



VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

1966



Stéphane Moutin-Luyat

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Stéphane Moutin-Luyat – 2009

distribution unlimited

Front cover:
Slicks of the 118th AHC inserting
Skysoldiers of the 173d Abn Bde
near Tan Uyen, Bien Hoa Province.
Operation DEXTER, 4 May 1966.
(118th AHC Thunderbirds website)

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam







This volume is the second in a series of chronologies of Allied combat operations conducted during the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1973, interspersed with significant military events and augmented with a listing of US and FWF units arrival and departure for each month. It is based on a chronology prepared for the Vietnam Combat Operations series of scenarios for *The Operational Art of War III* I've been working on for more than three years, completed with additional information obtained in primary source documents. It does not pretend to be a comprehensive listing, data are scarcely available when dealing with South Vietnamese or Korean operations, for example.

Each operation is presented in the following format:

Date **Operation:** name of the operation, when available
Location: population centers, landmarks, province. **Type:** type of operation, when available. **Controlling headquarters:** when available. **Task organization:** friendly units involved, when available. **Intelligence:** enemy situation and forces, when available. **Execution:** brief description, when available. **Results:** friendly and enemy casualties, when available.

A glossary of acronyms and abbreviations is available on page 44.

Color Code:

	United States Army
	United States Marine Corps
	United States Air Force
	United States Navy
	Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces
	Free World Forces

JANUARY

Jan. A new CIDG camp opens at Cung Son for Det A-221.

Jan. A new CIDG camp opens at Tan Rai for Det A-232.

Jan. A new CIDG camp opens at Bao Don for Det A-325.

Jan. A new CIDG camp opens at Go Dau Ha for Det A-326.

1 Jan. US military strength in RVN approximately 184,000.

1 Jan. First overseas switch voice circuit operational between Saigon/Tan Son Nhut and Hawaii.

1-7 Jan. Operation: MARAUDER/AN DAN 564-18/65

Location: Bao Trai, Vam Co Dong, LZ VODKA, LZ SCOTCH, LZ WHISKEY, LZ WINE, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 1RAR, 3-319 Art, 105 Fld Bty, 161 Bty RNZA, E/17 Cav; 25th ARVN Div (elts). **Intelligence:** 267th and 506th PLAF Bns. **Execution:** this operation was conducted in the Plain of Reeds along the banks of the Vam Co Dong 7 km southeast of Bao Trai. On 2 Jan, 2-503 Inf ran into the 267th PLAF Bn in fortified position near LZ WINE. Two companies made a frontal assault while a third tried a flank. The defense crumbled in the afternoon, the enemy leaving 111 of his dead behind. On 6 Jan, 2-503 Inf found what had been the headquarters of the 506th PLAF Bn but no other major fights developed. **Results:** 268 enemy killed, 96 detained, 15 US KIA, 72 US WIA, 31 ARVN KIA, 112 ARVN WIA.

1-16 Jan. Operation: JEFFERSON

Location: Phu Hiep, Vung Ro Bay, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROK Marine Brigade. **Task organization:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd ROK Mar Bns, 47th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Execution:** After relocating to Tuy Hoa on 26 Dec 1965, the 2d ROK Mar Bde conducted this operation along the coast between Phu Hiep and the Vung Ro Bay. **Results:** 391 enemy killed, 14 detained. Friendly losses were 45 KIA and 94 WIA.

1-17 Jan. Operation: MATADOR I&II

Location: Plei Trap Valley, Route 19, Cambodian border, Pleiku and Kontum Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling**

headquarters: 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 2-5 Cav, 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 1-9 Cav (-), 1-12 Cav, 2-19 Art, B/2-17 Art, A/2-20 Art, B/6-14 Art. 2d Bde: 1-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art. **Execution:** The 1st Bde launched this operation north of Route 19 along the Cambodian border to secure the arrival of the 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div. On 4 Jan, the 2d Bde was committed to conduct spoiling attacks 50 km west of Kontum. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 4 detained, 6 US KIA, 41 US WIA.

2 Jan. VC device exploded at 5th Special Forces Headquarters in Nha Trang (4 US WIA, 2 VN WIA).

2-18 Jan. Operation: 1-66

Location: Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Bien Hoa.

3-4 Jan. Operation: WAR BONNET

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 2/9 Marines.

3-8 Jan. Operation: QUICK KICK I

Location: Song Be, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

3-8 Jan. Operation: HANG OVER

Location: Binh Thuan Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 2-327 Inf.

3-8 Jan. Operation: LONG LANCE

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Marines. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines.

4 Jan. In first confirmed use of 120mm mortars in RVN, the enemy attacks Khe Sanh CIDG Camp in Quang Tri Province. About 25 of 75 rounds fired during the attacks are 120mm, the heaviest crew-served weapon employed in-country by enemy to date.

6 Jan. Claymore mine exploded outside Tan Son Nhut main gate (1 US KIA, 1 VN KIA, 5 VN WIA).

7 Jan. An estimated enemy battalion attacks the Song Cau District headquarters.

8 Jan. Senior representatives of US Mission, Saigon, the Vietnam Coordinating Committee, Washington, and other USG agencies meet for four days at Warrenton, Virginia, to determine the course of joint US-GVN Revolutionary Development program. Conference takes measures to eliminate manpower, material, and transport shortages in Vietnam and designates priorities and machinery for resources control and allocation.

8 Jan. The enemy ambushes a RF convoy in Phuoc Tuy Province (3 US KIA, 31 ARVN KIA, 30 ARVN WIA, 10 ARVN MIA).

8 Jan. Two enemy junks beached and ammunition recovered after firefight off Go Cong coast.

8-14 Jan. Operation: CRIMP-1/66

Location: Trung Lap, Saigon River, Ho Bo Woods, LZ MARCH, LZ APRIL, LZ MAY, Hau Nghia and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Infantry Division. **Task organization:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div (8-11 Jan): 1-2 Inf, 2-2 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 2-33 Art. 173d Abn Bde (8-14 Jan): 1-503 Inf 2-503 Inf, 1RAR, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav, 1st APC Trp, 3-319 Art, 105 Fld Bty, 161 Bty RNZA. **Intelligence:** Headquarters MR 4, Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Special Sector Committee. **Execution:** this operation was the largest US operation to date, taking place in the Ho Bo Woods on the southern banks of the Saigon River. The 3d Bde operated in the southern portion of the sector while the 173d Abn Bde covered the area to the north. 1RAR made the initial assault on LZ MARCH, clashing with an enemy company and overrunning an extensive bunker and tunnel complex. On 10 Jan, 1-503 Inf overran another bunker complex, killing 29 of the enemy. Subsequent searches failed to generate significant contacts and the operation ended on 14 Jan. **Results:** 128 enemy killed, 92 detained, 22 US KIA, 8 AUS KIA, 106 US WIA, 29 AUS WIA.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

9-11 Jan. Operation: FLYING TIGER VI

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Execution:** the operation took place in the Qui Nhon plain north of Ba Gi and east of Route 1. **Results:** 192 enemy killed, 69 detained, 11 ROK KIA, 42 ROK WIA.

10 Jan. The first C-130 cargo drop occurs in Vietnam at a SF camp near Dalat.

10-17 Jan. Operation: MALLARD

Location: An Hoa, 'Arizona Territory', Song Vu Gia, Song Thu Bon, Quang Nam Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Marines. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 1/3 Marines, 3/7 Marines, G/2/9 Marines, 1/12 Marines. **Intelligence:** R20 Doc Lap PLAF Bn. **Execution:** the operation took place between the Song Vu Gia and Song Thu Bon northwest of An Hoa. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 1 US WIA.

11 Jan. A new CIDG camp opens at Luong Son for Det A-237.

11-14 Jan. Operation: QUICK KICK II

Location: Song Be, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

12-25 Jan. Operation: SHORT FUSE

Location: Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

12-31 Jan. Operation: BUCKSKIN

Location: Trung Lap, Cu Chi, Ha Nghia Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-16 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1-5 Art, 1-4 Cav (one troop). **Execution:** the operation helped clear the Cu Chi area for the deployment of the 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Results:** 93 enemy killed, 11 detained.

13 Jan. An estimated enemy Bn ambushes an ARVN Bn in Hau Nghia Province (1 US KIA, 2 US WIA, 25 ARVN KIA, 17 ARVN WIA).

13-17 Jan. Operation: QUICK HOP/TYLER

Location: Binh Thuan Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 2-327 Inf.

15 Jan. Premier Ky tells the 2nd Armed Forces Congress in Saigon that a national referendum on a constitution will be held in October 1966 and that general elections will be held in 1967. He lists the GVN's 1966 targets as: winning the war; pacifying the countryside, stabilizing the economy and building democracy.

15 Jan. Cam Ranh Bay seadrome established for anti-infiltration aircraft patrolling the northern coast (Red Track) of RVN.

15 Jan. A new CIDG camp opens at Ba Xoai for Det A-421.

15-17 Jan. Operation: BIG LODGE

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Type:** search and destroy. **Task organization:** 2/9 Marines.

15-19 Jan. Operation: RED BALL IV

Location: III CTZ (?)¹. **Type:** resupply operation. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

16 Jan. The 1st Marines arrives in RVN, located at Chu Lai.

16 Jan. SECSTATE departs after 26-hour Saigon visit for talks with GVN leaders.

16 Jan. Month-long logistic and deployment conference on RVNAF operations at CINCPAC HQ.

16 Jan. 500 MAP-supported television sets issued to ARVN.

16 Jan. LTG Jean E. Engler, USA, succeeds BG John Norton, USA as Deputy Commanding General, USARV.

17 Jan. The enemy overruns a CIDG outpost at Bien Hiep in Binh Long Province (39 CIDG MIA).

17 Jan. USAID representative Douglas Ramsey captured by VC near Cu Chi in Hau Nghia Province.

17-21 Jan. Operation: ON GUARD

Location: Di An, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Execution:** the brigade protected the movement of the 1st Inf Div HQ from Bien Hoa to its new base camp at Di An.

17-24 Jan. Operation: PIONEER I

Location: Binh Duong and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-16 Inf.

18-20 Jan. Operation: RETRIEVER I

Location: Binh Duong and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde.

19 Jan. Several RVNAF junior officers arrested after Premier Ky declares that a "small group of people" are working toward a military coup.

19 Jan.-21 Feb. Operation: VAN BUREN

Location: Tuy Hoa, Tuy Hoa Valley, Da Rang River, Can Tanh, My Canh, Hoi Tinh, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy, rice harvest protection. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, 2d ROK Mar Bde. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf (from early Feb), 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, A/2-17 Cav, 1st, 2nd and 3rd ROK Mar Bns, 47th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Intelligence:** 95th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** On 15 Jan, 2-502 Inf flew from Phan Rang to Tuy Hoa North, joined three days later by 2-327 Inf and the brigade's bulk supplies arriving on LST at Tuy Hoa port. The objective of the operation was to deny the enemy access to the Tuy Hoa Valley, the rice-basket of II Corps. The 1st Bde operated north of the Da Rang and the ROK Marines to the south until 31 Jan when the 1st Bde assumed responsibility for the southern portion as well. On 21 Jan, approximately 400 enemy attacked a ROK Marine platoon outpost 15 km southwest of Tuy Hoa in Phu Yen Province. 46 enemy killed, 5 ROK KIA, 13 ROK WIA and 8 ROK MIA. On 31 Jan, an estimated two PAVN Bns attacked the bivouac area of the 9th and 10th Cos, 2d ROK Mar Bde near Tuy Hoa, 217 enemy were killed, 5 ROK KIA and 50 WIA. On 6 Feb, 2-502 Inf clashed with the 5th Bn, 95th PAVN Regiment at Can Thanh (4), 20 km southwest of Tuy Hoa, killing 39. On 7-8 Feb, C/2-502 Inf, B/1-327 Inf and the Tiger Force² clashed with the 5th Bn, 95th PAVN Regiment again at My Canh (2). 63 enemy were killed, 26 US KIA and 28 US WIA. **Results:** 679 enemy killed, 49 detained and 177 defectors. 55 US KIA, 221 US WIA, 45 ROK KIA, 115 ROK WIA.

20 Jan. The 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div arrives in RVN, located at Cu Chi.

20 Jan. US, Free World and RVN forces undertake an 84-hour ceasefire over the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday. Enemy-initiated incidents of violation of the cease-fire total 106, 77 against Free World forces and 29 against RVNAF units. Friendly losses over the period: 13 KIA, 36 WIA, 1 MIA. The holiday sees the climax of an intensive US-GVN psychological warfare campaign to encourage enemy defections under the Chieu Hoi program.

20-24 Jan. Operation: KAMEHAMEHA I

Location: Route 19, Pleiku Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

21 Jan. All crewmen rescued by US and RVNAF units after Panamanian merchant ship BRIGHT STAR goes aground near Chu Lai.

21 Jan. COMUSMACV decides Tuy Hoa expeditionary airfield construction should be postponed indefinitely because of difficulty in building suitable supporting port facility.

24 Jan. An intensive psychological warfare campaign begins against NVA infiltrators along routes from NVN through Laos to RVN.

24-26 Jan. Operation: QUICK KICK III

Location: Song Be, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

24-26 Jan. Operation: PIONEER II

Location: Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

24-30 Jan. Operation: RETRIEVER II

Location: Binh Duong and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde.

25 Jan. CINCPAC advises COMUSMACV of decision to build expeditionary airfield at Qui Nhon instead of Tuy Hoa.

25 Jan. The enemy attacks Da Nang airfield and nearby I Corps

¹ Probably Binh Duong Province.

² Reconnaissance platoon from 1-327 Inf.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

HQ with 120mm mortar, inflicting minor damage (5 US KIA, 25 US WIA).

25 Jan. Curtailment of SNIPE HUNT night helicopter operations reported because of serious shortage of flares in RVN.

25-Jan-6 Mar. Operation: MASHER/WHITE WING

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cavalry Division. **Execution.** Operation MASHER (renamed WHITE WING on 4 Feb) regrouped 4 distinct operations: Operation MASHER (25 Jan-3 Feb.), Operation WHITE WING (4-10 Feb), Operation EAGLE CLAW (11-28 Feb) and Operation BLACK HORSE (1-6 Mar). **Results:** 1,342 enemy killed, 633 detained, 228 US KIA, 834 US WIA, 119 ARVN KIA, 359 ARVN WIA, 10 ROK KIA, 24 ROK WIA.

25 Jan.-3 Feb. Operation: MASHER

Location: Phu Cat, Phu My, Bong Son, Chop Chai, Phung Du (2), LZ 2, LZ 4, LZ PAPA, FSB STEEL, FSB BRASS, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde: 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, 1-9 Cav (-), 1-12 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-21 Art, 6-14 Art (25 Jan-1 Feb), 3-18 Art (two btys), 2-17 Art (attached to ARVN Abn Bde), 1-30 Art (from 27 Jan), C/8th Eng Bn; 2d TF ARVN Abn Bde (from 28 Jan); 40th and 41st ARVN Regiments (22nd Div); CRID (elts). **Intelligence:** during the period, the 7th and 9th Bns and AA Co of the 22nd PAVN Regiment were encountered. **Execution:** Phase I was conducted from 25 to 27 Jan with the 3d Bde establishing a forward base at Phu Cat and conducting a deception operation on the Chop Chai hill mass southeast of Bong Son. On 25 Jan a C-123 moving elements of A/2-7 Cav from An Khe to Bong Son crashed soon after takeoff, killing 42 troops and 4 USAF personnel. During Phase II, the 3d Bde conducted search and destroy operations north of Bong Son and west of Route I, clashing with the 22d PLAF Regiment at Phung Du (2) near LZ PAPA on 28-29 Jan, killing 566 enemy and losing 81 KIA, while the ARVN Abn Bde searched the area east of Route 1. The Capital ROK Inf Div supported the operation by securing Phu Cat and the LOCs between Qui Nhon and Phu My and Qui Nhon and the Deo Mang Pass. The 22nd ARVN Div provided security for Bong Son and for the portion of Route 1 between Phu My and Bong Son, conducting search and destroy operations in its assigned AO south of Bong Son. **Results:** 603 enemy killed, 242 detained.

25 Jan. A new CIDG camp opens at Kinh Quan II for Det A-412.

26 Jan.-1 Feb. Operation: 2-66

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** Project DELTA conducted this reconnaissance operation from FOB Bong Son in the northern An Lao Valley in support of operation MASHER, meeting stiff resistance and losing several teams.

28 Jan. The enemy attacks a Special Forces outpost in Quang Ngai Province and ambushes friendly reaction force (friendly losses are 35 KIA, 14 WIA and 81 MIA).

28 Jan.-1 Feb. Operation: RED BALL V

Location: III CTZ (?)³. **Type:** resupply operation. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

28 Jan.-15 Feb. Operation: MALLET

Location: Nhon Trach, Binh Son, Long Thanh, Route 15, Bien Hoa and Phuoc Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-16 Inf, 1-18 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-7 Art, 1-4 Cav (one Trp). **Intelligence:** D800 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** Phase I took place in the Nhon Trach District with one Inf Bn from 28 Jan-6 Feb. Phase II took place in the Long Thanh District near Binh Son with two Bns from 7-15 Feb. **Results:** 47 enemy killed, 10 US KIA.

28 Jan.-17 Feb. Operation: DOUBLE EAGLE/LIEN KET 22

Location: Ba To, Duc Pho, Thach Tru, RED Beach, Nui Dau, Nui Xuong, Hill 508, Hill 592, Hill 726, Hill 829, Hill 953, Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh Provinces. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force DELTA; 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** TF DELTA: 3/1

Marines, 2/3 Marines (SLF), 2/4 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/11 Marines (-), 2/12 Marines (-), 1st Force Recon Co; 2nd ARVN Div (5 Bns), VNMC TF BRAVO (2 Bns). **Intelligence:** 2nd PLAF Regiment, 18th PAVN Regiment, 38th PLAF Bn. **Execution:** Preliminary operations began on 10 Jan when the 1st Force Recon Co and H/2/12 Marines moved by air to Ba To to conduct reconnaissance of the future AO. On 26 Jan, E/2/4 Marines helicoptered on Nui Dau (Hill 163) overlooking RED Beach to secure the landing area. On 28 Jan, DOUBLE EAGLE was launched with 3/1 and the rest of 2/4 landing across RED Beach north of Duc Pho. They were joined by 2/9 the next day, helicoptering from Quang Ngai City, and on 30 Jan by 2/3 helicoptering to the old French fort at Thach Tru from the deck of the USS VALLEY FORGE (LPH-8). During the next two weeks, Task Force DELTA conducted extensive patrolling and search and destroy operations in the mountainous area between Ba To and Duc Pho and into northern Binh Dinh Province, coordinating with Operation WHITE WING from 3-15 Feb. The 2d ARVN Div with the VNMC Task Force BRAVO opened occupied blocking positions between Mo Duc and the Song Ve Valley from 28 Jan to 12 Feb. **Results:** 312 enemy killed, 24 US KIA, 156 US WIA.

29 Jan. Estimated two enemy companies attack Thanh Tri Land Development Center in Kien Tuong Province (7 enemy killed, 25 ARVN KIA, 16 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA).

29-31 Jan. Operation: KAMEHAMEHA II

Location: Route 19, Pleiku Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

30 Jan. The enemy overruns Thuy Lien outpost in Chuong Thien Province (64 ARVN MIA).

30 Jan.-3 Feb. Operation: BOBCAT TRACKER

Location: Cu Chi, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

31 Jan. US aircraft resumes bombing in NVN after 37-day lull.

31 Jan. The enemy detonates two charges at US BEQ in Dalat (1 US KIA, 10 US WIA, 1 US MIA, 1 VN WIA)

Arrival:

1 Jan.	20 th Eng C Bn 568 th Med Co
2 Jan.	39 th Eng C Bn
10 Jan.	212 th MP Co
13 Jan.	572d Eng Co
15 Jan.	VMFA-314
16 Jan.	HQ 1 st Marines 3/1 Marines 1/11 Marines
17 Jan.	1-14 Inf 1-35 Inf 2-35 Inf 65 th Eng Bn 1 st Eng Bn
19 Jan.	1-5 Inf (M) 1-27 Inf 2-27 Inf
20 Jan.	HQ 2d Bde, 25 th Inf Div 1-8 Art
21 Jan.	544 th Trans Co 45 th MI Co
24 Jan.	HQ 34 th General Support Grp
29 Jan.	372d ASA Co 391 st TFS

Departure:

4 Jan.	43d TFS
15 Jan.	VMFA-115

FEBRUARY

1 Feb. US military strength in RVN reaches 201,000.

3 Feb. USS BRINKLEY BASS and USS WADDELL receive NVA shore battery fire during effort to rescue downed pilot. There

3 Probably Binh Duong Province.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

were no casualties.

3-9 Feb. Operation: QUICK KICK IV

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Execution:** operation took place 6 miles northeast of Phuoc Vinh.

3-15 Feb. Operation: TARO LEAF

Location: Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Execution:** operation took place 15 miles northwest of Saigon.

4-9 Feb. Operation: ROUNDHOUSE-3/66

Location: Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1RAR, E/17 Cav, 1st APC Troop, 105 Fld Bty, B/3-319 Art. **Execution:** operation conducted in War Zone D in eastern Binh Duong and north Bien Hoa Province, 21 km north of Bien Hoa. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 2 AUS WIA, 4 US WIA.

4-10 Feb. Operation: WHITE WING

Location: Phu Cat, Phu My, Bong Son, An Lao Valley, LZ COPPER, LZ ROOT, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde: 1-5 Cav, 2-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art; 3d Bde: 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 1-21 Art; 3-18 Art (two btys); 2-17 Art (attached to ARVN Abn Bde); 2d TF ARVN Abn Bde; 40th and 41st ARVN Regiments (22nd Div); CRID (elts). **Intelligence:** the HQ of the 3rd PAVN division was reported in the AO. **Execution:** After renaming Operation MASHER to WHITE WING by request from the White House, the 1st Cav Div air-assaulted into the An Lao Valley, abandoned by GVN forces since December 1964, to search for the headquarters of the 3rd PAVN Division, but met little resistance. Marines of Task Force DELTA on Operation DOUBLE EAGLE blocked the valley's northern exit while the 40th ARVN Regiment blocked the southern one. The ARVN Abn Bde, 22nd ARVN Div (41st Regiment) and CRID continued operations in their respective AOs. **Results:** 11 enemy killed, 49 US WIA.

5 Feb. The enemy detonate claymore mine in bar in Vinh Long City (1 enemy killed, 2 detained, 2 US KIA, 6 US WIA, 5 VN KIA, 10 VN WIA).

5-8 Feb. Operation: TAYLOR

Location: Plei Mrong, Ya Krong Bolah Valley, Pleiku and Kontum Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-14 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 2-9 Art. **Intelligence:** estimated PAVN Bn. **Execution:** this was the first search and destroy operation conducted by the 3d Bde, patrolling the east bank of the Ya Krong Bolah with negative contact. **Results:** 3 US KIA, 12 US WIA.

7 Feb. President Johnson, Premier Ky and Chief of State Thieu meet at Honolulu in a two-day conference with heavy emphasis on the political, social and economic aspects of the war. A "Declaration of Honolulu" outlines the joint US-GVN goals of determined military effort along with attacks on hunger, ignorance and disease in Vietnam.

7 Feb. Television formally begins in RVN.

7 Feb. An estimated enemy Bn ambushes an ARVN Bn in Dinh Tuong Province (74 ARVN KIA, 44 ARVN WIA, 46 ARVN MIA).

7-11 Feb. Operation: ROAD RUNNER VI

Location: Route 13, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

7-16 Feb. Operation: TAUT BOW

Location: Happy Valley, , Song Cu De, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div. **Task organization:** 3d Recon Bn.

8 Feb. the enemy ambushes an RF company and an RF platoon in Tay Ninh Province (12 enemy killed, 40 ARVN KIA, 47 ARVN WIA).

8-9 Feb. Operation: BALD EAGLE

Location: III CTZ (?)⁴. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

9-21 Feb. Operation: KAMEHAMEHA III

Location: Route 19, Pleiku Province. **Type:** road security. **Con-**

trolling headquarters: 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

10 Feb. Vice President Humphrey arrives in Saigon for three-day visit.

11 Feb. MACV Directorate of Construction established under BG Carroll H. Dunn to handle all Vietnam construction responsibilities previously under J4.

11-28 Feb. Operation: EAGLE CLAW

Location: Go Chai Mountain, Iron Triangle, Kim Son Valley, LZ BIRD, LZ COIL, LZ RECOIL, LZ MIKE, LZ JOE, LZ JIM, LZ PONY, Binh Dinh Province **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde: 1-5 Cav, 2-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art; 3d Bde (11-17 Feb): 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, 1-9 Cav (-), 1-12 Cav, 1-21 Art; 1st Bde (17-28 Feb): 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 2-19 Art; 3-18 Art (two btys); 2-17 Art (11-20 Feb - attached to ARVN Abn Bde); 2d TF, ARVN Abn Bde (11- 17 Feb); VNMC TF BRAVO (17-28 Feb); 40th and 41st ARVN Regiments (22nd Div); CRID (elts). **Intelligence:** 2nd PLAF Regiment, 18th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The operation was initiated on 11 Feb when the 3d Bde established blocking positions around the Kim Son Valley before sweeping the valley floor. On 15 Feb, B/2-7 Cav clashed with the 93rd Bn, 2nd PLAF Regiment 4 km southeast of LZ BIRD, killing 59 and losing 2. On 17 Feb, the 1st Bde replaced the 3d while the 2d Bde closed its operation north of the Lai Giang and moved its CP to LZ PONY. From 18-20 Feb, 2-5 Cav and 2-12 Cav fought the 2nd PLAF Regiment in the area called the Iron Triangle, killing 313 and losing 23 KIA and 106 WIA. Also on 17 Feb, the VNMC Task Force BRAVO replaced the ARVN Abn Bde in its AO along the coast east of Route 1 while the 22nd ARVN Div (40th and 41st Regiments) and CRID continued operations in their respective AOs. **Results:** 709 enemy killed, 326 detained.

11 Feb.-2 Mar. Operation: ROLLING STONE-4/66

Location: Route 13, Route 16, Tan Binh, Phuoc Hoa, Phuoc Vinh, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search & destroy, road construction. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-2 Inf, 1-26 Inf, B/1-28 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1/5 Art (-), B/1-4 Cav, 1st Eng Bn, 1RAR, 1st APC Troop, 161 Bty RNZA. **Intelligence:** 271th and 273rd PLAF Regiments, D800 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** The 1st Bde in conjunction with the 1st Eng Bn conducted search and destroy and road repair operations to include establishing a new route between Route 13 and 16. On 23 Feb, the 1st Bde headquarters near Tan Binh protected by 1-26 Inf was attacked by three enemy Bns, resulting in 142 enemy killed, 11 US KIA and 74 US WIA. **Results:** 173 enemy killed, 100 detained, 15 US KIA, 106 US WIA and 2 AUS WIA.

12 Feb. Operation: HWA RANG II

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Execution:** the one-day operation took place 15 miles northwest of Qui Nhon

12-16 Feb. Operation: ENTREE

Location: Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde.

13 Feb. Operation: AN DAN/14/66

Location: Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25th ARVN Div. **Results:** 150 enemy killed, 9 detained, 21 ARVN KIA, 5 ARVN WIA.

14 Feb. USN swift boat sunk by enemy mine off Kien Giang Province (4 US KIA, 2 US WIA).

14-16 Feb. Operation: BREEZE AWAY

Location: Route 13, Binh Duong Province **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-16 Inf.

14-16 Feb. Operation: PADDY BRIDGE

Location: Hau Nghia Province **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-27 Inf.

15 Feb. B-52s strike COSVN HQ in Tay Ninh Province twice within an hour.

15-21 Feb. Operation: THANG LONG 234

Location: Darlac Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 23rd ARVN Div. **Results:** 270 enemy

4 Probably Binh Duong Province.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

killed, 62 ARVN KIA, 143 ARVN WIA, 12 ARVN MIA.

17 Feb. Deputy US Ambassador Porter assumes responsibility for all aspects of US support of Revolutionary Development in RVN.

17 Feb. The enemy detonates 2 claymore mines near JGS compound in Saigon (12 VN killed, 51 VN wounded).

18-19 Feb. Operation: BELT LINE

Location: Route 13, Binh Duong Province **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

19 Feb.-1 Mar. Operation: DOUBLE EAGLE II/LIEN KET 24

Location: Ky Phu, Tam Ky, Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force DELTA. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines, 2/3 Marines (SLF), 2/7 Marines, 2/9 Marines; 2nd ARVN Div (elts), one VNMC Bn. **Intelligence:** 1st PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** After terminating DOUBLE EAGLE, Task Force DELTA moved 50 miles to the north, acting on intelligence pointing the 1st PLAF Regiment west of Tam Ky but found little of the enemy. The 2nd ARVN Division with a VNMC Bn participated in companion operation LIEN KET 24. **Results:** 125 enemy killed, 15 detained, 6 US KIA, 136 US WIA.

20 Feb. The 407th PLAF Sapper Bn launches a well-coordinated attack on the base camp of the 1st Cav Div at An Khe. 8 enemy are killed, 1 detained. Friendly losses are 7 KIA, 62 WIA, 1 OH-13 destroyed, 8 CH-47 damaged.

21 Feb. Premier Ky shuffles cabinet, creating Veteran's Affairs and Transport-Communications Ministries and a high court to handle corruption and black marketing.

21 Feb. The enemy attacks Trieu Phong District town in Quang Tri Province with mortars and grenades (22 ARVN KIA, 18 ARVN WIA).

21-27 Feb. Operation: MASTIFF

Location: Dau Tieng, Boi Loi Woods, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde: 2-16 Inf, 1-18 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-7 Art; 3d Bde: 1-2 Inf, 2-2 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 2-33 Art, 1/4 Cav. **Intelligence:** 9th PLAF Division. **Execution:** the 1st Inf Div launched this operation in the Boi Loi Woods to prevent attacks on Dau Tieng by the 9th PLAF Div but made no significant contacts. **Results:** 61 enemy killed, 17 US KIA, 94 US WIA.

21 Feb.-25 Mar. Operation: HARRISON

Location: Tuy An, My Phu, Tuy Hoa Valley, Song Da Rang, Phu Yen Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, A/2/17 Cav; 2d ROK Mar Bde (elts); 47th ARVN Regiment (elts) **Intelligence:** 95th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** the brigade continued operations against the 95th PAVN Regiment 30 km northwest of Tuy Hoa and in the vicinity of Tuy An, but with negative contact. Action picked up south of the Da Rang on 4 Mar when 1-327 Inf fought the 4th Bn, 95th PAVN Regiment at My Phu, killing 106 and losing 19 KIA and 45 WIA. After that, the enemy splintered into small bands and retreated into the mountains. **Results:** 288 enemy killed, 35 detained, 42 US KIA, 234 US WIA and 2 US MIA.

22 Feb. The enemy attacks an RF company and a PF platoon north of Trieu Phong in Quang Tri Province (20 ARVN KIA, 14 ARVN WIA, 7 ARVN MIA).

22 Feb. An estimated 2 enemy companies attack security force at Binh Long bridge in Quang Nam Province; ARVN ranger reaction force engages enemy (114 enemy killed, 8 ARVN KIA, 46 ARVN WIA, 10 ARVN MIA).

22 Feb. USMC aircraft over Quang Tri Province receives fire from suspected enemy radar-controlled AA gun.

22-24 Feb. Operation: CLEAN SWEEP

Location: Cu Chi, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

22 Feb.-3 Mar. Operation: LAM SON 234

Location: Quang Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st ARVN Div.

22 Feb.-3 Mar. Operation: LAM SON 235

Location: Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1st

and 2nd ARVN Regiments. **Results:** 444 enemy killed, 12 detained, 35 ARVN KIA, 185 ARVN WIA, 3 ARVN MIA.

22 Feb.-3 Mar. Operation: LAM SON 236

Location: Phong Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st ARVN Div.

24-25 Feb. Operation: COUNTY FAIR

Location: Phong Bac, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Marines. **Task organization:** 3/3 Marines. **Execution:** County Fair operations employed a Marine battalion cordoning off a village while ARVN police and officials searched for VC suspects while the population was fed, clothed and entertained.

25 Feb.-25 Mar. Operation: GARFIELD

Location: Ban Me Thuot East, Mewal Plantation, Ban Brieng, Chu Amung, Ea Wy, Darlac and Pleiku Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-9 Art (-); 3/44 ARVN Bn (protected the Bde CP at BMTE). **Intelligence:** possible NVA battalion. **Execution:** This was the first major operation of the 3d Bde. Moving to Ban Me Thuot East via C-130, the brigade conducted numerous air-assaults and saturation patrols in the Mewal Plantation 20 km north of the city but with little contact. On 4 Mar, the brigade relocated its CP at Ban Brieng and began searching to the west along the Ea Wy on the Darlac/Pleiku border, making two moderate contacts on 15 and 20 Mar. **Results:** 122 enemy killed, 21 US KIA, 63 US WIA.

26 Feb. Phu Cat US jet airbase site selected northwest of Qui Nhon, to be completed by 31 December 1966.

26 Feb. Operation: LIGHTNING III

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Execution:** the one-day operation took place 30 km northwest of Qui Nhon

26-28 Feb. Operation: KOLCHAK

Location: Cu Chi, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1/5 Inf (M).

26 Feb.-2 Mar. Operation: NEW YORK/THUA THIEN 177

Location: Phu Bai, Quang Dien, Pho Lai, Phu Thu Peninsula, Thua Thien Province. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Unit HOTEL⁵; 1st ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines, 4/12 Marines (-); 1/3 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** D810 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** Task Unit HOTEL was activated to provide reserve for the 1st ARVN Division. On the 26, 2/1 Marines was air-assaulted near Pho Lai 7 km northwest of Hue to support an ARVN operation but made no contact. Upon returning to Phu Bai, 2/1 was committed to the Phu Thu Peninsula 4 km northeast of Phu Bai on the 28 after the 1/3 ARVN Bn made contact with the 810th PLAF Bn. 2/1 made a frontal assault on fortified positions and routed the enemy. **Results:** 120 enemy killed, 7 detained, 17 US KIA, 37 US WIA.

26 Feb.-22 Mar. Operation: PHOENIX

Location: Tan Uyen, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 2-503 Inf. **Execution:** operation took place 5 km west of Tan Uyen.

27 Feb. Philippine freighter SS LORINDA temporarily grounded 15 km southeast of Nha Be after receiving enemy small arms, machine gun and 57mm RR fire (3 WIA).

28 Feb. An estimated reinforced enemy Bn attacks the 1/43 ARVN Bn at Vo Xu in Binh Tuy Province (48 enemy killed, 3 detained, 32 ARVN KIA, 60 ARVN WIA, 17 ARVN MIA).

Arrival:

1 Feb.	VMF(AW)-235
3 Feb.	NMCB 11
5 Feb.	241 st Trans Co
7 Feb.	HQ 68 th Med Grp
	HQ 507 th Trans Grp
	103d Eng Co

⁵ Activated at Phu Bai 26 Feb.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

8 Feb.	6 th PsyOp Bn
10 Feb.	366 th SPS
	244 th PsyOp Co
	245 th PsyOp Co
	246 th PsyOp Co
12 Feb.	90 th TFS
15 Feb.	VMA-311
	8 th BS
18 Feb.	870 th Trans Co
	460 th TRW
23 Feb.	4/11 Marines
28 Feb.	2/3 Marines
Departure:	
17 Feb.	13 th BS

MARCH

1 Mar. US military strength in RVN reaches 213,000.

1 Mar. A new CIDG camp open at Thuong Duc for Det A-109.

1-2 Mar. Operation: BEER BARREL

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

1-5 Mar. Operation: HATTIESBURG

Location: Bo Lu Secret Zone, Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task Organization:** 1-18 Inf.

1-6 Mar. Operation: BLACK HORSE

Location: Chop Chai, Hon Cao, Song Lai Giang, Route 1, LZ TWO BITS, LZ BOB, LZ JOHN, LZ HAMMER, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde: 1-5 Cav, 2-5 Cav, 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, A/1-9 Cav, 1-77 Art (+); 22nd ARVN Div (elts). **Intelligence:** 6th Bn, 18th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The final phase of Operation WHITE WING took place in the Chop Chai/Hon Cao hill mass southeast of Bong Son, searching for a reported Bn from the 18th PAVN Regiment but achieving very little contact. The 22nd ARVN Div established blocking positions along Route 1 and the Song Lai Giang while its junk fleet screened the sea approach. **Results:** 19 enemy killed, 40 detained.

1-17 Mar. Operation: 3-66

Location: Darlac Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Ban Me Thuot.

3 Mar. Panamanian vessel SS PALOMA receives enemy machine gun and 57mm RR fire 12 km southeast of Nha Be (4 WIA).

3-4 Mar. Operation: TROY

Location: Truoi Bridge, Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Unit HOTEL. **Task organization:** E/2/1 Marines, F/2/9 Marines. **Intelligence:** D810 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** Task Unit HOTEL tried to intercept the remnants of the D810 PLAF Bn believed to be retreating via the Truoi River Bridge but found nothing.

3-6 Mar. Operation: COCOA BEACH

Location: Lai Khe, Lo Khe Rubber Plantation, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-2 Inf, 1-16 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 2-33 Art, B/2-32 Art, D/8-6 Art, D/1st Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** 272nd PLAF Regiment, 241st HW Bn. **Execution:** The operation was a series of three battalion-size search and destroy operations conducted by the brigade in its TAOR north of Lai Khe. On 5 Mar the 272nd PLAF Regiment attacked the defensive position of 2-28 Inf in the Lo Khe Plantation. **Results:** 199 enemy killed, 13 US KIA, 29 US WIA.

3-6 Mar. Operation: RED BALL VI

Location: Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** resupply convoy, road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

3-8 Mar. Operation: BOSTON

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy.

Controlling headquarters: 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

4 Mar. Seaplane tender USS SALISBURY SOUND arrives at Cam Ranh Bay with squadron of seaplanes.

4 Mar. Operation: WAIKIKI

Location: Xom Mol, Giong Viéc, Ba Xa, Hau Nghia Province.

Type: search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task Organization:** Task Force STEEL: A/1-5 Inf (M), A/3-4 Cav, B/65th Eng Bn. **Execution:** Task Force STEEL swept through the AO 4 km northwest of Cu Chi with minimal contact. **Results:** 6 enemy killed.

4-8 Mar. Operation: UTAH/LIEN KET 26

Location: Chau Nai, An Tuyet, Route 527, Hill 50, Hill 85 Hill 97, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force DELTA, 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** Task Force DELTA: 3/1 Marines, 2/4 Marines, B/1/7 Marines, 2/7 Marines, 4/11 Marines (-); 2nd ARVN Div: 1st and 5th Abn Bns, 37th Ranger Bn. **Intelligence:** 21st PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** This was the first battle between US Marines and NVA troops. The battle evolved into fierce fighting for the control of several hills around the village of Chau Nai after the initial contact made by the 1st ARVN Abn Bn. Two NVA Bns were virtually destroyed. **Results:** 632 enemy killed, 39 detained, 98 US KIA, 278 US WIA, 32 ARVN KIA, 136 ARVN WIA.

5 Mar. A new CIDG camp opens at Nhon Co for Det A-235.

7-23 Mar. Operation: SILVER CITY-6/66

Location: War Zone D, Phuoc Vinh, AO NEVADA, AO ARIZONA, Song Be, Bao Phung, Binh Duong and Long Khanh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 1-2 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 1-5 Art; 173d Abn Bde: 2-503 Inf, 1RAR, E/17 Cav, 3-319 Art, 105 Fld Bty; 10th ARVN Div (elts). **Intelligence:** Headquarters of Military Region 1. **Execution:** the objective of the operation was to destroy the HQ of MR1 and bring to battle the 5th and 9th PLAF Division in the southern portion of War Zone D. On 16 Mar, the defensive position of 2-503 Inf near Bao Phung was attacked by the 271st PLAF Regiment. 303 enemy were killed, 7 US KIA and 162 US WIA. **Results:** 353 enemy killed, 11 US KIA, 218 US WIA, 2 AUS KIA, 13 AUS WIA.

7 Mar. enemy chemical grenade used for first time in Phu Yen Province.

8 Mar. A new CIDG camp opens at Polei Kleng for Det A-241.

8-11 Mar. Battle of A Shau. The 95th PAVN Regiment, taking advantage of bad weather which hampers air strikes and friendly reinforcements, attacks the A Shau CIDG camp in Thua Thien Province defended by Det A-102 and the 1st MSF Co, 5th MIKE Force. After three days of heavy fighting, friendly forces evacuate the strategically located camp near an enemy infiltration corridor from Laos. 800 enemy killed (estimated), 172 ARVN KIA, 248 ARVN WIA, 5 US KIA, 12 US WIA.

9 Mar. VC motor junk rammed and sunk by USCGC POINT WHITE near mouth of Vam Sat River (7 enemy killed, 4 detained).

9 Mar. Enemy early-warning GCI radars detected in Laos warning convoys of impending US air strikes; new infiltration trail discovered in southern Laotian Panhandle.

9-10 Mar. Operation: LOS ANGELES

Location: Route 13, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

10 Mar. GVN National Leadership Committee votes to remove LTG Nguyen Chanh Thi from his post as I Corps Commander. BG Nguyen Van Chuan named to replace Thi, widely regarded as Premier Ky's major potential political rival.

10 Mar. US Naval units begin river mine-sweeping operations in RVN.

10-13 Mar. 1/1 Marines from Da Nang and 1/4 Marines from Chu Lai are moved to Phu Bai for possible operation in the A Shau Valley but the idea is rejected.

11 Mar. About 2,000 persons demonstrate in Da Nang against Thi's removal.

11 Mar. B-52s using M-35 fire bomblets conduct inconclusive jungle burning test on Chu Pong Mountain.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

12 Mar. Buddhist leaders at Saigon's Vien Hoa Dao (Institute for the Execution of the Dharma) declare RVN is in "period of crisis" and call for the return of generals who supported the anti-Diem revolution of November 1964. Demonstration protesting Thi's ouster held in Hue, Da Nang and Hoi An, and other protests and general strikes called signaling the start of prolonged political turbulence.

12 Mar. MG John C. F. Tillson III, USA, named MACV ACoFS J3 replacing BG William E. Depuy, USA, who takes command of 1st Inf Div.

13 Mar. General strike in Da Nang closes port as I Corps demonstrations protesting Thi's removal spread.

13 Mar. Agreement reached with Royal Laotian Government to employ B-52s against Mu Gia Pass infiltration route.

13-15 Mar. Operation: TAMPA

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

13-17 Mar. Operation: SALEM

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-18 Inf.

13-28 Mar. Operation: JIM BOWIE

Location: Dak Som, Song Ba, Kannack, Kon Truck, LZ COLUMBUS, LZ EDDY, LZ NAIL, LZ PHOENIX CITY, north-central Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde (13-21 Mar): 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 2-19 Art, A/1-30 Art; 3d Bde (13-28 Mar): 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, 2-5 Cav (13-15 Mar), C/1-9 Cav, 1-21 Art. **Execution:** The 1st and 3d Bdes conducted this operation in the Kon Truck Base Area located in the Dak Som Valley 30 km north-northwest of Vinh Thanh. After the 1st Bde was withdrawn, the 3d Bde continued sweeping the AO through the old CIDG camp at Kannack and back to An Khe. **Results:** 25 enemy killed, 7 detained, 3 US KIA, 377 WIA.

13-31 Mar. Operation: 4-66

Location: Quang Nam and Thua Thien Provinces. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Phu Bai along the Quang Nam/Thua Thien border.

14 Mar. Student demonstrators take over Quang Ngai radio station; Hue and Quang Ngai schools close, anti-GVN protests increase.

14 Mar. COMUSMACV requests development of suitable B-52 targets along Laotian border with I and II CTZs.

14 Mar. First USAF squadron arrives at newly-activated Phan Rang airbase.

14 Mar. The enemy attacks an ARVN Bn at Bung Cao in Binh Duong Province (31 enemy killed, 2 detained, 19 ARVN KIA, 4 ARVN WIA).

14 Mar. During rescue effort of a downed UASF F-4 30 miles south-southeast of Thanh Hoa, a HU-16 Albatross seaplane is hit by NVN shore battery fire and sunk. USS Berkeley and USS ISBELL take shore positions under fire while USN helicopters rescue 6 of the total 8 UASF personnel from the two aircraft.

14-19 Mar. Operation: HONOLULU/AN DAN/42/66

Location: Bao Trai, Hoa Khanh, Song Vam Co Dong, LZ QUEEN, AO PINEAPPLE, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div; 25th ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf (from 19 Mar), 2-27 Inf, A/1-69 Arm, A/3-4 Cav, 1-8 Art, C/2-32 Art, B/65th Eng Bn; 25th ARVN Div (elts). **Execution:** the brigade conducted search and destroy operations southwest of Bao Trai along the Song Vam Co Dong. **Results:** 45 enemy killed, 18 detained, 2 US KIA, 56 US WIA.

14-21 Mar. Operation: BUCHANAN/WYAT EARP/KAME-HAMEHA IV

Location: Route 19, Pleiku and Binh Dinh Provinces. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 2-35 Inf, 1-77 Art.

14-30 Mar. Operation: GOLDEN FLEECE II

Location: Le My, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** rice harvest protection. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Marines. **Task organization:** 1/3. **Execution:** the operation was designed to protect the rice harvest in the Le My area.

15 Mar. II Field Force Vietnam activated at Bien Hoa under MG Jonathan O. Seaman, USA. Field Force Vietnam redesignated I Field Force Vietnam, remains at Nha Trang under MG Stanley R. Larsen, USA.

15 Mar. Da Nang 90% paralyzed by general strike; about 1,000 ARVN personnel join 3,500-man protest demonstration.

16 Mar. Thi arrives in Da Nang from Saigon, begins series of speeches in I Corps.

17-18 Mar. Operation: WHEATON

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

17-18 Mar. Operation: PALESTINE

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** security **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

18-27 Mar. Operation: KINGS

Location: Thanh Quit, Song La Tho, Song Ky Lam, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/3 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 2/12 Marines. **Intelligence:** R20 Doc Lap PLAF Bn. **Execution:** the operation was designed to extend the 9th Marines TAOR from the La Tho-Thanh Quit line south to the Ky Lam. On 25 Mar, 2/9 Marines was attacked by two companies from the R20 Bn, killing 40 while losing 5. **Results:** 58 enemy killed, 8 US KIA, 60 US WIA.

19 Mar. The 1st PLAF Regiment overruns the An Hoa outpost on Hill 141 12 km south-southwest of Binh Son and defended by the 936th RF Company.

20-23 Mar. Operation: OREGON

Location: Ap Dai Phu, Ap Chi An; LZ ROBIN, LZ DUCK, LZ EAGLE, Street Without Joy, Route 597, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Group FOXTROT⁶. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines, 1/4 Marines, 4/12 Marines (-). **Intelligence:** D802 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** The operation took place in the 'Street Without Joy' north of Phong Dien. Landing on LZ DUCK, 1/4 Marines ran into the D802 Bn fortified in Ap Chi An hamlet. **Results:** 48 enemy killed, 7 detained, 11 US KIA, 45 US WIA.

20-24 Mar. Operation: CUU LONG 15

Location: Kien Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th ARVN Division. **Results:** 219 enemy killed, 17 detained, 3 ARVN KIA, 30 ARVN WIA.

20-25 Mar. Operation: TEXAS/LIEN KET 28

Location: An Hoa outpost, Hill 141, Phuong Dinh (2), Vinh Tuy Valley, Thach An Noi, Xuan Hoa, Phuoc Loc (1), Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines⁷; 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines, 2/4 Marines, 3/7 Marines, 3/11 Marines, M/4/11 Marines; 4th ARVN Regiment (-), 1/5 ARVN Bn, 5th ARVN Abn Bn. **Intelligence:** 60th and 90th Bns, 1st PLAF Regiment; 11th Bn, 21st PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The operation was mounted to recapture the An Hoa outpost. On 21 Mar, the Marines encountered heavy resistance in Phuong Dinh (2), Thach An Noi and Xuan Hoa hamlets. **Results:** 386 enemy killed, 99 US KIA, 212 US WIA, 7 ARVN KIA, 34 ARVN WIA.

21 Mar. The 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div, relocates its base camp from Long Binh Post to Bearcat.

21 Mar. Three enemy Bns supported by artillery attack the 1/52 ARVN Bn at Vo Xu in Binh Tuy Province (107 enemy killed, 8 detained, 12 AVN KIA, 28 ARVN WIA).

21 Mar. First 11 US River Patrol Boats arrive in Vietnam.

21 Mar. Operation: LE LOI 21

Location: Darlac Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Con-**

6 Established 3 Mar to replace Task Unit HOTEL and control operations in the Phu Bai TAOR.

7 Task Force DELTA was reactivated from 22-24 Mar with the 7th Marines' staff.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

trolling headquarters: 23rd ARVN Div. **Results:** 134 enemy killed, 2 US KIA, 10 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA.

21 Mar.-5 May **Operation:** BENNING/TRAIL BOSS

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div.

22 Mar. Struggle forces take over Radio Hue, strike anti-American themes in broadcasts.

23 Mar. Massive strikes led by students and Buddhist activists that started after Thieu and Ky removed a popular I Corps commander, General Thi, for allegedly failing to crack down on Buddhist dissidents, spread north to Da Nang and Hue.

23 Mar. The enemy attacks the 1st ARVN Arm Cav Sqn training center in Binh Duong Province (70 enemy killed, 2 detained, 30 ARVN KIA, 60 ARVN WIA).

23-25 Mar. **Operation:** BROWNSVILLE

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

23-26 Mar. **Operation:** MAENG HO 5

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Execution:** operation was conducted east of Route 1 and south of the Phu Cat Mountains. **Results:** 341 enemy killed, 17 ROK KIA, 48 ROK WIA.

24 Mar. The enemy attacks Bu Prang RF/PF outpost in Quang Duc Province (212 enemy killed, 5 ARVN KIA, 17 ARVN WIA).

24 Mar. USCG cutter USS POINT CYPRESS sinks a VC junk at mouth of Soi Rap River.

24-25 Mar. **Operation:** WAYCROSS

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div; 5th ARVN Division. **Execution:** operation took place northwest of Phu Loi.

24-26 Mar. **Operation:** BRUNSWICK

Location: Route 13, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

24-26 Mar. **Operation:** DAN CHI 211B

Location: Ba Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Division. **Results:** 245 enemy killed, 5 detained, 17 ARVN KIA, 20 ARVN WIA.

24-29 Mar. **Operation:** OLYMPIA

Location: Binh Duong. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

25 Mar. President Johnson signs FY 1966 supplemental appropriations bill approving additional SEASIA war budget and transferring MAP funding to the individual services.

25-27 Mar. **Operation:** MONROE

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

25 Mar.-8 Apr. **Operation:** LINCOLN

Location: Duc Co, Plei Mei, Chu Pong Massif, Ia Drang Valley, TURKEY FARM, LZ OASIS, LZ BEAR, LZ EAGLE, LZ CAT, Pleiku Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde, 1st Cav Div: 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 1-9 Cav, 1-12 Cav, C/3-4 Cav, B/1-69 Arm, 2-19 Art, B/2-17 Art; 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div (from 31 Mar): 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, 1-21 Art; 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div (from 31 Mar): 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-9 Art. **Intelligence:** 18B PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** LINCOLN was mounted to spoil the enemy preparations for a possible monsoon offensive. The 1st Bde moved its CP to LZ OASIS on the 25 and air-assaulted its 1-8 Cav directly from An Khe to LZ BEAR, 10 km southeast of Duc Co, while 2-8 Cav and 1-12 Cav moved by C-130 and motor convoy to OASIS and Duc Co respectively. From 26-29 Mar the battalions swept south of Duc Co into the Ia Drang with minimal contact. On the 30, scouts from A/1-9 Cav reinforced with A/1-12 Cav made heavy contact near LZ EAGLE south of the Chu Pong Massif with a battalion from the 18B PAVN Regiment, killing 197. On the 31, the operation was reinforced by the 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div flown from An Khe to Plei Mei and the 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div returning from Ban Brieng via road convoy to Duc Co. The three brigades searched the jungle around the Chu Pong until 8 Apr but had little contact with the enemy. **Results:** 477 enemy killed, 12 detained, 41 US KIA, 93 US WIA.

26 Mar.-6 Apr. **Operation:** JACKSTAY

Location: Can Gio, Long Tau Shipping Channel, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF (TF 79). **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines, 4th and 5th VNMC Bns. **Execution:** the operation was aimed at clearing the shipping channel to Saigon. **Results:** 63 enemy killed, 6 detained, 5 US KIA, 25 US WIA, 2 US MIA.

26 Mar.-21 Jul. **Operation:** FILLMORE⁸

Location: Tuy Hoa, Tuy An, Dong Tre, Song Da Rang, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy, rice harvest protection. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div (TF 2-327 from 8 Apr); 2d ROK Mar Bde, 47th ARVN Regiment. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, A/2-17 Cav, 2-320 Art, B/1-30 Art, A/326th Eng Bn; 1st, 2nd and 3rd ROK Mar Bns, 47th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Intelligence:** 18B and 95th PAVN Regiments. **Execution:** The brigade continued search and destroy operations in the Tuy Hoa Valley and in the surrounding mountains to protect the rice crops. On 7 Apr, 1-327 fought an estimated enemy company in the mountains northwest of Tuy Hoa, killing 28. On 8 Apr, the operation was scaled down to battalion size as the bulk of the brigade departed south for Operation AUSTIN. **Results:** 373 enemy killed, 73 detained, 10 US KIA, 94 US WIA, 20 ROK KIA, 50 ROK WIA.

26 Mar.-23 Sep. **Operation:** SU BOK

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Execution:** operation was conducted east of Route 1 and south of the Phu Cat Mountains as a long term pacification effort following Operation MAENG HO 5. **Results:** 299 enemy killed, 33 detained, 23 ROK KIA, 84 ROK WIA.

27 Mar. About 20,000 Buddhists in Hue stage largest anti-GVN demonstration to date.

27 Mar.-1 Apr. **Operation:** RED BALL VII

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-28 Inf.

27 Mar.-5 May **Operation:** HAMILTON II/BUCHANAN II

Location: Route 19, Pleiku and Binh Dinh Provinces. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div, 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

28 Mar. The 25th Inf Div headquarters arrives in RVN, located at Cu Chi.

28 Mar. The 4th Marines headquarters is relocated to Phu Bai.

28-30 Mar. **Operation:** INDIANA/LIEN KET 30

Location: Lam Loc, Phuoc Loc, Vinh Loc, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines; 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, 2/7 Marines, 3/11 Marines, 3/5 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 1st PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** On 28 Mar, 3/5 ARVN was attacked by an estimated enemy regiment at Lam Loc (1), in the old TEXAS/LIEN KET 28 AO. 1/7 and 2/7 Marines reinforced the embattled ARVN and ran into an estimated battalion in the hamlet of Vinh Loc (2), killing 69. **Results:** 169 enemy killed, 11 US KIA, 45 US WIA.

29 Mar. 1st Marine Division command post established at Chu Lai, relieving 3d Marine Division of all responsibilities in the Chu Lai TAOR.

29 Mar.-5 Apr. **Operation:** CIRCLE PINES

Location: Phu Hoa Dong, Filhol Plantation, Ho Bo Woods, Binh Duong and Hau Nghia Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf (29 Mar-2 Apr), 2-27 Inf (2-5 Apr) 1-69 Arm (-), A/3-4 Cav, 1-8 Art, B/65th Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** The operation was conducted in the Filhol Plantation and adjacent Ho Bo Woods north of Cu Chi with moderate contacts. **Results:** 157 enemy killed, 6 detained, 30 US KIA, 195 US WIA.

30 Mar.-15 Apr. **Operation:** ABILENE

Location: May Tao Secret Zone, Courtenay Plantation, Binh Ba, Xa Can My, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy.

⁸ US participation terminated on 20 Jun. when Operation NATHAN HALE kicked off.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Controlling headquarters: 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 1-16 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav (-), 1-5 Art; 2d Bde: 2-16 Inf, 1-18 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-7 Art; 1RAR, 1st APC Trp, 161 Bty RNZA. **Intelligence:** 274th and 275th PLAF Regiments. **Execution:** The operation searched the Courtenay Plantation and the May Tao Secret Zone harboring the 5th PLAF Division but met little of the enemy except on 11 Apr when 2-16 Inf clashed with the D800 Bn in the Courtenay, killing 41 of the enemy but losing 38 KIA and 71 WIA.

31 Mar. A record number of monthly returnees under the Chieu Hoi Program is set at 2,336.

Arrival:	
1 Mar.	VMFA-542 633d CSG
3 Mar.	3d Amph Tractor Bn
6 Mar.	178 th Avn Co 7 th Motor Trans Bn
7 Mar.	162d Avn Co 36 th SMEH 67 th SMEH 604 th Trans Co 3d 8" Howitzer Bty 1 st 155mm Gun Bty HMM-164
8 Mar.	HQ II FFORCEV Artillery 605 th Trans Co 14 th ACW 5 th ACS 20 th ACS NMCB 1
9 Mar.	574 th S&S Co
10 Mar.	HQ 52d Ord Grp 173d Avn Co 569 th Supply Co 17 th Fld Hosp 552d Trans Co
11 Mar.	125 th Signal Bn 25 th MI Co
13 Mar.	1-69 Arm 25 th MP Co
14 Mar.	35 th TFW 389 th TFS
15 Mar.	HQ I FFORCEV ⁹ HQ II FFORCEV HQ Force Logistic Command Force Logistic Support Grp B
16 Mar.	HQ 89 th MP Grp 178 th Eng Co ¹⁰
18 Mar.	3/4 Marines
20 Mar.	1 st Med Bn 1 st Shore Party Bn 366 th TFW
22 Mar.	1 st Recon Bn
24 Mar.	3-4 Cav (-)
27 Mar.	1 st Antitank Bn
28 Mar.	HQ 25 th Inf Div 63d Signal Bn 1 st Tank Bn
29 Mar.	HQ 1 st Mar Div
30 Mar.	25 th S&T Bn 25 th Med Bn
Departure:	
31 Mar.	105 th Fld Bty

APRIL

Apr. A new CIDG camp opens at Hiep Hoa for Det A-351.

9 Redesignation of Field Force, Vietnam.

10 Redesignated 178th Supply Co on 20 July 1966.

1 Apr. US military strength in RVN reaches 236,000.

1 Apr. At 0510, the enemy detonates an estimated 450 pounds of explosive at entrance to Victoria BOQ in Saigon/Cholon. First three floors extensively damaged; upper floors and surrounding houses moderately damaged. (3 US KIA, 107 US WIA; 3 AUS WIA; 3 VN KIA, 6 VN WIA).

1 Apr. 2d Air Division redesignated 7th Air Force, continues as the USAF component of USMACV.

1 Apr. US Naval Forces, Vietnam (NAVFORV) established to exercise operational control of USN forces in RVN as naval component of USMACV.

1 Apr. USARV Signal Bde (USASTRATCOM Signal Bde, SEA) activated.

1 Apr. MG Pham Xuan Chieu, National Leadership Secretary General, briefly taken hostage by Hue struggle forces.

1 Apr. First flotilla of Alaska Barge and Transport Company closes Nha Trang to provide lighterage and port management at several RVN ports.

1-7 Apr. Operation: YORK

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-28 Inf.

1-11 Apr. Operation: ORANGE

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Marines. **Task organization:** 1/3 Marines.

2 Apr. Some US vehicles damaged in wave of violent Saigon demonstrations.

2-12 Apr. Operation: LIGHTNING V/BUN KAE 66-5

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Execution:** operation took place west of Phu Cat. **Results:** 292 enemy killed, 74 detained, 23 ROK KIA, 62 ROK WIA.

3 Apr. Premier Ky declares that Da Nang is in communist hands and indicates GVN troop movement to the city is imminent. Ky and Chief of State Thieu announce a National Political Congress will soon convene to discuss creation of a constitution-drafting body.

3 Apr. Enemy fires 10 British 25-pounder artillery shells from Cambodia into the Cai Cai Special Forces camp in Kien Tuong Province.

4 Apr. American civilians evacuated from Dalat where demonstrators burn radio station and clash with police. US jeep burned in continuing Saigon demonstrations. Martial law declared in Nha Trang. Hue demonstrators threaten US installations.

4 Apr. COMUSMACV authorized to employ napalm along selected infiltration routes in southern Laos, under FAC control, against moving motorized vehicles and AAA/AW positions firing on aircraft.

4 Apr. Converted seaplane tender USS CORPUS CHRISTI BAY arrives at Cam Ranh Bay to provide a floating maintenance facility for US Army helicopters

5 Apr. Premier Ky flies to Da Nang with two VNMC battalions beginning a confrontation with the anti-GVN struggle forces. Ky announces that the city has been infiltrated, not taken over by communists. 1st ARVN Div Commander, BG Pham Xuan Nhuan, declares solidarity with the struggle movement. All US advisors to the division withdrawn to base camps. Demonstrators clash with riot police and airborne units in Saigon.

6 Apr. All non-essential US civilians evacuated from Hue where thousands of demonstrators demand the end of the GVN and its US backing.

6 Apr. GVN flies two Ranger battalions to Da Nang in an attempt to break the stalemate with an additional show of force against the struggle movement. 1st ARVN Div troops in Hue pass a resolution denouncing the Ky government but pledging to fight with US and FW troops against the communists.

6 Apr. COMUSMACV refuses JGS request for aircraft to fly the Rangers to Da Nang.

6 Apr. At peak of Da Nang crisis, struggle leaders agree to

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

remove two howitzers from range of airbase. More than 200 US and third country civilians evacuated from the city.

6 Apr. LTG Ton That Dinh assumes command of I Corps. One VNMC battalion withdrawn from Da Nang airbase.

6 Apr. In reaction operation to a VC attack in Kien Tuong Province, ARVN units kill 140 enemy, suffer 13 KIA and 8 WIA.

6 Apr. The Da Nang confrontation ends as the GVN returns the last of its "Task Force" units to Saigon and rowdy demonstrations cease in Da Nang and Hue. The National Political Congress opens in Saigon.

6 Apr. B-52s used against NVN for the first time, striking the Mu Gia Pass near the NVN-Laos border to augment tactical efforts to close the main infiltration route via the Laotian Panhandle. It is the first use of the massive B-52 bombardment pattern for road interdiction.

6 Apr. The enemy launches intensive mortar attack on Tan Son Nhut airbase. Approximately 157 rounds of 82mm mortar and 75mm RR rifle fire kill 7 US personnel and wound 135 US and 14 ARVN. Four aircraft destroyed and 50 damaged. 400,000-gallon fuel storage tank destroyed and some base installations damaged.

6 Apr. CINCPAC requests reduction in road cratering and radar bombing because of critical air munitions shortages in SEASIA.

6 Apr. 7th Air Force institutes continuous nighttime airborne alert, with four aircraft aloft at all times.

6 Apr. An estimated enemy company attacks an ARVN company in Quang Ngai Province (7 ARVN KIA, 13 ARVN WIA, 24 ARVN MIA).

6-8 Apr. Operation: KAHUKU

Location: Phuoc Vinh Ninh, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** Task Force GREER: 1-5 Inf (M)(-), B/3-4 Cav, C/1-69 Arm. **Execution:** operation took place 4 km east of Cu Chi with minimal contact. **Results:** 26 enemy killed, 10 detained, 8 US WIA.

8-10 Apr. Operation: IOWA

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines, 2/4 Marines.

9 Apr. An estimated enemy battalion attacks the Tuyen Nhon CIDG camp in Kien Tuong Province.

10-25 Apr. Operation: DENVER-8/66

Location: Song Be (Phuoc Binh), LZ BLACK, LZ JADE, LZ DIAMOND, LZ LILY, LZ JANE, Phuoc Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 1RAR, 3-319 Art, E/17 Cav, D/16 Arm, 161 Bty RNZA, 173d Eng Co. **Intelligence:** estimated 4 enemy Bns in the AO. **Execution:** during the period 10-13 Apr the brigade moved by air to Song Be airfield. On D+4, the brigade commenced battalion-size search and destroy operations southwest, east and northwest of Song Be, meeting little of the enemy, and began retrograde movement to Bien Hoa on 22 Apr. **Results:** 16 enemy killed, 23 detained, 1 US KIA, 16 US WIA, 1 AUS WIA.

11-16 Apr. Operation: MAKAHA

Location: Phuoc My, Trang Bang, Phuoc Hiep. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, A/1-69 Arm, B/3-4 Cav, 1-8 Art, 3-13 Art (-). **Execution:** the operation took place around Phuoc Hiep 8 km northwest of Cu Chi with minimal contact. **Results:** 21 enemy killed, 4 detained, 1 US KIA, 31 US WIA.

11-17 Apr. Operation: MOSBY I

Location: Dak To, Plei Mrong, Route 19, Plei Trap Valley, Dak Hodrai Valley, LZ OASIS, western Pleiku and Kontum Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 2-19 Art; 3d Bde: 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, C/1-9 Cav, 1-21 Art, B/-20 Art; 1-9 Cav (-). **Intelligence:** possible presence of the 32nd, 33rd and 66th PAVN Regiments. **Execution:** With the 1st Bde operating from OASIS and the 3d Bde operating from Plei Mrong, the operation searched the Plei Trap Valley along the

Cambodian border from Route 19 to a point 70 km north, in conjunction with CIDG elements from Duc Co, Plei Mrong, Plei Djereng and Dak To. 1-9 Cav (-) was sent to Dak To and screened the border to the west. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 5 detained, 2 US KIA, 12 US WIA.

12-17 Apr. Operation: NEVADA

Location: Batangan Peninsula, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, 2/7 Marines; 2nd ARVN Div (elts). **Results:** 68 enemy killed, 23 detained.

12-26 Apr. Operation: AUSTIN II

Location: Phan Thiet, Song Mao, Song La Nga Valley, Binh Thuan and Binh Tuy Provinces, II/III Corps boundary. **Type:** search and destroy, long range patrol. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art (-), A/326th Eng Bn. **Execution:** After relocating to Phan Thiet via air and LST during the period 9-12 Apr, the brigade launched a series of operations and long range patrols along the II/III Corps boundary in northwestern Binh Thuan and eastern Binh Tuy Provinces, failing to achieve significant contacts. **Results:** 21 enemy killed.

13-14 Apr. Operation: KEANA¹¹

Location: Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** Task Force GREER: 1-5 Inf (M), C/1-69 Arm, C/1-8 Art. **Intelligence:** 305th Bn, 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** no significant contact was made during this operation. **Results:** 9 enemy killed, 15 detained, 7 US KIA, 27 US WIA.

13-30 Apr. Operation: 5-66

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Chu Lai.

13 Apr.-1 May Operation: LONGFELLOW¹²

Location: Dak To, Tan Canh, Dak Pek, Route 14, Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy, road repair. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div; 24th Special Tactical Zone. **Task organization:** 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 2-9 Art; 42nd ARVN Regiment (elts). **Execution:** the brigade searched the area west of Route 14 north of Dak To towards Dak Pek, protecting US Army engineers upgrading the road to class 30 traffic. **Results:** 11 enemy killed, 3 US KIA, 108 US WIA.

14 Apr. As the National Political Congress closes, Directorate Chairman Thieu promulgates a decree for an elected constituent assembly within five months. The Buddhist Institute "accepts" the decree and agrees that the Ky government should remain in power until the elections.

14 Apr. A VC battalion attacks RF/PF training center in Kien Hoa Province (12 enemy killed, 50 ARVN KIA, 40 ARVN WIA, 90 ARVN MIA).

14 Apr. JCS authorizes CINCPAC to commit any appropriate non-nuclear air munitions in PACOM to operations in SESIA.

14 Apr. Reaction time for B-52 strikes reduced as control decentralized to CINCPAC in coordination with 3d Air Div (SAC) and COMUSMACV.

14-16 Apr. Operation: QUYET THANG 184

Location: Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 2nd ARVN Div. **Results:** 206 enemy killed, 3 detained, 11 ARVN KIA, 49 ARVN WIA.

14-17 Apr. Operation: BOLIVAR

Location: Lai Khe, Phu Cuong, Route 13, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-28 Inf.

14-20 Apr. Operation: MIAMI

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div.

15 Apr. Thi publicly associates himself with the struggle movement, calling for an "immediate change in government" and

¹¹ Also known as Operation KALAMAZOO.

¹² Called Operation LONGFELLOW-BRONCHO in I FFORCEV ORLL.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

more struggle demonstrations.

15 Apr. SECDEF orders the Navy to release and move to SEA-SIA large stores of air munitions held in CONUS for NATO.

16 Apr. The R20 Doc Lap PLAF Bn attacks Co H, 2/9 Marines near Phong Thu in Quang Nam Province. 72 enemy are killed, 7 US WIA and 37 US KIA.

16-21 Apr. Operation: KAHALA

Location: Ho Bo Woods, Route 1, LZ IRON, northeastern portion of Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 1-8 Art, A/1-69 Arm, B/3-4 Cav, B/65th Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** estimated two enemy Cos. **Execution:** the operation took place between the Ho Bo Woods and Route 1 but generated only moderate contacts. **Results:** 47 enemy killed, 22 detained, 3 US KIA, 45 US WIA.

17 Apr. US aircraft hit SAM sites 15 and 17 miles from Hanoi in closest strikes to the capital to date.

17-20 Apr. Operation: YELL

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines.

17 Apr.-1 May Operation: VIRGINIA

Location: Khe Sanh, Ca Lu, Dong Ha, Route 9 Quang Tri Province. **Type:** reconnaissance, search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 3/4 Marines, 1st ARVN Div (one Bn). **Execution:** At the insistence of General Westmoreland, the 4th Marines at Phu Bai conducted this reconnaissance operation around Khe Sanh to evaluate a possible enemy buildup in the area. After flying from Phu Bai to Khe Sanh on 17 Apr, 1/1 began a series a search and destroy operations in a 10 km radius from the base with an ARVN Bn from the 1st Div searching the southeast quadrant, but the Allied force found nothing. The operation was canceled on 23 Apr and III MAF gave the operation a new objective: 1/1 marched from Khe Sanh to Cam Lo along Route 9 which hadn't been traveled by Allied forces in 8 or 9 years. 3/4 was flown to Dong Ha to provide a reaction force in case of trouble. After reaching Cam Lo, 1/1 made the rest of the way by truck and the operation ended.

17 Apr.-9 Jun. Operation: LEXINGTON III

Location: Long Tau Shipping Channel, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-18 Inf, A/1-7 Art. **Execution:** 1-18 Inf conducted search and destroy operations and saturation patrols in the Rung Sat to clear the shipping channel to Saigon. The operation was suspended from 5-21 May when the battalion took part in Operation BIRMINGHAM. **Results:** 61 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 4 US WIA.

18 Apr. USN aircraft strike Uong Bi thermal power plant 14 miles from Haiphong (previously hit during December 1965).

18-20 Apr. Operation: OSTEGO

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div.

19 Apr. Rear Admiral Norwell G. Ward, USN, assumed command as COMNAVFORV and Naval Component Commander.

20 Apr. Estimated 15 enemy sappers penetrate An Khe airfield, damage two C-130s with satchel charges.

20-22 Apr. Operation: OMAHA

Location: Route 13, Chon Thanh, Lai Khe, Binh Long and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** road clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

20 Apr.-3 May Operation: MOSBY II

Location: Route 14, Pleiku, Kontum, Bien Ho, Mang Buk, Plateau Gi, LZ ELWOOD, TURKEY FARM, Pleiku and Kontum Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Cav, 2-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art, A/2-17 Art. **Execution:** The operation unfolded in two phases: from 21-25 Apr the brigade searched the area east of Route 14 between Pleiku and Kontum and from 25 Apr-3 May the brigade swept the inaccessible region between Mang Buk and Plateau Gi in northeastern Kontum Province.

Results: 4 enemy killed, 41 detained, 35 US WIA.

21 Apr. GVN issues decree setting more severe penalties for military desertion.

21 Apr. Four struggle force demonstrators and three RVNAF personnel killed in continuing violence at Dalat.

21-23 Apr. Operation: HOT SPRINGS/LIEN KET 36

Location: Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines; 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines, 2/7 Marines, 3/7 Marines; 1st VNMC Bn, 5th ARVN Abn Bn. **Intelligence:** 1st PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** the operation took place in the same general AO as Operations UTAH, TEXAS and INDIANA. **Results:** 327 enemy killed, 16 detained, 5 US KIA, 33 US WIA, 7 RVNAF KIA, 38 RVNAF WIA.

21 Apr.-10 May Operation: GEORGIA

Location: An Hoa, Phu Long, Song Thu Bon, Song Vu Gia, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, B/1/12 marines, F/2/12 Marines. **Intelligence:** R20 and V25 PLAF Bns. **Execution:** The operation reentered the old Operation MALLARD AO. After establishing a base at An Hoa, the Marines searched for the enemy on both sides of the Song Thu Bon. The heaviest action occurred on 3 May when M/3/9 Marine fought two companies from the R20 Bn near Phu Long (1), killing 15 and losing 5 KIA and 54 WIA. **Results:** 103 enemy killed, 9 US KIA, 94 US WIA.

22 Apr. The enemy mortars and infiltrates new Pleiku airfield, causing light damage and casualties.

22-23 Apr. Operation: CHATTANOOGA

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-26 Inf.

22-23 Apr. Operation: BOWIE

Location: Lai Khe, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** saturation patrolling. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

23 Apr. Enemy MiG-21s engage US aircraft for the first time in the war, unsuccessfully attacking a mission-support aircraft during F-105 strike against Bac Giang railroad bridge 25 miles northeast of Hanoi. F-4C escort aircraft counter the two MiG-21s and eight MiG-17s. Two MiG-17s downed.

24 Apr. The enemy attacks several factories in Gia Dinh Province simultaneously (4 ARVN KIA, 1 ARVN WIA, 2 VN KIA).

24 Apr.-2 May Operation: OSAGE

Location: Bach Ma, LZ CROW, Phu Loc District, Thu Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF (TF 79). **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines. **Intelligence:** estimated PAVN regiment. **Execution:** After air-assaulting atop Bach Ma Mountain northwest of the Hai Van Pass, 1/5 Marines searched eastward down toward the coast but found little of the enemy. **Results:** 8 enemy killed, 8 US KIA, 9 US WIA.

24 Apr.-17 May Operation: BIRMINGHAM

Location: War Zone C, Lo Go, Rach Cai Bac, Rach Ben Da, Tay Ninh West, Suoi Da, Michelin Plantation, LZ RED, LZ CHORD, LZ WILLOW RUN, LZ SAINT LO, LZ VERDUN, Tay Ninh and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde (24 Apr-6 May): 1-2 Inf (24 Apr-1 May), 2-16 Inf, 2-18 Inf (29 Apr-6 May), 1-18 Inf, A/1-4 Cav (4-6 May), 1-5 Art (-), B/2-13 Art; 2d Bde (6-15 May): 1-2 Inf (6-10 May), 2-16 Inf, 1-18 Inf (10-15 May), 2-18 Inf (8-13 May), 1-4 Cav (-) (8-10 May), 1-5 Art (-), B/2-13 Art; 3d Bde: 1-2 Inf (1-6 May, 10-16 May), 2-2 Inf, 1-16 Inf (24 Apr-3 May), 2-18 Inf (24-29 Apr, 6-8 May), 1-28 Inf (6-10 May, 12-13 May), 2-28 Inf (3-16 May), 1-4 Cav (-) (10-11 May), 2-33 Art (-), B/1-7 Art; Div Troops: 1st Eng Bn (-), 1st Avn Bn, 1-4 Cav (24 Apr-7 May, 11-16 May), 1-18 Inf (6-10 May), 1-28 Inf (10-12 May), B/2-13 Art (10-16 May); Div Arty: 8-6 Art (-), 3-319 Art (-) (28 Apr-11 May), A/6-27 Art, A/2-32 Art, C/2-32 Art (6-16 May), 1-2 Inf (7-8 May), 1-4 Cav (-) (7-8 May). **Intelligence:** COSVN headquarters, C230 and C320 PLAF Bns, 70th Guard Regiment. **Execution:** The operation searched for

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

the COSVN headquarters in the western portion of War Zone C along the Cambodian border. Staging from Suoi Da and Tay Ninh West, the 1st and 3d Bdes conducted air-assaults and search and destroy operations in the direction of the Cambodian border. On 30 Apr, 1-2 Inf and 2-16 Inf fought the C230 Bn near Lo Go on the Rach Cai Bac marking the border with RVN, killing 54 of the enemy and losing 6 KIA and 9 WIA. On 6 May, the 2d Bde replaced the 1st and continued operations in northern Tay Ninh Province. On 8 May, a four-battalion raid under TF HOLLINGSWORTH was planned on the suspected COSVN location in the northernmost portion of War Zone C but was canceled because of extremely poor weather. On 9 May, the operation was shifted east of Dau Tieng in the Michelin Plantation but made no significant contacts. **Results:** 118 enemy killed, 20 detained, 56 US KIA, 324 US WIA, 1 US MIA.

25 Apr. The enemy attacks the district town of Cau Ke in Vinh Binh Province during daylight.

26 Apr. First MiG-21 of the war is downed by a USAF F-4C firing Sidewinder missiles in a brief engagement involving two F-4Cs (undamaged) and two MiG-21s 65 miles north-northeast of Hanoi; the pilot ejects.

26 Apr. A new CIDG camp opens at Duc Phong for Det A-343.

26 Apr. **Operation:** COUNTY FAIR II

Location: Thanh Quit, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/9 Marines, 3/51 ARVN Bn.

26-28 Apr. **Operation:** BEE BEE

Location: Bong Son, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div.

26-30 Apr. **Operation:** WYOMING

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines, 2/5 Marines. **Execution:** operation took, place 15 miles northwest of Chu Lai.

27 Apr. The 1,000th NVA truck damaged/destroyed in TIGER HOUND air operation against southern Laos infiltration routes since program began 6 December 1965.

27 Apr.-13 May **Operation:** MAILI

Location: Bao Trai, Duc Lap, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div **Task organization:** 1-27 Inf, A/3-4 Cav, B/65th Eng Bn, A/1-8 Art. **Intelligence:** Dong Thap 2 PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** Task Force 1-27 Moved from Cu Chi to Duc Lap to conduct search and destroy and pacification operations east of Bao Trai. **Results:** 47 enemy killed, 2 detained, 5 US KIA, 22 US WIA.

28 Apr. Premier Ky authorizes construction of new MACV headquarters at the Tan Son Nhut soccer field.

28 Apr. Thousands of laborers reopen Mu Gia Pass in NVN 18 hours after a B-52 strike closes it.

29 Apr. The 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div arrives in RVN, located at Cu Chi.

29 Apr. Col Nguyen Ngoc Loan, MSS Chief, replaces Col Pham Van Lieu as GVN Director General of National Police.

30 Apr. B-52 strikes on Mu Gia Pass halted by CINCPAC pending JCS decision based on calculated risk of NVN SAM environment.

Arrival:

1 Apr.	HQ 1 st Signal Bde 725 th Maint Bn 1 st Trans Bn 1 st Motor Trans Bn HMM-161
2 Apr.	3-13 Art
5 Apr.	2/5 Marines
7 Apr.	174 th Avn Co
8 Apr.	377 th CSG 10 th TFS 390 th TFS 480 th TFS

	360 th TEWS 361 st TEWS 14 th SPS 377 th SPS 35 th SPS 633d SPS
10 Apr.	Support Command Saigon
11 Apr.	92d MP Bn 95 th MP Bn 175 th Avn Co 58 th Trans Bn 534 th Trans Co VMFA-115
13 Apr.	NMCB 7
15 Apr.	6 th Convalescent Center
16 Apr.	26 th ROK Inf Regt
17 Apr.	13 th BS
20 Apr.	64 th QM Bn HQ IATF
24 Apr.	HQ 44 th Med Bde
25 Apr.	4 th Avn Bn
29 Apr.	HQ 1 st Bde, 25 th Inf Div 4-9 Inf 2-14 Inf 4-23 Inf ¹³ 7-11 Art
30 Apr.	25 th Avn Bn VMA-214
Departure:	
8 Apr.	4503d TFS ¹⁴
18 Apr.	8 th BS
25 Apr.	Co A, 5 th Avn 132d Avn Co

MAY

1 May US military strength in RVN reaches 252,000.

1 May RADAR WEATHER WATCH a strategic network for SEASIA, inaugurated at Tan Son Nhut to provide excellent weather observation for a 75-mile radius and moderate resolution to 200 miles.

1 May First three USN Patrol Air Cushion Vehicles (PACV) arrive in RVN.

1-4 May **Operation:** FORT WAYNE

Location: War Zone D, Long Khanh and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde.

1-18 May **Operation:** AUSTIN VI

Location: Gia Nghia, Nhon Co, Bu Gia Map, Song Be, II/III CTZs boundary, Quang Duc and Phuoc Long Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art (-), A/326th Eng Bn; TF 2-503 Inf. **Intelligence:** estimated two PAVN regiments. **Execution:** Relocating to Gia Nghia in Quang Duc Province, the 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div conducted this operation in an area never before penetrated by US forces. 2-502 Inf searched along the Quang Duc/Phuoc Long Provinces border from Nhon Co to Bu Gia Map in conjunction with a task force of the 173d Abn Bde operating from Song Be while 1-327 search south and east of Gia Nghia. Only two company-size contacts were achieved. **Results:** 101 enemy killed, 6 detained, 9 US KIA, 18 US WIA.

2-11 May **Operation:** LIHUE

Location: Route 1, Route 22, Cu Chi, Tay Ninh City, Hau Nghia and Tay Ninh Provinces. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M), C/1-69 Arm, 558th Eng Bn (-). **Execution:** the operation secured the road from Cu Chi to Tay Ninh during Operation

13 Reorganized as a mechanized battalion by January 1967.

14 Assets used to from 10th TFS.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

BIRMINGHAM while the 588th Eng Bn performed road maintenance.

3 May MG K. Mackay, MHB, assumes command of Australian Forces, Vietnam.

3 May A new CIDG camp opens at Thuong Thoi for Det A-432.

3-15 May **Operation:** LEWIS & CLARK

Location: Plateau Gi, An Khe, Kontum and Binh Dinh Province

Type: reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Cav, B/1-9 Cav, B/1-77 Art. **Execution:** after terminating MOSBY II, the brigade conducted a reconnaissance-in-force operation all the way from Plateau Gi to Camp Radcliff in northwestern Binh Dinh Province.

Results: 6 enemy killed, 2 detained, 7 US KIA, 62 US WIA.

3-16 May **Operation:** DAVY CROCKETT/BINH PHU 3

Location: Binh De, Tuong Son, Tuy An, Thanh Son, Bong Son, Kim Son Valley, LZ DOG, LZ PONY, LZ BIRD, Binh Dinh Province.

Type: search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Cav (from 9 May), 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, 1-9 Cav, 1-21 Art, A/2-17 Art, C/8th Eng Bn, 3rd ARVN Arm Cav Sqn. **Intelligence:** 22nd PAVN Regiment. **Execution:**

On 3 May the brigade relocated from An Khe to Bong Son via Phu Cat to conduct search and destroy operations in the Bong Son plain where the 22nd PAVN Regiment had been reported. On 5-6 May, 2-7 Cav made contact with the 9th Bn, 22nd PAVN Regiment at Bin De 2, a hamlet west of Tam Quan, killing 63. The 9th Bn was again contacted on 6-7 May at Thanh Son 2, suffering heavy losses including its commander. The operation was reinforced with 1-5 Cav and the brigade entered to Kim Son Valley on 11 May to conduct hunter/killer operations but found little. The 3rd ARVN Arm Cav Sqn participated in the operation, screening Route 1 to the east. **Results:** 345 enemy killed, 82 detained, 27 US KIA, 155 US WIA.

4 May The enemy attacks An Lac village in Lam Dong Province (1 ARVN KIA, 6 ARVN MIA, 19 VN civilians kidnapped).

4-6 May **Operation:** DEXTER

Location: Tan Uyen, Song Dong Nai, LZ DIAMOND, northwestern Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task Organization:** 1-503 Inf, 3-319 Art (-), D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav. **Execution:** the operation was conducted on the island formed by the arms of the Dong Nai south of Tan Uyen. **Results:** 1 enemy killed.

4-7 May **Operation:** CHEROKEE

Location: Co Bi, Thanh Tan, Phong Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 1/4 Marines, 3/4 Marines. **Results:** 9 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 17 US WIA.

4 May-6 Jun. **Operation:** - (Ky Lam Campaign)

Location: Hoi An, Dien Ban, Dai Loc, Do Nam, An Trach, Song La Tho, Song Thanh Quit, Song Thu Bon, Song Ky Lam, Song Dien Binh, Song Cau Lau, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines, 1/9 Marines, 2/9 Marines, 3/9 Marines, 2/12 Marines. **Intelligence:** R20 Doc Lap PLAF Bn. **Execution:** The objective of the campaign was to clear the regimental zone of action of organized resistance south to the line of the Thu Bon-Ky Lam-Dien Binh-Cau Lau-Hoi An Rivers. On 12 May, B/1/9 Marines is attacked by the R20 Bn near Do Nam. 30 enemy are killed and 12 US KIA. On 20 May, 1/9 Marines engages the R20 again at An Trach, killing 83 and losing 12 KIA and 31 WIA. **Results:** 270 enemy killed, 75 US KIA, 328 US WIA.

5-12 May **Operation:** 6-66

Location: Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Tay Ninh

6 May COMUSMACV reviews 7th AF inventories, concluding that air munitions should be plentiful by the end of 1966; he declines to reduce the number of B-52 strikes in order to increase bombs available for tactical air support.

7 May Premier Ky tells the press that his government will remain in power until the election of a national assembly "some time in 1967," since the forthcoming constituent assembly will only draft a constitution and not be transformed into a legislative body. Ky also says he and his military colleagues will oppose any elected government which turns out to be neutralist or communist.

7 May OICC officially turns over the Binh Tuy airbase in Phong Dinh Province to the GVN.

8 May US and VNAF aircraft extend GATE GUARD program of LOC interdiction into southern NVN from SE Laotian Panhandle.

8-11 May **Operation:** AKRON

Location: Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div.

Task organization: A/1-5 Inf (M), 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf, 7-11 Art, A/1-69 Arm, A/65th Eng Bn; 7th ARVN Regiment (elts).

Intelligence: 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** this was the first operation of the 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div, conducted in the Filhol Plantation with minimal contact. The 7th ARVN Regiment occupied blocking positions along the eastern edge of the plantation.

Results: 4 enemy killed, 2 detained, 6 US KIA, 25 US WIA.

9-14 May **Operation:** MONTGOMERY/LIEN KET 40

Location: Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy.

Controlling headquarters: 7th Marines, 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, 2/7 Marines, 2nd and 5th VNMC Bns.

10 May A 120-foot steel-hulled enemy trawler is detected, attacked and heavily damaged by USCGC POINT GRAY and US and VNAF planes along the east coast of the Cau Mau Peninsula. Salvage operations yield about 15 tons of weapons and ammunition manufactured in Communist China in 1965, movie projectors, film, and other propaganda material.

10 May In confused firing after a VC mine explodes near the Brink BOQ in Saigon, 5 VN civilians are killed. 21 VN wounded and 8 US wounded.

10 May CINCPAC recommends JCS approval of air strikes to destroy NVN POL system beginning with Haiphong POL sites.

10-12 May **Operation:** WAYNE

Location: Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 3/4 Marines. **Execution:** operation took place 10 miles south of Phu Bai **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 11 US WIA.

10 May-31 Jul. **Operation:** PAUL REVERE I¹⁵

Location: Duc Co, Plei Me, Plei Djereng, Se San River, Ia Drang Valley, Chu Pong Massif, Plei Grong Dang, LZ OASIS, LZ TEN ALFA, LZ ELEVEN ALFA, LZ ORANGE, Pleiku Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div; 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div: 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 2-9 Art, C/3-4 Cav; 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div (1-10 Jun): 2-5 Cav, 1-9 Cav (-), 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art; I FFORCEV Reserve (from 30 Jul): 2-7 Cav; CRID (from 9 Jul): 3rd Bn, Cav Regt. **Intelligence:** 1st PAVN Division. **Execution:**

The operation started as a small offensive to blunt a sortie of the 1st PAVN Division from its Cambodian strongholds but soon escalated into a major contest for the western plateau. Operating from LZ OASIS, the 3d Bde searched southwest of Duc Co with negative contact. On 24 May, a CIDG company was ambushed near Plei Djereng and the brigade shifted its efforts to the northwest. Fierce fighting erupted from 28-29 May when 1-35 Inf and 2-35 Inf were attacked on LZ TEN ALFA and LZ ELEVEN ALFA by the 66th PAVN Regiment and part of the 33rd. 250 enemy were killed in the fighting. On 1 Jun the 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div joined the operation sending two battalions northwest of Duc Co along the Se San but found nothing and reverted to 1st Cav Div control on 10 Jun. On 17 Jun, the 3d Bde returned its attention to the Chu Pong Massif, making several contacts near the Cambodian border. On 3 Jul, 1-35 Inf made heavy contact with the 7th Bn, 66th PAVN Regiment near the Cambodian border north of the Ia Drang. 23 enemy were killed, 17 US KIA and 32

15 ARVN companion operation was THANG PHONG 14, no other info.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

US WIA. On 9 Jul, the 3rd Bn, ROK Cavalry Regiment joined the operation but achieved no contact. On 30 Jul, the brigade received control of the I FFORCEV reserve, 2-7 Cav, which was air-assaulted into LZ ORANGE 7 km Southwest of OASIS. On 1 Aug, the operation phased into PAUL REVERE II. **Results:** 546 enemy killed, 68 detained, 66 US KIA, 320 US WIA, 2 US MIA, 16 ARVN KIA, 41 ARVN WIA.

11 May USN jets strike SAM site 10 miles from Haiphong, the closest strike to date.

12-13 May Operation: ASHEVILLE

Location: Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf. **Execution:** operation took place southeast of Cu Chi. **Results:** 4 enemy killed.

14-22 May 1-69 Arm is relocated from Cu Chi to Pleiku in the Central Highlands.

14 May First RC-47 (PHYLLIS ANN) aircraft deployed to Tan Son Nhut to begin USAF program of pinpointing enemy lower power HF radio transmitters.

14-16 May Operation: DAN CHI 227

Location: An Xuyen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Div. **Results:** 247 enemy killed, 19 detained, 1 ARVN KIA, 44 ARVN WIA.

15 May GVN marines and paratroopers airlifted to Da Nang from Saigon and Quang Ngai take control of I Corps HQ, the Da Nang garrison, city hall, the National Police garrison, and the radio station, encountering only isolated small arms and grenade fire as the struggle forces retreat into pagodas. I Corps Commander Ton That Dinh takes asylum in III MAF HQ; GVN names MG Huynh Van Cao to replace him.

16 May AC-47 aircraft authorized to fly night armed reconnaissance missions over Laotian section of the Sihanouk Trail.

16 May An estimated enemy company attacks and ARVN RF company in Phu Yen Province (3 enemy killed, 23 ARVN KIA, 20 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA).

16-27 May Operation: WAHIAWA

Location: Boi Loi Woods, Ho Bo Woods, Filhol Plantation, Trung Lap, Hau Nghia and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf, 7-11 Art, A/3-4 Cav, A/65th Eng Bn; 2d Bde: 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 1-8 Art, B/65th Eng Bn; Div Arty: 3-13 Art (-). **Intelligence:** 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** The 25th Inf Div conducted search and destroy operations with the 1st Bde operating in the Filhol Plantation and the 2d Bde operating in the Boi Loi and Ho Bo Woods. **Results:** 157 enemy killed, 10 detained, 30 US KIA, 240 US WIA.

16 May-5 Jun. Operation: CRAZY HORSE/BUN KAE 66-7

Location: Vinh Thanh, Vinh Thanh Valley, Suoi Ca Valley, 'Oregon Trail', LZ SAVOY, LZ COBRA, LZ HEREFORD, LZ HORSE, LZ MONKEY, LZ CLEMSON, LZ HOTEL, Binh Dinh Province. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 1-5 Cav (16-30 May), 1-8 Cav (16 May, 20 May-5 Jun), 2-8 Cav (16 May, 18 May-5 Jun, 1-9 Cav (-) (19-31 May), 1-12 Cav, 2-12 Cav (17-19 May), A/8th Eng Bn, TF BRAVO (22nd ARVN Div) (28 May-5 Jun), 2nd Bn, 1st Cav Regt CRID (28 May-5 Jun), 236th, 240th, 241st and 242nd CIDG Cos (26-31 May); 2d Bde: 1-5 Cav (31 May-1 Jun), 2-5 Cav (16-19 May, 1-5 Jun), 2-7 Cav (16-24 May), 2-12 Cav (23 May-5 Jun); 3d Bde: 2-5 Cav (19-29 May), 2-7 Cav (24 May-5 Jun), 1-8 Cav (17-19 May), 2-8 Cav (19 May), 1-9 Cav (-) (1-5 Jun), 2-12 Cav (20-23 May); Div Troops: 1-5 Cav (1-5 Jun), 1-9 Cav (-) (16-19 May); Div Arty: 2-19 Art (+) (16 May-5 Jun), 2-17 Art (-) (16 May-5 Jun), 3-18 Art (19 May-5 Jun), C/1-30 Art (19 May-5 Jun), B/29 Art (16 May-5 Jun), E/82 Art (16 May-5 Jun). **Intelligence:** 2nd PLAF Regiment; C14 Co, 32nd PLAF Art Bn. **Execution:** The operation was mounted to spoil a probable attack of the 2nd PLAF Regiment on the Vinh Thanh CIDG camp planned for 19 May (Ho Chi Minh's birthday). On 16 May, B/2-8 Cav was air-assaulted into LZ HEREFORD 5 km northeast of Vinh Thanh, making immediate

contact with an estimated enemy battalion. Cos A & C, 1-12 Cav reinforced the contact until the enemy withdrew on 17 May. More battalions were committed to the operation. On 17-18 May, 2-12 Cav made contact near LZ HORSE with a company size enemy force. On 21 May, 1-8 Cav fought the 8th Bn, 22nd PAVN Regiment east of HORSE and killed 60. The same day, The Weapons Platoon of C/1-12 Cav guarding LZ HEREFORD was attacked and driven off the hill, losing 16 KIA and 4 WIA before the enemy withdrew. From 24-25 May, artillery and air strikes pounded suspected enemy concentrations before 4 CIDG Cos entered the target box while US units maintained a seal around it. The 241st CIDG Co came under fire and called for assistance, 1-5 Cav was air-assaulted into LZ MONKEY and met stiff resistance. It was the last contact of the operation, in the following days the enemy evaded the Allied noose and retreated into the mountains. **Results:** 507 enemy killed, 27 detained. FWF losses: 83 KIA, 356 WIA and 1 MIA.

16 May-8 Jun. Operation: HARDIHOOD

Location: Nui Dat, An Phu, Hill 72, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde.

Task organization: 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, E/17 Cav: D/16 Arm, 5RAR, D/1RAR, 105 Fld Bty. **Intelligence:** 274th and 275th PLAF Regiments, D445 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** The operation was conducted around Nui Dat to protect the establishment of the a base camp for the 1st Australian Task Force. **Results:** 48 enemy killed.

17 May ARVN officer fires on helicopter leaving Hue with Gen Cao. CoS III MAF, and DSA I Corps aboard; helicopter gunner kills officer.

17 May HSAS officially disestablished and the Naval Support Activity, Saigon, simultaneously established under CAPT E. T. King, USN, to provide support to US Naval Forces in II, III, IV CTZs and coastal waters.

17 May Operation: DAN CHI 228B

Location: Bac Lieu Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Div. **Results:** 265 enemy killed, 5 detained, 6 ARVN KIA, 35 ARVN WIA.

17-21 May Operation: PROVIDENCE

Location: Tan Uyen, Phuoc Vinh, Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

18 May The enemy attacks Soc Trang airfield in Ba Xuyen Province (41 enemy killed, 6 detained, 1 US WIA).

18 May CINCPAC directs COMUSMACV to undertake surveillance of Cambodia, taking maximum advantage of oblique photography in areas contiguous to RVN.

18 May The enemy attacks an ARVN Bn in Binh Long Province (15 enemy killed, 1 detained, 17 ARVN KIA, 20 ARVN WIA).

19 May After completion of Operation AUSTIN VI, the 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div (less 2-327 Inf still on operation FILLMORE) is moved by air to Cheo Reo (Hau Bon) for a period of rest and to serve as I FFORCEV reserve.

18 May After his formal installation as new I Corps Commander, Gen Cao asks for asylum at III MAF HQ, claiming his life is in danger.

19 May Enemy attacks Gio Linh post in Quang Tri Province with 150 rounds of 82mm mortar fire followed by a ground assault by an estimated battalion (8 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 42 ARVN KIA, 54 ARVN WIA).

19 May. The Con Thien outpost is hit by mortar fire and assaulted by an estimated enemy company (20 enemy killed, 20 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA).

19-26 May Operation: EL PASO I

Location: Route 13, Loc Ninh, Binh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-16 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav (-), 2-33 Art. **Intelligence:** 101st APVN Regiment, 271st and 272nd PLAF Regiments. **Execution:** the brigade was dispatched to Loc Ninh to spoil a possible attack on the town and adjacent CIDG camp by the 9th PLAF Division, but found no sign of the enemy. **Results:** 11 enemy killed.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

20 May Vehicular traffic along Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos reaches virtual stand still due to air interdiction, road wash-outs and landslides. TIGER HOUND air strikes concentrate on heavy activity along Sihanouk Trail.

20 May The enemy attacks Tan Phu RF post in An Xuyen Province (11 ARVN KIA, 7 ARVN WIA, 32 ARVN MIA).

20 May The 261st PLAF Bn attacks the positions of the 3/15 ARVN Bn at My An in Kien Phong Province, inflicting moderate casualties.

20-22 May **Operation:** MORGAN

Location: Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/7 Marines, 2/4 ARVN Bn.

21 May US aircraft evacuated from Da Nang airbase after 11 dissident mortar rounds hit base, wounding 4 USAF personnel. VNAF fire strikes new III MAF CP in Da Nang, wounding 11 USMC personnel.

21 May First class of Revolutionary Development cadre teams trained under revised program graduates from the Vung Tau National Training Center and is deployed in 59-man teams to secure 80 hamlets.

21-23 May **Operation:** LONG PHI 971

Location: Kien Giang Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Div. **Results:** 224 enemy killed, 22 detained, 6 ARVN KIA, 47 ARVN WIA.

22 May The 5th Marines arrives in RVN, located at Chu Lai.

23 May Da Nang restored to GVN control as the main struggle-force pagoda surrenders without opposition, followed by the final pockets of resistance. Struggle forces in Hue vow to defend that city against a GVN takeover.

23 May-25 Jun. **Operation:** ATHENS

Location: Route 1, Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/4 Marines. **Execution:** 3/4 Marines kept Route 1 opened between Phu Bai and Phu Loc.

23 May-18 Jun. **Operation:** 7-66

Location: Pleiku Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB OASIS in support of Operation PAUL REVERE.

24 May The enemy mortars Plei Djereng, killing 30 CIDG and wounding 54.

24 May **Operation:** CHEYENNE I

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF (TF 79). **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines. **Execution:** operation took place 20 km north of Chu Lai.

24-28 May **Operation:** MOBILE

Location: Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, 5th ARVN Abn Bn, 5th VNMC Bn. **Execution:** operation took place 20 km north of Quang Ngai.

25 May 66-8 Feb.67 **Operation:** LAM SON II

Location: Phu Loi, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** saturation patrolling, cordon and search, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** Div Arty, 1st Inf Div; 5th ARVN Div. **Task organization:** Phu Loi Pacification Task Force: 1-26 Inf (25 May-16 Jul); 2-2 Inf (16 Jul-?), 2-13 Art (one bty), 1st Eng Bn (elts), 5th ARVN Div (elts). **Execution:** the operation was aimed at clearing the area around Phu Loi followed by progressive pacification activities in selected areas.

26 May USIS library in Hue burned by student demonstrators as National Police and 1st ARVN Div troops stand aside.

26 May Panamanian merchant ship EASTERN MARINER damaged by mine at Nha Be; French vessel MILOS DEL MAR undamaged by another mine. No casualties.

26 May An estimated 2 enemy Bns attack ARVN/PF position in Kien Phong Province (20 enemy killed, 51 ARVN KIA, 63 ARVN WIA, 5 ARVN MIA).

27 May All non-essential US civilians evacuated from Hue. Premier Ky, Gen Thi meet at USMC installation in Chu Lai.

27 May An estimated 2 enemy Bns attack Duc Hue district town in Hau Nghia Province (20 enemy killed, 20 ARVN KIA, 30 ARVN WIA, 7 ARVN MIA).

27 May RF company captures a new CHICOM B-50 anti-tank rocket launcher believed to have been used in the sinking of a Swift boat in Gia Dinh Province.

29 May Buddhist nun commits self-immolation in Hue in first of a series of protests against US and GVN actions

30 May **Operation:** QUYET THANG 296

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2nd ARVN Div. **Results:** 100 enemy killed, 2 ARVN MIA.

30 May-8 Jun. **Operation:** RENO

Location: Dong Ha, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines. **Intelligence:** possible enemy regiment. **Execution:** 2/4 Marines flew from Da Nang to Dong Ha and conducted a reconnaissance-in-force operation in a 8 km-radius from the town with no contact. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, no US casualties.

30 May-9 Jun. **Operation:** ADELAIDE I

Location: Route 16, Ong Dong Jungle, Tan Uyen, Phuoc Vinh, Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, road repair. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

Execution: Operation was conducted to provide security for the 1st Eng Bn upgrading Route 16 from Tan Uyen to Phuoc Vinh. In addition, a long-term project was initiated aimed at the complete penetration and reduction of the Ong Dong Jungle, a traditional VC safe haven. The area was systematically defoliated and sliced into checkerboard squares by bulldozers to provide rapid access.

31 May USAF aircraft heavily damage Yen Bay military storage complex in largest strike against a single target in NVN to date; two US planes lost to ground fire.

31 May GVN and Buddhist Institute leaders reach apparent agreement to ease crisis, with Directorate to be expanded by 10 civilians.

31 May JCS confirms decision to drop planned construction of Hue/Phu Bai airbase because of political situation, instead construct airfield at Tuy Hoa and a third runway at Chu Lai.

31 May 2nd ARVN Div Commander MG Hoang Xuan Lam becomes acting I Corps Commander.

31 May **Operation:** CHEYENNE II

Location: (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF (TF 79). **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines.

31 May-7 Jun. **Operation:** ADELAIDE II

Location: Phu Gia District, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy, cordon and search **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

Arrival:

4 May	SRAR
8 May	HQ 48 th Trans Grp 303d ASA Bn 1/5 Marines 223d Avn Bn
15 May	Det &, 612 th TFS
16 May	Support Command Cam Ranh Bay
21 May	NMCB 6
22 May	HQ 5 th Marines HMM-265
23 May	103 Fld Bty
24 May	329 th Trans Co 29 th CA Co
25 May	HQ 1 st Avn Bde 222d Avn Bn
26 May	HMM-361
27 May	595 th Signal Co 2/11 Marines
30 May	169 th Eng Bn
31 May	22d CHEM Co

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Departure:

5 May 175th Avn Co

JUNE

1 Jun. US military strength in RVN reaches 261,000.

1 Jun. Struggle-force mobs in Hue sack and burn US Consulate and several residences and seize a large number of weapons; US Army aircraft evacuated to Phu Bai and US personnel confined to Hue MACV compound.

1-7 Jun. Operation: BEAVER

Location: Co Bi, Thanh Tan, Phong Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines.

2 Jun. GVN requests United Nations observers for the September elections.

2 Jun. Ten-day Force Development Conference opens at CINCPAC HQ in Hawaii.

2-21 Jun. Operation: HAWTHORNE/DAN THANG 61

Location: Dak To, Dak Pha, Route 610, Toumorong, Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div; 24th ARVN Special Tactical Zone.

Task organization: 1-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art (B & C btys), B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326th Eng Bn; 1-5 Cav (10-21 Jun); 1/42 ARVN Bn, 21st Ranger Bn. **Intelligence:** 24th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The operation was mounted to relieve the Toumorong outpost 17 km northeast of Dak To under siege for several days. The 21st Ranger Bn was helicoptered northwest of the outpost while 1-327, Inf landed to the northeast. 1/42 ARVN Bn moved on foot via Route 610 and all three Bns converged on the outpost, relieving the garrison on 5 Jun. On 7 Jun, the 24th PAVN Regiment attacked an FSB established at Dak Pha near and old French fort, destroying two guns. On 8 Jun, the 1-327's Tiger Force ran into an estimated enemy battalion, losing 5 KIA and 17 WIA. On 9 Jun, B/2-502 bumped into another enemy battalion and was nearly overrun, calling an air strike on its own position to break the NVA onslaught. On 13 Jun, a B-52 strike devastated the 24th Regiment, killing 200. **Results:** 531 enemy killed, 22 detained, 48 US KIA, 239 US WIA.

2 Jun-13 Jul. Operation: EL PASO II

Location: An Loc (Hon Quan), Loc Ninh, Minh Thanh, Song Be, Ap Tau O, Srok Dong, Route 13, Route 245, Hill 150, Hill 177, LZ SUSAN, Binh Long and Phuoc Long Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, security, roadrunner. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde (2 Jun-13 Jul): 2-28 Inf (2 Jun-13 Jul), 1-16 Inf (6-23 Jun, 2-8 Jul), 2-2 Inf (8-9 Jun), 2-18 Inf (8-27 Jun), 1-28 Inf (26-30 Jun), 2-33 Art (-) (2 Jun-13 Jul), C/2-13 Art (6-28 Jun), D/1-4 Cav (2-27 Jun), A/1-4 Cav (8-27 Jun); 1st Bde (9-29 Jun, 30 Jun-13 Jul): 2-2 Inf (9-28 Jun, 2-12 Jul), 2-16 Inf (9-28 Jun), 1-2 Inf (13-20 Jun, 22-28 Jun, 30 Jun-13 Jul), 1-18 Inf (28-29 Jun, 9-13 Jul), 2-18 Inf (30 Jun-1 Jul, 4-9 Jul), 1-28 Inf (30 Jun-13 Jul), 1-16 Inf (8-13 Jul), C/1-4 Cav (21-29 Jun), 1-4 Cav (-) (30 Jun-13 Jul), 2-13 Art (-) (9-28 Jun) Jun), C/2-33 Art (9-29 Jun), D/8-6 Art (10-29 Jun), D/1-5 Art (13-17 Jun), 8-6 Art (-) (30 Jun-13 Jul); Div Arty: 8-6 Art (-) (18-27 Jun); Div Troops: 1-28 Inf (20-26 Jun), 2-18 Jun (27-30 Jun, 2-4 Jul, 9-12 Jul), 1-18 Inf (29 Jun-9 Jul), B/1-5 Art (20-26 Jun), 1-4 Cav (-) (27-30 Jun); 9th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Intelligence:** 9th PLAF Division: 271st, 272nd, 273rd PLAF Regiments. **Execution:** The operation was mounted to defend Allied installations in Binh Long and Phuoc Long and conduct search and destroy operations against the 9th PLAF Division. Operation commenced on 2 Jun when 2-28 Inf was airlifted to Loc Ninh and began patrolling operations in the area. On 4 Jun the enemy attacked Loc Ninh airfield and damaged 7 helicopters from D/1-4 Cav. On 6 Jun 1-16 Inf was placed under opcon 3d Bde and airlifted to Loc Ninh. On 8 Jun two more battalions joined the operation. On the same day, A/1-4 Cav protecting an ARVN convoy was ambushed by two battalions of the 272nd Regiment on

Route 13 near Ap Tau O, killing 105 but losing 14 US and 19 ARVN KIA. On 9 Jun, the 1st Bde joined the operation, moving its CP to Minh Thanh. On 11 Jun, 2-28 Inf had a major contact with the 1st Bn, 273rd Regiment near Hills 150 and 177 northwest of Loc Ninh, killing 98 by bodycount but losing 33 KIA and 33 WIA. On 18 Jun, 1-4 Cav with B & C Troops conducted a roadrunner operation from Phu Loi to Hon Quan with negative contact. On 20 Jun, 2-16 Inf was moved to Dau Tieng while 1-28 Inf was airlifted to Song Be. On 22 Jun, 2-16 Inf and 2-2 Inf found numerous supply caches around Dau Tieng but had little contact. On 28 Jun, the 3d Bde and 2-28 Inf relocated from Loc Ninh To Song Be. On 30 Jun, the 1st Bde rejoined the operation and moved to Quan Loi. The same day, B & C Troops, 1-4 Cav on a roadrunner operation were ambushed near Srok Dong by the 271st Regiment, 2-18 Inf and 1/9 ARVN Bn reinforced the contact, killing 267 and detaining 15. On 9 July, B & C Troops, 1-4 Cav and B/1-2 Inf conducted a roadrunner operation along the Minh Thanh road (Route 245) to provoke an ambush. The 272nd Regiment attacked the column late in the morning and 1-28 Inf, 1-18 Inf, 1-16 Inf and 2-2 Inf were brought in to reinforce the contact, killing 238 while losing 25 KIA and 113 WIA. **Results:** 825 enemy killed, 37 detained, 125 US KIA, 424 US WIA, 22 ARVN KIA, 71 ARVN WIA, 16 ARVN MIA.

3 Jun. The headquarters of the 1st Marines, is relocated from Chu Lai to Da Nang.

3-9 Jun. Operation: MUSKEGON

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

3-9 Jun. Operation: MAKIKI

Location: Duc Hue and Trang Bang Districts, central Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div; 49th ARVN Regiment. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M), 4-23 Inf, 1-27 Inf (-), 2-27 Inf (-), 1-8 Art, 3-13 Art, B/65th Eng Bn; 49th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Intelligence:** Dong Thap 2 PLAF Regiment, C210 PLAF Co. **Execution:** operation took place west of Trang Bang with minimal contact. **Results:** 21 enemy killed, 28 detained, 2 US KIA, 50 US WIA.

3 Jun.-3 Jul. Operation: FORT SMITH

Location: Ap An Binh, Trang Bang District, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-14 Inf, A/3-4 Cav (25 Jun-3 Jul), B/3-4 Cav (10-19 Jun), B/7-11 Art, A/7-11 Art (17-21 Jun). **Intelligence:** C50, C54 and C85 PLAF Cos. **Execution:** 2-14 conducted search and destroy operations and assisted in pacification operations around Ap An Binh. **Results:** 12 enemy killed, 8 detained, 6 US KIA.

4 Jun. A new CIDG camp opens at Trai Bi for Det A-323.

5 Jun. The 1st Australian Task Force becomes operational under II FFORCEV with headquarters established at Nui Dat.

5-12 Jun. Operation: FLORIDA/DOAN KET

Location: Co Bi, Thanh Tan, Song Bo, Song O Lau, Phong Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines, 1st ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines, 2/4 Marines, 3/12 Marines; 1st ARVN Div: two Inf Bns, one VNMC Bn, two Abn Bns. **Intelligence:** 6th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The operation was delayed by Buddhists demonstrators in Hue setting up roadblocks on Route 1. When the operation finally got underway on 10 Jun, it found no sign of the enemy. **Results:** 15 enemy killed, 4 US WIA.

6 Jun. RVN Armed Forces Council names 10 civilians to National Leadership Committee.

6 Jun. Operation: LONGSTREET

Location: Tuy Hoa, Qui Nhon, Route 1, Binh Dinh and Phu Yen Provinces. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROK Mar Bde. **Task organization:** 1st, 2nd, 3rd ROK Mar Bns.

6-10 Jun. Operation: JOLIET

Location: Phuoc Vinh Ninh, Ap Dong Bao, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf. **Execution:** the operation was conducted 4 km east of Cu Chi. **Results:** 3 enemy

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

killed.

6-12 Jun. Operation: APACHE

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/5 Marines. **Execution:** operation was conducted 12 miles west-northwest of Chu Lai.

6-20 Jun. Operation: BENNING II

Location: Route 19, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div.

7 Jun. 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div uncovers first sizable amount of Soviet small arms ammunition in cache in Pleiku Province.

7-12 Jun. Operation: TAN PHONG III

Location: Pleiku Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 24th Special tactical Zone. **Results:** 135 enemy killed, 6 detained, 20 ARVN KIA, 36 ARVN WIA.

7-30 Jun. Operation: LIBERTY

Location: Hoi An, Dien Ban, Dai Loc, Song La Tho, Song Thanh Quit, Song Thu Bon, Song Ky Lam, Song Dien Binh, Song Cau Lau, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div **Task organization:** 1st Marines: 1/1, 3/1; 3d Marines: 1/3, 2/3, 3/3; 9th Marines: 1/9, 2/9, 3/9. **Execution:** Operation LIBERTY was an extension of the Ky Lam Campaign, with all three regiments advancing to the Ky Lam line shoulder to shoulder, scrubbing the countryside from VC insurgents.

8 Jun. Attempted enemy ambush of an ARVN battalion in Binh Long Province results in 250 enemy killed, 1 detained, 25 ARVN KIA, 58 ARVN WIA and 19 ARVN MIA

8 Jun. Tri Quang begins extended anti-GVN and anti-US hunger strike as Buddhists block Hue streets with altars.

8 Jun. The enemy attacks US quarters in My Tho, Dinh Tuong Province, with 60mm mortar and 57mm RR fire (1 US KIA, 33 US WIA, 2 VN KIA, 11 VN WIA).

8 Jun. COMUSMACV directs 7th AF to target water buffaloes observed by FACs in TIGER HOUND area.

8-9 Jun. Operation: ADELAIDE III

Location: Di An, Phuoc Vinh, Binh Duong and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** road clearing. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

8-18 Jun. Operation: HOLLANDIA

Location: Long Hai, Vung Tau, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav. **Intelligence:** 274th and 275th PLAF Regiments. **Execution:** the operation was conducted in the Long Hai Hills north-east of Vung Tau with minimal contact.

9 Jun. BG Le Nguyen Khang, Saigon Military Governor, becomes III Corps Commander, replacing Nguyen Bao Tri who takes over General Political Warfare Directorate.

9 Jun. Buddhist altars halt US and ARVN troop movement through Hue, causing 24-hour delay in Operation FLORIDA.

9-21 Jun. Operation: HOOKER I

Location: Route 19, Plei Trap Valley, Pleiku and Kontum Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art. **Execution:** The operation took place in the Plei Trap Valley north of Route 19 in support of Operation HAWTHORNE. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, no friendly casualties.

9 Jun.-14 Jul. Operation: UNIONTOWN

Location: Bien Hoa, Long Binh, RMK Rock Quarry, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 4-23 Inf. **Execution:** 4-23 Inf was employed by HQ II FFORCEV to provide security for the Bien Hoa airbase, RMK rock quarry and the Long Binh logistics area.

12 Jun. The enemy attacks a RF company in Quang Ngai Province (8 enemy killed, 8 ARVN KIA, 17 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA, 9 civilians KIA).

12-14 Jun. Operation: FARGO

Location: Phuoc Hiep, Ap Bo Dieu, Route 1, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf,

7-11 Art, A/3-4 Cav. **Intelligence:** C26 and C50 PLAF Cos. **Execution:** the operation was aimed at clearing VC roadblocks and tax collection points on Route 1 west of Cu Chi. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 detained, 3 US WIA.

13 Jun. An estimated enemy Bn attacks the 218th RF Company in Binh Dinh Province (32 ARVN KIA, 34 ARVN WIA, 40 ARVN-MIA).

13 Jun. Operation: MEXICALI

Location: Hau Nghia Province (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M).

13-22 Jun. Operation: KANSAS

Location: Tam Ky, Hiep Duc, Nui Loc Son, Que Son Basin, Nui Vu (Hill 488), Hill 555, Song Tranh, Quang Tin Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force X-Ray. **Task organization:** 1st Recon Bn, 1st Force Recon Co, C/1/5 Marines, E/2/5 Marines, 2/11 Marines, 4/11 Marines. **Intelligence:** 2nd PAVN Division: 3rd and 21st PAVN Regiments, 1st PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** Originally planned as a reconnaissance-in-force of the Do Xa Base Area, Operation KANSAS was shifted to the Tam Ky-Hiep Duc area after reports indicating that the 2nd PAVN Division had reentered the Que Son valley. On 13 Jun, the 1st Recon Bn command group with a 13-man team (Team 1) were helicoptered on Nui Loc Son near the center of the valley. Another 18-man team (Team 2) was landed on Nui Vu (Hill 488) while a 13-man team (Team 7) from the 1st Force Recon Co made a parachute insertion on Hill 555 just east of the Song Tranh. On 14 Jun three more teams were inserted but found little. During the night of 15-16 Jun, Team 2 led by SSG Jimmie L. Howard was attacked on Nui Vu by an estimated battalion from the 3rd PAVN Regiment but managed to hold its ground until relieved in the morning by Co C, 1/5 Marines. 42 enemy bodies were found while Team 2 had 6 KIA and 12 WIA. On 21 Jun E/2/5 Marines was inserted to exploit a B-52 strike but found nothing. The operation ended on the 22 without expanding much beyond the reconnaissance stage. **Results:** 85 enemy killed, 15 US KIA, 32 US WIA.

13 Jun.-4 Jul. Operation: SANTA FE

Location: Ap Hau Ha, Giong Lon, Nhanh Hoa, Duc Hoa District, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div **Task organization:** 1-27 Inf (Cos A & B), B/1-8 Art. **Execution:** This was an area pacification operation conducted 4 km northwest of Duc Hoa by TF 1-27. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 21 detained, 14 US KIA, 30 US WIA.

13 Jun.-15 Jul. Operation: FRESNO

Location: Ap Dong Hoa, Bao Trai, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div **Task organization:** 2-27 Inf, 1-8 Art (-), 4/49 ARVN Bn. **Execution:** This was a search and destroy and pacification operation conducted 6 km northwest of Bao Trai. **Results:** 15 enemy killed, 40 detained, 2 US KIA, 25 US WIA.

15 Jun. A new CIDG camp opens at Buon Blech for Det A-238.

15 Jun. GVN decree creates predominantly civilian 80-man People Army Council to advise GVN on political, economic and social matters.

15 Jun. GVN troops and riot police begin formal operation to clear struggle forces from Hue.

16 Jun. Letter from Tam Chau protesting Tri Quang's actions publicly confirms extremist-moderate split in Buddhist hierarchy.

17-21 Jun. Operation: HELEMANO

Location: Trang Bang District, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf. **Execution:** operation conducted west of Trang Bang with minimal contact. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 detained.

17-23 Jun. Operation: DODGE

Location: Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines. **Execution:** operation was conducted 5 miles west-north of Phu Bai with negative contact.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

18 Jun. COL Ngo Quang Truong replaces BG Pham Xuan Nhuan as 1st ARVN Division Commander.

18 Jun. The enemy attacks CIDG and RF companies in Phu Yen Province (16 enemy killed, 17 ARVN KIA, 13 ARVN WIA, 6 ARVN MIA).

18 Jun. Operation: NOGALES

Location: Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

Task organization: 1-5 Inf (M). **Results:** 1 enemy killed.

18-30 Jun. Operation: DECKHOUSE I

Location: Tuy An, Song Cau, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF (TF 79) **Task organization:** 3/5 Marines. **Execution:** the operation swept the coast between Tuy An and Song Cau in coordination with Operation NATHAN HALE.

19 Jun. Hue restored to GVN control as troops and riot police pacify pagodas and other struggle strongholds, remove last Buddhist altars from streets and arrest key dissidents.

19 Jun.-1 Jul. Operation: NATHAN HALE

Location: Trung Luong, Dong Tre, Hill 258, Route 1, Route 6B, LZ EAGLE, LZ AXE, FSB CROSSROADS, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div, 1st Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2-327 Inf, A/2-17 Cav, A/2-320 Art, 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 1-9 Cav (-), 1-21 Art, 5-27 Art (-). **Intelligence:** 18B PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The operation was conceived to spoil a possible attack by the 18B PAVN Regiment on the Dong Tre CIDG camp. On 19 Jun, 2-327 Inf was combat-assaulted into LZ EAGLE in the Trung Luong Valley east of Dong Tre and engaged the 7th Bn, 18B Regiment near Hill 258. On 20 Jun, the 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div took control of the operation, establishing its CP at Dong Tre and airlifting 1-8 Cav from Kontum to Tuy Hoa. The battalion deployed by helicopter to Dong Te and then to LZ AXE to reinforce 2-327 Inf, clashing with another battalion from the 18B Regiment. 2-7 Cav was committed on 22 Jun, followed by 1-7 Cav on 24 Jun. On 26 Jun, the 1st Bde, 1st Cav Div was also brought in with 2-8 Cav and 1-9 Cav but little additional contacts were made as the NVA withdrew from the battle area. **Results:** 459 enemy killed, 36 detained, 62 US KIA, 333 US WIA, 4 MIA.

20 Jun. USCGC POINT LEAGUE shadows and drives 100-foot enemy trawler aground near mouth of Co Chien River in Vinh Binh Province. The trawler is captured intact, with 100 tons of cargo including more than 2,300 weapons, many of 1966 CHICOM manufacture, and new type of 75mm fin-stabilized HEAT projectile.

21 Jun. An estimated enemy Bn attacks the 345th RF Company in Lam Dong Province (20 enemy killed, 1 detained, 2 US WIA, 31 ARVN KIA, 26 ARVN WIA).

21-23 Jun. Operation: EHU

Location: Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

Task organization: 4-23 Inf. **Execution:** 4-23 Inf conducted a methodical search of the Filhol Plantation, destroying extensive bunker complexes. **Results:** 8 enemy killed.

21-24 Jun. Operation: LAM SON 238

Location: Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st ARVN Div. **Results:** 331 enemy killed, 40 detained, 37 ARVN KIA, 104 ARVN WIA.

21 Jun.-5 Jul. Operation: ENOGERA

Location: Xa Long Phuoc, AO KHAKI, Phuoc Tuy Province.

Type: search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF.

Task organization: 6RAR, 1 APC Sqn (3 Trp), 161 Bty RNZA.

Execution: this was the first operation by 6RAR conducted 2 km southeast of Nui Dat. **Results:** 1 AUS WIA.

22 Jun. The enemy attacks the US airfield at Soc Trang for sixth time in 9 months, with estimated 20 rounds of 75mm RR fire (3 US WIA, 3 O-1Es damaged, 1 UH-1D destroyed, 16 UH-1Ds damaged).

22 Jun. An estimated enemy Bn attacks 3 ARVN Bns in Quang Ngai Province (43 enemy killed, 2 detained, 20 ARVN KIA, 36 ARVN WIA,).

23 Jun. GVN troops and police enter Saigon Buddhist Institute, seize arms and arrest suspected murderer of policeman.

23 Jun. MACV Standard Design Committee established to adopt a common tri-service construction standard.

23 Jun. An estimated 2 enemy companies attack Trung Nhi post in Binh Duong Province (2 enemy killed, 11 ARVN KIA, 20 ARVN WIA).

23 Jun. Operation: TURNER

Location: A Shau, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** I/3/4 Marines. **Execution:** A reinforced platoon from Co I, 3/4 Marines was inserted on the site of the old A Shau CIDG camp to destroy leftover ammunition.

23 Jun.-8 Jul. Operation: YORKTOWN

Location: Long Khanh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 2-503 Inf. **Execution:** operation was conducted southeast of Xuan Loc.

24 Jun.-15 Jul. Operation: BEAUREGARD¹⁶

Location: Dak To, Mang Buk, Dak Pek, Dak Poko, Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art (A & B Btys), B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326th Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** 24th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** Operating from Dak To, the brigade screened the area east of the Dak Poko during the first week before searching the west side to the Laotian border, looking for signs of enemy infiltration but had no significant contacts. **Results:** 23 enemy killed, 6 detained, 6 US KIA, 39 US WIA.

25-30 Jun. Operation: JAY/LAM SON 284

Location: Phong Dien, Ap Chinh An, My Phu, Song O Lau, Street Without Joy, LZ RAVEN, LZ SHRIKE, Thua Thien Province.

Type: search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines; 1st ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines, 2/4 Marines, 3/4 Marines (I & L Cos), 3/12 Marines; 1st ARVN Div (two Bns), 2nd VNMC Bn. **Intelligence:** 6th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The operation searched the Street Without Joy area north of Phong Dien. 2/4 Marines air-assaulted into LZ RAVEN while 2/1 Marines was inserted on LZ SHRIKE. Two battalions from the 1st ARVN Div established blocking positions along the Song O Lau. Both Marines battalions met strong resistance in the hamlets of Ap Chinh An and My Phu during 25-28 Jun, killing 82 while losing 25 KIA and 58 WIA. The 806th Bn, 6th PAVN Regiment attacked the two ARVN Bns but was repulsed. On 29 Jun, the 802nd Bn ambushed a truck convoy carrying the 2nd VNMC Bn 3 km north of Phong Dien, killing 45 and wounding 95 VN Marines. 2/4 Marines was brought in to reinforce the contact, killing 185 of the retreating enemy. **Results:** 475 enemy killed, 9 detained, 23 US KIA, 58 US WIA.

25 Jun.1 Jul. Operation: COCO PALMS

Location: Ho Bo and Boi Loi Woods, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M), C/7-11 Art, B/3-13 Art, 3/49 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** the combined force searched the Ho Bo and Boi Loi Woods with minimal contact **Results:** 10 enemy killed, 2 detained, 4 US KIA, 83 US WIA.

25 Jun.-2 Jul. Operation: 8-66

Location: Phu Yen Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Dong Tre in support of Operation NATHAN HALE.

26 Jun. An estimated 2 enemy companies attack the 884th RF Company in Binh Thuan Province (23 ARVN KIA, 29 ARVN WIA).

26 Jun. The enemy attacks a hamlet defended by PF in Quang Duc Province (27 ARVN KIA, 2 ARVN WIA, 9 ARVN MIA).

28 Jun. The enemy ambush the 745th RF Company in Quang Tri Province (16 enemy killed, 1 detained, 20 ARVN KIA, 8 ARVN WIA, 12 ARVN MIA).

29 Jun. USAF and USN aircraft bomb POL facilities at Hanoi and

¹⁶ Also known as Operation EAGLE BAIT.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Haiphong for first time, inflicting heavy damage. One USAF F-105 downed by ground fire. Four MIG-17s encountered and one probably destroyed during dog-fight. No SAMs sighted.

29 Jun.-1 Jul. **Operation: OAKLAND/LIEN KET 46**

Location: Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines, 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 2/7 Marines, 3/11 Marines, 2/5 ARVN Bn, 37th Ranger Bn.

30 Jun. First instance of enemy booby-trapping of dead body reported in Pleiku Province.

30 Jun. Construction completed of 170,000 barrel POL tank storage farm at Cam Ranh Bay.

30 Jun. The enemy ambushes the 4/52 ARVN Bn in Long Khanh Province (19 ARVN KIA, 31 ARVN WIA, 35 ARVN MIA).

30 Jun.-31 Jul. **Operation: BENNING III**

Location: Route 19, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div.

Arrival:

1 Jun.	131 st Avn Co 224 th ASA Bn 138 th ASA Co 144 th ASA Co 146 th ASA Co 156 th ASA Co 175 th ASA Co 3d Naval Construction Bde
4 Jun.	53d Signal Bn 74 th Med Bn 7 th MASH US Army POW Hosp 50 th Med Co 538 th Trans Co 534 th Signal Co
5 Jun.	9 th Eng Bn
6 Jun.	1 st APC Sqn ¹⁷ 9 Sqn RAAF
7 Jun.	435 th TFS
8 Jun.	HQ 45 th Eng Grp 76 th Eng Co 61 st Med Bn 6460 th TRS
9 Jun.	HQ 21 st Signal Grp 281 st Avn Co 6RAR
11 Jun.	HQ 55 th Med Grp 282d Avn Co
15 Jun.	8 th BS
16 Jun.	3 Sqn SASR 35 th Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
17 Jun.	HQ 52d Art Grp 3-6 Art C/6-16 How 2-35 Art 1 st MP Bn
18 Jun.	25 th Inf Plt (Scout Dog) 18 th MASH
21 Jun.	418 th Med Co
23 Jun.	266 th S&S Bn
24 Jun.	24 th Trans Bn
25 Jun.	4-503 Inf 179 th Avn Co 300 th MP Co 140 th Maint Co
30 Jun.	183d Avn Co

Departure:

14 Jun.	1RAR
17 Jun.	13 th BS

17 Absorbs 1st APC Troop already in RVN.

JULY

1 Jul. US military strength in RVN reaches 274,000.

1 Jul. USN aircraft sink three NVN PT boats in Gulf of Tonkin, capture 19 NVN seamen.

1 Jul. SAC quick reaction force of six B-52s at Guam initiates continuous alert for strikes against urgent targets in RVN.

1 Jul. LTG William A. Momyer succeeds LTG Joseph H. Moore as Commander, 7th Air Force and DEPCOMUSMACV for Air.

1 Jul. A C-141 aircraft flies from Saigon to Travis AFB, Calif. in the first direct USAF medevac from RVN to the US.

1-6 Jul. **Operation: HOLT/LAM SON 286**

Location: Co Bi, Thanh Tan, Phong Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/4 Marines, 1st ARVN Div (elts). **Intelligence:** D802 Bn, 6th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The Marines attempted to finish off the D802 Bn following Operation JAY but failed to make contact. **Results:** 7 enemy killed, 1 US WIA.

2 Jul. COMUSMACV approves location of 2d Bde, 4th Inf Div at Pleiku.

2 Jul. The enemy ambushes an ARVN company in Binh Duong Province (8 ARVN KIA, 17 ARVN WIA, 8 ARVN MIA).

2 Jul. Construction of new MACV headquarters at Tan Son Nhut soccer field begins.

2 Jul. **Operation: DAN THANG 68**

Location: Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 24th Special Tactical Zone.

2-30 Jul. **Operation: HENRY CLAY**

Location: Chu Dle Ya Base Area, Phu Yen, Phu Bon and Darlac Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 2-19 Art; 3d Bde: 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, C/1-9 Cav, 1-21 Art; 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div: 2-327 Inf. **Execution:** the operation was a sweep throughout the Chu Dle Ya Base Area on the Darlac/Phu Bon boundary and west all the way to the Cambodian border but made no significant contact with the retreating enemy from Operation NATHAN HALE. **Results:** 35 enemy killed, 7 detained, 1 US KIA, 20 US WIA.

3 Jul. 24-hour all-weather bombing authorized against targets in Laos validated by MSQ-77 ground director bombing system (SKY SPOT).

3 Jul.-1 Aug **Operation: KAHANA I&II**

Location: Xuan Loc, Gia Ray, Vo Dat, Vo Xu, La Nga Valley, Long Khanh and Binh Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div; 10th ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf, 4-23 Inf, C/1-5 Inf (M), 7-11 Art; 52nd ARVN Regiment. **Execution:** The operation was mounted to locate the VC forces responsible for the 30 Jun ambush against the 4/52 ARVN Bn. The 1st Bde moved its CP to Xuan Loc to control the operation. On 5 Jul, 4-9 Inf was committed to Gia Ray and on 15 Jul the 4-23 Inf was employed in the Vo Dat-Vo Xu area. The operation also served to reopen the traffic between the La Nga Valley and Saigon. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 1 detained.

4 Jul. Director USAID and GVN Economy and Finance Minister sign agreement providing for US military operation of Saigon port. BG Pham Dang Dan appointed Director General of Ports and USMACV agrees to provide advisory assistance for port management.

4 Jul. **Operation: JAMES BOND**

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** intelligence gathering. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div.

4-14 Jul. **Operation: SYDNEY I**

Location: Xa Binh Ba, AO GOLD, Nui Ghe, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR (one Co), 105 Fld Bty, 1 APC Sqn (elts). **Execution:** operation took place west of Binh Ba, 7 km northwest of Nui Dat. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 3 AUS WIA.

4 Jul.-27 Oct. **Operation: MACON**

Location: An Hoa, My Loc, My Loc, Cu Ban, Song Thu Bon,

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Song Ky Lam, LZ DIXIE, LZ SAVANNAH, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/3 Marines, 3/3 Marines, 3/9 Marines; 51st ARVN Regiment (elts). **Intelligence:** R20 Doc Lap Bn. **Execution:** the operation was mounted to intercept the R20 Bn moving from the Operation LIBERTY AO into the An Hoa Basin. Several minor contacts were made but the enemy battalion couldn't be fixed and destroyed. On 14 July, MACON was scaled down to a battalion-size operation with 3/9 protecting the An Hoa industrial complex against local guerillas. **Results:** 380 enemy killed, 5 detained, 24 US KIA, 72 US WIA.

5 Jul. US aircraft successfully elude 26-28 SAMs over NVN - record number to date launched in one day.

5 Jul. West Germany pledges 14.6 million piaster aid credit to help improve social welfare facilities in SVN.

5 Jul. B-52s under the QUICK RUN concept utilize new MSQ-77 SKY SPOT bombing system and COMUSMACV rapid-response targeting for first time.

5 Jul. Operation: CUU LONG/32/66

Location: Kien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th ARVN Div. **Results:** 155 enemy killed, 4 ARVN KIA, 10 ARVN WIA.

5-11 Jul. Operation: BINH PHU/9/10/11

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 22nd ARVN Div. **Results:** 137 enemy killed, 3 detained, 15 ARVN KIA, 19 ARVN WIA.

6-14 Jul. Operation: WASHINGTON

Location: Hau Duc, Song Tranh, Do Xa Base Area, Quang Tin Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Mar Div **Task organization:** 1st Recon Bn, 1st Force Recon Co, E/2/11 Marines. **Intelligence:** Military Region 5 Headquarters. **Execution:** This was the reconnaissance in the Do Xa Base Area originally planned for Operation KANSAS. On 6 July, the 1st Recon Bn and E/2/11 Marines were helicoptered to Hau Duc and began searching the Song Tranh Valley, soon reinforced with a platoon from the 1st Force Recon Co. Two Marines battalions were standing by at Chu Lai to reinforce if necessary but no contact developed. **Results:** 13 enemy killed, 4 detained, no US casualties.

7 Jul. MiG-21s attack US jets 25 miles northeast of Hanoi, firing air-to-air missiles for first time but with no hits.

7 Jul. The enemy attacks Binh Thuy airbase in Phong Dinh Province with estimated 40 rounds of mortar fire (1 US KIA, 4 US WIA, 1 H-43 destroyed, 1 H-43 and 1 C-47 damaged, 2 vehicles and various installations damaged).

7 Jul. USN A-4s and F-8s strike the Haiphong POL storage area two miles northwest of Haiphong. Pilots report four POL tank destroyed and four probably destroyed.

7 Jul.-3 Aug. Operation: HASTINGS/LAM SON 289

Location: Dong Ha, Cam Lo, Song Ngan ('Helicopter Valley'), the Rockpile, Hill 100, Hill 200, Hill 208, Hill 382, LZ CROW, LZ DOVE, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** Task Force DELTA¹⁸; 1st ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines (from 20 Jul), 2/1 Marines, 1/3 Marines, 2/4 Marines, 3/4 Marines, 3/5 Marines (from Operation DECKOUSE II), 3/12 Marines; 1st ARVN Div (elts). **Intelligence:** 90th and 812th PAVN Regiments, 324B PAVN Division. **Execution:** On 22 Jun, the 4th Marines at Phu Bai sent Task Unit Charlie (E/2/1 Marines, H/3/12 Marines, one platoon each from the 1st Force Recon Co and 3d Recon Bn) to Dong Ha to conduct reconnaissance patrols south of the DMZ. Soon, evidence was found that at least two regiments from the 324B PAVN Division had crossed the Ben Hai and entered Quang Tri Province. 2/1 Marines moved to Dong Ha at the end of June and on 7 Jul, the reconnaissance effort was named Operation HASTINGS. On 12 Jul, Task Force DELTA was reactivated to control the operation as the Allied determined that the 324B had established its CP on Hill 208 in the Song Ngan Valley just below the DMZ. Additional battalions were air-transported to Dong Ha and Cam Lo and on 15 Jul, 2/4 and 3/4 Marines air-assaulted into the Valley on LZ

18 Reactivated on 12 Jul.

DOVE and LZ CROW respectively, meeting strong resistance. 4 CH-46s were destroyed, giving the valley its nickname. On 18 Jul, 3/4 Marines was attacked by an estimated 2 Bns on LZ CROW, killing 138 and losing 14 KIA and 49 WIA. On 24 Jul, I/3/5 Marines was ambushed near Hill 382 by the 6th Bn, 812th Regiment. 21 enemy were killed but the Marines lost 18 KIA and 82 WIA. The 1st ARVN Div operated east of the Marines and west of Route 1 in companion Operation LAM SON 289. **Results:** 882 enemy killed, 17 detained, 126 US KIA, 446 US WIA, 21 ARVN KIA, 40 ARVN WIA.

8-12 Jul. Operation: THANG LONG 243

Location: Ban Me Thuot, Buon Ho, Mewal Plantation, Darlac Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 23rd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/45, 3/45 ARVN Bns. **Execution:** the operation took place south of the east-west grid line AQ 30 between the Mewal Plantation and Buon Ho in coordination with HENRY CLAY. **Results:** 107 enemy killed, 4 detained, 17 ARVN KIA, 39 ARVN WIA.

8-13 Jul. Operation: EWA

Location: Duc Hue, Vam Co Dong, LZ TRIPLER, LZ WAIKIKI, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-27 Inf, A/1-8 Art. **Intelligence:** 267th, 269th and 506th PLAF Bns, C2 and C120 PLAF Cos. **Execution:** 1-27 Inf conducted this operation around Duc Hue between the Vam Co Dong and the Cambodian border. **Results:** 14 enemy killed, 8 detained, no friendly casualties.

9 Jul. Former I Corps generals Nguyen Chanh Thi, Ton That Dinh, Huynh Van Cao, Phan Xuan Nhuan, and Nguyen Van Chuan sentenced to 60 days confinement and removed from military service by special Armed Forces Disciplinary Council.

9-17 Jul. Operation: AURORA I

Location: Long Khanh Province. **Type:** spoiling attack. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav. **Execution:** the operation took place northwest of Xuan Loc, concentrating on road security and disrupting VC tax collection.

9 Jul.-22 Aug. Operation: BUN KAE 66-9

Location: Ia Drang Valley, LZ 27V, Pleiku Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Task organization:** 3rd Bn, ROK Cavalry Regiment, 1-69 Arm (elts). **Execution:** The operation was conducted in conjunction with PAUL REVERE I & II. On 9 Aug, the 9th Company and the attached 1/A/1-69 Arm were attacked on LZ 27V by the 5th Bn, 88th PAVN Regiment, killing 197 of the enemy and losing 7 KIA. **Results:** 197 enemy killed, 6 detained, 7 ROK KIA, 42 ROK WIA.

10 Jul. Two USMC A-4s from Chu Lai sink an armed motorized enemy sampan that was heading toward 2 downed USAF crewmen awaiting rescue in the water 8 miles north of the DMZ.

10 Jul. Operation: POAMOHO

Location: Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-14 Inf.

13 Jul.-3 Sep. Operation: EL PASO III

Location: An Loc (Hon Quan), Loc Ninh, Quan Loi, Route 13, Binh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy, security, roadrunner. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde (13-15 Jul): 1-16 Inf (14-15 Jul), 2-28 Inf (13-15 Jul), 2-33 Art (-) (13-15 Jul); 2d Bde (13 Jul-3 Sep): 2-16 Inf (14 Jul-1 Aug), 1-18 Inf (13 Jul-3 Sep), 2-18 Inf (5-9 Aug), 1-28 Inf (13 Jul-3 Sep), 1-4 Cav (-)(13 Jul-3 Sep), 1-7 Art (-) (13 Jul-3 Sep); 9th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Intelligence:** 9th PLAF Division: 271st, 272nd, 273rd PLAF Regiments. **Execution:** The 2d Brigade replaced the 1st Brigade at Quan Loi to continue EL PASO. The 3d Brigade remained at Loc Ninh until 15 Jul before returning to Lai Khe. The 2d Brigade conducted search and destroy and roadrunner operations for the remainder of the period around Loc Ninh and An Loc but failed to engage the 9th PLAF Division.

14 Jul. Philippine President Marcos signs bill providing for

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

dispatch of 2,000-man Philippine Engineer Battalion (PHILCAGV) to RVN.

14 Jul. USAF F-4Cs down two MiG-21s over NVN using Sidewinder missiles.

14 Jul. Terrorist explosive device kills 1 US, wounds 13 US and 5 VN in Vung Tau, Phuoc Tuy Province.

15 Jul. An ARVN element is ambushed by the enemy near Ben Cat in Binh Duong Province (37 ARVN KIA, 22 ARVN WIA 21 ARVN MIA).

15-23 Jul. Operation: MOKULEIA

Location: Ap Phu Loi, Tan Phu Trung, Sa Nho, Filhol Plantation, Liocara Plantation, Balancie Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M) (- Co C), C/1-8 Art. **Intelligence:** 7th Bn, 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** operation took place around Tan Phu Trung with little contact. **Results:** 5 enemy killed, 25 detained, 7 US KIA, 10 US WIA.

15-23 Jul. Operation: SYDNEY II

Location: Duc My, Xa Binh Ba, AO PURPLE, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR (one Co), 105 Fld Bty, 1 APC Sqn (2 Trp). **Execution:** operation took place 6 km north of Nui Dat. **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 2 detained, no friendly casualties.

15-29 Jul. Operation: 9-66

Location: Darlac Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Buon Blech in support of Operation HENRY CLAY.

16 Jul. US units discover 20mm AA weapons and ammunition in Binh Duong and Quang Tri Provinces, first indication that enemy possesses this caliber weapon.

16-18 Jul. Operation: BRISBANE

Location: Nui Dinh Hills, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, 161 Bty RNZA, 1 APC Sqn (one Trp). **Execution:** operation took place 12 km west-southwest of Nui Dat in the Nui Dinh Hills but produced no contact.

16-30 Jul. Operation: DECKHOUSE II

Location: BLUE Beach, Cua Viet, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF (TF 79); Task Force DELTA. **Task organization:** 3/5 Marines. **Execution:** The SLF landed on BLUE Beach, 2,500 meters north of the Cua Viet. Once ashore, 3/5 Marines passed under control of TF DELTA and joined Operation HASTINGS on 18 Jul. **Results:** included in Operation HASTINGS.

17 Jul. Ho Chi Minh proclaims partial mobilization of NVN, reiterates intransigent stand on settlement of the war.

17 Jul. SECSTATE and SECDEF agree to ARC LIGHT B-52 strikes against selected remote Laos targets, to be executed without knowledge or concurrence of the RLG, with public cover in form of strike in nearby RVN territory.

17 Jul. The enemy attacks an RF company guarding waterworks near Phan Thiet in Binh Thuan Province (9 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA, 6 ARVN MIA).

17 Jul. MG Nguyen Bao Tri replaces Dinh Trinh Chinh as GVN Minister of Information.

17 Jul. The enemy attacks an RF platoon and 2 RD Cadre teams in Quang Tri Province (8 ARVN KIA, 15 ARVN WIA, 13 ARVN MIA).

17 Jul. US pilots sight record 29 SAMs over NVN.

17 Jul. USN F-8E downed by SAM 20 miles south of Hanoi, first US aircraft lost to a SAM since 24 April despite enemy firing of 140-150 missiles.

17 Jul. TALLY HO program of round-the-clock air interdiction begins in southern NVN Panhandle.

17 Jul. USN pilot LtJg Dieter Dengler airlifted from jungle after escaping from enemy prison camp and evading recapture for 20 days.

17 Jul. USAF RB-66 downed by SAM over NVN, the second SAM kill in two days.

17 Jul. The enemy attacks USMC Marble Mountain Air Facility, Da Nang, and adjacent USN hospital with approximately 30 rounds of 81mm mortar (27 US WIA, 10 helicopters damaged, 9 01-Es damaged, 2 U-6As and 3 U-1As damaged).

17 Jul. Operation: LAM SON 290

Location: Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st ARVN Div. **Results:** 135 enemy killed, no friendly casualties.

17-24 Jul. Operation: CEDAR RAPIDS I&II

Location: Route 16, Di An, Phuoc Vinh, Ong Dong Jungle, Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, resupply. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-2 Inf, 2-2 Inf (detached from LAM SON II), 1-16 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 1-5 Art. **Execution:** the brigade protected resupply convoys between Di An and Phuoc Vinh and then conducted a search and destroy operation in the Ong Dong Jungle on 22-24 Jul, making little contact. **Results:** 11 enemy killed.

17 Jul-1 Aug. Operation: HAYES

Location: Dak To, Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1-7 Cav. **Execution:** 1-7 Cav was sent to Dak To to cover the departure of the 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div and conducted a screening mission west of Dak To along the Cambodian border, making no contact with the enemy.

17 Jul.-3 Aug. Operation: AURORA II

Location: Long Khanh, Binh Tuy and Lam Dong Provinces. **Type:** spoiling attack. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, 3-319 Art, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav. **Execution:** the operation took place 80 km northwest of Bien Hoa on the II/III CTZs boundary.

18 Jul. Operation: HAC HO 34

Location: Plateau Gi, Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 24th Special Tactical Zone.

18 Jul. Operation: THANG LONG 246

Location: Ninh Hoa, Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 23rd ARVN Div.

20 Jul. Operation: BINH PHU 14

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 22nd ARVN Div.

21 Jul.-5 Sep. Operation: JOHN PAUL JONES

Location: Tuy Hoa, Vung Ro Bay, Song Cau, Dong Tre, Tuy An, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Brigade, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-8 Cav (16 Aug-5 Sep), 1-22 Inf (28 Aug-5 Sep), 2-320 Art, 5-27 Art (-), B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326th Eng Bn; 2d ROK Marine Brigade (21 Jul-18 Aug); 1/47 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 18B and 95th PAVN Regiments, 95th PAVN Art Bn, 85th PLAF Bn. **Execution:** The brigade began deployment from Dak To by C-130 aircraft on 15 Jul and closed into Tuy Hoa in 21 Jul, reuniting with 2-327 Inf. Phase I of JOHN PAUL JONES kicked off on 21 Jul with 1-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf conducting search and destroy operations around the Vung Ro Bay to secure engineer work parties in the area. On 30 Jul, Phase II began with 2-502 Inf air-assaulting west of Song Cau to exploit a B-52 strike but found nothing. From 3-8 Aug the brigade conducted training and refitting at Tuy Hoa South while 2-327 Inf secured the Vung Ro area in coordination with the 2d ROK Marine Bde. From 8-15 Aug, 1-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf again exploited a B-52 strike, this time west of Dong Tre, failing to make contact but leaving stay-behind forces. Phase III began on 16 Aug with 2-8 Cav coming under opcon of the brigade and deploying to Dong Tre. On 17-18 Aug, 1-327 and 2-502 relieved the ROK Marines in place as they redeployed north to Chu Lai. On 18 Aug, 2-327 Inf moved to Dong Tre and the mission around Vung Ro was assumed by TF BRAVO (C/2-502 Inf, A/2-17 Cav). 2-327 Inf then moved overland toward Tuy An to protect the rice harvest there. On 22 Aug, 2-8 Cav conducted an air assault west of Dong Tre to exploit intelligence info from the stay-behind forces but failed to make contact. On 24 Aug, C/1-327 Inf was deployed to Ninh Hoa in Khanh Hoa Province to provide security for the deployment of the 9th ROK Inf Div. On

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

28 Aug, 2-8 Cav, 2-327 Inf and 1/47 ARVN Bn swept the area between Tuy Hoa and Tuy An but found little. On 28 Aug, 1-22 Inf passed under opcon to the brigade and relieved TF BRAVO from its security mission around Vung Ro Bay. **Results:** 209 enemy killed, 40 detained, 23 US KIA, 132 US WIA.

22 Jul. Operation: DAN THANG 73

Location: Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 24th Special Tactical Zone.

23 Jul. First civilian Philippine medical team arrives in RVN.

23 Jul. An unknown size enemy force attacks the Trai Bi CIDG camp in Tay Ninh Province.

23 Jul.-6 Aug. Operation: KOKOHEAD

Location: Trung Lap, Tan Thanh Dong, Liocara Plantation, Ho Bo Woods, Hau Nghia and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div.

Task organization: 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 1-8 Art (-), 3-13 Art (-); 3/49 ARVN Bn. **Execution:** the operation was conducted west and north of Cu Chi. **Results:** 42 enemy killed, 25 detained, 8 US KIA, 97 US WIA.

24 Jul. US tactical air strikes commence in the DMZ.

24 Jul. Royal Thai Air Force squadron arrives in RVN to aid VNAF airlift mission.

24-29 Jul. Operation: HOBART

Location: Xa Long Tan, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, 5RAR (one Co), 161 Bty RNZA, 1 APC Sqn (2 Trp).

Intelligence: D445 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** operation took place 5 km east to east-southeast of Nui Dat near Xa Long Tan. **Results:** 7 enemy killed, 2 AUS KIA, 17 AUS WIA.

25 Jul. Premier Ky declares in magazine interview that invasion of NVN is necessary to win war.

25 Jul. USAID Public Safety Advisor Normal L. Clowers killed by VC in ambush in Khanh Hoa Province, 8th USAID employee killed in RVN.

25 Jul. Operation: STEEL HORSE VII

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** artillery raid. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** C/6-16 Art.

26 Jul. The enemy twice attacks 25th US Inf Div base camp at Cu Chi in Hau Nghia Province with total of 175 rounds of 82mm mortar and 75mm RR fire (23 US WIA).

26-29 Jul. Operation: FRANKLIN/LIEN KET 50

Location: Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines, 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, 2/7 Marines; 2nd ARVN Div (elts). **Intelligence:** enemy situation and forces, when available. **Execution:** brief description, when available. **Results:** friendly and enemy casualties, when available.

27 Jul. US pilots fly record 542 combat sorties in RVN.

27 Jul. Operation: LOI HOA 63

Location: Tuy Hoa, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 22nd ARVN Div.

27 Jul.-1 Aug. Operation: SPRINGFIELD I&II

Location: Lai Khe, Ap Bau Bang, Route 13, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-16 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 2-33 Art (-). **Intelligence:** 3rd Bn, 165A PLAF Regiment, Phu Loi PLAF Bn. **Execution:** the brigade secured the road from Lai Khe to Ap Bau Bang and exploited B-52 strikes on suspected enemy base camps but found nothing. **Results:** 10 enemy killed.

28 Jul. US pilots fly record 375 combat sorties in NVN.

29 Jul. Operation: BACH DANG 46

Location: Dak To, Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 24th Special Tactical Zone.

29 Jul. First British medical team arrives in RVN.

30 Jul. B-52's bomb enemy facilities in DMZ for first time.

31 Jul. Former I Corps Commander Nguyen Chanh Thi flies to the US.

31 Jul. Operation: NINH THUAN 14

Location: Phan Rang, Ninh Thuan Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 23rd ARVN Div.

31 Jul.-2 Sep. Operation: BENNING IV

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Cav Div.

Arrival:

1 Jul.	CAPITAL Avn Bn (Prov) 7 th Communications Bn
3 Jul.	HMM-364
4 Jul.	HQ Regional Communications Grp, Vietnam
5 Jul.	VMFA-323
7 Jul.	4 th Eng Bn
10 Jul.	24 th SMEH
14 Jul.	VMA-224
16 Jul.	HQ 79 th Eng Grp 615 th TFS 38 th Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
18 Jul.	175 th Eng C Co
20 Jul.	264 th S&S Bn 277 th S&S Bn 163d Supply Co 221 st Supply Co 226 th Supply Co 228 th Supply Co 229 th Supply Co 463d Supply Co 218 th CC&S Co 628 th Maint Co
23 Jul.	1-22 Inf Det 1, 45 th TRS 39 th Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
25 Jul.	6461 st TRS
29 Jul.	577 th Eng Bn 188 th MP Co 73d Signal Bn 69 th Maint Bn 36 th Trans Bn 39 th Trans Bn

Departure:

1 Jul.	Support Command Nha Trang 82d Trans Co 76 th Eng Co
6 Jul.	VMA-211
14 Jul.	HQ 60 th Ord Grp inactivated HQ 543d QM Grp inactivated 169 th Ord Bn inactivated
20 Jul.	54 th Signal Co 56 th Signal Co 534 th Signal Co

AUGUST

Aug. A new CIDG camp opens at Dak Seang for Det A-245.

1 Aug. US military strength in RVN reaches 285,000.

1 Aug. The enemy ambushes an ARVN convoy in Phuoc Tuy Province (1 enemy killed, 32 ARVN KIA, 14 ARVN WIA, 5 ARVN MIA).

1 Aug. The enemy launches simultaneous attacks on ARVN position and RF convoy near Long Thanh District Town in Bien Hoa Province (9 ARVN KIA, 14 ARVN WIA, 5 ARVN MIA).

1-25 Aug. Operation: PAUL REVERE II

Location: Plei Me, Ia Drang Valley, Chu Pong Massif, Hill 534, LZ OASIS, LZ ORANGE, LZ PINK, LZ JULIET, LZ RAY, LZ CAT, Pleiku Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde (7-25 Aug): 1-5 Cav, 2-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art, B/8th Eng Bn; 3d Bde (2-25 Aug): 1-7 Cav, 2-7 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 1-21 Art, C/8th Eng Bn; Div Arty: C/6-16 Art, 2-17 Art, 3-18 Art, 2-19 Art, E/82 Art, A&D/6-14 Art; 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div (TF WALKER): 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 1-69 Arm, C/3-4 Cav, 2-9 Art, A/3-6 Art, D/65th Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** 32nd, 33rd, 66th and 88th PAVN Regiments.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Execution: PAUL REVERE II was a continuation of PAUL REVERE I in the same general area. On 1 Aug, 2-7 Cav just released from reserve I FFORCEV is attacked on LZ ORANGE by a battalion-size enemy force. 28 enemy are killed and 5 US KIA. On 2 Aug, the 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div joined the operation and the airborne division assumed control after reports indicated that the enemy had begun a major offensive west of Pleiku. Operating from LZ OASIS, the battalions searched southwest and west in coordination with the 3rd Bn, ROK Cavalry Regiment on Operation BUN KAE 66-9. That same day, A/2-7 Cav and B/1-12 Cav clashed with an enemy company on LZ PINK, killing 12 but losing 18 KIA and 6 WIA. On 7 Aug, the operation expanded to division-size with the arrival of the 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div. On 8 Aug, A/1-7 Cav clashed into the 4th Bn, 32nd PAVN Regiment near LZ JULIET, killing 98 but losing 25 KIA and 36 WIA. On 9 Aug, The 5th Bn, 88th PAVN Regiment attacked the Koreans on LZ 27V (see Operation BUN KAE 66-9). On 14 Aug, the 2d Bde searching south of the Chu Pong found the enemy again on Hill 534 when 1-5 Cav and 2-5 Cav bumped into the whole 32nd PAVN Regiment. Reinforced with 2-12 Cav, the Americans cleared the hill on 15 Aug, counting 128 enemy bodies while losing 23 KIA and 28 WIA. The operation began to wind down on 22 Aug with the return of the Koreans and 1st Cav Div to Binh Dinh Province. **Results:** 861 enemy killed, 36 detained, 90 US KIA, 389 US WIA, 3 US MIA.

1-31 Aug. **Operation:** OAHU

Location: Tay Ninh West, Go Dau Ha, Route 1, Route 22, Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** search and destroy, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M) (15-31 Aug), 4-9 Inf (1-14 Aug), 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf, 7-11 Art, B/3-4 Cav. **Intelligence:** C40 PLAF Co. **Execution:** The operation was launched in support of Operation BLUE JAY, the deployment of the 196th LIB to Tay Ninh West. After relocating to Tay Ninh West via air and motor convoy, the brigade began search and destroy operations between Tay Ninh City and Go Dau Ha. **Results:** 21 enemy killed, 8 detained, 7 US KIA, 41 US WIA.

2 Aug. Premier Ky reaffirms that he will leave politics after formation of constitutionally elected government.

2 Aug. Exiled Nguyen Chanh Thi says in Lynchburg, Virginia, that he will be a candidate for RVN Premier when elections are held.

2-5 Aug. **Operation:** CHEYENNE

Location: Route 13, Binh Duong and Binh Long Provinces. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force, road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 1-28 Inf; 2d Bde: 2-16 Inf, 1-18 Inf, 2-18 Inf; 3d Bde: 1-2 Inf, 1-26 Inf; 5th ARVN Div (elts). **Execution:** the operation secured Route 13 from Lai Khe to An Loc during EL PASO III.

2-8 Aug. **Operation:** BUCKS

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines. **Execution:** operation took place 15 km south of Da Nang.

3 Aug.66-31 Jan.67 **Operation:** PRAIRIE

Location: Dong Ha, Cam Lo, Khe Sanh, Camp Carroll, Route 9, the Rockpile, the Razorback, Nui Cay Tre (Mutter's Ridge), Hill 252, Hill 400, Hill 484, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** reconnaissance, search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Mar Div; Task Force DELTA (from 1 Oct) **Task organization:** 2/4 Marines (3 Aug-30 Sep), 1st Force Recon Co (from 3 Aug), G/3/12 Marines (3-13 Aug), 1/4 Marines (from 13 Aug), 3/12 Marines (from 13 Aug), C/3d Tank Bn (from 13 Aug), 2/7 Marines (27 Aug-28 Sep), 3/4 Marines (from 17 Sep), 1/26 Marines (18-25 Sep), 2/9 Marines (from 28 Sep), 1/3 Marines (from 29 Sep), 3/7 Marines (from 30 Sep), 2/5 Marines (from 1 Oct). **Intelligence:** 324B PAVN Division. **Execution:** Operation PRAIRIE started as a small reconnaissance effort to determine if the 324B Division was still in the DMZ area after HASTINGS. A task force at Dong Ha built around 2/4 Marines and the 1st Force Recon Co inserted 5-man 'Stingray' teams to the north and

west. Contact was almost immediate, on 8-9 Aug Cos E&F 2/4 Marines reinforced one such team and fought an NVA company 4,000 meters north of the Rockpile, killing 38. On 13 Aug, the forces at Dong Ha were reinforced with 1/4 and 3/12 Marines and a tank company. On 17 Aug, 2/4 Marines conducted a reconnaissance-in-force operation along Route 9 between Cam Lo and the Rockpile and clashed with the NVA on Hill 252, killing 20. Between 19-25 Aug, 2/4 clashed constantly with the 803rd PAVN Regiment on the slopes of the Razorback, a steep ridge line north of the Rockpile, killing 170. On 26 Aug, elements from the 812th PAVN Regiment attacked Cam Lo defended by A/1/4 Marines but were easily repulsed. After that, contact in the PRAIRIE AO subsided. On 27 Aug, 2/7 Marines arrived from Chu Lai and swept Route 9 to the Rockpile but found nothing. On 7-13 Sep, 2/4 Marines conducted a RIF toward Con Thien just south of the DMZ, but had little contact. Action picked up again on 8 Sep when 1/4 Marines relieved 2/7 at the Rockpile and conducted a deep reconnaissance of Nui Cay Tre to the north, clashing with NVA elements and killing 170. On 18 Sep, 1/26 Marines was attached from Operation DECKHOUSE IV before leaving the DMZ area on 25 Sep. On 28 Sep, 2/9 Marines arrived at Dong Ha and relieved 2/7 which rejoined its parent regiment at Chu Lai. From 22 Sep-5 Oct, 3/4 Marines, who had arrived from Phu Bai on 17 Sep, fought the longest action of PRAIRIE against the 812th Regiment for the control on Nui Cay Tre (renamed Mutter's Ridge) and Hills 400 and 484, killing more than 100 and losing 20. Upon General Westmoreland's insistence, the 3d Mar Div extended the PRAIRIE AO to cover Khe Sanh to the west, airlifting 1/3 Marines from Da Nang to the small airfield there. The battalion stayed at Khe Sanh until termination of PRAIRIE, patrolling around the base, but killed only 15 of the enemy. On 30 Sep, 3/7 arrived from Chu Lai and relieved 2/4 which returned at Phu Bai. The next day, TF DELTA was reactivated at Dong Ha and assumed responsibility for the operation. Still on 1 Oct, 2/5 Marines arrived from Chu Lai, raising the number of infantry battalions in the AO to six, and occupied Con Thien. Despite these reinforcements, the NVA avoided any major confrontation in the PRAIRIE AO for the remainder of the year and the operation ended on 31 Jan 1967. **Results:** 1,397 enemy killed, 27 detained, 239 US KIA, 1,214 WIA.

5 Aug. Crop-destruction operations authorized in Laos to deter local food to infiltrating enemy forces.

5-15 Aug. **Operation:** EVANSVILLE

Location: Phuoc Vinh, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-2 Inf, 1-26 Inf.

5-18 Aug. **Operation:** HOLSWORTHY

Location: Xa Binh Ba, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR (two Cos), 1 APC Sqn (-), 105 Fld Bty. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** the operation took place 5 km north of Nui Dat. **Results:** 17 enemy detained, 1 AUS KIA.

6 Aug. 7th Fleet aircraft carriers move from DIXIE STATION to YANKEE STATION.

6-22 Aug. **Operation:** COLORADO/LIEN KET 52

Location: Tam Ky, Thang Binh, Que Son, Thach Thuong, Ky Phu, Cam Khe, Vinh Huy, Nui Loc Son, Hiep Duc Valley, Song Ly Ly Valley, 'Pineapple Forest', Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th Marines; 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** ; 1/5 Marines, 2/5 Marines, 3/5 Marines, 2/11 Marines; 2/6 and 4/6 ARVN Bns, 4th ARVN Arm Cav Sqn (2nd and 3rd Troops), VNMC Task Force BRAVO (1st, 3rd and 4th Bns). **Intelligence:** 2nd PAVN Division: 1st PLAF Regiment, 3rd and 21st PAVN Regiments. **Execution:** The operation was launched after new intelligence indicated that the 2nd PAVN Div task force pushed from Thang Binh toward Que Son while the VNMC battalions were helicoptered to the west to provide blocking positions, encountering heavy resistance on their LZs from the 1st Bn, 3rd PAVN Regiment, killing 71 and capturing 20. The next day, the VNMC cleared the village of Thach Thuong,

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

killing 37 more enemies. 2/5 Marines was helicoptered on Hiep Duc on D-Day but had negative contact and returned to Tam Ky on 10 Aug. 1/5 Marines operated east of Que Son near Ky Phu and on 10 Aug engaged two Bns from the 3rd PAVN Regiment at Cam Khe, killing 100 and losing 14 KIA and 65 WIA. The enemy battalions retreated north and engaged the South Vietnamese Marines in bitter fighting near Vinh Huy three days later, leaving 140 dead on the battlefield. VNMC losses were heavy with 26 KIA and 54 WIA. This was the last engagement of COLORADO, in the last week of operation, 1/5 Marines searched the 'Pine-apple Forest' west of Tam Ky, but encountered only fleeting resistance from local guerrillas. **Results:** 674 enemy killed, 37 VNMC KIA, 107 VNMC WIA, US and ARVN casualties not reported.

7 Aug. Seven US aircraft downed over NVN (five USAF F-105s, 1 USAF F-101, 1 USN A-1H) - record loss to date for one day.

7 Aug.-1 Sep. Operation: LAHAINA

Location: Bao Trai District, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-27 Inf. **Execution:** 2-27 Inf conducted search and destroy operations and Eagle flights reaction mission from Bao Trai. **Results:** 29 enemy killed, 40 detained.

7 Aug.-1 Sep. Operation: AIEA

Location: Boi Loi Woods, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-27 Inf, 2/49 ARVN Bn. **Execution:** 1-27 conducted buddy operations with 2/49 ARVN Bn and the Trang Bang District RF Companies to block a major VC infiltration route in the Boi Loi Woods. **Results:** 22 enemy killed, 18 detained.

9 Aug. In case of mistaken targeting, USAF aircraft bomb hamlet near Can Tho in Phong Dinh Province (15 VN KIA, 102 VN WIA).

9 Aug. A truck carrying ARVN recruits near Sa Dec hits a VC mine (19 ARVN KIA, 5 ARVN WIA, 5 ARVN MIA).

9 Aug.-5 Sep. Operation: 10-66

Location: Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Tay Ninh.

10 Aug. The 2d Bde, 4th Inf Div arrives in RVN, located at Pleiku.

10 Aug. Premier Ky flies to Manila for three-day official visit.

10-12 Aug. Operation: WILCOX

Location: Duc Ky, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/9 Marines (-), E/2/9 Marines, I/3/9 Marines, 2/12 Marines. **Execution:** the Marines swept through the village of Duc Ky south of the Song La Tho. **Results:** 3 enemy detained, 2 US WIA.

10 Aug.-7 Sep. Operation: TOLEDO

Location: Xuan Loc, Gia Ray, Binh Gia, May Tao Secret Zone, Courtenay Plantation, LZ GRANADA, LZ YANKEE, LZ BROWN, LZ RUBY, LZ JADE, Long Khanh, Phuoc Tuy and Binh Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 173d Abn Bde: 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 4-503 Inf, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav, 3-319 Art, C/2-35 Art, A/2-32 Art, A/2-13 Art; 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div (from 24 Aug): 2-18 Inf, B/1-28 Inf, A/1-7 Art; Task Force RANGER (10 Aug-1 Sep): 33rd and 35th ARVN Ranger Bns; 1ATF (26-31 Aug): 5RAR. **Intelligence:** 5th PLAF Division: 274th and 275th PLAF Regiments. **Execution:** The operation was conducted south of Gia Ray in the May Tao Secret Zone. From 10-12 Aug, the brigade moved into the AO, with 2-503 Inf securing LZ GRANADA 4 km west of the Nui May Tao. On 14 Aug, TF RANGER with the 33rd and 35th ARVN Ranger Bns joined the operation, air-assaulting into LZ YANKEE with negative contact. The combined forces searched the AO for the next several days but found little. On 16 Aug, the SLF with BLT 1/26 Marines landed on the coast on the Phuoc Tuy/Binh Tuy provincial boundary in Operation DECKHOUSE III and joined TOLEDO but had minimal contact and returned to their ships on the 20. On 24 Aug, 2-18 Inf, B/1-28 Inf and A/1-7 Art passed

under opcon 173d Abn Bde and were inserted at Binh Gia to establish blocking positions to the northeast as the brigade swept toward Route 2 and the Courtenay Plantation. The operation continued to search the AO but found little of the enemy. **Results:** 8 enemy killed, 11 detained, 7 US KIA, 45 US WIA.

10 Aug.-10 Oct. Operation: STABLE

Location: Khanh Hoa and Phu Yen Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** I FFORCEV **Task organization:** ROK Field Command, WHRID, 100th Logistical Command. **Execution:** the operation covered the arrival and movement of the 9th ROK Infantry Division (WHRID), 100th Logistical Command, and ROK Field Command, Vietnam through Nha Trang and Tuy Hoa.

11 Aug. The enemy attacks an ARVN training center in Vinh Long Province (5 enemy killed, 14 ARVN KIA, 9 ARVN WIA, 3 ARVN MIA).

11 Aug. USAF aircraft mistakenly attack USCGC POINT WEL-COME at night off DMZ (2 US KIA, 5 US WIA).

11 Aug. The enemy detonates an explosive device at Binh Tri Dong US MP firing range outside Saigon (2 US KIA, 17 US WIA).

13-14 Aug. Operation: ELDORADO

Location: Ap Bau Tran, Binh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-16 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 1-5 Art.

13-21 Aug. Operation: SUWANEE

Location: 'Arizona Territory', Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/9 Marines (-), 3/9 Marines.

14 Aug. An estimated enemy Bn attacks two ARVN Cos near Mo Duc District Town in Quang Ngai Province (50 enemy killed, 5 ARVN KIA, 11 ARVN WIA, 8 ARVN MIA).

14 Aug. President Johnson and COMUSMACV confer at LBJ Ranch in Texas.

15 Aug. The ROK Vietnam Field Command Headquarters opens at Nha Trang.

15 Aug. Vietnam Support Expediting Task Force disbanded and FLAG POLE supply-shortage reporting system discontinued.

15-17 Aug. Operation: BELFAST

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div.

16-20 Aug. Operation: DECKHOUSE III

Location: Phuoc Tuy and Binh Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF (TF 79). **Task organization:** 1/26 Marines. **Execution:** the SLF landed on the coast astride the Phuoc Tuy/Binh Tuy provincial boundary in support of TOLEDO but had minimal contact. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 4 US KIA, 21 US WIA.

17 Aug. VC terrorist device set off at fair in Hue (26 VN KIA, 151 VN WIA).

17 Aug. The enemy burns refugee hamlets of Pho An and Tan My in Quang Ngai Province, destroying estimated 4,600 homes.

17 Aug. The enemy ambushes a PF platoon 7 km south of Saigon (14 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA).

18 Aug. The 2d ROK Marine Brigade is relocated to Chu Lai.

18 Aug. Two enemy Cos ambush the 917th RF company in Thua Thien Province (28 ARVN KIA, 2 ARVN WIA, 3 ARVN MIA).

18-21 Aug. Operation: SMITHFIELD

Location: Xa Long Tan, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR (-), D/5RAR, 1 APC Sqn, 161 Bty RNZA. **Intelligence:** 275th PLAF Regiment, D445 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** On 17 Aug the 1ATF base at Nui Dat was attacked with 67 rounds of 82mm mortar, wounding 24. On 18 Aug, D/6RAR was sent out to search for the enemy force that had conducted the attack, entering the Long Tan Rubber Plantation 4 km east-southeast of Nui Dat. At 1608, D/RAR made heavy contact with a large enemy force of one or two battalions. The company was reinforced by A/6RAR and 3 Trp, 1 APC Sqn, followed by the rest of 6RAR in the evening, forcing the enemy to withdraw. For the next few days 6RAR searched the area around Long Tan but failed to regain contact. **Results:** 245 enemy killed, 3 detained,

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

18 AUS KIA, 21 AUS WIA.

18-20 Aug. Operation: QUANG DIEN

Location: Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st ARVN Div. **Results:** 100 enemy killed, 9 detained, 21 ARVN KIA, 16 ARVN WIA.

19-22 Aug. Operation: CASTINE

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

19-29 Aug. Operation: ALLEGHENY

Location: Dai Loc, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Marines. **Task organization:** 2/3 Marines. **Execution:** the operation destroyed a VC training camp in the hills west of Dai Loc. **Results:** 113 enemy killed, 3 detained, 7 US KIA, 59 US WIA.

20 Aug. The enemy throws five grenades into Da Nang US NCO club (1 enemy killed, 4 detained, 10 US WIA, 2 VN WIA).

20-22 Aug. Operation: OTTAWA

Location: Lam Bo, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/4 Marines. **Execution:** the operation searched the hamlet of Lam Bo east of Phu Bai where two captured US Army advisors were being held. No contact was made and the rescue was unsuccessful. **Results:** 2 enemy killed.

21 Aug. The enemy attacks Dong Thai RF post in Kien Giang Province (38 ARVN MIA).

22 Aug.-1 Sep. Operation: AMARILLO

Location: Ap Bong Trang, Tan Binh, Ap Bo La, Route 1A, Route 16, LZ BLUE, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road security, search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-2 Inf, 1-16 Inf (from 25 Aug), 1-26 Inf, 2-28 Inf (from 25 Aug), C/1-4 Cav, 1-5 Art, 1st Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** Phu Loi PLAF Bn, C62 PLAF Co. **Execution:** The operation started as a road security mission between Phuoc Vinh and Di An to protect engineer work parties and resupply convoys. On 25 Aug, a patrol from C/1-2 Inf made contact with the Phu Loi Bn 3 km west of Ap Bo La. The engagement developed in a major battle as additional battalions were piled on (1-16, 1-26 and 2-28 Inf) until the enemy withdrew on the 26th. The operation ended five days later with no further action. **Results:** 102 enemy killed, 6 detained, 43 US KIA, 248 US WIA.

23 Aug. MSTs freighter BATON ROUGE VICTORY carrying military equipment to Saigon damaged by command-detonated mine and grounded on bank of Long Tau River, temporarily closing this main shipping channel (7 US KIA, 3 US WIA).

23 Aug. Operation: POLE STAR

Location: Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROK Mar Bde. **Task organization:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd ROK Mar Bns. **Execution:** this was the first operation by the 2d ROK Marine Brigade in their new TAOR near Binh Son, about 15 miles southwest of Chu Lai.

23 Aug.-26 Sep. Operation: MALLARD

Location: Vung Tau, Saigon, Long Binh, Phuoc Tuy, Gia Dinh and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 2-34 Arm. **Execution:** the purpose of this operation was to support the deployment of the 2-34 Arm in country with the 1st Inf Div as the sponsoring unit and the Long Binh Plantation site designated as the staging area. The unit personnel arrived at Vung Tau and ferried to Bien Hoa via C-130 while the vehicles were off-loaded at Saigon.

24 Aug. The 482nd PLAF Bn attacks Phu Hoi outpost in Binh Thuan Province (11 enemy killed, 59 ARVN KIA, 22 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA, 10 VN KIA).

25 Aug. A new CIDG camp opens at Minh Long for Det A-108.

25-27 Aug. Operation: LONG PHI 984

Location: Kien Giang Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Div. **Results:** 137 enemy killed, 7 detained, 30 ARVN KIA, 54 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA.

25-31 Aug. Operation: DARLINGHURST

Location: Xa Long Tan, Binh Gia, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR. **Intelligence:** 275th PLAF Regiment, D445 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** The battalion searched for enemy survivors after the Battle of Long Tan, in coordination with Operation TOLEDO. **Results:** 2 enemy killed, 1 detained.

26 Aug. The 196th LIB arrives in RVN, located at Tay Ninh West.

26 Aug. The enemy detonates mine in bus in Vinh Long Province (16 VN KIA, 10 VN WIA).

26 Aug.-6 Sep. Operation: PAWNEE

Location: Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/4 Marines. **Intelligence:** 4th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** the operation searched the Phu Loc area but no large enemy units were encountered. **Results:** 9 enemy killed.

26 Aug.-18 Oct. Operation: PAUL REVERE III

Location: Duc Co, Plei Djereng, Catecka Plantation, Route 19, LZ OASIS, Pleiku Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div: 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 1-7 Cav (26-29 Aug), 2-8 Inf (29 Aug-28 Sep), 1-12 Inf (16-28 Sep), 2-9 Art, 1-69 Arm, C/3-4 Cav, D/65th Eng Bn, B&C/6-14 Art (20 Sep-18 Oct), A/3-6 Art, B/3-6 Art (12-30 Sep), C/3-6 Art (11-15 Oct); 2d Bde, 4th Inf Div (28 Sep-18 Oct): 2-8 Inf, 1-12 Inf. **Intelligence:** 1st PAVN Division. **Execution:** the operation was a continuation of the surveillance effort along the Cambodian border, aimed at preventing the enemy from disrupting the GVN elections scheduled for 11 Sep, maintaining land LOCs opened, and conducting pacification operations in selected areas. The operation produced no significant contact with the enemy. **Results:** 85 enemy killed, 37 detained.

26 Aug.66-20 Jan.68 Operation: BYRD

Location: Phan Thiet, LZ BETTY, Binh Thuan Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** I FFORCEV. **Task organization:** TF 2-7: 2-7 Cav, C/1-9 Cav, A/1-21 Art, C/2-20 Art (-), C/8th Eng Bn (-), C/229th Avn Bn, Det 228th Avn Bn. **Execution:** Planned as a short-term, economy-of-force measure, BYRD became a continuous offensive that would last into 1968. Upon I FFORCEV request, the 1st Cav Div detached at battalion-size task force to help pacify isolated Binh Thuan Province in southern II Corps. **Results** (at year's end): 351 enemy killed, 151 detained, 8 US KIA, 85 US WIA.

27-29 Aug. Operation: JACKSON/LIEN KET 54

Location: Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines; 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 3/7 Marines, M & K/3/5 Marines; 4th ARVN Regiment (elts).

28 Aug. The enemy fires 7 rounds of 75mm RR fire on Vinh Long airfield in Vinh Long Province (7 helicopters damaged, 3 heavily).

29 Aug. CAPT Tran Van Phan removed as VNN Commander. LTG Cao Van Vien, Chief JGS assumes interim command of VNN.

30 Aug.-29 Sep. Operation: BLUE JAY

Location: Vung Tau, Saigon, Tay Ninh West, Phuoc Tuy, Gia Dinh and Tay Ninh Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 196th Light Inf Bde: 2-1 Inf, 3-21 Inf, 4-31 Inf, 3-82 Art, F/17 Cav, 175th Eng Co. **Execution:** the purpose of this operation was to support the deployment of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade in country with the 25th Inf Div as the sponsoring unit to its base camp at Tay Ninh West. The unit personnel arrived at Vung Tau and were transported to Tay Ninh by tactical airlift while the cargo and equipment arrived at Saigon.

Arrival:

1 Aug. B-50 Det Project OMEGA¹⁹
B-56 Det Project SIGMA²⁰

19 Formed Aug-Oct 1966.

20 Formed Aug-Oct 1966.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

	HMM-263 VMFA-314 37 th SPS
2 Aug.	HQ Bty, 8-25 Art (Target Acquisition) 551 st Maint Co 7 th Trans Bn 3/5 Marines
4 Aug.	64 th Trans Co
9 Aug.	1-12 Inf
10 Aug.	HQ 2d Bde, 4 th Inf Div 2-8 Inf ²¹ 4-42 Art 159 th Trans Bn
12 Aug.	3d Sqn, 11 th ACR 109 th QM Co 86 th Trans Co
13 Aug.	184 th Avn Co 6 th Trans Bn
14 Aug.	9 th Trans Co 13 th BS NMCB 40
15 Aug.	HQ ROK Vietnam Field Command 3-82 Art 352d TFS
20 Aug.	5-7 Cav 330 th ASA Co
22 Aug.	278 th Signal Co
23 Aug.	USASTRATCOM Long Lines Bn North USASTRATCOM Long Lines Bn South 623d QM Co
25 Aug.	40 th Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
26 Aug.	HQ 196 th Light Inf Bde F/17 Cav 2-1 Inf 3-21 Inf 4-31 Inf
27 Aug.	2/26 Marines
28 Aug.	97 th MP Bn
30 Aug.	93d MP Bn 573d S&S Co 88 th Trans Co
31 Aug.	22d Replacement Bn 24 th Trans Co 410 th Trans Co
Departure:	
1 Aug.	178 th Signal Co 232d Signal Co 581 st Signal Co VMFA-542
11 Aug.	HMM-163
15 Aug.	8 th BS
20 Aug.	171 st Avn Co 172d Avn Co
30 Aug.	3/3 Marines

SEPTEMBER

Sep. A new CIDG camp opens at Trang Phuc for Det A-233.

1 Sep. US military strength in RVN reaches 306,000.

1-7 Sep. Operation: ALICE

Location: Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 196th LIB. **Task organization:** 3-21 Inf. **Intelligence:** C40 PLAF Co.

1-12 Sep. Operation: KIPAPA

Location: Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M) (3-12 Sep), 4-9 Inf (from 3 Sep), 4-23 Inf, B/3-4 Cav, 7-11 Art, A/65th Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** 7th Bn, 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** the operation

21 Battalion fully mechanized by 5 May 1967.

took place in the Filhol Plantation northeast of Cu Chi with minimal contact. **Results:** 8 enemy killed, 3 detained, 6 US KIA, 65 US WIA.

2 Sep. An enemy platoon ambushes a bus in Bien Hoa Province (10 VN KIA, 18 VN WIA).

2-6 Sep. Operation: DAN CHI 261

Location: An Xuyen and Bac Lieu Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Div. **Results:** 104 enemy killed, 50 detained, 21 ARVN KIA, 81 ARVN WIA.

2-29 Sep. Operation: BENNING V

Location: Route 19, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div.

2 Sep.-11 Oct. Operation: SUNSET BEACH

Location: Cu Chi, Duc Hue, Trang Bang, Boi Loi Woods, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M) (from 12 Sep), 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, A/3-4 Cav (9-12 Sep), 1-8 Art, C/2-13 Art (16 Sep-4 Oct); 49th ARVN Regiment (elts).

Execution: the brigade conducted airmobile and ground assaults, search and destroy operations, Eagle Flights, combat patrol, ambushes and "buddy" operations with local ARVN forces during the Vietnamese National Election period (11 Sep). From 20 Sep to 4 Oct, 1-5 Inf (M) conducted a deep incursion in the Boi Loi Woods. **Results:** 86 enemy killed, 49 detained, 29 US KIA, 194 US WIA, 1 US MIA.

3 Sep. The enemy attacks Camp Radcliff support area in Binh Dinh Province with approximately 40 rounds of 82mm mortar (4 US KIA, 61 US WIA).

3 Sep.-8 Oct. Operation: DECATUR

Location: An Loc, Quan Loi, Binh Long Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-26 Inf, 1-28 Inf, B/1-4 Cav.

4-6 Sep.. Operation: CRANSTON

Location: Lai Khe, Quan Loi, Binh Duong and Binh Long Provinces. **Type:** road security, resupply convoy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-16 Inf.

4-15 Sep. Operation: NAPA/LIEN KET 56

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th Marines, 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines, 3/5 Marines, 2/6, 3/6 and 4/6 ARVN Bns. **Execution:** Operation took place northwest of Tam Ky.

4 Sep.-8 Oct. Operation: BATON ROUGE

Location: Long Tau Shipping Channel, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy, saturation patrolling. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-18 Inf. **Execution:** operation took place in the southern portion of the Rung Sat Special Zone to secure the water line of communication between the port of Saigon and the sea.

5 Sep.-25 Oct. Operation: SEWARD

Location: Tuy Hoa, Tuy An, Tu Bong, Hieu Xuong Valley, Vung Ro Bay, Vung Ro Pass, Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, rice harvest protection, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 1-22 Inf (5 Sep-13 Oct), 2-320 Art, 5-27 Art (5 Sep-1 Oct), B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326th Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** 95th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** The brigade initiated SEWARD to provide protection for the rice harvest in the Tuy Hoa (Hieu Xuong) Valley. 1-327 Inf (-) was still at Ninh Hoa when the operation started except for Co A protecting the rice harvest in the valley. 2-327 Inf conducted search and destroy operations around Tuy An while 2-502 operated to the northwest of Tuy Hoa and 1-22 Inf provided security for the Vung Ro Bay area. On 7 Sep, A/2-17 Cav conducted an amphibious assault northeast of Tuy Hoa with negative contact. 1-327 Inf (-) returned from Ninh Hoa during the period 8-10 Sep and joined its Co A in the Hieu Xuong Valley. 2-502 Inf was extracted from its AO on 10 Sep and sent to Tu Bong on the coast of northern Khanh Hoa Province (expect A/2-502 Inf in reserve at Tuy Hoa SOUTH) until 15 Sep. On the night on 17 Sep, the command post of Co B 3/327 Inf came under attack and was over-

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

run by an estimated one hundred VC. US losses were 10 KIA and 12 WIA. From 20-28 Sep, 2-502 Inf and 2-327 Inf conducted a search and destroy mission southeast of Dong Tre with negative contact. On 3 Oct, 1-327 Inf raided a VC POW camp in the southwest portion of its AO and freed 23 VN. C/1-22 was sent to Tu Bong to protect the rice crops while 2-502 Inf replaced 2-327 at Tuy An, the latter returning to Tuy Hoa SOUTH. On 7 Oct, 2-327 Inf conducted an airmobile assault west of Tuy Hoa along Route 7B with negative contact. During the period 11-12 Oct, two platoons from A/2-327 Inf were deployed to a location near Phan Rang to provide security for the extraction of a downed C-130. 2-502 Inf conducted search and destroy operations in an area southwest of Tuy An for the period 10-16 Oct. On 13 Oct, 1-22 Inf was relieved in place by 1-8 Inf and deployed to Pleiku. On 19-20 Oct, 1-327 Inf and 2-327 Inf were relieved by elements of the 28th ROK Regiment from their mission in the Hieu Xuong Valley. Operation SEWARD terminated on 25 Oct following the relief of 2-502 Inf in the Tuy An area by the 1st Bde, 4th Inf Div **Results:** 239 enemy killed, 6 detained, 26 US KIA, 169 US WIA.

5-29 Sep. **Operation:** MEADOWLARK

Location: Vung Tau, Saigon, Long Binh Plantation, Phuoc Tuy, Gia Dinh and Bien Hoa Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 11th ACR: 1/11, 2/11, 3/11 Sqns. **Execution:** the purpose of this operation was to support the deployment of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in country with the 1st Inf Div as the sponsoring unit to a staging area near the Long Binh Plantation. The unit personnel arrived at Vung Tau and were transported to Bien Hoa by tactical airlift while the cargo and equipment arrived at Saigon.

6-9 Sep. **Operation:** MANH HO/3/4/5/6

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** security **Controlling headquarters:** 22nd RVN Div. **Results:** 147 enemy killed, 20 ARVN KIA, 23 ARVN WIA, 17 ARVN MIA.

6-12 Sep. **Operation:** BANGOR

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-26 Inf

6-13 Sep. **Operation:** ATHOL

Location: Dau Tieng, Michelin Plantation, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 196th LIB. **Task organization:** 4-31 Inf.

7-12 Sep. **Operation:** CANNON

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines. **Execution:** operation was conducted in the south-east portion of the Da Nang TAOR. **Results:** 17 enemy killed, 1 detained.

8 Sep. The enemy attacks the 40th ARVN Regiment in Binh Dinh Province (17 ARVN KIA, 19 ARVN WIA, 8 ARVN MIA, 1 VN KIA).

8 Sep. The 11th ACR arrives in RVN, located at Long Binh.

8 Sep. A Spanish medical team arrives in Saigon.

8-14 Sep. **Operation:** PAWNEE II

Location: Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/4 Marines. **Results:** 3 enemy killed.

8-16 Sep. **Operation:** FRESNO

Location: Mo Duc District, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines.

8-24 Sep. **Operation:** VAUCLUSE

Location: Nui Dinh Hills, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, 161 Bty RNZA. **Execution:** operation took place 9 km west-southwest of Nui Dat. **Results:** 7 enemy killed, 6 detained, 1 AUS WIA.

9 Sep. First deep-water pier in Da Nang harbor opens with arrival of USS ALUDRA

9-10 Sep. **Operation:** 11-66

Location: Khanh Hoa Province. **Type:** search and res-

cue. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** search and rescue operation near Cam Ranh Bay.

10 Sep. The first US aircraft, USAF A1-E, shot down in DMZ by NVA AA fire.

11 Sep. Elections held throughout RVN for Constituent Assembly.

11 Sep. The enemy fires 12 rounds of 82mm mortar on Que Son District Town, Quang Nam Province (15 VN KIA, 10 VN WIA).

11 Sep. The enemy attacks Phan Thiet airfield in Binh Thuan Province with mortar and small arms fire (2 medevac UH-1Bs, 13,000 gal JP-4 and 3,000 gal AV gas destroyed).

12 Sep. First Brazilian contribution, medical supplies, arrives in RVN.

13 Sep. The enemy attacks Nui Dang outpost in Quang Ngai Province defended by a company of the 4th ARVN Regiment (4 enemy killed, 31 ARVN KIA, 32 ARVN WIA, 16 ARVN MIA, , 2 105-mm howitzers seized, fired at another outpost and then destroyed).

13-22 Sep. **Operation:** ATLANTIC CITY

Location: Dau Tieng, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 4-503 Inf, B/3-319. **Execution:** 4-503 Inf provided security for the Dau Tieng Airfield during his operations.

13 Sep.-1 Oct. **Operation:** THAYER I

Location: Kim Son Valley, 506 Valley, LZ HAMMOND, LZ DUZ, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 2-19 Art, C/6-16 Art; 2d Bde: 1-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art, B/8th Eng Bn; Div Arty: 2-17 Art, 3-18 Art, 2-20 Art (-), E/82 Art, C/3-6 Art. **Intelligence:** 2nd PLAF Regiment, 12th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** THAYER I was initiated as a result of enemy buildup in the Kim Son Valley area. In the initial assault, five battalions were inserted onto high ground LZs, from which they searched the ridge lines and fingers down to the valley floor but found little of the enemy. On 20 Sep, the action shifted to the 506 Valley east of the Kim Son where 2-8 Cav clashed with the enemy, killing 15. On 23 Sep, the 95th Bn, 2nd PLAF Regiment attacked the division logistics base at LZ HAMMOND with mortar fire, killing 1 and wounding 32 while damaging 17 aircraft. On the same day, the 7th and 8th Bns, 12th PAVN Regiment attacked the command post of the 41st ARVN Regiment at Cuu Thanh in the THAYER I AO, losing 137 killed in the ill-fated assault. **Results:** 231 enemy killed, 72 detained, 33 US KIA, 248 US WIA, 2 US MIA.

14 Sep. West German hospital ship HELGOLAND arrives in Saigon to treat VN civilians.

14 Sep.-26 Nov. **Operation:** ATTLEBORO²²

Location: Tay Ninh City, Tay Ninh West, Trai Bi, Dau Tieng, Ben Cui, Suoi Da, Bau Co, Suoi Cao, Trang Sup, Katum, Song Saigon, Song Ba Hao, War Zone C, Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 196th LIB (14 Sep-4 Nov); 1st Inf Div (5-6 Nov); II FFORCEV (7-26 Nov). **Task organization:** 196th LIB: 2-1 Inf, 3-21 Inf, 4-31 Inf, 1-27 Inf (1-5 Nov), 2-27 Inf (3-11 Nov), 1-5 Inf (M) (6-10 Nov), 3-82 Art, A/1-8 Art (1-10 Nov); 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div (4-26 Nov): 1-16 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1-5 Art; 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div (4-26 Nov): 2-16 Inf, 1-18 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-7 Art; 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div (4-26 Nov): 1-2 Inf, 2-2 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 2-33 Art; 2d Bde 25th Inf Div (10-25 Nov): 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf (11-25 Nov), 2-14 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M) (13-25 Nov), 1-8 Art; 173d Abn Bde²³. **Intelligence:** 9th PLAF Division: 101st APVN Regiment, 271st, 272nd and 273rd PLAF Regiments; 70th PLAF Guard Regiment, U80 PLAF Artillery Regiment, C40 PLAF Co, 82nd Rear Service Group. **Execution:** Operation ATTLEBORO was initially a series of battalion-size operations by the 196th LIB south and west of Tay Ninh City. The AO was expanded to include the Dau Tieng area in exploita-

22 1st Inf Div's portion of the operation was called BATTLE CREEK.

23 See Operation MERIDIAN.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

tion of VC logistical bases located north of the town and subsequently included all of War Zone C. From 14-21 Sep, 2-1 Inf searched an area 12 km west of Tay Ninh West with light contact. From 18-25 Sep, 4-31 Inf operated 8 km south of Tay Ninh City, also with light contact. From 6-14 Oct the same unit swept the area searched by 2-1 Inf in September, with few contacts with the enemy. From 15-23 Oct, 3-21 Inf was airlifted to Trai Bi and conducted a search and destroy mission to the east with negative results. On 18 Oct, due to increased reports of VC caches in the area, an operation was directed toward the west side of the Saigon River, with 2-1 Inf moving by air to Dau Tieng. From 21-29 Oct, the battalion found 5 caches in the area, with sporadic contact with the enemy. On 30 Oct, 4-31 Inf joined the operation, air-assaulting 4 km northwest of Dau Tieng. On 1 Nov, with additional caches being found, 1-27 Inf was placed opcon 196th LIB and moved to Dau Tieng to protect the brigade's HQ and conduct Eagle Flights over the area. On 2 Nov, a total of 843 tons of rice had been found. On 3 Nov, the brigade began a complicated maneuver with 2-1 Inf and 4-31 Inf moving over four separate routes toward the Ba Hao River while two companies from 1-27 Inf occupied blocking positions. Heavy contact was made in the afternoon with an unknown size enemy force, friendly units becoming hopelessly entangled and incapable of supporting each other. The battle broadened on 4 Nov as the 9th PLAF Division launched two diversionary attacks, on Tay Ninh West and Suoi Cao, while the 3rd Bn, 101st PAVN Regiment ambushed the 1-27 Inf (-) near the Ba Hoa, inflicting heavy casualties. Reinforcements from 2-27 Inf were brought in and the battle lasted two more days until the enemy broke contact of 6 Nov, leaving 200 of its dead on the field. US losses were 60 KIA and 159 WIA. Slowly losing control of the battle, BG de Saussure, the brigade CO, was relieved and the operation passed under control of the 1st Inf Div. From 4-6 Nov, the 1st and 2d Bdes were flown to Dau Tieng while the 3d established its CP at the Suoi Da CIDG camp. On 6 Nov in two separate contacts northeast of Suoi Da 170 enemy were killed. On 7 Nov, ATTLEBORO was turned into a field force operation, with the 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div deploying to Tay Ninh West. The brigade would then sweep north using Route 4 as an axis of advance and establish an FSB near the old French fort at Bau Co, while the 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div pushed across the Ba Hao toward Suoi Tre. On 8 Nov, 1-28 Inf was attacked by two battalions from the 101st PAVN Regiment, killing 390 of the enemy while losing 19 KIA. The 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div searched for the enemy west of Dau Tieng near Ben Cui, uncovering additional rice caches. On 11 Nov, the 9th PLAF Division struck again, attacking an RF outpost at Trang Sup and mortaring both Dau Tieng and Tay Ninh West. On 15 Nov, the 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div was given a new mission: thrust north toward the Cambodian border and search for the possible location of COSVN near Katum. On 19-22 Nov the brigade had several contacts with elements of the 271st and 70th Guard PLAF Regiments in the Katum area. On 23 Nov, the brigade turned back and rejoined Tay Ninh West via Route 247 and Trai Bi. ATTLEBORO ended shortly after with no additional contact. **Results:** 1,106 enemy killed, 42 detained, 115 US KIA, 447 US WIA.

15-21 Sep. **Operation:** DANBURY

Location: Thanh Dien Forest, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-2 Inf, 1-16 Inf, 2-16 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 2-33 Art. **Results:** 10 enemy killed, 4 US KIA, 42 US WIA.

15-24 Sep. **Operation:** DECKHOUSE IV

Location: Gio Linh, BLUE Beach, Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** SLF (TF 79). **Task organization:** 1/26 Marines. **Intelligence:** 90th PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** DECKHOUSE IV was conducted in support of Operation HASTINGS. On 15 Nov, 1/26 Marines landed across BLUE Beach 2,000 meters south of the DMZ and made almost immediate contact with NVA troops in the Con Thien-Gio Linh area, killing more than 200 enemy before passing under opcon Task Force DELTA on 18 Nov. **Results:** 200 enemy killed,

36 US KIA, 164 US WIA.

15 Sep.-5 Nov. **Operation:** LANIKAI I

Location: Ben Luc, Xom Dong, Ben Nhut, Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-9 Inf, 3/50 ARVN Bn, 24th and 28th RAGs. **Intelligence:** 2nd and 506th PLAF Bns. **Execution:** This was the first operation conducted by an American unit in the Mekong Delta south of Saigon. Establishing its base camp at Ben Luc, 4-9 Inf conducted search and destroy, riverine and buddy operations in Long An Province with ARVN forces. **Results:** 26 enemy killed, 4 detained.

15 Sep.-14 Nov. **Operation:** KALIHU

Location: Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf, A & B/3-4 Cav, 7-11 Art, 3-13 Art (-); 1/7 and 4/7 ARVN Bns. **Intelligence:** 2nd and 7th Bns, 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** the brigade conducted search and destroy and buddy operations with ARVN troops in the Filhol Plantation. **Results:** 38 enemy killed, 3 detained, 14 US KIA, 79 US WIA.

16-27 Sep. **Operation:** GOLDEN FLEECE 7-1/LIEN KET 60

Location: Mo Duc, Van Ha, Song Ve, Route 578, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy, rice protection. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines, 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, G/3/11 Marines; 4th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Intelligence:** 38th and 48th PLAF Bns. **Execution:** After terminating FRESNO in the same area, 1/7 Marines began a rice harvest protection operation in coordination with ARVN forces, extending from Mo Duc to the Song Ve Valley to the west. On 21 Sep, the battalion found 727 tons of rice in Van Ha hamlet before the South Vietnamese decided to destroy the entire village and resettle its population. **Results:** 244 enemy killed, 1 detained, 1 US KIA, 19 US WIA.

16 Sep.-19 Oct. **Operation:** WREN

Location: Cam Ranh Bay, Tay Ninh West; Khanh Hoa and Tay Ninh Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 1st PHILCAGV. **Execution:** the purpose of this operation was to support the deployment of the 1st PHICAGV in country with the 25th Inf Div as the sponsoring unit to its base camp at Tay Ninh West. On 20 Sep, 800 PHICAGV personnel landed at Cam Ranh Bay and were airlifted to Tay Ninh West. During the period 15-19 Oct, the balance of the unit was flown directly from the Philippines to Tay Ninh West.

17 Sep. The enemy attacks the base camp of 1/51 ARVN Bn in Quang Nam Province (9 ARVN KIA, 24 ARVN WIA).

19 Sep.-4 Oct. **Operation:** KAMUELA

Location: Dau Tieng, Ben Cui Plantation, Boi Loi Woods, Hau Nghia and Tay Ninh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-14 Inf, B/7-11 Art, 2-1 Inf (from 27 Sep), A/3-82 Art (from 27 Sep); 3/8 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 83rd Rear Service Group. **Execution:** operation conducted west and southwest of Dau Tieng with minimal contact. **Results:** 13 enemy killed, 3 detained, 5 US KIA, 20 US WIA.

20-22 Sep. **Operation:** HUNTSVILLE

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div; 48th ARVN Regiment.

21 Sep. The enemy mortars the Chu Lai airstrip in Quang Tri Province (16 US WIA, 5 aircraft damaged).

21 Sep.-30 Oct. **Operation:** CASULA

Location: Nui Dat, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR, 1 APC Sqn, 101 Fld Bty, 103 Fld Bty, 161 Bty RNZA, 1 Fld Sqn, 3 SASR Sqn. **Execution:** Construction of base defensive works in the area of 1ATF base. Works consisted of wire obstacles, trip flares, protective and defensive minefields, dummy weapon pits and artillery pieces.

22 Sep. Enemy 57mm RR fire damages USN minesweeper 27 km southeast of Saigon (1 US KIA, 9 US WIA).

22-28 Sep. **Operation:** BINH PHU 27

Location: Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Con-**

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

trolling headquarters: 22nd ARVN Div.

23 Sep.-1 Oct. Operation: LONGVIEW

Location: Bien Hoa, Phuoc Vinh, Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

23 Sep.-9 Nov. Operation: MAENG HO 6

Location: Nui Ba, Phu Cat Mountains, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID. **Task organization:** 1st and Cavalry ROK Regiments. **Intelligence:** 12th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** MAENG HO 6 was the Korean participation in a major Allied effort to clear the area between Route 1 and the coast in northeastern Binh Dinh Province, coordinating with Operation IRVING and DAI BANG 800. **Results:** 1,161 enemy killed, 518 detained, 30 ROK KIA, 115 ROK WIA.

24 Sep. Operation: COFFEE

Location: Dien Ban, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines. **Intelligence:** R20 Doc Lap PLAF Bn, Q15 PLAF Co. **Execution:** operation took place 4 km west of Dien Ban. **Results:** 6 enemy killed, 3 detained.

25 Sep. The 4th Inf Div headquarters arrives in RVN, located at Pleiku (Dragon Mountain-Camp Enari)

25-29 Sep. Operation: BOYD

Location: Lai Khe, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-16 Inf, 2-28 Inf. **Results:** 5 enemy killed.

25 Sep.-4 Oct. Operation: 12-66

Location: Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Tay Ninh West in support of Operation ATTLEBORO.

26 Sep.-9 Oct. Operation: SIOUX CITY

Location: Xom Cat, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 1-503 Inf, 2-503 Inf, 3-319 Art (-), E/17 Cav, D/16 Arm. **Execution:** the operation searched for VC supplies in the Xom Cat area and provided security for the establishment of a new CIDG camp there.

27 Sep. The 9th ROK Inf Div (WHRID) headquarters arrives in RVN, located at Ninh Hoa.

27 Sep. RVN's 117-member constituent assembly inaugurated.

28-29 Sep. Operation: MONTEREY

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines, 3/5 Marines.

28-30 Sep. Operation: KATHY

Location: Capital Military District. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** ARVN Airborne Division. **Task organization:** 2nd and 8th ARVN Abn Bns.

29 Sep.-11 Oct. Operation: BENNING VI

Location: Route 19, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div.

30 Sep.-3 Oct. Operation: CROWS NEST

Location: Duc Thanh, Route 2, AO JOAN, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 1 APC Sqn (one troop), 103 Fld Bty. **Execution:** operation took place around Duc Thanh 12 km north of Nui Dat. **Results:** 6 enemy detained, 1 AUS KIA.

Arrival:

1 Sep. HQ 135th MI Grp
175th Avn Co
334th Avn Co
335th Avn Co
42d Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
86th Signal Bn
548th Maint Co
GOER Trans Co (Prov)
185th MI Co

2 Sep. 71st Avn Co
66th Eng Co
5 Sep. 919th Eng C Co
7 Sep. 28th ROK Inf Regt
527th MP Co
4th Med Bn
37th Med Co
71st Trans Bn
567th Trans Co
8 Sep. HQ 18th MP Bde
HQ 11th ACR
1st Sqn, 11th ACR
2d Sqn, 11th ACR
4th MP Co
704th Maint Bn
4th MI Co
9 Sep. MABS-13
12th TRS
11 Sep. HQ 16th MP Grp
387th Trans Co
551st Trans Co
12 Sep. 2-34 Arm
43d Eng Co
MWSG-17
15 Sep. 585th Eng Co
40th Signal Bn
509th Signal Bn
4th S&T Bn
MACV Recondo School
16 Sep. 374th ASA Co
18 Sep. 75th Supply Co
614th TFS
16 Sep. 1st PHILCAGV
20 Sep. 563d Med Co
101 Fld Bty
22 Sep. 8th Support Bn
24 Sep. H&MS-13
25 Sep. HQ 4th Inf Div
124th Signal Bn
570th Supply Co
MAG-13
100th ROK Logistical Command
26 Sep. 423d Supply Co
27 Sep. 248th Supply Co
1/26 Marines
HQ 9th ROK Inf Div
29th ROK Inf Regt
28 Sep. HMM-363
539th Supply Co
575th Supply Co
29 Sep. 581st Supply Co
30 Sep. 139th Supply Co
191st Ord Bn
Departure:
1 Sep. Co A, 82d Avn²⁴
Co A, 501st Avn
Co A, 502d Avn²⁵
197th Avn Co²⁶
18 Sep. 6460th TRS inactivated
6460th TRS inactivated
20 Sep. 105 Fld Bty
29 Sep. 1/9 Marines
30 Sep. 554th Eng Co

OCTOBER

Oct. A new CIDG camp opens at Duc Lap for Det A-239.

24 Assets used to form 335th Avn Co.

25 Assets used to form 175th Avn Co.

26 Assets used to form 334th Avn Co.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Oct. A new CIDG camp opens at Xom Cat for Det A-312.

1 Oct. US military strength in RVN reaches 321,000.

1-4 Oct. Operation: LITTLE ROCK

Location: Ong Dong Jungle, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-2 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav (-), 2-34 Arm (-), 1-5 Art (-); 48th ARVN Regiment (elts).

1 Oct.66-17 Jan 68 Operation: DAZZLEM

Location: Camp Radcliff, An Khe, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** Base Defense Task Force. **Execution:** Operation DAZZLEM was the contingency plan for the defense of Camp Radcliff provided by one infantry battalion with supporting artillery and reinforcing personnel from residence units. On 17 Jan 68, the 173d Abn Bde relieved the 1st Cav Div from the mission of defending An Khe. **Results:** 80 enemy killed, 9 detained.

2 Oct. VNN LCI strikes mine and sinks in branch of Long Tau River in Rung Sat Special Zone (3 US KIA, 10 US WIA; 5 VNN WIA).

2-24 Oct. Operation: IRVING/DAI BANG 800

Location: Phu My, Hoa Hoi, Hung Lac Peninsula, Nuoc Ngot Bay, Nui Mieu, Kim Son Valley, Suoi Ca Valley, Hoi Son Base Area, LZ HAMMOND, LZ UPLIFT, LZ PONY, LZ BIRD, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div; 22nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1st Bde: 1-8 Cav, 2-8 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 2-19 Art, C/6-16 Art, A/8th Eng Bn; 3d Bde: 1-7 Cav, 5-7 Cav, 1-21 Art (-), B/3-18 Art, C/8th Eng Bn; Div Troops: 1-5 Cav, 1-9 Cav; Div Arty: 2-17 Art, 3-18 Art (-), 2-20 Art, E/82 Art, C/3-6 Art; 22nd ARVN Div (elts), ARVN Abn Task Force. **Intelligence:** 2nd PLAF Regiment, 12th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** Operating from HAMMOND and UPLIFT, the two brigades with elements of the 22nd ARVN Div swept toward the coast where the enemy had retreated to avoid Operation THAYER I. Contact was almost immediate. On 2-3 Oct, 1-5 Cav and 1-12 Cav cornered and annihilated an estimated enemy battalion from the 12th PAVN Regiment in the hamlet of Hoa Hoi, killing 233 while losing 6 KIA and 32 WIA. On 4 Oct, A/5-7 Cav killed 30 enemy west of the Nuoc Ngot Bay while 1-12 Cav swept the Hung Lac peninsula with negative result. Action shifted back to the Kim Son Valley on 13 Oct in response to reports that the 2nd PLAF Regiment HQ had moved there. 1-8 Cav was inserted into LZ PONY but made no contact. On the same day, the ARVN Abn TF made heavy contact with the 95th Bn, 2nd PLAF Regiment 5 km south of Hoa Hoi, killing 135. Over the next several days the Americans searched the Kim Son and Suoi Ca Valleys. On 15 Oct, 1-5 Cav made contact with the 52nd Co, 95th Bn, 2nd PLAF Regiment in the Hoi Son Base Area, killing 59. Additional battalions were inserted in to the area but failed to regain contact with the 2nd Regiment. **Results:** 1st Cav Div: 681 enemy killed, 690 detained, 19 US KIA, 150 US WIA; 22nd ARVN Div: 240 enemy killed, 891 detained, 3 ARVN KIA, 13 ARVN WIA.

2-27 Oct. Operation: BATHURST

Location: Nui Dat, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** security, road-runner, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR, 101 Fld Bty, 103 Fld Bty, 161 Bty RNZA, 1 APC Sqn, 3 SASR Sqn. **Execution:** operation conducted in the task force's TAOR around Nui Dat with emphasis on road-runner operation, defenses construction and civic actions. **Results:** no casualties.

3 Oct. GVN Secretary of State for Health Nguyen Ba Kha resigns in dispute between southerners MSS/National Police Chief BG Loan.

3-10 Oct. Operation: LEE/LIEN KET 64

Location: Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROK Marine Bde; 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd ROK Mar Bns; 4th ARVN Regiment.

3-15 Oct. Operation: ROBIN

Location: Vung Tau, Saigon, Bearcat, Route 15, Phuoc Tuy, Bien Hoa and Gia Dinh Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 3d Bde, 4th

Inf Div: 2-12 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 2-77 Art; 1-503 Inf; 5RAR, 6RAR. **Execution:** the purpose of this operation was to support the deployment of the 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div in country with the 1st Inf Div as the sponsoring unit to its base camp at Bear Cat. Heavy equipment landed at Saigon while the personnel arrived at Vung Tau and moved via motor convoy to Bearcat with elements of the 173d Abn Bde securing the road from Bearcat to Phu My and the 1ATF securing the road from Phu My to Ba Ria.

3 Oct.-16 Nov Operation: LAM SON 318

Location: Quang Tri Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st ARVN Div. **Task organization:** ARVN Airborne Task Force. **Intelligence:** 324B PAVN Division. **Execution:** operation was conducted south of the DMZ in conjunction with Operation PRAIRIE. **Results:** 179 enemy killed, 5 detained, 38 ARVN KIA, 1 US KIA, 251 ARVN WIA, 5 US WIA, 1 ARVN MIA.

4 Oct. The 1st Bde, 4th Inf Div arrives in RVN, located at Tuy Hoa.

4 Oct. ARVN Ranger truck hits mine near Duc My in Khanh Hoa Province (10 ARVN KIA, 15 ARVN WIA).

6 Oct. An estimated three enemy Bns attack ARVN Abn Task Force 400 meters south of DMZ in Quang Tri Province (20 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA; 21 ARVN KIA, 161 ARVN WIA).

6-10 Oct. Operation: CANBERRA

Location: Phu My, Route 15, Nui Thi Vai, Nui Ong Trinh, AO WHITE, LZ JULIE, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 103 Fld Bty, 1 APC Sqn (-), 3 SASR Sqn (-), A/2-35 Art. **Intelligence:** 274th PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** the operation was conducted 5 km east of Route 15 in support of Operation ROBIN. **Results:** 3 enemy killed, 1 detained, 13 AUS WIA.

6-15 Oct. Operation: HICKORY

Location: Ben Cam, Long Dien, Phuoc Thien, Nhon Trach District, Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force. **Controlling headquarters:** 11th ACR. **Task organization:** 1st Sqn, 11th ACR. **Execution:** HICKORY helped provide security for engineer work parties. **Results:** 13 enemy killed, 17 detained, 2 US KIA, 20 US WIA.

6-16 Oct. Operation: TULSA

Location: Route 13, Phu Cuong, An Loc, Binh Duong and Binh Long Provinces. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Inf Div; 5th ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 2-2 Inf, 1-16 Inf, 2-16 Inf, 2-18 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav; 5th ARVN Div (elts).

7 Oct. The enemy attacks and damages an USN LCM on Dong Tranh River 23 km south of Saigon with RR, AW and mortar fire (16 US WIA).

8-15 Oct. Operation: KENT

Location: Son Ha District, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines, 2/7 Marines.

8 Oct.-4 Dec. Operation: WINCHESTER

Location: Da Nang, Hai Van Pass, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy, road security. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV, III MAF. **Task organization:** 4-503 Inf, C/2-34 Arm. **Execution:** MACV decided to reinforce the Da Nang TAOR during Operation PRAIRIE, freeing additional Marine battalions to move to the DMZ area. After deploying to Da Nang by air and LST, TF 4-503 Inf relieved 2/26 Marines at the Hai Van Pass for movement to Phu Bai and secured Route 1 north to the Thua Thien border.

9 Oct. The 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div arrives in RVN, located at Bearcat.

10 Oct. SECDEF arrives in Saigon for four-day RVN visit.

10 Oct. 3d Mar Div (FWD) assumes control of Operation PRAIRIE in Quang Tri Province, first division-controlled operation in I CTZ. 1st Mar Div, CP relocated to Da Nang, assumes responsibility for Da Nang TAOR. 3d Mar Div CP relocated to Phu Bai.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

11 Oct. The enemy launches six attacks against several towns in Kien Hoa Province (27 ARVN KIA, 47 ARVN WIA, 3 ARVN MIA).

11-20 Oct. Operation: TETON

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines.

11 Oct.-14 Nov. Operation: KAILUA

Location: Duc Hoa, Tan Phu Trung, Trang Bang, Tho Mo, Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Inf (M) (11 Oct-6 Nov), 1-27 Inf (11-31 Oct), 2-27 Inf (11 Oct-3 Nov), 1-8 Art, A/2-13 Art; 2/49 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 1st and 7th Bns, 165A PLAF Regiment, D85 PLAF Co. **Execution:** The 2d Bde conducted a series of airmobile and ground assaults, search and destroy operations, employed Eagle Flights, combat patrols, ambushes and combined operations with local ARVN forces to locate and destroy VC forces and supplies in central Hau Nghia Province between Duc Hoa and Trang Bang with light contact. The 2d Bde commenced participation in ATTLEBORO on 10 Nov and KAILUA was officially terminated on 14 Nov. **Results:** 67 enemy killed, 34 detained, 6 US KIA, 64 US WIA.

11 Oct.-66-17 Nov.67 Operation: UNIONTOWN II

Location: Long Binh, Bien Hoa Province **Type:** security. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Execution:** Operation UNIONTOWN was a security operation designed to protect the Long Binh logistical complex, RMK Rock Quarry and II FFORCEV Headquarters. Units were assigned on a rotation basis from each major command under II FFORCEV.

12 Oct. The enemy overruns a PF outpost in Dinh Tuong Province (5 ARVN KIA, 5 ARVN WIA, 13 civilians killed).

13 Oct.-9 Nov. Operation: BLACKJACK 21

Location: Plei Trap Valley, Kontum Province. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** II CTZ MIKE Force **Task Organization:** Task Force PRONG. **Execution:** This was the pilot mobile guerrilla mission for a specially trained force consisting of a Special Forces A-Detachment that controlled one 150-man Mike Force company and a 34-man combat reconnaissance, eagle flight platoon. The task force was specially trained for extended patrolling so that it could operate independently for as long as 30 to 60 days in remote regions with air drop type resupply. The operation was coordinated with PAUL REVERE IV.

14 Oct. The enemy attacks the 30th ARVN Ranger Bn during RVNAF search and destroy operation in Gia Dinh Province (6 enemy killed, 13 detained, 1 US KIA, 4 US WIA, 41 ARVN KIA, 29 ARVN WIA, 30 ARVN MIA).

14 Oct.-11 Nov. Operation: 13-66

Location: Quang Tri Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th SFGA. **Task Organization:** Det B-52 Project DELTA, 91st Abn Rgr Bn. **Execution:** reconnaissance from FOB Khe Sanh in support of Operation PRAIRIE.

16 Oct. An estimated reinforced enemy Bn attacks a district HQ in Binh Thuan Province (17 enemy killed, 30 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA).

16 Oct. The enemy attacks an RF company in Quang Tri Province (6 enemy killed, 5 ARVN KIA, 20 ARVN WIA, 5 ARVN MIA).

16 Oct. The enemy attacks two outposts and village in Kien Hoa Province (6 enemy killed, 6 ARVN KIA, 17 ARVN WIA, 5 ARVN MIA).

16 Oct. Operation: CUU LONG/22/KT

Location: Dinh Tuong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th ARVN Div. **Results:** 14 enemy killed, 17 detained.

16-26 Oct. Operation: QUEANBEYAN

Location: Nui Thi Vai, Nui Toc Tien, AO GOLD, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, D/6RAR, 1 APC Sqn (one trp), 103 Fld Bty, A/2-35 Art. **Intelligence:** 274th PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** QUEANBEYAN was mounted as a follow up to Operation CANBERRA in the Nui Thi Vai Hills area south-

east of Phu My with minimal contact. **Results:** 17 enemy killed, 1 detained, 2 AUS KIA, 13 AUS WIA.

16 Oct.-2 Nov. Operation: SHENANDOAH I

Location: Quan Loi, Loc Ninh, Minh Thanh, Cam Xe, Dak Seu, Route 13, Binh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy, road-runner. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-18 Inf, 1-26 Inf, 1-28 Inf, 2-28 Inf, 1-4 Cav (-), 1-5 Art. **Intelligence:** 9th PLAF Division. **Execution:** Using Quan Loi as a base of operations, the brigade tried to provoke an attack from the 9th PLAF Division. The brigade moved north to Loc Ninh on 18 Oct, then southwest to Minh Thanh on 24 Oct, but the enemy did not take the bait. On 28-29 Oct 1-26 Inf searched the Minh Thanh plantation and bumped into the 3rd Bn, 272nd PLAF Regiment near Cam Xe. Three additional battalions were piled on, killing 134 while losing 5 KIA. On 29 Oct the 3d Bde was brought in and assumed command of 2-18 Inf and 2-28 Inf, trying to cut the enemy's escape routes but found nothing and returned to Lai Khe.

18-20 Oct. Operation: DAN CHI 263

Location: Chuong Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Div. **Execution:** two ARVN Bns encounter an estimated two VC Bns during heliborne landing. **Results:** 138 enemy killed, 3 detained, 29 ARVN KIA, 67 ARVN WIA.

18-30 Oct. Operation: DOVER

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines.

18 Oct.-30 Dec. Operation: PAUL REVERE IV

Location: Duc Co, New Plei Djereng, Plei Trap Valley, Se San, Nam Sathay, LZ OASIS, LZ 3 TANGO, FSB RED WARRIOR, Pleiku and Kontum Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Inf Div (18 Oct-10 Dec), I FFORCEV (10-30 Dec). **Task organization:** 2d Bde, 4th Inf Div: 2-8 Inf, 1-12 Inf, 1-22 Inf, 4-42 Art; 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div: 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-35 Inf, 2-9 Art, C/3-4 Cav, D/65th Eng Bn; Div Arty: 3-6 Art, 6-14 Art, A/1-30 Art; Div Troops: 1-10 Cav, 1-69 Arm; 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div (29 Oct-27 Dec): 1-5 Cav, 2-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art, B/1-9 Cav, C/1-30 Art, C/3-8 Art, B/8th Eng, 227th Avn Bn. **Intelligence:** 32nd, 33rd, 66th, 88th, 95B and 101C PAVN Regiments. **Execution:** PAUL REVERE IV was conceived to thwart the enemy B3 Front dry season campaign. The 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div started first, searching for the enemy west of the New Plei Djereng CIDG camp. On 22 Oct, the 2d Bde, 4th Inf Div arrived at New Plei Djereng airfield (LZ 3 TANGO) where a major logistic base was being built and sent forces to the southwest of the 3d Bde. Small contacts with the enemy were frequent, in the first twelve days of the operation, 138 enemy were killed at the cost of 22 US KIA and 114 US WIA. At this point, MG Collins, CG, 4th Inf Div decided to cross the Se San, drive to the Nam Sathay and pivot his brigades north and launch into the Plei Trap along parallel axis of advances. To prevent a possible enemy assault at Duc Co in his rear, the 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div was committed to the operation, deploying to LZ OASIS on the 30th. The advance in line began on 5 Nov, the way along jungle trails paved with artillery and air strikes, and with Task Force PRONG screening the Cambodian border to the west²⁷. The enemy was quick to react, defending Base Area 702 located just across the Nam Sathay in Cambodia. The 88th PAVN Regiment ambushed TF PRONG on 10 Nov and routed it. On 11 Nov, the 2d Bde stopped its advance north and moved in strength across the Nam Sathay to rescue the survivors of TF PRONG, with 1-12 Inf air-assaulting into a hot LZ to establish FSB RED WARRIOR. The enemy attacked during the night of 12-13 Oct, losing 76 killed while US losses were 5 KIA and 41 WIA. On 15 Nov, the 33rd PAVN Regiment ambushed 2-8 Inf north of FSB RED WARRIOR, 165 enemy were killed at the cost of 19 US KIA and 53 US WIA. On 20 Nov, both brigades were ordered out of the Plei Trap. On 21 Nov, a company of 1-5 Cav operating southwest of Duc Co near the border was ambushed by a battalion from the 101C PAVN Regiment.

²⁷ See Operation BLACKJACK 21.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

One platoon was completely overrun and 32 Americans were killed, many of whom had been captured and executed before artillery, ARA and air strikes had dispersed the enemy, killing 165. From 20-30 Nov, the Plei Trap was saturated with B-52 strikes before both brigades resumed their push north. On 9 Dec, the 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div was airlifted to Kontum and launched into the northern Plei Trap²⁸. On 10 Dec, PAUL REVERE IV was upgraded to corps-size operation and passed under control of I FFORCEV with four brigades, but the NVA had vanished and the operation ended on 30 Dec. **Results:** 1,062 enemy killed, 56 detained, 170 US KIA, 610 US WIA.

18 Oct.66-1 Feb.67 **Operation:** DUCK

Location: Vung Tau, Saigon, Bearcat, Route 15, Phuoc Tuy, Bien Hoa and Gia Dinh Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 9th Inf Div; 11th ACR; 1ATF (14-23 Dec, 27 Dec-5 Jan); 6RAR, 5RAR (one Co), 1 APC Sqn (one Trp), 101 Fld Bty, 1-83 Art; 18th MP Bde **Execution:** the purpose of this operation was to support the deployment of the 9th Inf Div in country with the 1st Inf Div as the sponsoring unit to its base camp at Bear Cat. Personnel debarked at Vung Tau and were transported by vehicles to the Bearcat base camp. Cargo, wheel and track vehicles were off-loaded at Saigon and convoyed to Bearcat.

19-28 Oct. **Operation:** BACON

Location: Truoi Bridge, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/26 Marines. **Execution:** operation conducted south of Truoi Bridge in the Truoi Valley.

20 Oct. MACV accepts as confirmed the presence in RVN of the 5th PAVN Division, bring in-country confirmed total to 7 enemy divisions.

20 Oct. The enemy ambushes VN combat youths and PF near Soc Trang in Ba Xuyen Province (8 ARVN KIA, 15 ARVN WIA, 7 civilians killed).

20-25 Oct. **Operation:** KERN

Location: Ap Ba, Khe Le (Antenna) Valley, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** reconnaissance-in-force, search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Intelligence:** 3rd PAVN Regiment. **Task organization:** G/2/3 Marines, I/3/9 Marines, E/2/1 marines (from 23 Oct), F/2/12 Marines; 51st ARVN Regiment (elts). **Execution:** Operation took place in Antenna Valley southeast of An Hoa. From 22-25 Oct, heavy contact was made with an estimated enemy battalion near Ap Ba. **Results:** 148 enemy killed, 8 US KIA.

20-31 Oct. **Operation:** BETHLEHEM

Location: Phu Cuong, Binh Duong Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-18 Inf. **Execution:** brief description, when available. **Results:** operation conducted southwest of Phu Cuong (It phased into ALLENTOWN for 25-26 October and, finally, into LAM SON II for 27-31 October 1966).

20 Oct.-8 Dec. **Operation:** ATLANTA

Location: Bien Hoa, Xuan Loc, Long Giao, Blackhorse, Ong Que Plantation, Route 2, Bien Hoa and Long Khanh Province. **Type:** road clearing, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 11th ACR. **Task organization:** 1/11 ACR, 2/11 ACR, 3/11 ACR. **Intelligence:** 5th PLAF Division. **Execution:** The operation secured Route 1 from Bien Hoa to Xuan and Route 2 from Xuan Loc to Long Giao. and provided security for engineer work parties building the permanent base camp of the regiment at Long Giao (Blackhorse) south of Xuan Loc in the Ong Que Rubber Plantation. On 21 Nov, elements of the 274th PLAF Regiment were engaged near Xuan Loc on Route 1, 28 enemy were killed and 1 detained. This was the first confirmed contact with the 5th PLAF Division since the Battle of Long Tan on 18 Aug. On 2 Dec, the enemy ambushes a recon platoon of 11th ACR in Long Khanh Province, but breaks contact in face of reaction force, artillery and air support, leaving 94 of his dead behind. US casualties are 1 KIA and 22 WIA. **Results:** 131 enemy killed, 51 detained, 8 US KIA, 41 US WIA.

28 See Operation PICKETT.

21 Oct. The enemy simultaneously attacks Kien Thien District Town in Chuong Thien Province and three nearby outposts (10 ARVN KIA, 20 ARVN WIA, 23 ARVN MIA, 2 civilians killed).

21 Oct. The enemy detonates a claymore mine in marketplace in Vinh Binh Province (4 ARVN KIA, 15 ARVN WIA 5 civilians killed and 33 wounded).

21 Oct. The enemy attacks an ARVN Ranger Bn 10 km northwest of Quang Ngai City (20 enemy killed, 13 ARVN KIA, 10 ARVN WIA, 5 ARVN MIA).

21 Oct. The enemy attacks a PF outpost in Bac Lieu Province (15 ARVN KIA, 10 ARVN WIA, 19 civilians killed).

21-23 Oct. **Operation:** MADISON

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 3/1 Marines.

21 Oct.-5 Nov. **Operation:** ALLENTOWN

Location: Lai Thieu, Di An, Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div.

23 Oct. BG Donovan F. Smith, USAF, replaces BG Albert W. Schinz, USAF, as Chief, Air Force Advisory Group, Tan Son Nhut AB.

24 Oct. US, RVN, ROK, Australian, New Zealand, Philippine and Thai Chiefs of State meet in Manila for two-day summit conference on war.

24 Oct. VN civilian bus hits mine in I Corps (15 killed and 19 wounded).

24 Oct. ARVN elements discovers VC POW camp containing 13 military and 5 civilian prisoners in Vinh Binh Province.

25 Oct.-28 Nov. **Operation:** BREMERTON

Location: Long Tau Shipping Channel, Rung Sat Special Zone. **Type:** search and destroy, saturation patrolling. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 3-22 Inf. **Execution:** 3-22 Inf replaced 1-18 Inf and continued operations in the Rung Sat to protect the shipping channel to Saigon.

25 Oct. 66-12 Feb. 67 **Operation:** THAYER II

Location: Bong Son, Kim Son Valley, Suoi Ca Valley, 506 Valley, Vinh Thanh Valley, An Lao Valley, The Crescent, Nui Mieu, Cay Giiep, Dam Tra O Lake, LZ HAMMOND, LZ UPLIFT, LZ TWO BITS, LZ ENGLISH, LZ CRYSTAL, LZ BIRD, LZ PONY, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 3d Bde, 1st Cav Div (25 Oct-15 Dec): 2-8 Cav, 1-7 Cav, 5/7 Cav, C/1-5 Cav, 1-21 Art (-), 2-17 Art, C/6-16 Art, C/2-19 Art, C/8th Eng Bn; 1st Bde, 1st Cav Div (15 Dec 66-12 Feb 67): 1-8 Cav, 1-12 Cav, 5-7 Cav, 2-19 Art (-), D/2-17 Art, C/1-21 Art, A,3/18 Art, C/8th Eng; 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div (27 Dec 66-12 Feb 67): 1-5 Cav (-), 2-5 Cav, 1-7 Cav (-), 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art (-), B/1-8 Art, A/1-21 Art, C/1-30 Art, B/8th Eng Bn; 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div (3 Jan-12 Feb): 1-14 Inf, 1-35 Inf, 2-9 Art (-), C/3-4 Cav; Div Arty: 2-20 Art (-), 7-13 Art (-), 3-18 Art (-), E/82 Art; Div Troops: 1-9 Cav, 8th Eng Bn (-). **Intelligence:** 2nd PLAF Regiment, 18th and 22nd PAVN Regiments. **Execution:** THAYER II was a continuation of the Binh Dinh Pacification Campaign, targeting enemy regiments south of the Lai Giang in the Kim Son and Suoi Ca Valleys. It later expanded to cover all operations in northwestern Binh Dinh. Forces committed in the THAYER II AO ranged from a brigade with two maneuver battalions to three brigades with a total of eight maneuver battalions. The northeastern monsoon hampered the first days of the operation with morning fog, rain and high winds. On 1 Nov, elements of 1-9 Cav and 5/7 Cav made contact with the 93rd Bn, 2nd PLAF Regiment near the Dam Tra O Lake, killing 35. The same units made contact again on 7 Nov with an estimated company on the northern flank of the Cay Giiep, killing 34. On 8 Dec, the 3d Bde helped the South Vietnamese with an area denial operation in the Kim Son, displacing 1,100 civilians²⁹. On 15 Dec, the 1st Bde replaced the 3d in the THAYER II AO. Two days later, C/1-8 Cav reinforced with elements from 1-9 Cav made heavy contact in the 506 Valley with an estimated enemy battalion, killing 95. On 27 Dec, LZ BIRD located in the Kim Son

29 See Operation ROVER.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Valley, and occupied by C/1-12 Cav, B/2-19 art and C/6-16 Art was overrun by the 8th and 9th Bns, 22nd PAVN Regiment. 27 Americans were killed and 67 wounded. Over 200 enemy KIA were reported in the position and in the area around the LZ the following two days. The 2d Bde arrived that same day to join the general pursuit until the New Year's truce. On 3 Jan, the 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div (minus 2-35 Inf) arrived from the Highlands and THAYER II expanded to division-size with a realignment of AOs: the 1st Bde covered the central and southern Kim Son, the 2d Bde covered the northern Kim Son, Crescent area³⁰, Nui Mieu and Cay Giep Mountains while then 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div operated in the Vinh Thanh and Suoi Ca Valleys. On 19 Jan 1-14 Inf discovered a huge tunnel and cavern complex in the mountains between the Suoi Ca and Vinh Thanh Valleys believed to be the VC Provincial Headquarters. On 27 Jan, 2-12 Cav made heavy contact with the 8th Bn, 22nd Regiment while conducting a RIF northeast of Bong Son. Other elements from the 2d Bde, as well as elements from the 40th ARVN Regiment and a VNMC Task Force reinforced, killing 72 of the enemy and capturing 11. In early Feb, the 3d Bde, 25th Inf Div participated in another area denial operation, removing 2,600 civilians from the Suoi Ca Valley. From 5-8 Feb, the 2d Bde conducted sub operation MINITMAID, a 7-company raid in the An Lao Valley, killing only 8 and capturing 13. During the night of 6-7 Feb, the enemy mortared LZ ENGLISH, destroying 5 helicopters and killing or wounding 52 soldiers. **Results:** 1,757 enemy killed, 184 US KIA, 747 US WIA, 2 US MIA.

25 Oct. 66-2 Apr. 67 **Operation:** ADAMS

Location: Tuy Hoa, Tuy An, Vung Ro Bay, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy, rice denial. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 4th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 1-8 Inf, 3-8 Inf, 3-12 Inf, 6-29 Art, A/5-16 Art, A/1-10 Cav, A/4th Eng Bn. **Intelligence:** 5th PAVN Division. **Execution:** The brigade conducted rice denial operations along the coast in an area fifty kilometers from the Vung Ro Bay to Tuy An and twenty kilometers inland. Contacts during January had become so infrequent that the brigade and two battalions deployed to the Central Highlands, leaving only Task Force IVY behind. On 8 Mar, the CRID and WHRID entered the ADAMS AO in Operation OH JAC KYO, assuming responsibility for Phu Yen Province, and TF IVY was disbanded on 2 Apr, ending the operation. **Results:** 491 enemy killed, 46 US KIA, 491 US WIA.

26 Oct. Fire aboard USS ORISKANY in Tonkin Gulf kills 43 US, injures 16.

26 Oct. Phan Khac Suu elected Speaker of the GVN Constituent Assembly.

26 Oct. President Johnson visits Cam Ranh Bay.

27 Oct. Au Truong Thanh resigns as GVN Minister of Economy, replaced by Truong Tai Ton in continuing "southerner" dispute in Cabinet.

27-29 Oct. **Operation:** SPANWAY

Location: Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-12 Inf.

28 Oct. The enemy attacks USARV ammunition dump in Bien Hoa Province with mortar fire and satchel charges (2 US KIA, 9 US WIA; 13,000 artillery rounds, 3,700 propellants destroyed).

29 Oct.-24 Dec. **Operation:** PAWNEE III

Location: Route 1, Turkey Bridge, Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy, road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/26 Marines. **Execution:** operation conducted to keep Route 1 opened from Phu Bai to Da Nang.

30 Oct. VN National Police in Saigon capture VC demolition team and cache of 1,746 blocks of TNT and 10 weapons.

30-31 Oct. **Operation:** BUNDABERG

Location: Hoa Long, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search, county fair. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, 6RAR, 1 APC Sqn, TF Artillery, 3 SASR

³⁰ Located between 506 Valley and Route 1.

Sqn, 1/43 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF Bn, C20 PLAF Co. **Execution:** 5RAR and 6RAR placed a cordon around the village of Hoa Dong 16 km west-northwest of Nui Dat while ARVN forces and VN National Police searched for VC suspects. **Results:** 38 enemy detained, no friendly casualties.

30 Oct.-4 Dec. **Operation:** GERONIMO

Location: Tuy Hoa, Cung Son, Dong Tre, Song Da Rang, The Hub, Route 1; Route 7B, Phu Yen Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, A/2-17 Cav; A/326th Eng Bn; 28th ROK Regiment (elts), 47th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Intelligence:** 5th PAVN Division: 18B and 95th PAVN Regiments. **Execution:** The brigade mounted GERONIMO to destroy the already understrength 5th PAVN Division in the interior of Phu Yen. The operation searched south of the Song Da Rang first where intelligence placed the 18B Regiment in a jungle base about 50 km southwest of Tuy Hoa. The 47th ARVN Regiment established blocking positions along Route 7B while the 28th ROK Regiment did the same along Route 1 to the east. 1-327 Inf and 2-327 Inf were then combat-assaulted into the area to the west and pushed toward the coast but turned up almost nothing, finding evidence that the 18B had moved out a month earlier. Phase II began on 6 Nov, searching for the 95th PAVN Regiment in the mountainous area called The Hub northwest of Tuy Hoa. Staging at Dong Tre, all three battalions air-assaulted into the Base Area while the 47th ARVN Regiment maintained its block, this time north of the Da Rang and the 1st Bde, 4th Inf Div on Operation ADAMS acted as the anvil between Route 1 and The Hub. On 10 Nov, part of the 5th Bn, 95th PAVN Regiment was trapped and annihilated. Electronic intelligence indicated on 24 Nov that the rest of the regiment had fled west, but adverse weather and flying conditions prevented a pursuit and the operation ended. **Results:** 150 enemy killed, 76 detained, 16 US KIA, 78 US WIA.

30-31 Oct. **Operation:** TRAVIS

Location: An Khe, LZ OASIS, Binh Ding and Pleiku Province. **Type:** movement. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div. **Task organization:** 1-5 Cav, 2-5 Cav, 2-12 Cav, 1-77 Art, B/1-9 Cav, C/1-30 Art, C/3-8 Art, B/8th Eng. **Execution:** TRAVIS was the emergency airlift of 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div, from An Khe to LZ OASIS in support Operation PAUL REVERE IV.

31 Oct. CAPT Tran Van Chin designated Commander-in-Chief, VNN.

Arrival:

1 Oct.	HQ 54 th Art Grp HQ 5 th Trans Command HQ 124 th Trans Command 27 th Eng C Bn 73d Eng Co 552d MP Co 532d S&S Bn 57 th Trans Bn 610 th Trans Co HMM-165 VMA-211
4 Oct.	HQ 125 th Trans Command HQ 1 st Bde, 4 th Inf Div 1-10 Cav 1-8 Inf 3-8 Inf 3-12 Inf 6-29 Art 5-16 Art 45 th Surgical Hosp 184 th MI Co
5 Oct.	87 th Trans Co 297 th Trans Co
6 Oct.	402d Trans Co
8 Oct.	52d Signal Bn
9 Oct.	HQ 3d Bde, 4 th Inf Div

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

	2-12 Inf
	2-22 Inf (M)
	3-22 Inf
	2-77 Art
10 Oct.	30 th ROK Inf Regt
	300 th Trans Co
	HQ Task Force X-Ray ³¹
	VMFA-542
11 Oct.	33d Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
12 Oct.	854 th Trans Co
	863d Trans Co
	8 th BS
13 Oct.	458 th Trans Co
15 Oct.	100 th Eng Co
	584 th Med Co
	805 th Trans Co
16 Oct.	86 th Eng C Bn
	43d Signal Bn
	264 th Trans Co
	543d Trans Co
17 Oct.	403d Trans Co
18 Oct.	HQ 500 th Trans Grp
	1-40 Art
	2-94 Art
	90 th Supply Co
	545 th Trans Co
	585 th Trans Co
	592d Trans Co
19 Oct.	HQ 8 th Trans Grp
	14 th Eng C Bn
	15 th Eng C Bn
	720 th MP Bn
	359 th Trans Co
20 Oct.	G/65 Art
	37 th Signal Bn
21 Oct.	360 th Trans Co
	459 th Signal Bn
	368 th Trans Co
23 Oct.	7-9 Art
	563d Supply Co
	54 th Trans Bn
	512 th Trans Co
	523d Trans Co
	561 st Trans Co
	563d Trans Co
	669 th Trans Co
24 Oct.	56 th Supply Co
28 Oct.	7-13 Art
	855 th Supply Co
29 Oct.	3/3 Marines
	NMCB 58
30 Oct.	1-83 Art
	548 th Supply Co
Departure:	
13 Oct.	13 th BS
31 Oct.	HMM-161

NOVEMBER

1 Nov. US military strength in RVN reaches 350,000.

1 Nov. The enemy attacks central Saigon with approximately 24 rounds of 75mm RR fire as National Day celebrations are beginning.

1 Nov. The enemy detonates a mine on Long Tau River, sinking a USN minesweeper (4 US WIA, 2 US MIA).

2-8 Nov. Operation: MARSHALLTOWN

Location: Hau Nghia Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div. **Task organization:**

31 Established at Chu Lai when the 1st Mar Div HQ moved to Da Nang.

tion: 2-12 Inf.

4 Nov. The enemy attacks the 196th LIB base camp at Tay Ninh West with an estimated 111 rounds of 60mm and 82mm mortar (2 US KIA, 54 USWIA, 4 PHIL WIA).

5-8 Nov. Operation: LIEN KET 68

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2nd ARVN Div **Results:** 109 enemy killed, 64 ARVN KIA, 97 ARVN WIA, 3 ARVN MIA.

5-19 Nov. Operation: SHASTA I

Location: La Huan, Duc Ky, Dodge City, Go Noi, Hill 55 Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines **Task organization:** 2/1 Marines, 2/3 Marines, 1/26 Marines. **Execution:** operation executed in the Dodge City area between Go Noi Island and Hill 55.

5 Nov.-10 Dec. Operation: LANIKAI II

Location: Ben Luc, Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 4-23 Inf, C/7-11 Art, C/65th Eng Bn; 3/50 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 506th PLAF Bn. **Execution:** 4-23 Inf relieved 4-9 Inf at Ben Luc in the LANIKAI AO and continued pacification and buddy operations in Long An Province. **Results:** 22 enemy killed, 4 detained, 3 US KIA, 52 US WIA.

6 Nov. The enemy attacks Thuan Thien PF outpost in Phong Dinh Province (7 ARVN KIA, 4 ARVN WIA, 18 ARVN MIA; 12 VN KIA, 9 VN WIA).

6-12 Nov. Operation: YASS/HAYMAN

Location: Lang Phuoc Hoa, Xa Long Son, Ap Ben Da, Long Son Island, Route 15, Rach Tre Channel, LZ COOKIE, LZ BLONDIE, LZ DAGWOOD, LZ ALVIN, LZ DAISY, Rung Sat Special Zone, Phuoc Tuy Province **Type:** codron and search, search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 5RAR, C/6RAR, 3 SASR Sqn, 1 APC Sqn (1 Trp), 103 Fld Bty, A/2-35 Art. **Intelligence:** C2 PLAF Co. **Execution:** 1ATF conducted Operation HAYMAN on Long Son Island 18 km southwest of Nui Dat to sever the VC supply route between the Rung Sat Special Zone and Phuoc Tuy Province. It was preceded by a cor-don-and-search of the village of Lang Phuoc Hoa on Route 15 at the edge of the Rung Sat (Operation YASS). **Results:** 10 enemy killed, 8 detained, 1 AUS KIA.

7 Nov. The enemy kidnaps the entire population (107) of Cai Doi hamlet in Vinh Binh Province.

7 Nov. Revolutionary Development Division (J33) redesignated Revolutionary Development Support Directorate under BG William A. Knowlton, USA to control expanded MACV support for RD.

7-20 Nov. Operation: MERIDIAN

Location: Minh Thanh, Binh Long Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** 2-503 Inf, 33rd and 35th ARVN Ranger Bns **Execution:** This was the 173d Abn Bde participation in Operation ATTLEBORO, searching the area around Minh Thanh with light contact.

8-14 Nov. Operation: ARCADIA

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines, 3/1 Marines.

9-27 Nov. Operation: DRAGON EYE

Location: Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d ROK Mar Bde. **Task organization:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd ROK Mar Bns. **Results:** 154 enemy killed, 4 detained, 38 ROK KIA, 97 RPK WIA, 4 US WIA.

10 Nov. 1st Inf Div patrol on Operation ATTLEBORO in Tay Ninh Province encounters first reported enemy tear gas attack of war; gas is CS or CN type, incapacitating men for approximately four minutes.

10-25 Nov. Operation: MAENG HO 7

Location: Binh Ding Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** CRID.

11 Nov. The enemy attacks Vi Thanh RF dependent-housing area in Chuong Thien Province with small arms, mortar and RR fire (3 ARVN KIA; 11 VN KIA, 32 VN WIA).

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

12 Nov. The New York Times reports that up to 40 percent of all economic or military aid to the Saigon government fails to reach its destination due to theft, corruption, black marketing and waste.

12 Nov. An estimated 25 enemy sappers infiltrate a US Marines defensive position in Thua Thien Province and attack with small arms, grenades and satchel charges (3 enemy killed, 14 US KIA, 28 US WIA, 1 ARVN KIA, 4 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA).

12 Nov. The enemy overruns a PF outpost near Tay Ninh City (8 ARVN KIA, 18 ARVN WIA, 19 ARVN MIA).

14 Nov. The enemy attacks a CIDG unit 20 km east of Moc Hoa in Kien Tuong Province (86 enemy killed, 2 US KIA, 4 US WIA, 8 ARVN KIA, 17 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA).

14 Nov. The enemy attacks the Cau Don PF outpost in Long An Province (9 ARVN KIA, 12 ARVN WIA, 10 ARVN MIA; 9 VN KIA).

14 Nov. An estimated 2 enemy companies attack an RF outpost in Tay Ninh Province (15 ARVN KIA, 13 ARVN WIA, 3 ARVN MIA, 16 VN KIA, 5 VN WIA, 1 VN MIA). ARVN reaction force approaching outpost strikes mine (14 ARVN KIA, 9 ARVN WIA).

15 Nov. GVN commences armed convoys for all international shipping into and from Cambodia on RVN portions of Mekong/Bassac Rivers.

15 Nov. Tuy Hoa airbase activated.

16 Nov.66-12 Jan.67 **Operation: DAN TAM 81**

Location: Gia Ray, Vo Dat, Vo Xu, Song La Nga, Long Khanh and Binh Tuy Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, road security, rice harvest protection. **Controlling headquarters:** 11th ACR, 10th ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/11 ACR, B/7-9 Art, 1/43 and 2/43 ARVN Bns, Task Force 52. **Execution:** the operation protected the rice harvest in the La Nga Valley between Vo Dat and Vo Xu.

18 Nov. Premier Ky announces cabinet changes involving creation of new Cultural Affairs Ministry under Deputy Premier Nguyen Luu Vien, splitting of Economy Ministry into Ministries of Commerce and Industry, and replacement of Secretaries of State for Education, Social Welfare and Youth.

18 Nov. Enemy sappers attack USARV Long Binh ammunition dump in Bien Hoa Province with satchel charges (1,265 105mm artillery rounds destroyed).

18 Nov. The enemy attacks the 51st ARVN Ranger Bn in Long An Province (10 enemy killed, 14 ARVN KIA, 9 ARVN WIA, 2 ARVN MIA).

18 Nov.-3 Dec. **Operation: INGHAM**

Location: Duc Thanh, Dat Do, Long Tan, Xuyen Moc, Song Rai, LZ KANGAROO. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 6RAR, 5RAR (Two Cos), 1 APC Sqn, 101 Fld Bty, 161 Bty RNZA, , A/2-35 Art. **Intelligence:** D445 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** the operation was aimed at the D445 Bn in an AO extending between Long Tan and Xuyen Moc. It produced minimal contact. **Results:** 10 enemy killed, 19 detained, 2 AUS KIA, 21 AUS WIA.

19 Nov. Enemy releases 59 VN POWs captured at A Shau in March.

19 Nov. IV Corps Commander LTG Dang Quang, named to newly created post of Minister of Planning and Development; replaced by 23rd ARVN Div Commander BG Nguyen Van Manh.

20-27 Nov. **Operation: RIO BLANCO/LIEN KET 70**

Location: Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines, 2d ROK Mar Bde, 2nd ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/7 Marines; 2d ROK Mar Bde (elts); 2nd ARVN Div (elts). **Results:** 123 enemy killed, 30 detained. Friendly casualties are 3 KIA and 33 WIA.

20 Nov.66-14 May 67. **Operation: FORT NISQUALLY**

Location: Bearcat, Dau Tieng, Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV (20 Nov-22 Dec), 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div (from 23 Dec). **Task organization:** 2-12 Inf, 2-22 Inf (M), 3-22 Inf, 2-77 Art. **Execution:** the purpose of this operation was to support the deployment of the 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div from Bearcat to its new base camp at Dau Tieng with the 25th Inf Div as the sponsoring unit and subsequent actions to secure the base camp and elim-

inate enemy influence in the brigade's TAOR. **Results:** 28 enemy killed, 26 detained.

24 Nov. The enemy kidnaps 109 civilians and burn 15 houses in Dinh Cu New Life hamlet in Vinh Binh Province.

24 Nov. The enemy ambushes a US convoy carrying civilian construction workers 10 km southeast of Dalat (1 US KIA, 1 US civilian killed, 7 foreign nationals killed, 11 wounded, 3 trucks destroyed, 5 trucks damaged).

24 Nov.-2 Dec. **Operation: WACO**

Location: Xuan Loc, May Tao Secret Zone, Bien Hoa and Long Khanh Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 173d Abn Bde. **Task organization:** Task Force SUTTON: 1-503 Inf, D/16 Arm, E/17 Cav, C/3-319 Art; 33rd ARVN Ranger Bn. **Intelligence:** D800 PLAF Bn. **Execution:** while the brigade resumed responsibility for the Bien Hoa TAOR, it conducted a search and destroy mission in the May Tao Secret Zone in Long Khanh Province, with minimal contact.

25 Nov.-9 Dec. **Operation: BISMARCK**

Location: Di An, Phuoc Vinh, Bien Hoa and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** road security. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 1st Inf Div.

25 Nov.66-8 Apr.67 **Operation: FITCHBURG**

Location: Tay Ninh West, Trai Bi, Route 26, Nui Ba Den, Rock Crusher site, Tay Ninh Province. **Type:** search and destroy, security. **Controlling headquarters:** 196th LIB. **Task organization:** 2-1 Inf, 3-21 Inf, 4-31 Inf, 2-34 Arm (-) (2-22 Dec), 3-82 Art, B/2-13 Art. **Execution:** Operation FITCHBURG was a search and destroy operation in Tay Ninh Province executed in 25 phases coupled with a security mission for the Tay Ninh West base camp. **Results:** 55 enemy killed, 148 detained, 22 US KIA, 99 US WIA.

27 Nov.-23 Dec. **Operation: CHARLESTON**

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-18 Inf.

29 Nov. The enemy ambushes an ARVN/RF convoy in Tuyen Duc Province (24 ARVN KIA, 27 ARVN WIA).

29 Nov.-5 Dec. **Operation: HEALDSBURG**

Location: III CTZ (?). **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Results:** 113 enemy killed.

29 Nov.-17 Dec. **Operation: MISSISSIPPI**

Location: An Hoa, Antenna Valley, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy, area denial. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 2/9 Marines; 2/12 Marines. **Execution:** the operation removed 2,300 civilians from the Khe Le (Antenna) valley.

30 Nov. Allies declare 48-hour cease-fire over Christmas and New Year, four-day cease-fire over TET (8-12 February), following communist declaration of Christmas and New Year cease fires.

30 Nov. US planes scattered record high of more than 272 million psyops leaflets over NVN and SVN, exceeding any previous month's total.

30 Nov.-6 Dec. **Operation: SUTTER**

Location: Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th Marines. **Task organization:** 1/5 Marines.

30 Nov. 66-15 Dec.67 **Operation: FAIRFAX/RANG DONG**

Location: Nha Be, Thu Duc and Binh Chanh Districts, Gia Dinh Province. **Type:** pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV, CMD. **Task organization:** 1st Inf Div (30 Nov 66-31 Jan 67): 2-16 Inf; 4th Inf Div (30 Nov 66-31 Jan 67): 3-22 Inf; 25th Inf Div (30 Nov 66-31 Jan 67): 4-9 Inf; CMD (30 Nov 66-31 Jan 67): 3rd and 5th ARVN Abn Bns, 30th Ranger Bn; 199th LIB (31 Jan-15 Dec.): 2-3 Inf, 3-7 Inf, 4-12 Inf, 2-40 Art; 5th ARVN Ranger Group (31 Jan.-15 Dec): 30th, 33rd and 38th ARVN Ranger Bns. **Intelligence:** Military Region 4, 165A PLAF Regiment. **Execution:** Operation FAIRFAX was conceived as a joint clearing and pacification mission in the districts surrounding Saigon. It paired an American and South Vietnamese battalions in the three most troublesome districts of Binh Chanh, Nha Be and

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Thus Duc, south and west of the Capital. Originally the pairing was 2-16 Inf and 30th Ranger in Thu Duc, 3-22 Inf and 5th Abn Bn in Nha Be and 4-9 Inf and 3rd Abn Bn in Binh Chanh. On 31 Jan the awkward arrangement ended and the 199th LIB and 5th ARVN Ranger Group became responsible for the operation with a joint CP at Cat Lai and the following organization: 4-12 Inf and 30th Ranger in Thu Duc, 2-3 Inf and 38th Ranger in Nha Be and 3-7 Inf and 33rd Ranger in Binh Chanh. On 24 Sep the buddy practice was discontinued with US and ARVN units operating independently in separate sectors. The 199th LIB was gradually withdrawn from the FAIRFAX AO and the 5th Ranger Group assumed responsibility alone. **Results** (end of 1966): 149 enemy killed, 40 detained, 11 US KIA, 67 US WIA, 23 ARVN KIA, 58 ARVN WIA, 1 ARVN MIA.

Arrival:	
1 Nov.	643d Eng Co 33d Ord Co 47 th Trans Co HMM-163 VMA(AW)-242 MASS-3
2 Nov.	588 th Trans Co
3 Nov.	35 th Eng C Bn
7 Nov.	1-44 Art 560 th Supply Co 561 st Supply Co
8 Nov.	559 th Supply Co 1 st Arm Amph Co
10 Nov.	180 th Avn Co 336 th Avn Co
15 Nov.	71 st SMEH VMF(AW)-232
18 Nov.	HQ 149 th MI Grp 34 th Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
19 Nov.	278 th S&S Bn HQ 593d General Support Grp 188 th Maint Bn 60 th Ord Co 512 th QM Co 446 th Trans Co 572d Trans Co 19 th PsyOp Co
23 Nov.	86 th Maint Bn 1 st Med Co 514 th QM Co
26 Nov.	D/52 Inf
27 Nov.	HQ 45 th General Support Grp
28 Nov.	36 th Signal Bn 7 th Support Bn 239 th QM Co
29 Nov.	HQ 15 th Support Bde D/51 Inf C/54 Inf D/58 Inf C/87 Inf 5-2 Art D/71 Art
30 Nov.	HQ 54 th General Support Grp HQ 1 st Fld Art Grp 11 th Eng Bn
Departure:	
1 Nov.	HMM-364 VMA-224
5 Nov.	2/4 Marines
15 Nov.	VMF(AW)-235

1-2 Dec. **Operation:** DANGLESNIFF

Location: Nui Thi Vai, Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** reconnaissance. **Controlling headquarters:** 1ATF. **Task organization:** 3 SASR Sqn. **Execution:** two-man SASR teams were inserted individually into eight separate locations in the mountains of Nui Thi Vai area to test the effectiveness of CS crystals laid on a previous operation by 5RAR.

1 Dec. 66-14 May 67 **Operation:** ALA MOANA

Location: Cu Chi, Duc Hue, Duc Hoa, Trang Bang, Phu Hoa Dong, Ho Bo Woods, Boi Loi Woods, Filhol Plantation, Hau Nghia, Tay Ninh and Binh Duong Provinces. **Type:** search and destroy, reconnaissance-in-force, saturation patrolling. **Controlling headquarters:** 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2d Bde: (1 Dec 66-22 Feb 67): 1-5 Inf (M), 1-27 Inf, 2-27 Inf, 3-4 Cav (-), 1-8 Art; 1st Bde (22 Feb-14 May): 4-9 Inf, 2-14 Inf, 4-23 Inf (M), 7-11 Art. **Execution:** The brigade conducted operations in Hau Nghia, Tay Ninh, and Binh Duong Provinces to locate and destroy VC forces, supplies and base camps and to interdict VC harvest, movement, and storage of rice. On 7 Dec the 2d Bde established its CP in the field and assumed the additional mission of screening the rice producing areas adjacent to the Ho Bo - Boi Loi Woods complex. Numerous caches were located. After 17 Dec. the Bde CP returned to Cu Chi and emphasis was shifted to the Duc Hue and Duc Hoa districts. Operations included search and destroy operation, reconnaissance-in-force, and saturation patrolling throughout the AO. From 8 Jan until 26 Jan, the 2d Bde conducted operations along the Saigon River in conjunction with Operation CEDAR FALLS. In Feb, an additional mission was undertaken to clear the road from Cu Chi to Phu Hoa Dong and clear the surrounding wooded area. On 22 Feb, the 1st Bde assumed control of the operation as the 2d Bde joined Operation JUNCTION CITY. In March, 4-9 Inf, assisted by the 4-23 Inf (M) continued local security operations vicinity the Division's base camp, in the Filhol Plantation and vicinity Trang Bang. On 16 Mar, they were relieved by 2-14 Inf. Throughout the month there were no significant contacts and the operation ended on 14 May. **Results:** 381 enemy killed, 25 detained.

2 Dec. Eight US aircraft downed over NVN with 13 fliers dead or captured, both one-day records for war to date.

2 Dec. An estimated enemy company ambushes an RF company in Long An Province (1 enemy killed, 17 ARVN KIA, 6 ARVN WIA, 2 ARVN MIA).

2 Dec. French merchant ship SINDH receives 10 rounds of VC 75mm RR fire on Long Tau River 23 km southeast of Saigon, reaches Saigon with superstructure considerably damaged (2 civilians WIA).

4 Dec. The 6th Bn, 165A PLAF Regiment, attacks Tan Son Nhut airbase with small arms and approximately 40 rounds of mortar fire. 30 enemy penetrate the perimeter and engage USAF defenders provided close air support by USA aircraft (31 enemy killed, 4 detained, 3 US KIA, 30 US WIA, 2 VN WIA, 18 aircraft damaged).

4 Dec. Enemy satchel charge explodes at PSYOPS billet in USAID compound in Saigon (11 US WIA).

4 Dec. US Navy Swift boat detains and tows to Nha Trang 80-foot junk carrying 36 males and 7 children identified as Communist Chinese nationals from Tanh Siem, Hainan Island.

4-5 Dec. **Operation:** ALEXANDRIA

Location: Ap Hien Can My, Duc Thanh, Xuan Loc, Long Khanh and Phuoc Tuy Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 11th ACR. **Task organization:** 3/11 ACR, 43rd ARVN Regiment (elts). **Results:** 4 enemy killed, 2 US KIA, 10 US WIA.

5-12 Dec. **Operation:** CORTEZ

Location: Tien Phuoc, Quang Tin Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 5th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/5 Marines, 1st Recon Bn (-). **Execution:** 3/5 Marines exploited an arc light strike 5 km northeast of Tien Phuoc but had no significant contact. **Results:** 1 enemy killed, 1 detained, 2 US KIA, 5 US WIA.

5-20 Dec. **Operation:** CANARY

DECEMBER

1 Dec. US military strength in RVN reaches 361,000.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Location: Vung Tau, Saigon, Long Binh, Route 15, Phuoc Tuy, Bien Hoa and Gia Dinh Provinces. **Type:** deployment. **Controlling headquarters:** II FFORCEV. **Task organization:** 199th LIB; 11th ACR; 1ATF (4-14 Dec); 18th MP Bde **Execution:** the purpose of this operation was to support the deployment of the 199th LIB in country with the 1st Inf Div as the sponsoring unit to its base camp at Long Binh (Ho Nai). Personnel debarked at Vung Tau and were transported by vehicles to the Long Binh (Ho Nai) base camp. Cargo, wheel and track vehicles were off-loaded at Saigon and conveyed to Long Binh (Ho Nai).

6-11 Dec. Operation: TRINIDAD I&II

Location: Hoi An, Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines. **Execution:** operation was conducted on the coast immediately north of Hoi An with minimal contact.

6 Dec.66-19 Jan.67 Operation: PICKETT

Location: Kontum, Ploi Kleng, Ploi Mrong, Ploi Trap Valley, Dak Akoi Valley, LZ LEE, LZ MEADE, LZ HUNT, LZ SHERIDAN, LZ SHERMAN, LZ GRANT, Kontum Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div. **Task organization:** 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf, 2-502 Inf, 2-320 Art, B/1-30 Art, A/2-17 Cav, A/326th Eng Bn, 299th Eng C Bn; 42nd ARVN Regiment (one Bn on rotation). **Intelligence:** 24th PAVN Regiment, 304th PLAF Bn. **Execution:** Operation PICKETT was conducted in three phases: from 6-8 Dec the brigade moved via air from Tuy Hoa North and Tuy Hoa South airfield to Kontum, using 199 C-130 sorties completed in 49 hours. Phase II, beginning 9 Dec, consisted in air-assaults by 1-327 Inf, 2-327 Inf and 3/42 ARVN Bn into the northern portion of the Ploi Trap Valley. On 13 Dec, 2-502 Inf was inserted into LZ SHERMAN. Contact was light and the brigade was extracted on 24 Dec, patrolling the perimeter of the Kontum airfield during the Christmas truce. On 27 Dec, Phase III kicked off with the airmobile infiltration of 1-327 Inf and 2-502 Inf into the Dak Akoi northwest of Kontum, maintaining a clandestine posture and using semi-guerrilla tactics. On 30 Dec, 1-327 ambushed and killed 12 NVA. On 3 Jan, 1-327 Inf returned to Kontum and was replaced by 2-327 Inf which has just completed airborne training. The enemy avoided contact for the rest of the operation and all battalions were back at Kontum by 19 Jan. **Results:** 63 enemy killed, 18 detained, 23 US KIA, 104 US WIA.

7 Dec. Influential Constituent Assembly member Tran Van Van assassinated in Saigon by man identifying himself as VC.

8 Dec. US pilots encounter highly disciplined and professional six-MiG formation over NVN believed by Cmdr 7th AF to have been flown by North Koreans.

9 Dec. Secretary of State Dean Rusk arrives in Saigon for two-day visit.

9 Dec. An estimated enemy Bn attacks two RF Cos conducting training exercises in Phuoc Tuy Province (2 enemy killed, 11 ARVN KIA, 18 ARVN WIA, 179 ARVN MIA).

9-14 Dec. Operation: ROVER

Location: Kim Son Valley, LZ PONY, Binh Dinh Province. **Type:** area denial. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Cav Div **Task organization:** 3d Bde: 41st Civil Affairs Co **Execution:** As part of Operation THAYER II, the operation aimed at removing all population from the Kim Son Valley in order to make if a free fire zone. Operating from LZ PONY, Civil Affairs teams processed 1,100 refugees who were resettled vicinity Hoai An District HQ.

10 Dec. The 199th LIB arrives in RVN, located at Long Binh (Ho Nai).

10 Dec. The enemy launches simultaneous attacks on the 3rd ARVN Regiment near An Lo bridge in Thua Thien Province (6 enemy killed, 1 US KIA, 4 US WIA, 23 ARVN KIA, 81 ARVN WIA, 12 ARVN MIA).

10 Dec. The enemy detonates explosives at USARV ammunition dump in Long Binh, Bien Hoa Province (1 US KIA, 1.5 tons small arms, 80 175mm propellant charges destroyed).

10 Dec. US aircraft, acting on erroneous information, strike USMC unit in Quang Tri Province (17 US KIA, 11 US WIA).

10 Dec.66-12 Jan.67 Operation: BLACKJACK 22

Location: Buon Mi Ga, Buon Ea Yang, Darlac Province. **Type:** mobile guerrilla. **Controlling headquarters:** II CTZ MIKE Force. **Task organization:** A-219 MSF. **Execution:** This was the second mobile guerrilla operation, conducted between Buon Mi Ga and Buon Ea Yang in Darlac Province.

11 Dec. The enemy attacks the 25th ARVN Div base camp 17 km southwest of Cu Chi in Hau Nghia Province with automatic weapon and mortar fire (7 ARVN KIA, 14 ARVN WIA, 14 ARVN MIA, 7 VN WIA).

11 Dec. The enemy ambushes a platoon of 1-16 Inf 5 km north of Phu Khuong District Town in Tay Ninh Province (26 enemy killed, 18 US KIA, 10 US WIA).

11-16 Dec. Operation: STERLING

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 9th Marines. **Task organization:** 3/9 Marines.

11-18 Dec. Operation: LANIKAI III

Location: Ben Luc, Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-14 Inf, 3/50 ARVN Bn. **Intelligence:** 506th PLAF Bn. **Execution:** 2-14 Inf relieved 4-23 Inf at Ben Luc in the LANIKAI AO and continued pacification and buddy operations in Long An Province.

12 Dec. The Dong Nai water supply system inaugurated; when completed will be able to supply 127.5 million gallons of potable water daily to the 2.7 million inhabitants of the Saigon/Cholon/Gia Dinh area.

12 Dec. The Soviet Union has given 100 new MiG jet fighters to Hanoi, doubling size of NVAF, according to news release.

12 Dec.66-21 Jan.67 Operation: SIERRA

Location: Mo Duc, Quang Ngai Province. **Type:** search and destroy, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 7th Marines, 2nd ARVN Div **Task organization:** 2/7 Marines; 4th ARVN Regiment (elts). **Execution:** 2/7 Marines returned to Mo Duc District to continue pacification operations **Results:** 111 enemy killed, 9 detained, 10 US KIA, 50 US WIA.

13 Dec. GVN Constituent Assembly approves first three articles of new constitution, providing for popularly-elected President, and a Prime Minister and Cabinet appointed by the President

13 Dec. Construction begins on the New Plei Djereng CIDG camp in Pleiku province for Det A-251, the first "fighting camp," designed to be a base for extended operations throughout the tactical area of responsibility rather than a walled fortress in the middle of hostile territory.

13 Dec. Operation: DAN CHI 270B

Location: Chuong Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Div. **Task organization:** 1/33 ARVN Bn. **Execution:** 64 prisoners were discovered in a VC camp.

14 Dec. In Quang Tin Province, 5 km east Tam Ky, 3/6 ARVN Bn is attacked by unknown number of enemy (35 enemy killed, 7 US WIA, 34 ARVN KIA, 39 ARVN WIA).

14 Dec. Seven US planes downed over North Vietnam.

16-26 Dec. Operation: INITIATOR

Location: Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 199th LIB. **Task organization:** 2-3 Inf, 4-12 Inf, 2-40 Art. **Execution:** 199th LIB shakedown operation.

17-21 Dec. Operation: GLENN

Location: Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines. **Task organization:** 3/9 Marines.

19 Dec. Bob Hope arrives to start his annual Christmas shows.

19 Dec. Philippine Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal arrives for a four-day visit with GVN leaders.

19-21 Dec. Operation: SHASTA II

Location: Dodge City, Go Noi, Hill 55 Quang Nam Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Marines **Task organization:** 1/1 Marines. **Execution:** operation executed in the Dodge City area between Go Noi Island and Hill 55.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

19-22 Dec. **Operation: SANTA CRUZ**

Location: Binh Duong Province. **Type:** cordon and search. **Controlling headquarters:** 3d Bde, 1st Inf Div. **Results:** 13 enemy killed.

19 Dec.66-13 Feb.67 **Operation: LANIKAI IV**

Location: Ben Luc, Rach Kien, Long An Province. **Type:** search and destroy, bushmaster, patrolling, pacification. **Controlling headquarters:** 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div. **Task organization:** 2-14 Inf, 1/46 ARVN Bn, 1/50 ARVN Bn, 10th ARVN Arm Cav Sqn. **Intelligence:** 506th PLAF Bn. **Execution:** 2-14 Inf relocated its base camp from Ben Luc to Rach Kien and continued pacification and buddy operations in Long An Province. Emphasis was placed on small unit night operations. Effective and continuous fire support from artillery has been provided from the fire support bases at Ben Luc and Rach Kien. 1st Bde located its CP at Ben Luc to provide guidance and coordination for both Operation LANINAI and Operation FAIRFAX. During January 2-14 Inf continued operations around Rach Kien. Combined S&D (buddy) operations were conducted with the 1/46 ARVN Bn, 1/50 ARVN Bn and the 3d Trp, 10th ARVN Arm Cav Sqn. Elements of the Bn opened and repaired the road from Ben Luc to Rach Kien. Bushmaster and extensive night ambushes were conducted. From 8-13 Feb, 2-14 Inf conducted security operations vicinity Rach Kien, but failed to make contact. **Results** (LANIKAI I, II, III, IV): 89 enemy killed, 11 detained.

20 Dec. The 9th Inf Div headquarters and 3d Bde arrive in RVN, located at Bearcat. The 2d Bde, 1st Inf Div is relocated from Bearcat to Di An.

20 Dec. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Harold K. Johnson arrives in Vietnam.

20 Dec.66-16 Feb.67 **Operation: CHINOOK I**

Location: Camp Evans, Co Bi, Thanh Tan, Song O Lau, Phong Dien District, Thua Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy **Controlling headquarters:** 4th Marines **Task organization:** 2/26 Marines, 3/26 Marines, 3/12 Marines. **Intelligence:** 6th PAVN Regiment. **Execution:** Suspecting that elements of the 6th PAVN Regiment again were attempting to infiltrate from their mountain base into the coastal populated region, 3/26 Marines was sent from Dong Ha to the Co Bi-Thanh Tan corridor. On 22 and 23 Dec, the battalion's perimeter was probed by the 802nd Bn, 6th PAVN Regiment. On 23 Dec, the operation was expanded and 2/26 was brought in from the PAWNEE AO. On 31 Dec, Marines Recon patrols observed an estimated 1,000 enemy troops taking advantage of the terms of the stand down and moving north toward the lowlands. Operation continued into the next year but with minimal contact. **Results:** 159 enemy killed, 13 detained, 8 US KIA, 91 US WIA.

21 Dec. A new CIDG camp opens at Lang Vei for Det A-101.

22 Dec. About 25-50 North Korean pilots reported to be in VPAF.

24 Dec. A CL-44 aircraft belonging to Flying Tiger Lines crashes into a populated area 1,500 meters from Da Nang runway. 111 persons were killed (107 VN, 4 US crew members).

24-25 Dec. 48 hours Christmas holiday cease-fire

27 Dec. ARVN Medical Corps graduates 75 new corpsman

27-30 Dec. **Operation: DAN CHI 270D**

Location: U Minh Forest, Chuong Thien Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 21st ARVN Div, ARVN Abn Div. **Execution:** operation was initiated with a parachute jump of 1,200 ARVN paratroopers over the fringes of the U Minh Forest. **Results:** 124 enemy killed, 12 detained, 2 ARVN KIA, 24 ARVN WIA.

27-31 Dec. **Operation: WIGGINS**

Location: Bien Hoa Province. **Type:** search and destroy. **Controlling headquarters:** 199th LIB. **Task organization:** 2-3 Inf.

31 Dec.66-1 Jan.67 48 hours New Year cease-fire

31 Dec. Grand total of US/FWA forces in RVN is 441,190. MACV: 8,794, Army Units: 236,341, Marine Corps Units: 70,405, Navy Units: 19,953, Air Force Units: 52,397, Combined Studies: 6, DEF COM AGCY: 40, SOG: 595, Total US Forces: 388,568 Australia: 4,533, Rep of China: 30, Rep of Korea:

45,605, New Zealand: 155, Philippines: 2,063, Spain: 12, Thailand: 224, Total FWA: 52,622. Enemy strength at the end of 1966 is reported to be 287,000; with between 45,000 and 60,000 of those being NVA regulars. American losses for the year: 5,008 KIA, 30,093 WIA. VNAF losses for the year: 9,500 KIA, 10,100 WIA. PAVN/PLAF losses for the year are placed at 61,631 killed.

Arrival:

1 Dec.	HQ US Army Eng Command, Vietnam C/52 Inf D/87 Inf 94 th S&S Bn 483d Supply Co VMA-121
2 Dec.	610 th Maint Bn
3 Dec.	Air Cav Trp, 11 th ACR 91 st SMEH
4 Dec	HMM-262
6 Dec.	490 th Supply Co 2d CA Co
8 Dec.	504 th TASG NMCB 62
10 Dec.	HQ 199 th Light Inf Bde 2-3 Inf 4-12 Inf
11 Dec.	3/26 Marines
12 Dec.	2-40 Art 87 th Eng C Co 500 th Eng Co 13 th BS
13 Dec.	D/17 Cav 2-11 Art 21 st S&S Co 61 st Maint Co 98 th Maint Co
15 Dec.	44 th Signal Bn 58 th Army Depot 243d Supply Co
16 Dec.	31 st TFW 306 th TFS 309 th TFS 9 th S&T Bn
19 Dec.	3-34 Art 9 th MP Co 9 th Signal Bn
20 Dec.	HQ 9 th Inf Div HQ 3d Bde, 9 th Inf Div 2-60 Inf 5-60 Inf (M) ³² 3-60 Inf
21 Dec.	167 th Signal Co
23 Dec.	442d Trans Co Det, HMH-463
28 Dec.	3-7 Inf
29 Dec.	9 th MI Co 11 th Motor Trans Bn VMO-3
Departure:	
1 Dec.	574 th Eng Co VMA-223
12 Dec.	8 th BS
16 Dec.	1/4 Marines HMM-361

³² Gave up is mechanized assets to 1-16 Inf in Sep 1968.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

INDEX OF OPERATIONS

1-66.....	3
1/66.....	3
2-66.....	5
3-66.....	8
3/66.....	6
4-66.....	9
4/66.....	6
5-66.....	12
6-66.....	15
6/66.....	8
7-66.....	17
8-66.....	20
8/66.....	12
9-66.....	23
10-66.....	26
11-66.....	29
12-66.....	31
13-66.....	33
18/65.....	3
ABILENE.....	10
ADAMS.....	35
ADELAIDE I.....	17
ADELAIDE II.....	17
ADELAIDE III.....	19
AIEA.....	26
AKRON.....	15
ALA MOANA.....	38
ALEXANDRIA.....	38
ALICE.....	28
ALLEGHENY.....	27
ALLENTOWN.....	34
AMARILLO.....	27
AN DAN 564.....	3
AN DAN/14/66.....	6
AN DAN/42/66.....	9
APACHE.....	18
ARCADIA.....	36
ASHEVILLE.....	16
ATHENS.....	17
ATHOL.....	29
ATLANTA.....	34
ATLANTIC CITY.....	29
ATTLEBORO.....	29
AURORA I.....	22
AURORA II.....	23
AUSTIN II.....	12
AUSTIN VI.....	14
BACH DANG 46.....	24
BACON.....	34
BALD EAGLE.....	6
BANGOR.....	29
BATHURST.....	32
BATON ROUGE.....	28
BEAUREGARD.....	20
BEAVER.....	18
BEE BEE.....	14
BEER BARREL.....	8
BELFAST.....	26
BELT LINE.....	7
BENNING.....	9
BENNING II.....	19
BENNING III.....	21
BENNING IV.....	24
BENNING V.....	28
BENNING VI.....	31
BETHLEHEM.....	34
BIG LODGE.....	4
BINH PHU 3.....	15
BINH PHU/9/10/11.....	22

BINH PHU 14.....	23
BINH PHU 27.....	30
BIRMINGHAM.....	13
BISMARCK.....	37
BLACK HORSE.....	8
BLACKJACK 21.....	33
BLACKJACK 22.....	39
BLUE JAY.....	27
BOBCAT TRACKER.....	5
BOLIVAR.....	12
BOSTON.....	8
BOWIE.....	13
BOYD.....	31
BREEZE AWAY.....	6
BREMERTON.....	34
BRISBANE.....	23
BROWNSVILLE.....	10
BRUNSWICK.....	10
BUCHANAN.....	9
BUCHANAN II.....	10
BUCKS.....	25
BUCKSKIN.....	4
BUN KAE 66-5.....	11
BUN KAE 66-7.....	16
BUN KAE 66-9.....	22
BUNDABERG.....	35
BYRD.....	27
CANARY.....	38
CANBERRA.....	32
CANNON.....	29
CASTINE.....	27
CASULA.....	30
CEDAR RAPIDS I&II.....	23
CHARLESTON.....	37
CHATTANOOGA.....	13
CHEROKEE.....	15
CHEYENNE.....	25
CHEYENNE I.....	17
CHEYENNE II.....	17
CHINOOK I.....	40
CIRCLE PINES.....	10
CLEAN SWEEP.....	7
COCO PALMS.....	20
COCOA BEACH.....	8
COFFEE.....	31
COLORADO.....	25
CORTEZ.....	38
COUNTY FAIR.....	7
COUNTY FAIR II.....	14
CRANSTON.....	28
CRAZY HORSE.....	16
CRIMP.....	3
CROWS NEST.....	31
CUU LONG 15.....	9
CUU LONG/22/KT.....	33
CUU LONG/32/66.....	22
DAI BANG 800.....	32
DAN CHI 211B.....	10
DAN CHI 227.....	16
DAN CHI 228B.....	16
DAN CHI 261.....	28
DAN CHI 263.....	33
DAN CHI 270B.....	39
DAN CHI 270D.....	40
DAN TAM 81.....	37
DAN THANG 61.....	18
DAN THANG 68.....	21
DAN THANG 73.....	24
DANBURY.....	30
DANGLESNIFF.....	38
DARLINGHURST.....	27

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

DAVY CROCKETT.....	15	JACKSON.....	27
DAZZLEM.....	32	JACKSTAY.....	10
DECATUR.....	28	JAMES BOND.....	21
DECKHOUSE I.....	20	JAY.....	20
DECKHOUSE II.....	23	JEFFERSON.....	3
DECKHOUSE III.....	26	JIM BOWIE.....	9
DECKHOUSE IV.....	30	JOHN PAUL JONES.....	23
DENVER.....	12	JOLIET.....	18
DEXTER.....	15	KAHALA.....	13
DOAN KET.....	18	KAHANA I&II.....	21
DODGE.....	19	KAHUKU.....	12
DOUBLE EAGLE.....	5	KAILUA.....	33
DOUBLE EAGLE II.....	7	KALIHI.....	30
DOVER.....	33	KAMEHAMEHA I.....	4
DRAGON EYE.....	36	KAMEHAMEHA II.....	5
DUCK.....	34	KAMEHAMEHA III.....	6
EAGLE CLAW.....	6	KAMEHAMEHA IV.....	9
EHU.....	20	KAMUELA.....	30
EL PASO I.....	16	KANSAS.....	19
EL PASO II.....	18	KATHY.....	31
EL PASO III.....	22	KEANA.....	12
ELDORADO.....	26	KENT.....	32
ENOGGERA.....	20	KERN.....	34
ENTREE.....	6	KINGS.....	9
EVANSVILLE.....	25	KIPAPA.....	28
EWA.....	22	KOKOHEAD.....	24
FAIRFAX.....	37	KOLCHAK.....	7
FARGO.....	19	Ky Lam Campaign.....	15
FILLMORE.....	10	LAHAINA.....	26
FITCHBURG.....	37	LAM SON 234.....	7
FLORIDA.....	18	LAM SON 235.....	7
FLYING TIGER VI.....	3	LAM SON 236.....	7
FORT NISQUALLY.....	37	LAM SON 238.....	20
FORT SMITH.....	18	LAM SON 284.....	20
FORT WAYNE.....	14	LAM SON 286.....	21
FRANKLIN.....	24	LAM SON 289.....	22
FRESNO.....	19, 29	LAM SON 290.....	23
GARFIELD.....	7	LAM SON 318.....	32
GEORGIA.....	13	LAM SON II.....	17
GERONIMO.....	35	LANIKAI I.....	30
GLENN.....	39	LANIKAI II.....	36
GOLDEN FLEECE II.....	9	LANIKAI III.....	39
GOLDEN FLEECE 7-1.....	30	LANIKAI IV.....	39
HAC HO 34.....	23	LE LOI 21.....	9
HAMILTON II.....	10	LEE.....	32
HANG OVER.....	3	LEWIS & CLARK.....	15
HARDIHOOD.....	16	LEXINGTON III.....	13
HARRISON.....	7	LIBERTY.....	19
HASTINGS.....	22	LIEN KET 22.....	5
HATTIESBURG.....	8	LIEN KET 24.....	7
HAWTHORNE.....	18	LIEN KET 26.....	8
HAYES.....	23	LIEN KET 28.....	9
HAYMAN.....	36	LIEN KET 30.....	10
HEALDSBURG.....	37	LIEN KET 36.....	13
HELEMANO.....	19	LIEN KET 40.....	15
HENRY CLAY.....	21	LIEN KET 46.....	20
HICKORY.....	32	LIEN KET 50.....	24
HOBART.....	24	LIEN KET 52.....	25
HOLLANDIA.....	19	LIEN KET 54.....	27
HOLSWORTHY.....	25	LIEN KET 56.....	28
HOLT.....	21	LIEN KET 60.....	30
HONOLULU.....	9	LIEN KET 64.....	32
HOOVER I.....	19	LIEN KET 68.....	36
HOT SPRINGS.....	13	LIEN KET 70.....	37
HUNTSVILLE.....	30	LIGHTNING III.....	7
HWA RANG II.....	6	LIGHTNING V.....	11
INDIANA.....	10	LIHUE.....	14
INGHAM.....	37	LINCOLN.....	10
INITIATOR.....	39	LITTLE ROCK.....	31
IOWA.....	12	LOI HOA 63.....	24
IRVING.....	32	LONG LANCE.....	3

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

LONG PHI 971.....	17	QUEANBEYAN.....	33
LONG PHI 984.....	27	QUICK HOP.....	4
LONGFELLOW.....	12	QUICK KICK I.....	3
LONGSTREET.....	18	QUICK KICK II.....	4
LONGVIEW.....	30	QUICK KICK III.....	4
LOS ANGELES.....	8	QUICK KICK IV.....	5
MACON.....	21	QUYET THANG 184.....	12
MADISON.....	34	QUYET THANG 296.....	17
MAENG HO 5.....	10	RANG DONG.....	37
MAENG HO 6.....	31	RED BALL IV.....	4
MAENG HO 7.....	36	RED BALL V.....	5
MAILI.....	14	RED BALL VI.....	8
MAKAHA.....	12	RED BALL VII.....	10
MAKIKI.....	18	RENO.....	17
MALLARD.....	4, 27	RETRIEVER I.....	4
MALLET.....	5	RETRIEVER II.....	4
MANH HO/3/4/5/6.....	29	RIO BLANCO.....	37
MARAUDER.....	3	ROAD RUNNER VI.....	6
MARSHALLTOWN.....	36	ROBIN.....	32
MASHER.....	5	ROLLING STONE.....	6
MASHER/WHITE WING.....	5	ROUNDHOUSE.....	6
MASTIFF.....	7	ROVER.....	39
MATADOR I&II.....	3	SALEM.....	9
MEADOWLARK.....	29	SANTA CRUZ.....	39
MERIDIAN.....	36	SANTA FE.....	19
MEXICALI.....	19	SEWARD.....	28
MIAMI.....	12	SHASTA I.....	36
MISSISSIPPI.....	37	SHASTA II.....	39
MOBILE.....	17	SHENANDOAH I.....	33
MOKULEIA.....	23	SHORT FUSE.....	4
MONROE.....	10	SIERRA.....	39
MONTEREY.....	31	SILVER CITY.....	8
MONTGOMERY.....	15	SIOUX CITY.....	31
MORGAN.....	17	SMITHFIELD.....	26
MOSBY I.....	12	SPANWAY.....	35
MOSBY II.....	13	SPRINGFIELD I&II.....	24
MUSKEGON.....	18	STABLE.....	26
NAPA.....	28	STEEL HORSE VII.....	24
NATHAN HALE.....	20	STERLING.....	39
NEVADA.....	12	SU BOK.....	10
NEW YORK.....	7	SUNSET BEACH.....	28
NINH THUAN 14.....	24	SUTTER.....	37
NOGALES.....	20	SUWANEE.....	26
OAHU.....	25	SYDNEY I.....	21
OAKLAND.....	20	SYDNEY II.....	23
OLYMPIA.....	10	TAMPA.....	9
OMAHA.....	13	TAN PHONG III.....	19
ON GUARD.....	4	TARO LEAF.....	6
ORANGE.....	11	TAYLOR.....	6
OREGON.....	9	TETON.....	32
OSAGE.....	13	TEXAS.....	9
OSTEGO.....	13	THANG LONG 234.....	6
OTTAWA.....	27	THANG LONG 243.....	22
PADDY BRIDGE.....	6	THANG LONG 246.....	23
PALESTINE.....	9	THAYER I.....	29
PAUL REVERE I.....	15	THAYER II.....	34
PAUL REVERE II.....	24	THUA THIEN 177.....	7
PAUL REVERE III.....	27	TOLEDO.....	26
PAUL REVERE IV.....	33	TRAIL BOSS.....	9
PAWNEE.....	27	TRAVIS.....	35
PAWNEE II.....	29	TRINIDAD I&II.....	39
PAWNEE III.....	35	TROY.....	8
PHOENIX.....	7	TULSA.....	32
PICKETT.....	39	TURNER.....	20
PIONEER I.....	4	TYLER.....	4
PIONEER II.....	4	UNIONTOWN.....	19
POAMOHO.....	22	UNIONTOWN II.....	33
POLE STAR.....	27	UTAH.....	8
PRAIRIE.....	25	VAN BUREN.....	4
PROVIDENCE.....	16	VAUCLUSE.....	29
QUANG DIEN.....	26	VIRGINIA.....	13

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

WACO.....	37
WAHIAWA.....	16
WAIKIKI.....	8
WAR BONNET.....	3
WASHINGTON.....	22
WAYCROSS.....	10
WAYNE.....	15
WHEATON.....	9
WHITE WING.....	6
WIGGINS.....	40
WILCOX.....	26
WINCHESTER.....	32
WREN.....	30
WYAT EARP.....	9
WYOMING.....	14
YASS.....	36
YELL.....	13
YORK.....	11
YORKTOWN.....	20

ABBREVIATIONS

AA: Anti-Aircraft
ABG: Air Base Group
Abn: Airborne
ACG: Air Commando Group
ACR: Armored Cavalry Regiment
ACS: Air Commando Squadron
ACW: Air Commando Wing
AF: Airfield
AFB: Air Force Base
AHC: Assault Helicopter Company
AML: Airmobile (Light)
Amph: Amphibious/Amphibian
ANGLICO: Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company
AO: Area of Operation
AP: Airport
APC: Armored Personnel Carrier
ARG: Assault Ready Group
Arm: Armor/Armored
Art: Artillery
ARVN: Army of the Republic of Viet Nam
AS: Attack Squadron
ASA: Army Security Agency
ASHC: Assault Support Helicopter Company
AT: Anti Tank
ATF: Australian Task Force
Avn: Aviation
(AW): All-weather
AWC: Aerial Weapon Company
Bde: Brigade
BEQ: Bachelor Enlisted Quarters
BG: Brigadier General
BLT: Battalion Landing Team
Bn: Battalion
BOQ: Bachelor Officer Quarters
Brig: Brigadier
BS: Bomb Squadron
Bty: Battery
BW: Bombardment Wing
C: Combat
CA: Civil Affairs
Cap: Capital
CAP: Civic Action Platoon
Cav: Cavalry
CC&S: Collection, Classification & Salvage
CHEM: Chemical
CIDG: Civilian Irregular Defense Group
CINCPAC: Commander-in-Chief, Pacific
CINCPAC: Commander-in-Chief, Pacific
CMAC: Capital Military Assistance Command

CMD: Capital Military District
Cmd: Command
Co: Company
COL: Colonel
Comp: Composite
COMUSMACV: Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam
COMNAVFORV: Commander, Naval Forces, Vietnam
CONUS: Continental United States
COSVN: Communist Office for South Viet Nam
CP: Command Post
CRID: Capital ROK Infantry Division
CSG: Combat Support Group
CTZ: Corps Tactical Zone
CVA: Attack Aircraft Carrier
CVW: Carrier Air Wing
Det: Detachment
Div: Division
DMZ: Demilitarized Zone
DoD: Department of Defense
DRAC: Delta Regional Assistance Command
Elts: Elements
Eng: Engineer
Exp: Expeditionary
FA: Field Artillery
FANK: *Forces Armées Nationales Khmères* (Khmer National Armed Forces)
FFV/FFORCEV: Field Force, Vietnam
Fld: Field
FOB: Forward Operating Base
FRAC: First Regional Assistance Command
FS: Fighter Squadron
FULRO: Front Uni de Lutte des Races Oprimées (United Front for the Liberation of Oppressed Races)
FW: Fighter Wing
FWA: Free World Allies
FWF: Free World Forces
GEN: General
GHQ: General Headquarters
Grp: Group
GVN: Government of (South) Viet Nam
GOER: M520 Caterpillar Goer Truck
HAL: Helicopter Attack Squadron Light
HH: Heavy Helicopter
HHC: Headquarters & Headquarters Company
HHT: Headquarters & Headquarters Troop
HMH: Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron
HML: Marine Light Helicopter Squadron
HMM: Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron
H&MS: Headquarters & Maintenance Squadron
Hosp: Hospital
How: Howitzer
HQ: Headquarters
HS: Helicopter Squadron
H&S: Headquarters & Service
HW: Heavy Weapons
Inf: Infantry
JGS: Joint General Staff
KB: Ky Binh (Cav)
KR: Khmer Rouge
(L): Light
LAAM: Light Anti-Aircraft Missile
LF: Local Force
LIB: Light Infantry Brigade
LOC: Line of Communication
Log: Logistical
LRPD: Long Range Patrol Detachment
LRRP: Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol
LTG: Lieutenant General
LZ: Landing Zone
MACV: Military Assistance Command, Vietnam

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

MAB: Marine Amphibious Brigade
MABS: Marine Air Base Squadron
MAF: Marine Amphibious Force
MAG: Marine Air Group
Maint: Maintenance
Mar: Marine/Marines
MASH: Mobile Army Surgery Hospital
MASS: Marine Air Support Squadron
MAW: Marine Aircraft Wing
MEB: Marine Expeditionary Brigade
Med: Medical
Mech: Mechanized
MG: Major General
MGF: Mobile Guerrilla Force
MH: Medium Helicopter
MI: Military Intelligence
MIKE: Mobile Strike Force
Mil: Military
MP: Military Police
MR: Military Region
MSF: Mobile Strike Force
MSFC: Mobile Strike Force Command
Mtr: Mortar
MWHG: Marine Wing Headquarters Group
MWSG: Marine Wing Support Group
Nat: National
NDP: Night Defensive Position
NMCB: Naval Mobile Construction Battalion
NMCR: Naval Mobile Construction Regiment
NVA: North Vietnamese Army
NZ: New Zealand
OPCON: Operational Control
OPORD: Operational Order
Ord: Ordnance
ORLL: Operational Report – Lessons Learned
PACFLT: Pacific Fleet
PACV: Patrol Air Cushion Vehicle
PAVN: People's Army of Vietnam
Phibron: Amphibious Squadron
PHILCAGV: Philippines Civic Action Group, Vietnam
PLAF: People's Liberation Armed Forces
Plt: Platoon
POL: Petrol, Oil, Lubricant
Prov: Provisional
PsyOp: Psychological Operations
QM: Quartermaster
RAA: Royal Australian Artillery
RAAF: Royal Australian Air Force
RAG: River Assault Group
RAID: River Assault Interdiction Division
RAR: Royal Australian Regiment
RCLR: Recoilless Rifle
Rcn: Recon
RD: Revolutionary Development
RF: Regional Forces
Rgr: Ranger
Rgt/Regt: Regiment
RIF: Reconnaissance-in-force
Riv: Riverine
RL: Rocket Launcher
RLG: Royal Laotian Government
RMG: River Mine Group
RNZA: Royal New Zealand Artillery
ROK: Republic of Korea
ROKMC: Republic of Korea Marine Corps
RPG: River Patrol Group
RR: Recoilless Rifle
RTA: Royal Thai Army
RTAVF: Royal Thai Army Volunteer Force
RTAVR: Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment
RVN: Republic of Viet Nam

RVNAF: Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces
SAS: Special Air Service
SASR: Special Air Service Regiment
SEAL: Sea, Air and Land
SEALORDS: South East Asia Lake-Ocean-River-Delta Strategy
Sec: Security
Sep: Separate
Serv: Service
SFGA: Special Forces Group, Airborne
SLF: Special Landing Force
SLR: Self-Loading Rifle
SMEH: Semi Mobile Evacuation Hospital
SMG: Sub Machine gun
SOG: Studies & Observation Group
SOS: Special Operations Squadron
SOW: Special Operations Wing
Spec: Special
SPS: Security Police Squadron
Sqn: Squadron
SRAC: Second Regional Assistance Command
Strat: Strategic
S&T: Supply & Transport
STZ: Special Tactical Zone
S&S: Supply & Service
Sup: Support
SW: Strategic Wing
TAOI: Tactical Area Of Interest
TAOR: Tactical Area Of Responsibility
TASG: Tactical Air Support Group
TASS: Tactical Air Support Squadron
TC: Troop Carrier
TDY: Temporary Duty
TEWS: tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron
TFS: Tactical Fighter Squadron
TFW: Tactical Fighter Wing
TF: Task Force
TG: Tactical Group
TCG: Troop Carrier Group
TCS: Troop Carrier Squadron
TRAC: Third Regional Assistance Command
TRS: Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron
TRW: Tactical Reconnaissance Wing
Trans: Transportation
Trp: Troop
VC: Viet Cong
VMCJ: Marine Composite Reconnaissance Squadron
VMF: Marine Fighter Squadron
VMFA: Marine Fighter Attack Squadron
VMO: Marine Observation Squadron
VN: Vietnamese
VNAF: Viet Nam Air Force
VNMC: Viet Nam Marine Corps
VNN: Viet Nam Navy
VNSF: Viet Nam Special Forces
Vol: Volunteer
WESTPAC: Western Pacific
WHRID: White Horse ROK Infantry Division

GLOSSARY OF RVNAF OPERATION NAMES

AN DAN: People's Peace
BACH DANG: A river of northern Vietnam
CUU LONG: Vietnamese name for the Mekong River
DAI BANG: Eagle
DAN CHI: People's Will
DAN TAM: People's Heart
DAN THANG: People's Victory
DOAN KET: Unity
HAC HO: Black Tiger
LAM SON: Blue Mountain
LE LOI: Vietnamese Emperor of the 14th Century

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

LIEN KET: (Inter)Connection
LONG PHI: Flying Dragon
MANH HO: Valiant Tiger
QUYET THANG: Resolved to Win
TAN PHONG: New Wind
THANG LONG: Ascending Dragon

BIBLIOGRAPHY

-MACV Command History 1966, Military History Branch, Office of the Secretary, Joint Staff, MACV 1967.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, I FFOR-CEV period ending 30 April 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, I FFOR-CEV, period ending 31 July 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, II FFOR-CEV, period ending 31 July 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, II FFOR-CEV, period ending 31 October 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, II FFOR-CEV, period ending 31 January 1967.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division, period ending 31 October 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division, period ending 31 January 1967.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), period ending 30 April 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), period ending 31 October 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), period ending 31 January 1967.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Infantry Division, period ending 31 July 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 3d Bde, 25th Infantry Division, period ending 31 October 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division, period ending 31 October 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division, period ending 31 January 1967.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, period ending 30 April 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, period ending 31 July 1966.

-Operational Report – Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, period ending 31 October 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation ATTLEBORO, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, 11 December 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation BEAUREGARD, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division, 10 August 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation BIRMINGHAM, Headquarters, 1st Infantry Division, 7 June 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation BUNDABERG, Headquarters, 1st Australian Task Force, 18 November 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation CANBERRA, Headquarters, 1st Australian Task Force, 27 December 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation COCOA BEACH, Headquarters, 1st Infantry Division, 3 April 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation CRAZY HORSE, Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division, 10 September 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation CRIMP, Headquarters, 173d Airborne Brigade, 22 January 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation DAVY CROCKETT, Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division, 25 May 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation DENVER, Headquarters, 173d Airborne Brigade, 17 June 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation EL PASO II-III, Headquarters, 1st Infantry Division, 8 December 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation FAIRFAX, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, 21 February 1967.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation FARGO, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, 23 July 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation FILLMORE, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division, 17 August 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation FITCHBURG, Headquarters, 196th Light Infantry Brigade.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation HAWTHORNE, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division, 22 July 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation HAYMAN, Headquarters, 1st Australian Task Force, 30 December 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation INGHAM, Headquarters, 1st Australian Task Force, 31 January 1967.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation JOHN PAUL JONES, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division, 28 September 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation KAILUA, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, 21 December 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation KAMUELA, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, 24 November 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation MASHER/WHITE WING, Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division, 28 April 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation OAHU, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, 29 September 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation PICKETT, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division, 15 February 1967.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation QUEANBEYAN, Headquarters, 1st Australian Task Force, 29 December 1966.

-Combat After Action Report – Operation ROBIN, Headquarters, 1st Australian Task Force, 28 December 1966.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

-*Combat After Action Report – Operation ROLLING STONE*, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 1st Infantry Division, 28 March 1966.

-*Combat After Action Report – Operation SEWARD*, Headquarters, 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division, 6 November 1966.

-*Combat After Action Report – Operation SMITHFIELD*, Headquarters, 1st Australian Task Force, December 1966.

-*Combat After Action Report – Operation TOLEDO*, Headquarters, 173d Airborne Brigade, 15 December 1966.

-*Summary of News Events for 1966*, Headquarters, MACV, MACOI, 14 January 1967.

-*The First Brigade in the Republic of Vietnam, July 1965 – January 1968*, 322d Military History Detachment, U.S. Army Reserve, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

-*Combat Operations: Stemming the Tide, May 1965 to October 1966* by John M. Carland, Center for Military History 2000.

-*Combat Operations: Taking the Offensive, October 1966 to October 1967* by George L. MacGarrigle, Center for Military History 1998.

-*U.S. Marines in Vietnam: An Expanding War, 1966* by Jack Shulimson, History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington D.C. 1982.

-*Vietnam Battle Chronology: U.S. Army and Marine Corps Combat Operations, 1965-1973* by David Burns Sigler, McFarland & Company 1992.

-*Where We Were in Vietnam: A Comprehensive Guide to the Firebases, Military Installations and Naval Vessels of the Vietnam War, 1945-1975* by Michael P. Kelley, Hellgate Press 2002.

-*Vietnam Order of Battle: A Complete Illustrated Reference to U.S. Army Combat and Support Forces in Vietnam 1961-1973* by Shelby L. Stanton, Stackpole Books 2003.

-*The US Army in the Vietnam War 1965-73* by Gordon L. Rottman, Osprey Publishing 2008.

-*The US Marine Corps in the Vietnam War: III Marine Amphibious Force 1965-75* by Ed Gilbert, Osprey Publishing 2006.

-*Vietnam Series orders of battle*, Richard A. Rinaldi, 2007.

-*Allied Participation in Vietnam* by Lieutenant General Stanley R. Larsen and Brigadier General James Lawton Collins, Jr., University Press of the Pacific 2005.

-*A Vietnam War Chronology According to Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV)* by Randall M. Romine, GreatUNpublished 2003.

-*The U.S. Navy in the Vietnam War: An Illustrated History* by Edward J. Marolda, Brassey's Inc 2002.

WEBSITES

[The Vietnam Archive](#)

[The Defense Technical Information Center](#)

[Combined Arms Research Library](#)

[25th Infantry Division AARs and ORLLs](#)

[Carr's Compendiums](#)

[AUSVETS](#)

[South East Asian War - Area Of Operations](#)

[Online Bookshelves: Vietnam War](#)

[Ground Combat Operations - Vietnam 1965 – 1972](#)

[Vietnam Operations, Major Battles](#)

[Records About the Ground Combat Operations by the Army During the Vietnam Conflict](#)

[Eleven-Bravo](#)

[A Brief Overview of the Vietnam National Army and the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces \(1952-1975\)](#)

APPENDIX 1 RVNAF ORDER OF BATTLE 1966

JOINT GENERAL STAFF:

Headquarters: Saigon
Commanders: LTG Cao Van Vien

GENERAL RESERVE

Airborne Division

Headquarters: Tan Son Nhut
Commander: MG Du Quoc Dong
Composition: TF 1, 2, 3; Airborne Battalions: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th. Artillery Battalion: 1st.

VNMC Brigade

Headquarters: Camp Song Than, Saigon
Commander: MG Le Nguyen Khang
Composition: TF ALPHA & BRAVO; Marine Battalions: 1st; 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th ³³.

I CORPS

Headquarters: Da Nang
Commander: LTG Nguyen Chanh Thi, MG Nguyen Van Chuan (from 14 Mar), LTG Ton That Dinh (from 9 Apr), MG Huynh Van Cao (from 15 May), LTG Hoang Xuan Lam (from 30 May).
Independent Regiment: 51st.
Ranger Battalions: 21st, 37th, 39th.
Armored Cavalry Squadrons: 4th, 7th.
Artillery Battalion: 44th.

1st INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Hue
Commander: BG Nguyen Van Chuan, BG Phan Xuan Nhuan (from 14 Mar), MG Ngo Quang Truong (from 18 Jun).
Regiments: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 54th.

2nd INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Quang Ngai
Commander: MG Hoang Xuan Lam ³⁴
Regiments: 4th, 5th, 6th.

³³ Activated on 1 July 1966.

³⁴ Concurrently Commander of I Corps from 30 May.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

II CORPS

Headquarters: Pleiku
Commanders: LTG Vinh Loc
Ranger Battalions: 11th, 22nd, 23rd.
Armored Cavalry Squadrons: 3rd, 8th.
Artillery Battalions: 37th, 63rd, 69th.

24th SPECIAL TACTICAL ZONE

Headquarters: Kontum
Independent Regiment: 42nd,³⁵

22nd INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Ba Gi
Commanders: BG Nguyen Thanh Sang, BG Nguyen Van Hieu (from 28 Jun)
Regiments: 40th, 41st, 47th.

23rd INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Ban Me Thuot
Commanders: BG Nguyen Van Manh, BG Truong Quang An (from 24 Nov)
Regiments: 42nd,³⁶ 44th, 45th.

III CORPS

Headquarters: Bien Hoa
Commanders: MG Nguyen Bao Tri, LTG Le Nguyen Khang (from 9 Jun).
Ranger Battalions: 30th, 31st, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 38th, 51st, 52nd.
Armored Cavalry Squadrons: 1st, 5th, 10th.
Artillery Battalion: 46th.

5th INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Phu Loi
Commanders: MG Pham Quoc Thuan
Regiments: 7th, 8th, 9th.

10th INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Xuan Loc
Commanders: BG Lu Lan, BG Do Ke Giai (from 16 Sep)
Regiments: 43rd, 48th, 52nd.

25th INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Duc Hoa
Commanders: MG Phan Trong Chinh
Regiments: 46th, 49th, 50th.

IV CORPS

Headquarters: Can Tho
Commanders: MG Dang Van Quang, MG Nguyen Van Manh (from 23 Nov).
Ranger Battalions: 32nd, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th.
Armored Cavalry Squadrons: 2nd, 6th, 9th.
Artillery Battalion: 47th.

7th INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: My Tho
Commanders: BG Nguyen Viet Thanh
Regiments: 10th, 11th, 12th.

9th INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Sa Dec
Commanders: MG Lam Quang Thi
Regiments: 13th, 14th, 15th.

21st INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters: Bac Lieu
Commanders: MG Nguyen Van Minh
Regiments: 31st, 32nd, 33rd.

APPENDIX 2 1966 PAVN/PLAF CAMPAIGNS

Chiến dịch Bắc Bình Định (28/1/1966 – 21/4/1966).
Chiến dịch Tây Sơn Tĩnh 20/2/1966 – 20/4/1966).
Chiến dịch Bắc Phú Yên 16/5/1966 – 24/6/1966).
Chiến dịch Sa Thầy 18/10/1966 – 6/12/1966).
Chiến dịch Tây Ninh (3/11/1966 – 25/11/1966).

APPENDIX 3 PAVN/PLAF DIVISIONS 1965-1975

Division 1

-Division 1/B3: Established Dec 1965, consisted of Regiment 66, 88, 320. Early 1967 received Regiment 174 replacing Regiment 88. Late 1968 moved to B2 (except Regiment 66), received Regiment 101D. Practically all regiments separated to reinforce other fronts. Late 1973 officially disbanded.

Division 2

-Division 2/MR5: Established 20 Oct 1965, consisted of Regiment 1, 21. Oct 1966 received Regiment 31. Jul 1970 received Regiment 141 replacing Regiment 21. Summer 1972 received Regiment 52/Division 320A replacing Regiment 31. Jun 1973 transferred Regiment 141 to Division 3, separated Regiment 52, received Regiment 31, 38.

Division 3

-Division 3/MR5, AKA Division "Sao Vàng" (Gold Star). Established 2 Sep 1965, consisted of Regiment 2, 12, 22. Feb 1970 disbanded Regiment 22. Jul 1970 disbanded. On 29 Jun 1971 reestablished with Regiment 2, 12, 21. Late Jun 1973 disbanded Regiment 21 and received Regiment 141/Division 2.

-Division 3/B2, AKA Division "Phước Long". Established late 1973, consisted of Regiment 201, 205, 271A.

Division 4

-Division 4/MR9: Established Jul 1974, consisted of Regiment 2, 10, 20.

Division 5

-Division 5/B2: Established 2 Sep 1965, consisted of Regiment 4, 5. Sep 1967 received Regiment 88 (until Nov 1967). Apr 1968 separated Regiment 4. Jul 1968 received Regiment 33, 88. Oct 1968, Regiment 174 replaced Regiment 88. Late 1969 or early 1970 separated Regiment 33. Jun 1970 separated 2 battalions of Regiment 5 and established Regiment 1 with left battalion. Established Regiment 3 at the same time.

-Division 5/MR5: Established Sep 1965, consisted of Regiment 10, 20. Fought in the area of Phú Yên, Khánh Hoà, Đắk Lắk 1965-1966. No more information, maybe disbanded in 1966.

Division 6

-Division 6/MR7. Established Nov 1974, consisted of Regiment 4, 33.

³⁵ From 1 July.

³⁶ To 24th STZ 1 July.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Division 7

-Division 7/B2: Established on 13 Jun 1966, consisted of Regiment 12, 14, 16. Early 1967 separated Regiment 16, received Regiment 52/Division 320. Apr 1967 received Regiment 16 replacing Regiment 52. Oct 1967 separated Regiment 16. Aug 1968 received Regiment 320. Nov 1968 separated Regiment 320. Late 1968 early 1969 received Regiment 209/Division 1.

Division 8

-Division 8/MR8: Established 20 Oct 1974, consisted of Regiment 24, 88, 320. Early 1975 received Regiment 207 replacing Regiment 88.

Division 9

-Division 9/B2: Established on 2 Sep 1965, consisted of Regiment 1, 2, 3. Early 1969 separated Regiment 3, received Regiment 88(A)/Division 308 which redesignated as Regiment 3B. Oct 1969 separated Regiment 88, received Regiment 95C/Division 325B which redesignated as Regiment 3/Division 9.

Division 10

-Division 10/B3: AKA Division "Đắk Tô" (Dakto): Established on 20 Sep 1972, consisted of Regiment 28, 66, 95. May 1973 received Regiment 24(B) replacing Regiment 28.

Division 31

-Division 31/MR4: Established on 11 Jul 1974, consisted of 335, 866. Fought in Laos.

Division 304

-Division 304(A), AKA Division "Vinh Quang" (Glory): Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 9, 57, 66. Mar 65 received Regiment 42 replacing Regiment 57 which redesignated as Regiment 24. Summer 1965 moved to the South, disbanded and separated regiments to reinforce fronts.

-Division 304B: Established Aug 1965 and became official Division 304, consisted of Regiment 9(B), 57(B), 66(B).

Division 305

-Division 305: Established Jul 1954. In 1960 became Brigade 305. In 1964 became Parachute Brigade. Apr 1967 combined with other units to form Đặc Công (Sapper) Command.

Division 308

-Division 308, AKA Division "Quân Tiên Phong" (Vanguard): Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 36, 88, 102. Late 1965 early 1966 transferred Regiment 88(A) to B3 and established new Regiment 88/Division 308 in the North. Feb 1968 transferred Regiment 36(A) to MR5 and established new Regiment 36/Division 308.

-Division 308B: AKA Division 338, numbering used when it was reorganized as a combat division Jul 1972.

Division 312

-Division 312, AKA Division "Chiến Thắng" (Victory): Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 141, 165, 209. In 1966 transferred Regiment 141 (141A), 165 (165A) to the South to create Division 7 and established new Regiment 141 (141B), Regiment 165 (165B) in the North. Jan 1968 transferred Regiment 141B, 209A to the South. Aug 1968 reestablished with Regiment 141, 165, 209.

-Division 312B: Established May 1972 from cadets of military schools as reserved division of General Staff. No more information, maybe disbanded the same year.

Division 316

-Division 316, AKA Division "Bông Lau": Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 98, 174, 176. In 1958 reduced to brigade. May 1964 reorganized as full division, consisted of Regiment 148, 174, 673. Apr 1966 separated Regiment 174, 673. May 1966 established new Regiment 174(B). In 1974 received Regiment 149.

Division 320

-Division 320A, AKA Division "Đồng Bằng" (Plain): Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 48, 52, 64. Early 1966 transferred Regiment 52 to the South and established new Regiment 52/Division 320A. Sep 1966 transferred Regiment 52 to B2 and established new Regiment 52/Division 320A. Jan 1971 transferred Regiment 52 to B2, received Regiment 46/MR3 which redesignated as Regiment 52/Division 320A. Jun 1972 transferred Regiment 52 to MR5. Early 1975 received Regiment 9/Division 968.

-Division 320B: Established middle 1965, consisted of Regiment 48, 64, 52. In 1972 transferred Regiment 52 to Division 341 and received Regiment 27.

Division 324

-Division 324, AKA Division "Ngự Bình": Established Jun 1955, consisted of Regiment 90, 93, 803. Feb 961 reduced to brigade. May 1965 reorganized as full division 324 with Regiment 90, 803, 812. Late 1966 disbanded. Feb 1969 reestablished with Regiment 29, 803, 812 which redesignated as Regiment 1, 2, 3.

Division 325

-Division 325(A), AKA Division "Bình Trị Thiên": Established in 1st Indochina War, consisted of Regiment 18(A), 95(A), 101(A). Moved to the South Nov 1964 and disbanded, regiments reinforced other fronts.

-Division 325B: created from elements of Division 325. In 1964, consisted of Regiment 18B, 95B, 101B. Middle 1965 transferred Regiment 101B to the South and established Regiment 101C. Moved to the South Dec 1965 and disbanded, regiments reinforced other fronts.

-Division 325C: Established late 1965, consisted of Regiment 18C, 95C, 101D. Moved to Central Highlands Apr 1968 and disbanded, regiments reinforced other fronts.

-Division 325D: Established Summer 1968, consisted of Regiment 18D, 95D, 101E. Moved to Quảng Trị early 1969. From late 1969 to late 1971 on training duty. Nov 1971 reorganized as full and official Division 325, consist of Regiment 18, 95, 101. Early 1975 transferred Regiment 95(D) to Central Highlands. Mar 1975 received Regiment 46.

Division 330

-Division 330: Established In 1954. In 1962 reduced to Brigade 330 and maybe disbanded later.

Division 335

-Division 335, AKA Division "Thảo Nguyên" (Steppe): Established May 1955. Sep 1959 reduced to Brigade, fought in Laos. In 1965 reduced to Regiment 335.

Division 338

-Division 338: Established late 1956. Mar 1958 reduced to Brigade. Aug 1966 reorganized as training division. Jul 1972 became combat division 308B, consisted of Regiment 36B, 88B, 102B. Oct 1972 transferred Regiment 36B to Division 341. Apr 1973 received Regiment 52/Division 341. Aug 1973 transferred Regiment 88B to Division 316. Mar 1974 redesignated as Division 338 with Regiment 52, 102. Stayed in the North during the war.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Division 341

-Division 341, AKA Division "Sông Lam" (Lam River): Established in 1955 (?). In 1960 reduced to Brigade. Feb 1962 reorganized as Division 341. In 1964 sent all units to the South and disbanded. Mar 1965 reestablished. Late 1966 sent all units to the South and disbanded. Nov 1972 reestablished with Regiment 52/Division 320B and 270. Mar 1973 received Regiment 36B replacing Regiment 52 which redesignated as Regiment 273. Jun 1973 received Regiment 266.

-Division 341B: Established Mar 1975. No more information.

Division 350

-Division 350: Established on 21 Sep 1954. Mar 1958 reduced to Brigade 350. Apr 1965 reorganized as Division 350. Stay in the North during the war.

Division 711

-Division 711/MR5: Established Nov 1971 consisted of Regiment 31, 38. Apr 1972 received Regiment 9(A)/Division 304(A). Jun 1973 disbanded. Some elements transferred to creat Brigade 52.

Division 968

-Division 968/Group 559: Established 28 Jun 1968 as Đoàn 968/MR4, fought in Laos. In 1972 became Division 968, consisted of Regiment 9, 19, 39. Nov 1972 received Regiment 52, 102 established Regiment 59. In 1974 returned to Vietnam with Regiment 9, 19, 29 and under MR4. Late 1974 or early 1975 transferred Regiment 9 to Division 320A.

APPENDIX - 4 PAVN/PLAF REGIMENTS 1965-1975

Regiment 1

-Regiment 1/Division 2, AKA Regiment "Ba Gia", also former Regiment 1/MR5. Under Division 2 when Division 2 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 1/Division 9, AKA Regiment "Bình Giã", also former Regiment 1/B2 (AKA Regiment Q761, 271). Established Jul 1961. Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 1/Division 324, AKA Regiment 803/Division 324 redesignated since Aug 1969.

-Regiment 1/Division 5: Established Jun 1970 with a battalion of Regiment 5/Division 5.

-Regiment 1/MR8 AKA Regiment "Đồng Tháp": Established late 1967 with the name "Task Force 1". Early 1968 officially became Regiment 1 "Đồng Tháp".

-Regiment 1 "Quyết Thắng": under Sài Gòn – Gia Định Command. Established Apr 1975, AKA Regiment Gia Định 1.

-Regiment 1/MR5 = Regiment 1/Division 2.

-Regiment 1/B2 = Regiment 1/Division 9.

-Regiment 1/MR9 (1) = Regiment 2/Division 4/MR9: Established Sep 1963. Jun 1964 transferred to B2, redesignated Regiment 3/B2 (AKA Regiment 273). Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965. Sep 1969 separated from Division 9, reinforced MR9, redesignated Regiment 2/MR9. Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 1/MR9 (2), AKA Regiment "U Minh": Established Jun 1964.

-Regiment Gia Định 1 = Regiment 1 Quyết Thắng.

Regiment 2

-Regiment 2/Division 3, AKA Regiment "An Lão", also former Regiment 2/MR5: Established May 1962. Under Division 3 when Division 3 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 2/Division 9, AKA Regiment "Đồng Xoài", also former Regiment 2/B2 (AKA Regiment Q762, 272). Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 2/Division 324: Regiment 812/Division 324 redesignated since Aug 1969.

-Regiment 2/Division 4/MR9, AKA Regiment "Lộc Ninh": former Regiment 1/MR9 (1). Established Sep 1963. Jun 1964 transferred to B2, redesignated Regiment 3/B2 (AKA Regiment 273). Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965. Sep 1969 separated from Division 9 to reinforce MR9, redesignated Regiment 2/MR9. Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 2 "Quyết Thắng" under Sài Gòn – Gia Định Command: Established Apr 1975, AKA Regiment Gia Định 2.

-Regiment 2/MR8 (1): Established late 1967 with the name "Task Force 2". Early 1968 officially Regiment 2/MR8. Middle 1970 disbanded.

-Regiment 2/MR8 (2) = Regiment 320/Division 8: numbering of Regiment 320 when transferred to MR8 Mar 1969.

-Regiment 2/MR9 (1): Established Nov 1963, disbanded Sep 1966.

-Regiment 2/MR9 (2): Established before 2nd phase of Tet 1968, Early 1969 disbanded to reinforce Regiment 1/MR9 (2).

-Regiment 2/MR9 (3) = Regiment 2/Division 4.

-Regiment 2 Gio An: Fought in Huế 1968. No more information.

-Regiment 2/MR5 = Regiment 2/Division 3.

-Regiment 2/B2 = Regiment 2/Division 9.

-Regiment 2/Division 5 = Regiment 174/Division 316: Regiment 174/Division 5 redesignated Jun 1970.

-Regiment Gia Định 2 = Regiment 2 Quyết Thắng.

Regiment 3

-Regiment 3/Division 9 (1) = Regiment 1/MR9. Jun 1964 moved to B2, became Regiment 3 (AKA Regiment 273). Under Division 9 when Division 9 established Sep 1965. Sep 1969 separated from Division 9, transferred to MR9, redesignated Regiment 2/MR9 (3) = Regiment 2/Division 4.

-Regiment 3/Division 9 (2): former Regiment 88(A)/Division 308. In 1969 Under Division 9 as Regiment 3B. Oct 1969 separated from division.

-Regiment 3/Division 9 (3): former Regiment 95C/Division 325B. Oct 1969 under Division 9.

-Regiment 3/Division 5: Established May 1970.

-Regiment 3/Division 324, AKA Regiment 29/Division 324 redesignated Aug 1969. Also former Regiment 18C/Division 325C.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

-Regiment 3/MR8 = Regiment 88/MR8: Numbering of Regiment 88 when transferred to MR8 Sep 1969.

-Regiment 3/MR9, AKA Regiment "Cửu Long": Established Apr 1968.

-Regiment 3/B2 = Regiment 3/Division 9.

Regiment 4

-Regiment 4/Division 6, AKA Regiment "Đồng Nai": Established 3/Feb 1965. Under Division 5 when Division 5 established Sep 1965. Apr 1968 separated from Division 5, under B2. Under Division 6/MR7 when Division 6 established.

-Regiment 4/Division 5 = Regiment 4/Division 6.

-Regiment 4/B2 = Regiment 4/Division 6.

-Regiment 4/B4 (MR Trị Thiên), AKA Regiment "Phong Quảng": Established Apr 1973.

-Regiment 4/MR8: Numbering of Regiment 24/Division 8 when reinforced MR8 middle 1972.

Regiment 5

-Regiment 5/Division 5: also former Regiment 5/B2: Established May 1965. Under Division 5 when Division 5 established Sep 1965. Jun 1970 disbanded. 2 battalions to establish Regiment 205, the remaining to establish Regiment 1/Division 5.

-Regiment 5/B2 = Regiment 5/Division 5.

-Regiment 5/MR8 = Regiment 207/Division 8: Numbering of Regiment 207 when transferred to MR8 1972.

Regiment 6

-Regiment 6/B4 (MR Trị Thiên) AKA Regiment Phú Xuân: Established Oct 1965.

Regiment 9

-Regiment 9/Division 304, AKA Regiment Quang Trung. Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 9(A) separated from Division 304 Jan 1965. Regiment 9B/Division 304B established Aug 1965, became official Regiment 9/Division 304.

-Regiment 9/Division 968 = Regiment 9(A)/Division 304(A).

-Regiment 9/Division 320A = Regiment 9 (A)/Division 304(A).

-Regiment 9/Division 711 = Regiment 9(A)/Division 304(A).

-Regiment 9(A)/Division 304(A): separated from Division 304 1/1965, Fought in Laos and Trị Thiên (Jul 1967). Fought in Laos late 1971 early 1972. Apr 1972 under Division 711/MR5. Jun 1973 became independent regiment. Then under Division 968. Early 1975 transferred to Division 320A.

-Regiment 9(B)/Division 304B: Established Aug 1985, became official Regiment 9/Division 304.

Regiment 10

-Regiment 10/Division 4, AKA Regiment "Ngô Quyền": Also former Regiment 95(A)/Division 325(A). Moved to Central Highlands late 1964, early 1965. Early 1966 moved to MR5, redesignated as Regiment 10. Early 1968 moved to B2. Early 1970 transferred to MR9. Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 10/MR5 = Regiment 10/Division 4.

-Regiment 10/MR9 = Regiment 10/Division 4.

Regiment 12

-Regiment 12/Division 3/MR5, AKA Regiment "Tây Sơn": Also former Regiment 18(A)/Division 325(A), which moved to MR5 Feb 1965 and redesignated. Under Division 3 when Division 3 established Sep 1965.

-Regiment 12/Division 7/B2: Also former Regiment 165(A)/Division 312 which moved to the South in 1966 and redesignated. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Sep 1966. AKA Regiment 165/Division 7.

Regiment 14

-Regiment 14/Division 7/B2: also former Regiment 141(A)/Division 312 which moved to the South in 1966 and redesignated. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Sep 1966. AKA Regiment 141/Division 7.

Regiment 16

-Regiment 16/MR7: also former Regiment 101(A)/Division 325(A) moved to B2 Middle 1965, redesignated as Regiment 16 (AKA Regiment Q16). Under Division 7 when Division 7 established. Separated to become independent regiment. Under Division 7 and Division 9 in short terms, then under MR7.

-Regiment 16/Division 7 = Regiment 16/MR7.

-Regiment 16/Division 9 = Regiment 16/MR7.

Regiment 18

-Regiment 18/Division 325, AKA Regiment "Lê Trực". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 18(A) moved to the South Feb 1965. Regiment 18B moved to the South Dec 1965. Regiment 18C separated from division Mar 1968. Regiment 18D under Division 325D when division reorganized as combat division Nov 1971, then became official Regiment 18/Division 325.

-Regiment 18(A)/Division 325(A) = Regiment 12/Division 3. Moved to MR5 Feb 1965 and redesignated as Regiment 12. Under Division 3 when Division 3 established Sep 1965

-Regiment 18B/Division 325B = Regiment 20/Division 4. Established early 1964, moved to the MR5 Dec 1965. Redesignated as Regiment 20. Dec 1968 moved to B2. Early 1970 moved to MR9. 1974 Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 18C/Division 325C: Established late 1965. Jan 1968 moved to Trị Thiên. Mar 1968 separated from division. Redesignated as Regiment 29 and then became Regiment 3/Division 324.

-Regiment 18D/Division 325D: Established summer 1968. From late 1969 to late 1971 on training duty. Nov 1971 reorganized and became official Regiment 18/Division 325.

Regiment 19

-Regiment 19/Division 968: Established Apr 1972, Fought Laos. Then under Division 968.

Regiment 20

-Regiment 20/Division 4, AKA Regiment Trần Hưng Đạo: also former Regiment 18B/Division 325B moved to the MR5 Dec 1965 and redesignated as Regiment 20. Dec 1968 moved to B2. Early 1970 moved to MR9. 1974 under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 established.

-Regiment 20/MR9 = Regiment 20/Division 4.

-Regiment 20/Division 5/MR5 = Regiment 20/Division 4.

Regiment 21

-Regiment 21/Division 2: Established early 1965 in the North

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

and moved to the South. Under Division 2 when Division 2 established Sep 1965. Nov 1971 transferred from Division 2 to Division 3. Jun 1973 Disbanded.

-Regiment 21/Division 3 = Regiment 21/Division 2.

Regiment 22

-Regiment 22/Division 3: Established summer 1965 in the North and moved to the South. Under Division 3 when Division 3 established Sep 1965. Disbanded Feb 1970.

Regiment 24

-Regiment 24/Division 304: Regiment 24(A)/Division 304(A) also former Regiment 42/ MR Tả Ngạn, moved to the South 1965. Regiment 24B/Division 304B established in the North and became official Regiment 24/Division 304.

-Regiment 24/Division 10: also former Regiment 42 reestablished. Late 1968 combined with Regiment 42/Division 350 to form Regiment 42 MR Tả Ngạn. Oct 1971 transferred to B3, redesignated Regiment 24. May 1973 under Division 10.

-Regiment 24/Division 8: also former Regiment 42 MR Tả Ngạn redesignated. In 1965 joined Division 304(A), then separated and transferred to MR5. In 1966-1969 transferred to B3. In 1970 fought in Laos and Cambodia. In 1972 transferred to B2. Jun 1972 transferred to MR8. Under Division 8/MR8 when Division 8 established Oct 1974.

-Regiment 24/B3 = Regiment 24/Division 10.

-Regiment 24B/Division 304B: established Aug 1965 became official Regiment 24/Division 304.

Regiment 25

-Regiment 25/B3: Established Early 1975.

Regiment 27

-Regiment 27/Division 320B, AKA Regiment "Triệu Hải": Established Feb 1968, under MR4 then transferred to B5. From Jun 1972 under Division 320B.

-Regiment 27/B5 = Regiment 27/Division 320B.

Regiment 28

-Regiment 28/B3: Established 1968. Under Division 10 when Division 10 established Late 1972. May 1973 separated from Division 10 to become independent regiment.

- Regiment 28/Division 10 = Regiment 28/B3

Regiment 29

-Regiment 29/Division 324 = Regiment 3/Division 324, also former Regiment 18C/Division 325C.

-Regiment 29/Division 968, AKA Regiment "Vĩnh Thắng": Established May 1974, then under Division 968.

-Regiment 29/B2: Established May 1968. No more information.

Regiment 31:

- Regiment 31/Division 2: also former Regiment 64/Division 320. Feb 1966 transferred to MR5 and redesignated as Regiment 31. Oct 1966 under Division 2.

- Regiment 31/B5, AKA Regiment 31/Division 341/MR4 transferred to B5 (1966-1967).

Regiment 32

-US designation of Regiment 320.

Regiment 33

-Regiment 33/B3 = Regiment 101B/Division 325B. Late 1968 moved to B2. Under Division 6/MR7 when Division 6 established.

Regiment 36

-Regiment 36/Division 308, AKA Regiment "Bắc Bắc". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 36A/Division 308 transferred to MR5 Feb 1968, Regiment 36B/Division 308 established in the North and became official Regiment 36/Division 308.

-Regiment 36A/Division 308: transferred to MR5 Feb 1968.

-Regiment 36B/Division 308B = Regiment 273/Division 341.

-Regiment 36/MR5 = Regiment 36A/Division 308.

Regiment 38

-Regiment 38/Division 2: also former Regiment 90/Division 324. Then separated from Division 324, transferred to MR5 and redesignated as Regiment 38. Jun 1973 under Division 2.

Regiment 39

-Regiment 39: Established 1/1972. Fought in Laos. Then under Division 968.

Regiment 42

-Regiment 42 (1) = Regiment 24/Division 8: In 1965 joined Division 304(A) and redesignated as Regiment 24(A).

-Regiment 42 (2) = Regiment 24/Division 10, transferred to B3 Oct 1971.

Regiment 46

-Regiment 46/Division 325: Under MR3, transferred to B4 (MR Trị Thiên) early 1975. Then transferred to Division 325.

Regiment 48

-Regiment 48/Division 320A, AKA Regiment Thăng Long. Established in 1st Indochina War.

-Regiment 48/Division 320B, AKA Regiment Thạch Hãn. Under Division 320B when Division 320B established

Regiment 52

-Regiment 52/Division 320A, AKA Regiment Tây Tiến. Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 52/Division 320A (1) moved to the South early 1966. Regiment 52/Division 320A (2) moved to the South Sep 1966. Regiment 52/Division 320A (3) moved to the South early 1971. Regiment 52/Division 320A (4) Jun 1972 separated from Division 320A.

-Regiment 52/Division 320A (1): moved to B2 early 1966. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Jun 1966. Apr 1967 separated from Division 7. No more information.

-Regiment 52/Division 320A (2): Established Jun 1966. Moved to B2 Sep 1966. No more information.

-Regiment 52/Division 320A (3): Established Oct 1966, moved to B2 early 1971. No more information.

-Regiment 52/Division 320A (4): Under Division 320A. Jun 1972 separated from division, transferred to MR5. Then under Division 2 MR5. Jun 1973 separated from division, reorganized as Brigade 52/MR5.

-Regiment 52/Division 320B = Regiment 52/Division 338: Late 1972 transferred to Division 341. Mar 1973 transferred to Division 308B (338).

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

-Regiment 52/Division 2 = Regiment 52/Division 320A (4): Separated from Division 320A, transferred to Division 2 from Jun 1972-Jun 1973.

-Regiment 52/Division 341 = Regiment 52/Division 320B.

-Regiment 52/Division 338 = Regiment 52/Division 320B.

Regiment 59

-Regiment 59: under Division 968 in Laos, established 1972.

Regiment 64

-Regiment 64/Division 320A, AKA Regiment "Quyết Thắng". Note: it's neither Regiment 1 or 2 Quyết Thắng of Sài Gòn-Gia Định Command. Regiment 64 transferred to MR5 Feb 1966 and redesignated as Regiment 31. Regiment 64/Division 320A then reestablished in the North.

-Regiment 64/Division 320B: Under Division 320B when Division 320B established

Regiment 66

-Regiment 66/Division 304, AKA Regiment "Ký Con". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 66A/Division 304A moved to the South late 1965. Regiment 66B/Division 304B established in the North and became official Regiment 66/Division 304.

-Regiment 66/Division 10, AKA Regiment "Plây Me" (Plei Me): Also former Regiment 66A/Division 304A which moved to the South late 1965. Under Division 1 when Division 1 established Late 1966. Separated from Division 1 to under B3 when Division 1 moved to B2. Under Division 10 when Division 10 established Late 1972.

-Regiment 66/B3 = Regiment 66/Division 10.

-Regiment 66/Division 1 = Regiment 66/Division 10.

Regiment 88

-Regiment 88/Division 308 AKA Regiment "Tu Vũ". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 88A/Division 308 moved to the South Dec 1965. Regiment 88B/Division 308 established in the North and became official Regiment 88/Division 308.

-Regiment 88/MR8: also former Regiment 88(A)/Division 308. Moved to Central Highlands Dec 1965. Under Division 1. Moved to B2 In 1967. Under Division 5 since Sep to Nov 1967 and during Jan 1968. Under Division 9 in 1969 as Regiment 3B. Separated after that and moved to MR8. Under Division 8/MR8 when Division 8 established Oct 1974. Early 1975 separated to become independent regiment.

-Regiment 88/Division 5 = Regiment 88/MR8.

-Regiment 88/B3 = Regiment 88/MR8.

-Regiment 88B/Division 308B = Regiment 149/Division 316: Regiment 88B under Division 308B (Division 338) when Division 338 reorganized as combat Division 308B Jul 1972. Jun 1973 transferred to Division 316, redesignated as Regiment 149.

Regiment 90

-Regiment 90/Division 324 = Regiment 38/Division 2.

Regiment 93

-Regiment 93/MR5: Established late Mar 1975, under Bình Định Command.

Regiment 94

-Regiment 94/MR5: Established Feb 1975, under Quảng Ngãi Command.

Regiment 95

-Regiment 95/Division 325, AKA Regiment "Nguyễn Thiện Thuật". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 95(A)/Division 325(A) moved to the South late 1964. Regiment 95B/Division 325B moved to the South late 1965. Regiment 95C/Division 325C moved to the South early 1968. Regiment 95D/Division 325D established summer 1968 and late 1971 became official Regiment 95/Division 325.

-Regiment 95A/Division 325A: Established Early 1964. Moved to Central Highlands Late 1964, Early 1965. Early 1966 moved to the South Trung Bộ, redesignated as Regiment 10. Early 1968 moved to B2. Early 1970 transferred to MR9. Under Division 4/MR9 when Division 4 Established.

-Regiment 95B/Division 325B: Established early 1964. Moved to Trị Thiên Dec 1965. Then transferred to B3. During 1975 period it also called "Regiment 95A" to distinguish from "Regiment 95B" which arrived B3 later ("Regiment 95B" is Regiment 95D).

-Regiment 95C/Division 325C: Established late 1965. Moved to Khe Sanh Feb 1967. Moved to Central Highlands Apr 1968. Moved to the B2 Jun 1968, under Division 9 and redesignated as Regiment 3/Division 9.

-Regiment 95D/Division 325D: Established summer 1968. Fought in Trị Thiên in Division formation. From late 1969 to late 1971 on training duty. Nov 1971 reorganized and became official Regiment 95/Division 325. Early 1975 separated from Division 325 and transferred to B3. During 1975 period it also called "Regiment 95B" to distinguish from "Regiment 95A" which already in B3 ("Regiment 95A" is Regiment 95B).

Regiment 96

-Regiment 96/MR5: Established Feb 1974.

Regiment 101

-Regiment 101/Division 325, AKA Regiment "Trần Cao Vân". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 101(A)/Division 325(A) moved to the South late 1964. Regiment 101B/Division 325B moved to the South middle 1965. Regiment 101C/Division 325B moved to the South late 1965. Regiment 101D/Division 325C moved to the South middle 1968. Regiment 101E/Division 325D became official Regiment 101/Division 325 Nov 1971.

-Regiment 101(A)/Division 325(A): Established early 1964. Moved to Central Highlands late 1964 early 1965. Moved to B2 Middle 1965, redesignated as Regiment 16 (AKA Regiment 16).

-Regiment 101B/Division 325B: Established early 1964. Moved to Central Highlands middle 1965. Middle 1966 combined with Regiment 101C to form Regiment 33.

-Regiment 101C/Division 325B: Established middle 1965, moved to Trị Thiên Dec 1965. Middle 1966 moved to Central Highlands combined with Regiment 101B to form Regiment 33.

-Regiment 101D/Division 325C: Established late 1966. Moved to Quảng Trị Jun 1967. Moved to Central Highlands Apr 1968. Moved to B2 late 1968, Under Division 1 fought in Cambodia. Late 1973 transferred to MR9.

-Regiment 101E/Division 325D: Established summer 1968, during 1969-1970 on training duty. Nov 1971 reorganized and became official Regiment 101/Division 325.

-Regiment 101/MR9 = Regiment 101D.

Regiment 102

-Regiment 102/Division 308, AKA Regiment "Thủ đô" (Capital).

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

Established in 1st Indochina War.

-Regiment 102/Division 338 AKA Regiment 102B/Division 308B: Under Division 338 when Division 338 reorganized as combat Division 308B Jul 1972.

-Regiment 102B/Division 308B = Regiment 102/Division 338.

Regiment 141

-Regiment 141/Division 312, AKA Regiment "Ba Vì". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 141A/Division 312 moved to the South 1966. Regiment 141B/Division 312 moved to the South 1968. Regiment 141/Division 312 then reestablished in the North.

-Regiment 141A/Division 312, moved to the South 1966 and redesignated as Regiment 14. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Sep 1966. Both called as Regiment 141/Division 7 and Regiment 14/Division 7.

-Regiment 141B/Division 312, AKA Regiment "Hoài Ân". Established in 1966 after Regiment 141A moved to the South. Jan 1968 transferred to MR5. Jul 1970 under Division 2. Jun 1973 transferred from Division 2 to Division 3.

-Regiment 141/Division 2 = Regiment 141B/Division 312..

-Regiment 141/Division 3/MR5 = Regiment 141B/Division 312 .

-Regiment 141/Division 7 = Regiment 141A/Division 312.

Regiment 148

-Regiment 148/Division 316, AKA Regiment Sơn La: Established in 1st Indochina War. Jun 1964 transferred from MR Tây Bắc (North West) to Division 316.

Regiment 149

-Regiment 149/Division 316: former Regiment 88B/Division 308B (Division 338) transferred to Division 316 and redesignated in 1973.

Regiment 165

-Regiment 165/Division 312, AKA Regiment "Lao Hà Yên": Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 165(A)/Division 312 moved to the South 1966. Regiment 165/Division 312 then reestablished in the North.

-Regiment 165/Division 7 = Regiment 12/Division 7.

-Regiment 165A/Division 312 = Regiment 12/Division 7: Moved to B2 1966 and redesignated as Regiment 12. Under Division 7 when Division 7 established Sep 1966. Both called as Regiment 165/Division 7 and Regiment 12/Division 7.

Regiment 174

-Regiment 174/Division 316, AKA Regiment "Cao Bắc Lạng". Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 174(A) separated from Division 316 early 1965. Regiment 174B established May 1966 became official Regiment 174/Division 316.

-Regiment 174/Division 5 = Regiment 174(A)/Division 316: Fought in Laos early 1965. Separated from Division Apr 1966. Moved to Central Highlands Mar 1967. Transferred to B2 Jul 1968. Under Division 5 since Oct 1968. Jun 1974 redesignated as Regiment 2/Division 5.

-Regiment 174/B3 = Regiment 174/Division 5.

-Regiment 174B/Division 316: Established May 1966, became official Regiment 174/Division 316.

Regiment 176

-Regiment 176: Established in Laos Mar 1973

Regiment 201

-Regiment 201/Division 3/B2: Established Oct 1970 in Cambodia. Under Division 3/B2 (Division "Phước Long") when Division 3 established.

Regiment 205

-Regiment 205/Division 3/B2: Established Jul 1970 based on 2 battalions of Regiment 5/Division 5. Under Division 3/B2 when Division 3 established.

Regiment 207

-Regiment 207/Division 8: Established 1970 in Cambodia. In 1972 under MR8. Oct 1974 under Division 8/MR8 when Division 8 established.

Regiment 209

-Regiment 209/Division 312, AKA Regiment "Sông Lô" (Lô River). Established in 1st Indochina War. Regiment 209A moved to the South Jan 1968. Regiment 42/MR Tạ Ngạn transferred to Division 312 and became official Regiment 209/Division 312.

-Regiment 209A/Division 312: moved to the South Jan 1968 and under Division 7.

-Regiment 209/Division 7 = Regiment 209A/Division 312.

Regiment 238

-Regiment 238/B5: under Quảng Trị Command in 1968. No more information

Regiment 246

-Regiment 246, AKA Regiment "Tân Trào". Established in 1st Indochina War. Under MR Việt Bắc, transferred to B5 1967-1968.

Regiment 266

-Regiment 266/Division 341: Established Sep 1973.

Regiment 268

-Regiment 268 under Sài Gòn - Gia Định Command: expanded from Battalion 268 in 1968, in 1970 reduced to battalion.

Regiment 270

-Regiment 270/Division 341 = Regiment 270/MR4 Established in 1954, reorganized many times. Expanded to Brigade 341 (1957) and Division 341 (1962), disbanded 1964. Oct 1970 reestablished Regiment 270 and transferred to Quảng Trị until Nov 1971. Aug 1972 transferred all battalions to Laos. Nov 1972 reestablished Regiment 270 under Division 341.

-Regiment 270/B5 = Regiment 270/Division 341

-Regiment 270/Division 341B: AKA Regiment 57, redesignated and under Division 341B Mar 1975.

Regiment 271

-Regiment 271/Division 3/B2, AKA Regiment 271A: former Regiment 812 established in 1st Indochina War. Moved to the South late 1971 and under B2. Under Division 3/B2 when Division 3/B2 established.

-Regiment 271/MR4: transferred to Quảng Trị in Sep 1972.

-Regiment 271/MR8: AKA Regiment 271B. Established Jan 1975 based on a battalion of Regiment 271A. Apr 1975 transferred to MR8.

-Regiment 271/Division 9 = Regiment 1/Division 9.

VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS – 1966

A chronology of Allied combat operations in Vietnam

-Regiment 271/B2 = Regiment 1/Division 9.

-Regiment 271A = Regiment 271/Division 3/B2.

-Regiment 271B = Regiment 271/MR8.

Regiment 272

-Regiment 272/Division 9 = Regiment 2/Division 9.

-Regiment 272/B2 = Regiment 2/Division 9.

Regiment 273

-Regiment 273/Division 341: also former Regiment 8 MR Tà Ngạn. Aug 1972 under Division 308B and redesignated as Regiment 36B. Feb 1973 transferred to Division 341 and redesignated as Regiment 273.

-Regiment 273/Division 9 = Regiment 3/Division 9.

-Regiment 273/B2 = Regiment 3/Division 9.

Regiment 274

-Regiment 274 AKA Regiment 4/Division 5. US designation only.

Regiment 275

-Regiment 275 AKA Regiment 5/Division 5. US designation only.

Regiment 320

-Regiment 320: Established in 1964. Transferred to B3 early 1965. Under Division 1/B3 when Division 1 established late 1965 early 1966. Late 1968 moved to the South and separated from Division 1. Then transferred to MR8. Under Division 8/MR8 when Division 8 established Oct 1974.

Regiment 335

-Regiment 335: former Division 335 and Brigade 335. In 1965 reduced to regiment. Fought in Laos. Under Division 31 when Division 31 established Jul 1974.

Regiment 803

-Regiment 803/Division 324 = Regiment 1/Division 324.

Regiment 812

-Regiment 812/MR6: Established May 1974.

-Regiment 812/Division 324 = Regiment 2/Division 324.

Regiment 866

-Regiment 866: Established Aug 1966. Fought in Laos. Under Division 31 when Division 31 established Jul 1974.

CONTACT AND CREDITS

Author: Stéphane "Boonierat" Moutin-Luyat
Email: stephane.moutin-luyat@wanadoo.fr
Forum: [Armchair General Vietnam Forum](#)
Website: [Vietnam Combat Operations](#)

Special thanks to Phan Truong Son for letting me reproduce his PAVN/PLAF order of battle, and to Nguyen Tuan Trung for the translations.

