

The 25th Division in Vietnam

January 1963	100 Tropic Lightning Infantrymen move to Vietnam as the first of 2,200 25th Division soldiers to volunteer as helicopter doorgunners.	SHOTGUN
August 22, 1965	Charlie Company, 65th Engineers, moves to Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam	CHARLIE
January 25, 1966	3rd Brigade arrives in Pleiku with 4,000 men and 9,000 tons of equipment	BLUE LIGHT
January 30, 1966	2nd Brigade arrives by ship in Vung Tau, moves to Bien Hoa, and then in a 600 vehicle convoy moves to Cu Chi.	GREEN LIGHT
March 26, 1966	Command group and colors arrive in Cu Chi.	COMPS:
April 20, 1966	1st Brigade arrives in Vung Tau, moves to Cu Chi.	FIRST BDE
Jan-Feb, 1966	2nd Brigade clears base camp area of VC snipers. Cu Chi, once a VC stronghold and recreation spot, becomes the site for Division's main base camp	BOBCAT TARO LEAF I TARO LEAF II CLEAN SWEEP I CLEAN SWEEP II PADDY BRIDGE SEARCH OUT KOLCHAK
Jan-Feb, 1966	3rd Brigade opens Highway 19 allowing supplies to flow north to the new base camp in Pleiku.	KAMEHAMEHA TAYLOR
Mar, Apr, May, 1966	1st and 2nd Brigades clear area of operations of sniper strongholds, sweep critical areas near Cu Chi, the Filhol Plantation, Trang Bang and Go Dau Ha in an effort to clear VC squads from positions.	WAIKIKI HONOLULU KAHUKA MAKAHA KAENA KAHAHA MAILI LIHUE WAHIAWA MAKILU DEL RAY CIRCLE PINES AKRON ASHEVILLE
Mar, Apr, May, 1966	2nd Brigade fights resistance in Cu Chi area, constructs clear perimeter for base camp.	

Mar, Apr, May, 1966	3rd Brigade clears base camp area around Pleiku	GARFIELD LINCOLN PAUL REVERE
June, 1966	2nd Brigade launches an education and self-help program in the Cu Chi District designed to upgrade the living conditions there.	FORT SMITH
June, 1966	2nd Brigade launches a psy-war effort to win over the people in the Cu Chi District.	FRESNO
June, 1966	2nd Brigade begins Helping Hand, the distribution of clothes and sanitation aids collected by the people of Hawaii.	SANTEE FE
June, 1966	1st Battalion, 5th Mech begins an ambitious search and clear operation in Hau Nghia Province.	MAKINI
June, 1966	The clearing of Cu Chi District is continued by 2nd Brigade.	JOLIET PAPGO MELEMANO NOGLES EHU
June, 1966	1st Battalion, 5th Mech moves to clear the Ho Bo Woods.	COCO PALMS
July, 1966	1st Battalion, 27th Inf moves 23 miles south of Cu Chi to clear area of VC.	EMA KAHANA I KAHANA II MOKULELA KOKO HEAD OHU
July, 1966	In six months, the 25th Division has killed 1,000 VC.	ATTLEBORO LAHAINA ATEA
Sep, Nov, 1966	In a multi-divisional operation, 25th Division troops thrust into War Zone C north of Tay Ninh in what is to become a two month series of battles against VC snipers and booby traps. 2nd Brigade is moved to Tay Ninh to support the operation. Air assaults become common as the Division tunes itself to a new kind of war.	KIPAPA SUNSET BEACH KALIH LANEKA KAMUELA KAILUA
Nov, Dec, 1966	In a series of small separate Divisional operations, Tropic Lightning continues to search and clear as VC are newly supplied with NVA and Chinese Communist weapons.	FITCHBURG FORT NISQUALLY FAIRFAX ALA MOANA

January 8-26, 1967	A major blocking and search and destroy operation is begun along the Saigon River to prevent ex-filtration from the Tan Dien Forestry Reserve and the Iron Triangle, denying use of the river to VC and NVA. 331 VC are killed.	CEDAR FALLS
Feb 2-21, 1967	A multi-brigade search and destroy and blocking operation is begun along the Cambodian border in Tay Ninh Province. The Division tactics begin at a larger scale. 161 VC are killed. B-52 strikes start to play a role in the war.	GADSDEN
Feb 22-May 16, 1967	A multi-divisional search and destroy operation is launched along the Cambodian border. 947 VC are killed during the operation as Tropic Lightning troops begin to uncover large enemy caches of the edge of War Zone C.	JUNCTION CITY
March 21, 1967	Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Inf engage a massive enemy force at a tiny Fire Support Base near the hamlet of Soui Tre, 20 miles north of Tay Ninh. In four hours the Regulars, reinforced by 2nd, 12th and 2nd, 34th kill 647 enemy and lose 31 American soldiers in the worst battle of the war.	Battle of Soui T
Mar 18-Apr 21, 1967	A multi-brigade search and destroy operation is begun in Duc Hoa twelve miles south of Cu Chi. It is an attempt to destroy the bunkers which have made this area a guerrilla haven. 47 VC are killed, 3,131 bunkers destroyed.	MAKALAPA WALLJUA
Apr 23-June 7, 1967	A multi-brigade search and destroy operation is begun in the Boi Loi - Ben Cui area 10 miles south of Dau Tieng. In the 46 day operation 3,545,500 psy-war leaflets are dropped.	MANHATTAN
May 15, 1967	2nd Brigade begins offensive operations in the Cu Chi District as the monsoon campaign begins.	KOLEKOLE KAME AKUMU W.IMEA
May 15, 1967	1st Brigade focuses on offensive operations in Tay Ninh.	BARKING SANDS
May 15, 1967	The 3rd Brigade opens the monsoon campaign in Dau Tieng. The three brigades kill 1,045 enemy.	DIAMOND HEAD

Nov 13-Dec 23, 1967	The battle over the Iron Triangle results from the 25th Division's resolution to clear the area twelve miles northeast of Cu Chi. In a continuing series of firefights against the roving, dodging, retreating enemy, the Division kills 1,467.	ATLANTA
Dec 8-Mar 10, 1967	In the widest ranging operation undertaken by the Division, Tropic Lightning soldiers work from War Zone C on the Cambodian border to the outskirts of Saigon in an effort to clear the enemy from the area.	SARATOGA
January 10, 1968	Shortly after the beginning of the Tet Truce, the enemy launches a major assault on Saigon. The 25th Division stands alone, spread out across Saigon's northwest flank, square in the eye of battle. It is the first time the Division has encountered large NVA forces and the Division kills more than 3,000.	Tet Offensive
Dec 8-Feb 24, 1968	In a search and clear operation directed at the northern sector of the Division's area of operations, the Division becomes involved in more than sixty battles.	
January 1, 1968	On the first of January, the enemy attacks Fire Support Base Burt near the hamlet of Soui Cut, a support base only three days old. In a five hour human wave assault against the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Inf Regulars, the enemy loses 382 soldiers. The 4th Battalion, 9th Inf Manchus pursue the beaten enemy, cutting seventy more out of the ranks.	Battle of Soui Cut
	The operation closes in February with a body count of 1,400 enemy dead.	
Dec 17-31, 1968	The 2nd and 3rd Brigades launch a cleanup campaign in the Tay Ninh Province to pursue the beaten enemy NVA. The operation results in 136 enemy killed.	CAMDEN
Mar 11-April 7, 1968	1st Brigade begins a month-long operation in the Tay Ninh Province to clear the area of Viet Cong. 280 VC are killed.	WILDERNESS

Mar 11-Apr 7, 1968

2nd and 3rd Brigades pound the retreating enemy in the first of the Corps-wide operations. More than 438 enemy are killed.

QUET TRANG

Apr 8-May 31, 1968

Participating in a multi-division, Corps-wide operation, Tropic Lightning again works its entire area of operation from Tay Zore C to Saigon, clearing the enemy and capturing his vital supplies. The level of fighting has increased markedly since the enemy's Tet Offensive, and Toan Thang I results in the Division's killing 3,542 enemy soldiers.

TOAN THANG I

June 1-Feb 19, 1969

Again, operations in Vietnam are designated at Corps level, as the success of an independent brigade becomes more dependent upon Corps-wide operations. Thus, under the operational designation Toan Thang II, the 25th Division engages the enemy in fierce though largely unconnected battles.

TOAN THANG II

August 17, 1968

The Battle of Tay Ninh begins as 300 enemy are spotted moving toward the city. In several attempts to gain control of areas in the province, NVA soldiers lose 2,200 in 35 days of rough fighting.

Battle of Tay Ninh

September 17, 1968

131 enemy are killed in an abortive attack on Fire Support Base Pope, 15 miles northwest of Cu Chi.

FSB Pope

October 9, 1968

402 enemy are killed as the 25th Division routs an enemy battalion from its staging area near Trang Bang.

Trang Bang

December 22, 1968

A pre-dawn attack on Fire Support Base Mole results in 104 enemy killed, nine and one half miles south of Tay Ninh City.

Mole City

Jan-Feb, 1969

In a carefully considered and completely thorough search of its area of operations Tropic Lightning uncovers cache after cache of enemy supplies and signs that the NVA are planning a second Tet offensive.

February 19, 1969

TOAN THANG III

February 24, 1969

The enemy launches an attack on all 25th Division base camps using mortar, rockets and sapper squads. He attempts to breach the perimeter of several fire support bases, Cu Chi and Dau Tieng. His effort is seriously hampered by a shortage of supplies and his attempt to escape is denied by heavy pounding from the Division forces.

Second Tet

March 4-5, 1969

The 2nd Brigade moves into the Citadel in the first of two offensives. 179 of the enemy are killed.

Citadel I

March 15, 1969

An attempt to overrun Fire Support Base Mahone II, three miles southeast of Bau Tieng ends in 56 enemy dead.

Mahone II

March 18-26, 1969

In one week of fierce fighting, the Division drives into the Citadel again, seven miles north of Cu Chi, capturing supplies and killing 149.

Citadel II

April 5-6, 1969

117 enemy are killed as a reinforced battalion attempts to overrun Patrol Base Diamond II, one mile from the Cambodian border on the Angel's wing.

Diamond II

April 15, 1969

198 enemy are killed attempting to overrun Patrol Base Diamond III only a few miles north of its previous location, one mile from the Cambodian border.

Diamond III

April 25, 1969

Two NVA battalions, in a desperate attempt to influence the Paris Peace talks, try to overrun Patrol Base Frontier City, sixteen miles south of Tay Ninh on the Cambodian border. 213 enemy are killed.

Frontier City

June 6-7, 1969

Again, on two consecutive nights, NVA forces attempt to overrun a Fire Support Base. 400 enemy die trying to breach Fire Support Base Crook, twelve miles northwest of Tay Ninh.

FSB Crook