

USNS GENERAL WEIGEL TRIDENT

VOLUME 4 VOYAGE 10

13 DECEMBER 1967

CONGRESS OK'S PAY BOOST

The proposed military pay raise that has been pending in Congress since early October was passed by Congress today.

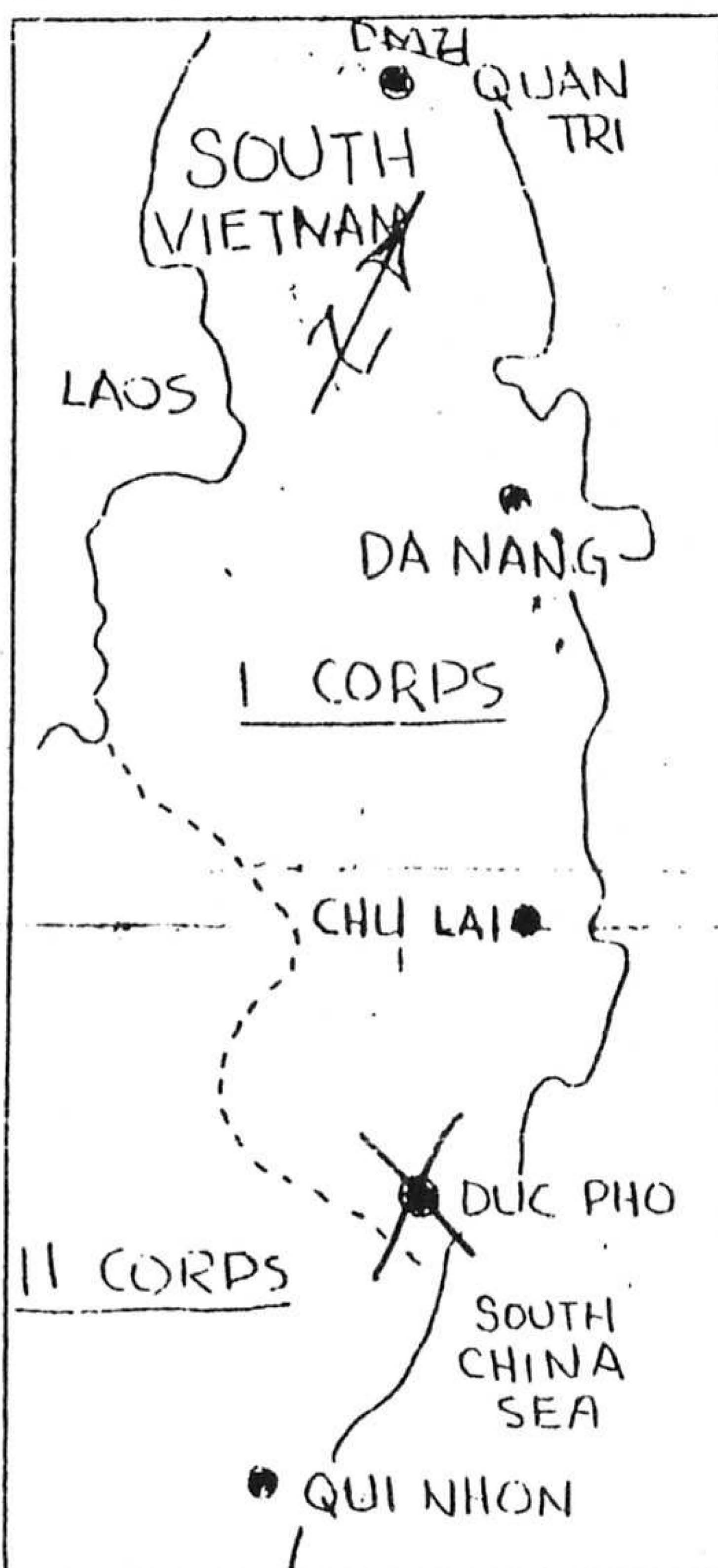
The bill, retroactive to October 1, is awaiting President Johnson's signature. It will increase base pay of all government employees by 5.6%.

It is expected that military personnel will receive back payments during the first few months of the new year.

No information has been received concerning that portion of the bill allowing for automatic pay increases for the next 2 years. The projected pay scale will be made available in later editions.

Along with the pay raise Congress approved the postage hike.

BRIGADE PORT CHANGED



A sudden switch in plans has changed the 11th Brigade's port of embarkation from Da Nang to Qui Nhon.

This change was made not because of any danger from enemy action, but to accommodate the seasonal monsoon weather.

According to Major James F. Henrionnet, executive officer of troops aboard the USNS Weigel, Vietnam has two distinct monsoon seasons, a northern and a southern season. Da Nang lies within the northern monsoon area, and plagued by continuous, heavy tropical rainfall.

Our new port of entry is located south of our base site at Duc Pho. It is 75 miles from base camp and as yet no information is available as to the mode of transportation from Qui Nhon to Duc Pho.

BULLETIN

SATCON--Junior Senator Charles W. Percy (R-ILL) was fired upon during his inspection tour of Viet Nam. Initial reports indicate that the Senator was shaken up but not injured.

BIDDIX RIDES AGAIN

SFC Boyd Biddix, platoon sergeant for the 12nd platoon, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry, has spent quite a bit more time on the USNS Weigel than most of us. He went to war across this same ocean in the fall of 1952 on this same ship.

Sergeant Biddix entered the Army in July, 1950, and was trained as a military policeman. He was assigned to various posts and finally left Fort McClellan, Alabama, for Korea in the fall of 1952.

Almost all troops going to Korea in those days went by troop transport. Sergeant Biddix went BIDDIX--cont page 3

NOTES ON TROPICAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The difficulties of the photographer in the moist tropical areas of the world are the result of the high temperature and particularly of the very high relative humidity. These lead to personal discomfort, and to deterioration of materials, equipment, and finished photographs, either directly or through encouraging the growth of molds and bacteria and the ravages of insects. The following suggestions will be helpful in protecting your equipment.

Have cameras and other items of equipment been
NOTES--cont on page 3

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

BY CHAPLAIN CAREY

During World War II, a great leader was imprisoned. Speaking about it, he once said he often felt like shaking his fist at his captors and saying, "God will take revenge on you." However, at those times he remembered the words of Christ on the Cross, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

Jesus' prayer from the cross is the peak of intercessory prayer, it is asking forgiveness for man's rejection and crucifixion of the Son of God.

If Jesus Christ pleaded with his Heavenly Father to forgive those who crucified him, how much more should we pray for the forgiveness of those who wrong us! By our prayers for those who sin against us, we indicate our desire to be forgiven of our trespasses.

The children of Israel has sinned greatly. Moses poured out his heart for them. All thought of his own salvation forgotten, Moses prayed for the forgiveness of the people he loved. He told God that he sought nothing for himself. Moses' prayer to be blotted out of God's book was not granted, but it breathed the spirit of self-denying intercession. Disregard of self is a sure mark of true intercession.

Jesus said, "If anyone wishes to be a follower of mine, he must leave self behind." This is as true of the ministry of intercession as of any other part of our obedience.

Intercessory prayer has a larger meaning than we might think. Some feel such prayers are offered only for the salvation of those who have not committed themselves to Jesus Christ. Prayers for them are basic of course, but intercessory praying does not end there.

Intercessory prayer is, indeed, effective in its appeal to God for the unsaved. The knowledge that others are praying for you and me in our various trials of life is dynamic. Such prayers give us strength so we will not fail God nor those who are remembering us in prayer.

TODAY'S MOVIE

Cabin Class 2000 hours
ONE DESIRE (B&W)

Troop Compartments
1300 thru 2000 hours
THE WRONG MAN (B&W)

1300 hours:
Compts 4-1, 4-6, 4-7, 2-2

1500 hours:
Compts 2-3, 3-2, 3-3

1800 hours:
Compts 2-7, 4-2, 4-3

2000 hours:
Compts 3-7, 4-4

TOMORROW'S MOVIE

Cabin Class:
ANGEL FACE (B&W)

Troop Compartments:
No movie - Talent show

DAILY RELIGIOUS
SERVICES ON BOARD
Large Troop Recreation
Lounge

CATHOLIC

0800 Confession
0830 Mass

INTERFAITH MOVIE

0900 Moody Service Film

PROTESTANT

0945 Daily Devotions

JEWISH SABBATH

1900 Fridays

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Large Troop Recreation
Lounge

CATHOLIC

0900 Mass

PROTESTANT

1000 Worship Communion

LATTERDAY SAINTS

Ship's Chapel

1000 Worship Service

BINGO**BINGO**BINGO**BINGO

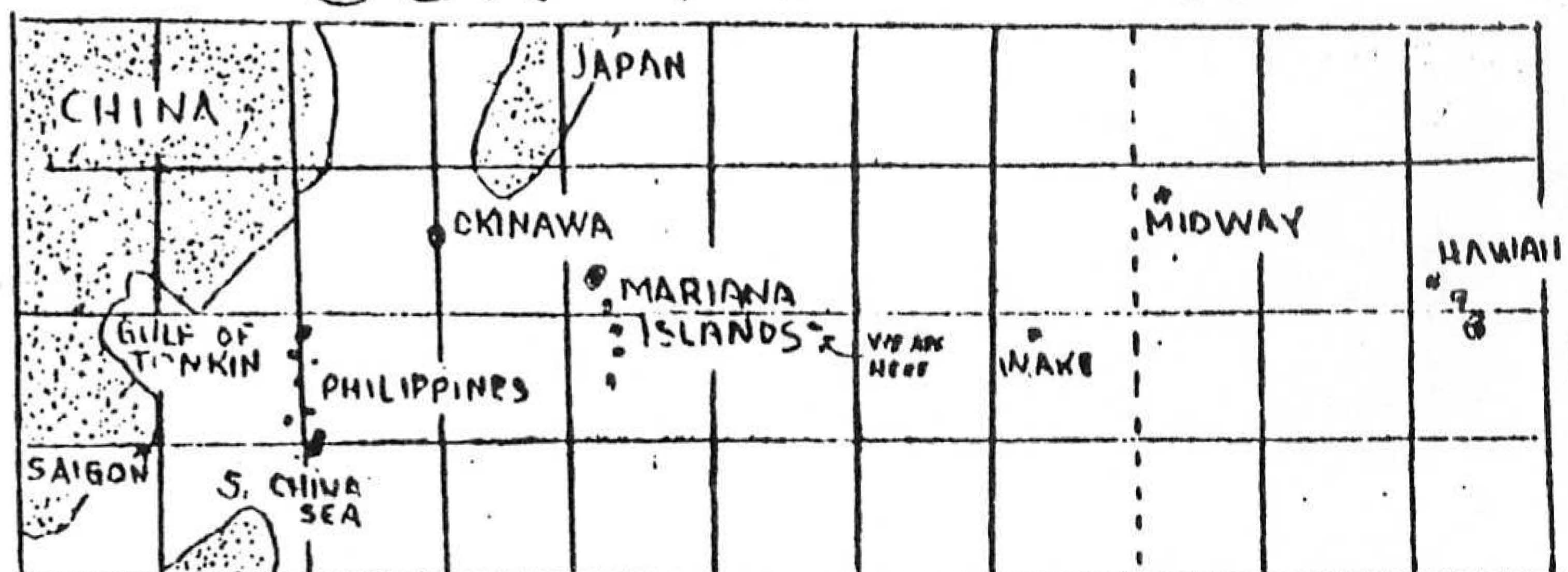
CABIN CLASS PASSENGERS:
1800 hours
Main Dining Room

THURSDAY NIGHT

COMPARTMENT PASSENGERS
1900 hours
Troop Mess Hall

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OUR POSITION



The TRIDENT is an authorized publication of the Military Department on board the USNS General William Weigel. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Departments of the Army or Navy. This newspaper is published daily by members of the 31st Public Information Detachment.

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CO MIL DPT.....LCDR G. R. LEDBETTER
SR UNIT CDR.....MAJ D. CORBIN
ARMY OIC.....MAJ J.D. DAVIDSON
EDITOR.....CPT F.A. PATSY
SR ADVISOR.....CHAPLAIN DOWERS

BIDDIX—cont from page 1
aboard the USNS General William Weigel. There were 4,200 soldiers stacked five high in the compartments, and there was no air conditioning.

Because of the larger number of people that had to be fed, the tables in the mess hall were raised and the benches remained folded. All chow was gobbled while standing. The weather got rough and the ship had to close up for a few days to "weather" out a storm. There was a shortage of fresh water and one was lucky to get enough to drink.

SFC Biddix, who hails from Gastonia, N.C., has a wife and four children back in Lowell, N.C. He

had been an MP for most of his Army career until coming to the 11th in October of 1967. He attended a few MP schools during his various assignments and has served three tours in Korea.

When the then Corporal Biddix went to Korea for the first time he was assigned to a POW camp on an island off the Korean coast. He finished his last tour there in September of 1964.

"The ship is in much better condition now than it was on that first voyage," commented SFC Biddix concerning his last trip on this ship, "But, I sure wish they would put air-conditioning in this cabin of mine."

TALENT SHOW

The 11th Brigade talent show will be held Thursday, December 14, 1967, in the troop recreation lounge as follows:

1800 hours
Compts 4-1, 4-6, 4-7, 2-2

1900 hours
Compts 2-3, 3-2, 3-3

2000 hours
Compts 2-7, 4-2, 4-3

2100 hours
Compts 3-7, 4-4

Due to the talent show, all movies for the troop compartments on Thursday will be cancelled.

PEERING THE PLOT

COURSE	269°
LATITUDE	19°-49' N
LONGITUDE	157°-34' E
DISTANCE	458 mi
SPEED	19.08 kts
FROM HAWAII	2512 mi
TO VIETNAM	2825 mi
13 Dec 67	

TIME IS CHANGING

CLOCKS ARE TO BE RETARDED ONE HOUR...

AT 2300 HOURS 20 minutes

AT 0100 HOURS 20 minutes

AT 0500 HOURS 20 minutes

SO...Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed tonite.

NOTES—cont from page 1

cleaned and placed in proper working order?

Place all cameras and equipment which will not be needed for use during the journey, or immediately after arrival, in sealed metal cans together with a drying agent (silica gel).

Obtain supplies of film in water-vapor-tight packaging. Rolls of 20-exposure film will generally be preferable to full-length, 36-exposure rolls since the shorter rolls can be exposed quicker and removed from the camera. Magazines of exposed 135 film should be stored or shipped for processing in lightly capped cans. The caps should not be screwed down tightly.

Do not open sealed containers until the equipment and supplies are needed for use. Equipment which is properly sealed in cans with a drying agent, and film in water-vapor-tight packaging require no further attention if they are protected from exposure to excessive heat.

Regularly and frequently clean all cameras and other equipment which are not in sealed containers. Wipe and polish them with a cloth, and on clean, dry days air and sun them whenever practical. The tropical sun can be very strong, however, and equipment should not be exposed long enough to become very hot. Cameras loaded with film should never be exposed to the sun more than is necessary.

Do not let film remain in cameras overnight in humid locations or any longer than necessary under any conditions.

Have film processed as soon as possible after exposure and airmailed to your home for proper storage.

SNOOPY



USNS GENERAL WEIGEL TRIDENT

VOLUME 7 VOYAGE 10

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1967

BOMBS WILL NOT FALL DURING HOLIDAY TRUCE

The American bombing of North Vietnam will be suspended during the Christmas and New Year truces for four days, the State Department announced today. Bombing raids will be halted to coincide with two 24 hour truces at Christmas and the New Year with a 48 hour truce during the Vietnamese Tet Holiday in late January and early February.

The State Department said the bombing pause would apply automatically if truces announced in Saigon today are observed in the ground fighting.

The last bombing pause was in February during the last Tet Holiday.

FLASH

THE NORTH VIETNAMESE NEWS AGENCY REPORTED TODAY THAT AMERICAN BOMBERS HIT HANOI AND KILLED OR WOUNDED A NUMBER OF PEOPLE AND BURNED DOWN SCORES OF DWELLINGS. STORIES PRINTED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARE USUALLY DENIED BY U.S. OFFICIALS IN SAIGON.

Observers said it was highly unlikely the brief truces and bombing halts arranged for this year would be extended unless hanoi provided serious indications of interest in negotiations.

American military leaders have told the administration that they are strongly opposed to longer truces which, they again claim, give the Communists an opportunity to re-equip their troops.

The Viet Cong this week announced they would observe three day truces at Christmas and the New Year and seven days during the Tet holiday.



RUSSELL LONG SLIPS WELFARE BILL THROUGH SENATE

In a surprise move on the floor of the Senate, Senator Russell Long of Louisiana caught liberal senators napping and had the controversial Social Security bill passed without discussion.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield objected saying that he had been detained by visitors and could not reach the floor in time for the vote. He called for an immediate reconsideration vote on the bill.

Since it takes unanimous consent to allow a vote of reconsideration, Senator Long has been placed in a position where he can name his own terms.

Long said that he would allow Senator Robert Kennedy and other liberal opponents of the welfare bill to present their opinions only on the condition that they did not hold up an early vote. Final vote on reconsideration will come today.


GOOD ADVICE: TAKE TEA AND SEE

That commercial jingle, "Take Tea and See" could very well have a more portentous meaning than might be thought. University of California researcher last week announced that tea can greatly reduce the influence of hardening of the arteries.

Dr. Wei Yung, the head of the three-man research committee which made the discovery, said that drinking tea could dramatically reduce coronary heart disease.

Independent research by teams in Canada and England have supported these latest findings.

Dr. Yung said that in future research at California's Livermore Laboratories he hoped to isolate the substance in the tea which deters the effects of hardening of the arteries which is attributed to the fat-rich diet of Americans and people of other nations.



CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

BY CHAPLAIN CAREY

What should a man know about death? Here are some thoughts on this very serious, but not morbid, topic. A man's life can show what he is. His death shows what he is. Some men are greater in failure than others are in success because they are true to themselves no matter what the cost. All too often the world judges according to standards that make success equal virtue, as if only those who "get ahead" were good. But death reveals greatness. What one man is may be more valuable to society than what another does.

"We do not die until God wants us to die, and we do not live until we die." If we believe in God's loving care of us and in His unlimited power, we know that death cannot be an ending but a beginning.

We can desire food for another; it may or may not happen. But what God wills, happens. Our death is a part of God's plan. Because we trust in God we do not sorrow at the death of a loved one as some do who have no trust in God.

Men who die in the routine, even hum-drum performance of duty to their country, do not need publicity or fanfare; their sacrifice speaks for them. They do not need the hysteria of war to be heroes; their dedication makes them heroes. They do not need our praise; for they who have God, have no needs.

This thought is well expressed in this short prayer:

Let nothing disturb you.
Let nothing scare you.
All things here are passing;
God only is changeless.

Patient endurance
Obtains all things.
He who has God
Wants for nothing
For evermore.

TOMORROW WILL BE THE LAST EDITION OF THE TRIDENT

DAILY RELIGIOUS
SERVICES ON BOARD
Large Troop Recreation
Lounge

CATHOLIC
0800 Confession
0830 Mass

INTERFAITH MOVIE
0900 Moody Service Film

PROTESTANT
0945 Daily Devotions

JEWISH SABBATH
1900 Fridays

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
Large Troop Recreation
Lounge

CATHOLIC
0900 Mass

PROTESTANT
1000 Worship Communion

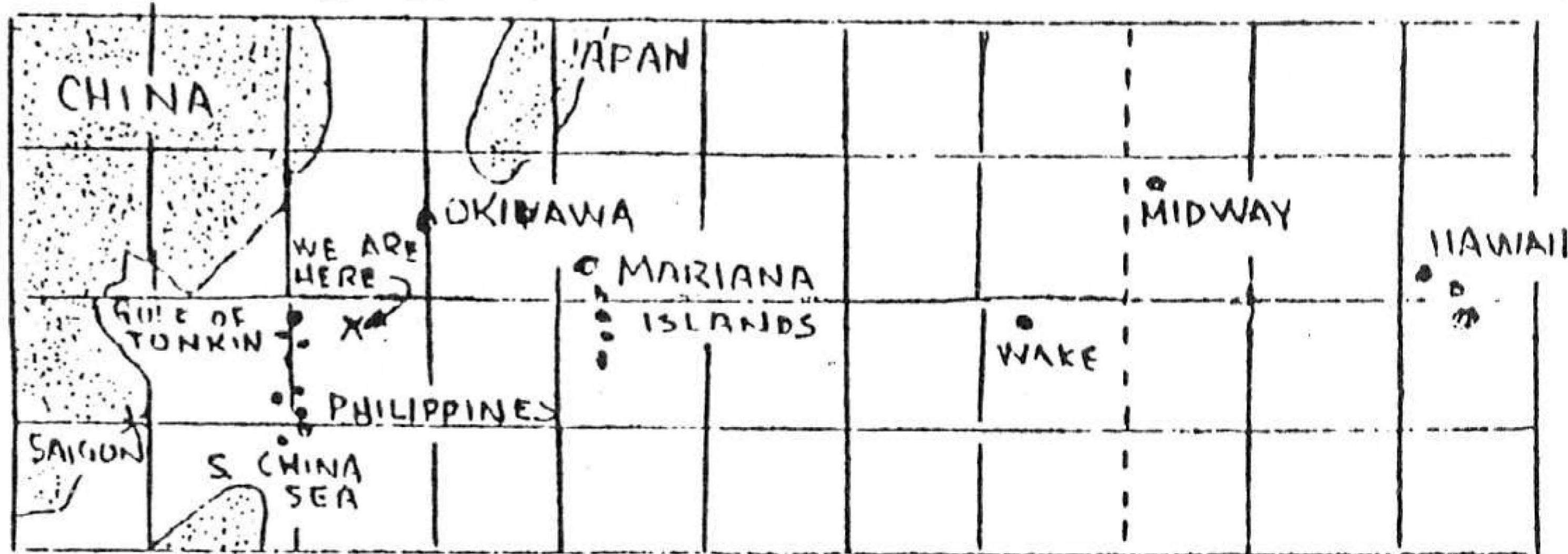
LATTERDAY SAINTS
1000 Worship Service

(EDITOR'S NOTE:)

It has been brought to the attention of the TRIDENT that our drawings of Vietnamese women are not depicting the real picture of the women of South Vietnam.

We urge our readers to bear with us and overlook the lack of similarity between our artwork and the females we will be encountering in Vietnam.

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TODAY'S MOVIE

Cabin Class - 2000 hours
ACROSS THE BRIDGE

Troop Compartments
1300 thru 2000 hours
HUSH HUSH SWEET CHARLOTTE

1300 hours:
Compts 4-1, 4-6, 4-7, 2-2

1500 hours:
Compts 2-3, 3-2, 3-3

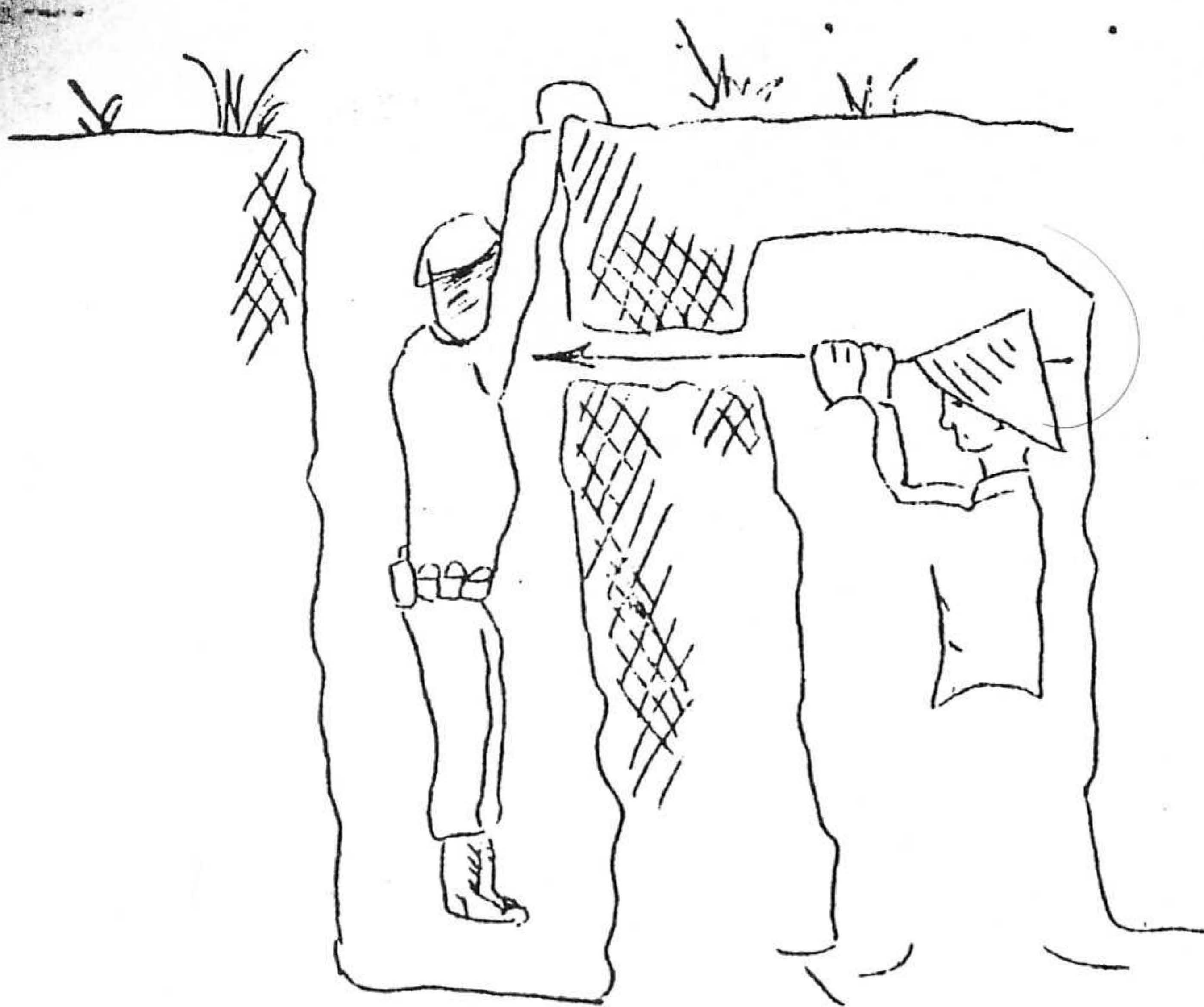
1800 hours:
Compts 2-7, 4-2, 4-3

2000 hours:
Compts 3-7, 4-4

TOMORROW'S MOVIE

Cabin Class:
MAN IN THE WHITE SUIT

Troop Compartments:
NONE BUT THE BRAVE



TRICKS OF THE VC TRADE
WATCH WHERE YOU JUMP

WAR CRITIC TO VISIT VIETNAM
Senator Joseph Clark (D-Pa.) a leading war critic on the Foreign Relations Committee, will visit New Zealand, Australia and Indonesia, on his way to Vietnam next month, it was announced.

Accompanied by his new wife, Sen. Clark will arrive in Auckland on New Year day and move on to Sidney on January 9th, before leaving for Djakarta the next day.

After a visit to South Vietnam beginning on January 16th, he will stop briefly in Hong Kong before returning to Washington.

CAPTURED DOCUMENTS VS DISTRIBUTED DOCUMENTS
Captured documents prove the Viet Cong would try to seize power if included in a coalition government in South Vietnam, the State Department charged today.

The warning was issued as the U.S. acted to blunt the effects of a programme document issued by the National Liberation Front and distributed to members of the UN.

THE CROW'S NEST

One of the third mates aboard the USNS Weigel, Mr. L. J. Bie, adjusted his sextant slightly. From the wheel house came the time checks TWO MINUTES...ONE MINUTE.. MARK!

Mr. Bie went back into the wheel house to figure the ship's exact position. Using tables to adjust for the time of year and other variables, he plotted the exact position on a chart marked, "Eastern Approach to the Babuyan Channel".

"From our present position and speed, we should see the Cape Engano Light shortly before 8pm," Mr. Bie said.

Later, we should pass approximately five miles to the left of Camiguin Island, which has a peak 2,300 feet high.

Luzon, the island off to portside, is the northern most of the large islands of the Phillipine chain.

By morning, the Weigel should be past the Phillipines and turn South through the South China Sea.

TOURNAMENT TIME ON THE WEIGEL

Tournaments were in full swing yesterday and today as cabin class passengers vied for top honors in various contests. Emerging as the Champion of Checkers was CW 2 Carl Rhodes and shortly afterwards SFC John Stonich walked away with the Cribbage crown. Pinochle lasted until the late hours last night and Lt. Jim Webster scored high and often to win. He was followed closely by SFC Virgil Phetteplace, the runner-up and CPT Watt who finished third.

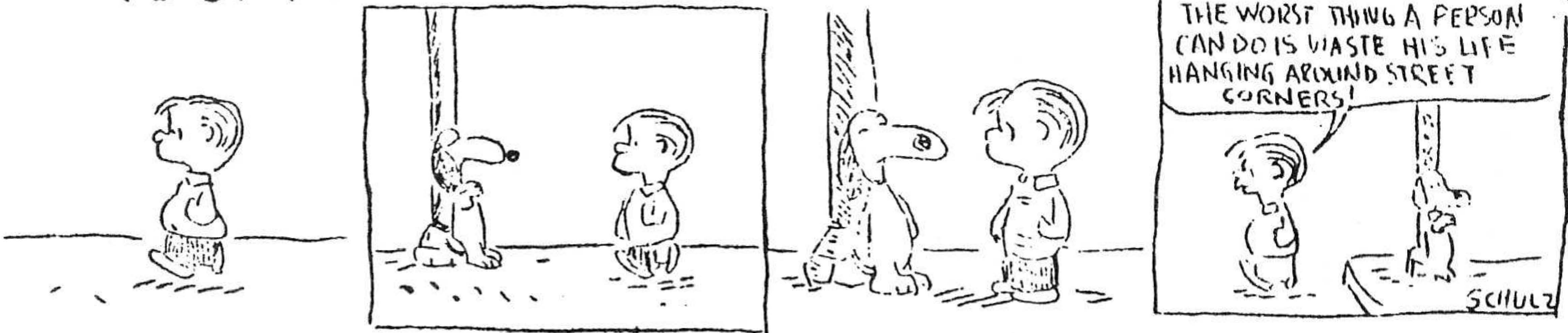
Maj Henrionnet walked away with the Bridge Championship as Lt. Carol Rehm placed second and CW 2 Daniel McElligott wound up with the 'low man' prize.

The Chess Tournament turned out to be a marathon event which was finally decided early this morning when 1SG Daniel Ruiz eased out a victory over SFC Kenner Ravencourt.

Prizes for all winners, and in some events the top three finalists, were donated by the MSTs.

PEERING THE PLOT	
COURSE	270°
LATITUDE	18°-52' N
LONGITUDE	125°-05' E
DISTANCE	458 mi
SPEED	19.08kts
FROM HAWAII	4358 mi
TO VIETNAM	979 mi
17 Dec 67	

SNOOPY



RETARD YOUR CLOCKS ONE HOUR TONIGHT