



VOL. I - No. 2

CORDS, MR 1 - XXIV CORPS - DANANG

25 September 1970

Danang, Vietnam
9 September 1970

Farewell to all CORDS personnel.

By the time this second edition of the CORDS, MR 1 Newsletter is issued, I shall be well on my way Stateside to pick up my family for onward travel to Thailand. While looking forward to this change, I also look backward to a most challenging and satisfying experience with a most unique organization, CORDS. I also leave with a fond recollection of the many associations I enjoyed here with both Americans and Vietnamese, inside and outside of CORDS.

I was fortunate to be in Vietnam during a period when substantial gains were made in the Pacification and Development Program. Credit for these gains is due first to the Vietnamese who not only have demonstrated great resilience in the face of overwhelming problems; they also have demonstrated an increasing degree of self-reliance, initiative, imagination and ingenuity. Secondly, credit is due to all those Americans and other foreign nationals who have assisted the Republic of Vietnam, both on and off the battlefield. We have learned much from those who were here before us, and we have built much on the foundations they laid.

Nevertheless, I feel that many Americans now in Vietnam have a deeper understanding of the nature of the struggle in Vietnam than most who have gone before. Many Americans also understand the Vietnamese better than was true previously. They have learned to work and live with the Vietnamese, and to stand aside and let the Vietnamese do the job when equipped to do so.

While living here, it is important that we all see the value of cultivating good relations with the Vietnamese and of being true representative of our government and country. I have noted with appreciation many of our CORDS people who have done just that. As a result they have performed better in their jobs, and have found themselves personally rewarded.

Many of us in CORDS have enjoyed a great deal of challenge, responsibility and excitement in our current assignments. Not everyone has been so

fortunate; however, all of us have had important jobs to do. Everyone has served an important role in the organization, has helped make it run and contributed to the achievements made. Our country owes much to those CORDS employees who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

I have been one of the most fortunate. I was blessed with a position which enabled me to get a fairly good overview of the program, of the organization, and of relationships with the Vietnamese Government and people. At the same time I was privileged to meet, know and work with a large cross-section of the fine hardworking staff which comprises CORDS at Regional Headquarters and in the Provinces. I am proud of this experience.

The job is not yet finished. Those of you who remain here will continue to face formidable problems and challenges. There will be further periods of uncertainty. I am confident, however, that the CORDS team in MR 1 will continue its high standard of performance in serving the interests of the United States in this area.

Good luck!

Carl R. Fritz

CARL R. FRITZ
Acting Deputy for CORDS

QUANG NAM

PSA - COL. J. M. Chism

DPSSA - Mr. E. Thieme

THE PHUNG HOANG PROGRAM IN QUE SON DISTRICT

Le Thi Cuong, who has lived in Que Son District, Quang Nam Province, for all of her 39 years, was praying fervently last week. On her makeshift altar in her small grass home, she mounted three Phung Hoang/Phoenix posters, in memory of three brothers slain by the VC. Phung Hoang, she said, could stop the enemy.

In another section of Que Son, one of I Corps most heavily VCI-infested districts (1350 of the VC leaders are estimated to operate there), a US-sponsored traveling culture/drama show took an intermission - another opportunity to spread the word to the people that Phung Hoang was a strong arm with which to fight the enemy.

Walk by a rice paddy or down a village street in Que Son, and you'll probably see a multitude of Chieu Hoi or Phung Hoang leaflets, posted to trees, wooden walls, even taped to fenders on the over-present Hondas.

These are just a few of the indications as to how the Phung Hoang/Phoenix Program, with the mission to eliminate the Viet Cong Infrastructure, is making headway into this VCI heartland, long regarded as an enemy haven. Operated by the District Intelligence and Operations Coordination Center (DIOCC).

With its primary goal as neutralization, Que Son's average of nearly 60 VCI killed, captured or rallied is one of the highest monthly totals in MR 1. Through the utilization of 300-plus, detailed dossiers on identified enemy, the DIOCC generates effective specific-targeting operations each week, to such "action areas" as RF and PF units, PRU and the US Marines.

The DIOCC is staffed by representative of the ARVN S2, S3, Revolutionary Development Cadre, Chieu Hoi, Military Security Service, Special and National Police and Vietnamese Information Service. The latter performs the always-significant job of spreading the word about Phung Hoang.

Each of these cohesive agency representatives operate a complex agent net in the district, tapping sources for data on VCI identities, locations, and activities.

At the village level, a village Intelligence and Operations Coordination Center (VIOCC), serves as the subordinate element to the DIOCC, as a channeling net for source information and coordination. Each of the villages in Que Son operates a VIOCC, frequently under the direct control of the village chief.

To quote USMC CPT Fred Maynard, "This district possesses a variety of characteristics that are advantageous to the VCI action, notably the easy escape to mountains (Que Son's western and northern border is fringed by mountains). The VCI and enemy units in the area have hundreds of intricate tunnel complexes and caves in these mountains, as well as in the adjacent hamlets in the lower elevations.

"There is no doubt that the VCI cannot succeed without the cooperation of the people. Whether forced or voluntary," said CPT. Maynard, "and I think that Que Son's PH operations in 'selling' the program to the people has been one of the DIOCC's most significant steps forward.

As one captured VCI disgruntledly analyzed the program, "You seem to know

who I am, where I go and what I do. How do you know these things? I don't understand."

Fortunately for the 54,000 people of Que Son, the DIOCC does understand.

CPT. R. L. Watson
DIOCC Coord., Que Son Dist.

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PACIFICATION PROJECT DIEN BAN DISTRICT

The month of August saw a true pacification effort come into being. Ngan Cau and Tu Cau refugee camps, Thanh Thuy (V), Dien Ban District, Quang Nam Province, were completely rebuilt.

Formerly these two hamlets, located 8 kilometers south of Marble Mountain, were the constant target of the VC. At least once a month, the VC entered the camps to proselytize, dun the villagers for food and money and burn the already inadequate housing.

In July, the two hamlets were combined and construction was started on a village school, but mid-way through the construction the VC once again dealt the villagers a severe blow by destroying 50% of the school, which had been nearing completion.

At this point, COL. Tin, the Province Chief of Quang Nam, decided to emphasize the Ngan Cau/Tu Cau project as part of the Phase II Pacification and Development Program.

His first move was to appoint CPT Lu, the Province S-2, project officer acting village chief. CPT Lu then made an appeal to all available agencies for support, including the 1st Marine Div. G-5, Hoa Hieu, 29th Civil Affairs, Province S-5, and the Dien Ban Civil Affairs Advisor. The National Police screened the populace and arrested the VC supporters

among them. The 2nd Bn 1st Mar Div assigned "H" Company to the area to provide security, and supplied the project with much of the materials used in construction. The RD team established a temporary school in a tent, to suffice until the village school could be rebuilt. The 29th Civil Affairs Company supplied material and the Dien Ban Civil Affairs advisor served as liaison on the project. Province was able to get immediate approval of requisitions for materials, and the villages themselves supplied the labor.

CPT. Lu, working with the village officials, made up a blue print for the entire village, and during the next two weeks it was implemented. The school was begun again and scheduled for completion in time to start classes at the beginning of September, a large open-air market was completed, a dispensary was started, and 173 new homes were built in time to avoid the monsoon, which would have made life miserable for the villagers.

The improved living conditions and added security have given the refugees a new lease on life, they have started a Peoples Self Defense Force Unit, so that, they too can take part in protecting their homes and possessions. And for the first time, the 2300 villagers are able to work their fields during the day, growing potatoes, peppers, and watermelons, secure in the knowledge, that through the combined efforts of the GVN and US Forces, they too have something to call their own and take pride in, and they no longer need fear the squalor of the past or the constant harassment of the VC.

MAJ. J. Harper, Jr.
Dist. Senior Adv

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QUANG TRI

PSA - LTC. E. Birk
DPSA - Mr. M. Mendez

THE ECONOMY OF QUANG TRI PROVINCE

The fortunes of the economy of Quang Tri Province are a function of the security situation. This situation has greatly improved since mid-1969. We are at a point now here in mid-1970 where the farmers are able to plant two rice crops a year instead of one. The VC continue to control the mountainous regions in the western part of the Province which are rich in timber and mineral deposits, thus effectively denying the exploitation of these resources.

The Village Self-Development Program has been instrumental in improving production in such areas as animal husbandry, fishing, poultry raising, and vegetable and rice cultivation. The increased pacification of and security in the farming areas have proved to be major factors in this increased production. Areas that were formerly isolated and VC-controlled are now secure, permitting the Return-to-Village Program to proceed at a very satisfactory rate.

Increased security in the more densely populated areas east of the mountains has allowed improvements to be made in the road system, an infrastructural component essential for the movement of foodstuffs and material from the South. The railway system has been inoperative since mid-1964. Now blown bridges are being reconstructed and repair of the railway is underway.

Air transportation does not now play as important a part as it did in the past, but it is still extensively used. Transportation by water is bearing an increased portion of the burden of the bulk shipment of commodities, with Dong Ha serving as the major operating port.

Quang Tri's economy is primarily an agrarian one. There are some small carpentry shops, weaving shops, ice plants, and other very small industries. The fishing industry has improved greatly in the past year with the purchase of additional boats, nets, and motors, largely with subsidies from the Government. The wood-cutting industry is confined to the foothills area and provides a scant livelihood.

The main agricultural products are rice and vegetables. Pork and beef raising is also extensive. With the increase in security and two crops a year assured, rice has become the chief agricultural product. Vegetable and fruit production could be extensively increased if given additional security in those areas best suited for their cultivation.

But despite the increase in production, rice still ranks first among the major imports of the Province. Other imports include condensed milk, sugar and salt. Formerly, black pepper from Cam Lo and coffee from Khe Sanh showed promise of export potential. But present lack of security in these areas precludes fulfillment for the moment.

No large power sources have been developed in Quang Tri Province. Within the cities of Dong Ha and Quang Tri, there are central electric generating plants. But these are privately owned and supply only the basic necessities for these cities. The major sources of power for small industries such as rice-milling, ice-making, and the like are small gasoline or diesel engines. Homes are heated with and food is cooked over charcoal burners using locally produced charcoal.

+		+
+++	I N M E M O R I A M	+++
+		+
+	MR. JOSEPH B. SMITH	+

+ Mr. Joseph B. Smith, Chief of the Economic Development Division, Quang Nam Province, died on Sunday, 30 August, when the vehicle he was driving hit a mine. Mr. Smith, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Smith, was born on 6 November 1942. His higher education background includes the BA in Economics and International Management. Mr. Smith served about 18 months in the US Marine Corps, in Danang, as CO of the Hawk Missile Battery and as Battalion S-4. Mr. Smith returned to Vietnam as a civilian on 16 November 1969, arriving in the IC/MR 1 on 22 November. He performed his duty as senior advisor for the Hoa Vang District until transferred to Headquarters Quang Nam Province, where he was appointed as Chief of the EDD. Recently Mr. Smith had married Marilyn Avis in Hawaii and with her took up residence in Taipei, Taiwan. Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, his father and family, who live at 725 River St., Mamaroneck, New York.

In the words of the Bible, Mr. Smith "shall be in everlasting remembrance", not only in the House of God, where he has been admitted after a righteous life, but also in the heart of everyone who knew him, because of his shining examples of a dedicated advisor, devoted Christian, and cherished friend."

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Eternal rest grant him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen.

+++++

"The souls of the just are in the hand of God..... They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was judged an affliction and their going + forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace." Wisdom 3:1,8

SALUTE TO AN ADVISOR

There is a group of people
In the foreign service
Of whom not much is said.

They do their job, no matter
How hard
Their reward more than materially paid.

They lie at night waiting
For the dawn
While listening to the rockets fall.

Day after day they go their way
Giving their best
Giving their all.

Then one day as they go
Their way
Perhaps a boom and there
Simply not.

By their friends
In the foreign service they
Will ever be forgot.

Now there was Joe Smith, a
Man among men
The best of any crowd.

Retiring, quiet, warm
And friendly
With a smile that made you proud.

To know this man was to have
A friend and to know what
a friend is for.

The job Joe chose in a
Foreign land was a job he
Had been working for.

This country he knew
For he had spent one tour
A Lieutenant in the US Marine Corps.

Then one Sunday bright and clear
In a country
Hard at war.

Two drove out in a brand
New Scout
To an island not so far.

On their way talked of
Their families, the place they lived
And the things that brought them here.

And just an hour later
On a dusty road of Go-Noi
Joe will have given his life.

I was there that day when Joe said
Those people need a lot of
Help to survive.

And with all my might I'll do
What's right as long as
I'm alive.

Then we talked of other things
Those very dear to his heart
Such as his wife now in Taipei,

Of friends we'd known of
Missions he'd flown and
Friends who had gone away.

We came to the hamlet
On the island of Go-Noi
Which had barely gotten a start.

He had worked so hard
In this war torn land
To help build these folks a home.

This collection of huts
On this barren sand was
The start of the things to come.

Now Joe came in Peace
And he lived in Peace
And he wanted Peace for all.

He worked and tried
Until that day he died
In answer to that call.

JACK NELSON
Quang Nam Province

FAMOUS CITIES

Hue, The Imperial City

A Tourist Guide: HUE, the ancient capital of Vietnam, was founded around the tenth century. The city actually became the capital in the year 1802. Situated in approximately the center of Thua Thien Province, HUE is 108 kilometers North of Danang on route QL-1, and 17,500 kilometers from Marcus, Iowa, USA. The current population is about 170,000 with a surface area of approximately 13 square kilometers. HUE city serves as the provincial headquarters of Thua Thien Province.

The construction of the Imperial City began in the third year of GIA LONG's reign (1804) and was continued by succeeding Emperors. During this period about one hundred monuments were erected. The scourge of war has destroyed most of them. Today the most important monuments and landmarks to be seen are:

The Canals: Not to be missed at any cost is the canal tributaries of the Perfume River interlacing the city with its swarm of sampans carpeting the canals; huddled together like a honeycomb providing shelter for thousands of people who in many instances spend the better part of their lives on these houseboats.

The King's Knight (Flag Tower): Vietnam's tallest and most beautiful flag tower. It stands directly in front of NGO MON or Noontime Gate. It was built in 1809.

NGO MON GATE: This gate was opened only when the Emperor himself departed from the Imperial City. Above this, is the NGU PHUNG building (five Phoenix bldgs.) The Emperor made appearances at the NGU PHUNG Building on important occasions.

THAI HOA PALACE: Thai Ho Palace (the Throne Hall) was the proper center of

the dynasty's official ceremonies and is decorated lavishly in gold and red. There are two courtyards of different levels in front of the Palace. The higher courtyard was for the higher ranking mandarins and the lower one for the lower ranking mandarins. Inside, the throne stands atop three platforms.

THE NINE DYNASTIC URNS: The Nine Dynastic Urns stood in the yard in front of the MIEU Temple, the main chapel consecrated to the worship of GIA LONG, the Dynasty founder and his successor. Each of them has a name and represents one of the Dynasty's Emperors.

DIEN THO PALACE: Dien Tho or Everlasting Longevity Place, the residence of the Queen Mothers, was built in 1803. On the east side of the Palace, there is a square pond with a rocky hill at its center, a delightful place for quiet relaxation.

THE HOLY GUNS: These cannons were cast by GIA LONG's order with all copper items taken from the TAY SON Dynasty. There are nine guns in all, consecrated to the four seasons and to the five elements.

LIM MU PAGODA: The Pagoda was built in 1601 by Lord Nguyen Hoang, Governor of Thuan Hoa in honor of an "Elderly Lady" who, in an apparition, had pointed the site of the Capital City to be built. LINH MU Pagoda is discernible from the City by the Phuoc Duyen Tower, which is 7 stories high and of octagonal construction. It was erected in 1884.

THE REDEMPTORIST CHURCH: It is the biggest church in Hue and was built by the Redemptorist Fathers in 1962. The architect who designed it was a Vietnamese Catholic Priest.

FOLK TALES

THE SILVER RIVER

On a clear night, when we look up in the sky, we see a large white band which looks like a fine silk scarf. This is the Silver River.

Chuc Nu was the most beautiful woman in the Heavenly Empire. Chuc Nu was the Divine Spinner and each morning took her spinning wheel to the banks of the Silver River where she worked to the rhythm of the silver waves. Ngau Lang was the Divine Shepherd and each day watched over his flock feeding on the green grass by the banks of the Silver River.

One day Lang came upon Nu spinning and he stopped to talk to her, and, of course, the beautiful young girl and the handsome young man fell in love. In a few days the sheep had eaten all the grass so Nu agreed to work somewhere else if Lang would move her spinning wheel. From then on they worked together and while Nu spun her fine cloth Lang told her wonderful tales.

After a while the young couple went to the Heavenly Emperor and asked his permission to marry. He gave them his blessings but told them they must continue to do their jobs. But the young people, so happy with their new life, soon forgot the warning. They picked flowers, climbed the hills and went swimming. Lang lost some of his sheep and Nu was spinning very little yarn.

The Heavenly Emperor summoned them before him and scolded them for disobeying him. He said they must be punished, and so he separated them. Lang would tend his flocks on one side of the silver River and Nu would spin on the other side. They would be separated eleven months each year, and at the start of the twelfth month a bridge of ravens would be formed across the river and they could be together for that month.

The two young people separated without a word, and without looking at one another. They were both sad. When Lang and Nu got to the places they were to occupy they both fell to the ground and began sobbing. Then their sobs turned to bitter tears and they cried until their tears were gone. But as they cried the rain fell in Vietnam; and the rain continued until Lang and Nu stopped crying. Each year after Lang and Nu separated they cry until their tears are gone, and that is why the rainy season comes to Vietnam each year at the same time.

After the Heavenly Father had punished Lang and Nu he issued a proclamation which told of the punishment and which said,

"And each year all the ravens (crows) of Vietnam shall fly to the Heavenly Empire and form a bridge. And henceforth the Silver River shall be seen by all people on earth to remind them to obey the laws of God, and the laws of man. And all people shall respect their parents."

We can still see the Silver River but today we call it the Milky Way!

CAU MUA

Lấy trời mưa xuống,
Lấy nước tôi uống,
Lấy ruộng tôi cấy,
Lấy dây bát cơm,
Lấy rơm đun bếp.

A FARMERS PRAYER AT DROUGHT

I pray the rain to pour
So I may have to drink
So that I may plow my land,
My family enough to eat
And the kitchen fire by straw be fed.

POETRY

HUE, DEM HE

Trời nóng bầm bôn đỏ.
Đèn sao khắp dễ dỏ.
Mặt trăng vàng, tròn-trên
Nấp sau nhánh phượng khô.

Ba díp cầu Trường-tiên
Dừng dầy người hóng mát;
Ngon gió Thuận-an lên,
Aó quần kêu sột-sạt.

Dừng-dình chiếc thuyền nan
Qua lại bên sông Hương...
Tiếng dòn chen tiếng hát,
Thánh-thót điệu Nam-buông.

Hai tay xách hai vịn,
Một vãi mủ le-te,
Tiếng non rao lạnh lỏi:
Chốc-chốc: "Ai ăn chè?"

HUE, ONE SUMMER NIGHT

It was hot, that summer night,
And the Citadel (Hue), in all its
splendor,
Sparkled, beneath the Heavenly light;
And the silvery rays of the yellow moon
Through the Royal Poinciana did pour.

The majestic Truong-Tien Bridge stood
there,
It's mighty spans by the many burdened;
Man in search for that breath of air
And from Thua An, the rustling wind.

There on the placid Perfume River
Were slowly rowed the Bamboo Sampans;
And from their decks like a gentle purr
The sound of music and sweet voices;
"Nam-Binh" air was o'er all.

And women's voices the stillness broke
With a shrilling, hawking of their wares;
Sweet Soup! Sweet Soup!
Who wants to eat my Sweet Soup!

Tran/cph
Travis

DON'T COMPLAIN ABOUT THE TELEPHONE SERVICE

Recently Yugoslavia's postal force held an unusual contest. The object, according to Moscow's Komsomolskaya Pravda, was to see how fast a message could be delivered between Zagreb and Lyublyana (80 miles apart). The contestants: an automobile, a telegram, a telephone and a postal pigeon. Here are the results:

The automobile was first - in one hour, 32 minutes.

The pigeon was second - in two hours, 49 minutes.

~~The telegram was third - in two hours, 50 minutes.~~

But it took six hours to get a telephone connection.

Good thing we have Curt Nelson around, right? right?

* * * * *

WANTED! WANTED!

ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER - - -

PLEASE SEND THEM TO THE NEWSLETTER COORDINATORS:

MISS MARY JUNE OR

MISS LYN BARBER

CORDS, DANANG, APO 96349

DEADLINE - 20TH OF THE MONTH

- - - - -

ARTICLES SUBMITTED THAT DO NOT APPEAR IN THE CURRENT ISSUE DUE TO SPACE LIMITATION WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

OUR MEDICAL TEAM IN ACTION - - -
as reported by Dr. Isaiah Jackson

The U.S. Medical Specialty Team, Danang, here since 1963, is a part of the Public Health Division of Region 1 and is assigned the responsibility of providing technical assistance to the Danang Medical Center. The Center is a 780 bed complex comprised of a Surgical Hospital and a Medical Hospital, each located in a different part of the city.

The Medical Center was established to provide free medical care to the public; since TET of 1968 our 1200 patients were treated daily as on in-patient basis; during 1969 there was a 1207 occupancy. A few vital statistics for 1969 are as follows:

Total Admissions	31,775
Total outpatient visits	236,690
Total war casualties	6,178
Total major operations	5,108
Total minor operations	35,872
Total X-ray examinations	22,064
Total Lab. tests for 8 mos.	19,580
Total hospital deaths from all causes	1,004
Daily average census	946

At present there are schools for assistant nurses, assistant laboratory technicians, rural midwives, and nurse anesthetists. Schools for X-ray and supply technicians have been authorized by the Ministry of Health and will be started in the very near future.

The center also has senior medical students from Hue and Saigon who spend six months on the wards. These students are referred to as interns and help to keep the hospital operational.

The Medical Team has played a very important function in developing this institution. The team at present is composed of one general surgeon, two orthopedic surgeons and a nurse anes-

thetist. The general surgeon, Dr. Pragan supervises the operation of Ward I, male surgery. He also performs other consultations and operations when requested. Dr. Fitzsimons, orthopedic surgeon, serves as consultant at this hospital, the rehabilitation center and the other hospitals in the region. Mrs. Fuchs is nurse anesthetist whose duties are to train and supervise the anesthetists. Dr. Jackson is Medical Officer-in-Charge and consultant in Orthopedics.

The primary duties are serving as advisor to the medicine chief on all duties concerning the functional operation, development and training at the Medical Center.

In addition to helping the Vietnamese at the center, the team aids in coordinating the health efforts of the other free world forces and military facilities in the area.

Miss Mary June the regional laboratory advisor, supervises and teaches classes at the assistant laboratory school which is now in its second year.

In addition to the permanent party we have volunteer physicians under the AMA program. Currently, Dr. Zalter, cardiologist from New York is assigned here. He is training the interns in basic cardiology and serves as consultant to Dr. Quyen, the Chief of Medicine.

While progress may not be apparent to a casual visitor, we who have been here for several months are able to see progress. More operations are being performed by the Vietnamese surgeons. The medical library is being more fully utilized. A medical record room has been established. The records are being better maintained. Sanitation and cleanliness is improving.

Thanks to the efforts of Miss Jane Mady the former senior nurse advisor here

and who holds the same position in Hue, inspectional rounds by the medicine chief and chief nurses are now SOP.

The successful efforts of Miss Lillian Turner, now in Saigon and Miss Barbara Svitlik on the burn ward are reflected in the Vietnamese effort.

The assistant nurses school is continuing to function in the manner as developed by Miss Elizabeth Hale during her tours as advisor.

Miss Thelma Maw of the rehabilitation center makes daily visits to the hospital. She supervises physiotherapy for bed patients until they can be transferred to the rehabilitation center.

Many others have contributed to the effort of the medical team, however, experience has shown that it takes at least one tour to see the results. "Patience is a virtue which is desired by many but possessed by few".

CULTURAL BARRIER - as experienced by Dr. E. A. Jackson

"In surgery we use a knife handle with disposable blades. These blades come in assorted sizes each having a number i.e., 10, 15, 20.

Soon after my arrival here while performing an operation I requested a #10 knife blade. The nurse responded 'don't have Bac Si'. Upon checking the supply room there were 2,234 #10 knife blades which they refused to issue. The reason given was that they were no good because they were #10.

[Send a Copy Home]

HEALTH HINT FOR TODAY

This Is Your Life

Despite the fact that we are on hazardous duty and subject to injury or death as a result of the war, efforts should be made to maintain good health.

Statistics show that heart disease is still one of the leading causes of death. Those people who lead an inactive life are more prone to a heart attack at any age. A few minutes of physical exercise daily will be quite beneficial in improving one's health. This is more important than long hikes, or other forms of exercise once a week.

Instead of waiting for the shuttle; why not form a group and walk to the Alamo from CORPS or vice versa once a day.

If you don't like to walk why not use the swimming pool daily; get yourself a good tan and much exercise. La Falce says 20 laps a day will do it.

CHANGIE-CHANGIE

TWO DAYS AGO I WERE IN I CORPS

YESTERDAY I WERE IN MR I

THEN I ARE IN I MR,

AND TODAY I ARE IN MR 1

I DON'T KNOW WHERE I ARE!

[Send a Copy Home]

GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT DIV REPORTS:

CONGRATULATIONS to F. Van Ausdal on his "Career Conditional" appointment. Van is Chief of RD Cadre Branch in MR 1. The appointment was approved by the Civil Service Commission. Van is presently on SMA for about 30 days and his shoes are being filled by Jim Cassidy.

John Bibb, Deputy Chief, GDD, returned from SMA where he underwent surgery to repair some damage from last year's rocket attack in Quang Tri. John reports things normal in the good old USA but says the South may have to "rise again".

VSD SPURTS IN QUANG NAM

The new PSA for Quang Nam is finding it hard to realize he has left Thua Thien, because of the massive VSD (Village Self Development) activities carried out in July and August in Quang Nam under Province Chief, COL. Tin's leadership. Their team reviews in every district coupled with on-the-spot completion of paperwork and breaking of bottlenecks has pushed Quang Nam to the forefront of VSD in MR 1. Statistics will flow in later, but Quang Nam is where the action is now.

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LUCK OF THE IRISH

To be entertaining one young man
in your quarters at the time another
opens the front door with a key,
walks in, AND; then successfully
pass it off as someone else's problem.

* * * * *

Faye says she likes two at a time - life
savers that is, - - - -

GSO TIDBITS

GSO welcomed the arrival of Mrs. Idell Alvis, new Manager of the CORDS Club and Jess Diemel, Asst Manager. Now Bill Gallien can devote full time (after office hours) to Socio/Gourmet travels throughout Danang in the quest for THE place to go. Also we now have "Father" settled down and he can enter the Club without a guilty feeling.

With no mention of ages, GSO extended birthday greetings this month to Ted Wood, Gil Dietz and last but not least Luz. You all know Luz, she is the gal who is waiting for her 39th birthday to roll around so a prophesy can finally be fulfilled. Larry Kavanagh was welcomed back to the fold after a brief but pleasant sojourn with his family in Chevy Chase and Bill Gallien reluctantly broke down and left on his first SMA. Gil Dietz managed to sneak in his last few days of SMA before his departure on home leave in October. Gil did announce with regret, the closing of the Danang Branch of Tesoros (sorry about that). "Curly" Byrd announced his acquisition of an undisclosed number of shares in each of the principal breweries in the "World" as an effort to achieve some balance between income and expenditures. He went on to state that Alabama was a "Wet" state until about 20 years ago; then he started drinking.

This month's parting note: "Father" has admitted that there is one thing he likes better than chicken, its money (to buy more chicken).

* * * * *

CANDID CAMERA

A certain young lady whispering
"Motherly advise" into the ear of
a certain young Officer.

VIETNAMESE ELECTIONS

The recent Senate Election has created much interest among the American community, presumably because of the difference from any elections in the U.S. The purpose of this article is to explain the various elections held in Vietnam.

The constitution of Vietnam, adopted in April 1967, provides that the Senate (or Upper House) shall be composed of from thirty to sixty members elected by slates consisting of from one-sixth to one-third of the members. The thinking behind this provision is that these slates would include people of similar political philosophy and would result in a block vote on legislation in the National Assembly. It was determined in 1967, that there would be sixty members and the slates would contain ten names. In the election that year, there were forty-eight slates running from which six were elected.

The term of office is nominally six years with half elected every three years. The determination of which those Senators elected in 1967 would have only three year terms was by drawing lots. Thus, the 1970 election was to replace those having served the three year terms. And three slates of ten candidates each were elected from the sixteen slates campaigning.

The Lower House, on the other hand, can consist of from 100 to 200 members elected from constituencies which can be no larger than a province. Thus, each province is assured of at least one Representative. At the present time, there are 137 Representatives serving four year terms in the Lower House, which is somewhat a misnomer, since the Lower House has the final say on legislation.

Each election is set up by a separate election law which prescribes the

amount of deposit each candidate must make, the funds and materials that can be used for campaigning and the percentage of the vote a candidate must get or forfeit his deposit. In the recent Senate election, each slate was authorized 3.7 million piasters from the national treasury for campaign costs. And each slate was allowed no more than two million leaflets and 20,000 posters.

The election for President and Vice President is more typical of US elections. They run as a ticket for a four year term and can be re-elected one time. In the 1967 election for President and Vice President, there were eleven tickets participating in a very lively campaign. The winning ticket, Thieu and Ky, garnered about thirty-four percent of the vote. Next Year's election promises to be even more lively, especially if, as is now being speculated, Vice President Ky runs against President Thieu. Also, all of the seats in the Lower House will be up for grabs.

At the province and autonomous city level, councils were elected on June 21 of this year for the first time since 1965, even though the term of office is nominally three years. The Tet and May VC attacks in 1968 postponed the 1968 elections. These elections tend to draw more attention within the districts which are allocated seats on the council based upon population. In these elections, the individual personality tends to be more of a factor than political party or religion. There is more person to person campaigning.

Oddly enough, these councils are not law making bodies such as our state legislatures. Here in Viet-Nam, only the National Assembly can make laws. The province and autonomous city council

VIETNAMESE ELECTIONS (Cont'd.) are actually a part of the Executive Branch of the government. Their major decisions center about approval of budgets, various improvement projects, regulations on collection of income and management of public properties. There is pending before the National Assembly a bill to strengthen the powers and prestige of province/city councils. This accounted for the large number of candidates in this year's election. In region one, 328 candidates campaigned for the 88 seats on the various councils.

Election of the province chief, or major of autonomous cities, will take place for the first time in 1971. The constitution permits the President to appoint province chiefs and mayors during his first term. In recognition of the war situation, all province chiefs and mayors are military officers, usually lieutenant colonels but in some instances mayors are full colonels. These elections for province chiefs and mayors will contribute to making 1971 a very political year.

Districts are merely an administrative unit of the province, so there are no elected officials. The next level at which elections occur is the village. In villages, from six to twelve (depending on population) council members are elected for three year terms. The candidate having the highest number of votes becomes council chairman, the second highest becomes deputy chairman. The village council selects from its membership a person to become Village Chief who is the administrative head. He loses his vote on council thus, leaving the council with an odd number. These elections tend to draw the largest number of candidates and turnout of voters. They were reestablished in 1967 after a decade of no elections. During 1970 in region one, more than 150 villages have held elections for those whose terms had expired. Similar to provincial councils, village councils

pass on budgets, improvement projects, taxes and village properties.

At the hamlet level, even though the hamlet is but an administrative unit of the village, the hamlet chief is elected. Despite being the favorite target of the VC for abduction or assassination, the position continues to draw sufficient candidates to make most elections active.

One of the procedures that appears strange to Americans is that each voter is given a ballot for each candidate (in the 1967 Senate election, 48 ballots). He selects the ones he wants to vote for, puts it into an envelope and the envelope into the ballot box. He throws away all unused ballots. This procedure is used, instead of marking of a single ballot, due to the low education level of the masses. The symbol on the candidate's ballot many times is the only means of identification of candidates to the voter.

Another feature which continues to surprise Americans is the high percentage of voters that turn out for elections. To a degree at least, particularly in the hinterlands, this is attributable to the fact that people, whose voter cards have not been clipped indicating they have voted, are among the first to be suspected of being pro communist or at least anti-government. That elections are held on Sunday, is another factor in the large turnouts.

In all, while not as sophisticated as in the US, the elections in Vietnam, even during war conditions, are providing the Vietnamese determination to enjoy the democratic processes.

R. Mott
G D D

HOW TO GET A CHEST OF DRAWERS OR - - BEAT THE GSO

Not too long ago, there was an administrative type who worked in the boonies. One Day, one of his constituents said, "Hey, I got this chest of drawers that's fallin' apart down at my hooch. Got termites, I think."

So this administrative type went over to look at it. Sure enough, there were termites! But bail! So they took the chest out and burned it.

A few days later this AO made the long trek to the Big D. (Danang, that is!) There he presented to the kindly, but hard-nosed chief of GSO a requisition for a new chest of drawers.

"What's this?" demanded the kindly, but hard-nosed chief.

"A requisition."

"I know that! Where's the chest of drawers you're turning in for replacement?"

"I burned it."

"You what!!!"

"I burned it. It was fulla termites."

"That's no excuse. Where was the chest made?"

"How do I know?"

"Well, was it made in Hong Kong or Singapore?"

"Hong Kong, Shmong Kong! It was made in the Black Forest by elves, for all I know. "

"Don't be funny! Was it blond or brown?"

"It was a red-head!"

"Look, these things have to be recorded. You'll have to submit to me a Memorandum of Disposal stating all the circumstance surrounding this case."

"You've got to be kidding!"

"In sextuplicate," concluded the kindly but hard-nosed chief, imperturbably.

"O.K., O.K., a'reddy! I'll submit, I'll submit!" responded the AO perturbably.

And so it was that the AO trekked back to the boonies, fulminating.

He submitted the following memorandum. (Only the names have been changed to protect the innocent.)

TO: The Kindly, But Hard-Nosed Chief
CORDS/GSO/XIV Corps, Danang

FROM: An Administrative Type
CORDS/MSD
Bconyland

SUBJECT: Chest of Drawers, Demise of

Some years ago a beautiful chest of drawers was built in Hong Kong. Luu Phong Dong, the artisan who created it, was very proud. It was, in fact, one of the finest chest of drawers he had ever built.

Everyone agreed. His fellow artisans agreed grudgingly. The United States Government agreed gladly. In fact, Uncle Sam was so delighted with it, he bought it. It was allocated to USAID and thence to CORDS. Ultimately, it arrived in the Province.

For many, many months it served faithfully, holding the shirts and trousers the shorts and socks of many different Americans. They all remarked how fine

it was, how sturdily constructed, how easily its drawers slid in and out when they wished to get to their drawers.

Then it happened! Late one night the chest felt a dull pain in its bottom drawer. It thought nothing of it at the time, reasoning that it was, after all, getting along in years. And the weather was changing. Maybe rheumatism.

But as time went on, it realized the truth, horrible as it was. Termites! It tried in every way it knew to tell its master. It sprinkled his shorts liberally with sawdust. Its own lifeblood! It even put some in his shirt pockets. But the man just didn't seem to get the message.

"My God," thought the little chest. "Can't he see I'm dying!" It even wondered why its master couldn't hear the trrrch, trrrch, gnawing sound that the bad guys made late at night as they slowly but surely ate its heart out. It was plainly audible to the little chest. But its master slept through it all.

Time went by. And with each passing day the little chest grew frailer and frailer until finally it was only a shell of its former self.

Two weeks ago its master had to move. The laborers came to take the furnishings to his new quarters. As the workers scooped down and grasped the little chest's hind legs, they literally crumbled away like papier-mache. Two of its back panels fell out and the bottom drawer disintegrated in a pitiful little pile of dust.

A doctor was called immediately. He diagnosed the case as moribund and, because the little chest's disease was highly communicable the doctor prescribed that it be destroyed.

Its immolation, like Dido's took place within the hour midst gnashing of teeth

the wailing of mourners.

Sicut est mea storia dolorosa.

- - - - -

P.S. The AO got the chest of drawers he'd requested.

Eugene Fry
Quang Tri Province

* * * * *

BE KIND TO YOUR VEHICLE

There once was a girl named Marily
Who drove her Scout quite warily
Tho' Lad driving was a sin to her
A truck did run into her
And knocked the beejeebers right
out of her.

The wreckers then came to haul it away,
So GSO could fix it that day,
But on the way back
The car was hijacked -
Some dastardly sort had led it astray!

Now there is a moral to this story,
And it's the same for you as it was
for me":
Don't let your vehicle get out of
sight;
Accident it not; keep it locked up
tight
For he who has wheels will never be
sorry.

* * * * *

TO QUOTE ONE OF OUR GREAT PRESIDENTS:

"If I were to read much less to answer
All the attacks made on me,
This shop might as well be
closed for any other business.
I do the very best I know how,
the very best I can and I
Mean to keep doing so until the end.
If the end brings me out all right,
What is said against me won't amount
to anything.
If the end brings me out wrong,
Ten angels swearing I was right
would make no difference...

Abraham Lincoln "

* * * * *

DESPAIR

When nature from he does take
All the joy that nature makes,
Broken twigs and fallen leaves -
Nothing but despair he sees.

* * * * *

NOT ALL ROSY

A rose is a rose is a rose, but not
always. The plant named in honor of
William Duke of Cumberland, (who de-
feated the Scots in the Battle of
Culloden), is called Sweet William in
England; in the Highlands it is known
as Stinking Willie.

From LINK, New Delhi

* * * * *

THE VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Presents

THE BRASS QUINTET

John L. Brem - trumpet
William R. Klein - trumpet
Michael J. Hurst - French horn
William C. Hezlep - trombone
Barton Cummings - tuba

in a

CONCERT

7 o'clock Saturday Evening, October 3rd

The Auditorium

AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

38-B Doc Lap Street, Danang

* * * * *

A KEEN OBSERVER

During the recent children's festival,
an unusual sight was seen throughout
the City of Danang - the head of one
of the dragons which moved up and
down Doc Lap and Bach Dang was wearing
"BUDWEISER SHORTS".

* * * * *

[Send a copy home. Extra copies
available in RRD]

GOURMET DINING IN SAIGON

The following is a result of a conversation between your reported and our genial PsyOps Chief, John Hogan, who himself is no mean "skillet tender" in the kitchen. Asked to recount his more pleasant experiences in Saigon where eating to the pallet and not the stomach alone is uppermost - he provided the following sage advice:

Dining out in Saigon is a delightful experience if before entering one of the city's numerous gourmet restaurants you take a few financial precautions. You would be wise to withdraw your life savings, cash in most of your negotiable stock certificates or arrange for a modest three figure loan from the Credit Union. But in any case, have a large bottle of smelling salts handy when the waiter brings you the bill. When I picked up my first check in a Saigon bistro some eight months ago, I though I'd just been given a new Social Security Number.

Aside from its high cost, however, the food is great; Saigon boasts some of the Far East's outstanding restaurants which offer an international bill of fare second only to the famed cuisines of Paris, Tokyo or Rome. If it's French, Japanese, Italian, Chinese or American food you're after, you'll find the best somewhere in Saigon.

Most restaurants, of course, specialize in traditional Cantonese or Vietnamese food. One of the most agreeable is an unassuming little nook called "Cheap Charlie's" diagonally across the street from Brink's Hotel. (Incidentally, never dine at Brink's if your taste buds have been educated beyond the fourth grade). "Cheap Charlie's" is neither cheap nor is the proprietor named Charlie, but the Chinese menu offered there approaches the sensational. Start your meal with corn and crabmeat soup

or a steaming bowl of shrimp and rice noodles garnished with garlic and fresh ginger. Every dish is good, but particularly satisfying is the sweet and sour shrimp (better than the sweet and sour pork), crab claws saute and steamed perch marinated in ginger root, soy sauce and plum brandy. Lunch with a bottle of local beer will set you back about VN\$600, and that includes a platter of "Cheap Charlie's" tempting pork fried rice.

If you long for French cooking equal to that served by most two star restaurants in Paris, you should visit the "Mayfair" at 40 B Gia Long Street and "Caruso's", 125 Vo Di Nguy. The "Mayfair's" French onion soup is world renowned. Served piping hot with crusts of garlic bread dripping in semi-sharp melted cheese, it leaves little room for the main course - a tender Chateaubriand with Bearnaise sauce or a veal cutlet Cordon Bleu, both popular specialties of the house. The French onion soup - an excellent luncheon dish - is about VN\$350. At "Caruso's" you will be astonished at the variety of chilled Hors d'oeuvres. The filet of sole served with melted butter, lemon juice, and the ghost of a shadow of garlic reaches the heights of French Mediterranean gastronomy.

Votaries of the Italian table should dine at "La Dolce Vita", at 132 Tu Do in the Continental Hotel. Here, an ample plate of Spaghetti Bolognese is only \$VN 280, but with a miniature glass of Chianti the total price will more than double. "La Dolce Vita" also turns out a creditable cannelloni and a reasonable facsimile of a "Vitella alla Romana", that delectable combination of paper thin medallions of veal, Italian ham and fresh sage.

There are many other eating places in Saigon where you can count on a

satisfying meal. The American oriented "Steak House" is one; the Japanese "Fuji" at 96 Hung-Vuong Blvd., Cholon, is another. And the little known "Pizzeria Restaurant", 76 Le Thanh Ton Street, offers a wide variety of Pizza pies, as the name implies.

Also worth visiting are the dining rooms of several Saigon hotels. The ninth floor panoramic restaurant in the Caravelle Hotel is excellent. The menu is basically French-and pricey. The Embassy Hotel's Cantonese dishes at fairly reasonable cost.

Saigon is one of the better gourmet cities in the orient, but before you go out on the town, check your financial status with your banker and be prepared for cultural shock when you get the check.

* * * * *

GOURMET GUIDE

An Irish Seven Course meal consists of one large bowl of boiled potatoes and a six-Pack!

Statement made by "Beaucoup Kilo," Danang finest Chef: "I'm not serving anything myself, everything will be in the Pot - serve yourself".

* * * * *

OF DUCKS AND DRAKES

'Tis agreed that "What a person does not know will not hurt him" but; does dropping each dinner knife really means one will be kissed?

* * * * *

COTTAGE CHEESE PANCAKES

- 1 Cup Cottage Cheese
- 2 Tbsp. Vegetable Oil
- 3 Eggs
- 4 Tbsp. Flour

Beat eggs. Use fork to mash cottage cheese. Then add to beaten eggs. Sprinkle flour over mixture. Add oil. Stir.

Cook on griddle that has been lightly greased with melted butter. (Use pastry brush or paper towel to spread butter evenly on griddle). Turn once. Serve with melted butter and warm honey. (Or melted butter and your favorite syrup).

(Thanks for the recipe, Mrs. Jackson; by the way, would you be having any extra cottage cheese?)

* * * * *

OUR TRAVELING NURSES

Mary and Gilda are back,
They sure needed the sack;
They trekked afar to the Nepal Hills,
Following the advise of Bob Mills;
They went to the Himaylas on a spree,
'Cause Bob said all would be free;
After three long weeks, to their surprise;
The only thing free, the sunrise.
They rode elephants for thrills,
And they roamed the hills;
They dined at the best,
And always paid with the rest;
And before they left, a special fee
For not even the boys came free. *dl*

* * * * *

There is enough good in the worst of us
And enough bad in the best of us
That it behooves all of us
Not to talk about the rest of us.

* * * * *

ARRIVALS:

Civilian

Edwin K. Bryan - AADA, Quang Tin
Thomas E. Estrada - Return from home leave, Danang
Henry Webb - Return from home leave, Danang
Joseph Coy - Return from home leave, Quang Tri
Jeanette Isaacs - ADFC/Secretary, Danang
Robert McCandliss - Return from home leave, Thua Thien
Alvin Roman - Return from home leave, Danang
Leroy Purifoy - Replacement of Mr. Duke, Danang

Military

COL. W. Boiler, ADFC/MIL, Danang
SGT. R. William - Communications & Records, Danang
SSG. J. Foster - RD/Cadre, Danang
S5 T. Smith - APO Mail Rcom, Danang
PFC R. Baird - Communications & Records, Danang
PFC L. Schmidt - Military Personnel, Danang

DEPARTURES:

Civilian

Kenneth Jungers - HL/RTP
Carl R. Fritz - Transfer to Bangkok
David H. Duke - Direct Transfer to Laos
Eugene Chiavaroli - HL/Transfer
John Swanson - Separation

Military

COL. E. Whitehead, ADFC, Military
S5 E. Kotlarczyk, Mil Personnel
PFC R. Killens, Mil Personnel

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

PROMOTIONS - FAYE V. BELL, Records Supervisor, Danang
KENNETH H. GOVE, AADA, Quang Ngai

MERITORIOUS STEP INCREASE - Alvin Roman, AADA, Chieu Hoi, Danang

C O N F U S I O N

All Americans sun themselves to tan
All Vietnamese shade themselves.

Revlon cosmetics are best for you
Their representatives are awfully
cute, too.

OUR TRAVELING STAFF

Our people travel to all points that the law allows, and then some, Bangkok, Singapore, Australia, Indonesia, you name it and we're been there. But perhaps the one spot that "beats 'em all" is Hong Kong, the only city I know of that gabbles up its monied tourist in its many traps, pick them clean before sending them home and never gets a complaint. The city thrives on its slogan "the more you spend here the more you save! For example:

One of our quieter types returned after six days there and, WOW! He looked as if he needed three blood transfusions and a MEDEVAC. His account of the trip was a big smile and few comments. Sitting around the CORDS Club this reporter managed to pick up a few bits of our travelers conversations concerning his trip. He took 700 dollar and a shopping list. The third day in Hong Kong he called his bank and made a hasty transfer of funds. It was learned that his hotel room was \$15 a day. And his hotel bill was \$250 for 6 days. Now that is a lot of room service. The tailor frisked him for \$700 and the jewelers another \$200. The Seiko watch company is in a much better financial condition because our traveler bought - would you believe? - 8 watches. He stated that everyone is getting a Seiko watch for Christmas.

Then of course there were a few trinkets like knit suits for his wife and some camera equipment. Then there was 400 dollars that just slipped away here and there. On the subject of Hong Kong night life we just get that silly smile for an answer. Now that you are fully recovered - Welcome back to the world of the living CPT. C. Nelson and keep smiling.

* * * * *

TO OUR READERS:

With this, the second issue of the CORDS MR 1 Newsletter, your editor and Miss Faye V. Bell, Newsletter Coordinator, bid adieu to all our many readers and contributors; we DEROS in October. We have received many favorable comments on the publication particularly on its information quality relative to the CORDS activities in MR 1. The objective of the Newsletter was, and is, the dissemination of information among the CORDS teams in MR 1 as well as inform interested people in other Regions. I think we have made a good start in this direction and am confident that with the continued support of our readers and contributors, the new Newsletter staff will find putting this publication together a pleasant and rewarding experience. My thanks to Mr. A. Firfer and Mr. C. Fritz for their encouragement and support in this venture and my particular thanks to Miss Bell for taking on the job as Coordinator on a moments notice and having succeeded so well. I wish the Newsletter continued success.


C. P. LA FALCE

Each of us will DEROS in October - - - next assignment ? ? ? ? ?

!DON'T FORGET - - -

* * * * *

SEND A COPY HOME!