

1967

October 31 Gen. Thieu is inaugurated as President and Air Vice Marshal Ky as Vice President of the Republic of Vietnam.

November 1 Operation SCOTLAND begins. The U.S. 3rd Marine Division operation in the westernmost portion of Quang Tri Province is centered on the Khe Sanh area. The operation terminates on 31 March 1968 with the commencement of FEGASUS on 1 April 1968.

Operation KENTUCKY begins as a continuing U.S. Americal Division operation in the Con Thien area.

November 2 A defector from the NVA 66th Regiment indicates that his and four other regiments are converging on Dak To and the new CIDG camp at Ben Het. The U.S. 4th Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Division is ordered to meet the enemy threat.

November 3 The Viet Cong break off a five-day attack on Loc Ninh near the Cambodian border.

November 6 The 4th Battalion establishes a fire base on Hill 823 west of Ben Het, after engaging and driving off the NVA 66th Regiment.

November 11 Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA begins. The continuing U.S. Americal Division (two brigades) operation is conducted in Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces.

Three U.S. Army staff sergeants are released by the Viet Cong in Cambodia in what a VC broadcast describes as "solidarity and support" for the struggle of U.S. negroes.

November 14 Thailand's Cabinet gives final approval to the dispatch of a full division - 10,000 to 12,000 men - to Vietnam.

November 16 U.S. aircraft bomb Haiphong's shipyard No. 2 for the first time.

November 17 U.S. aircraft bomb the Bac Mai airfield near the center of Hanoi for the first time.

November 18 The Viet Cong announces that it will observe cease-fires at Christmas and during the Western and Lunar New Year holidays.

November 20-24 Heavy fighting between Allied and North Vietnamese troops rages around Dak To in Kontum Province. Elements of the U.S. 4th Infantry and 1st Cavalry Divisions, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, CIDG companies, and six ARVN battalions attack and defeat four NVA regiments.

November 21 The Cambodian government denies that its territory is being used as a base of operations by VC and NVA troops or that Sihanoukville is being used to ship supplies to Communist forces.

November 29 General Westmoreland says he is convinced that the VC and NVA were "taking advantage of the eastern border area of Cambodia, with or without the consent of the Cambodian government".

Defense Secretary McNamara confirms that he will leave the Defense Dept and become president of the World Bank early in 1968.

December 5 The enemy overruns the Montagnard village of Dak Son in Phuoc Long Province killing over 200 and kidnapping some 400 civilian tribesmen.

December 8 Operation EAGLE THRUST begins. The U.S. 101st Airborne Division (less the 1st Brigade deployed in 1965) is airlifted from Fort Campbell, Kentucky to Vietnam with the move completed on 18 December.

Operation YELLOWSTONE begins. The U.S. 25th Infantry Division operation in War Zone C (Tay Ninh Province) terminates on 24 February 1968.

Operation SARATOGA begins. The continuation of the U.S. 25th Infantry Division operations in the area west of Saigon and along the Cambodian border terminates on 11 March 1968.

Elements of the ARVN 21st Infantry Division trap part of a VC main force battalion and a local force battalion along the Kinh C Mon Canal, 100 miles southwest of Saigon, in the largest single engagement yet in the Mekong Delta.

December 14 In a document circulated among United Nations members in New York, the NL? outlines its future political plans after victory for establishing a "national union democratic government" in Vietnam.

December 17 Operation UNIONTOWN begins as a U.S. 199th Light Infantry Brigade operation in Bien Hoa Province. It later includes Tet offensive operations and terminates on 8 March 1968.

Operation MAENG HO 9 begins. A ROK Capital Division operation in Binh Dinh Province, it terminates on 30 January 1968.

December 19 Operation MUSCATINE begins. The U.S. Americal Division (one brigade) operation in Quang Ngai Province terminates on June 1968.

December 21 The 3rd Battalion, 26th Marines conducts a 5-day sweep to the west of the NSCB with no contact but it does discover evidence that the enemy was moving into the area in force.

December 24 The U.S. 11th Light Infantry Brigade arrives in Vietnam, taking a position in southern I Corps as part of the U.S. 23rd (Americal) Division.

The 24-hour Allied Christmas truce goes into effect in Vietnam.

December 30 The Allies announce a 12-hour extension of the 24-hour New Year truce in response to a plea by Pope Paul.

December 31 U.S. military strength in Vietnam totals 486,000 (325,000 Army; 31,000 Navy; 78,000 Marine Corps; 56,000 Air Force; 1,200 Coast Guard). Free World strength is: Australian, 6,812; Korean, 47,800; New Zealand, 516; The Philippines, 2,020; and Thailand, 2,205.

1968

January 1 President Johnson says he is "quite encouraged" by Prince Sihanouk's offer to permit U.S. troops to cross the Cambodian border in pursuit of Communist units.

Hanoi radio broadcasts a 24 December 1967 statement by North Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh saying that Hanoi "will hold talks with the United States on relevant questions" after an unconditional halt to the bombing and all other acts of war against North Vietnam.

January 2 The 36-hour Allied New Year truce ends and the United States resumes the bombing of North Vietnam.

January 3 Sihanouk says he has opposition in his cabinet to his decision to permit U.S. troops "hot pursuit" into Cambodia.

January 4 The White House announces that Ambassador Chester Bowles will represent the United States in talks with Prince Sihanouk.

Cambodia receives a shipment of aircraft and anti-aircraft guns from Communist China.

January 5 The Soviet Union and the United States exchange notes concerning the alleged attack by U.S. aircraft on a Soviet ship in Haiphong harbor.

The U.S. command in Saigon reports that U.S. strength in South Vietnam has reached 486,000.

January 6 President Thieu states that Saigon and Hanoi should be the principal parties to any peace negotiations.

January 10 Prince Sihanouk tells a news conference that his government and the United States have reached an agreement on preventing the war from spilling over into Cambodia.

January 12 A joint communique is issued in Phnom Penh describing the talks between Ambassador Bowles, Prince Sihanouk and other Cambodian officials. It states that Bowles emphasized that the United States "has no desire or intention to violate" Cambodian territory and hopes that "effective functioning of the ICC" would avert violations of neutrality by forces operating in Cambodia.

January 13 Cambodia makes public a note to the ICC requesting that it investigate Vietnam war incidents that occur in Cambodia and also report "all foreign infiltration into the country".

January 15 Speaking to a group of newspaper editors in Saigon, President Thieu says that peace efforts for Vietnam ought to be made by the Saigon Government and that he has doubts about U.S. negotiations with Cambodia.

The Royal Lao garrison at Nartac, 60 miles north of Luang Prabang, is overrun by Pathet Lao forces.

January 18 Operation CORNCADO X begins. The Mobile Riverine Force operates along the Rach Ruong Canal in western Dinh Tuong Province and later drives the enemy from My Tho, Cai Lay, and Vinh Long cities during the "wet offensive". The operation terminates on 12 February 1968.

January 19 The Soviet news agency Tass reveals that the Soviet Government has sent a protest to Washington accusing the United States of planning to expand the Vietnam war into Cambodia and Laos.

Operation MCLAIN begins. The 173rd Airborne Brigade conducts a continuing reconnaissance-in-force operation in support of pacification in Binh Thuan Province.

Cambodia charges that U.S. and GVN forces intruded into Cambodian territory and that three Cambodians were killed.

January 21 Opening the siege of Khe Sanh, a prolonged NVA mortar and rocket attack destroys the largest U.S. Marine ammunition dump and a strong probing attack is made on the outpost on Hill 861. A simultaneous battalion-size attack on the village of Khe Sanh and its CIDG camp is repulsed after partial penetration by the enemy. After beating off a second attack, the CIDG and the District Headquarters are withdrawn into the KSCB.

January 22 Operation PERSHING II begins. This covers the continuation of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) operations in Binh Dinh Province after the major division forces had deployed to I Corps. The operation terminates on 20 February 1968.

	The U.S. State Department acknowledges that a joint U.S.-GVN patrol had entered Cambodian territory during a battle with a Viet Cong unit fleeing into that country.		in clearing enemy forces which have penetrated and are holding out in the cities of Saigon, Hue, Quang Tri, Kontum, Phu Loc, My Tho, and Ben Tre.
	Operation JEB STUART begins. This covers the initial move of major elements of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) into I Corps and their early operations there, terminating on 31 March 1968.	February 2	Enemy forces are cleared from all cities except Saigon and Hue.
		February 3	The U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff request that Secretary McNamara reduce the radius of the prohibited bombing zone around Hanoi and Haiphong.
January 24	A GVN convoy arrives in Quang Tri City from Saigon, the first to travel by way of Route 1 since it was cleared.	February 4	Poland rejects suggestions for strengthening the policing role of the ICC along Cambodia's borders.
January 25	North Vietnamese forces employing tanks overrun a Lao Army post on Route 9, west of Khe Sanh just inside the Laos frontier. Following the attack, U.S. aircraft destroy one of five PT-76 tanks observed inside the RVN, moving along Route 9 toward Khe Sanh. Survivors of the 33rd Royal Lao Battalion and their dependents flee into South Vietnam to the Lang Vei Special Forces camp.	February 5	Operation TRAN HUNG DAO begins. The GVN operation under the direction of the Joint General Staff employs 6 RVN Marine Corps, 4 Ranger, and 5 Airborne battalions to defend the Saigon area during the Communist Tet offensive. It terminates on 17 February 1968.
January 27	The last link of Phase I of the Integrated Wideband Communications System in Vietnam is put into operation between Vung Tau and Pleiku.		President Thieu creates a Central Recovery Committee under Vice President Ky, to restore order and security, assist in reconstruction of urban areas, and to organize People's Self Defense Groups. A special task force from the U.S. Mission under Ambassador Komer is to assist and support Ky's committee.
	The Vietnamese 37th Ranger Battalion moves from Phu Loc to reinforce the U.S. Marine garrison at Khe Sanh.		The enemy launches a heavy artillery assault on the KSCB and a battalion of the NVA 325C Division assaults Hill 861A, being driven off with heavy losses.
	The Communists announce their Lunar New Year (Tet) cease-fire is to begin at 0100, running until 0100 on 3 February 1968.	February 6	Dang Quang Minh, the NLF representative in Moscow, states that the aim of the NLF in its latest attacks is to overthrow the Saigon government.
January 29	The Allied Tet truce begins at 1800 in all corps zones except I Corps.	February 7	A North Vietnamese force, estimated to be of battalion strength and supported by 9 tanks, overruns the Special Forces camp at Lang Vei, near the Laos border a few miles southwest of Khe Sanh.
January 30	A series of enemy attacks on towns and installations in I Corps causes the allies to cancel their truce at 1100.		The U.S. State Department reveals that both India and Poland have refused to accept U.S. offers of helicopters and other equipment for use by the ICC in Cambodia.
January 31	Communist forces launch a coordinated, nationwide assault in South Vietnam attacking Saigon, 36 of 44 provincial capitals, 5 of 6 autonomous cities, 64 of 242 district capitals, 50 hamlets, and a number of military installations including most airfields.	February 9	A MACV Forward command post is established at Phu Bai under General Abrams to supervise the planned deployment of U.S. combat and logistic forces in the northern provinces.
	President Thieu declares martial law throughout South Vietnam.	February 11	The South Vietnamese government begins the mobilization of an additional 65,000 troops.
January	To counter the enemy build-up along the DMZ and in Laos, the U.S. 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division is moved to the vicinity of Hue.	February 13	President Thieu says that more U.S. troops are needed in South Vietnam if the war is to be ended soon.
February 1	U.S. ground forces are committed to assist the ARVN		The Pentagon announces that, in response to

General Westmoreland's request for additional troops, an immediate airlift will be made of 10,500 -- a brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division and a Marine regimental landing team.

Operation CORONADO II begins. The Mobile Riverine Force, operating with elements of ARVN 9th and 21st Divisions, conducts riverine, air and ground search operations in Cai Rang and Phong Hiep Districts of Phong Dinh Province to locate and destroy Viet Cong MR 3 headquarters and to cordon and search Cu Lao Mav island in the Bassac River southwest of Can Tho. The operation to relieve enemy pressure on the city of Can Tho terminates on 6 March 1968.

February 16 Operation MAENZ HO begins. The operation of the ROK Capital Division in Binh Dinh Province terminates on 1 March 1968.

February 17 Operation TRAN HUNG DAO II begins. This is a continuation of TRAN HUNG DAO in the Saigon area with slightly reduced forces. It terminates on 8 March 1968.

February 19 The Viet Cong attack Tan Son Nhut airbase, just outside Saigon, with mortar and rocket fire.

February 23 The U.S. Marine 27th Regimental Landing Team completes its movement by air from California to Da Nang.

General Wheeler, Chairman of the JCS, arrives in Saigon to review the military situation and manpower needs.

The KSCB receives a record number of incoming rounds -- 1307 for the day -- and the first signs appear of an enemy trench system.

February 24 U.N. Secretary General U Thant issues a report on his 8-21 February peace mission to various world capitals saying that, if the United States ended the bombing and war acts against North Vietnam, he was "more than ever convinced" that "meaningful talks will take place -- perhaps even within a matter of a few days".

February 25 General Westmoreland says that additional U.S. troops "will probably be required" in Vietnam.

February 26 The U.S. 3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division completes its movement from North Carolina by air, arriving at Chu Lai.

The last enemy troops are cleared from the city of Hue. The Imperial Citadel had been cleared the previous day.

February 27 The GVN replaces a number of Corps commanders and Province chiefs.

February 28

U.S. sources in Saigon report that American advisors are on the ground in Laos coordinating U.S. air strikes against NVA-Pathet Lao forces attacking Lao Army positions.

Upon his return from his trip to Vietnam, General Wheeler delivers a report to President Johnson representing his and General Westmoreland's view that an additional 206,756 troops (raising the ceiling to 731,756) are needed in Vietnam by the end of 1968, with roughly half by 1 May 1968.

The French Government declares that it has "specific information" that an end to the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam would be a "necessary and sufficient" condition for the opening of negotiations on the war.

February 29

An estimated enemy regiment attempts to attack the KSCB but is decimated by massed artillery and B-52 strikes resulting in their defeat in their own assault trenches before being able to reach the base's defensive wire. This is the last major attempt to assault the KSCB.

Prince Sihanouk threatens to resign, transferring power to the anti-Communist General Lon Nol, unless Communist China and "other foreign powers" call off the growing Communist guerrilla warfare in Cambodia.

Operation NAPOLEON/SALINE begins. This is a continuing U.S. Marine Corps operation along the Cua Viet River to keep it open as a supply line of communications to the port facility in the Dong Ha area of Quang Tri Province.

February

The last link of Phase II of the Integrated Wideband Communications System is activated between Vung Tau and Long Binh.

March 1

Clark M. Clifford is sworn in as U.S. Secretary of Defense.

Operation TRUONG CONG DINH begins. ARVN units and elements of the U.S. 9th Infantry Division conduct a continuing operation in Dinh Tuong and Kien Tuong Provinces in IV Corps that is combined with DUONG CUA DAN on 21 May 1968.

The South Vietnamese House of Representatives rejects (85-10) a request that President Thieu be given emergency powers to rule by decree for one year.

March 6

The ARVN 32nd Regiment, supported by air and artillery, drives off an estimated enemy battalion that had penetrated the city of Ca Mau in An Xuyen Province.

March 7	The South Vietnamese Senate rejects (40-3) a government request for emergency economic powers.	USS Benewah receives two 75 mm recoilless rifle hits that cause only minor damage.
March 8	The headquarters of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division is moved to the Hue area. General Westmoreland appoints General Homyer, Deputy Commander MACV for Air Operations, as manager of all "tactical air resources".	President Johnson announces that he will nominate General Westmoreland to replace retiring Army Chief of Staff, General Harold Johnson, in July 1968.
March 10	MACV Forward is inactivated and Provisional Corps, Vietnam (PROVCORPV) is established to control the U.S. units in northern I Corps. The Mobile Riverine Force shifts operations to near Cai Lay and Long Dinh towns in Dinh Tuong Province where troops of the U.S. 1st and 2nd Brigades, 9th Infantry Division, patrol along Highway 4 until 16 March 1968. The U.S. 101st Airborne Division, controlling its own 2nd Brigade and the 3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, begins to conduct combat and security operations in the vicinity of Hue and Phu Bai. North Vietnamese artillery attacks hit U.S. outposts just south of the DMZ. The Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese overrun the U.S. radar station at Phou Pha Thi in Sam Neua Province of Northeastern Laos.	March 23 North Vietnamese forces fire 1,100 rounds (including 92 rockets) into Khe Sanh defensive positions. March 24 An enemy ammunition cache is discovered southwest of Hue which contained 76 mm shells used in Russian PT-76 tanks and 23 mm anti-aircraft ammunition. March 30 The U.S. 173rd Airborne Brigade moves into Binh Dinh Province to relieve the U.S. 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. The latter joins its parent division in the Central Highlands, making the first time that the 4th Division is able to operate with all three of its brigades together. March 31 President Johnson announces that he has ordered cessation of attacks on North Vietnam "except in the area north of the demilitarized zone where the continuing enemy build-up directly threatens allied forward positions and where the movement of their troops and supplies are clearly related to that threat". He asks North Vietnam to respond positively by agreeing to peace talks. At the conclusion of his statement, President Johnson says that he will not seek or accept nomination for another term as President.
March 11	The largest operation to date, QUYET THANG (Resolved to Win) begins in the Saigon area and the five surrounding provinces. Participating are a total of 22 U.S. and 11 ARVN battalions from the U.S. 1st, 9th, and 25th Divisions, ARVN 5th and 25th Divisions, ARVN airborne units, and RVN Marine Corps. The operation terminates on 15 April 1968. Operation DUONG CUA DAM (People's Road) begins to secure and improve Route 4 from the III Corps boundary south through Binh Tuong Province to the Mekong River. The U.S. 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division provides security for U.S. Army engineer companies making repairs and improvements to bridges and roadway. The GVN organizes 10 new Regional Force companies to assume responsibility for continuing security and maintenance.	March The Phu Lam switching center of the worldwide Automatic Digital (AUTODIN) Network begins passing traffic. It is the first of its kind to be installed in a combat zone. April 1 Operation PEGASUS/LAM SON 207 is begun by the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division, 1st and 26th Marine Regiments, the ARVN III Airborne Task Force, and the 37th Ranger Battalion to open Route 9 and reestablish ground communication with the Khe Sanh base area. The operation terminates on 15 April 1968 following the relief of the siege of Khe Sanh on 8 April 1968.
March 18	The GVN 37th Ranger Battalion repulses a North Vietnamese probe along the eastern edge of the Khe Sanh defensive perimeter.	Operation CARENTAN II begins. The U.S. 101st Airborne Division and the 3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division mount a combined operation with the ARVN 1st Division in the lowlands of Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces that terminates on 17 May 1968.
March 21	President Thieu announces plans to increase the South Vietnamese armed forces by 135,000.	April 2 After some confusion regarding the cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam, the U.S. Defense Department states that the President's order permits bombing in North Vietnam south of the
March 22	The Mobile Riverine base, then located in the My Tho River south of Dong Tam, is attacked by the enemy using mortars and recoilless rifles. The	

20th parallel.

April 3

In an official Vietnam News Agency broadcast from Hanoi, North Vietnam offers to send representatives to meet with U.S. representatives.

President Johnson announces that "the U.S. is ready to send its representatives to any forum, at any time, to discuss the means of bringing this war to an end". Also, he says that the U.S. will establish contact with the representatives of North Vietnam and suggests Geneva as a meeting site.

April 4

River Assault Division 92 carrying the U.S. 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry is ambushed at the crossroads on the Song Ba Lai in Truc Giang District of Kien Hoa Province. The 2nd Battalion is reinforced with the 4th Battalion, 47th Infantry and the enemy eventually withdraw under cover of darkness. The two battalions continue to sweep the marshes south of the Song Ba Lai through 7 April 1968.

April 5

In an interview with Charles Collingwood of CBS, North Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh suggests Phnom Penh, Cambodia as a meeting site.

April 8

Operation TOAN THANG (Complete Victory) begins. It is a combined ARVN III Corps and U.S. II Field Force offensive to destroy VC and NVA forces within the Capital Military District. The largest operation to date, involving 42 U.S. and 37 RVN battalions, terminates on 31 May 1968.

Operation BURLINGTON TRAIL begins. The U.S. 198th Brigade of the Americal Division conducts a combat sweep in Quang Tin Province along the Quang Nam Province border.

The Delta Military Assistance command (headed by the senior advisor to IV Corps, Major George S. Eckhardt) is established to control U.S. Army units based in the Mekong River Delta.

April 10

President Johnson announces the appointment of General Creighton Abrams to replace General Westmoreland as COMUSMACV.

April 11

Hanoi proposes Warsaw as the site for the initial US-DRV contacts, with the U.S. responding that it prefers a neutral site with adequate communications facilities.

Route 9 is opened between Khe Sanh and Ca Lu.

April 15

Operation SCOTLAND II begins. This covers continuing U.S. Marine Corps operations around Khe Sanh upon termination of PEASUS.

April 16

The 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment arrives

in Duc Pho from Hawaii for assignment to the 11th Light Infantry Brigade of the 23rd (Americal) Division.

President Johnson confers in Honolulu with U.S. military commanders in South Vietnam.

April 18

The U.S. 9th Division captures a North Vietnamese soldier in IV Corps confirming that Viet Cong forces there are being reinforced from North Vietnam by other than key cadre or advisory personnel.

April 19

Operation DELAWARE/LAM SON 216 begins. A combined reconnaissance by force into the A Shau Valley is conducted by the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division, 101st Airborne Division, elements of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade, and the ARVN 1st Division, and Airborne Task Force Bravo. The objective is to preempt enemy preparations for an attack on Hue by destroying the large enemy logistic base constructed in the valley. The operation terminates on 17 May 1968.

April 25

United States and North Vietnamese diplomats meet in Vientiane, Laos to discuss the choice of a site for preliminary peace talks.

April 26

Communist Chinese Foreign Minister, Chen Yi, accuses the United States of "trying to gain at the negotiating table what it could not get on the battlefield".

April 27

Hanoi reports state that on 20-21 April the Alliance of National Democratic and Peace Forces met near Saigon and issued a manifesto announcing that it "is prepared to enter into discussions with the U.S. government" but that the NLF must be included in any settlement.

April 28

The U.S. State Department says that the United States is not prepared to engage in talks with the Alliance as "it seems obvious to us" that it is an artificial creation of the NLF and Hanoi.

May 3

President Johnson announces that the United States has accepted a North Vietnamese offer to meet in Paris for preliminary talks on 10 May or shortly thereafter.

May 4

Viet Cong and NVA forces launch another series of nationwide attacks against 109 military installations and cities in South Vietnam. Strong attacks were made against Bien Hoa airbase and in Binh Duong and Hau Nghia Provinces with moderately heavy fighting persisting around Saigon for several days. Heavy contact occurs also near Dong Ha in the northern portion of I Corps.

Operation ALLEN BROOK begins. The U.S. Marine Corps conducts an operation west of Hoi An in

	southern Quang Nam Province.		
May 7	The Mobile Riverine Force conducts an operation against the Viet Cong MR 2 headquarters in Giao Duc District of Dinh Tuong Province through 11 May 1968.	May 28	The South Vietnamese House of Representatives passes a general mobilization bill making all males between 19 and 38 eligible for the draft.
	The U.S. State Department announces that the U.S. Delegation to the Paris talks with North Vietnam will be headed by Averell Harriman.	May 30	Allied troops repel a Viet Cong assault on Dalat.
May 10	United States and North Vietnamese delegates meet in Paris for the first time and agree to begin substantive sessions on 13 May 1968.		In the first confirmed use of 100 mm guns in II Corps, the enemy fires 13 rounds into Fire Support Base 29, 10 miles west of Dak To in Kontum Province.
May 12	After two days of enemy attacks, U.S. and CIDG troop and Vietnamese dependents are extracted by air from the Kham Duc Special Forces camp in western Quang Tin Province.	June 1	The Australian 4th Battalion replaces the 2nd in the Royal Australian Regiment operating from Nui Dat in Phuoc Tuy Province.
May 13	At the first substantive session of the Paris negotiations, Xuan Thuy of North Vietnam and Averell Harriman of the United States present the positions of their respective countries.	June 3	A second AUTODIN switch is activated at Nha Trang.
May 14	The U.S. 25th Infantry Division signal site, atop Nui Ba Den near Tay Ninh, comes under coordinated rocket, mortar, and ground assault. The enemy penetrates the perimeter and severely damages the radio relay equipment and facilities.	June 11	General Westmoreland turns over command of MACV to General Abrams.
May 17	Operation JEB STUART III begins. The U.S. 1st Cavalry Division conducts a continuing operation along the border of Quang Tri and Thua Thien Provinces.	June 18	U.N. Secretary U Thant predicts that the Paris negotiations will remain deadlocked for a long time because each side still seeks a military victory.
	Operation NEVADA FALE begins. The U.S. 101st Airborne Division conducts a rice-denial operation in central Thua Thien Province.	June 19	President Thieu signs South Vietnam's first general mobilization law.
May 18	Premier Nguyen Van Loc and the South Vietnamese Cabinet resign at the request of President Thieu who asks Tran Van Huong to form a new government.		Just north of Saigon, 141 members (about half North Vietnamese) of the VC Quyet Thang Regiment surrender to two GVN Marine battalions in the largest single capitulation of the war.
	Operation MAHMELUKE THAUSA begins. The U.S. 1st Marine Division conducts a continuing operation in central Quang Nam Province.	June 20	The U.S. command in Saigon reports that U.S. combat deaths in Vietnam have passed 25,000.
May 19	Several Viet Cong rocket and mortar shells strike the center of Saigon.	June 21	A royal proclamation promulgates a new constitution in Thailand.
May 22	Five 85 mm guns are captured by the 3rd Brigade R2nd Airborne Division southwest of Hue. This is the first time such large weapons have been captured in South Vietnam.	June 26	Negotiators for the United States and North Vietnam report no progress at their tenth session in Paris.
May 27	At the fifth negotiating session in Paris, North Vietnam's Xuan Thuy asserts that "any Vietnamese has the right to fight" the United States "on any portion of his dear country's territory".	June 27	The U.S. command in Saigon announces that the combat base and airfield at Khe Sanh are being abandoned. Henceforth, the Khe Sanh plateau is to be defended by mobile operations from the new base at Ca Lu constructed during PEGASUS.
		June 28	At a news conference in Paris, Lao Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma calls for withdrawal of North Vietnamese troops from Laos before the bombing of North Vietnam is halted. Given that a cease-fire can be arranged, Phouma says an expanded XCC should be provided to enforce the neutrality pledged in 1954 and 1962.
		July 3	Responding to questions, the U.S. State Department says that the deployment of the Thai division to Vietnam will be carried out as scheduled before President Johnson's announcement of 31 March 1968.

July 4 President Thieu and Vice-President Ky appear together at a ceremony inaugurating the People's Alliance for Social Revolution, a union of political groups supporting the two men, which is intended to become the government party in a two-party South Vietnam.

July 9 The U.S. 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division begins an operation to clear Vinh Loc island, 15 miles east of Hue in Thua Thien Province. Little contact and no organized resistance is encountered and the operation terminates on 15 July 1968.

July 10 The Mobile Riverine Force begins operations to locate and destroy enemy forces and equipment in Huong My and Mo Cay Districts of Kien Hoa Province. The U.S. 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry and the 4th Battalion, 47th Infantry using boats and helicopters search for the enemy through 13 July 1968.

July 12 A five-man military tribunal in South Vietnam tries and sentences to death in absentia ten members of the Alliance of National, Democratic, and Peace Forces.

July 17 North Vietnamese and U.S. negotiators hold their 13th meeting in Paris without any sign of progress.

July 18 United States B-52 aircraft are used for the first time against suspected missile sites in North Vietnam.

North Vietnam releases three U.S. airmen shot down over North Vietnam.

July 20 Following their two-day meeting in Honolulu, Presidents Johnson and Thieu note that there has been no response by North Vietnam to the bombing limitation.

July 22 Upon his return to Saigon from the Honolulu meeting, President Thieu says that during 1969 the United States will provide M-16 rifles for all South Vietnamese forces from regulars down to paramilitary units.

July 26 The U.S. airbase at Udorn, Thailand is attacked by about 20 guerrillas.

July 28 While working on the entrance channel to the Dong Tam base, the 12-inch pipeline cutterhead dredge Thu Bon I is sunk by sappers.

July 30 The Mobile Riverine Force begins offensive operations in coordination with the 5th Battalion, Vietnamese Marine Corps in the Vi Thanh area of Chuong Thien Province. The U.S. 2nd Brigade, 9th Division bases on Vi Thanh while the MRF moves into

the U Minh forest about 50 miles southwest of Can Tho along with U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force units and SVN Marine Corps and Army forces. This is the first major Allied ground penetration of the U Minh area in over ten years.

July 31 At his news conference, President Johnson says that "The number of North Vietnamese soldiers now entering Vietnam at the end of the Ho Chi Minh trail is now greater than at any other time in this war. We estimated that 30,000 or more North Vietnamese soldiers entered South Vietnam in July".

July The U.S. 1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Division arrives in Vietnam and is assigned to the XXIV Corps tactical area.

The PHOENIX (PHUONG HOANG) program is established by Vietnamese Presidential decree as a coordinated intelligence and operational effort designed to eradicate the Viet Cong infrastructure.

August 1 General George S. Brown becomes Commander, 7th Air Force replacing General Nomyer.

The U.S. command in Saigon reports the arrival of 4,500 additional troops, bringing the total to 541,700 men.

August 2 An American newsman is told by an authoritative North Vietnamese source (later revealed to be Colonel Ha Van La of the Paris delegation) that the reduced level of military activity in South Vietnam since May 1968 constitutes a deescalation of the war on the Communist side, which the United States has ignored.

August 4 Allied forces begin a sweep of the A Shau valley.

August 6 The Republican National Convention adopts a platform promising a strategy in Vietnam "permitting a progressive de-Americanization of the war" and aimed at inducing "the South Vietnamese to assume increased responsibility--".

August 9 The North Vietnamese return to their old position that the United States has no right to expect any deescalation in return for ending the bombing, saying the press has made too much of Colonel La's statement while not disavowing its content.

August 12 The Provisional Corps, Vietnam is designated XXIV Corps and, under the operational control of III MAF, assumes command of all ground tactical units in northern I Corps.

August 15 Speaking at a news conference, Defense Secretary Clifford speaks on conditions for halting the bombing of North Vietnam saying that all that the North Vietnamese have to do is get word to "he

United States that they have reduced the level of combat and will continue to do so. He also says that the U.S. intends to limit its troop strength in South Vietnam to the previously announced ceiling of 549,500.

Heavy fighting occurs as South Vietnamese and U.S. troops pursue a North Vietnamese battalion into the DMZ.

August 18 The heaviest fighting in three months breaks out as North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops launch 19 separate attacks throughout South Vietnam.

August 19 President Johnson rules out any change in U.S. Vietnam policy until Hanoi makes a serious move.

August 22 Communist rocket fire strikes Saigon for the first time in two months.

August 27 President Thieu states that recent Communist attacks are aimed at influencing U.S. public opinion and particularly at the Democratic National Convention. On negotiations, he says: "We will never talk to the Front. We are willing to talk to Hanoi".

August 30 The Viet Cong announces that it has begun a new general offensive.

September 1 The first municipal elections in Bangkok in ten years are held with the opposition Democratic Party winning 22 of 24 seats.

September 2 At a National Day reception at North Vietnam's embassy in Peking, Chou Er-lai declares "the scheme of peace talks in Vietnam" to be "jointly devised by U.S. imperialism and Soviet revisionism".

September 4 Three RF companies attempt a sweep of Vinh Loc island near Hue but are pinned down by intense enemy fire. Armed helicopters from the U.S. 101st Airborne Division provide suppressive fire permitting the RF units to break contact with the Viet Cong force estimated at two reinforced companies, possibly a battalion.

September 10 Operation VINH LOC begins. The cordon operation is conducted by elements of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division, U.S. Navy units, and ARVN forces around Vinh Loc island about 15 miles east of Hue. The successful operation ends 20 September 1968 with 154 VC killed, 370 captured (including 116 members of the infrastructure) and 56 ralliers at the cost of 2 friendly troops killed and 9 wounded.

September 13 South Vietnamese and U.S. forces penetrate the DMZ to forestall an expected enemy influx.

September 14 President Thieu announces that he will ask

former Chief of State Major General Duong Van Minh to return from exile to become a presidential advisor.

The Mobile Riverine Force employs the U.S. 2nd Brigade, 9th Division in Operation HOMESTEAD, a search and destroy operation in Kien Hoa Province that encounters special boat ambush teams armed with RPG-2 and RPG-7 rocket launchers.

September 16 Allied forces repel a sustained attack on Tay Ninh city by North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces.

September 17 Two thousand U.S. Marines are airlifted into the DMZ to cut North Vietnamese supply lines.

September 18 Xuan Thuy, the chief North Vietnamese negotiator, tells the 22nd session of the Paris peace talks that a bombing halt would be a first step toward a peaceful solution to the Vietnam war.

September 25 The U.S. Secretary of Defense says that the U.S. troop level in Vietnam has not yet reached the 549,500-man ceiling but that strength is continuing to build toward that level with no intention to lower the ceiling in the foreseeable future.

September 27 Action is begun in the DMZ by 4000 U.S. Marines in an attempt to trap a North Vietnamese division.

September 30 The 900th U.S. aircraft is lost over North Vietnam.

October 10 President Thieu denies reports that his government has suppressed an attempted coup d'etat.

October 18 Patrol boats of the MRF penetrate the Cua Long River on the Ca Mau peninsula in the first of the SEA LORDS operations.

October 26 Communist troops launch their first major ground assault in a month in South Vietnam.

October 28 Under the name Operation LIBERTY CANYON, the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division begins to move from I Corps to Phuoc Vinh in III Corps. Movement of all three brigades and their combat-essential equipment is completed on 15 November 1968.

October 30 Xuan Thuy tells the 28th negotiating session in Paris that an end to the bombing "would enable the early discussion of other questions of interest to both parties so as to gradually find out a just political settlement of the Vietnam problem".

October 31 President Johnson announces that the United States will cease "all air, naval, and artillery bom-

hardment of North Vietnam" as of 8 a.m. (Washington time), 1 November 1968.

U.S. officials indicate that American forces will continue to bomb Communist supply lines in Laos and will continue reconnaissance flights over North Vietnam.

November 1 The North Vietnamese delegation at Paris announces that a meeting including representatives of the DRV, NLF, U.S. and RVN will be held in Paris, not earlier than 6 November 1968.

November 2 Operation SEARCH TURN begins. The first of the SEA LORDS barrier campaigns is a five-day U.S. and Vietnamese Navy operation to interdict the waterways and canals in Kien Giang Province along the Cambodian border and to secure the canals running between Ha Tien and Rach Gia.

President Thieu tells the South Vietnam National Assembly that his government will not attend the Paris meeting scheduled for 6 November 1968 if the NLF attends as a separate delegation.

November 3 The NLF agrees to participate in expanded peace talks.

November 5 The expanded Paris peace talks are postponed indefinitely because of South Vietnam's refusal to participate.

November 7 Prince Sihanouk says he will free 11 captured U.S. servicemen if the United States promises not to bomb Cambodian villages.

November 8 President Thieu proposes a new phase of the peace talks consisting of two delegations: the Allies headed by the RVN and including the United States, and the Communist side headed by the DRV and including the NLF. North Vietnam rejects the idea saying that a single Communist delegation is unacceptable.

November 9 South Vietnam protests the Communist shelling of populated areas since the bombing halt.

November 10 Communist forces shell U.S. Marine positions from within the DMZ.

November 13 The United States charges that North Vietnamese activity in the DMZ fails to live up to the terms of the bombing halt agreement.

November 15 The COMMANDO HUNT program begins. The dry season phase of the air interdiction campaign in Laos employing IGLOO WHITE sensor fields terminates on 30 April 1969.

November 16 Operation TRAN HUNG DAO begins. This is the second SEA LORDS barrier operation in the western Mekong

Delta.

November 26 The State Department issues a statement to clarify the U.S. position on the Paris talks and the make-up of the respective delegations. The statement says that the GVN would "take the lead" in matters of "principal concern to South Vietnam" and repeats that the United States will not impose a coalition government on South Vietnam.

November 27 South Vietnam's Foreign Minister Tran Chanh Thanh announces that the RVN will participate in the Paris peace talks since the U.S. statement of 26 November has satisfied Saigon's earlier objections.

South Vietnamese President Thieu appoints Vice-President Ky to oversee the SVN delegation to the Paris peace talks.

The U.S.S.R. and North Vietnam announce an aid agreement under which the U.S.S.R. will provide large quantities of military equipment and civilian goods.

November 30 The Royal Lao Army intelligence chief says that four North Vietnamese regiments are operating in Laos.

November The first automatic long-distance telephone switching center is completed at Bang Pla, near Bangkok, Thailand.

December 2 The GVN announces that it will observe a 24-hour truce at Christmas. The U.S. Command states that U.S. forces will observe the cease-fire.

December 3 The Royal Lao Army chief of staff announces that Communist Chinese troops have entered Laos.

December 6 Operation GIANT SLINGSHOT begins. The third SEA LORDS barrier is established along the Vam Co Tay and Vam Co Dong rivers to interdict enemy routes leading from the Cambodian Parrot's Beak into the III Corps area of South Vietnam.

December 8 Vice-President Ky arrives in Paris to lead the South Vietnamese negotiating team.

December 11 The U.S. Mission in Saigon announces that 73.3 percent of the South Vietnamese population are living in relatively secure areas, 13.3 percent in contested areas, and the remaining 13.4 percent under VC control.

December 16 The Kings of Thailand and Laos meet on the Mekong River to inaugurate an electric power link between the two countries.

December 18 South Vietnam's Premier Tran Van Huong says he is

virtual control of the Bolovens Plateau in southern Laos.

December 30 The U.S. command in Saigon announces the end of intensified bombing of North Vietnam after five days.

The South Vietnamese offensive in Cambodia ends after 39 days.

1972

January 3 In southern Laos, Pak Song falls to advancing Communist troops.

January 7 South Vietnamese troops are reported to have moved into northeast Cambodia for the fourth such operation in two months.

January 11 Royal Lao forces are driven from the Bolovens Plateau in southern Laos by North Vietnamese troops as the last government outpost, Ban Whik, falls.

January 13 Pres. Nixon announces that 70,000 more U.S. troops will be withdrawn from Vietnam within three months, leaving 69,000 there by May 1972.

January 14 Souvanna Phouma, Premier of Laos, states that Thai "volunteer" strength in Laos has risen to about 15 battalions and is expected to increase by another 5 or 6 by the end of the month.

January 19 A MiG-21 is shot down over North Vietnam by a U.S. aircraft, the first such occurrence since 28 March 1970.

January 21 In Laos, neutralist forces under Col. Devane Sisaspeth cut Highway 13 between Vientiane and Luang Prabang, capturing the town of Sala Phou Khoun.

January 25 In his address to the Nation, President Nixon promises that within six months of an agreement, all U.S. and allied forces will be withdrawn from Vietnam, prisoners will be exchanged, a cease-fire will be in effect throughout Indochina, and there will be a new Presidential election. He also reveals that an eight-point plan to end the war had been submitted in October 1971 to the North Vietnamese Paris delegates but subsequent negotiations have gone on without results.

January 31 North Vietnamese delegates to the Paris talks release a nine-point peace plan said to have been submitted secretly to the United States in June 1971.

February 2 In Laos, the neutralists' hold on Highway 13 is strengthened with their capture of the town of Huong Kassy.

At a new conference in Paris, Le Duc Tho elaborates on two key points of the PPG seven-point solution to the Vietnam problem, i.e., fixing a specific date for complete withdrawal of U.S. forces and the establishment of a government of national concord in South Vietnam.

February 13 Lao government forces recapture the town of Huong Kassy.

February 17 The United States ends 29 hours of intensive bombing raids against artillery positions in southern North Vietnam and the DMZ.

February 24 As the Paris peace talks resume after a one week suspension, North Vietnamese and Viet Cong delegates walk out in protest against U.S. bombing raids over North Vietnam.

February 27 South Vietnamese forces begin a drive into Cambodia to block preparations for a suspected Communist offensive.

February Thai troops are withdrawn from Vietnam.

March 6 Royal Lao troops call off their month-old offensive in the vicinity of the Plaine des Jarres.

March 10 Cambodian Premier Lon Nol (declaring himself President) seizes power as head of state following the resignation of Cheng Heng, dissolves the National Assembly, and nullifies the nearly completed constitution.

March 16 The Paris peace talks resume after a three-week interruption.

March 19 The 100th "protective reaction" strike by U.S. aircraft is carried out against North Vietnam.

March 20 In Cambodia, an 18-man cabinet is announced with Lon Nol as president and Son Ngoc Thanh as premier.

March 23 The U.S. delegate to the Paris talks, William Porter, announces that the United States is suspending the talks indefinitely.

March 24 President Lon Nol of Cambodia establishes a new committee to review the previously prepared draft constitution.

March 31 North Vietnamese forces open a major drive (the "Easter offensive") across the DMZ into South Vietnam employing three divisions supported by tanks and artillery.

April 2 South Vietnamese forces abandon the northern half of Quang Tri Province.

South Vietnamese Regional Forces at Loc Ninh are assaulted by elements of the NVA 5th and 7th Divisions.

April 5 North Vietnamese forces begin a new offensive into Binh Long Province and cut the main highway between An Loc and Saigon.

The Cambodian presidential committee submits a draft constitution.

April 6 Heavy, sustained attacks on North Vietnam are begun by U.S. aircraft and naval gunfire.

April 7 North Vietnamese forces capture Loc Ninh, a district capital in Binh Long Province.

April 10 Deep penetration raids into North Vietnam are begun by B-52 aircraft for the first time since November 1967.

April 16 Full-scale aerial attacks on North Vietnam are resumed as the Hanoi-Haiphong area is attacked by B-52 and Navy fighter-bomber aircraft.

April 18 A North Vietnamese tank assault on An Loc is repulsed as fierce fighting continues in the area.

North Vietnamese shore batteries hit the destroyer U.S.S. Buchanan in the Gulf of Tonkin.

April 19 North Vietnamese forces overrun the district capital of Hoa An in the Central Highlands and cut Highway 19 between Qui Nhon and Pleiku.

April 26 Pres. Nixon announces his intention to withdraw 20,000 more U.S. troops in the next two months despite the continuing North Vietnamese offensive.

April 30 In Cambodia, a referendum is held that approves the new republican constitution that is to go into effect on 12 May.

Communist forces in Cambodia capture Kompong Trach.

May 1 South Vietnamese forces abandon the city of Quang Tri.

Royal Lao government forces reopen Highway 13 between Vientiane and Luang Prabang.

May 4 Another indefinite suspension of the Paris peace talks is called by the U.S. and South Vietnamese delegations.

The United States orders 50 additional fighter-bombers and another aircraft carrier to Vietnam.

May 8 In a speech, Pres. Nixon says that the United States now has "a clear hard choice" in Indochina among three courses of action: immediate withdrawal, continuing attempts at negotiations, or decisive

military action. He states that the U.S. goals are to prevent a forceful imposition of a communist government in South Vietnam, to protect U.S. forces remaining there, and to obtain the release of American prisoners. He also announces that he has ordered an increase in the bombing and the mining of North Vietnamese ports.

May 10 South Vietnamese Pres. Thieu declares martial law and replaces the military commander in the Central Highlands.

May 12 The Cambodian military command reports that Communist forces have captured four positions in Takeo Province.

May 13 South Vietnamese forces begin a series of counterattacks in Quang Tri Province and the Central Highlands.

May 23 The U.S. Defense Department announces that the air war against North Vietnam has been expanded to include new targets.

May 25 North Vietnamese assault forces seize control of scattered areas of Kontum city.

May 29 Presidents Nixon and Brezhnev issue a communique in Moscow in which the U.S. view is stated that the President's May 8 proposals would be the quickest way to bring the war to an equitable conclusion.

June 4 Lon Nol is elected to a full five-year term as president of Cambodia with about 55% of the vote, 26% for In Tam, and 19% for Keo An.

June 7 North Vietnamese forces are driven out of Kontum city.

June 8 A North Vietnamese spokesman in Paris charges that U.S. aircraft had deliberately destroyed dams and dikes in North Vietnam.

June 11 The U.S. command in Saigon announces that B-52 aircraft using laser-guided bombs had destroyed a major hydroelectric plant in the vicinity of Hanoi.

June 12 The road to An Loc is cleared of enemy troops and opened to civilian traffic.

June 19 The U.S. command in Saigon reveals that over 150 U.S. aircraft have been transferred from Vietnam to Thailand.

June 27 After opposition members walked out, the South Vietnamese Senate grants Pres. Thieu authority to rule by decree for six months.

June 28 The White House names Gen. Frederick C. Weyand to be commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam, succeeding Gen. Creighton Abrams who becomes U.S. Army Chief of Staff.

South Vietnamese troops open a major drive to recapture Quang Tri Province.

June 29	At a televised news conference, Pres. Nixon says that the Paris peace talks will resume on 13 July on the assumption that North Vietnam is prepared to negotiate seriously.		in U.S. troop strength in Vietnam will bring the authorized total down to 27,000 by 1 December.
July 7	South Vietnamese military sources state that contrary to previous reports, the drive to recapture Quang Tri is stalled.	September 2	Hanoi announces that it plans to release three U.S. prisoners of war, the first to be freed since 1969.
July 13	The Paris peace talks resume after a ten-week suspension.	September 3	Elections are held in Cambodia for the lower house of the National Assembly. All 26 seats are won by the pro-government Socio-Republican party.
July 19	Presidential advisor Henry Kissinger meets privately with Le Duc Tho, chief advisor to the North Vietnamese delegation to the Paris peace talks.	September 7	South Korea announces that its 37,000 troops remaining in Vietnam will be withdrawn starting in December.
July 22	Hanoi is bombed by U.S. aircraft for the first time in a month.		Heavy fighting occurs as over 1000 Communist troops attack the district capital of Tien Phuoc near Da Nang.
July 24	Secretary General Waldheim of the United Nations says he has evidence that the United States is deliberately bombing North Vietnamese dikes.	September 8	Food riots occur in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
August 3	Saigon reports that South Vietnamese troops have retaken Fire Base Bastogne, lost a week earlier to enemy attack.	September 11	U.S. aircraft destroy the Long Bien bridge over the Red River in downtown Hanoi.
August 5	South Vietnamese Pres. Thieu issues a decree placing new restrictions on the press.	September 15	South Vietnamese troops recapture the devastated provincial capital of Quang Tri.
August 6	Heavy fighting is reported in eastern Cambodia as North Vietnamese troops attack Kompong Trabek.	September 16	North Vietnamese forces begin a new offensive in southern Quang Ngai Province.
August 10	The Cambodian Government requests U.S. assistance in coping with the increasing flow of refugees from combat areas. A U.S. review team recommends that assistance be rendered through United Nations or private voluntary organizations to minimize direct U.S. involvement.	September 17	Three U.S. prisoners of war are released in Hanoi into the custody of anti-war activists.
August 12	The last U.S. combat troops leave Vietnam.		Elections are held in Cambodia for the upper house of the National Assembly. All 40 seats go to government candidates.
	The U.S. Air Force announces that it has made "probably heaviest raids ever" over North Vietnam in the previous 24 hours.	September 29	The Cambodian government announces that its troops have failed to dislodge Communist forces from Angkor.
August 16	Henry Kissinger arrives in Saigon for talks with Pres. Thieu.	October 5	Air Force F-111 aircraft return to combat after five days of tests following the mysterious disappearance of one on 28 September, their first day of action since 1968.
August 19	Communist forces capture Que Son, a district capital in Quang Nam Province in northern South Vietnam.	October 11	The French diplomatic mission's quarters in Hanoi are damaged during a U.S. raid.
August 24	North Vietnam rejects a South Vietnamese offer to repatriate 600 disabled North Vietnamese prisoners.	October 17	Preliminary peace talks between the Royal Lao government and the Pathet Lao begin in Vientiane.
August 28	The Pentagon reports that a small Chinese minesweeper has entered Haiphong harbor.		A new Cambodian Cabinet headed by Hang Thun Hak is presented to Parliament: Hak succeeds Son Ngoc Thanh who resigned on 14 October.
August 29	The White House announces that a 12,000 man reduction	October 23	U.S. presidential advisor Henry Kissinger leaves Saigon after five days of secret talks.
		October 24	Pres. Thieu, in a nationwide broadcast, says that peace terms reportedly worked out between the United States and North Vietnam and the Viet Cong are unacceptable.

October 26 Hanoi radio reports that a nine-point peace plan has been agreed between the United States and North Vietnam; in Washington, Kissinger tells a news conference that peace in Indochina is "at hand"; in Paris, North Vietnamese and Viet Cong negotiators demand that the agreement be signed by October 31.

The military command in Saigon reports that Communist forces have initiated the largest number of assaults throughout the country of any 24-hour period since the 1968 Tet offensive.

October 27 Defense Secretary Laird confirms that U.S. bombing of North Vietnam north of the 20th parallel has been halted.

November 1 In a National Day speech, Pres. Thieu denounces the draft cease-fire agreement as "a surrender of the South Vietnamese people to the Communists".

November 2 In a nationally televised political speech, Pres. Nixon says that a Vietnamese cease-fire would be signed only "when the agreement is right".

November 3 United States military sources disclose that additional North Vietnamese reinforcements are moving into South Vietnam.

November 4 The chief North Vietnamese negotiator at the Paris peace talks, Xuan Thuy, indicates willingness for another cease-fire negotiation session provided the United States is "serious".

November 20 A new round of private peace talks opens in Paris between Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho.

November 25 The Kissinger-Tho talks in Paris end but are scheduled to resume on 4 December.

November 30 North Vietnamese charges that the United States has deadlocked the Paris peace talks by demanding basic changes in the draft agreed to in October.

December 4 Private peace talks resume in Paris between Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho.

December 12 South Vietnamese Pres. Thieu proposes a Christmas truce to be maintained indefinitely while peace talks continue.

December 13 The Kissinger-Tho private peace talks in Paris are broken off.

December 15 In the heaviest raid of the war to date, U.S. B-52 aircraft mount a 16-mission attack on supply bases in North Vietnam.

A new interim constitution is published in Thailand.

December 16 Henry Kissinger says that the cease-fire negotiations are stalled because North Vietnam reneged on an earlier agreement but he also admits that South Vietnamese objections are serious; in Paris, the Viet Cong accuse the United States of "schemes to revise the contents" of the October peace agreement.

December 18 The White House announces that Pres. Nixon personally orders the resumption of full-scale bombing and mining in North Vietnam "until such time as a settlement is arrived at".

December 20 Pope Paul VI deplores the "sudden renewal of harsh and heavy military operations" in Vietnam.

December 22 The White House says that Pres. Nixon is "determined" to continue heavy bombing of North Vietnam until it decides to resume negotiations "in a constructive attitude".

December 24 North Vietnamese chief negotiator Xuan Thuy says in a television interview that his country would not resume negotiations with the United States as long as bombing north of the 20th parallel continued.

December 26 The U.S. command in Saigon announces the resumption of bombing of North Vietnam after an 36-hour Christmas pause; in Washington, a Defense Dept. spokesman says bomber losses have been running about 2-3%.

December 28 The U.S. command in Saigon announces the heaviest weekly U.S. casualties in nearly two years: 7 killed, 73 missing, 29 wounded and, since 18 December, 14 B-52 aircraft lost.

December 30 The White House announces that Pres. Nixon has ordered a halt in bombing of North Vietnam north of the 20th parallel and that private peace talks would resume in Paris on 8 January 1973.

December The first U.S. grant (\$50,000) for refugee assistance in Cambodia is made to the International Red Cross (ICRC). Subsequently, additional larger grants are made to ICRC, the Catholic Relief Services, and to CARE.

1973

January 6 Hanoi radio announces that Premier Phan Van Dong has ordered a national emergency to cope with the effects of heavy U.S. bombing in December 1972.

January 10 Thai Prime Minister Thanon Kittikachorn announces that the United States would keep its bases in Thailand after a Vietnam cease-fire.