

First In Vietnam

THE OBSERVER

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SAIGON, VIETNAM

March 27, 1967

2,500 Villagers Resettle After Complex Operation

Binh Thuy (USAF)—The last of more than 2,500 villagers are resettling in the area of Hon Chong Mountain, in southwest Vietnam on the Gulf of Thailand.

They moved out of their homes last November after a complex operation involving U.S. Air Force forward air controllers (FACs), U.S. Air Force and Republic of Vietnam Air Force (VNAF) strike crews; Republic of Vietnam Army and Regional Forces; and psychological warfare air and ground personnel.

The area had been under Viet Cong control since 1964. The VC used the rocky natural forts provided by the caves near the peak for munitions storage and headquarters. Local people lived in eight small villages clustered around the mountain. Air strikes on the VC area were coupled with psychological warfare operations. People would be warned away from potential strike areas by means of psywar speaker aircraft. Leaflet drops told them where to go for refuge.

Forward air controllers involved said a large share of credit for the success of the operation belonged to the VNAF 74th Tactical Wing pilots at Binh Thuy. Their

pinpoint accuracy made it possible to hit enemy targets without endangering the villages below.

When the villagers moved into the town of Kien Luong, out of VC control, 84 local boys, who had been recruited as VC troops, left with them and turned themselves in to Chieu Hoi for repatriation to the government.

Later, ARVN forces made a sweep of the area to rid it of any hard core VC forces left. After that building began on two forts, just now in completion, where Regional Forces are assigned to keep the area VC free.

The whole operation went so smoothly that the villagers were back in place in time to harvest their rice crop, their agricultural patterns of living hardly disturbed. Rice from their area has long been prized as a luxury item. In a land rich in agricultural potential, some of the richest is found in the muddy plain at the foot of Hon Chong. Rice there sometimes produces grains almost an inch long.

Among the agencies which also assisted in the operation were the U.S. Navy and the Joint U.S. Office of Public Affairs (JUSPAO).

Thailand Military Staff Plans Further Aid To FWF

Major General Chalard, Deputy Operations, Royal Thai Army, led a contingent of top Thai military officers on a five-day visit to the Republic of Vietnam last week to plan further Thailand aid to Vietnam.

Arriving at Tan Son Nhut March 15, the party was greeted by Brigadier General W. A. Knowlton, Director, Revolutionary Development Support Directorate, MACV. After lunching with the Thai ambassador, General Chalard conferred with General Vien, Chief of the Vietnamese Joint General Staff.

General Chalard called on General W. C. Westmoreland and toured USARV and 1st Logistical Command headquarters in Tan Son Nhut March 16.

The following day, General Chalard toured headquarters camps of II Field Force, Vietnam, the 9th Infantry Division and the 93rd Evacuation Hospital.

The general's itinerary wound up with a Revolutionary Development briefing and meetings with Free World Military Assistance Organization officials.

Air Force and Army operations and intelligence people made sure the psy-war broadcasts and printed material properly fitted the situation and would be understood by the villagers.

Stars & Stripes Has New Number

Saigon (MACV)—Inquiries about free distribution of Stars and Stripes should be made to USARV Command Information Office beginning April 1.

Commands and units which previously coordinated their distribution with the MACV Command Information Office should now contact the USARV office, (telephone Army 397) or address letters to The Command Information Office, USARV, APO 96307.

The office is located Bldg. 28 in the USARV compound at Tan Son Nhut.



DELIVERY—Supporting the 11th Armored Cav on Operation Junction City a Chinook brings in fuel and food to the tank troop (Photo by Sp5 C. Jones, USA)

Mighty Copter Armor 'Lifeline'

By Sp4 A. Barylski, USA
Staff Writer

Xuan Loc (MACV)—A mighty mass of the ugliest aircraft that ever graced a jungle treetop is the "life line" feeding the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment as it helps spearhead Operation Junction City, which has raged since the middle of February. The helicopter, Vietnam's ugly duckling, hovers over the tankmen when they need her.

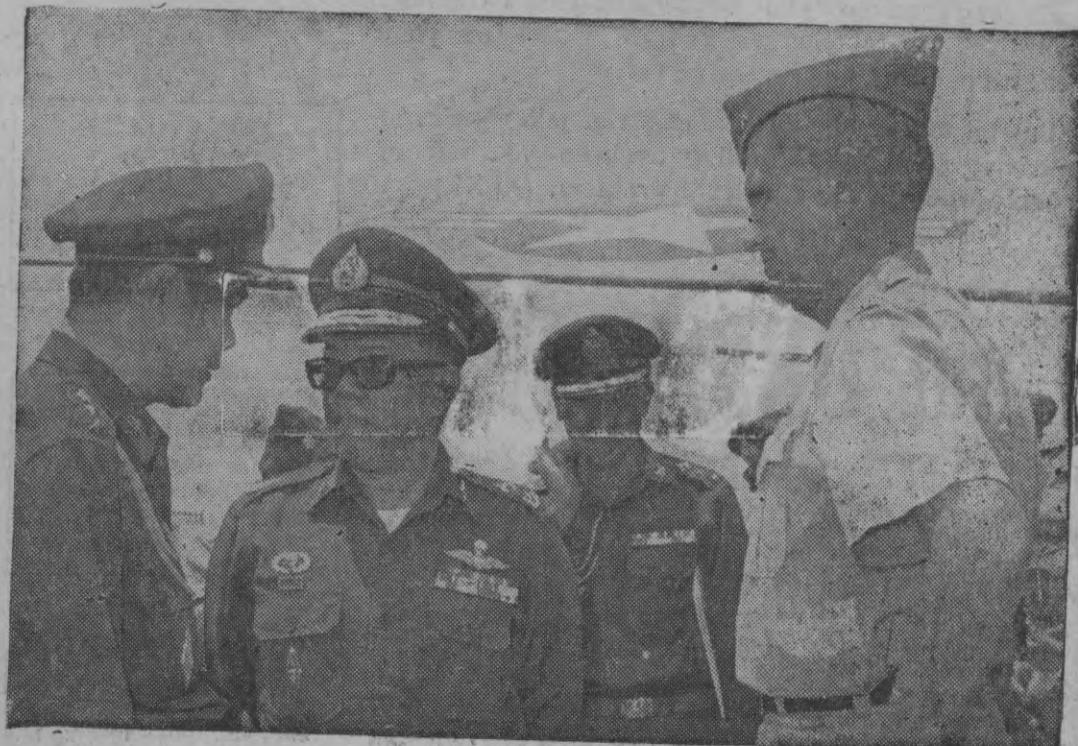
The 11th Armored Cavalry uses powerful UH-1 "Huey" gunships armed with miniguns and rocket pods to give their armored vehicles close air support. Smaller choppers, OH-13 "bubble tops", transport commanders from field command posts to front line units and act as forward observers for tank commanders. And the familiar, huge CH-47 Chinooks resupply the mechanized

units with rations, tank fuel and other vitally needed logistics.

Helicopters are morale builders as well as work horses. Whenever possible, choppers deliver the soldier his only contact with home, his mail. They also bring occasional "hot" meals and "ice cold" beverages to the combat weary troopers, giving them a break from the usual C-rations and water.

A soldier is whisked off to a waiting hospital within minutes after receiving a wound, greatly reducing the American death toll, because of highly efficient medical evacuation helicopters.

The men of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment can tell you how much the helicopter means to them, because almost everything that they do is dependent, in some way, on the mighty helicopter.



WELCOME ABOARD—(From left to right) Colonel Sanit, Thai Military Attaché to Saigon, Major General Chalard, Deputy Operations, Royal Thailand Army, are greeted at Tan Son Nhut Air Base by Brigadier General W. A. Knowlton, Director, Revolutionary Development Support Directorate, MACV. (JUSPAO Photo)

EDITORIAL

Legal Insurance

Most people have insurance of one type or another. There's life, automobile, fire, health and mortgage insurance—many different types covering just about anything you can imagine.

But for those of us in the military, there is another kind of insurance. There's no written policy and we don't pay annual premiums, but it is there just the same.

It can be called legal insurance and it is offered daily by legal assistance officers the world over.

This insurance comes in the form of qualified, professional advice to help you understand wills, mortgages, sales contracts, powers of attorney, tax problems—the whole range of civil legal matters that might give you trouble or raise questions in your mind.



The legal assistance officer is an attorney whose job is to act as your legal adviser and consultant. He will give you the advice you seek to keep your personal affairs in good order.

He won't advise on criminal matters, nor will he represent you before a civil court. If your problem requires the services of a civilian lawyer, he can refer you to civilian legal advisers or legal aid bureaus through cooperating bar associations.

He can't advise you concerning court-martial investigations or charges and he won't be your collection agent or process server.

But he will give you the benefit of many years of intensive study and training to keep you out of trouble when you have a legal problem. (AFNB)

THE OBSERVER

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* * *

OFFICER IN CHARGE 1st Lt. T. A. Quinn, USA EDITOR Gy. Sgt. J. E. Huerta, USMC ANST EDITOR Sp4 T. P. Rhoades, USA

Support From Home

(Editor's Note—Gen. W. C. Westmoreland receives, daily, hundreds of letters, scrolls, petitions, etc., from the citizens of the United States from every corner of the U.S. backing the U.S. policy in Vietnam. Since it would be impossible to print all the names of individuals and organizations in THE OBSERVER, we will pick at random several and print them in one column periodically.)

FUND PROJECT GROUP

To pay postage for packages to be mailed to GI's in Vietnam
Westerly, R.I.

DONATION OF MONEY FOR TROOPS IN VIETNAM

Editor
"Corriere del Ticino"
Mr Luigi Caglio
Lugano, Switzerland

MEMORIAL PROJECT

In Memory of
Captain Losciuto
(KIA)
To be in area of
Than Phu
Miss Satake
and
Miss Villey
Deer Lodge, Mont.

RESOLUTION

Legislature of the
State of New Mexico
Albuquerque, N. M.

GREETINGS

for
St Patrick's Day
Mayor of
Chicago
Chicago, Ill.

TELEGRAM

Students of
Saint Mary Springs
High School
Fond du Lac, Wis.
120 Signatures

DONATION

Supplies for
Phu Cuong Hospital
Students of Mesa
Junior High School
Mesa, Ariz.

The Piaster Poet

A soldier whose budget was thin
Found his outgo exceeded his in.
"Though it won't be a breeze,
I'll cut down on my P's,
Which will help us to squeeze Ho Chi Minh."

A young SP4, name of Day,
Learned his COLA would end, first of May.
"It'll hurt for a while,
Most of all when I smile,
So I'll carefully manage my pay."

From the boondocks, a trooper exclaimed:
"Careless spending of P's can be blamed
For the prices I pay
On my off-duty play,"
Said this soldier, who hasn't been named.

A smart PFC, name of Hank,
Declared as he worked on his tank:
"I draw less cash, it's true,
And my pleasures are few,
But I laugh all the way to the bank."

A corporal named Fink would allot
Almost all of the money he got
To a bank in the States;
At the high interest rates,
Fink saved funds for a fifty-foot yacht.

If savings deposits pay ten,
And bonds more than four per cent when
They've been held seven years,
Fifty 80-P beers
Cost how much? (Get some paper and pen.)

Anonymous

Your Insurance! Who Will Get It?

Washington (NAVN)—A Marine was killed in Vietnam. Back home in the states he left a wife and two children. The Marine was fully insured, and his carefully written will left everything to his wife. But his wife didn't get any insurance money. That went to his mother. And another company delivered its check to his brother.

Unfortunately, the Marine had not changed the beneficiary on his insurance policies. Perhaps he thought the will would take care of that. Not

at all. The insurance companies were legally required to pay his mother and his brother.

Tragedies like this can be avoided. Check the beneficiaries on your life insurance policies and be sure that the persons named are the ones you want to have your money. Procrastination is the main reason for such mistakes, so do it now. Even divorce does not defeat the right for the beneficiary to collect.

A legal assistance officer may be consulted for advice in insurance matters.



SMILE — Specialist 4 Emelindo A. Jacobs was the only official Army photographer to accompany the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade on the first combat jump in Vietnam. (USA Photo)

Photographer Makes Combat Debut Taking Movies Drifting In Air

Long Binh (USA) —

Whether on land, sea or in the air... smile... you may be on candid camera with Specialist 4 Emelindo A. Jacobs, Virgin Islands, behind the lens recording history. Specialist Jacobs holds the distinction of being the only official Army photographer to participate in the first combat parachute jump into an enemy stronghold since the Korean War.

Cameraman Jacobs came to Vietnam last June with a unit attached to the 53rd Signal Battalion, a subordinate unit of II Field Force Vietnam (II FFORCEV).

The paratroop photographer first learned of the chance to make the jump through the Information Officer of the 173rd Airborne Brigade,

whose 2nd Battalion of the 503rd Infantry made the combat parachute assault.

Although he isn't a member of the brigade, Jacobs was requested to make the jump because of his qualifications and the filming experience he had obtained with various units while on combat missions.

When later questioned as to what prompted his decision to accept the opportunity for the jump, the cameraman answered, "When asked to go on the mission, I was naturally a little anxious. But I knew I was the only motion picture cameraman in the area who was jump qualified, and the idea of being authorized a combat star above my jump wings appealed to me."

Specialist Jacobs has been

in the Army for four years, and is a graduate of the Motion Picture Photography School at Fort Monmouth, N.J. He received his airborne training at Fort Benning, Ga., and later made 13 training jumps as a member of the 173rd Airborne Brigade when the unit was based on Okinawa.

The combat jump, which took place barely four miles from the Cambodian border during II FFORCEV Operation Junction City, was the first combat jump for Jacobs, his first jump in Vietnam and his 19th jump overall. "By far," said Jacobs, "it will be my most memorable one."

So smile next time you drift through the clouds, you may be on candid camera.

'I'm Short - Only

Song Mao (USA) — Four consecutive years on an imaginary line in Vietnam dodging bullets, mortar rounds and communist ambushes is enough to make any "ground pounder" want to go home. But for Platoon Sergeant Camillo Gonzales, a paratrooper in the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, the first year was only a start.

His first year was as an advisor to a Vietnamese infantry division operating in the Mekong Delta in November 1964. Since that time

Army Morale Mirrored By Viet Volunteers

Washington (ANF) — The Army's Vietnam Volunteer Program has been both active and productive this year—reflecting the "esprit de corps" of the individual soldier and local command emphasis placed on the program.

Since the program was begun on July 1, 1964, 6,797 officers and 59,834 enlisted men have submitted volunteer applications for Vietnam duty.

During calendar year 1966, a total of 41,595 of those who had volunteered for this duty were assigned to Vietnam. Volunteers assigned to Vietnam during 1966 more than doubled the number assigned under the program during the previous 18 months. Presently, over 60,000 soldiers have been assigned to Vietnam as volunteers.

18 Months To Go'

C. Westmoreland for additional line duty. After his line stint, he received the Vung Tau duty. A second request was approved and he happily came back to the Brigade.

His goal is to serve one more year before he retires giving him seven years of combat in the past 16 years. Sergeant Gonzales has saved more than \$10,000 since his arrival and draws less than

\$50.00 a month. "There aren't many places to spend money in the jungle," he jokes. But money is far from being the reason he stays. His experience has kept him alive and he wants to stay where he can give the younger troops the benefit of his experience.

This is his third year in Vietnam and as Sergeant Gonzales says, "I'm short—only 18 months to go."



COOLING IT — As 9th Infantry Division troops from C Company, 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry fanned out across this rice paddy prior to a sweep operation. Private First Class Larry Cork discovered that his parcel of land was underwater. There was nothing to do but get into position, so he did. Dark semi-circles in foreground are the tips of his jungle boots. (USA Photo)

Vet Takes Sick Call Seriously

Da Nang (USAF) — Sick call for Captain Warren W. Kent, Jr., Birmingham, Ala., is literally going to the dogs.

He visits with approximately 50 patients daily without one word of complaining.

Captain Kent is a veterinarian assigned to the 366th Tactical Dispensary at Da Nang air base and has the responsibility of caring for 50 sentry dogs.

The base veterinarian reports the K-9s can suffer some human ailments as well as a variety of their own. In Vietnam the dogs suffer mainly from parasites, skin disorders and leptospirosis (dog fever).

His duties involve the responsibilities of giving each dog a semi-annual physical, administer regular shots, and maintain health records on each patient.

Before entering the Air Force, Captain Kent practiced veterinary medicine in Birmingham.



Chieu Hoi Reports On Falling VC Confidence

Cu Chi (USA)—A former medic for the C-17 Medical Unit of the 18th North Vietnamese regiment, who turned himself in under the Chieu Hoi program, told his former comrades in a statement they are fighting for the wrong cause.

He said that fighting for the Communist cause will give them neither valid ideals nor a reason to live.

Nguyen Quang Nhung, who surrendered to troops

of the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade Task Force at Pleiku, made the statement for use in the Psychological Warfare Program.

"Have a look at our regiment," he says. "You will see that we have had a lot of casualties in the past months. We don't have enough rice to keep our bodies strong to fight on and on."

He pointed out that the regiment's morale is low but its highranking officers seem unconcerned. He advised his comrades to turn to the "true national cause" through the Chieu Hoi program, which then will end the air strikes, artillery and infantry assaults they suffer now.

Nhung reassured his former friends by telling them that in the time he spent with the U.S. unit, he was never mistreated; but given food, clothing and medical treatment. In closing he said, "Raise your hands to the helicopters. You who were my friends, follow me and you will be happy."

CIDG Protects Ancestral Home

Polei Kieng (USA)—It is not often that refugees return to the same village from which they once fled, because of fear of reprisal by the Viet Cong. For this reason, many refugees never return to their ancestral homes.

However, forty-five villagers from Polei Kieng returned to their former village site recently. They went back under the protection of US Army Special Forces trained and advised CIDG (Civilian Irregular Defense Group). A US Army Special Forces A detachment camp, which now bears the same name as the former village, Polei Kieng, sent a CIDG company with the villagers to escort and protect them from the VC until their rice was harvested.

For fourteen days the villagers harvested their rice under the watchful protection of the CIDG. During that period, 16,500 pounds of rice was gathered. This is now being used to feed the villagers in their new homes.

This harvest deprived the Viet Cong of a valuable source of food and at the same time built confidence in the local villagers.

Combat Soldier Spends 9 Hours As A Civilian

Long Thanh (USA)—Staff Sergeant Kenneth H. Robinson of the 9th Infantry Division's 15th Engineers spent nine hours as a civilian last week while on Operation Junction City.

As of midnight, Sergeant Robinson was officially separated from the service. His ETS (expiration of term of service) arrived and he was unable to reenlist.

The "short-time" civilian became a soldier once again however at 9 o'clock the next morning when a special chopper brought him to a 15th Engineer Command post for the ceremony.

Redhead Nurse Gives

Bien Hoa (USA)—A former Indianapolis hospital delivery room nurse is providing "tender, loving care" for the "Sky Soldiers" of the U.S. Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade.

Army Nurse Second Lieutenant Karren E. Mundell Frankfort, Ind., is a general duty staff nurse at the 1st Logistical Command's 3rd Surgical Hospital, located on the outskirts of the busy Bien Hoa Air Base.

The attractive redhead, who volunteered for Vietnam, works in the hospital's intensive care and recovery ward—the first stop for a

casualty when he leaves the operating room.

"My responsibilities are far greater than a nurse with my experience would have in a comparable civilian hospital," stated Lieutenant Mundell. "The job is interesting and challenging, and quite different from my civilian nursing duties," she continued.

The 3rd Surgical Hospital is a compact 60-bed facility, designed and equipped for treatment of battle casualties. The wounded men are normally flown directly from the battlefield by "dust off" helicopter ambulances, to the hospital—often minutes after



FINAL CHECK—Checking over final plans for an air strike is Captain George A. Devorshak, and Airman First Class Bruce E. Gaston. Together, the two fly against enemy targets to make 16mm movies. The films are used for upgrading of current flying tactics. (USAF Photo)

Airmen Activate Cameras To Update Flying Tactics

Cam Ranh Bay (USAF)—Cameras and bombs, movie projectors and rockets. What a way to go to war!!!

But the seemingly unrelated "weapons" of war are necessary for Air Force strike pilots of the 12th Tactical Fighter Wing to keep abreast of current flying tactics.

Keeping the pilots aware of changing flying tactics is the job of two men... one seasoned jet fighter-bomber pilot and his flying partner, a combat aerial photographer.

Together, the two fly against enemy targets and take pictures to be later evaluated and the results used to keep the F-4C Phantom jets on top of every flying condition.

Captain George A. Devorshak, St. Petersburg, Fla., and Airman First Class Bruce

E. Gaston, Marienville, Pa., pair up several times weekly and shoot enemy targets with both live ordnance and movie film.

As wing weapons training officer, it's Captain Devorshak's job to insure that all the Phantom flyers have the highest level of combat weapons training. To get the job done, he utilizes the services of motion pictures to record the actions of bombing and strafing missions, critiques them for errors and strong points and then presents them to fellow flyers for their information and upgrading.

Airman Gaston operates the camera and "shoots" the enemy with his hand and stationary cameras attached to the airplane. He is presently the only enlisted man flying

the Phantom at Cam Ranh Bay with the 12th.

A few seconds prior to hitting a target, the captain gives Airman Gaston the signal to activate the cameras. Movie cameras under the wings and in the nose of the Phantom record the delivery of ordnance.

With this film, along with that shot using the hand camera, pilots of the 12th can observe their mistakes, learn new techniques in air raids and follow a slow-motion sequence of just what happens when their bombs hit the targets.

USARV Band To Perform In Australia

Tan Son Nhut (USA)—The 266th Army Band of U.S. Army Vietnam (USA RV) headquarters, will perform in Australia's two-week Royal Easter Show, ending March 29. The Royal Easter Show is being held in Sydney.

Program for the 42-piece Army band includes a parade in downtown Sydney, jazz concerts and martial music at the fairground main show arena.

During its first year in Vietnam the band traveled over 18,000 miles, performing for units of the Free World Forces and residents of numerous villages and hamlets, in addition to cheering thousands of orphans throughout South Vietnam.

Chief Warrant Officer Walter R. Kinney, Eureka, Calif., is the unit's bandmaster.

Tender, Loving Care'

"Hong Kong," said Lieutenant Mundell.

Lieutenant Mundell is a 1965 graduate of Indiana University and worked at the Indiana University Medical Center's Coleman Hospital for Women, in Indianapolis, before coming into the Army in April, 1966.

Opportunities

"I'm really impressed with the opportunities offered by the Army. The pay is equal to or better than in civilian hospitals. Also, I've had a chance to visit several areas of Vietnam, and have been to Bangkok, Thailand. Before I leave this country, I also plan to spend a few days in

high praises for the American soldiers she spends long hours caring for.

"I just can't describe how proud these fellows make me feel to be an American. Even after staying in the jungles for weeks at a time, and being shot at, they come back to the camp with high morale and in good spirits. They are just great!"

'Home Town' Duty (Almost) For CAC Marines

Tuy Loan (MACV) — Two Marines and a Navy medical corpsman of CAC-31 walk down the single dusty street of Tuy Loan village—about five miles southwest of Da Nang — calling greet-

ings to the people by name at nearly every house-front.

Children sing out, "Ha-lo, ha-lo!" These Americans are literally next-door neighbors of the villagers, since they live here permanently, eating,

sleeping and working alongside the people.

Relative security and opportunity for Revolutionary Development projects are maintained in this pacified village and 70 other villages and hamlets throughout I Corps by the presence of a Marine Amphibious Force Combined Action Company (CAC).

Tuy Loan's CAC consists of a rifle squad of 12 Marines, integrated with a platoon of Vietnamese para military Popular Forces men whose homes are in Tuy Loan. With Marine assistance, this small unit's job is to protect the village from local guerrilla activity, while main force U.S. and ARVN combat units conduct offensive operations elsewhere.

Training

"We normally go on patrols, usually block-and-sweep daytime, and an ambush patrol at night," said Lance Corporal Jeffrey Fink, St. Louis. "We teach the PFs tactics of fire and maneuver. They teach us a lot of stuff, too, like spotting mines and keeping quiet. It's amazing, one of them can walk right up and point to a booby-trap where we don't see a thing, but there it is."

By being permanently stationed in the village, the CACs have a clear advantage over regular infantrymen who keep on the move. "We

know this terrain like the back of our hands," said Sergeant R.D. ("Bear") Weis, squad leader. "If anything's out of place, I can usually tell."

An hour later, Corporal Lorenzo Forest, Memphis, was sitting in front of the command post when he noticed three "out of place" peasants walking along the street. "I'll betcha that's Charlie," he said. He halted the peasants and turned them over to Tuy Loan's national policeman.

When asked for identification, the strangers could only produce a paper stating their release from jail four days ago.

All CAC Marines have had several months' experience in combat units before volunteering for CAC duty. Here they experience daily personal contact with the Vietnamese. Tuy Loan families invited several CAC-31 Marines to their houses for big dinners during Tet.

"I've learned a lot more here than I ever did when I was on the line," said Lance Corporal Greg T. Roscoe, Minneapolis.

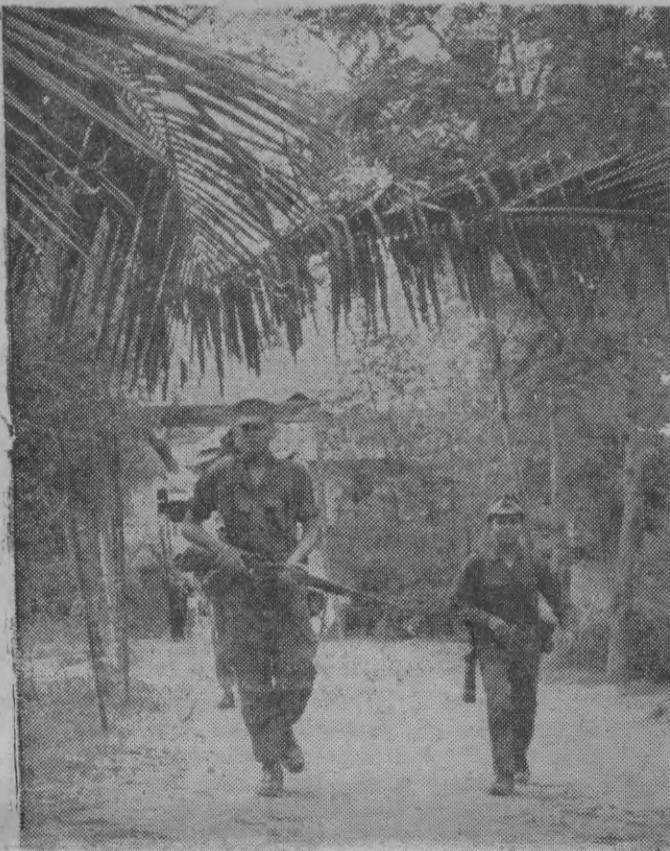
Under the protective cover of CAC-31, several Civic Action projects have gotten underway in Tuy Loan. The Navy's Mobile Construction Battalion-3 holds a weekly Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) in the village. A team of "Viet Chinh"—black-pajamed Revolutionary Development cadre—operates in the area.

Seabees of MCB-10 built three latrines, a shower room and a water well with a hand pump and elevated water drum system.

"Doc"

Navy Hospital Corpsman Carroll C. ("Doc") Taylor, Mesa, Ariz., runs a one-man dispensary in the CAC-31 compound, for both Marines and Vietnamese. His facility, painted pink, sports a sign on front: "Nha Thuong — Aid Station."

Villagers have learned that the 19-year-old "Doc" can "patch them right up." They come in with ills ranging from "jungle rot" (infected sores) to legs blown off by mines and bodies riddled with shrapnel. Corpsman Taylor calls in medivac choppers for serious cases.

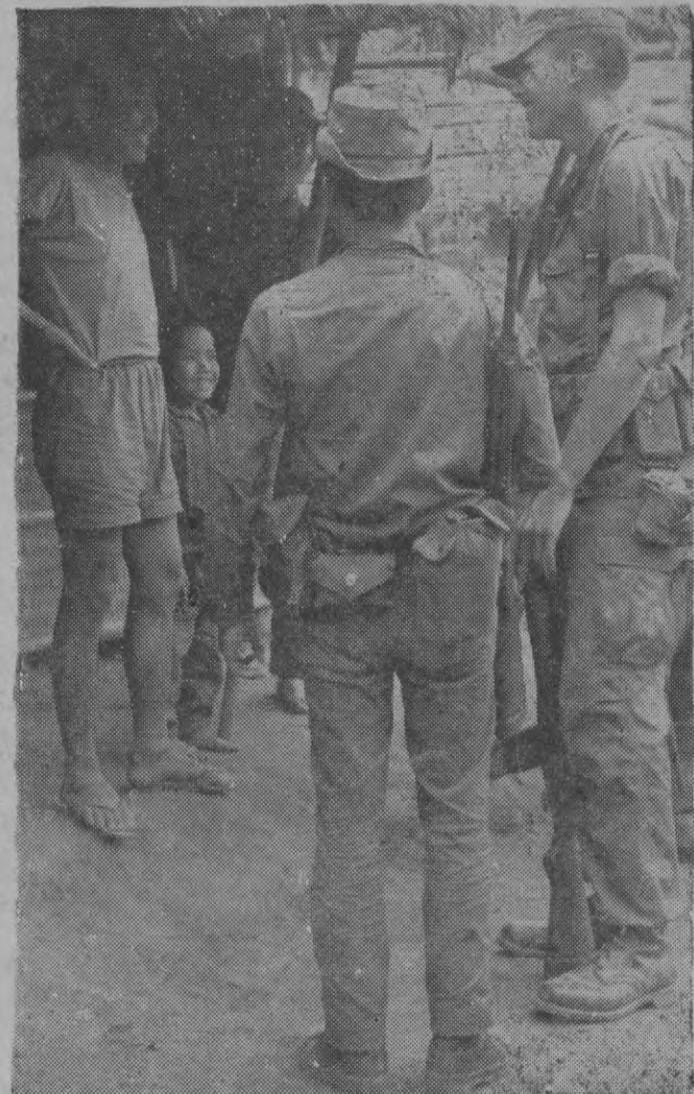


PATROL—On a trail leading out to "Charlie country," Lance Corporal Fink and a PF lead a routine patrol.

Story by Specialist 4 John Morgan, USA
Staff Writer
Photos by Specialist 5 Ray Gardner, USA
Staff Photographer



UNDISTURBED—For women of this pacified village, it's business as usual in the market-place.



RELATIONSHIP—A Popular Forces trooper, center, and Lance Corporal Fink pause to banter with Tuy Loan villagers.



REPAIRS—More than 20,000 vehicles, 600 artillery pieces and 30,000 radios are maintained by the 6,000 repairmen in the 1st Log

Story And Photos
By 1st Log Command (10)



CARGO—The Log port facilities unload shipments of nation cargoes such as food, lumber and steel for the U.S. Agency for International Development

Second Anniversary

First Logistic

Just as it was on the first day of operation, the mission of the 1st Logistical Command, according to Major General Charles W. Eifler, is to get the supplies to combat troops when they need them and where they need them.

In the past two years this has been accomplished. With a force of more than 50,000 as compared to its meager beginning of 35 officers and enlisted men in April 1965, the command provided the necessary combat support to the nearly one-half million members of the U.S. and

other Free World Forces.

Three major subordinate commands operating port facilities are located at Saigon, Cam Ranh Bay and Qui Nhon. Other smaller, but just as important, ports are situated at Newport, Vung Tau, Nha Be, Phan Rang, and Vung Ro Bay's Port Lane. In addition, the 4th Transportation Command and the 44th Medical Brigade are two other major units.

The 44th Medical Brigade operates 50 helicopter ambulances. These "dustoff" operations insure quick means

of transportation casualties to one strategically located Complete ground service is available road conditions

The Brigade maintain more beds at their eight five surgical and hospitals and the valescent medical Cam Ranh Bay.

Fulfilling part obligation to the man is the 4th Transportation Command. responsible for the



RECORDING—The 1st Log operates 14 air-conditioned libraries in Vietnam and offers modern taping facilities for those "letters home." In addition, each department is stocked with pre-recorded classical, easy listening, folk, jazz, opera and popular tape for listening or recording



ALMOST HOME MADE—One of the one and a quarter million loaves of bread baked each month by the Log's 12 bakeries in Vietnam



HEAVE HO—
Tau where monthly



building
Internat-



WHAT FLAVOR??—Ice cream is supplied from the 48 ice cream plants operated by the Log in Vietnam

Logal Command

for battle
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ed hospitals.
ambulance
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permitted.

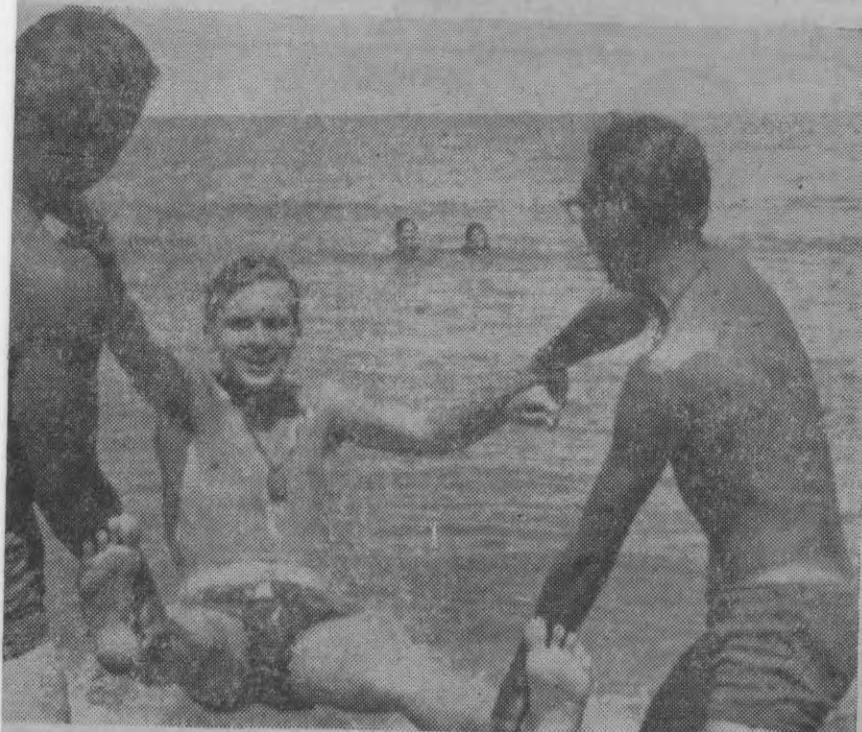
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It is res-
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of Saigon's military port. During its first year of operation, the command handled more than two million tons of military cargo unloading approximately 100 ships a month. The tonnage handled this past year has increased to such a magnitude that the Saigon port was responsible for the unloading of more tons of cargo than Portland, Ore., one of the U.S.'s major ports.

With its major mission accomplished, the command operates laundries, ice plants, shower points, fire stations,



"DUSTOFF"—The 50 "dustoff" medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) helicopters, part of the Log's 44th Medical Brigade, insure a quick means of transportation for battle casualties to one of the 17 strategically located hospitals operated by the 44th. "Dustoffs" have cut deaths among wounded to less than one per cent



The Log operates the only in-country R&R Center at Vung
more than 2,500 enlisted men can enjoy the seaside facility



SURGERY — Operating rooms in any of the 17 hospitals operated by the 44th Medical Brigade are manned by highly skilled surgeons, nurses and technicians, giving our fighting men the best possible medical care of any previous war



HANG ON SLEEPY — Laying claim to being the saltiest canine in the Navy is 15-year-old Sleepy, mascot of the YW-118 (Yard Water). Chief Boatswain's Mate Dave Younce, said, "You'd have to say he's shooting for 20." (USN Photo)

Navy Crew Member Serves 14 Years Aboard 1st Ship

Danang (USN) — Talk about salty old sea-dogs!!! How about 14 straight years at sea?

Sleepy, a 15-year-old canine of undetermined origin, is the temporary mascot and good-luck charm of the YW-118 (Yard Water). He is a welcome sight to the seamen in Da Nang harbor, prancing around the deck while the 118 makes its rounds supplying fresh water to the various craft in the harbor.

Sleepy is on loan from the YM-101 which left Vietnam for an overhaul in her home port in Japan. He had been aboard the 101 for over 13 years, and will return to his "home port" when the 101 returns to Danang.

Sleepy is on the 118's watch bill. When the crew races to man their gun-mounts and general quarters stations, he slinks to his post-sleeping in the lounge.

Every other day the boat pulls into the foot of Monkey Mountain to take on water from streams running down the side. Sleepy leaps in to the surf, swims the 100 yards to shore, and plays on the beach. When he tires he swims back to the boat and barks until someone pulls him aboard.

Monkey Mountain, as its name implies, teems with monkeys. "I don't know if he's afraid of the monkeys or they're afraid of him," said Chief Boatswain's Mate Dave

Younce, Baltimore, "but he sure seems excited about something on the beach."

Sleepy didn't like the idea of leaving his long-time friends on the 101. But he is now as happy as ever with his new "assignment." "I think he wanted a little R&R in Japan with the 101," said Engineman Third Class Herb Phillips, San Rafael, Calif. "A dog becomes weary of no liberty also."

Sleepy was decorated with various medals for his contribution to the war effort in a ceremony aboard the 118. "We don't know how many medals he's entitled to, but after 14 years in Asian waters, he's got to be the most decorated dog in the Navy," said Chief Younce.

Wheels Stateside At Your Service

Saigon (MACV) — The Vietnam Regional Exchange (VRE) this week granted General Motors a concession to sell its cars. Ford, Chrysler and American Motors began selling here in October.

The GM representative presently works only out of the Cholon Exchange, but the concession is expected to expand soon to Tan Son Nhut and Bien Hoa stores. Meanwhile, inquiries can be mailed to GM Military Sales, c/o Headquarters, Vietnam Regional Exchange, APO 96243.

A minimum down payment

800,000 Lbs Of Medals And More; Veterans Can Claim Their Ounces

Washington (AFNS) — Millions of unclaimed medals earned by World War II and Korean War servicemen are stacked up in warehouses around the country.

The Army alone reports that it has some 800,000 pounds of medals in a Philadelphia warehouse. Among the medals there are more than 1 1/2-million Victory Medals, a decoration earned by almost everyone who served in World War II.

Veterans interested in securing medals to which they are entitled should write

a letter containing full particulars about their military service, units to which assigned, dates of assignment and other identifying information. Above all, the letter should contain the veteran's complete name and serial number. To write for medals use the following addresses:

Army: The Adjutant General, Decorations and Awards Branch, Dept. of the Army, Washington, D.C. 20000.

Air Force: Director of Military Personnel, Attention: Awards Branch, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force, Wash-

ington, D.C. 20000.

Marine Corps: Commandant, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. 20000.

Coast Guard: Commandant (PMM), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C. 20000.

Navy: Commandant, Headquarters, U.S. Navy, Washington, D.C. 20000.

M-16 Rifle Gets More Fire Power

Cu Chi (USA) — The Colt Firearms Company, working in conjunction with the U.S. Army Weapons Command, has developed a new grenade launcher to fit the barrel of the M-16 rifle. The weapon called the XM-148 grenade launcher, fires a 40mm round and will take the place of the present M-79.

The launcher is placed in an underslung position on the rifle and is stationary. Mr. Robert Roy, a design engineer with the Colt Company, who instructed a class of infantrymen on the launcher's use at the 25th Infantry Division's Lightning Ambush Academy, stated that the improvement will increase a rifle company's fire-power by nearly 25 per cent. A grenadier will be able to carry his combination launcher and automatic weapon.

The single-shot, breach-loaded XM-148 has a firing range of 400 meters and a bursting range of five meters upon impact. It fires the same types of ammunition as the M-79.

Marine Scholarship Available At Purdue

Phu Bai (USMC) — A memorial scholarship fund has been established at Purdue University by the parents of a Marine killed in Vietnam during Operation Chinook.

The fund is in memory of Private First Class Charles Swain, Batavia, Ill., who was killed in February when he stepped on a mine while serving as a scout with the 3rd BN, 26th Marine Regiment.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Swain said in a letter to Captain Richard Sasek, com-

manding officer of H & S Co., that the "Charles M. Swain Memorial Scholarship Fund" would be available to any Marine who has served in Vietnam and who has been honorably discharged."

The letter said Marines wishing to complete their education and needing financial assistance would be eligible.

Swain had intended to complete his college education at Purdue upon discharge from the Marine Corps.

New Chieu Hoi Pass

Saigon (MACV) — The Chieu Hoi "Safe Conduct Pass" has been altered by the addition of the national colors of two more Free World nations which are assisting the Vietnamese government.

The colors of Thailand and the Republic of the Philippines have been added to the pass. The old pass showed the flags of Vietnam, the United States, Korea,

Australia and New Zealand.

The old pass is still in circulation and remains valid.

Both of these passes guarantee a returnee to government control safe conduct, good treatment and security.



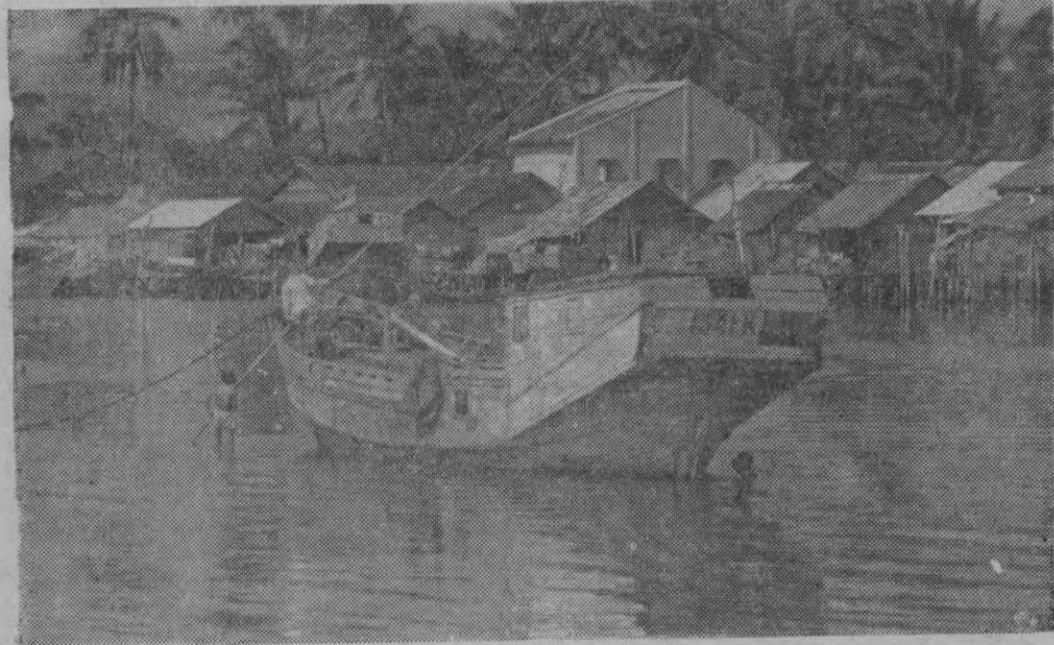
"Peter rabbit I presume?"



DAWN AT AN THOI HARBOR—With the bell of a Coast Guard Cutter silhouetted in the foreground, the sun rises over An Thoi harbor at the southern tip of Phu Quoc Island. An Thoi is a base for U.S. Navy "Swift" boats, for U.S. Coast Guard Cutters and for Vietnamese Navy Coastal Group junks.



NAVY AND ARMY ADVISORS—Lieutenant Commander Ronald G. Salyer (left), Navy intelligence advisor to the Vietnamese Navy on Phu Quoc, and Major William D. Maples, commander of Army advisors on the island, hold a Chinese Communist rifle captured from Viet Cong guerrillas during a search-and-destroy.



PEACEFUL BAY—Dotting Phu Quoc Island are numerous, picturesque villages such as this one at Duong Dong, about midway up the western coast of the isle. Operations on Phu Quoc are aimed to secure villages like Duong Dong.

Joint Navies Protect Vietnamese Island

Phu Quoc Island (U.S.N.)

—An estimated 100 to 200 Viet Cong guerrillas roam Phu Quoc Island in the Gulf of Thailand. Finding them is the joint task of Vietnamese and American forces stationed there.

Phu Quoc means "rich country," and because of the island's economic wealth it is a tempting target for communist takeover. Protecting the island's 12,500 inhabitants from this threat is the continuing task of the allied forces.

An Thoi, a small fishing village on Phu Quoc's southern tip, is a main base for the joint operations. U.S. vessels based at An Thoi include Navy swift boats, Coast Guard cutters, and various support units. They comprise the Gulf of Thailand Surveillance Group of Operation Market Time—the American patrol of the Vietnamese coast to prevent infiltration.

Patrolling with the U.S. vessels are junk boats of the Vietnamese Navy Coastal Group, whose American advisors help assure effective co-operation between the two efforts.

"Basically, the ground operations on Phu Quoc are to seek out and find the Viet Cong wherever they are hiding," says Coast Guard Commander John B. Hayes, commander of all American naval units in the area.

"The Navy job is to provide mobility to Vietnamese and U.S. Army forces, that is, to transport them by sea to designated landing beaches

where they may achieve an element of surprise.

"Once they're ashore, we provide them with naval gunfire support with communications relay, with medical evacuation support, and with a withdrawal capability."

In a typical joint operation earlier this year, three companies of Vietnamese Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) and Vietnamese Army troops were landed by junk on Phu Quoc's northwest side. The objective was to catch the Viet Cong off-guard and to prevent their massing just prior to the Tet holiday truce.

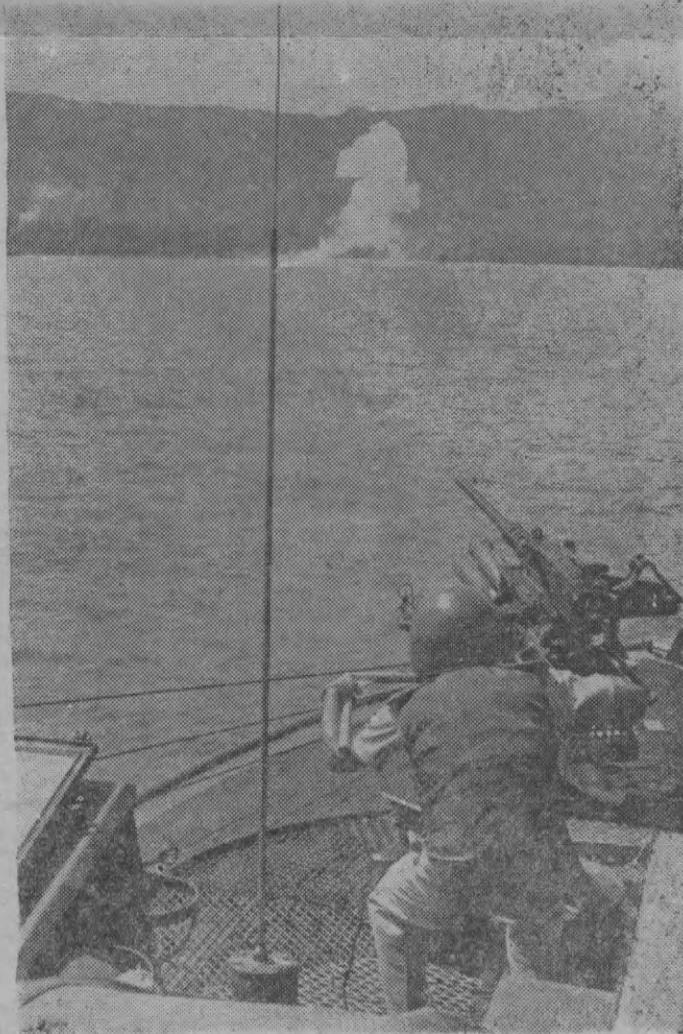
An Thoi-based cutters and swifts were joined by the Seventh Fleet destroyer USS DeHaven in supporting the Army forces which swept into the island's interior to the enemy's concentration area near Chop Chai. At the end of the four-day search-and-destroy operation, four of the 13 enemy killed were credited to naval gunfire.

"The Navy gives us a flexibility which would have been impossible to achieve otherwise," Captain Daniel Levin, second in command of U.S. Army advisors on Phu Quoc, believes.

Since American support began on Phu Quoc, U.S. Navy, Coast Guard and Vietnamese Navy units have participated in 37 combined operations against the VC.

The day-to-day task of the An Thoi-based craft is not, however, firing missions. It is the 24-hour-a-day surveillance of thousands of square miles of coastal waters off Vietnam, looking for VC-bound arms, supplies, and troops hidden aboard junks and sampans.

Story By
Lieutenant (j.g.) Robert
K. Martin, USNR
Photos BY
U.S.N.



MORTAR ASSAULT—Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Daniel Schueler, Chicago, takes aim with an 81mm mortar aboard the Cutter Point Grey during practice mortar attacks on dummy enemy positions along the shores of Phu Quoc Island. The mortar is part of an "over-and-under" weapon—the 81mm muzzle positioned beneath a single .50-caliber machine gun mount.

Soldiers Extending Viet Duty May Draw Savings On Leave

Washington (ANF) — Soldiers who are authorized a special 30-day leave for voluntarily extending their tours of duty in a hostile fire area are reminded that they are still able to withdraw all or a portion of their savings deposits after arriving in the United States.

Such "emergency withdrawals" can only be made after their stateside arrival, but the request may be sub-

mitted in advance through the local unit commander.

The commander then dispatches a message to the Commanding General, Finance Center, U. S. Army, ATTN: Allotments and Deposits Operations. The message will contain the following information: "Subject — USSDP Withdrawal—PL 89-735"; name, serial number, grade and assigned organization; dollar amount requested; and address within the United

States or its possessions to which the check is to be mailed.

The amount that is requested will not exceed the amount of the principal on deposit. The account will not be closed. Payment will be made by the Finance Center, U. S. Army, and the check will be mailed only to an address within the United States or its possessions as designated by the serviceman.

Baby Brother Helps Crew Of Big Brother

Tan Son Nhut (USA) —

A group of "baby brother" Army choppers helped a "big brother" Air Force aircraft out of a jam in a daring rescue operation in War Zone C.

A U. S. Army "Huey" helicopter returning from a mission spotted an Air Force C-130 cargo transport making a crash landing eight miles northeast of Tay Ninh.

The "Huey," part of the 116th Assault Helicopter

Company, 1st Aviation Brigade, radioed his home base. The 116th "Hornets" quickly dispatched two "slicks" and a light fire team of two gunships.

While the light fire team flew "shotgun" overhead the two slicks swooped in, landed, picked up the crew of the downed Air Force ship and flew out of the area without mishap. Small arms fire followed the four helicopters as they left the area, but no hits were recorded.

The Hornets then airlifted a security force from the 196th Light Infantry Brigade to guard the wrecked C-130 until it could be recovered.

Ivy Unit Adopts Blue-Eyed Beauty

Dau Tieng (USA) — Thanks to a mortar attack, Miss Judy Krayvo, a 22-year-old blonde in Pittsburgh, Pa., has become the sweetheart of every man in a 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division company.

Miss Krayvo read a Pittsburgh newspaper account of a mortar attack on the Dau Tieng base camp. The article described how the men of B Company, 704th Maintenance Battalion suppressed a huge gasoline fire ignited by the blast.

Miss Krayvo wrote the unit a letter, and Lieutenant William C. Schrefelbein — also a native of Pittsburgh — was nominated to write a return letter.

The willowy, blue-eyed beauty then sent pictures of herself. During Christmas she sent a large tree with trimmings and two smaller trees to the Ivy troopers. Two large boxes of candy costing about \$15 a box were also received by B Company.

Special Order 007 was cut, "adopting" Miss Krayvo as the Sweetheart of the entire company.

First Wave To Hit Beach

Washington (NAV) — A Navy Junior has become the first Wave to be assigned to Vietnam. She is Lieutenant Elizabeth Wylie, daughter of Rear Admiral Joseph Caldwell Wylie, Deputy Commander in Chief of naval forces in Europe.

Lieutenant Wylie is a graduate of Dickinson College, OCS and the Navy Justice School, Newport, R. I. She will report for duty in Vietnam in June.



Armed Forces Television, RVN

Channel 11

Guide for week of—Mar. 27—Apr. 2, 1967
(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)

MONDAY (Mar 27)

- 6:30 News Headlines *I've Got A Secret*
- 7:00 *The Flintstones*
- 7:30 News & Sports Scoreboard
- 8:00 *Combat*
- 9:00 *Bewitched*
- 9:30 *Third Man*
- 10:00 *Dean Martin Show*

TUESDAY (Mar 28)

- 6:30 News Headlines *Green Acres*
- 7:00 *My Favorite Martian*
- 7:30 News & Sports
- 8:00 *Rawhide*
- 9:00 *Garry Moore Show*
- 10:00 Entertainment Special

WEDNESDAY (Mar 29)

- 6:30 News Headlines Information Feature
- 7:00 *Batman (Part I)*
- 7:30 News & Sports
- 8:00 *Perry Mason*
- 9:00 *To Tell The Truth*
- 9:30 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)

THURSDAY (Mar 30)

- 6:30 News Headlines *G.E. College Bowl*
- 7:00 *Batman (Part II)*
- 7:30 News & Sports
- 8:00 *12 O'Clock High*
- 9:00 *Joey Bishop Show*
- 9:30 *Get Smart*
- 10:00 *Red Skeleton Show*

FRIDAY (Mar 31)

- 6:30 News Headlines Information Feature
- 7:00 *Addams Family*
- 7:30 News & Sports
- 8:00 *Gunsmoke*
- 9:00 *Danny Kaye*
- 10:00 *The Tonight Show*

SATURDAY (Apr 1)

- 1:30 News Headlines *Encyclopedia Brit.*
Social Security
- 2:00 *M-Squad*
- 2:30 *What's My Line?*
- 3:00 *Town and Country*
Swingin' Country
Beverly Hillbillies
Andy Griffith
- 4:30 Sports Event of the Week
- 7:00 *Jim Bowie*
- 7:30 News & Sports
- 7:45 *Metrotone Newsreel*
- 8:00 *Jackie Gleason Show*
- 9:00 *Hollywood Palace*
- 10:00 Saturday Night At The Movies

SUNDAY (Apr 2)

- 1:30 News Headlines *Chapel of the Air*
- 2:00 Educational Special
- 3:00 *Sunday Matinee (Movie)*
- 4:30 Sports Event of the Week
- 7:00 *Big Picture*
- 7:30 News & Sports Scoreboard
- 8:00 *Dick Van Dyke*
- 8:30 *Candid Camera*
- 9:00 *Bonanza*
- 10:00 *Ed Sullivan Show*

(Note: These same shows can be seen in other areas as follows:)

Qui Nhon — Apr. 17 — 23

Da Nang — May 8 — 14

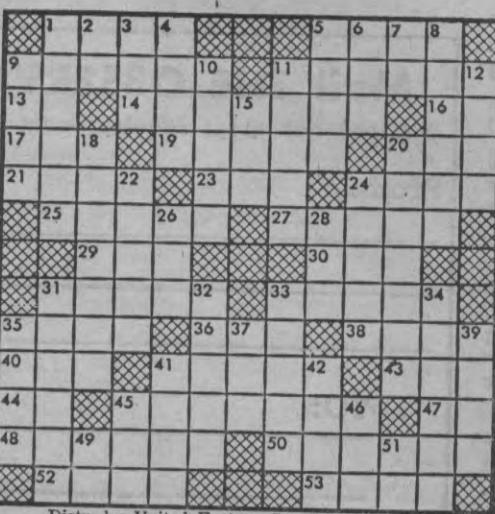
Pleiku — May 28 — June 4

Nha Trang — June 19 — 25

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1-Vats
- 5-Hastens
- 9-Indian tents
- 11-Condition
- 13-Indefinite article
- 14-Shreds
- 16-Printer's measure
- 17-Paid notices
- 19-Condescending looks
- 20-Wager
- 21-Allows
- 23-Meadow
- 24-Run easily
- 25-Roam
- 27-Ransacks
- 29-Game at cards
- 30-Conjunction
- 31-Narrow openings
- 33-Name
- 35-Barracuda
- 36-Fuss
- 38-Of the same nature
- 40-Above (poet.)
- 41-Sailing vessel
- 43-Yellow ochre
- 44-Sun god
- 45-Indisposition to action
- 47-101 (Roman number)
- 48-Barters
- 50-Juncture
- 52-Plumlike fruit
- 53-Let it stand



Distr. by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

PEANUTS

By Cartoonist-Of-The-Year Charles M. Schulz



BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER





HERPETOLOGIST — Sergeant Baker makes a visual identification of a poisonous snake at the Cam Ranh Bay veterinary office. (USAF Photo)

Sgt Sees Snakes, Saves Same

Cam Ranh Bay (USAF) — Air Force Staff Sergeant Mitchel H. Baker, St. James, Mich., has what may be one of the most unique jobs in Vietnam. He is a herpetologist (one who studies snakes) and has developed an extensive collection of preserved reptiles, both poisonous and nonpoisonous.

The snakes, all packed in individual bottles filled with formaldehyde, are used by the Cam Ranh Bay veterinary service for identification

purpose.

When a dog on patrol is bitten by a reptile, its handler rarely knows the exact species. But when the handler compares the size, color and characteristics of the reptile against the collection at the Air Police kennels, identification can be made and the proper antivenom administered.

"The most common poisonous snake around here is the Russell's Viper," says Sergeant Baker. "If one of our dogs is

bitten by the viper, we immediately administer an antivenom. Our dogs are also attacked by nonpoisonous snakes, but the dog handlers get excited not knowing the snake is harmless."

Sergeant Baker, a member of the 12th USAF Hospital, has some of the deadliest snakes in the world, including the king cobra, yellow-bellied sea snake and various other vipers. He also has jars filled with scorpions, sun spiders and lizards.



SINGING MAJOR — Air Force Major Robert P. Knopf, an AC-47 aircraft commander with Det. 3, 4th Air Command Squadron here, pauses before a mission to play his version of "Puff the Magic Dragon." Major Knopf added new lyrics to depict the mission of the Dragon-ship crew in Vietnam.

Veterinary Hospital Returns Dogs To Duty

Saigon (MACV) — Treat and return to action — not men, but the war dogs of Vietnam — is the goal of the 936th Veterinary Detachment Hospital at Tan Son Nhut.

The detachment hospital provides care for scout and sentry dogs both of which are used by the military. Scout dogs are used primarily for tracking, and the sentry, which is the most aggressive, is used for guard-type duty. Both types of dogs are German Shepards.

With a capacity for 50 dogs, the hospital, manned by two veterinarians and 12 veterinary technicians, treats 60 cases a week ranging from skin conditions to battle wounds. The majority of the case influx come from the Second and Fourth Corps.

"Difficulties in caring for the dogs stem from the animals' personalities" remarked Captain Jerry Joerling,

executive officer of the veterinary detachment. "Speaking of personalities, our personality dog at the hospital is Rex, the old soldier. He has donated blood seven times during operations and performed in sentry dog demonstrations.

"Rabies hasn't been a problem in Vietnam," he added. "The dogs are given shots that are good for three years and to be safe we give them once a year."

General care and treatment in the field is administered by veterinary technicians. One technician is assigned to a platoon of dogs. Bought by the Army from civilian sources, the average working life of a dog is eight years.

To prevent heat stroke, new dogs brought in from CONUS are given a 10 day climate accustoming period before going on duty.

Duck Comes To Dinner, Happily Accepts Fate

Rach Kien (USA) — Thanks to the soft hearts of some 9th Infantry Division medics, a duck named Donald has escaped the cooking pot and found safety and happiness in a pond.

Donald was purchased by medics of the 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry from a Rach Kien farmer three weeks ago as the basic ingredient of a future meal.

But Donald appealed to the hearts and not the appetites of the medics so they decided to keep him as a pet.

Donald now spends his days lounging in a coconut tree-shaded pond behind the medics' aid station. He eats fish the men catch for him, and happily accepts the fact that he has come to dinner as the guest, not the main course.

ARVN Widows 'Clean Up' Lam Son

Lam Son (III Corps) — Eight widows from the 5th Infantry Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, at Lam Son, are "cleaning up" in the 610th U.S. Direct Support Battalion.

The widows wanted to support themselves, but due to the size of their families, could not leave home to do so.

The problem was handed to Major Wade Hampton, York, S.C., 5th Division Civil Affairs Adviser. Figuring that if they couldn't go out to work, he would see to it that the work was brought in to them. Major Hampton and Major Nguyen Phu, 5th Division political warfare officer, approached Headquarters Company of the 610th with the problem.

Needed laundry facilities for the company brought about the solution to the problem. A laundry pick-up and delivery point was to be established. Americans would truck the laundry to and

from the widows' homes.

Money was needed to build the pick-up point with. A \$156 grant was received from the MACV Civic Action program for the wood and nails. The United States Agency for International De-

velopment (USAID) supplied the concrete and steel and one month later, the ribbons were cut on the door to the widow's industry.

The widows are truly in the "clean up" business at Lam Son.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

★ (Does not meet requirements for "free" mail.)

From:

Place Stamp
Here
(16 cents Airmail)
(10 cents 1st class)

TO:
