



VOLUME I  
1984



**1984**  
**Air America Club**  
**YEARBOOK**

## HIGH FLIGHT

*Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth  
and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;*

*Sunward I've climbed, and joined the  
tumbling mirth  
of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred  
things*

*You have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung  
high in the sunlit silence. Hovering there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
my eager craft through footless halls of air.*

*Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue  
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace*

*Where never lark, or even eagle flew.  
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod  
the high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
put out my hand, and touched the face of God.*

BATON ROUGE  
SUNDAY ADVOCATE

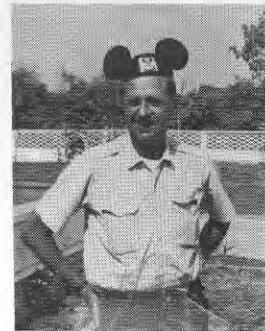
Air America's Bill Jessup  
**HE FLIRTS WITH DANGER**  
by John G. Rogers



CHARLIE WEITZ DUAL AT NOON?



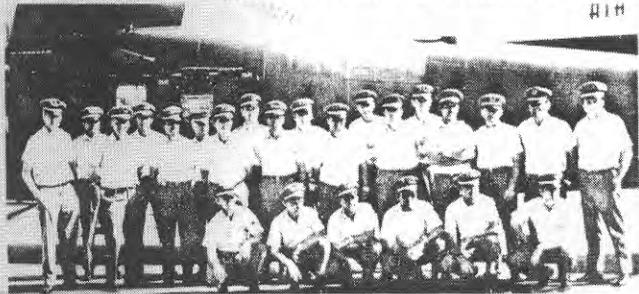
FRENCH SMITH QUILTS DRINKING AND HEADS FOR PDJ



ART WILSON "UNIFORM OF THE DAY"

AIR AMERICA'S 1,000-HR. SIKORSKY UH-34 PILOTS

PH



Shown above are: Front row, kneeling (l. to r.): Capt. H.M. Baker, Capt. T.V. Lushamb, Capt. E.L. Mun  
1971, Capt. J.J. McGulley, Capt. L.P. Egan, Capt. M.D. Kaele. Second row: Capt. J.A. McEntee, Capt.  
E.W. Knight, Capt. J.D. Paul, Capt. C.J. Abadie, Jr., Capt. L.D. Witterom, Capt. D.L. Ankersberg, Capt. A.R.  
Byrnes, Capt. B.A. Van Eren, Capt. L.M. Puffbauer, Capt. T.R. Cash, Capt. J.F. Henry. Back row: Capt.  
T. Wooley, Capt. J.R. Gram, Capt. L.A. Higgins, Capt. R.D. Davis, Capt. C.A. Weitz, Capt. O.E. Robertson,  
Capt. D.L. Fraser. Pic. was personally autographed for each pilot by Mr. Igor Sikorsky.

The CIA's Superpilots Spill the Beans



# Once Upon A Time, A Long Time Ago In A Far Away Place



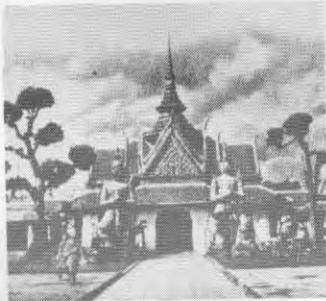




DHONBURI, THAILAND, PAGODA OF DAWN



*Grand Palace, also known as the Summer Palace of King Rama V, is the King and Queen of Thailand's residence. It is the heart of Bangkok, Thailand's capital.*



BANGKOK, THAILAND



CLASSICAL DANCE



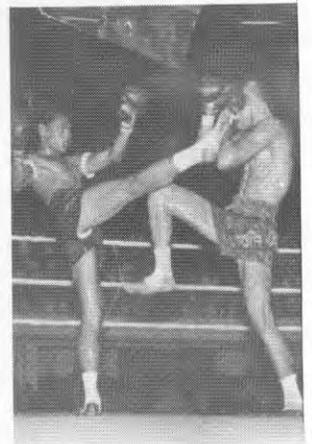
*U.S. Consul in Chiang Mai, Mr. James Montgomery, a frequent passenger on AAM's CNX-based Porter PC-6C, stands by his car near the plane.*



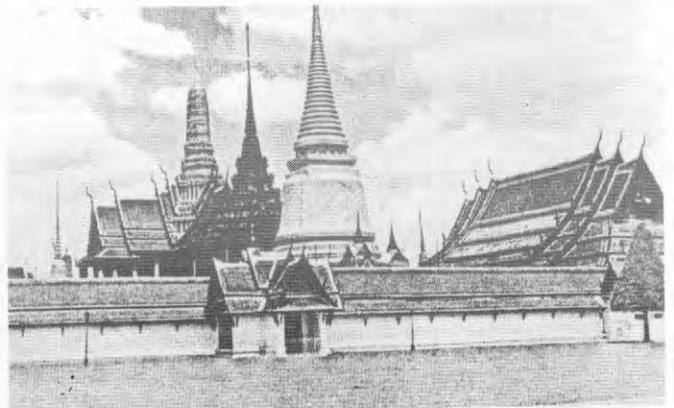
TYPICAL THAI WEDDING



*Wat Doi Suthep is a Buddhist temple, half way up Mt. Suthep. It is a 4C wing with a view of extreme fall.*



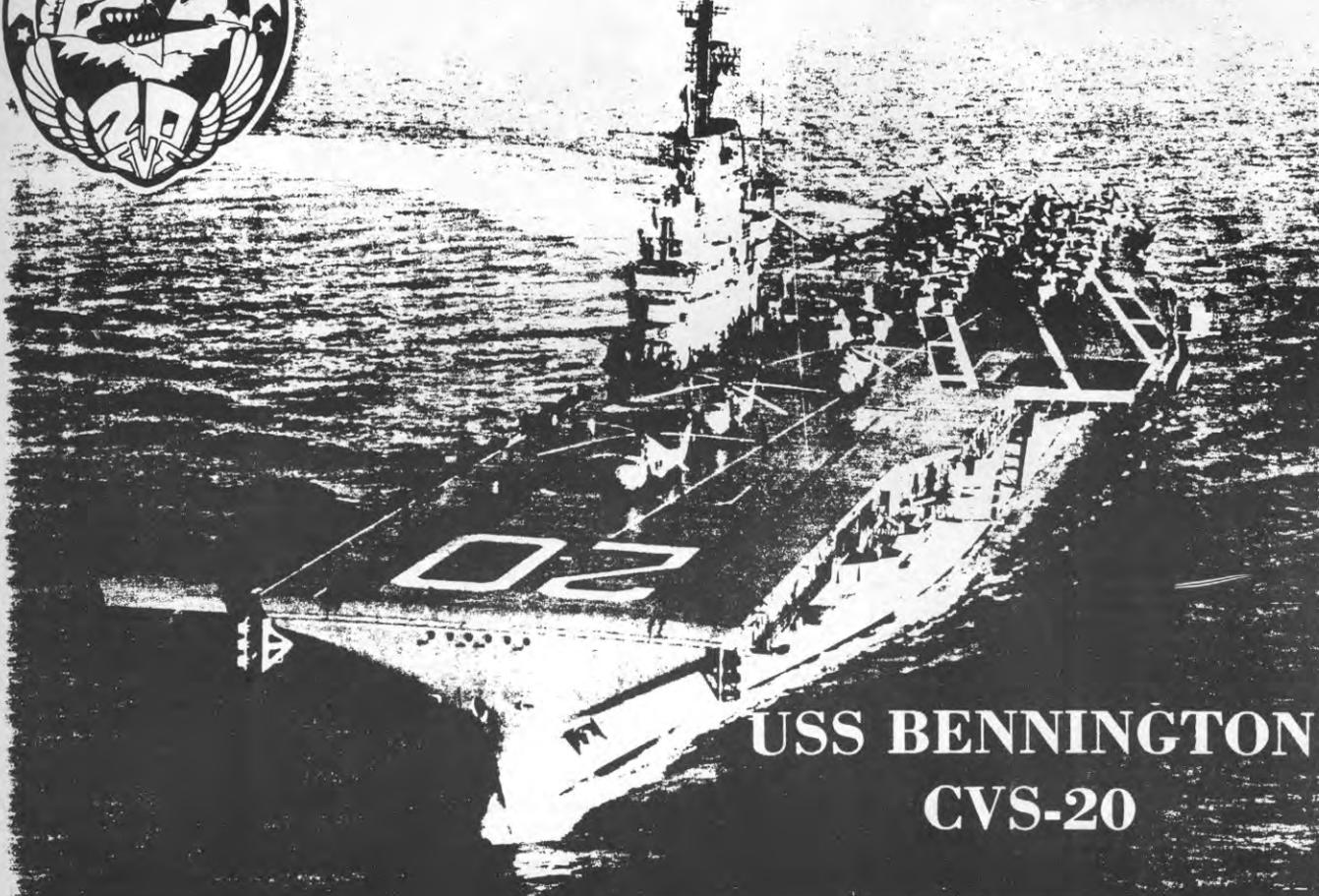
TAKE THAT!





# IN THE BEGINNING

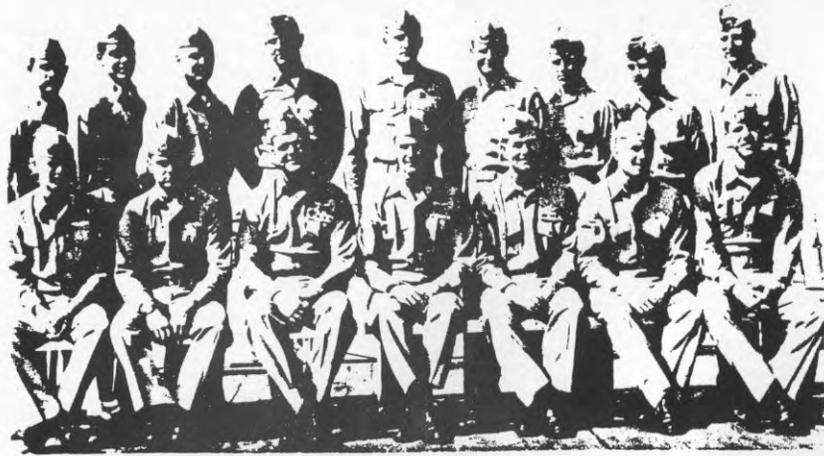
★★★1961★★★



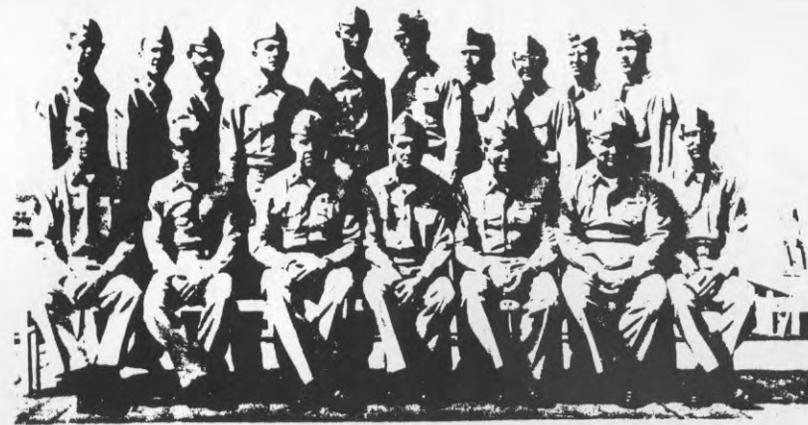
## USS BENNINGTON CVS-20



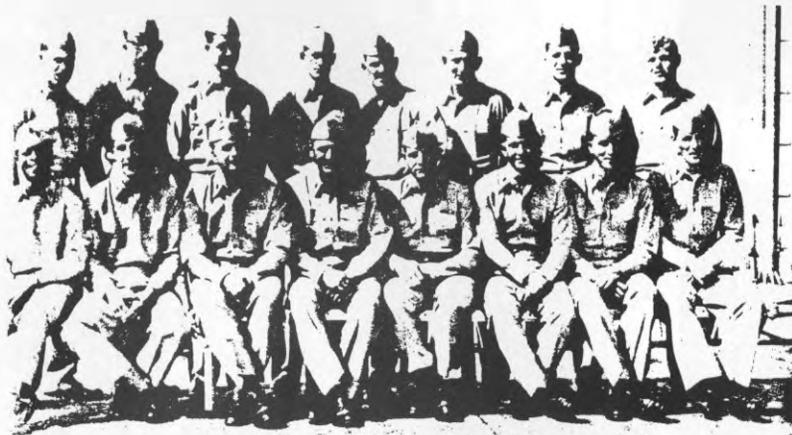
Maxine Helicopter Transport Squadron 163 was embarked aboard the USS Bennington from 1 December 1960 to 4 April 1961 to fulfill an integral part in the combat readiness of the Seventh Fleet. As the primary transport helicopter unit, HMTS 163 was charged with the transport and support of the Seventh Fleet's amphibious forces to provide essential supply and to meet any future action in the Far East.



*Sitting (L to R):* 1/LT G. E. Harbison, 1/LT B. A. Cason, MAJ M. T. Wagenhoffer, MAJ W. Sienko, CAPT M. E. Day, CAPT H. E. Sexton, 1/LT J. A. Buffington. *Standing:* CPL J. V. Sullivan, PFC C. R. Lanphear, 1/LT D. M. Bahitz, L/CPL R. C. Solomon, 1/LT E. L. Osmondson, 1/LT J. J. Rogers, 1/LT N. R. Van Leeuwen, 1/LT A. E. Therriault, SSGT J. V. Hight. *Absent:* CAPT E. W. Gilbert, GYSGT W. J. Gibson.



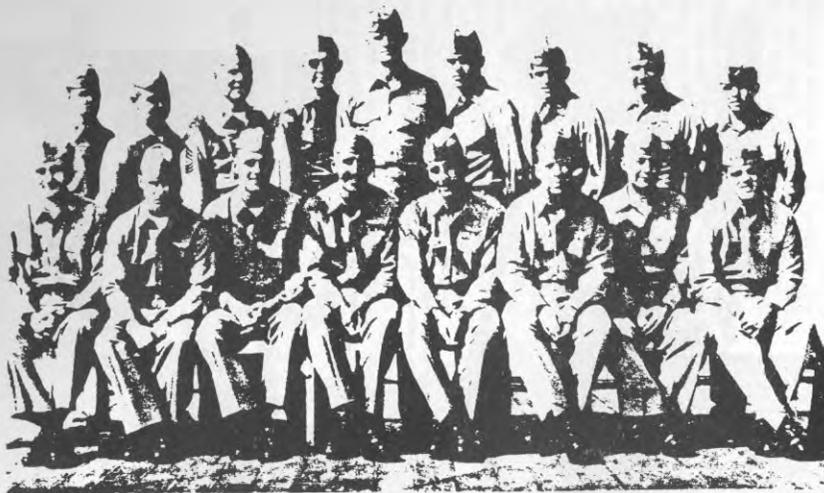
*Sitting (L to R):* SGT D. D. Stultz, CPL A. R. Rodriguez, SSGT R. E. Carroll, GYSGT T. W. Willeford, GYSGT J. B. McCracken, SSGT V. E. Boucher, SGT R. E. Ziehl. *Standing:* L. CPL D. R. Macdonald, L. CPL G. R. Mills, SGT J. L. Steele, CPL R. E. Armstrong, L. CPL A. A. Meyer, PFC W. D. Wilson, L. CPL W. J. Bereska, L. CPL L. I. Horton, CPL P. C. Stephenson, CPL T. J. Pearson. *Absent:* Sgt F. S. Waryas, L. CPL C. E. Spenser, L. CPL R. J. Ingersoll, PVT T. E. Mills.



*Sitting (L to R):* SGT J. J. Graves, SGT J. A. Nelson, SSGT A. E. Derring, GYSGT P. Nowiadomski, SGT F. D. Blakow, PFC J. E. Glavin, L. CPL L. E. Hill, L. CPL J. D. Williams. *Standing:* PFC J. A. Swosten, PFC D. D. Sandberg, L. CPL H. E. Caldwell, L. CPL S. E. Williams, CPL P. J. Carl, CPL R. E. Donnelly, L. CPL L. A. Loens, PVT B. L. Burkey. *Absent:* L. CPL T. A. Milburn, L. CPL C. A. Heschke.



*Sitting (L to R):* SGT M. Valdez, SGT R. B. Frazier, SSGT R. E. Warne, SSGT G. T. Corley, GYSGT W. A. Lambright, SGT B. Hillmandlar, SGT O. O. Chandler. *Standing:* CPL A. W. McGormack, CPL W. L. McSweeney, PFC R. L. Smith, L. CPL P. G. Jensen, CPL J. A. Farmer, CPL J. E. O'Brien, L. CPL H. M. Hutchings, L. CPL D. L. Dulon, PFC G. M. Tiner, PFC B. G. Anderson, SGT W. R. Bell, L. CPL C. Oymann. *Absent:* PFC D. Dena.



*Sitting (L to R):* 1 LT W. H. Rever, 1 LT D. M. Ferris, 1 LT J. M. Schmidt, CAPT J. L. Sadowski, CAPT F. B. Ellis, CAPT J. D. Fonburg, 1 LT A. B. Ayres, 1 LT J. I. Thomas. *Standing:* 1 CPL L. G. Shorey, 1 LT R. J. Maxwell, M SGT H. P. Freburger, 1 LT E. G. Meixner.

1 LT W. D. Kalas, 1 LT J. W. Jacoby, 1 LT A. W. Wolson, M SGT W. P. Toth, CPL R. G. Villescas. *Absent:* SSGT M. H. Friedlander, CPL G. A. Aubert, 1 CPL R. A. Ruch.

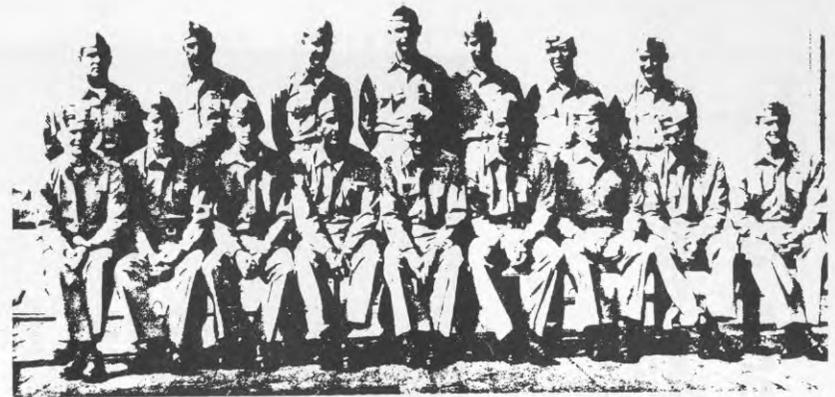


*Sitting (L to R):* 1 CPL D. W. McPherson, CPL J. P. Howell, CPL R. F. Abadio, SSGT G. A. Carey, GYSGT W. M. Parry, GYSGT J. A. Hampton, SGT W. R. Thompson, 1 CPL W. D. Gollurn. *Standing:* 1 CPL W. B.

Rutherford, PFC J. F. Wilson, 1 CPL W. L. Now, CPL H. Thornhill, 1 CPL F. M. Gillispie, 1 CPL C. F. Conroy. *Absent:* CPL R. A. Gonzales, CPL McDaniel, CPL C. E. Bryson, 1 CPL J. H. Kenworthy.

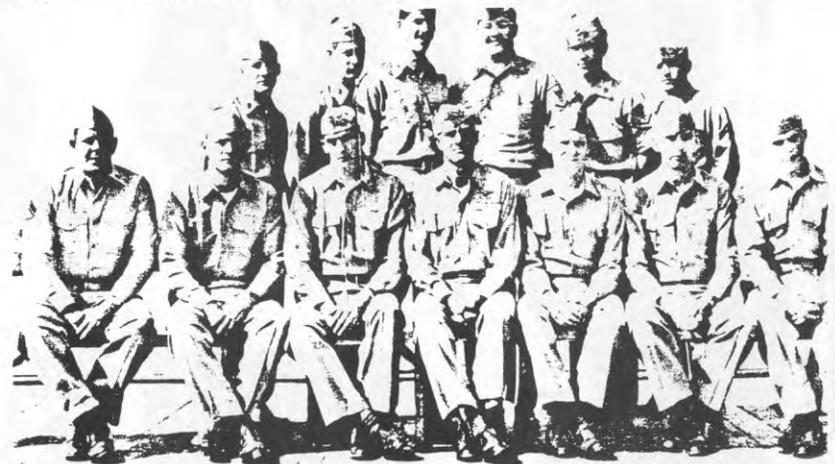
*Sitting (L to R):* CPL J. F. Stewart, SGT G. B. Locke, SGT R. D. Carvajal, GYSGT H. Z. Nance, SSGT C. Stanchfield, GYSGT C. T. Foreman, GYSGT W. O. Schultz, SGT D. L. Shaffer, PFC T. Murphy, CPL J. M. Brophy. *Standing:* 1 CPL C. E. Klopf, 1 CPL F. Williams, PFC J. Riley, PFC W. W. Moyer, CPL R. N.

Mathers, CPL D. C. Mull, 1 CPL G. Bass, 1 CPL E. N. Murphy, CPL T. R. Bachman, 1 CPL R. L. Ramos, CPL K. W. Martin, CPL J. C. Gilbert. *Absent:* 1 CPL R. C. Simpson, 1 CPL J. E. Birge, PFC R. V. Watson, PFC K. D. Lloyd.



*Sitting (L to R):* 1 LT H. H. Clark, 1 LT B. R. Schultze, CAPT L. E. Palmer, CAPT B. H. Baldwin, MAJ J. C. Dunphy, CAPT T. R. Cash, 1 LT E. N. Harwell, 1 LT B. D. Collins, 1 LT R. B. Orey. *Standing:* M SGT R. R.

Waite, M SGT G. E. St. Martin, 1 CPL S. R. Crossley, PFC P. D. Vincent, 1 CPL R. D. Kelley, GYSGT R. L. Brehm, GYSGT B. Igarita. *Absent:* M SGT C. C. Phillips.



*Sitting (L to R):* SSGT L. Howard, 1 LT E. W. Knight, 1 LT P. F. Walton, MAJ R. A. Winters, 1 LT N. S. Sk, 1 LT D. A. Kiersey, 1 LT G. D. Johnson. *Standing:* 1 CPL A. G. Crandall, M SGT F. E. Fuchs, SGT

H. W. Wain, HM3 E. E. Saint, HM3 J. Procho, CPL D. R. Bank. *Absent:* SGT M. S. DiCarosio, CPL J. C. Gollan, 1 CPL J. C. Gault, 1 LT E. Mager.





Mr. Madison standing in front of his quarters' office tent (far left) '61



Same hangars as seen from the air

Two, side-by-side Royal Thai Air Force hangars into which AAM moved in 1961, some eight months after arriving at Udorn.

UTH-1961



Starting From Scratch

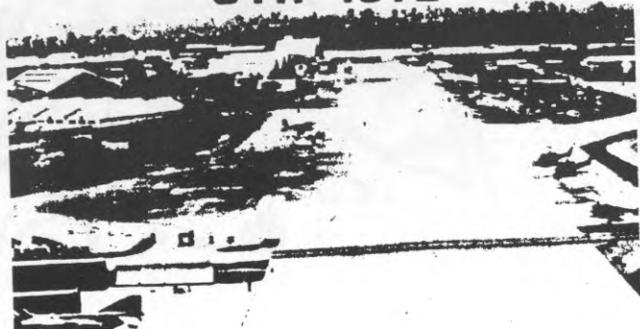


In the foreground



UTH-1972

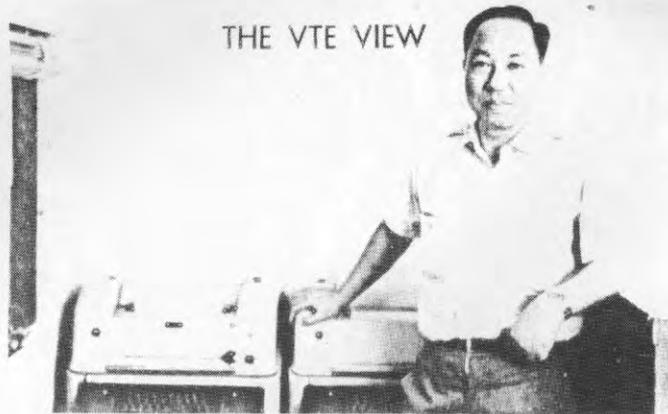
And Ending In Success



# We Sat Up BASES



## THE VTE VIEW



### VIENTIANE OPERATIONS

Mr. C. S. Wei, Weather Forecaster 1/c/VTE, stands besides weather teletype machines in his office of AAM's VTE Base.

## SAM THONG STATION

by: William C. Yarbrough,  
SZ/Sam Thong

Sam Thong, Northern Laos, one of Air America's most remote and inaccessible up-country bases, is possibly the busiest dirt-strip airfield in Southeast Asia, if not in the whole world.

The strip, whose elevation is 3,800 feet, handles an average of 125 landings and take-offs a day, seven days a week the year round, weather permitting.

Air America established this forward operating base, in support of various United States civilian aid programs, four years ago. The existing short strip was lengthened to a 2,200 foot dirt runway capable of handling Caribous and C-123s as well as helicopters, Helios and Porters.

Much of the activity in Sam Thong is related to refugee relief movements which are mounting daily as Communist troops increase their pressure in many sections of north, central and eastern Laos; Sam Thong also assists larger aircraft in air drops of various commodities to thousands of refugees in flight from enemy forces.

The base supplies up to 70,000 gallons of fuel each month to aircraft flying in the area. Operations continue from dawn to dusk throughout the year whether it is dusty or muddy — or both.

Next to a 110 bed hospital jointly operated by USAID and the Lao Government, AAM's are the most prominent facilities in Sam Thong. They include an open maintenance hangar, a Quonset hut Operations building, transient billets with 28 beds, toilets, hot water bathing facilities, a laundry plus a dining room and recreation lounge.

The village, whose name inexplicably means "Three Golds" in the language of the Meo tribesmen who live along the lonely ridges and peaks of the Annamite mountain range running down from Mongolia through China and Southeast Asia, did not exist until seven years ago. Then Major (now Lieutenant General) Vang Pao determined the location of what is now known as Sam Thong, in a narrow hidden valley high up in the mountains 77 miles north and slightly east of Vientiane.

Sam Thong is surrounded by lofty sky-piercing pinnacles and karsts which present a rugged and awesome spectacle. The rough terrain is often mist-shrouded and calls to mind ancient Chinese brush paintings of tree-clad mountains in bizarre and dreamlike shapes. One such karst is a Sam Thong landmark. Its timbered slopes rise precipitously to a height of about 500 feet; it is just southwest of the site's landing strip.

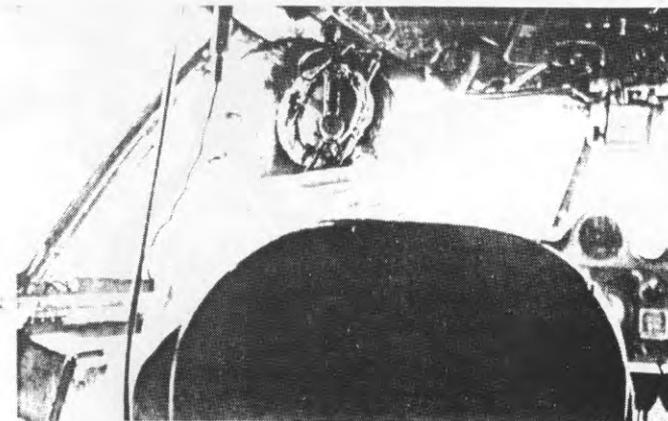


A smiling Lao mountaineer, beret dropped jauntily over his right ear, seems pleased to have his picture taken by the right main landing gear of an Air America Caribou. The aircraft had just landed at his village, Phou Kong, which is approximately 135 statute miles northwest of Vientiane, just inside the Thai-Lao border. Airstrip data: elevation — 3,800 ft.; length — 1,300 ft.; width — 50 ft. surface — grass/dirt.



### VIENTIANE ACCOUNTING

Miss Khing N-geune Singaraj, Lao Clerk II, Accounting, poses prettily on lawn outside of AAM's Administration Building of Vientiane.

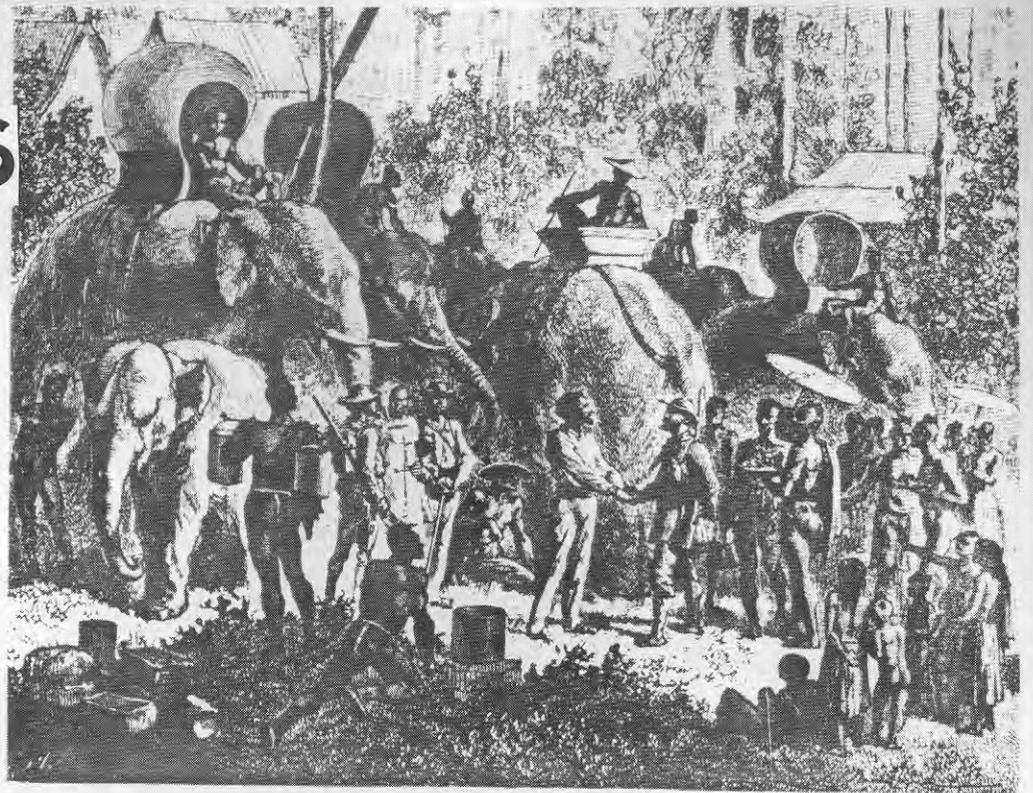


### VIENTIANE FLYING DEPARTMENT

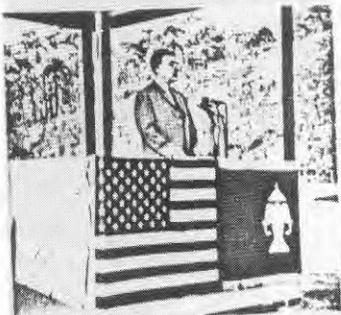
Gordon V. Smith, Captain, C-46/VTE, searching for a rice Drop Zone over Northern Laos.



# ENVOYS



Rencontre de Louis Delaporte, marin et explorateur français, et de Doudart de Lagrée, commandant la mission d'exploration du Mékong, à Khemmarat en 1867. Dessin de E. Bayard, d'après une aquarelle de L. Delaporte.



1. Ambassador Godley addresses audience.



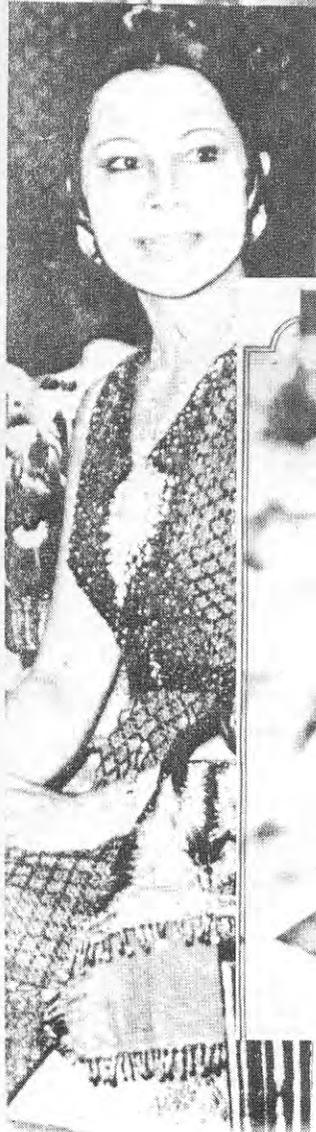
2. His Majesty and Ambassador Godley shake hands.



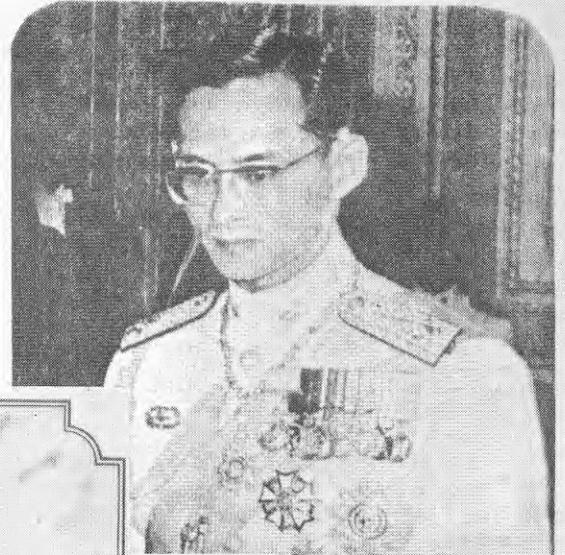
... Chief of the Support Branch, USAID/ (United States Agency for International Development) ... Mr. James A. Cunningham, Air America ... Mr. Deagle ...

His Royal Highness Tiao (which is Lao for Prince) Sisouphonouvong (2) are awarding the King's award to Mr. Bern Douglas (2).





# LONG LIVE THE KING

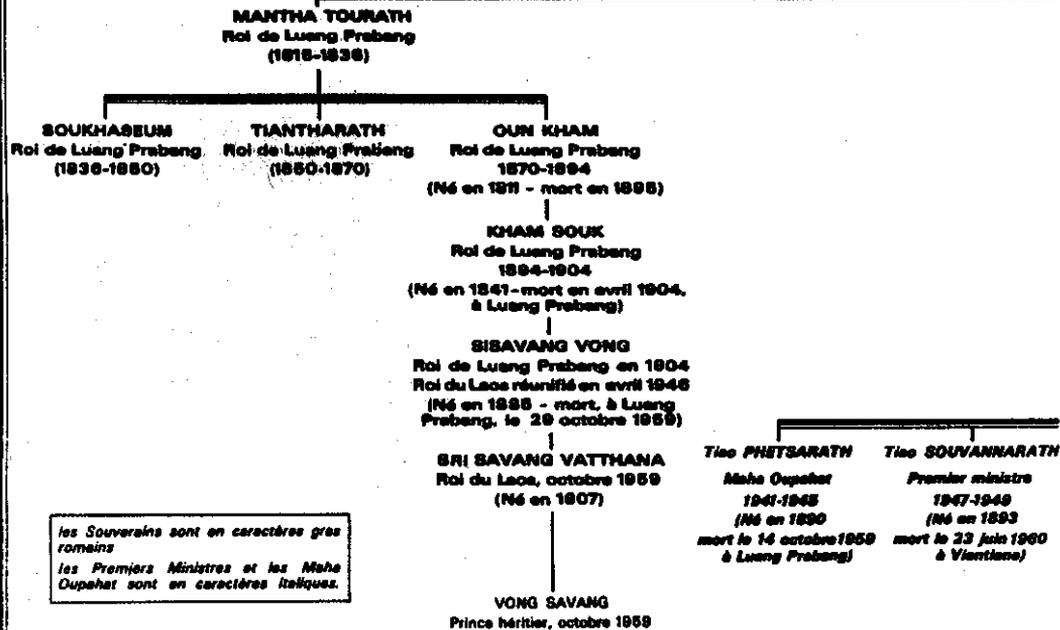


## THE KING & QUEEN THAILAND



# LA FAMILLE ROYALE DU LAOS

**KINGKITSARATH**  
Premier roi de  
Luang Prabang  
(1715-1722)  
|  
**ANOUROUTH**  
Roi de Luang Prabang  
(1791-1815)



*les Souverains sont en caractères gras romains  
les Premiers Ministres et les Maha  
Oupahat sont en caractères italiques.*

Dernier roi du Lane Xang  
(1654-1712)

Tiao **RATSABOUT**  
(n'a pas régné)

**ONG LO**  
Premier roi de Vientiane  
(1722-1797)

**CHAO ANOU**  
Dernier roi de Vientiane  
(1804-1828)

1828 : annexion du royaume  
de Vientiane par le Siam

**NOKABAT**  
Premier roi de Cham  
(1713-1737)

En 1830, ce royaume a  
à peu été absorbé par le

**OUN KEO**  
Maha Oupahat (vice roi)

**SOUVANNA PHOUMA**  
Maha Oupahat  
(Tué le 10 juin 1887 pendant  
le sac de Luang Prabang)

**SOUN KHONG**  
Maha Oupahat  
(Mort le 28 juillet 1920  
à Luang Prabang)

**KHAM SOUK**  
"Roi" de Champasak  
(1863-1893)

Tiao **NHOUY**  
Administre le Champasak  
l'autorité française

Tiao **KINDAVONG**  
Ministre principal 1948-1947  
(Né en 1900 - mort le 30 mars  
1951 à Paris)

Tiao **SOUVANNA PHOUMA**  
Premier ministre  
1951-1954  
1955-1958  
Août-décembre 1959  
et depuis 1962  
(Né en 1901)

Tiao **SOUPHANOUVONG**  
Chef du mouvement  
Nao Lao Haksat  
Actuellement vice-président du  
gouvernement provisoire d'Union  
Nationale, mais en dissidence à Seng Neua  
(Né en 1912)

Prince **BOUN OU**  
ou **CHAMPASSA**  
Premier ministre  
(Né en 1911)  
1948-1950  
1960-1962

# THE KING & QUEEN LAOS



S.M. Sri Savang Vatthana, roi du Laos.



1. The Queen of Nam Ton followed by lady-in-waiting.



2. The Queen accepts offerings from her subjects.



Loyal Lao subjects await their Queen.



Colorful Meo tribeswomen await her Majesty.



5. Young Meo Miss sports silver necklaces.



7. Her Majesty chats with a Meo tribeswoman.



9. P.M. Souvanna Phouma (l.) and U.S. Ambassador Godley (r.)



6. The Queen inspects a Meo tribeswoman's handdress.



8. Their Majesties listen to dedication speech.



10. Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma addresses audience.



S. A. le prince Souvanna Phouma, Président du Conseil des ministres du Laos. (Ph. Vandyk, Londres.)



Avant de clôture de l'Assemblée nationale, le 8 septembre 1967, sous la présidence de S.M. le Roi, au premier plan, S. I.R. l'odg. Karong

## A House Divided



Prince Souphanouvong rules Pathet Lao from office in mountain cavern.



En bout de page S.A.R. le prince héritier Yong Savang

## Lucky Pilot Wins Race With Foe; Is Picked Up

By JACK FOISIE  
News-Journal Gannett Service

LONG CHENG, Laos — Jim Russell is one lucky fellow. He is 49 years old and beefy but he outran North Vietnamese soldiers for two miles Thursday through Lao jungle and was lifted to safety by a fellow Air America pilot.

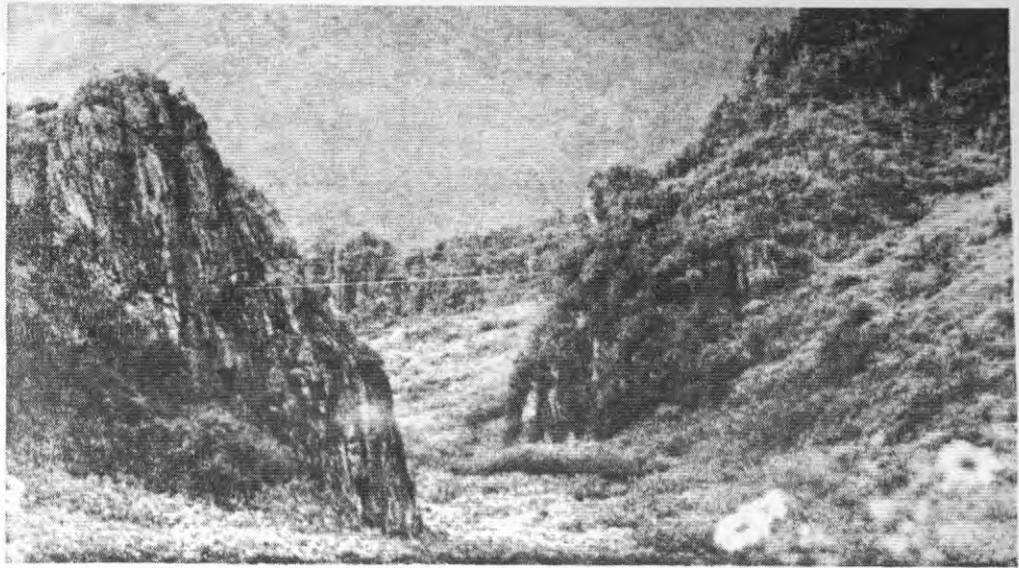
James W. Russell is a seven-year veteran of the Indochina war. He makes about \$40,000 a year for doing what almost caused his death Thursday.

"It was one of those bad days, maybe the worst."

Authorized by his Air America bosses to talk about it, Russell related how his small "porter" transport plane had been destroyed by mortar fire after landing on a remote dirt strip 100 miles northeast of the Laotian capital of Vientiane. He and five Laotians who were his "customers" ran through mortar and rifle fire for more than an hour.

"They set a trap to catch an American pilot on the ground and they almost succeeded," Russell said.

"I was working with a Lao who I know only as Swamp Rat. He said to shut down the engine while they got some bundles ready for a paratroop.



Beyond carpet of flowers (foreground) that smothers section of roadway, sentinel rocks stand watch over entrance to Long Cheng

# THE LEGEND OF LONG CHENG

Who's Right? Laird or State Dept.?

## Bare Laos Facts, Sen. Asks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican Sen. Clifford P. Case accused the Nixon administration today of "glaring inconsistency" in its accounts to Congress of American financial aid to irregular forces fighting in Laos.

The New Jersey senator asked the administration to disclose all details of U.S.-aided operations in Laos, including the cost, the personnel and

agreements involved, and "most importantly, when will it all end?"

Case said the State Department advised him July 15 that support for irregular forces from Thailand fighting in Laos is being provided under the U.S. military aid program.

Case said that aid directly contradicts June 14 testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee by Secretary of De-

fense Melvin R. Laird and also violates legislation forbidding use of defense appropriations to support foreign mercenary forces in Laos.

He said Laird also testified military assistance cannot be used for support of irregular forces. A month later, Case said, the State Department wrote him:

"Support for these irregulars is supplied under the Lao military aid budget, which, as you know, is funded through the Department of Defense budget as military assistance, service funded."

"It is more in sorrow than in anger that I report a glaring inconsistency in the administration position on the funding of Thai troops in Laos," Case said.

"The moment my prop stopped turning, the bad guys knew they had me on the ground — and that's not my element," Russell said. "The first mortar riddled the aircraft, the second dropped me to the ground. Swamp Rat and the others and I started running for the jungle.

"They knew they had an American and those little fellows (the NVA) took after us. They were shouting and shooting. It was tough getting through the bamboo. I cursed myself because I had been slipshod. I hadn't my gun strapped on and I didn't have any smoke (to signal a rescue chopper). But I knew where I was and I headed for some high ground with a bare spot on it."

Russell activated his pocket emergency radio and contacted a helicopter. It was flown by his fellow pilots, "Frenchy" Smith and J. J. McCauley. "They said they were coming to pick me up. It's lucky we all know the area."

Russell and the five Laotians reached a clearing by the creek. Two of the Lao formed a rearguard team to hold off the NVA. Russell plunged into the creek. "Man, I'd been running for an hour. It was so dehydrated I drank the jungle water." They could hear the NVA troopers crashing through the bamboo.

"But Frenchy and J. J. got there first. They hauled me up on a cable. It broke when they tried to pick up my customers but another chopper came and got them, too."

## Laos war 'unknown to world'

BONN, Sat—A West German Bundestag (Lower House) deputy today said the true extent of the war in Laos was largely unknown to world opinion because a member of the International Control Commission in Laos blocked information.

Christian Democrat Deputy Walter Kiep told a press conference following a recent visit to Laos that Prime Minister Prince Souvanna Phouma termed it "the forgotten war."

But he said 40,000 North Vietnamese troops were fighting on the side of the Pathet Lao rebel movement against the government army of some 35,000.

The North Vietnamese were quite separate from those used on the supply routes for the Viet Cong in South Vietnam, he said.

"But the International Control Commission is paralyzed because its reports are made lame by the veto of one member," Kiep said.

"An army of 40,000 is operating aggressively in this country," he added.

The commission, comprising Canada, India and Poland, was designed to watch over Laotian neutrality. — Reuter

## RED BOMBING OF LAOS EXPLAINED

VIENTIANE — A North Vietnamese air attack on Laotian village earlier this week was aimed at disrupting the forthcoming peace talks between the government and the pro-Communist Pathet Lao, the official Lao Press said yesterday.

Six people were killed and 10 injured when two Soviet built Ilushin aircraft of the North Vietnamese bombed and strafed the village of Bouamlong, about 30 kms northeast of the Plain of Jars on Monday. About 70 houses were also destroyed in the air attack.

The Lao Press said that the bombing of Bouamlong was a deliberate attempt to prove that a settlement of the Laotian problem depended on Hanoi.

Describing the attack as a "criminal manoeuvre", the Lao Press said that it should reinforce the conviction of both the government and the Pathet Lao that "they have to reach agreements to put an end to the present massacre made by outsiders ready to do everything to impose their law."

SITE 32 !! — MIGS!

# Helicopters key to Saravane recapture

VIENTIANE, Friday — The Lao Army used a massive helicopter airlift of troops to capture the strategic town of Saravane in southern Laos, informed sources revealed today.

A 1,000-man force comprising two special guerrilla battalions was ferried in by helicopter on Wednesday and encountered little resistance from North Vietnamese

troops who overran Saravane last summer.

The North Vietnamese abandoned the town and other nearby positions, the sources said.

But the sources added that some 2,000 North Vietnamese soldiers now stationed to the north of Saravane were reported moving towards the town for a counter-attack.

Saravane, about 100 kilometres (62 miles) northeast of the Mekong river town of Pakse, was a key part of the defence perimeter of the Bolovens Highlands until it fell into communist hands.

The recapture of Saravane marked the first major government military success for a long time.

The North Vietnamese at the start of the rainy season this year took over virtually full control of the Bolovens Highlands, and have been

trying to turn it into a sanctuary for military activities in northern Cambodia and the Central Highlands of South Vietnam.

The plateau overlooks the Ho Chi Minh trail, a network of communist supply and infiltration routes into South Vietnam and Cambodia.

Observers said the government offensive to retake the town appeared to be the first stage of a much bigger operation to regain some control in the Bolovens Highlands.

The government was anxious to recapture several other strategic towns in the area principally Pakse in the centre and Attopeu.

The present operation is in Military Region Four, commanded by Colonel Solutchay, who recently replaced General Phasouk as regional commander at headquarters in Pakse. — Reuter

## Caverns Echo Threat To U. S.

# Laos Communists Dig In For Long

(Continued from Page 1) or the defense of Sam Neua Province. The North Vietnamese, who were not hidden from me, appeared

mainly confined to providing aid, such as in road building.

In the communities that I saw, there was no evidence of Vietnamese intervention in the social organization. The Lao-

tians make no secret of Vietnamese assistance, but clearly appeared to be directing the affairs of their own country.

According to Pathet Lao of-

ficials, private agriculture is not being controlled, but the state manages commerce, both internal and external.

Within the Pathet Lao zone a separate currency, the "liberation kip," is used.

The same store buys produce from the peasants and sells them articles they need. Passing a state store, we were given peaches by peasants bringing them to sell. Our interpreter, however, insisted on giving them some kip.

It appeared to me that youths participate widely in military activity. There are women in the regular armed forces.

Half of the civilian militia is composed of women, according to Pathet Lao officials. In the units I saw, girls 14 years old were drilling with carbines.

Units of the regular armed forces, the Lao people's liberation army, on March 11, 1968, destroyed a U. S. base high atop a mountain known as Pati, about 18 miles from Sam Neua, 17 miles from the North Vietnamese border.

Considered by Americans to be nearly invulnerable, it was taken in two days according to the account of a young Pathet Lao veteran of the battle.

### Guided Bombers

Pati was the principal U. S. forward radar installation used to guide the bombing of North Vietnam and Laos.

The existence and loss of the base were acknowledged last April with the publication of hearings on Laos by the Symington subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Among portions of testimony censored, however,

# Meo Tribe May Leave

LONG TIENG, Laos — Maj. Gen. Vang Pao, a great guerrilla leader now shackled by Washington may soon take his irregular army of Meo tribesmen out of the Laos war — an event of catastrophic dimensions, certainly for Laos and perhaps for all Indochina.

In his mountain headquarters at Long Tieng, Vang Pao told us in an exclusive interview he is nearing the end of the line. If the U.S. government does not let him resume his offensive in the last remaining month of the monsoon season, he cannot defend the Plain Des Jars north of here once the North Vietnamese invaders begin their annual dry season offensive.

But this time, he said, he will not fall back, as in past years, to defend Long Tieng. Instead, he will lead his army and the Meo people out of the war and perhaps out of Laos.

"If we go, Laos is dead," Vang Pao told us bluntly. It is no exaggeration. Abandoning Long Tieng would mean losing nearly all northern Laos, quite possibly leading to capitulation by the government in Vientiane — a decisive victory for Hanoi in the generation-long Indochina war.

No longer would four of its divisions be pinned down in Laos; no longer could the U.S. bomb the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos with permission of the



Rowland Evans

Robert Novak

minister also asked Vang Pao to slow down. But, in fact, Washington's wish was a self-enforcing command. Vang Pao's army, trained by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, depends on U.S. military aid. The overt reason for Washington's order was a highly dubious argument by U.S. policymakers that Vang Pao would somehow provoke Hanoi and heighten pie-in-the-sky possibilities for negotiations. However, the underlying reason was official Washington's unwillingness to incessant congressional attacks against fulfilling commitments to Laos.

With his guerrillas now forced into untenable fixed positions, internal pressures are mounting on Vang Pao. Meo elders tell him they will not spend another dry season defending Long Tieng and want to migrate to Sayaboury in western Laos or, if necessary, cross the frontier into Thailand.

As a Lao nationalist, Vang Pao would rather stay and fight. But he feels he cannot ask his people to spill more blood without hope of having their own land. Knowing their old homelands are too close to North Vietnam ever to reclaim, he would settle for the Plain Des Jars. "But we can no longer live on American gifts," he told us.

Beyond that, his army is terribly tired and understrength, actually some 4,000 below its paper strength of 10,200 (including many teen-age boys). In a tragic case of genocide ignored by American liberals, the young Meo manhood has been destroyed by the North Vietnamese.

Still, Meo guerrillas would revive if



—UPI Newsmap

Communist Pathet Lao claims to rule territory as large as North Vietnam.

# We Made The News

was the number of Americans killed.

According to the Pathet Lao, 19 Americans died at Patti.

From May 17, 1964, to mid-June, 1970, about 1,500 U. S. aircraft were shot down in Laos, the Pathet Lao claim.

Some U. S. pilots have been captured but I gained the impression that the number being held is not very large. Pathet Lao officials admit that the U. S. often rescues downed pilots who managed to parachute.

Asked about American pilots held in Laos, Sisana Sisane said they were being treated well, that Prince Souphanouong insisted on this, and that they were receiving double or triple the food rations allotted Laotians.

**How Many?**

However, the Pathet Lao would not say how many American are being held or identify them or allow any exchange of mail. Present conditions, Sisane said, would not permit this.

"If the American people want something to be done about the pilots," Sisane said, "they must compel Nixon to speak directly to us — in the proper way."

The statement apparently referred to the Pathet Lao announcement on March 6 of a five-point program for a political settlement of the Laotian problem.

It proposed establishment of a provisional coalition government pending national elections and a peaceful reunification of the country.

The points are predicated on a complete cessation of U. S.



UPI Telephoto

**CARBINES AND CROSSBOWS**—Laotian Communist volunteers—part-time guerrillas—pack a variety of weapons. Included are American M-1 rifles, carbines and revolvers, Chinese and Russian arms and even poison arrows. This unit is comprised of men and women ranging in age from 14 to 35. The leader carries a primitive but effective crossbow that shoots poison arrows. He also has a Smith and Wesson revolver.

bombing of Laos and complete withdrawal of American military personnel and advisers as well as American equipment.

**Meeting the Prince**

After this discussion I met Prince Souphanouong, head of the Pathet Lao, in his office.

It is a rectangular concrete-walled room, simply furnished with a desk and a table in front for current periodicals; bookshelves in which I noticed

some technical manuals; and a small table, about two feet square, around which we sat.

Dressed in a dark blue suit with a tunic, wearing a beret, the prince, who is 58, talked informally in French.

The Pathet Lao, Souphanouong said, is ready for a negotiated solution to the war, but he emphasized there could be no talks as long as U. S. bombing of Laos continues.

A long war would take more American and Laotian lives,

the prince said. "But we know how to fight. We have been fighting for 16 years while the liberated zones have kept expanding and consolidating.

"We have struggled, starting from nothing," he said. "Now our liberated area is as large as North Vietnam."

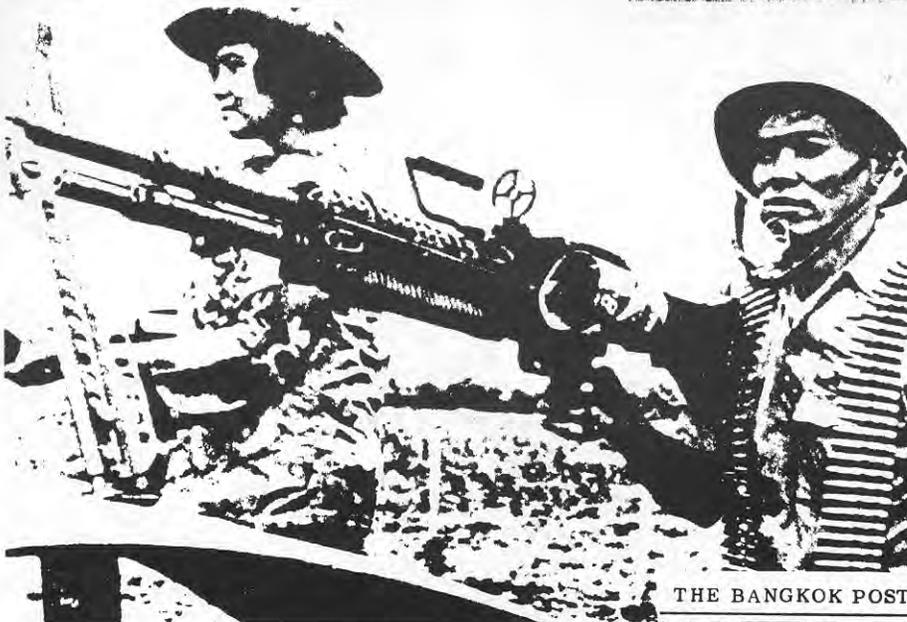
Souphanouong, who looked as if he actually enjoyed life in the caverns of Laos, declared that "I am ready to continue as long as Nixon requires it."



—Photos by Richard E. Ward via UPI

Rock blasted from new cave is loaded onto truck by Reds for road

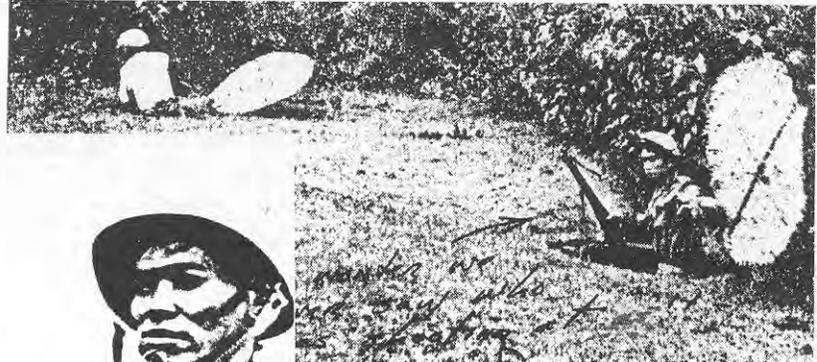
**WORLD NEWS**



THE BANGKOK POST

The ear-ring remains a feminine touch, but otherwise this Cambodian girl shares the burden of defence on an equal basis with the men in this Khmer army unit.

All are volunteers. The machine-gunner has modified his American-made weapon with a food can to prevent the linked ammunition from jamming. — AP photo



Communist guerrillas use flip-top foxholes to surprise passing patrols.

# Fly the Friendly Spies of America

San Francisco— Here's a surprise: Newsweek reports that Air America, which serves the CIA in Southeast Asia, is now one of the biggest U.S. airlines — ranking just behind National and just ahead of Northeast.

The surprise, of course, is that it isn't the biggest. I suppose it's the service. Who wants to fly on an airline run by the CIA?

Take the case of Marvin Munch, a defrocked Lutheran transvestite who was being shipped home to Peoria from Saigon in disgrace.

Wandering through the Ton Son Nhut Airport, Munch took a wrong turn, fell through a trapdoor, and landed in a heap in front of the Air America ticket counter.

"Heavens to Betsy!" said Munch. "I'm glad you know the password," the ticket agent, a dashing type wearing a black eye patch over his left ear, said as he put away his '68 Aston-Martin automatic.

Humming a few bars of "Fly the Friendly Spies of America," the agent wrote out a ticket for Munch in invisible ink, burned it in an ashtray and handed him a

boarding pass. "After you memorize this," whispered the agent, "pat it."

MUNCH NERVOUSLY did so. "This flight, should you decide to accept it," said the agent grimly, "is now boarding through the broom closet, tunnel D-12. You'll recognize it easily. The aircraft is disguised as a four-engine water buffalo.

Munch had no trouble finding the plane. It was the only four-engine water buffalo on the field. He was greeted at the top of the gangway by an attractive stewardess wearing dark glasses and a black moustache.

"Coffee, tea or, in case of capture by the enemy, hemlock, sir?" she inquired. "Please extinguish all fuses and fasten your parachutes for take-off."

Once airborne, the pilot came back into the cabin. He was wearing puttees, a leather helmet and a white silk scarf. Bending over Munch, he whispered in his ear: "This is your captain, X-132-2(B) speaking. We have reached our cruising altitude of 15 feet. We estimate a flight time of two hours and 18 minutes to our top-secret destination. Do you happen to know, old chap, where we're going?"

"I'd like to go to Peoria," said Munch. "Jolly good show that," said the pilot, nodding. "It's 70 kilometers through hell. But so's Decatur."

AN HOUR LATER, the plane landed at Whar Dhat, capital of the neutralist Asian kingdom of Cao Dng.

"Good luck, men," said the pilot, shaking each passenger's hand. "This plane will self-destruct in five seconds." And he led the hasty exit, waving a poison-tipped umbrella and shouting, "Peoria for the Peorians!"

The water buffalo blew up on schedule and the resultant blast toppled the neutralist government, a shaky coalition at best.

The pilot surveyed the wreckage with satisfaction. "Damn fine job," he said proudly. "It's heartwarming to know Peoria will now be on our side."

Munch said he didn't think this was Peoria. "Never mind," said the pilot. "Wherever it is, it's on our side now. And we're keeping alive the finest traditions of the CIA. It's the third government we've toppled this week."

"But why?" asked Munch. "Because," said the pilot, tossing the end of his white silk scarf jauntily over one shoulder, "it is there."

Paul Linstrom who headed Remember the Pueblo committee. He stated that he had learned from an intelligence source that among other American POWs there are 64 airmen who were transferred to Chinese prisons from Laos between October 1971 and January of 1972 and that they were being held in Yunnan Province of Red China just over the Laotian border. He

said that he had learned that four persons were shot down on Dec. 27, 1971, and were being held prisoners in China. He identified four, one of which was Roy Townley. In 1975 Diane was able to obtain a photograph from another member of the Missing in Action group of families and friends, that looked much like her father. The person was in a bed with an arm in a cast. She forwarded this to the State Department and they conceded that the picture did have a definite similarity in the facial structure but that the results of identifying it as Townley were inconclusive.

Diane said that about

300 attended the 1979 Washington Conference of the MIA and POW National League of Families. This was a lot less than previous MIA and POW conferences because the government has lately presumed many of them as dead. "I know that my father was taken captive because of the reports in the CIA files and the reports that we have continued to receive from refugees coming out of Thailand, Laos and Cambodia," Diane says. "I still retain hope that with the prayers and continued support of those that want to help, that my father will be returned to the United States."

FROM PAGE 1

## U.S. FUNDS

interpretation of the Fulbright amendment was explained in this fashion by Bray:

The Fulbright amendment provided that nothing in the Defence Appropriation Act should be construed as authorising the use of free world forces in actions designed to provide military support and assistance to the governments of Cambodia or Laos. Also nothing should be construed as limiting funds in the withdrawal and disengagement of US forces in Vietnam.

"We have taken the position," Bray said, "that free world forces were formally organised units provided by other governments under the command of nationals of those governments. Those would be regular units such as have been committed by South Korea, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand.

"This amendment does not speak to the question of Thai nationals who may be serving as irregulars in Laos under Lao command," he said.

Bray insisted that there are no Thai regular army troops fighting in Laos.

The Abshire letter also assured Case that there is no international agreement authorising Thailand to divert assistance received under the Thai military assistance fund to the Government of Laos or to the Thai volunteers operating in Laos.

"I can assure you that we do take precaution against such diversions," he said. "Military assistance to Thai forces in Thailand is carefully monitored.

"Requirements for military assistance are developed in the field by the US military assistance advisory group in consultation with our embassy in Bangkok and the US Ambassador.

"These requirements are validated at the headquarters of the Commander in Chief of US Forces in the Pacific (Pearl Harbor) and forwarded to Washington.

"In Washington they are jointly reviewed by the department of Defence and State before the programs are finally approved." — AP

YEAF 3 This flyer was dropped over Laos and Thailand.



GEORGE RITTER

ທ້າວຊອກ ຮິຕິ



ROY TOWNLEY

ທ້າວຮອນ ທ້າວລີ



EDWARD WEISSENBACK

ທ້າວເອດວາດ ວາຍເຈິມເບກ



Khamphanh SAYSONGKHAM

ທ້າວຄຳພັນ ເຈິງສັງຄາມ

These Air America employees disappeared December 27, 1971 while flying a C 123 Cargo aircraft number 293 en route to Xieng Lom — last reported in the area of Pak Beng.

Reward

2 Kilos of gold for the safe return of each man. 62 grams of gold for accurate information about the aircraft

Contact

Village chief at Muang Hongsa or Ban Xieng Lom or any Air America facility or other U.S. organization anywhere in Laos or Thailand



Is this Roy Townley? His family thinks it might be. This transmitted photo was received by the MIA League in September 1972.

# Enemy Guns Slowly Reduce to

**LONG CHENG, Laos (AP)** — What was once a CIA base is now a ghost town, slowly being reduced to rubble by North Vietnamese artillery. The ridgeline above it is a holocaust of bomb strikes and incoming mortars.

For seven days, outnumbered Laotian government troops supported by American air power have been battling Communist forces for control of this valley, 78 miles north of Vientiane.

The outcome is still in doubt.

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 NATIONAL CERTIFIED COURSE  
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Sniper fire echoes in the ruins of abandoned homes and offices that still bear "Happy New Year" signs. Automatic weapons chatter when government troops engage small bands of infiltrators in house-to-house combat.

A man can't tell where the fire is coming from unless he is hit.

Heavier fighting rages on the bomb-cratered lunar landscape known as Skyline Ridge. Laotian troops have dislodged the enemy from their fortified bunkers on the ridgeline, but they must endure constant mortar fire and repel periodic counterattacks.

Impacting shells send up geysers of dirt, bombs mark the enemy lines with mushroom clouds and there is a never-ending roar of aircraft engines and explosions.

The sky is never empty. Air America helicopters ferry

troops and supplies. Lumbering cargo planes make parachute drops to hard-pressed government positions, keeping away from the wooded hill sides when gunfire crackles. U.S. jets and obsolete Laotian bombers pound the slopes.

Once so top secret that it appeared on no maps, Long Cheng is a secret no more. But it remains a symbol of U.S. involvement in the Laotian war, and a focal point in the biggest dry season offensive ever launched by North Vietnam in this land-locked country.

Four miles long and a mile wide, the Long Cheng Valley served as a Central Intelligence Agency listening post in the mountains and military region. It was headquarters for Gen. Van Pao's army of tough CIA-supported Men tribesmen irregulars, and a refugee camp for 35,000 Meo

civilians escaping the enemy's annual incursion into the Plain of Jars.

The valley floor is littered with villas and villages, military compounds bristling with radio antennas, refugee hovels and a hillside house belonging to King Savang Vathana.

There is an air strip, but fixed-wing aircraft no longer land there because of enemy fire.

The refugees were evacuated last week following the Communist command's unprecedented, 72-hour attack that captured the Plain of Jars, and the resulting advance southward by the Communist troops.

Major fighting erupted here Jan. 12, and Thai mercenaries and Royal Laotian reinforcements from other military regions were flown in last Sunday. These reinforcements along with air strikes, helped

# Pensacola News Aug. 6, 1973 CIA 'Fronts' Made Profits

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Central Intelligence Agency has made significant profits on two of its front operations, CIA Director William E. Colby testified today.

Colby told the House intelligence committee in prepared testimony that the CIA made considerable profits from Air America, an airline that aided CIA efforts in Southeast Asia, and from a CIA pension fund.

Air America is being disposed of while the pension fund continues to operate, although Colby said the profits have been turned into the Treasury since 1973. Colby did not specify the profit levels.

Most of the CIA's front operations, which the agency calls proprietaries, have been unprofitable, the director said.

"I foresee a continuing need to use the proprietary mechanism to further accomplishment of agency operations," Colby said.

Colby defined proprietaries as "apparently commercial entities that are in reality controlled by the agency." He said, "Such companies provide cover and support for clandestine activities and enable us to carry out administrative tasks discreetly."

Most proprietaries have fewer than ten employees, but "a very few of our former proprietaries, such as Radio Free Europe and Air America, have been fairly large entities."

Radio Free Europe, which transmits broadcasts to Eastern Europe, has been funded under regular congressional appropriation since its link with the CIA was revealed.

Air America "provided cover and otherwise supported our efforts in Southeast Asia," Colby said. "Its net assets are being turned in to the Treasury."

The pension fund was described by Colby as "a financial enterprise which enables the agency to administer certain sensitive trusts, annuities, escrows and insurance arrangements without attribution to the agency. It enables us to insure with a controlled company some of our activities we could not expose to regular insurance companies. It enables us to pay annuities to individuals whose links with the U.S. government must remain secret."

In the past, the proprietary companies retained their profits, Colby said. The intelligence chief said that by 1973 "accumulated profits amounted to a considerable sum" so the excess was reported to Congress and used to reduce the amount appropriated.

However, the CIA's general counsel advised that this did not constitute the full appropriations process and "subsequent profits have been and will be delivered to the Treasury," Colby said.

A Pentagon official was quoted as telling the committee Tuesday that two U.S. intelligence agencies split over whether Egyptian troop movements in 1973 meant maneuvers or an attack.

Dr. Robert C. Hall, assistant secretary of defense for intelligence, said publicly that the advance intelligence also was discounted by Israeli officials. The Israeli officials have admitted they were caught by surprise by the Egyptian attack, which set off a Mideast war.

Hall refused to say if the disagreement was between the U.S. military intelligence agencies and the CIA. Colby also refused Tuesday night to say if the CIA was one of the two

# Rubble Ex-CIA Base at Long Cheng

avert the immediate fall of Long Cheng.

On Wednesday, the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane the capital, agreed to let newsmen visit Long Cheng if they would pay to charter Air America planes and helicopters. They were greeted by a host of Laotian generals watching the war from the king's villa and emperling with a number of unidentified Americans.

Some of the Americans wore civilian clothes. Others wore armed and wearing camouflage fatigues. Under rules for newsmen, they could not be photographed or named, nor could their respective government agencies be disclosed.

Sipping peach juice, Gen. Vang Pao greeted visitors warmly and told them Long Cheng had been hit by 6,624 enemy artillery rounds in the past three weeks. He claimed

his forces had on "a great victory ... We killed 8,000 and wounded 6,000 to 7,000."

At the same time, Vang Pao claimed his forces suffered 16 dead and 85 wounded.

Body bags lying on the airport runway back at Ban Son and large numbers of hand-dug government troops raised doubts about his statistics.

Vang Pao also insisted he had 8,000 troops fighting in the Long Cheng area. The Americans here said it was more like 3,000. They estimated enemy strength at 8,000 and said 500 to 600 probably had been killed so far.

The Americans had no casualty count for Laotian government forces, but some of Vang Pao's officers privately admitted these were heavy.

Maj. Chanh, commander of a unit entrenched on Skyline Ridge, said 28 of his men had

been killed and 69 wounded in the past three days. Soon after he spoke, Chanh became the 79th wounded when a mortar fragment hit him.

"We got a couple of mortar rounds every 10 minutes," said Chanh as a medle bandaged his head. "The fighting is very tough."

Vang Pao insisted: "The enemy cannot take Long Cheng."

But he added: "They will try until February. They have supplies for one month and in small groups they are strong. We can hold them off."

The general began studying

a far-off hillside with his telescope. Suddenly he snapped out instructions to one of his aides who relayed orders through a diotelephone.

A U.S. jet streaked down and the hillside exploded. "I saw six enemy," said Vang Pao. "The air strike got two of them. Four to go."



**Because HAPPY ADS  
Are Coming  
Feb. 1!**

Read *Image* Sunday

# 'Beeper' Signals Are Heard More

By JACK FOISIE  
News-Journal Gannett Service

**LONG CHENG, Laos** — The dreaded sound for an aviator suddenly broke through the chatter of our helicopter radio — a staccato series of beeps.

It meant that an aircraft was down somewhere in the rugged area below us and a survivor had turned on his vest-pocket emergency radio.

The "beeper" has an urgent message — "Find me — get me out of here."

Our Air America helicopter crewman first felt through his own "survival jacket" he was wearing to be sure his "beeper" had not accidentally activated.

Our pilot switched radio frequencies and contacted "Cricket," the airborne con-

trol ship somewhere in the area. "We hear a beeper."

"Yes, we've started the SAR (search and rescue)," Cricket replied.

It was later learned the aircraft downed by North Vietnamese anti-aircraft fire was a Lao-piloted fighter-bomber known as the "Mighty Mite." The result of the SAR was not revealed.

"Beeper" sound with distressing frequency these days as the air war in Laos heats up in unison with the in-

creased ground combat of the Laotian dry season.

In the fight to hold onto Long Cheng, the key airbase in the war in northern Laos, the U.S. and Lao air forces have pounded North Vietnamese army positions on the ridges around Long Cheng for more than a week.

Even the spectacular pinacles of Grey Rock have been hit by the Lao T-28 "Mighty Mites" in some mad-cap flying. When the small bombs and rockets they car-

ry manage to hit these soaring peaks, the explosions are magnified and the orange flash of impact seems brighter when viewed from another ridge.

This is the first authorized visit of newsmen to this long-secret base. This may be a bit of a show arranged for our benefit. But General Vang Pao, the flamboyant Meo tribal general who commands the defenders of Long Cheng swears that he can see enemy observation posts on the pin-

nacles. He personally directs by radio the tiny T-28s into the target. When a "Mighty Mite" pilot releases his bombs from too high an altitude, the general roars out his anger.

"We knock them out, the enemy no more can shoot his big guns accurately into the hole," he explains in broken English.

Vang Pao, always exuberant in his figures, claims the Long Cheng base, located in a valley four miles long and a mile wide, has been hit by

some 6,000 rounds of North Vietnamese army heavy artillery shells.

More conservative estimates put the number at about 300, still a pounding for the base. The asphalt and gravel airstrip has not been cratered. However, it's unusable by fixed-wing planes because they must fly low over enemy-held ridges to land.

In addition to the "Mighty Mites" and their orchestration by Vang Pao, the American

Air Force base in Thailand sends over relays of silvery F-4 Phantom jets with their more powerful bombing directed by American air controllers in their light spotter planes.

Sometimes in the distance we also hear the rumble of B-52 big bomber attacks. Usually they are made in three-plane formations, dropping a combined total of 300 bombs.

Central Intelligence Agency and American AID mission chartered transports, flown by

pilots of Air America and Continental Airways, also fill the skies, dropping supplies to Lao army forces or carrying rice to the mountain people who have fled from the war zone.

By almost every large Meo tribal village of thatched huts there is a dirt airstrip where small transports known as "porters" can land and stop within the length of a football field. Other porters have "bomb bays" for parachuting supplies.

# Frequently in Heated Laotian Battle

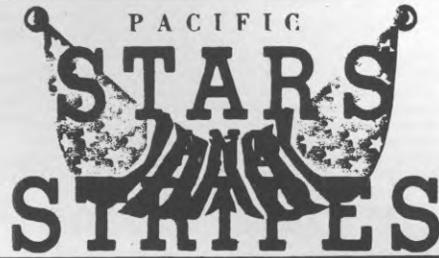
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# IT'S OVER

## Most Yanks Got Out

Compiled From AP and UPI  
**SAIGON**—The United States pulled out of Vietnam Tuesday. All but a handful of Americans fled the country aboard Marine helicopters by early Wednesday and left it up to the Vietnamese to find peace.

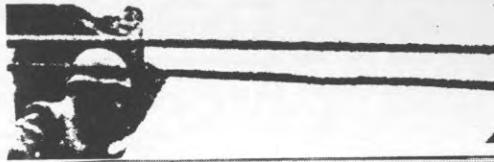
The Americans were ordered out Tuesday by



AN AUTHORIZED UNOFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE U.S. ARMED FORCES OF THE PACIFIC COMMAND

15¢

Vol. 31, No. 120 Thursday, May 1, 1975



**SAIGON (AP)**—The Saigon government surrendered unconditionally to the Viet Cong Wednesday, ending 30 years of bloodshed.

The surrender was announced by President Duong Van "Big" Minh in a five-minute radio address.

As he spoke, the city of Saigon fell quiet and shellfire subsided.

Minh said:

"The republic of Vietnam policy is the policy of peace and reconciliation, aimed at saving the blood of our people. I ask all servicemen to stop firing and stay where you are. I also demand that the soldiers of the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) stop firing and stay in place.

"We are here waiting for the provisional revolutionary government to hand over the authority in order to stop useless bloodshed."

On the same Saigon radio broadcast, Gen. Nguyen Huu Hanh, deputy chief of staff, called on all South Vietnamese generals, officers and servicemen at all levels to carry out Minh's orders.

"All commanders" Minh declared

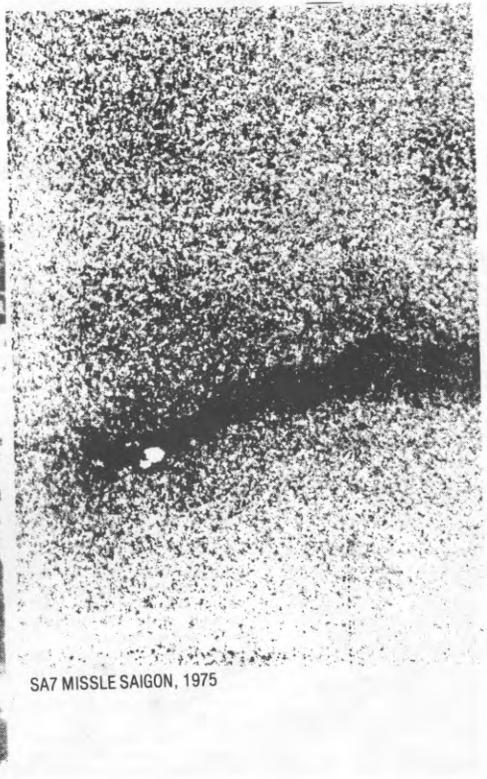
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SAIGON (Agencies)  
hen South Vietnam



An Air America helicopter crewman helps evacuees up the ladder on top of a Saigon building on Tuesday. — UPI photo

● Saigon residents, below, shaken by communist shells and the sudden news of the emergency American evacuation, run along the streets in a frantic bid to get out of the city before it was taken over by communist forces. — UPI photo



SA7 MISSILE SAIGON, 1975

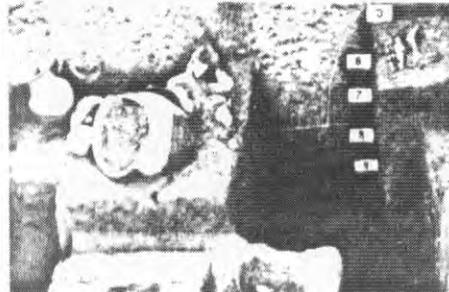
# Interesting Places...



Wai Dai Suthep's PRA-J-DEE — the golden spired structure in the center of this photo — shines in the bright Thai sun.



Above: aerial view of main "dig" area in Ban Chiang which is under thatched roof (lower left); large building is local Wat (temple). Right: Drum Tower in Ban Chiang where a Nain (Novice) prepares to beat the drum to call the Bhikkus (Monks) to prayer. (All pix on this and opposite pages by Mike Kandi, OM-UTH)



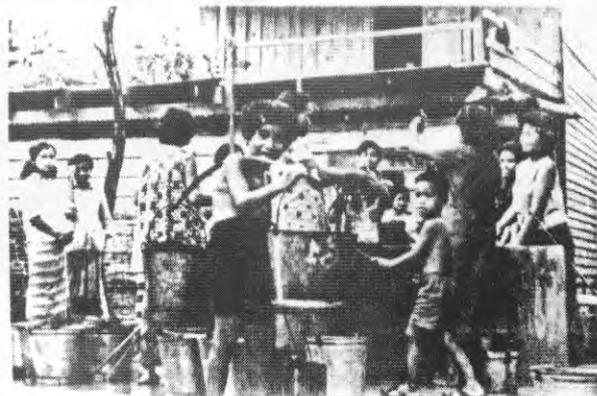
Skeletal remains in their original positions in the diggings. Small metal tags indicate digging levels; most finds were between levels 4, 5 and 6.

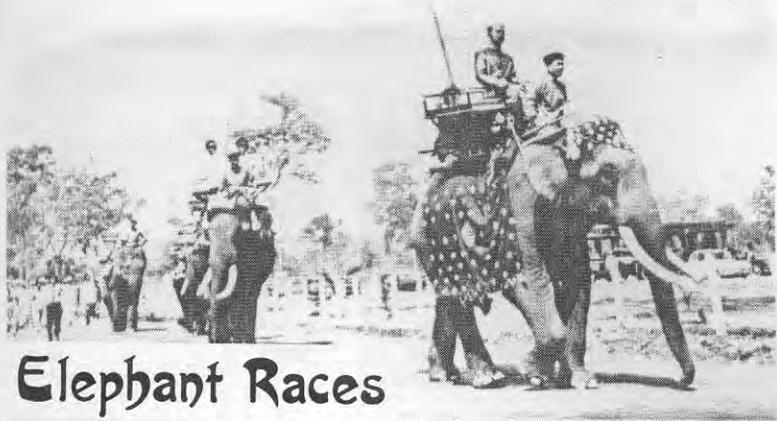


Woven pottery — which shows typical design patterns.



This skeleton is thought to be that of the 6 ft. tall warrior mentioned in the article on pg. 15.





**Elephant Races**



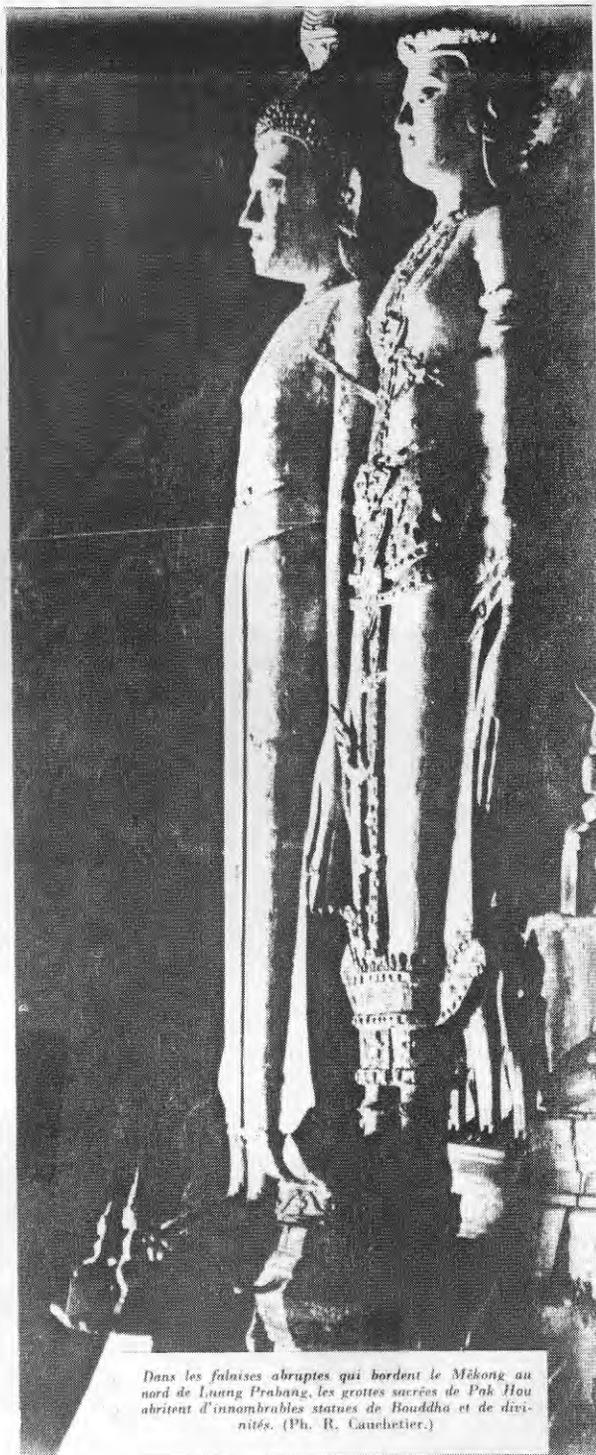
**Boat Races**



**Fishing Races**



**Growing Races**



*Dans les falaises abruptes qui bordent le Mékong au nord de Luang Prabang, les grottes sacrées de Pak Hou abritent d'innombrables statues de Bouddha et de divinités. (Ph. R. Cauchetier.)*

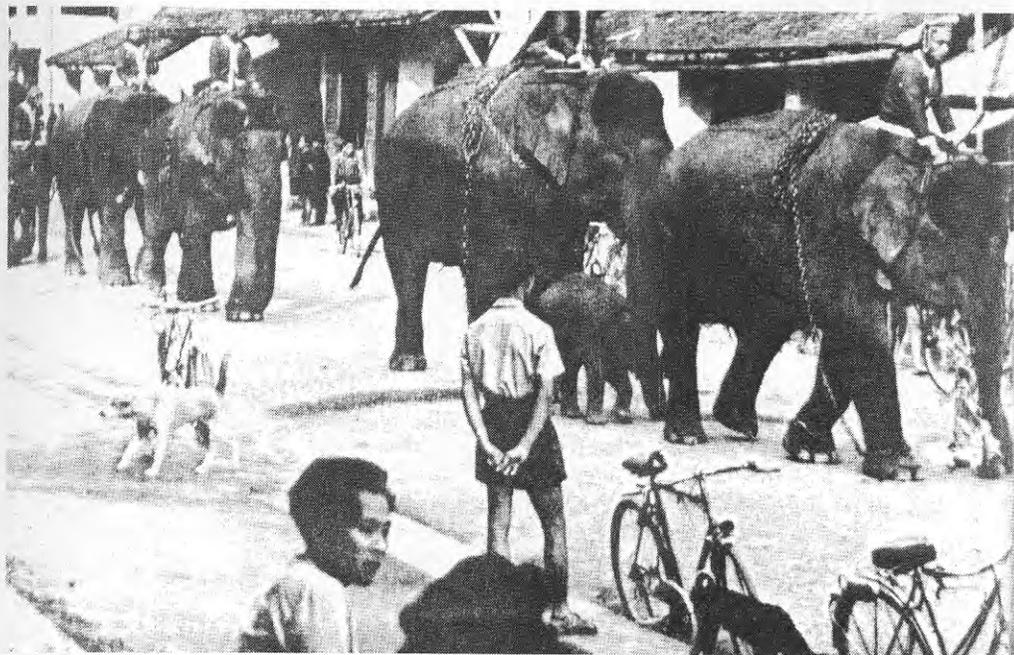


*Un spectacle traditionnel : les bonzes procèdent devant les fidèles assemblés à une cérémonie rituelle.*

**There Was Dancing  
In The Street....**



**And The Sound  
Of Heavy Feet....**



**Pretty Girls Everywhere....**

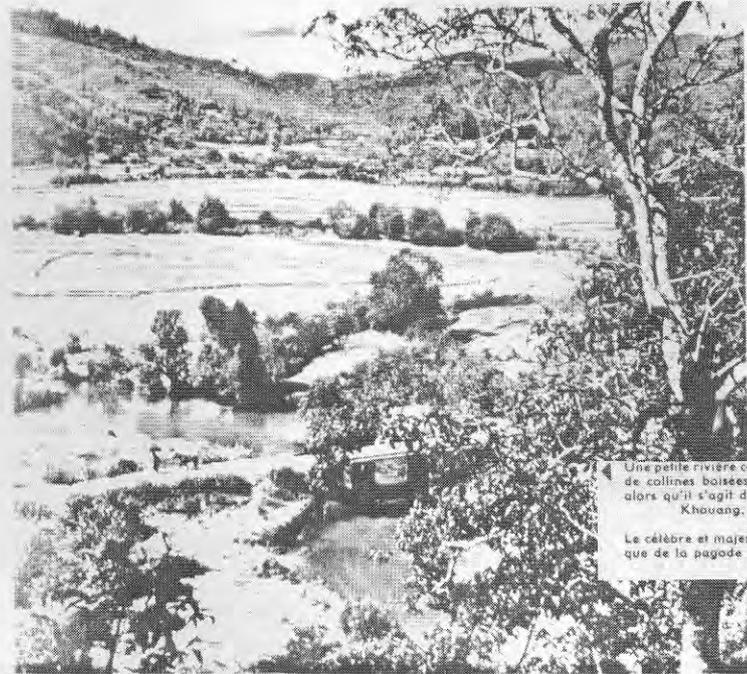


**Golden Temples  
Here And There.**

# Beautiful Places

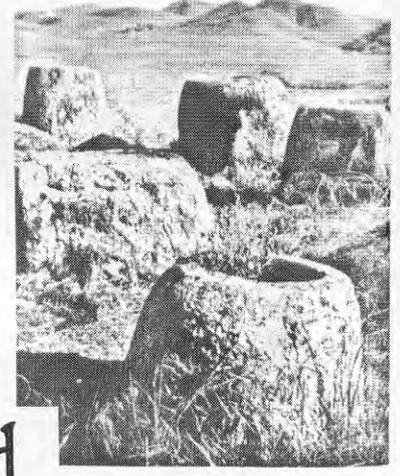


Ci-dessous : un enfant avec, comme les adultes, le coiffure traditionnelle propre à sa race. — Un hamois de visage finement taillé. Le lobe de l'oreille gauche est rompu et on porte l'habituel bipo cylindrique. (Photo Ministère de l'Information de la Zone Indochine au Laos)



Une petite rivière coulant dans une verte vallée encadrée de collines boisées : on pourrait se croire en France, alors qu'il s'agit d'un paysage de la région de Xien Khouang, près de la plaine des Jarres.

Le célèbre et majestueux Bouddha au sourire énigmatique de la pagode actuellement restaurée de Vat Phou à Vientiane.



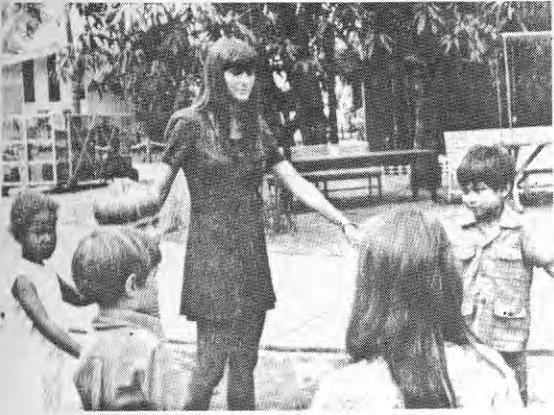
# The Unexplained



**LOOKS  
SCHOOL**



Vernon Clarkson  
Principal



Mary Ann Bradley Cook



C. Joanne Cox



Rose I. Watson



Helen R. Rounce



Anna C. Vaughan



Nancy C. Lehfeldt



Anne L. Cowan



Mrs. Rhonda Davis



Dolores J. Moran



Harriet L. Fleischer



Mr. Robert Fullmer



Mrs. Katherine Stinson



Mrs. Pederson



Leonv Monserrat



Mr. Gary McFroy



Mrs. Marie Ordman



Lilye O'Hara



Miss Vaughan



Mrs. Monique Richie



Carol Rogers



Ellen Reilly



Cathy Alexander



Alumni Chorus Sing



Betty Felder, Randy Williams, Anne Hach, Dolores Matteo, Jim Doughty, Patty Riggle



**SOFTBALL TEAM**

Top Row: Jim Doughty, Ross Barnes, Hong-Min Liu, Ted Cash, Suzy Pearson, Gary Riggle  
 Middle Row: Andy Black, Bari Brada, Bob Kendall, Hong Tu Liu, Raymond Dickenson, Gus Parvis  
 Bottom Row: Danny Matteo, Mike Hunter, Bruce Emery, Mike Cash, Vera Black, Randy Williams



Tony Karian, Ross Barnes, Charlotte Forney, Wendy Holm, Sheri Andrews, Richard Lashomb, Carol Dickenson

# STUDENT BODY





Malcolm S. Baker



Dianne Gartin



Linda Grunwald



Sunlan Pearson



Sunyo Pearson



Gary Biegel



Patricia Grace C. Rivero



Catherine Zucko



Walter Zucko



Barbara Alexander



Penny Cash



Ted Cash



Jim Doughty



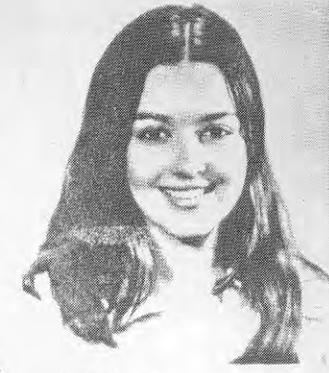
Lorenzo Frigillana



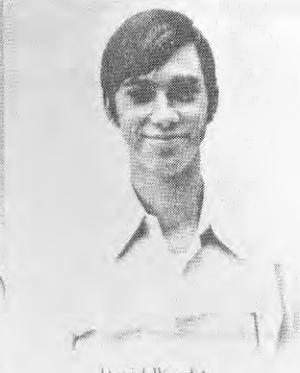
Carol Jaberna



Roger Kennedy



Sandra Lashomb



David Wright



Mike Cash



Raymond DeLoe



[unclear]



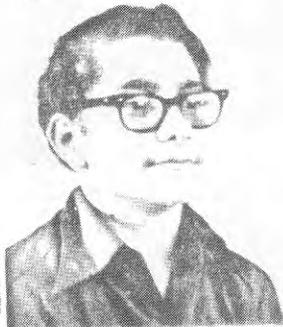
[unclear]



Gus Purvis



Jim Alexander



Burl Beards



[unclear]



Erny Bernier



Lou Doughty



Arthur Ellsworth



Chuck Ellsworth



[unclear]



Mary Felder



Randy Griffin



Mike Hunter



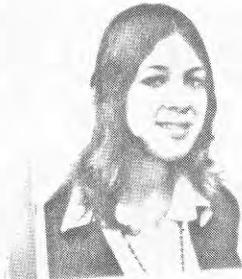
[unclear]



Roger Kennedy



Dan Knowlton



Janet Snyder



Bob Watts



Judy Linnette Cash



Pat Cash



Robin Cash



Richard Castleberry



Linda Chappell



Nien Che Cho



Hui Chi Chaing



Elizabeth Cook



Rene Coulombe



John Cupp



Richard Dewey



Larry Dodds



Teresa Dodds



Walter Ellesworth



Donald Felder



Donna Felder



Charlotte Forney



Shawn Forney



Deanna Virginia Frigillana



Junior Frigillana



Adrinne Hicks



Bill Hix



Dhanasak Holtzclaw



Steve Holtzclaw



Bonnie Johnson



Bob Kendall



Kenneth Knowlton



Karen Kortenbush



Raymon Lemque



Hans Marvak



1981



Mark McCartan



James Parker



Emily Parker



Cary Pederson



Allison Peters



Deanna Roberts



Linda R. K.



Rogge



Shaw



Tom Wisniewski



Jeff Seigrist



Steve Seigrist



Monson "Bill" Shaver



Wells



Wells



Tama Shiel



Kathy Schoonmaker



Timothy Michael Schoonmaker



Tom Schoonmaker



Marlene Spitzer



Russ Vreeland



Anita J. Williamson



Dean Williamson



David Woods



Linda Wright



David Wright



Herbert Baker



Timmy Brunner



Tim Bond



Bruce Emery



Harry Esterly



Betty Felder



Greg Fiend



Susana Guirola



Cindy Hitchman



Wendy Holm



Richard LaShomb



Martha Maxwell



Tammy Rogers



Steve Brietweiser



Wayne Brietweiser



Deborah Ausherman



Martin Baker



Toby Basham



Dan Bashaw



Steve Brietweiser



Wayne Brietweiser



Lawrence Broh-Kahn



Bill Brothers



Ted Bruner



Kristen Campbell



Andrea Cannat



Andy Canant



John Casterlin



Ricky Casterlin



Mark Castleberry



Angelic Cates



Caroline Cates



Hui Lang Chang



Will Charette



In Hong Chidress



Sarna Chu



Victor Chu



Toby Cord



Jessica Cortez



Denise Coulombe



Michelle Coulombe



William Coulombe



Samantha Courtney

Danny Cooley



Monica Cord



Victor Cooley



Donna Deeble



Kristine Densley



Lisa Densley



Tara Densley



Patricia Dewey



Carol Dickenson  
Texas



Tracy Donovan



Joseph Dore



Jeff Doughty



Jim Doughty  
Arizona



Danna Dovenbarger



Shannon Eichhorn



Christopher Esterly



Robert Felder



Michael Frady



Stephanie Frady



Julieta Francisco



David Fraser



Eric Fraser



Michael Frahn



Linda Gains



Verna Gehring



John Geise



Verna Gehring



Kenneth Goll



Holly Grossetta



Jeffery Hartwig



Ronald Hartwig



Tony Hartwig



Stephen Hartwig



Clifford Hauer



Cris Hensy



John Geise



David Hester



Pincht Hester



Anne Hsieh



Carol Hunter



Michael Hunter



Joel Hutchison



Carrie Johnson



Chris Johnson



Heather Johnson



Scottie Johnson



Carolyn Jones



Julie Jones



Wasana Jordan



Tony Karian  
California



Vickie Kendall



Brigid Knight



Wayne Knight



Robert Knight



Thien Knowlton



Lily Koo



Minnie Koo



Lona Krueger



Kristin Kustra



Mark Kustra



Paul Kustra



Kathy Lagrange



Deana Lane



Mark Lane



Amy Lehfeldt



Dawn Lehfeldt



Tracy Lehfeldt



Wendy Lehfeldt



Ed Lemque



Michell Lister



Hong Min Liu



Joseph Lopes



Tim Lum



Earl Mallory



Jack Mallory



Kathleen Marsh



Elizabeth Maryak



Hans Marjak



Doloren Matteo  
North Carolina  
Scorpio



Ted Mauldin



Kenneth Miller



Lane Miller



Richard Miller



Edward Abadie

Lex Abadie

Thai Abadie

Jason Ackerson

Alfred Aguilar

Benjamin Aguilar

Maripi Aguilar

Michelle Albright



Sheri Andrews

Antonio Ariola

Francisco Ariola

Cynthia Ariola

David Asherman

Deborah Asherman

David Ausherman

Mansol Baccay



Keith Baz

Jonathan Bartolome

Ross Barnes

Laura Bashaw

Enrique Bautista

Mary Belle Bautista

Hung Bickrest

Linda Bickrest



Christopher Braithwaite

Claire Brennan

Annette Des Brisay

Bennett Des Brisay

Daniel Broh-Kahn

Kathy Brothers

Tommy Brothers

Dean Broz



Teddy Bruner

Susan Burke

William Burke

Lynn Burleson

Kristin Burt

Deidre Byrne

Michael Byrne

Briget Campbell



Kurt Cannat

Patricia Cannant

Howard Carpenter

Jerry Carpenter

Teresa Carpenter

Jerry Carpenter

Carlos Casal

Elizabeth Casal



Treg Miller



Treasa Moher



William Moher



Deidre Morris



John Morris



Ronald Morris



William McCurley



Jim McCurley



Kevin McElroy



Dennis Odgers



Lisa Olson



Daniel Parker



James Parker



John Parker



Martha Payne



Debra Peterson



Deunying Peters



Linda Popejoy



Cheri Prulhiere



Glyn Prulhiere



Vieng Reid



Allan Regidor



Kathleen Reisinger



Peggy Reisinger



Richard Reisinger



Tammy Rice



Brian Richie



Robin Richie



Johnny Riggle



olfo Rivero



Christi Rodriguez



William Rogers



Jeff Rogers



Bert Rolston



Kim Rolston



Anne Romes



Charles Schoonmaker



James Schoonmaker



Patricia Schoonmaker



Theresa Schoonmaker



Alan Seigrist



Lauren Shaffer



John Shiel



Jane Shim



Emily Simonson



Lili Spencer



Mary Steadman



James Stock



Kathleen Stock



Jose Sweeney



Susana Sweeney



Eric Tessmer



Jennifer Tessmer



Christopher Theriault



Gabrielle Theriault



Jill Theriault



Jo Ann Thomasson



Richard Thompson



Derrick Todd



Cindy Toman



Chi Yun Tsang



Chi, Wei Tsang



Wendy Walker



Charlie Wang



David Wang



Elisa Wang



Cathelin Watson



Elizabeth Watson



Wan Wong



Randy Williams



David Winkle



Wendy Winkle



Kim Woods



Lori Woods



Steven Wright



N.W. Boughner



Joan Boughner



Mr. L. J. Balgoyen



Dale E. Bashaw



Mr. Allen



Mrs. Lee Allen



Rosemarie Byrne



Virginia A. Chappell



Richard Winchell



Miss Judy Love



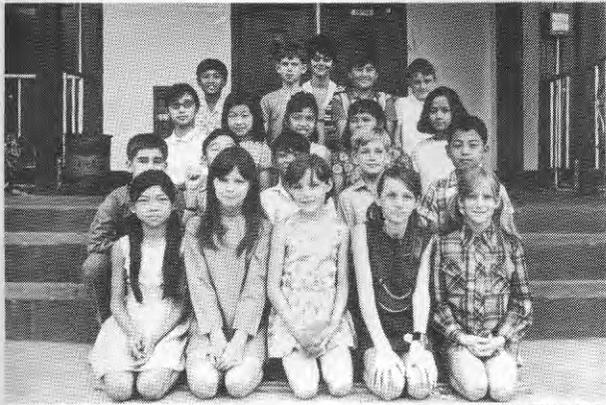
Mr. Mitchel Neal



Mr. Sherman Rosenberg



Barbara Rowe



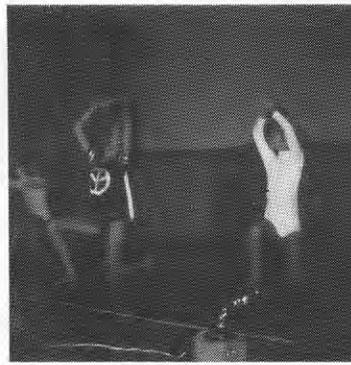
4TH GRADE AIR AMERICA SCHOOL UDORN, THAILAND



KELLY JOHNSON BLAIR & TIFFANY



BETH, MARY, DONNA, DONALD, BOBBY FELDER, VICKIE KENDALL



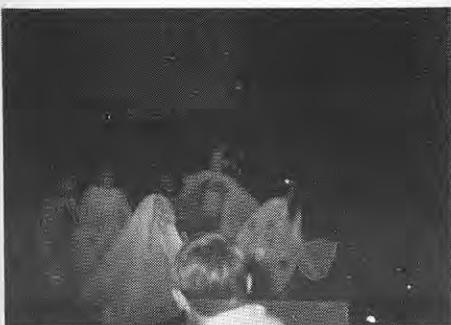
THAI DANCE GROUP



LUCY LUCKETT



JENNY & PHIL PEYTON & CHILDREN



THAI DANCE GROUP



BACK TO THE SAW MILL



JEALOUS



KRIS DENSLEY, LISA DENSLEY, MIKE CASH



TEDDY, MIKE & PENNY CASH



KRIS DENSLEY



PAT, LINDA, DIANE GRIFFIN, TAMMY RODGERS  
UDORN CHEERLEADERS



BOBBY KENDALL & WES HUTCHINSON



KRIS & TARA DENSLEY



KRIS DENSLEY



CHEERLEADERS PENNY CASH, DIANE GRIFFIN

UDORN PEP TEAM



ABBY JEALOUS WITH THAI SCHOOL CHILDREN

BANKOK ZOO



KIM ROLSTON, VICKIE KENDALL BIRTHDAYS ARE FUN!



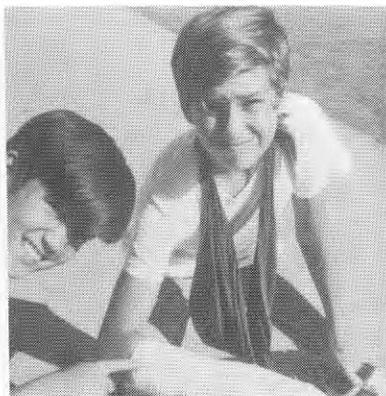
OKAY, TED WE MAY NEVER GET BACK TO THE STATES SO WE'VE GOT TO LEARN AN ORIENTAL TRADE. TED & TIM BRUNER



MIMI SAULT & KINDERGARTEN



JIM & TED - THEIR ELEPHANTS GOING TO PATTAYA BEACH, THAILAND 12/69



HE'S GOT A BOO BOO!  
WES HUTCHINSON, DONALD FELDER



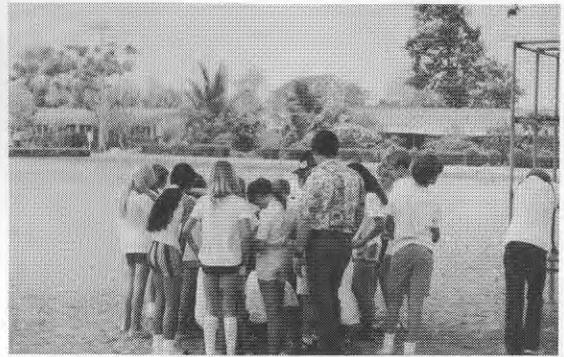
I REALLY HAD THE MUMPS  
VICKIE KENDALL



BOBBY FELDER, CHRIS THERIAULT



ABBY JEALOUS, HEATHER & JENNIFER KLINE



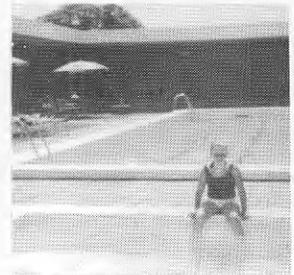
WE WILL WIN



THIS IS THE ROYAL COURT.



MICHELLE LISTER, TARA DENSLEY



FNS-154, UDORN POOL. LISA SMITH



DENSLEY FAMILY, SAIGON



PART OF THE CHILDREN'S PLAYING SCENE WALKING THEIR DOGS. DENSLEY GIRLS.



KRIS & TARA DENSLEY, MICHAEL BASHAM. KOOL



SIAGON ZOO



TARA DENSLEY, CARAY HITCHMAN



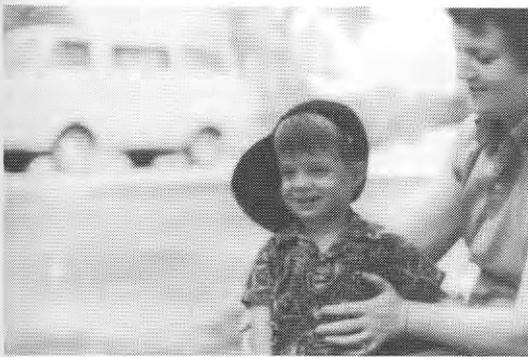
CATHY CASH, PAT CASH, DIANNE GRIFFIN, PENNY CASH



B.J. RUEK, LOIS, CHRISTA BRADY



BEN DENSLEY, KRIS DENSLEY



MELISA & JOHN RUDOLPH



DANNY & BEN DENSLEY



JASON TOMPSON



KIPPE DENSLEY, TOM GRADY, SAMANTHA CAMPBELL



VICKIE KENDALL. WE'RE GOING TO TENNESSEE



BOB KENDALL, PAYATTA BEACH  
FUTURE CROW



TARA & KRIS DENSLEY



TIFFANY JOHNSON. BLOW HARD.



TINA SCHULZE, ALVIN, TX. 1983.



CONNIE AND NORA SEIGRIST, LV OCT. '83.

MAD RIVER SMALL FRY



Alt. America's Captain Jerry McEntee, AMR Rotary Wing DTH, proudly displays fish he hooked in the famous Mad River which flows through our base at Udorn. Weight of the catch is unknown.



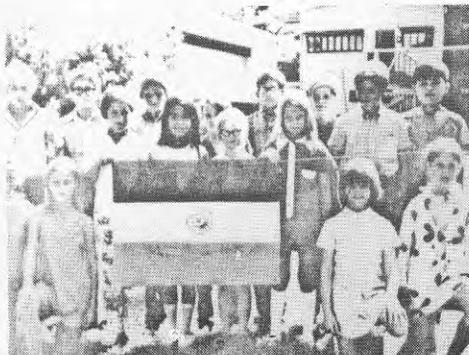
SAM HALL



MISS LISOLTA WALDHEIM



ELIZABETH ANN LASHOMB, AGE 2 YRS, 3 MO., DEC. '68, UDORN, THAILAND.



LITTLE ASIAN GAMES: TOP ROW: GEORGE FEIND, BURT BRIGIDA, VERN BLACK, MIKE CASH, RAYMOND DICKENSON, BRUCE EMERY, WES HUTCHISON; BOTTOM ROW: PAT CASH, VAL TIMKO, DONNA WILLIAMS, CHAI MEI LIU, KAREN BARNES, JILL THERIAULT, LILLIAN DICKENSON, TERRI EMERY.

# From the Front Lines



FROM THE BACKSIDE OF MIDNIGHT: YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY - BABY! WOULD YOU BELIEVE L54?



DUANE KEELE, IF MY LEFT NOSE ITCHES THEN I TURN RIGHT...



HAL MILLER, HEY BOY, COME HERE, I'M GONNA MAKE YOU A STAR!



ELMER MUNSELL. HOPE YOU CAN QUIT FLYING LONG ENOUGH TO CHECK ON YOUR MERCURY MINE AND CEMENT MINE AND...



IT WOULDN'T FLY BECAUSE THERE WAS ONE ROTOR TOO MANY!



GARY CONNELLY, IN QUEST OF THE FBC.



DON H. PUT ME ON THE SCHEDULE WILL THEY? JUST WAIT TILL I GET A HOLD OF KOCKIE - HUH TED!



FRANK BONANSINGA'S MOTHER, IRMA WITH CADDIE-- DON H.



"ANYBODY SEEN A BIG GREEN HELICOPTER? I'M SURE I PARKED IT RIGHT HERE". DON HENTHORN. PAKSE AIRSTRIP, LAOS.



"DEAR MR. DAWSON, IT'S NOT AT ALL LIKE YOU TOLD ME OVER HERE." GARY CONNOLLY, CAPT.



"I WISH HE WOULD WAKE UP I CAN'T FIND THE FLIGHT DIRECTOR SWITCH." ROGER COOK.



"I'VE BEEN IN LAOS ONE YEAR." TIM WOOZLEY, CAPT. OVER LONG THEIN, LAOS. BRINGING UP THE TAIL OF THE FBC.



DUBINSKI, SITE 59



THE THAI CONNECTION. BOON RAT, COM-INTRA, CAPT.; TOM BAI YAI, F.M.



ARE WE GOING OUT AGAIN??  
JOE GACULIAS



"ALERTNESS WAS A MAJOR TRAIT OF ALL THE AIR AMERICA PILOTS." GARY CONNOLLY, CAPT. SAVING HIS ENERGY