

UNREPS

On 9 November 1968 we received a call for help from PCF #70 and a hurried mission of mercy began . . .



### THE PCF-70 INCIDENT

SIX OWASCO CREWMEN WERE CITED FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE AS A RESULT OF DIRECT ACTION WITH THE ENEMY, WHILE THE SHIP WAS PATROLLING MARKET TIME AREA TWO ON WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 1968.

THE SIX MEN HAD JUST COMPLETED A MEDCAP MISSION ASHORE IN PHOUO THAN, A COASTAL REFUGEE VILLAGE LOCATED ABOUT 17 MILES NORTHEAST OF QUANG NGAI CITY ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE MUI BATANGAN PENINSULA. EMBARKED IN NAVY SWIFT BOAT PCF-75 FOR RENDEZVOUS WITH THE OWASCO, THE BOAT, IN COMPANY WITH THE ILL-FATED PCF-70, RECEIVED HOSTILE GUNFIRE DURING WHICH PCF-70 PERSONNEL WERE HIT FROM A SURPRISE RECOLLESS RIFLE AMBUSH ON THE BEACH. TWO MEN WERE KILLED AND FOUR OTHERS WOUNDED.

LCDR SPOTT USPHS (MEDICAL OFFICER) AND SN MAISON (CORPSMAN ASSISTANT) RENDERED MEDICAL AID IN THE MIDST OF THE ENEMY ATTACK. FOUR OTHER OWASCO MEN, LTJG MACK, BM2 SCHEYER, DC3 BANE, EM3 SWITLIK ALL ASSISTED IN RESCUE AND SALVAGE OPERATIONS TO THE BATTLE DAMAGED NAVY CRAFT.

FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT UNDER FIRE, DOCTOR SPOTT AND SEAMAN MAISON RECEIVED NAVY COMMENDATION MEDALS, WHILE THE OTHER FOUR MEN WERE CITED IN LETTERS OF COMMENDATION BY COMMANDER, SEVENTH FLEET.

ON 19 JUNE 1969, LTJG WARREN HUDSON USN, THE PCF-70 SKIPPER WHO WAS WOUNDED IN THE ACTION, VISITED THE OWASCO IN NEW LONDON TO EXPRESS HIS THANKS TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER.