

AREA 7

3 August 1969—

After two long weeks in the Sasebo Naval Shipyard, the SPENCER was again underway on the Market Time Barrier. Well "over the hump" with just two patrols remaining, it was business as usual. UNREPs, by now second nature, brought news from home, more chow, fuel, and ammunition.

On the night of 4 August, SPENCER received a request for assistance from the Coastal Surveillance Center. Two Navy small craft were taking on water in rough seas. The rendezvous was made, and all men were taken aboard the SPENCER, but one boat, an LSSC, had been lost at sea. One day later, assisted by a passing British merchant vessel, SPENCER made the rendezvous, and picked up the lost boat.

On 20 August, SPENCER again received a call for assistance. The USCGC POINT MARONE had been ambushed during a river operation and had sustained a rocket hit. One man was injured by shrapnel. Within three hours, rendezvous was made. While the SPENCER medics tended to the injured man, the Damage Control Department patched the listing POINT MARONE.



CDR. GOVE Pilots SPENCER During UNREP.



LSSC-1 is recovered.



DC's patch POINT MARONE after rocket hit.



"Chief TU", VNN Liaison Petty Officer.