

MITROPOL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION MAC-V 22-3-68 (AA)

Saturday 9 March 1968, the Mitropol Educational Foundation performed one of its many fund raising skydiving and parachute demonstrations, Huayin Buri, 13 miles from Bangkok, Thailand. The fund was started in 1961, when a Thai Officer and an American adviser visited a local school and seen the slumps the roof was in during a rain storm. On 4 July 1961 Operation Mitropol was begun with private and commercial donations plus parachute demonstrations from Thai and U.S. Army personnel.

Dignitaries of the State, Provinces, Town, and military officials come to view the fund raising program. The foundation isn't a official function of either the Thai or U.S. governments, but its activities are approved at the highest level to include the Prime Minister of Thailand and President Johnson.

The last to leave the plane are two people one Thai the other U.S. each carrying the flag of the other country, which is raised on flag poles after the two men reach ground. Following the two national anthems of the opening ceremonies four parachutist leave the plane at a time; these include the Army Soccer team and female military personnel. Last are the Skydivers.

Once the military soccer team is on the ground a match will be played between the local slumps and the military team. Changing between 3 and 10 both to see the game and parachute demonstration, the Mitropol Foundation gets the money to build the schools. At Saturday's meet about 10,000 people were present including MG Donald L. Mc Conn CG of U.S. Forces in Thailand, who gave a donation to the fund. To date the Foundation has acquired enough money to build a four room school house in 50 of the countries 71 provinces.