

Neil Sheehan map collection.

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



**Geography & Map Division
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2016**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/gmd.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2004631351>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/eadgmd.gm016002>

Prepared by Ryan Moore

Finding aid encoded by the Library of Congress Geography & Map Division, 2016
Revised 2020-06

Collection Summary

Title: Neil Sheehan map collection.

Span Dates: 1964-1987

Call No.: G8020 coll .S4 Sheehan

Creator: Sheehan, Neil

Extent: 73 maps

Extent: 6 folders

Language: Collection material in English, Vietnamese, and Russian

Location: Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2004631351>

Summary: The collection consists of 72 maps, and the most unique among them is an annotated map of the Battle of Tan Canh that occurred during the U.S. drawdown from the war in 1972. The other items include a disbound atlas of South Vietnam; various maps of North and South Vietnam; and U.S. military maps of South Vietnam and Cambodia. The materials appear to have been used by Sheehan in preparation of his 1988 book, *A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam*.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Sheehan, Neil.

Vann, John Paul.

Organizations

United States. Army Map Service.

United States. Army. Engineer Battalion, 29th.

United States. Central Intelligence Agency.

United States. Defense Mapping Agency.

Subjects

Roads--Vietnam--Maps.

Places

Cambodia--Maps.

Indochina--Maps.

Kon Tum (Vietnam)--Maps.

Laos--Maps.

Thailand--Maps.

Vietnam, Southern--Maps.

Vietnam--Administrative and political divisions--Maps.

Vietnam--Maps.

Titles

Former title of the collection: Neil Sheehan papers

Former title of the collection: Vann-Sheehan Vietnam War collection

Provenance

This material with accession number 20,919 was transferred to the Geography and Map Division from the Manuscript Division in 1994.

Processing History

The collection was arranged and described by Ryan Moore in 2016.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright of Neil Sheehan map collection is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The Neil Sheehan map collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Geography & Map Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Neil Sheehan map collection, Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Cornelius Mahoney “Neil” Sheehan (1936-) is a journalist best known for his reporting on the Pentagon Papers, a secret Department of Defense study of the U.S. involvement in Vietnam. Sheehan, when working as a reporter for The New York Times in 1971, obtained the classified documents from Daniel Ellsberg, a military analyst employed by the RAND Corporation. The papers revealed that the U.S. had secretly enlarged the scale of the Vietnam War with the bombings of nearby Cambodia and Laos, and coastal raids on North Vietnam, none of which were reported in the mainstream media. The government attempted to prosecute Ellsberg but the charges were later dropped. In 2011, the Pentagon Papers were declassified and publicly released.

Sheehan published other articles and books on the Vietnam War, including the 1988 book, *A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam*. It won the Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction and the National Book Award for Nonfiction.

Date	Event
1936	Born in Holyhoke, Mass.
1958	B.A., Harvard University.
1961-1962	Night editor, Asian bureau, United Press International, Tokyo, Japan.
1962-1964	Saigon bureau chief, United Press International, Saigon, South Vietnam.
1964-1965	Metropolitan desk and general assignment reporter, New York Times.
1965	Indonesia correspondent, New York Times, Djakarta, Indonesia.
1965-1966	Vietnam correspondent, New York Times, Saigon, South Vietnam.
1966-1968	Defense Department correspondent, New York Times, Washington, D.C., bureau.
1968	White House correspondent, New York Times, Washington, D.C., bureau.
1969	National security affairs correspondent, New York Times, Washington, D.C., bureau.
1971	Bantam Books published Sheehan's investigative work the Pentagon Papers; it was reissued as <i>The Pentagon Papers as Published in the New York Times</i> (New York: Quadrangle Books. 810 pp.).
1972	Published <i>The Arnheiter Affair</i> (New York: Random House). Began leave of absence from the New York Times to write a biography of John Paul Vann.
1975	Resigned from the New York Times.

- 1988 Published *A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam* (New York: Random House) Received National Book Award.
- 1989 Awarded Pulitzer Prize.
- 1992 Published *After the War Was Over: Hanoi and Saigon* (New York: Random House).

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is organized in five series

- [Series I](#) Annotated battle maps
- [Series II](#) Annotated map of Pleiku, South Vietnam
- [Series III](#) Sheets from Atlas of Southeast Asia
- [Series IV](#) Maps of North and South Vietnam
- [Series V](#) U.S. military maps of South Vietnam and Cambodia

Description of Series

Container	Series
FOLDER 1-2	<u>Annotated maps</u> Two battle maps annotated in grease pencil.
FOLDER 3	<u>Annotated map of Pleiku, South Vietnam</u> One annotated map.
FOLDER 4	<u>Sheets from Atlas of Southeast Asia</u> Consists of 24 maps and administrative atlas of South Vietnam from 1972 to 1987.
FOLDER 5	<u>Maps of North and South Vietnam</u> Includes 14 maps of North and South Vietnam, including maps of Hanoi and Saigon published between 1964 and 1971.
FOLDER 6	<u>U.S. military maps of South Vietnam and Cambodia</u> Consists of 33 maps of Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, South Vietnam, and Indochina as a whole from 1965 to 1972 published by U.S. Army Map service, U.S. Army, 29th Engineer Battalion, Central Intelligence Agency, and Defense Mapping Agency.

Container List

Container	Contents
FOLDER 1-2	Annotated maps Two battle maps annotated in grease pencil.
FOLDER 1	Battle of Kontum 1972 1:12,500 Kontum base map Loai 909 Series Annotated with grease pencil The map was prepared for Neil Sheehan at the 23rd Division near Pleiku in 1972. Drawn by Col. R.M. Rhotenberry, a senior advisor to ARVN 23rd Division. Red lines represent North Vietnamese Army and black lines ARVN. Portion of text that accompanies map: "Sketch shows how close NVA attacking from above and below the town came to linking up and then being to wheel and overrun Division C.P."
FOLDER 2	Battle of Tan Canh 1972 Annotated with grease pencil Military grid Portion of text that accompanies map: "Tan Canh, Battle of 1972. U.S. Army map give to me by Col. Phillip Kaplan, senior advisor to ARVN 22nd, showing ARVN and NVA dispositions and other events during the final phase of battle. Drawn while I interviewed him in Binh Dinh Province, where reorganized 22nd then stationed later in 1972. Interview was at Firebase Crystal."
FOLDER 3	Annotated map of Pleiku, South Vietnam One annotated map. Pleiku Area Sparse annotations Military grid
FOLDER 4	Sheets from Atlas of Southeast Asia Consists of 24 maps and administrative atlas of South Vietnam from 1972 to 1987. North Vietnam scale 1:1,750,000 Political map atlas Indochina Ethnolinguistic Groups atlas Indochina Industry, Mining, and Electric Power atlas Cambodia 1:1,740,000 Political map atlas

Sheets from Atlas of Southeast Asia

Container

Contents

Indochina Population
atlas

Indochina Vegetation
atlas

Indochina Agriculture
atlas

Indochina Airfields
atlas

Cambodia
Political map
atlas

Cambodia Rice-Growing Areas and Population
atlas

South Vietnam Communist Administrative Divisions and Military Regions April 1973
atlas

Laos
atlas

Laos
1:1,750,000
Political map
atlas

Laos
Includes Ethnic Groups
atlas

Thailand
Central Intelligence Agency
Economic, Vegetation, Ethnic Groups, Administrative and Population
South Vietnam Population and Administrative Divisions September 1972
Azimuthal Equidistant Projection Centered on Saigon

Ho Chi Minh City 1982
1:20,000
Vietnamese, Russian, English

Hanoi 1983
Vietnamese, Russian, English

Hang Khon Vietnam
Airline Map that includes maps of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City

Ho Chi Minh
Vietnamese

Hanoi 1987
Vietnamese

South Vietnam North Sheet Major Road Network 1973

South Vietnam South Sheet Major Road Network 1973

FOLDER 5

Maps of North and South Vietnam

Includes 14 maps of North and South Vietnam, including maps of Hanoi and Saigon published between 1964 and 1971.

South Vietnam Provincial Administrative Maps October 1969 1969

Maps of North and South Vietnam

Container

Contents

South Vietnam
1:1,760,000
Central Intelligence Agency
Vietnam Demarcation Line and Demilitarized Zone
1:75,000
Indochina Area
1:1,000,000
International boundaries
Indochina Communist Logistics System " 1973
1:2,500,000
Indochina with Universal Transverse Mercator Grid 1972
1:1,750,000
Indochina Bathymetry and Areas Subject to Flooding 1970
1:3,500,000
Saigon and Vicinity 1964
Downtown and street map
Indochina Surface Configuration 1970
1:3,500,000
Indochina Administrative Divisions 1970
1:3,500,000
Indochina Precipitation and Monsson Airflow 1970
1:3,500,000
Hanoi Street Addresses 1971
1:6,090
Preliminary edition
North Vietnam 1971
1:1,750,000
North Vietnam 1965
1:1,136,000

FOLDER 6

U.S. military maps of South Vietnam and Cambodia

Consists of 33 maps of Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, South Vietnam, and Indochina as a whole from 1965 to 1972 published by U.S. Army Map service, U.S. Army, 29th Engineer Battalion, Central Intelligence Agency, and Defense Mapping Agency.

Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000
Saigon, Vietnam; Cambodia
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,001
Long Xuyen, Vietnam; Cambodia
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1967
1:250,002
Prey Veng, Cambodia
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,003

U.S. military maps of South Vietnam and Cambodia

Container

Contents

Quan Long, Vietnam
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,004
Phan-Thiet, Vietnam
Department of Defense
Sa Dec 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Vung Liem 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Truc Giang 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Duc Hue 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Tuyen Nhon 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Tan An 1970
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Duch Hoa 1969
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Vinh Thanh 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Phong My 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
My An 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Moc Hoa 1970
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. military maps of South Vietnam and Cambodia

Container

Contents

My Tho 1970
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Cao Lanh 1965
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Phong Phu 1969
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Can Tho 1969
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Khiem Ich 1969
1:50,000
Vietnam
Army Corps of Engineers
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000
An Loc Vietnam; Cambodia
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000
Khanh Hung, Vietnam
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000
Da Nang (Tourane), Vietnam
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000
Kontum, Vietnam
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000
Qui Nhon, Vietnam
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000
Nha Trang, Vietnam
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000
Hue, Vietnam
Department of Defense
Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
1:250,000

U.S. military maps of South Vietnam and Cambodia

Container	Contents
-----------	----------

	Da Lat, Vietnam
	Department of Defense
	Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
	1:250,000
	Nam Can, Vietnam
	Department of Defense
	Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1972
	1:250,000
	Chaven, Cambodia
	Department of Defense
	Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1973
	1:250,000
	Virachey, Cambodia; Vietnam
	Department of Defense
	Joint Operations Graphic (Ground) 1973
	1:250,000
	O Rang, Cambodia; Vietnam
	Department of Defense