

# MONSOON CAMPAIGN

The 25th Infantry Division MONSOON CAMPAIGN began on 14 May 1967. Within the division TAOR, three operations are being conducted: Operation KOLEKOLE, BARKING SANDS and DIAMOND HEAD. The mission of the division in the MONSOON CAMPAIGN is to conduct offensive operations with emphasis in populated areas, to destroy VC/NVA forces and installations, to secure major lines of communication (LOC's) to support the Government of Vietnam (GVN) Revolutionary Development Program and to reinforce Free World Military Assistance Forces and GVN forces as directed.

## KOLEKOLE

Operation KOLEKOLE ( ) is a search and destroy operation conducted by 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division in the DUC HOA, BAO TRAI, HIEP HOA and LOC GIANG Areas and along the ORIENTAL River (SONG VAM CO DONG). The brigade conducted EAGLE FLIGHTS and airmobile operations based on current intelligence. Cordon and search outposting, and Counter Fair operations are conducted in conjunction with 25th ARVN Division, Civilian Irregular Defense Groups (CIDG), Regional and Popular Forces. Significant actions were the relief of an 80 man CIDG force encircled by a VC company on 16 May west of the ORIENTAL River (XT4402), by elements of the 1st and 2nd Bn, 27th Infantry. Airmobile assaults into the area resulted in prolonging contact from 1600 to 0100 hours 17 May. Results were 27 VC KIA (BC) and 36 more VC KIA (poss) with only 2 US WIA and 9 more WIA. There was intermittent contact throughout June and July, particularly along the AN HA Canal and at LOC GIANG (XT428155) along the ORIENTAL River. Engineer operations in conjunction with KOLEKOLE have reopened Highway 10 from DUC HOA to BAO TRAI, the HAU NGHIA Province capital. This improved the GVN's authority and control and assisted the 25th Infantry Division's overland reaction capability, as well as allowing civilians to move local products to

new markets. Engineer operations continue to improve Highway 10 and the bridge west of TRANG LUNG (XT4519). Results of Operation KOLEKOLE to date are as follows: 338 VC KIA (BC), 226 VC KIA (poss), 45 VC PW, 21 HOI CHANH and 290 detainees. Enemy material captured was: 168 lbs documents, 2 Russian rifles, 3-10mm rds, 20 M1 carbines, 1-.38 pistol, 4 shotguns, 16 CHICOM carbines, 2 VC packboards, 3-55 gal drums of CS, 4-.45 cal pistols, 19 M1 rifles, 5 M3 SMGs, 2 BARs, 1 French LMG, 8 AK-47s, 114 batteries, 5 RIC-10 radios, 2 RIC-2 rds, 7 AT mines, 52 lbs medical supplies, 127 lbs of clothing, 1-20mm mortar, 2255 SA rds, 1-57mm recoilless rifle, 227 SA magazines, 1 sniper rifle, 1 Mauser rifle, 2 grenade launcher adapters, 12 claymores, 17 CHICOM grenades, 1 M79 launcher, 150 US blasting caps, 3 claymore generators, 30 yds of bandages, 5 SMG magazines, 1 Thompson SMG, 420 meters of wire, 92 grenades, 50-.50 cal rds, 45 prs of black uniforms, 60 hammocks, 1 commercial radio, 1-60mm mortar rd, 1 lb C-4, 2-20mm rds, 100 ft claymore wire, 1 M2 carbine, 2 M14 rifles, 1-75mm RR rd, 2 M16 rifles, 2 bolt action rifles, 3 homemade rifles, 1 wallet, 1 VC flag, 1 gasoline generator, 400 pcs chinaware, 1 BAR, 1 AK-47, 2 US carbines, 4000 lbs of rice, 2 M2 carbines, Enemy material destroyed: 2633 bunkers, 483 military structures, 203 tunnels, 14 trenches, 226 sampans, 187 AP mines, 72 AT mines, 51 booby traps, 60-81mm rds, 56-60mm rds, 11-57mm rds, 3-175mm rds, 17 M79 rds, 60-155mm rds, 30-105mm rds, 635 grenades, 923 RPG-2 rds, 5305 lbs of rice, 66 CBUs, 2 lbs clothing, 4 small rockets, 2 ponchos, 2 oxcarts, 7622 SA rds, 8-4.2" rds, 1 typewriter, 1-500 lb bomb, 4 VC protective masks, 75 lbs TNT, 12 rifle grenades, 1 foot bridge, 2 LAWs, 2 motorized sampans, 1 claymore, 100 lbs nitrates, 800 lbs cement, 7000 chopsticks, 1 commercial radio, 200 blasting caps, 5 cans assorted fuzes, 14 AT mine casings, 50-2.75" rockets, 7 bicycles, 1 flare device, 3 grenade detonators, 5-250 lb bombs, 2-75mm rds, 10-82mm rds, 2-2.75" rockets, 1 homemade

emphasis. Numerous civic action programs were conducted and roads were improved for civilian as well as military use. Combined operations were conducted with ARVN, CIDG, RF and PF units to improve mutual confidence, understanding and effectiveness of both US Forces and RVNAF as a combined combat team. Distant security was provided for polling places during the Vietnamese elections and inauguration ceremonies.

(2) Operation KOLEKOLE conducted in Hau Nghia, Tay Ninh and Binh Duong Provinces by the 2d Brigade caused extensive destruction to enemy supplies and installations in long used base areas. Search and destroy, cordon and search and numerous air mobile operations maintained steady pressure on the enemy. Increased ARVN operations in the Brigade TAOI assisted in maintaining pressure on the enemy. A significant action occurred during August when the Combined Reconnaissance and Intelligence Platoon, consisting of the Recon Platoon, 2d Battalion, 27th Infantry and the Hau Nghia Province Intelligence Platoon (RF), engaged Viet Cong

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reconnaissance elements from Long An Province. The result was 27 Viet Cong killed and 1 US wounded. During October the 2d Brigade's operations were characterized by rapid response to intelligence reports in widely scattered areas of the division TAOI. Contact during the month was mostly with small Viet Cong units. On 21 October several armed Viet Cong were observed from the air moving away from a base camp south of Tay Ninh. These Viet Cong were engaged by gunships until A and B Companies, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry could be airlifted to the area. This rapid response resulted in 18 Viet Cong killed, and the capture of 18 weapons. On 31 October, the 2d Battalion, 27th Infantry conducted air mobile combat assaults north of the Rach Tra stream south of Phu Cuong on the Saigon River and made contact with an unknown size enemy force resulting in 28 VC KIA. Cumulative enemy losses to date include 612 killed, 1189 detainees and 278 weapons captured. Operation KOLEKOLE continues.