy soldier, all apparently killed by small arms fire three days ago.

- OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — At 1025 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 13 miles west of Tam Ky (33 miles south of Da Nang), found the bodies of 15 enemy soldiers in graves. All had apparently been killed five days ago.

- HQ MACV — Two more units departed the Republic of Vietnam today as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of August. The 653-man 9th Administrative Company departed Bien Hoa Air Force Base for Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. Personnel of the company will be processed for reassignment or separation at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The second unit, 330 U.S. Navy men of the Army-Navy Mobile Riverine Force (MRF), departed Tan Son Nhut Air Base. They will be reassigned to other duties throughout the Navy after their arrival in the United States.

- HQ MACV — It was announced by III MAF (Da Nang) that Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 334 will move from Chu Lai to the Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan, commencing 26 through 28 August, as part of President Nixon's announced 25,000-man reduction of U.S. forces in the Republic of Vietnam. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release).

- HQ MACV — Ten U.S. Navy PER's (river patrol boats) which were turned over to the Navy of the Republic of Vietnam on August 15 are now operating in the Rung Sat Special Zone as the nucleus of River Patrol Group 52. The ten craft belonged to U.S. Navy River Division 574 which has been decommissioned. Those men of the 55-man complement of the RIVDIV 574 who have not yet completed their scheduled tour have been reassigned to duties in the Republic of Vietnam. In addition to the ten patrol craft turned over to the Vietnamese unit, three other PER's previously purchased under the U.S. Military Assistance Program were included in a turnover to River Patrol Group 52 several months ago. Prior to the turnover all of the craft were overhauled. Each is valued at $85,000 including combat outfitting. Since June 1968, the U.S. Navy has turned over 177 ships and boats to the Republic of Vietnam Navy. Formal ceremonies for the turnover of the ten craft of U.S. Navy River Division 574 will be held at a later date to be announced.
- SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 505 sorties (USAF 298, USMC 158 and USN 49), killing eight enemy soldiers, triggering 51 secondary explosions, igniting 119 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 276 fortifications, 364 bunkers, and 15 enemy sampans.

- B-52s flew 8 missions: 9 miles NNE of Loc Ninh; 8 miles north of Loc Ninh; 8 miles NNW of Loc Ninh; 9 and 10 miles NW of Loc Ninh; 11 and 12 miles west of An Loc; 16 miles west of An Loc.

26 August (Tuesday)

- HQ MACV — During the night, five significant enemy indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, all of which were against U.S. units or installations. Nine other indirect fire attacks, considered insignificant, were reported, none of which resulted in casualties or damage. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

I FFV:

260100 — BINH THUAN PROVINCE — A fire support base occupied by an element of Task Force South, nine miles north of Phan Thiet (100 miles ENE of Saigon), received about five rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities, very light damage.

II FFV:

252000 — BINH DUONG PROVINCE — The base camp of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division at Dau Tieng (40 miles NW of Saigon) received less than 15 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. No casualties, light damage.

III MAF

252020 — QUANG NAM PROVINCE — An element of the 5th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, in night defense 17 miles SW of Da Nang, received about 10 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties.

252055 — QUANG NAM PROVINCE — An element of the 7th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, in night defense 26 miles south of Da Nang, received about 10 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

260130 — QUANG NAM PROVINCE — Another element of the 7th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, in night defense 31 miles south of Da Nang, received about 25 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties.

- HQ MACV — During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 23 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, sixteen of which were against U.S. units or installations. Seven of the 23 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were six killed and 39 wounded.

- OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — At 0945 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, received small arms, automatic weapons and mortar fire from an unknown size enemy force 22 miles west of Tam Ky (30 miles south of Da Nang). The infantrymen fired back with unit weapons, and were
supported by artillery fire and helicopter gunships. Fighting continued into 
the afternoon until 1500 when the enemy withdrew, leaving five of his dead in 
the battle area. U.S. casualties were six killed and six wounded.

- III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1705 an element of the 7th Regiment, 1st 
Marine Division, received small arms and automatic weapons and mortar fire from 
an unknown size enemy force 11 miles SE of An Hoa (30 miles south of Da Nang). 
The Marines fired back with unit weapons, and were supported by artillery fire. 
At an unreported time, the enemy withdrew, leaving one body in the area. U.S. 
casualties were one killed and 24 wounded, of whom 11 were evacuated. The ac­ 
tion occurred one miles east of the above action involving the 196th Brigade.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NING PROVINCE) -- At 1700 troopers of the 1st Brigade, 
1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), discovered an enemy bunker complex and mess 
area nine miles SE of Katum (60 miles NNW of Saigon). In the vicinity of the 
complex, the troopers found 33 enemy bodies. They had been killed by artillery 
fire, probably during a contact with the same 1st Brigade unit in the same gen­ 
eral area on the afternoon of 24 August. Enemy losses were initially unknown 
in that engagement.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (LONG AN PROVINCE) -- At 1810 a mechanized infantry ele­ 
ment of the U.S. 3rd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, engaged an estimated ene­my squad while operating two miles SE of Tan An (25 miles SW of Saigon). Small 
arms and automatic weapons fire was exchanged and the troopers were supported 
by helicopter gunships and artillery in addition to heavy machineguns on their 
armed personnel carriers. In about 20 minutes the enemy withdrew, leaving 
five of his dead. No U.S. casualties.

- III MAF (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 1605 an element of the armored cavalry 
squadron of the AMERICAL Division three miles SE of Duc Pho (103 miles SSE of 
Da Nang) received 50 rounds of an unknown caliber mortar fire. Light casual­
ties, no fatalities.

- III MAF (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- At 1310 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMER­
ICAL Division, 23 miles west of Tam Ky (32 miles south of Da Nang), received 
an unknown number of 82mm mortar rounds. Light casualties.

- III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1535 an element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 
1st Marine Division, 11 miles SE of An Hoa (27 miles south of Da Nang), re­
ceived less than five 60mm mortar rounds. Light casualties, no fatalities.

- III MAF (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- During the period 16 to 26 August, elements of 
the 193rd Brigade, AMERICAL Division, uncovered 110 tons of salt, which had been 
hidden under haystacks in the area of the Batangan Peninsula seven miles NE of 
Quang NgaL (75 miles SE of Da Nang). The salt has been barged and evacuated for 
distribution to Vietnamese refugees.

- III MAF (QUANG TRI PROVINCE) -- The U.S. Marines Vandegrift Combat Base (VCE) 
three miles SSE of the Rockpile (102 miles WNW of Da Nang) received less than 
five 107mm rockets at 1525. Light casualties and damage, no fatalities.

- I FFV (Binh Dinh Province) -- At 1500 an enemy detainee led an element of the 
U.S. 173rd Airborne Brigade to a 7,600-lb. rice cache nine miles SSE of Bong 
Son (295 miles NNE of Saigon). It was evacuated for distribution to Vietnamese 
civilians.
III MAF (DMZ) -- At 0945 a U.S. observation aircraft on a reconnaissance mission over the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone received 12.7mm machine-gun fire from an enemy weapons position near a bunker complex seven miles north of the Rockpile and 700 meters inside the southern edge of the DMZ. The aircraft was hit by the enemy fire, wounding the observer. U.S. tactical aircraft were directed onto the enemy position, resulting in two secondary explosions and silencing the enemy fire. In addition, four bunkers were destroyed. Enemy losses are unknown. No other aircraft were hit by enemy fire and the observation aircraft returned safely to its base.

IFFV (BINH DINV PROVINCE) -- At 2110 an unknown number of suspected VC terrorists threw four hand grenades into a building five miles NW of Phu Cat (275 miles NE of Saigon) in which a hamlet meeting between villagers and Republic of Vietnam Revolutionary Development cadre was being conducted. The grenades exploded killing 26 Vietnamese and wounding 100 others. The terrorists escaped. Two RD cadre were killed and 11 wounded and the remaining casualties were Vietnamese civilians. Of the total killed, 18 were children, five men and three women. The wounded included 75 children, 10 women and 15 men. In terms of casualties, this is the worst terrorist incident reported this year and one of the worst recorded in the war to date.

HQ USARV (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) -- At 1450 a 21/2-ton truck of the U.S. Army 3rd Battalion, 197th Artillery, New Hampshire National Guard, detonated an estimated 40-lb. enemy mine while traveling south on Highway 13, three miles NNE of Lai Khe (32 miles north of Saigon). Five soldiers, all riding in the rear of the truck, were killed in the explosions. The five men, all from Manchester, New Hampshire, were: SP4 Guy A. Blanchett, 22; SP4 Roger E. Robichaud, 24; SP5 Richard E. Genest, 24; SSG Richard P. Raymond, 27; and SP4 Gaeten J.G. Beaudoin, 20. They were returning from the field to a rear area for processing prior to departing from Vietnam. The 3rd Battalion, 197th Artillery arrived in Vietnam in September of 1968 and is scheduled to return to the United States in the near future. All members of the battalion have now been returned from the field to a central location and are preparing for movement home.

SAIGON (HQ MACV) -- An armed U.S. Marine Corps F-4 aircraft was reported missing while escorting an unarmed RF-4 reconnaissance aircraft near the Demilitarized Zone in North Vietnam on 19 August 1969. Radio and visual contact was lost and no enemy action was observed by the other aircraft in the flight. Search and rescue operations have been unable to locate the aircraft and have been discontinued. The aircraft was lost to unknown causes and the crewmembers are listed as missing in action.

HQ MACV -- It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that three 9th Division units, the 9th Military Police Company, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 9th Infantry Division; and the 9th Infantry Support Command will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT for the complete text of the release).

SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 403 sorties (USAF 238, USMC 137, and USN 28), triggering 41 secondary explosions and igniting 81 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 241 fortifications, 267 bunkers, and 4 enemy sampans.
- A Marine Corps CH-46 helicopter was downed by enemy ground fire 11 miles SE of An Hoa in Quang Nam Province, destroying the aircraft but causing no injuries.

- An Army OH-6 light observation helicopter was downed by enemy ground fire 17 miles NNE of Xuan Loc in Long Khanh Province, wounding two men aboard and destroy the aircraft.

- B-52s flew 5 missions: 10 an 11 miles NW of An Loc; 15 miles west of An Loc; 7 and 8 miles west of Loc Minh.

27 August (Wednesday)

- HQ MACV -- During the night, nine significant indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, four of which were against U.S. units or installations. Twelve other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no casualties or damage. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

  III MAF:

  261800 -- QUANG NGAI PROVINCE -- The base camp of Hq 11th Brigade, AMERICAN Division, at a landing zone one mile SE of Duc Pho (100 miles SSE of Da Nang), received less than five 140mm rockets. Light casualties, no fatalities.

  261810 -- QUANG NGAI PROVINCE -- An element of the armored cavalry squadron of the AMERICAN Division, in night defense three miles south of Duc Pho (102 miles SSE of Da Nang), received less than ten 82mm mortar rounds. Light casualties, no fatalities.

  QUANG TRI PROVINCE -- An element of the 3rd Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division, in night defense three miles west of the rockpile (105 miles NW of Da Nang) received less than 10 rounds of an unknown type and caliber of indirect fire. Light casualties.

II MIF:

  262210 -- BINH LONG PROVINCE -- A fire support base of the U.S. 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment four miles NW of An Loc (64 miles north of Saigon) received about five 107mm rockets and about 40 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties.

- HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 35 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, 27 of which were against U.S. units or installations. Twelve of the 35 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were five killed and 49 wounded.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) -- At 0135 a U.S. Navy river patrol boat (PBR) crew and a patrol from the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division, ambushed an estimated 15 to 20 enemy soldiers attempting to cross the Saigon River eight miles SSE of Dau Tieng (32 miles NW of Saigon). The area was illuminated by artillery fire, and the Navy crewmen and infantrymen used unit weapons while getting additional support from helicopter gunships and a USAF AC-47 gunship. Fifteen enemy were killed in the brief action. No U.S. casualties.
OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) — At 1530 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, while operating 14 miles SW of Tam Ky (45 miles south of Da Nang) discovered a weapons cache containing 18 individual and four crew-served weapons.

III MAF (DMZ) — At 1810 a U.S. aerial observer reconnoitering the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone sighted four to six enemy soldiers in an open area four miles west of Con Thien and 100 meters south of the Ben Hai River. He directed U.S. Marine artillery onto the location, and reported the body of one enemy in the strike area following the engagement. No U.S. casualties.

TOAN TRANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) — At 0325 an air cavalry element of the armored cavalry squadron of the 1st Infantry Division and mechanized infantrymen from the Division's 3rd Brigade sighted and engaged an unknown size enemy force six miles SE of Dau Tieng (35 miles NW of Saigon). The enemy did not fire back, and in the brief engagement 14 enemy were killed and one enemy soldier was detained. In addition, seven AK-47 assault rifles, six SKS carbines, two pistols, one light machinegun, one rocket-propelled grenade launcher, and one complete 60mm mortar were captured. No U.S. casualties.

TOAN TRANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE) — At 1755 an element of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment received small arms and automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenade fire from an estimated North Vietnamese Army platoon five miles SSW of An Loc (55 miles NNW of Saigon). The troopers fired back with unit weapons, including the heavy machineguns on their armored personnel carriers, and were supported by artillery fire. In about 20 minutes, the enemy withdrew, leaving seven of his dead. U.S. casualties were two wounded, no fatalities.

III MAF (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) — At 1720 an element of the 11th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, at a landing zone near Duc Pho (100 miles SSE of Da Nang) received less than five 140mm rockets. U.S. casualties were light, no fatalities.

TOAN TRANG OFFENSIVE (BINH LONG PROVINCE) — At 1840 a U.S. Army engineer element, while retrieving a vehicle seven miles SW of An Loc (36 miles NW of Saigon), received small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force. The engineers fired back with unit weapons, and were supported by artillery fire. At 1855 the enemy withdrew, leaving five of his dead. No U.S. casualties.

TOAN TRANG OFFENSIVE (PHUOC LONG PROVINCE) — At 1530 an element of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) contacted an unknown number of enemy nine miles NW of Song Be (78 miles NNE of Saigon). The enemy used 60mm mortar fire, and the troopers directed helicopter gunships and artillery fire onto the enemy location, silencing the enemy fire. Six enemy soldiers were killed in the engagement. U.S. casualties were one killed and two wounded.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) — At 1330 a reconnaissance element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Infantry Division, engaged an estimated 15 enemy soldiers occupying a bunker complex eight miles SSE of Dau Tieng (30 miles NW of Saigon). Heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire was exchanged and fighting continued until 1530 when the enemy withdrew. The body of one enemy
soldier was found in the battle area. In addition, 14 CHICOM hand grenades and 300 pounds of rice left in the area were captured. U.S. casualties were three killed and two wounded in the engagement.

- TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (PHUOC LONG PROVINCE) -- At 1030 an element of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) four miles south of Song Be (74 miles NNE of Saigon) discovered six graves, each containing the body of an enemy soldier. They appeared to have been killed by air strikes at an undeterminable time.

- III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1320 an element of the 5th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, six miles NW of An Hoa (18 miles SSW of Da Nang) observed 15 to 20 enemy soldiers in a treeline. They directed tactical aircraft onto the position and reported ten enemy dead after the strike. No U.S. casualties.

- III MAF (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- At 0925 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAN Division, seven miles NW of Tam Ky (32 miles SSE of Da Nang) received an unknown number and size mortar rounds. Light casualties, no fatalities.

- HQ MACV -- The three 9th Infantry Division units which are departing the Republic of Vietnam today, together with the U.S. Marine Corps Fighter Attack Squadron VMFA-334, which will complete its departure tomorrow, are the last numerically designated units which will leave as a part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 men by the end of August. (See the CHRONOLOGY OF TROOP REDEPLOYMENT in this summary for the complete text of the release).

- SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 419 sorties (USAF 242, USMC 129 and USN 48), killing 24 enemy soldiers, triggering 35 secondary explosions, and igniting 89 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 401 fortifications, 309 bunkers, and seven enemy sampans.

- An Air Force F-4 Phantom, hit by enemy ground fire, crashed into the China Sea nine miles NE of Duc Pho (102 miles SE of Da Nang). The crew ejected safely and was later rescued in good condition by an Army helicopter crew.

- B-52s flew 10 missions: 29, 30 and 31 miles WSW of Ban Me Thuot; 28, 29, 30 and 31 miles WSW of Ban Me Thuot; 28 miles SW of Ban Me Thuot; 9 miles NW of Katum; 6 miles SSE of Katum.

28 August (Thursday)

- HQ MACV -- During the night, nine significant indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, two of which were against U.S. units or installations. Sixteen other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no damage or casualties. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

III MAF:

272145 -- QUANG NGAI PROVINCE -- An element of the 198th Brigade, AMERICAN Division, in night defense 14 miles NNE of Quang Ngai (69 miles SE of Da Nang) received less than five rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.
272105 -- BINH DINH PROVINCE -- An element of the U.S. 173rd Airborne Brigade, at a landing zone 14 miles SSE of Bong Son (292 miles NNE of Saigon), received less than ten rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 29 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, eleven of which were against U.S. units or installations. Twelve of the 29 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were 16 wounded with no fatalities. Fourteen of the 29 attacks occurred in the IV Corps Tactical Zone including seven of the nine significant attacks.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 0830 elements of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, 12 miles SE of An Hoa (31 miles south of Da Nang), engaged in an exchange of small arms and automatic weapons fire with an unknown size enemy force. Another element of the 7th Regiment reinforced the action, and at an unreported time, the enemy withdrew, leaving 18 bodies behind. Fifteen individual and two crew-served weapons were captured. U.S. casualties were 13 killed and 42 wounded, of whom 34 were evacuated.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1945 a reconnaissance team from the U.S. 1st Marine Division observed 50 to 60 enemy soldiers six miles ENE of An Hoa (19 miles south of Da Nang). The team directed tactical aircraft onto the location, and reported 48 enemy dead following the engagement. No U.S. casualties.

III MAF (QUANG TRI PROVINCE) -- At 0400 an element of the 3rd Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division, in night defense four miles SSW of Con Thien, received small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire from an unknown size enemy force. The Marines returned fire with their unit weapons, and the enemy withdrew. At 0505 the enemy again attacked with heavy small arms fire. The Marines again fired back and at 0555 the enemy withdrew, leaving behind six bodies and three individual and one crew-served weapon. U.S. casualties were three killed and nine wounded.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (PHUOC LONG PROVINCE) -- At 1215 an element of the 2nd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) air-assaulted into an area four miles SSE of Song Be (75 miles NNE of Saigon) and immediately received small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire from an unknown size enemy force. They returned fire with unit weapons and were supported by artillery and helicopter gunships. The enemy withdrew at 1325, but the troopers pursued and re-established contact at 1350. The troopers then directed tactical aircraft onto the enemy. The enemy withdrew at 1410, leaving 17 dead. U.S. casualties were one killed and two wounded.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) -- At 1205 an air cavalry element of the armored cavalry squadron of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division six miles SE of Dau Tieng (35 miles NNW of Saigon) engaged in an exchange of small arms fire with an unknown number of enemy. Five minutes later, the enemy withdrew, leaving six of his dead, four individual weapons, 10 CHICOM grenades, and 1,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition. No U.S. casualties.
- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE)** — At 1355 a mechanized element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 25th Infantry Division, nine miles NE of Go Dau Ha (35 miles NNW of Saigon), engaged an unknown size enemy force. In a very brief contact, the mechanized infantrymen, in armored personnel carriers, killed 12 enemy soldiers before the remainder withdrew. No U.S. casualties.

- **III MAF (DMZ)** — At 1235 a U.S. aerial observer reconnoitering the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone sighted an unknown number of enemy in a bunker complex 10 miles NW of the Rockpile and one mile inside the southern edge of the DMZ. He directed Marine Corps artillery onto the location and reported the destruction of six bunkers, and sighted one dead enemy soldier in the strike area after the engagement. No U.S. casualties.

- **III MAF (DMZ)** — At 1325 a U.S. aerial observer reconnoitering the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone observed an unknown number of enemy soldiers in the open in a fortified bunker position 12 miles NW of the Rockpile and about 400 meters north of the southern boundary of the DMZ. He directed artillery fire onto the location and reported one secondary explosion, the destruction of six bunkers, and the bodies of three enemy soldiers lying in the open after the mission.

- **OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** — At 1400 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 22 miles west of Tam Ky (31 miles south of Da Nang) engaged an unknown size enemy force in bunkers. Following a fire fight, the enemy withdrew at 1900, leaving five of his dead and one individual and one crew-served weapon. U.S. casualties were eight killed and three wounded.

- **CMD (GIA DINH PROVINCE)** — At 0445 an estimated 400-lb. enemy cylindrical water mine detonated near the civilian tanker KENIA (of Netherlands registry) while the ship was discharging cargo at the Nha Be fuel storage facility seven miles SE of Saigon. The explosion caused heavy damage to the ship, but no casualties. Shortly before the explosion, U.S. Army Military Police and river patrol boat (PBR) crewmen checking for mines, sighted the mine attached to the ship's anchor chain and the ship was evacuated before the explosion.

- **SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 377 sorties (USAF 232, USMC 121, and USN 24), killing 19 enemy soldiers, triggering 27 secondary explosions, and igniting 104 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 260 fortifications, 311 bunkers and four enemy sampans.**

- An Army OH-6 light observation helicopter was downed by enemy ground fire 19 miles NW of Saigon in Binh Duong province, wounding two men aboard, and destroying the aircraft.

- B-52s flew 8 missions: 5 and 6 miles SE of Phuoc Binh; 5 and 7 miles SE of Phuoc Binh; 20 miles NNE of Phuoc Binh; 21 miles NE of Bien Hoa; 18 miles NE of Xuan Loc; 10 miles north of Phuoc Vinh.

29 August (Friday)

- **HQ MACV** — During the night, ten significant enemy indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, of which four were against U.S. units or
installations. Eleven other indirect fire attacks were considered insignificant, causing no casualties or damage. The following significant attacks were against U.S. forces:

III MAF:

290310 -- QUANG NGAI PROVINCE -- Elements of the armored cavalry squadron of the AMERICAL Division's 11th Brigade, in night defense three miles south of Duc Pho (105 miles SSE of Da Nang), received about 15 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

I FFV:

282100 -- BINH THUAN PROVINCE -- An element of I FFV's Task Force South in night defense at a landing zone one mile north of Phan Thiet (100 miles ENE of Saigon) received about 15 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Very light casualties, no fatalities.

282120 -- An element of I FFV's Task Force South in night defense at another landing zone nine miles north of Phan Thiet (100 miles 11m of Saigon) received 10 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Very light casualties, no fatalities.

290013 -- PLEIKU PROVINCE -- An element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 4th Infantry Division in night defense 13 miles ENE of Plei Me (230 miles NE of Saigon) received about 35 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 26 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, 12 of which were against U.S. units or installations. Thirteen of the attacks resulted in damage or casualties. U.S. casualties were 31 wounded with no fatalities. Thirteen of the 26 attacks were in II Corps Tactical Zone.

OPERATION IRON MOUNTAIN (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- Two events occurred, both close in proximity and time, and involving the same division:

1. At 1310 an element of the armored cavalry squadron of the AMERICAL Division, two miles south of Duc Pho (105 miles SSE of Da Nang), received rocket-propelled grenade, automatic weapon, and small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force. The troopers fired back with unit weapons, including tank guns and the heavy machineguns of their armored personnel carriers. The fighting continued until an unreported time when the enemy withdrew, leaving nine of his dead and one individual weapon. U.S. casualties were five wounded with no fatalities.

2. At 1500, while operating in the same general area four miles south of Duc Pho, an element of the Division's 11th Brigade received heavy small arms, automatic weapons, and rocket-propelled grenade fire from an unknown size enemy force. The infantrymen fired back with unit weapons, and were supported by artillery fire. At an unreported time, the enemy withdrew with unknown losses. U.S. casualties were one killed and 21 wounded.
- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (LONG AN PROVINCE)** — At 1610 an element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 9th Infantry Division, seven miles W of Tan An (17 miles SW of Saigon), found a 1,100-lb. enemy cache. It contained: two 107mm rocket warheads; nineteen 107mm rocket motors; 24 rocket-propelled grenades and 34 RPG boosters; two 15-lb. anti-tank mines; and 6,480 rounds of AK-47 ammunition.

- **III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE)** — At 1950 an element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, while in night defense 11 miles SE of An Hoa (28 miles south of Da Nang), received a ground attack from an unknown size enemy force firing small arms and throwing hand grenades. The Marines fired back with unit weapons and were supported by artillery and a USAF AC-47 gunship. Fighting continued through the night until 0110 (30 August), when the enemy withdrew, leaving behind two bodies. U.S. casualties were two killed and six wounded.

- **III MAF (QUANG TIN PROVINCE)** — At 1500 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAN Division, while operating 28 miles west of Tam Ky (35 miles SSE of Da Nang) received less than five 82mm mortar rounds. U.S. casualties were light with no fatalities.

- **III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE)** — At 1500 an element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, 11 miles SSE of An Hoa (31 miles south of Da Nang), discovered the bodies of seven Vietnamese civilians next to a destroyed civilian house. Each person had been shot in the back of the head at least one time. The victims were one elderly male, one middle-aged male, one middle-aged female, three children between the ages of 6 and 10, and one 9-10 month-old baby.

- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE)** — At 1400 an element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), 10 miles SE of Katum (58 miles NW of Saigon), engaged an estimated enemy platoon. Small arms fire was exchanged and the troopers were supported by U.S. Army artillery, helicopter gunships and USAF tactical aircraft. At 1435 the enemy withdrew with unknown losses. U.S. casualties were two killed and three wounded.

- **TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (LONG AN PROVINCE)** — At 1555 an element of the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 9th Infantry Division, seven miles north of Tan An (20 miles WSW of Saigon), found the bodies of nine enemy soldiers in shallow graves. They apparently were killed by air strikes three days ago.

- **SVN TAC AIR** — U.S. pilots flew 397 sorties (USAF 229, USMC 126 and USN 42), killing 22 enemy soldiers, triggering 32 secondary explosions, and igniting 91 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 260 fortifications, 324 bunkers, and 12 enemy sampans.

- B-52s flew 10 missions: 12 and 13 miles NE of Phuoc Binh; 5 miles SW of A Luoi; 17 miles NE of Bien Hoa; 6 and 7 miles NW of Phuoc Binh; 5 and 6 miles NW of Song Be; 17 and 19 miles NE of Phuoc Binh.

30 August (Saturday)

- **HQ MACV** — During the night, four significant enemy indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, one of which was against a U.S. unit. Nine other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no casualties or damage. The following attack was against a U.S. unit:
III MAP:

300615 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- An element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine division, in night defense 23 miles west of Tam Ky (31 miles south of Da Nang) received less than ten rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage.

HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 14 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, three of which were against U.S. units or installations. Seven of the 14 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were 21 wounded with no fatalities.

OPERATION IRON MOUNTAIN (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 0950 an element of the armored cavalry squadron of the AMERICAL Division while operating in an area four miles south of Duc Pho (105 miles SSE of Da Nang) found the bodies of eight enemy soldiers killed by artillery in the fighting in that area yesterday.

I FFV (BINH THUAN PROVINCE) -- At 1040 a U.S. Army OH-6 light observation helicopter from an armored cavalry element of I FFV's Task Force South was hit by enemy ground fire and crashed seven miles NW of Phan Thiet (95 miles ENE of Saigon). Helicopter gunships engaged the enemy positions and air cavalry troopers from the unit were air-assaulted into the vicinity. No ground contact was made, however, the bodies of five enemy soldiers killed in the engagement were found and two individual weapons were captured. One helicopter crewman was wounded and the aircraft was destroyed.

III MAP (DMZ) -- At 1535 a U.S. observation aircraft reconnoitering the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone received automatic weapons fire from an unknown number of enemy in fortified positions six miles NE of Gio Linh and 100 meters north of the Ben Hai River in the northern half of the DMZ. U.S. Army artillery fire and naval gunfire from the cruiser USS BOSTON were directed onto the enemy location resulting in two secondary explosions and eight secondary fires. In addition, seven bunkers and 10 huts were destroyed. One bunker and one vehicle (type unknown) were damaged. The enemy fire was silenced and the aircraft was not hit. There were no U.S. casualties. Enemy losses are unknown.

I FFV (BINH THUAN PROVINCE) -- At 1350 a U.S. Army Ranger element from I FFV's Task Force South, 25 miles north of Phan Thiet (110 miles ENE of Saigon), engaged an estimated 20 enemy soldiers in an exchange of small arms and automatic weapons fire. The troopers were supported by U.S. Army helicopter gunships and USAF tactical aircraft until 1440 when the enemy withdrew, leaving seven of his dead in the battle area. Four individual weapons were captured along with a small amount of miscellaneous individual equipment. No U.S. casualties.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) -- At 1645 a combined reconnaissance element from the U.S. 1st Infantry Division and the Republic of Vietnam 3rd Regiment, 5th Infantry Division, engaged an estimated 15 enemy soldiers six miles NE of Lai Khe (35 miles north of Saigon). Heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire was exchanged and the Rangers and ARVN soldiers were supported by USAF tactical aircraft and U.S. Army artillery and helicopter gunships. At 1840 the enemy withdrew under cover of darkness, leaving two of his dead and one individual weapon. U.S. casualties were one killed and five wounded.
III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1340 a fire support base of Ho 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, seven miles NNW of Tam Ky (31 miles SSE of Da Nang), received less than ten 122mm rockets. Light casualties, no fatalities or damage. Counter-battery fire was directed at the suspected launch sites with unknown results.

I FFV (BINH DINH PROVINCE) -- At 1430 helicopter gunships of an air cavalry element of the U.S. 4th Infantry Division observed seven enemy soldiers 16 miles SW of An Khe (248 miles NNE of Saigon) and engaged them, killing six. The crews then sighted an additional 25 enemy in about the same area and engaged them with unknown results. No U.S. casualties.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (PHUOC LONG PROVINCE) -- At 2145 a U.S. Army combat support element four miles south of Song Be (72 miles north of Saigon) received less than five rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Counter fire was provided by U.S. Army artillery and helicopter gunships and a USAF AC-47 gunship. A later sweep of the area revealed the bodies of ten enemy soldiers killed in the action. U.S. casualties were light with no fatalities.

SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 333 sorties (USAF 210, USMC 99, and USN 24), killing 15 enemy soldiers, triggering 28 secondary explosions and igniting 71 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 203 fortifications, 245 bunkers and seven sampans.

B-52s flew 9 missions: 16 and 17 miles NE of Phuoc Binh; 7 miles SW of A Luoi; 30 miles ESE of Phuoc Binh; 19 miles north of Xuan Loc; 16 and 17 miles NE of Phuoc Binh; 25 miles NE of Phuoc Vinh; 7 miles ESE of Phuoc Binh.

31 August (Sunday)

MACV -- During the night, 10 significant indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, seven of which were against U.S. units or installations. Seven other attacks were considered insignificant, causing no casualties or damage. The following attacks were against U.S. forces:

III MAF:

301850 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- A landing zone occupied by elements of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 26 miles west of Tam Ky (29 miles south of Da Nang), received about ten rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

302130 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- An element of the 1st Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, in night defense nine miles NE of An Hoa (15 miles south of Da Nang), received 20-25 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

302200 -- QUANG NAM PROVINCE -- An element of the 7th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, in night defense 23 miles west of Tam Ky (31 miles south of Da Nang), received less than five rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Light casualties no fatalities.
301850 -- QUANG TIN PROVINCE -- An element of the AMERICAL Division artillery at a landing zone 28 miles west of Tam Ky (34 miles SSW of Da Nang) received less than 82mm mortar rounds. Light casualties, no fatalities.

310045 -- BINH THUAN PROVINCE -- An element of Task Force South at a fire support base four miles north of Phan Thiet (98 miles east of Saigon) received less than ten rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Very light casualties, no fatalities.

II FFV:

302145 -- BINH LONG PROVINCE -- The base camp of Hq 3rd Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) at Quan Loi (63 miles north of Saigon) received about 25 rounds of 60mm and 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no damage.

302325 -- BINH LONG PROVINCE -- The same camp above was again mortared with 15 rounds of mixed 60mm and 82mm mortar fire. Light casualties, no fatalities.

HQ MACV -- During the 24-hour period ending at 0800 today, 23 indirect fire attacks were reported throughout the country, 16 of which were against U.S. units or installations. Fourteen of the 23 attacks caused casualties or damage. U.S. casualties were one killed and 44 wounded.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (TAY NINH PROVINCE) -- Two events occurred, both in the same general area, and both involving the same unit:

1. At 0955 an element of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), received small arms, automatic weapons, and 60mm mortar fire from an unknown size North Vietnamese Army force occupying fortified positions 6 miles south of Katum (65 miles NNW of Saigon). The troopers fired back with unit weapons and attacked the enemy while getting support from U.S. Army artillery and helicopter gunships and USAF tactical aircraft. Fighting continued until 1115 when the enemy withdrew. The bodies of three NVA soldiers were found in the battle area. U.S. casualties were two killed and two wounded.

2. At 1520 the same unit engaged an unknown size North Vietnamese Army force occupying fortified positions in the same general area. The enemy used small arms, automatic weapons, and rocket-propelled grenades while the troopers returned fire with unit weapons, supported by U.S. Army artillery and helicopter gunships and USAF tactical aircraft. Fighting continued until 1610 when the enemy withdrew, leaving 25 dead NVA soldiers. In addition, two light machineguns, 15 rocket-propelled grenade rounds, and 10 packs were captured. U.S. casualties were two killed and one wounded.

OPERATION FREDERICK HILL (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 0730 an element of the 196th Brigade, AMERICAL Division, 23 miles west of Tam Ky (32 miles south of Da Nang), found the bodies of six enemy soldiers in graves. They apparently had been killed within the past three days.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1845 a reconnaissance element of the 1st Marine Division observed 120 enemy soldiers with packs and weapons in an area six miles NNW of An Hoa (20 miles SW of Da Nang). They directed artillery fire onto the enemy location, and reported 30 enemy bodies in the strike area following the engagement. There were no U.S. casualties.
III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 1100 an element of the 1st Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, seven miles NE of An Hoa (15 miles south of Da Nang), observed 20 to 30 enemy. The Marines engaged them with small arms and automatic weapons fire, and were supported by U.S. Marine artillery. At an unreported time the enemy withdrew, leaving 20 of his dead. No U.S. casualties.

OPERATION IRON MOUNTAIN (QUANG NGAI PROVINCE) -- At 1400 troopers of the armored cavalry squadron of the AMERICAL Division discovered the bodies of 20 enemy soldiers lying in an area four miles south of Duc Pho (105 miles SSE of Da Nang). They apparently were killed yesterday by air strikes and artillery fire.

III MAF (QUANG TIN PROVINCE) -- At 0915 an air cavalry element of the armored cavalry squadron, AMERICAL Division, five miles NW of Tam Ky (35 miles SSE of Da Nang), engaged an estimated enemy squad in an exchange of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire. At 1640 the enemy withdrew, leaving ten of his dead. There were no U.S. casualties.

DMAC (CHAU DOC PROVINCE) -- At 0645 U.S. Navy river boat (PER) crewmen sighted two Viet Cong 15 miles NW of Tri Ton and one mile south of the Cambodian border on the Vinh Te Canal. The two armed enemy rallied to the Navy crewmen and a short while later, nine more armed VC cam from the direction of the Cambodian border and rallied to the crewmen. The enemy brought with them 10 individual and three crew-served weapons.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (BINH DUONG PROVINCE) -- At 1345 U.S. Navy river patrol boat (PBR) crewmen sighted seven enemy soldiers on a river bank five miles west of Ben Cat (23 miles NNW of Saigon). The boats attacked them, killing four and detaining the other three. In addition, three individual weapons were captured. There were no U.S. casualties.

III MAF (QUANG NAM PROVINCE) -- At 2150 a patrol from the 5th Regiment, U.S. 1st Marine Division, six miles NE of An Hoa (17 miles SSW of Da Nang), engaged an unknown size enemy force. The Marines fired unit weapons, and the enemy used small arms, automatic weapons, and rocket-propelled grenades. As fighting continued, artillery, tactical aircraft, and a USAF AC-47 gunship supported the ground force. Contact was lost at an unreported time during the night. Enemy losses are unknown. U.S. casualties were three killed and eight wounded.

TOAN THANG OFFENSIVE (LONG KHANH PROVINCE) -- At 1045 an OH-6 light observation helicopter from the U.S. Army 12th Combat Aviation Group, while reconnoitering an area 24 miles north of Xuan Loc (55 miles NE of Saigon), received ground fire from an unknown size enemy force. The observer directed U.S. Army artillery and USAF tactical aircraft onto the location and reported 16 enemy dead in the area after the strikes. There were no U.S. casualties.

SVN TAC AIR: U.S. pilots flew 332 sorties (USAF 230, USMC 102), killing 15 enemy soldiers, triggering 41 secondary explosions, and igniting 69 fires. They also destroyed or damaged 170 fortifications, 266 bunkers, and nine sampans.

An Army O-1 Bird Dog was downed by enemy ground fire 8 miles NE of Bao Long in Lam Dong Province, wounding two men aboard and destroying the aircraft.

B-52s flew 10 missions: 4 miles E of Loc Ninh; 4 miles WNW of A Shau; 5 miles WNW of A Shau; 12 and 14 miles NW of An Hoa; 11 miles NW of An Hoa; 22 miles NE of Phuoc Vinh; 5 miles east of Phuoc Vinh; 16 miles SW of Song Be; 21 Miles NNE of Phuoc Binh.

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It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that two more U.S. Army units will depart for the United States tomorrow (Saturday August 2) as part of President Nixon's announced 25,000 man redeployment of forces. Some 200 men of the 630th Transportation Company, and more than 750 troops of the 6th Battalion, 56th Air Defense Artillery are involved in the redeployment move. The 630th, a U.S. Army reserve (USAR) unit will emplane at Da Nang and land at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., then go to nearby Fort Dix for deactivation. The company will be reconstituted as a USAR unit at the Reserve Center, Washington, Pa. Arriving in the Republic of Vietnam on September 11, 1968, the 630th had the main mission of re-supply support of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). The 6th Battalion, 56th Air Defense Artillery, commanded by Lt. Col. J.A. Richard Guertin, Narragansett, R.I., had a primary mission of providing low altitude air defense artillery protection. In the Republic of Vietnam since September 12, 1965, the 6th Battalion supported various units including the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), the AMERICAN DIVISION, and such operations as Massachusetts Striker. Sixth Battalion troops will depart from their home station of Chu Lai for El Paso, Tex., and deactivation at nearby Fort Bliss. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the morning of 1 August, 1969).

+++ The second major increment of Regimental Landing Team Nine of the 3rd Marine Division, consisting of about 2,200 Marines, departed today for Okinawa aboard ships of the U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet from Da Nang and another port in northern I Corps. On Okinawa they will join the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, which departed the Republic of Vietnam on 14 July. Also today, eight U.S. Army Reserve units departed the Republic of Vietnam. These units, as well as the Marine unit, are part of the 25,000 troops to be replaced by the end of August as previously announced by President Nixon. The 312th Evacuation Hospital, with more than 300 men, departed Chu Lai on C-141 Starlifter aircraft for Pope Air Force Base, N.C., and deactivation at nearby Fort Bragg. Two Phu Bai based medical detachments, the 313th from Richmond, Va., and the 472nd from Rockville, Md., consisting of 20 men, departed Da Nang for McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., and deactivation at Fort Meade, Md. Three other medical detachments, consisting of about 20 men, departed Chu Lai. The 305th of Philadelphia and the 389th of Richmond, Va., are flying to McGuire for deactivation at Fort Dix, N.J. The 378th of Memphis, Tenn., is flying to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, for deactivation there. The more than 200 men of the 452d Combat Support Company at Cam Ranh Bay departed there for Forbes Air Force Base, Kan., for deactivation at nearby Fort Riley. The 978th Army Postal Unit, about ten men, departed Da Nang for Gray Air Force Base, Tex., and deactivation at Fort Hood, Texas. (The above was contained in the MACV COMMUNIQUE of the NEWS RELEASE for the evening of 1 August, 1969).

2 August

The U.S. Army 630th Transportation Company, consisting of about 200 men, departed for McGuire AFB, N.J., from Da Nang today. The unit will be deactivated at Fort Dix, N.J., and reconstituted as a USAR unit at Washington, Pa.
Also departing today was the 6th Battalion, 56th Air Defense Artillery composed of about 750 troops. The unit left from their home station at Chu Lai for El Paso, Texas, and subsequent deactivation at nearby Fort Bliss. (The above was contained in the MACV COMMUNIQUE of the NEWS RELEASE for the evening of 2 August, 1969).

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It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that another Mekong Delta-based element of the 9th Infantry Division will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow (August 3) for its new duty station at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry, part of the division's 1st Brigade, will fly from Bien Hoa AFB to Hickam AFB on C-141 Starlifters as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops. The unit which arrived in Vietnam in December 1966 initially was stationed at Bearcat and participated in a number of operations throughout the III Corps Tactical Zone. It moved to the delta in 1967 as part of the Mobile Riverine Force. Lt. Col. Robert A. Sullivan, Spearfish, S.D., commands the 750-man battalion. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the evening of 2 August, 1969).

4 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that additional elements of the 1st Logistical Command consisting of about 150 men will leave the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow (Tuesday 5 Aug) for deactivation in the United States as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of this month. The 173rd Quartermaster Company, a petroleum supply unit, has been stationed some 400 miles north of Saigon, near Phu Bai. The unit, which arrived in Vietnam on September 28 last year, has been operating fuel pipelines from Phu Bai to Quang Tri and has had the responsibility for the delivery of bulk fuel and packaged petroleum products to units of all services in northern I Corps. Since January, the company has pumped in excess of 100,000 gallons per day through the pipelines. Commanded by Captain John R. Looney, 29, Greenwood, Miss., the 173rd will fly from Da Nang to Lawson Army Airfield at Fort Benning, Ga., and will be deactivated there. The unit will later be reconstituted in the Army Reserve at its home station in Greenwood, Miss. The 950th Adjutant General Postal Unit arrived in Vietnam on September 12, 1968 and has been processing some 180 thousand tons of mail per month for Delta-based units. Stationed in Can Tho, about 85 miles south of Saigon, the Lexington, Ky., Army Reserve unit has also sold an average of $800,000 worth of money orders per month. This unit, commanded by Captain Bobby J. McCormick, Lexington, will fly from Bien Hoa to Standiford Airport in Louisville for deactivation at Fort Knox. It will be reconstituted in the Army Reserve in Lexington. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the morning of 4 August, 1969).

7 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that two more Army units will leave the Republic of Vietnam today as part of President Nixon’s announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of this month. Both are Army Reserve units called to active duty in May of last year. The 311th Field Hospital, commanded by Major Robert H. Poe, Sharonville, Ohio, arrived in Vietnam on October 12, 1969, and initially trained with the 35th Evacuation Hospital in Qui Nhon. It later moved to
The following announcement was made in Washington, D.C. at 081400 EDT, August 1969 (090200 Saigon Time): "Acting Secretary of the Army Thaddeus R. Deal announced today that in order to reduce Fiscal Year 1970 expenditures, the Army will inactivate immediately those elements of the 9th Infantry Division scheduled for deployment from Vietnam to Hawaii. These elements are the 9th Infantry Division base and the 1st Brigade of the Division comprising about 6,000 personnel. On July 7, 1969, elements of the Division's 2nd Brigade departed Vietnam as the first part of the President's Vietnamization program. The 2nd Brigade, comprising about 3,500 personnel has returned to the Continental United States for previously announced inactivation. Secretary Beal said the decision is being taken as part of the Army's continuing efforts to reduce expenditures while at the same time minimizing dislocation of personnel. It is expected that the Army will realize savings of about $40.4 million in Fiscal 1970 expenditures as a result of this inactivation. Under Project Vietnamization, the 9th Division Headquarters and the 1st Brigade have been deploying to Hawaii. Personnel of the inactivated units will be either reassigned or discharged. Those personnel presently enroute to Hawaii or scheduled to deploy there will, to the degree possible, be diverted directly to the Continental United States. The Division's 3rd Brigade will be redesignated as a separate brigade in Vietnam. The 9th Infantry 'Old Reliable' Division was reactivated in February 1966 for Vietnam duty and has been fighting mainly in the Mekong Delta. During the Division's first year, it was engaged in actions at Bau Bang, Bach Kien and the Ap Bac. In mid-1967, the Mobile Riverine Force was established to transport 9th Division elements throughout the Delta. When the enemy launched the 1968 Tet attacks, the division reacted swiftly to gain decisive victories, accounting for almost 2,000 enemy killed. In July 1968, the division was presented the Vietnamese Valor Award, Army Level." (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the morning of 9 August, 1969).
Two more units departed the Republic of Vietnam today as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops. The 1011th Composite Service Company, an element of the 1st Logistical Command's Saigon Support Command, stationed at Bearcat, departed Bien Hoa AFB for Forbes AFB, Kansas. An Army reserve unit, the 150-man company will be deactivated at Fort Riley and will return to its home station at Independence and Emporia, Kansas. The 126th Combat Support Company, a National Guard unit stationed at Phu Bai, departed from Da Nang for Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. The 200-man supply and service unit will be deactivated upon arrival at Ft. Leonard Wood and later reconstituted in the National Guard at Quincy Illinois. (The above is from the MACV COMMUNIQUE of the evening of 9 August 1969).

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It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that the 126th Combat Support Company, a National Guard unit, departed Vietnam today for the United States as part of President Nixon's announced 25,000 man redeployment of forces. The 200-man supply and service unit was stationed at Phu Bai and departed from Da Nang for Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. The unit will be deactivated upon arrival at Ft. Leonard Wood and later reconstituted in the National Guard at Quincy, Illinois. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the evening NEWS RELEASE, 9 August, 1969).

10 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that the 737th Transportation Company will leave the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of August. The company, an Army Reserve unit, is commanded by Captain Raymond Labeau of Yakima, Wash. The unit was called to active duty in May of last year and arrived in Vietnam on 17 September 1968. Since that time it has been stationed in quang Tri. The 737th Transportation Company was in direct support of the 1st Air Cavalry Division (Airmobile), located at Camp Evans, and was responsible for hauling all of the bulk petroleum products for the cavalry unit. It also provided petroleum transportation support for the non-divisional units and often provided the same service for the Marines at Landing Zone Stud. In the northern I Corps area, the 737th established a record for hauling over five million gallons of petroleum in a one-month period. A platoon of the 737th was also located in Chu Lai and was responsible for local and line haul of bulk petroleum products in support of the AMERICAN Division. The 183-man unit will be deactivated at Ft. Lewis, Wash., and will be reconstituted in the Army Reserve at its home station in Yakima. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the morning of 10 August, 1969).

12 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that Company "E" (Ranger), 75th Infantry, minus and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division will leave the Republic of Vietnam today as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of this month. Both units arrived here in December 1966 and will depart today from Bien Hoa Air Base. The 55-man Co. "E" will be deactivated at Ft. Lewis, Wash. The 128-man Headquarters Company will travel to Hawaii to join other elements of the 1st Brigade there prior to the previously announced deactivation of the brigade. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the morning of 12 August, 1969).

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It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that three Army reserve units, the 319th Transportation Company, the 316th Medical Detachment and the 74th Field Hospital will leave the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of this month. Called to active duty in May, 1968, the 319th Transportation Company arrived in Vietnam in September, 1968. Commanded by Captain Paul D. Troxler, North Augusta, S.C., the unit provided motor transportation, moving general cargo and personnel for combat support and combat service support throughout the III and IV Corps Tactical Zones. The 133-man company, which was stationed at Long Binh, will be deactivated at Ft. Gordon, Ga., its home station. The eight-man 316th Medical Detachment, which served as a blood bank, was stationed at Cam Ranh Bay. It will be deactivated at Ft. Dix, N.J. and reconstituted in the Army Reserve at its home station in New York, N.Y. The 74th Field Hospital, located at Long Binh, is commanded by Lt. Col. Joseph F. Cillo, Elizabeth, N.J. It was activated in May 1968. An advance party arrived in Vietnam in September 1968, followed by the remainder of the company in October. The 184-man unit will be deactivated at Ft. Dix, and reconstituted in the Army Reserve at its home station in New York City. All three units will depart from Bien Hoa Air Base. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the evening of 12 August, 1969).

13 August

Another major increment of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing consisting of approximately 550 men will depart Vietnam on August 13, 14, and 15. The main body A-B-C batteries, 1st Light Anti-Aircraft Missile (LAAM) Battalion will depart Da Nang on August 13 and 14. Ships of the U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet will transport the 1st LAAM Battalion to Okinawa enroute to Japan for a port call then to California where the Battalion will be located at Marine Corps Base 29 Palms, California. An advance party consisting of approximately 10 men flew to Futema, Okinawa, on 8 August to assist picking up equipment stored there prior to deployment to the Republic of Vietnam. Loading will be accomplished at Da Nang. On August 13 and 14 the main increment of A, B, and C batteries will embark aboard the USS BELLEGROVE (LSD-2) and USS TORTUGA (LSD-26) while Headquarters Battery will embark aboard the USS TULARE (LKA-112) on 14 and 15 August and sail for Okinawa. On February 8, 1965, the first firing battery of the battalion was committed in Vietnam and became operational at Da Nang. Within the next four days, a second firing battery and most of the Headquarters and service battery arrived in country. On February 12, the 1st LAAM Battalion command post was established at Da Nang marking the entry of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Missile unit into the Vietnamese conflict. Charged with the responsibility of defending Da Nang against high-speed, low and medium-altitude hostile aircraft, units of the battalion have maintained a constant watch for enemy aircraft. Although not called upon to fire a missile in combat, their presence was a deterrent against any air attack. In addition to maintaining around-the-clock readiness with its HAWK missiles, the battalion has also been involved with the civic action programs of its parent unit, the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. In this role, the 550-man complement of the 1st LAAM has actively contributed to the pacification effort in the Da Nang area. The 1st LAAM Battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation as a part of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing for combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period May 14, 1965 to September 15, 1967. The commanding officer of the 1st LAAM Battalion is Major Edward L. House, USMC, of Bethany, S.C. He was born December 14, 1935. The senior enlisted man of the battalion is Sergeant Major Philip Girten, USMC, of Seattle, Washington. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the evening of 13 August, 1969).
The first major increment of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing to depart Vietnam as part of the announced 25,000-man reduction of U.S. forces in the Republic of Vietnam is Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 165. The squadron consisting of approximately 200 men and fourteen CH-46A helicopters will be flown to the USS VALLEY FORGE on August 13 from the Marble Mountain Air Facility near Da Nang for further transportation to Okinawa. The CH-46A SeaKnight squadron redeployment to Okinawa will provide combat-ready medium helicopter support to the battalions of Regimental Landing Team Nine, the 1st and 2nd Battalions of which departed Vietnam for Okinawa on July 14 and August 1 respectively. HMM-165 arrived in Da Nang in October 1966 and was charged with the mission of providing all-weather transportation of troops and cargo which include such assignments as combat assaults, reconnaissance team lifts, resupply missions, medical evacuations, and search and rescue missions. Since their arrival, the squadron has been stationed at Marble Head Air Facility on the Ky Ha Peninsula near Chu Lai, Phu Bai and with a Special Landing Force Afloat. During the squadron's nearly three years in the combat zone its aircraft crews have been involved in virtually every major operation in the I Corps Tactical Zone, including operations PRAIRIE, MAMELUKE THRUST, NAPOLEON/SALINE, MEADE RIVER, TAYLOR COMMON, DENBY CANYON, OKLAHOMA HILLS and PIPESTONE CANYON, ranging from the Chu Lai area north to the Demilitarized Zone. HMM-165 was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation as a part of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing for combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period October 1966 to September 1967. The squadron commander of HMM-165 is Lieutenant Colonel Thomas W. Raines, USMC, of Virginia Beach, Va. He was born on May 16, 1930. The senior enlisted man is Sergeant Major Clarence A. Burkett, USMC. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the evening of 13 August, 1969).

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The third and final major increment of Regimental Landing Team Nine of the 3rd Marine Division, consisting of approximately 2,000 men, will depart Vietnam on 12 and 13 August. The main body, the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, will depart on 13 August. Ships of the U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet will transport the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines along with attached elements from the 3rd Marine Division to Okinawa. As a part of Regimental Landing Team Nine positioned on Okinawa, these Marines will be available to perform assigned missions as a combat-tried and combat-ready unit along with the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 9th Marines, which departed the Republic of Vietnam for Okinawa on 14 July and 1 August respectively. Major attached elements departing the final increment which form a part of Regimental Landing Team Nine are "F" Battery of the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, "C" Company (Reinforced) of the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, and "A" Company of the 9th Motor Transport Battalion. These units along with several smaller supporting attachments comprise approximately 700 men of the total. The remaining 1,300 men are in the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines. From the above units an advanced party consisting of approximately 100 men flew to Okinawa on 8 August to make arrangements for the arrival and billeting of the third and final increment of Regimental Landing Team Nine. While the majority of loading will be accomplished at Da Nang, approximately 500 of the supporting elements of the third increment will embark on ships of the U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet at a port in northern I Corps and sail to Okinawa independently. On 12 August an advanced group of approximately 200 Marines will be flown from Quang Tri to Da Nang while the main body of the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, about 1,200 men, will be flown from Quang Tri to Da Nang on 13 August. Upon
arrival at Da Nang, the Marines will embark aboard the USS PAUL HVELDA (LPA-243) and sail to Okinawa. On 8 March 1965, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines landed in Da Nang as the first American ground unit to arrive in the Republic of Vietnam and was tasked with the mission of defending the Da Nang Air Base against enemy attacks. Since its arrival in the Republic of Vietnam the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines has participated in more than 20 major operations including NAPOLEON/SALUTE, SCOTLAND II, DAWSON RIVER, DEATH CANYON, CAMERON FALLS, LANCASTER II and UTAH MESA. The 3rd Battalion in conjunction with other battalions of the 9th Marines was instrumental in developing and initiating tactics that eventually were adopted by other ground units throughout Vietnam. Among these innovations were operations called GOLDEN FLEECE and COUNTY FAIR. The GOLDEN FLEECE operation proved successful in providing security for the Vietnamese farmers in harvesting their rice, and played a major role in denying the enemy a source of food. COUNTY FAIR operations, cordon and search actions, were highly significant to the pacification program by providing a combination of military, civic and psychological warfare efforts to establish and maintain government control over the populace of an operational area. The 9th Marines was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation as a part of the 3rd Marine Division during the period 6 July 1965 to 15 September 1967. The battalion commander of the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines is Lieutenant Colonel Donald E. Wood, USMC, Brant Lake, New York (born 2 January 1929). The senior enlisted member of the battalion is Sergeant Major James L. Shapter, Jr., USMC, of Jacksonville, North Carolina. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the evening of 13 August, 1969).

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It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that the 1st Battalion, 11th Artillery, 9th Infantry Division will leave the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow as part of President Nixon’s announced redeployment of 25,000 troops. The 105mm howitzer battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Peter F. Witteried, Chicago, Ill., will depart from Bien Hoa Air Base and arrive at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The 526-man unit will be deactivated at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the evening of 13 August, 1969).

14 August

Five more units of Regimental Landing Team Nine, 3rd Marine Division, departed The Republic of Vietnam yesterday and today as part of President Nixon’s announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of August. The 2,000-man final major increment of the regimental landing team, to include the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, departed Da Nang for Okinawa. Additionally, the 200-man Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 165 also departed Da Nang for Okinawa yesterday. Today, the 1st Battalion, 11th Artillery, 9th Infantry Division, left Bien Hoa Air Base for Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The 526-man artillery battalion will be de-activated at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. (The above is from the MACV COMMUNIQUE for the evening of 14 August, 1969).

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It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that the 812 men of the 86th Engineer Battalion, stationed at My Tho and attached to the 34th Engineer Group, 20th Engineer Brigade, will redeploy tomorrow for deactivation at Ft. Lewis, Washington.
The engineers, commanded by Lt. Col. Walter C. Bell, New York, N.Y., will leave from Bien Hoa Air Base for McChord Air Force Base as part of President Nixon's 25,000 man redeployment. The combat engineer unit arrived in the Republic of Vietnam on October 6, 1966, and was headquartered at Phu Loi. In April 1967 it moved to Bearcat, just north of Saigon. In recent months, its men have been spread out over a 180-mile area in the Mekong Delta where engineers worked side-by-side with U.S. 9th Infantry Division troopers and Army of the Republic of Vietnam 7th Infantry Division soldiers. In almost three years of service in Vietnam, the 86th Engineer Battalion has been responsible for constructing numerous army buildings, runways and refugee camps while also clearing land and restoring many of the roadways in the area. The battalion also has been heavily involved in civic action affairs, recently building a school in Binh Phuoc and hauling tons of fill for an orphanage in My Tho. The 86th Engineer Battalion has been awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation for its activities from May 1, 1967, to July 31, 1968. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESS, released with the evening NEWS RELEASE of the 14th of August, 1969).

15 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that gunners of the U.S. 9th Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 84th Artillery, will leave the Republic of Vietnam from Bien Hoa Air Base tomorrow as part of President Nixon's announced 25,000 man redeployment of troops. The 524-man unit, commanded by Lt. Col. Robert L. Schroeder, Washington, D.C., will fly to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, for deactivation at Schofield Barracks. The 1st Battalion, 84th Artillery, the only battery of medium and heavy artillery in the Mekong Delta, first arrived in Vietnam in 1967. It marked a major milestone on June 28th when "C" battery fired the unit's 500,000th round since entering the war. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE for the morning of 15 August, 1969).

17 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that four 9th Infantry Division units, the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery, the 9th Medical Battalion, the 9th Military Intelligence Detachment and the 548th Military Intelligence Detachment will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow from Bien Hoa as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of the month. The 9th Infantry Division Artillery, commanded by Colonel Richard M. Jennings, Walnut Creek, Calif., will arrive at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The 181-man unit will proceed to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, where the personnel will be processed for reassignment or discharge. The 252-man 9th Medical Battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Francis L. McKeever, Central Islip, N.Y., and the 30-man 9th Military Intelligence Detachment, commanded by Captain Efton F. Ceary, San Antonio, Texas, will also arrive at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, and will be processed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The 548th Military Intelligence Detachment, commanded by Captain Clyde Turner III, Montgomery, Ala., will arrive at McChord AFB, Wash. The 13-man unit will be reassigned or discharged at Fort Lewis, Wash. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE for the evening of 17 August, 1969).
18 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that the 480-man 9th Signal Battalion of the 9th Infantry Division will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops. The unit, commanded by Lt. Col. Charles J. Lowman, Jr., Ellicott City, Md., will leave from Bien Hoa and arrive at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The unit's personnel will be reassigned or discharged at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE for the morning of 18 August, 1969).

19 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that major elements of the 709th Combat Support Battalion, 9th Infantry Division, will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops. The 516-man unit, commanded by Lt. Col. Benjamin R. Albert Jr., Roanoke, Va., will leave from Bien Hoa and arrive at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The personnel will be processed for reassignment or discharge at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE of the morning of 19 August, 1969).

21 August

It was announced by USARV (LONG BINH) that the 387-man 9th Aviation Battalion of the 9th Infantry Division will depart the Republic of Vietnam tomorrow (Friday, August 22) as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops. The unit, commanded by Lt. Col. Howard R. Foster, Chickasha, Okla., will leave from Bien Hoa and arrive at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The personnel will be processed for reassignment or separation at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. (The above is from a MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS, released with the NEWS RELEASE for the evening of 21 August, 1969).

22 August

Two of the "brown-water" Navy's largest ships left Vung Tau today for Subic Bay in the Philippines on the first leg of their journey home and eventual decommissioning. The ships, USS NUECES (APB 40) and USS MERCER (APB 39), departed the Republic of Vietnam as part of President Nixon's announced redeployment of 25,000 troops by the end of August. Designated "self-propelled barracks ships," the 328-foot vessels, each manned by about 190 sailors, were major units of the former Army-Navy Mobile Riverine Force (MRF) in the Mekong Delta. Since 1967 the ships served as floating bases for thousands of 9th Infantry Division soldiers and the Navymen who manned the MRF's gunboats and assault craft. Although primarily operating on the My Tho River near the Dong Tam headquarters of the 9th Infantry Division, the NUECES and MERCER frequently moved with their dark green gunboats to anchorage scattered throughout the Delta, providing the Army's 'Old Reliabes' with the conveniences of a base camp in areas where none existed. Each ship housed over 1,100 soldiers and sailors and served as the center of operations for their embarked units. In addition to their berthing, messing and office spaces, these floating bases had a storage capacity for a 30-day supply of fresh, frozen and dehydrated food. Each also had a sixteen-bed sick bay, X-ray rooms, dental office, pharmacy, a two-table operating room, a laundry, library, a cobbler and tailor