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CURRENT OPERATION

200 PBR

19 HELO's

6 SEAL PLT

7 MSB

4 LST

ORGANIZED INTO 7 TASK GROUPS AND 6 GENERAL
AREAS OF OPERATION:

BASSAC RIVER PATROL GROUP - AT BINH THUY
40 PBR, 1 LST, 2 LHFT.

CHO CHIEN RIVER PATROL GROUP - AT VINH LONG
30 PBR, 1 LST, 2 LHFT.

MY THO RIVER PATROL GROUP - AT MY THO
50 PBR, 1 LST, 1 LHFT.

RSSZ RIVER PATROL GROUP - AT NHA BE
50 PBR, 7 MSB's, 1 LHFT, ALSO TASKED WITH CMD
(DONG HAI RIVER).

UPPER DELTA RIVER PATROL GROUP - MOBILE
BASE II NEAR TAN CHAU - NOW HAS 10 BOATS CHARGED
WITH PREVENTING INADVERTENT BORDER CROSSING OF
ALLIED CRAFT.

PROGRAM V ASSETS WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE
A TOTAL OF 40 PBR TO THE REGION IN ORDER TO FUL-
FILL CNFV 105-68 PLAN *which is a result of*

MACV Director ² tasking

GAME WARDEN WATER BARRIER
CAMBODIAN BORDER

Hung New L. Chau
Doc

IV HAS GROUND CAMPAIGN

I CORP - 20 BOATS, 10 AT MOBILE BASE I IN TAN
MY, 10 AT CUA VIET ALONG DMZ.

6TH TASK GROUP - SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP
OUR 6 SEAL PLT - NORMALLY 1 IN RSSZ, 5 IN DELTA .
DELTA PLT TEMPORIALY ON SPECIAL OPERATIONS IN
QUI NHON.

Summary Chart

THIS SUMMARY OF THE PAST 12 MONTHS OPERATION
BASED ON CURRENT OPERATION. SIGNIFICANT ITEM IS
CONTACT WITH OVER 3 MILLION PEOPLE.

THIS BRINGS US INTO OUR PSYOPS/CIVIC ACTION
PROGRAM,

PSYOPS

WHICH HAS SHOWN A GOOD RETURN THROUGH INCREASED INTELLIGENCE TO OUR PATROLS. AMBUSH SITES, TAX COLLECTORS, SPECIFIC IDENTIFICATION OF LOCAL VC *and* LOCATION OF ARMS CACHES ARE THE ITEMS WE RECEIVE FROM THE LOCAL POPULACE. GOOD WILL WITH THE RIVER PEOPLE AND TRUST THAT THE PBR'S WON'T SHOOT INDISCRIMINATELY IS DEMONSTRATED THROUGH VIETNAMESE WILLINGNESS TO SEEK OUT PBR'S FOR ASSISTANCE EVEN DURING CURFEW HOURS. MEDEVAC'S ARE FREQUENT AND FOUR PREGNANT MOTHERS USED PBR'S FOR THEIR "MATERNITY WARD".

OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES SPEAKER OPS EXPLAINING OUR PRESENCE AND PURPOSE, CHIEU HOI APPEALS, GVN SUPPORTS, AND CURRENT EVENTS TAPES BY JUSPAO. MEDCAPS ARE USING MORE VIETNAMESE ASSISTANCE AND LESS US. FURTHER, OUR CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMS HAVE INCLUDED REBUILDING HOMES, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND CHURCHES. RECENTLY WE INITIATED AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM. PROVIDING SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO 230 NEEDY CHILDREN. *Vietnamese* ~~THE~~ PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS HAVE RESPONDED WITH SEVERAL MORE REQUESTS FOR THIS PROGRAM IN OTHER LOCAL AREAS. WE KNOW THIS PROGRAM WILL REAP LONG LASTING IMPRESSIONS.

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PROGRAM V

UNDER THE ORIGINAL CONCEPT, PROGRAM V WOULD HAVE ADDED 50 PBR'S - 5 RIVER DIVISIONS, 5 YRBM'S AND 19 HELICOPTERS TO GAME WARDEN. HOWEVER, SEVERAL FACTORS HAVE AFFECTED THIS EXPANSION:

A. INITIAL DESIGN DEFICIENCIES IN ELECTRICAL POWERED TWIN .50 CALIBER MACHINE GUN MOUNTS (M56), CERAMIC ARMOR PROBLEMS, AND A FAULTY EXHAUST SYSTEM DELAYED DELIVERY OF THE MK II PBR'S. THESE HAVE BEEN CORRECTED AND THE FIRST TEN BOATS ARRIVED IN COUNTRY THIS MORNING AND DELIVERY COMPLETION IS EXPECTED BY LATE OCTOBER.

B. BECAUSE OF BUDGETARY REDUCTION AND IN COUNTRY FORCE LEVEL LIMITATIONS ONLY 4 OF THESE DIVISIONS WILL BE MANNED. THE FIFTH DIVISION OF 10 BOATS IS BEING USED TO PROVIDE A REPLACEMENT POOL IN ORDER TO PERMIT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGULAR OVERHAUL SCHEDULE FOR THE 120 MK I PBR'S. THIS PLAN IS IN OPERATION AND OVERHAUL HAS COMMENCED ON THE FIRST FIVE BOATS.

C. THE BUDGET ALSO CAUSED A REDUCTION IN YRBM DELIVERY SCHEDULES. WE PRESENTLY ARE SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE ONLY 2 - THE 19 IN DECEMBER

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AND THE 20 NEXT SPRING.

THE MOST CRITICAL DEFICIENCY UNDER PROGRAM V IS THE FACT THAT HELICOPTER INCREASES HAVE NOT BEEN COMMENSURATE WITH FORCE EXPANSION. IN FACT, THE 19 SCHEDULED HELOS UNDER PROGRAM V HAVE BEEN CANCELLED. AS AN INTERIM MEASURE, FUNDS WERE APPROPRIATED TO PROCURE 14 OV-12A HELO-PORTER AIRCRAFT FROM FAIRCHILD-HILLER. THIS WAS PLANNED AS AN OFF THE SHELF, OR MORE ACCURATELY, AN OUT-OF-THE-HANGAR PROCUREMENT ~~THIS WAS~~ *but has* ~~INDEFINITELY~~ *been* DEFERRED. AT PRESENT, IT ~~HAS BEEN~~ *appears* ~~RECOMMENDED~~ *will* THAT 10 OV-10 BRONCOS BE PROCURED AS AN INTERIM MEASURE UNTIL FURTHER HELO PROCUREMENT IS AUTHORIZED. MEANWHILE, GAME WARDEN CONTINUES TO HAVE AN ALLOWANCE OF 22 UH-1B'S. WE PRESENTLY POSSESS 19 AIRCRAFT AS THE ARMY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO PROVIDE REPLACEMENTS FOR COMBAT AND OPERATIONAL LOSSES. THE AVERAGE AIRFRAME AGE FOR THE SEAWOLVES IS FIVE YEARS, AND THEY ARE RAPIDLY REACHING THE END OF THEIR USEFUL COMBAT OPERATION EXPECTANCY. THE ARMY HAS GIVEN US VERY COMMENDABLE MAINTENANCE SUPPORT UNDER THE INTER SERVICE SUPPORT AGREEMENT BUT THE BASIC FACT REMAINS THAT THE UH-1B IS REACHING OBSOLESCENCE

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AND REPLACEMENT OF AIRCRAFT AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT
BECOMES INCREASINGLY MORE DIFFICULT EACH DAY.

IN CONCLUSION, WE FEEL THAT THE RIVER PATROL
FORCE HAS DEMONSTRATED HIGH VERSATILITY IN ITS
DAILY OPERATIONS BY QUICKLY ADAPTING TO THE BASIC
CONCEPTS OF

MOBILITY

SURPRISE

DISPERSAL

AND OFFENSIVE POWER

WE FURTHER CONSIDER OUR EXPERIENCE GAINED WOULD
ENABLE US TO PERFORM OUR MISSION NOT ONLY IN
VIETNAM BUT IN ANY SIMILAR ENVIRONMENT.