



ALERT AT ALL TIMES—A patrol from A Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, Bronco Brigade, recon an area near an NVA rest camp.

(USA Photo)

No Slack for Bronco Brigade

Duc Pho (USA)—The 3rd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division has completed its 365th consecutive day of combat operations. In 12 months the Bronco Brigade has never left the field of combat.

Since May 10, 1966 they have participated in 129 battalion-size and 16 brigade-size assaults. They have fought the North Vietnamese Army and the Viet Cong in seven different operations ranging from Kontum to Darlac on the Cambodian border and from Qui Nhon to Duc Pho on the South China Sea.

Before Operation Baker began on April 22, the Bronco Brigade had killed 2,196 North Vietnamese Army (NVA) regulars and

Viet Cong and captured 1,437 of their weapons. Since the beginning of Operation Baker they have added another 234 enemy killed.

In October, while still on Operation Paul Revere, the brigade went north to Plei Djereng where the NVA were reported to be massing in the mountains. Five times the brigade made contact with enemy battalions. Twice they overran NVA regimental base camps.

Without returning to base camp for a rest, the 3rd Brigade of the "Tropic Lightning" Division moved over 100 miles to Phu Cat leaving one battalion still fighting in Pleiku province. There the brigade joined the

1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) on Operation Thayer II to force the NVA out of the rich coastal rice lands.

The Bronco Brigade located the communist Binh Dinh provincial headquarters, seizing NVA weapons, ammunition, flags, hospital supplies and documents.

In February, the 3rd Brigade Task Force attacked north and Operation Pershing began in a vital, strongly VC-held area. The enemy fled into the mountains leaving 81 dead, numerous machine guns, anti-tank rocket launchers and rifles behind.

On April 19 the brigade massed an air and sea lift and

(Continued on Page 12)



Vol. 6, No. 3

Saigon, Vietnam

May 24, 1967

National Defense Minister Honored at Tan Son Nhut

Tan Son Nhut (USA)—Vietnam's minister of national defense was made an honorary U. S. Army aviator in recent ceremonies at Tan Son Nhut air base.

The Army Aviator Badge was presented to General Cao Van Vien by General W. C. Westmoreland, commander of U. S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. General Vien is also

Chief of the Joint General Staff, Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces.

A certificate honoring General Vien's accomplishments and making him an honorary member of the U. S. Army's 1st Aviation Brigade was presented by Brigadier General G. P. Seneff, brigade commander.

General Vien has received a concentrated 50-hour course of

instruction in the UH-1B "Huey" helicopter. Chief Warrant Officers Martin P. Merz and Peter A. Young, of the 1st Aviation Brigade, were General Vien's instructors for the flight training.

Warrant Officer Merz characterized General Vien as "a very adept pilot, very willing to learn. He's a wonderful individual and he learned very rapidly."



SILVER WINGS—General Cao Van Vien, Minister of National Defense, RVN, was made an honorary U.S. Army Aviator by General W. C. Westmoreland. (USA Photo)

Hero's Widow Accepts Medal of Honor

Washington (AFNB)—A Marine platoon sergeant, who chose to sacrifice his life by covering a grenade in order to protect the lives of his men, became the fifth Marine to receive the Medal of Honor for action in Vietnam.

Mrs. Eleanor M. Connor, widow of Staff Sergeant Peter

S. Connor, accepted the nation's highest military award from President Johnson at ceremonies at the White House on May 2.

Sergeant Connor was platoon sergeant of the 3rd Platoon, F Company, 1st Marine Division, during a search and destroy operation in Quang Ngai province

on Feb. 25, 1966. While attempting to destroy an enemy spider hole emplacement, he discovered the grenade he was holding was defective.

According to the citation, Sergeant Connor, "upon pulling the pin . . . realized that the firing mechanism was faulty, and that even as he held the safety de-

vice firmly in place, the fuze charge was already activated."

Determining that he could not safely throw the grenade and "manifesting extraordinary gallantry . . . he chose to hold the grenade against his body in order to absorb the terrific explosion and spare his comrades."

9th Div Unit Busy
Tan Thanh (USA)—A total of 2,800 patients have been treated during Medical Civic Action Program missions in the last two months by the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division.

During the missions, the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division

Editorial**Civil Military Unity**

The appointment of General Westmoreland as head of the United States pacification effort in Vietnam is a historical step which will affect the military's role here in a substantial manner.

It means that both the U.S. military effort to defeat the Viet Cong and the civilian effort to build a viable nation in Vietnam are being united under a single head.

Prior wars in which we have fought were generally limited to destroying the enemy or, as in the case of Korea, saving a small nation from aggression. Now for the first time during a war the military is being given a priority mission not only to defeat a battlefield enemy, but also to help build a free and stable nation.

This also gives new meaning to one of the primary tasks that, due to the nature of this struggle, falls to every American fighting man. From the moment he steps onto Vietnamese soil he is told of the crucial nature of America's mission to aid nation-building in a land that has known little but terrorism, oppression and war. His field commander now heads this effort.

The communist campaign to bring Vietnam into its sphere was based on the belief that no amount of military force could defeat a guerrilla "war of national liberation" in a country so beset with troubles as Vietnam.

The American and Free World response, therefore, was not only to join with the Vietnamese to engage "Charlie" on the battlefield, but also to destroy his "national liberation" political infrastructure.

This means weeding the communist apparatus out of the hamlets and villages so the people of Vietnam can choose their own public officials free of communist harassment. This is what "pacification" is all about.

Political pacification of the countryside is too important for it not to be related to overall military goals. As America's new Ambassador to Vietnam, Ellsworth Bunker, stated in his announcement of General Westmoreland's appointment, military security is essential for effective pacification and, as well, the logistical assets of the military available for support of pacification make him a logical choice to provide unified management for the overall American effort.

But General Westmoreland's appointment sets a further precedence. When General MacArthur was chosen as head of the postwar U.S. effort in Japan it marked the first time the military was given a commanding role in rebuilding a defeated enemy into a valued friend.

General Westmoreland's selection marks the first time a military man has been given a major responsibility for building a strong nation while a war is still going on. Vietnam is not a simple war by any means. Had the communists succeeded in winning their political "war of liberation" where a solely military venture would have failed, we could expect other "Vietnams" around the globe.

Meeting this military and political challenge by uniting our fighting and building efforts under a single head is but one more step to more effectively carry out our goals in Vietnam.

Americans Can Wear Vietnam MH

Washington (AT) — The Adjutant General is going to return the Vietnam Medal of Honor (1st and 2nd Class) to U.S. soldiers who turned them in to the Army.

Thanks to changes made by the South Vietnamese government the medal now may be worn by Americans.

The medal has been renamed the Armed Forces Honor Medal and is presented to Vietnamese military as well as foreigners

now.

With award to Vietnamese troops the medal now meets requirements laid down by Congress for wear of foreign decorations by U.S. military.

Pentagon officials said that many U.S. soldiers have received the Vietnamese award.

The Army will return the Vietnamese awards to their owners as soon as possible and that it is not necessary to write TAG for them.

FIRST IN VIETNAM
The OBSERVER

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VRE Sells 277 Cars

Saigon (VRE)—Four U.S. automobile manufacturers sold 277 cars in April at exchanges in Vietnam, according to Colonel Jack C. Ice, commander, Vietnam Regional Exchange.

The sales brought in a total of \$896,327, which not only helped stem the gold flow but also represented an encouraging response to the Army and Air Force Exchange New Car Sales Plan.

Under the plan, overseas military personnel can select and purchase cars for U.S. delivery at the lowest possible cost and with the greatest possible assurance of satisfaction and protection.

Car manufacturers' representatives at the Cholon main store in Saigon and up-country main exchanges are stepping up their respective programs to provide information on prices, models, accessories, availability, transportation charges, sales tax and other data applicable to buying a car.

Vietnam Regional Exchange officials are optimistic that car purchases in the coming months will exceed the April sales.

Army Trains ROK Officers

Washington (ANF) — Fifteen Republic of Korea (ROK) officers who will organize their nation's first combined helicopter and fixed wing aviation company are undergoing rotary wing instruction at two U. S. Army posts.

The ROK element will be formed in Vietnam shortly after the men complete the training.

The officers, who range from first lieutenants to majors, began with a special rotary-wing qualification course at the U. S. Primary Helicopter School, Fort Wolters, Tex. They will complete their training with a special transition course in the UH-1D helicopter at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Each of the 15 had previously logged at least 300 hours flying time in fixed aircraft. Six of the men began training in the United States in February, the remainder in March.

Six other Korean officers trained last month at the U. S. Primary Helicopter School in preparation for establishing their nation's first primary helicopter school at Wonju.

It's Mandatory, New Green 44

Washington (ANF)—The new Army Green 44 overcoat will become a standard clothing item for active Army enlisted men entering the service on or after July 1.

The current Olive Green 107 overcoat will be authorized as an organizational item, not a standard item, until July 1, 1970. At that time, the AG 44 becomes mandatory wear for all enlisted personnel.

Army enlisted men assigned to Vietnam will receive the AG 44 free of charge upon completion of their tours, provided they have more than six months remaining in the service.



You save more than money
with U.S. Savings Bonds

The Piaster Poet

"Freedom Shares is a new savings note,"
Said a trooper as he boarded a boat.

"To my bonds series E,
I'll add 'notes', not 'P,'
And in water, not tea, I'll float."

A trooper whose DROS was near,
Was set to return to Ft. Lear.
His buddies were broke,
But he'd been no bloke,
For he'd bought savings bonds all year.

A sailor who haggled near Hue,
Saw a porcelain statue of grey.
Quickly bartered a term,
For that sick Pachyderm,
Paid six thousand 'P'—that's not hay.

Said a sailor from Milwaukee, Wis.,
When he purchased a watch from a Miss.
"Only six million 'P,'
What a deal for me,"
As it rusted, this watch of the Swiss(?)

There was a young lad name of Doke,
Who swore he would never be broke.

On tea and three-three,
He spent all of his 'P,'
Now for him there's no COLA, just coke.

**Think You Can Write?
It's Worth A Thousand**

Saigon (MACV)—A \$1,000 first prize award will be given to the serviceman who writes the best letter on the subject "Freedom—My Heritage, My Responsibility" for the 1967 Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge letter-writing contest.

Entries should be no less than 100 nor more than 500 words in length. Your entry need not be a "letter" as such but may be in essay or poetry form. If letter style is used the addressee may be any person or organization, real or imaginary.

Every person on active duty in any branch of the Armed Forces between November 1, 1966 and November 1, 1967 is eligible to submit as many entries as he desires. Reserves may submit entries while on active duty status.

Entries may be sent in any time before November 1, 1967, to Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa. 19481. Entrants should include name, rank, service number, branch of service, complete unit address and permanent home state address and zip code.

Personal experiences may be used to illustrate what the Freedoms Foundation states as "The American Way of Life": "To personally understand and maintain the American Way of Life, to honor it by his own exemplary conduct, and to pass it intact to succeeding generations is the responsibility of every true American."

First prize for letter-writing is \$1,000. There will also be 50 awards of \$100, 50 awards of \$50, additional Honor Medals and Honor Certificates.

In announcing the subject of the 1967 program as "Freedom—My Heritage, My Responsibility," the Freedoms Foundation hopes to stimulate thought on the subject of "freedom as we know it in the United States of America, and to call attention to the obligations which all citizens, particularly those serving in the Armed Forces, have in maintaining and protecting this freedom."

Fiery Hut Does Not Stop MP

Saigon (USA) — A Vietnamese infant in Saigon owes his life to a daring rescue by a U.S. Army military policeman.

Around midnight January 16, one and a half-year-old Nguyen Thi Lon lay trapped in a blazing wooden hut near Tan Son Nhut Air Base. His terrified mother watched helplessly outside. As 50 other houses in the area burned to the ground, it seemed certain that her youngster would die in the blaze.

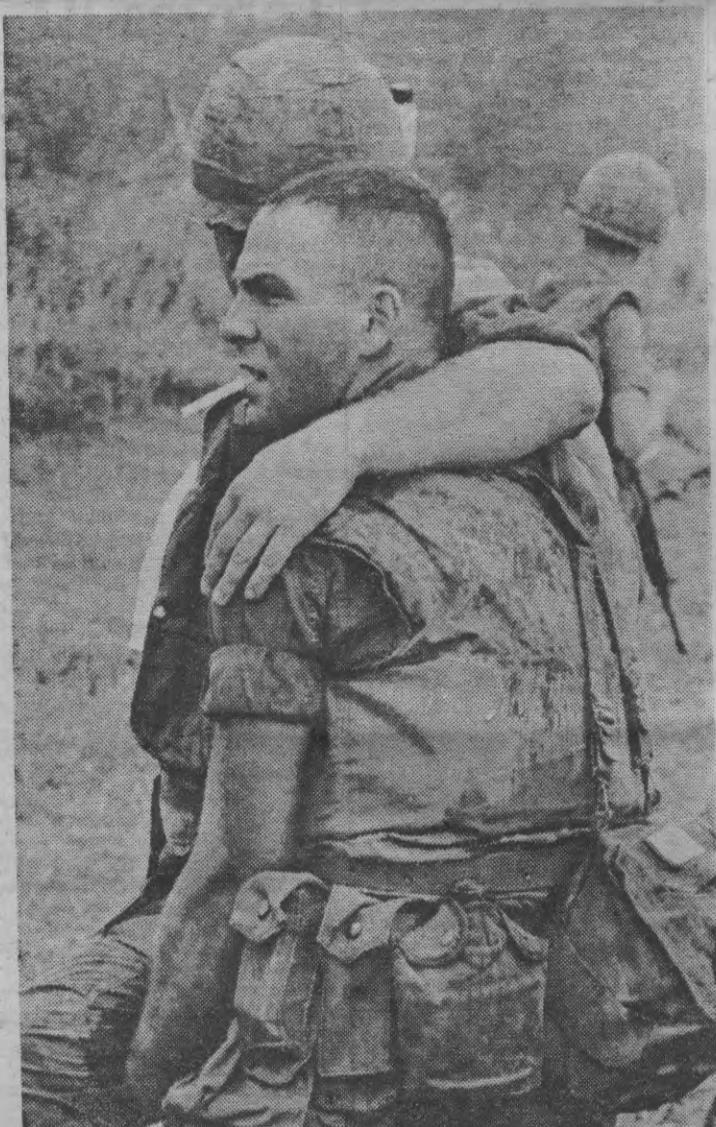
An MP jeep on patrol rounded a corner and spotted the fire. Patrol leader Specialist 4 Wendell H. Hatch, Las Vegas, of the 527th MP Company, 716th MP Battalion, immediately began to assist in evacuating residents of the area.

Specialist Hatch suddenly saw a Vietnamese child trapped inside a burning building that was about to collapse. Reacting instantly, Specialist Hatch raced through the flames to scoop up the child and return it to safety.

Seconds later, the burning hut tumbled to the ground.

The young MP shrugged off his actions. "I did what my instincts and training told me to do."

For his actions, Specialist Hatch has been awarded the Soldier's Medal, the Army's highest award for non-combat heroism.



'Semper Fideles'

FRIEND IN NEED—A Marine carries his wounded buddy to a waiting medical evacuation helicopter after the latter had stepped on a Viet Cong punji trap. (USMC Photo)

Marines Conduct County Fair

Da Nang (USMC)—Ninh Binh Village, 37 miles southeast of Da Nang, has been described as an island. Surrounded by an infested Viet Cong area, its inhabitants are strictly pro-South Vietnamese government.

This was the site of a county fair conducted by the 2nd Bn., 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. Helicopters descended upon the village shortly after dawn one morning, delivering the fair's command group.

Vietnamese Popular and Regional Forces with Marines of

Ex-VC Says Morale Is At Low Ebb

Binh Phuoc (USA)—Successful operations by the U.S. 9th Division Mechanized Battalion and Regional and Popular Forces have demoralized enemy guerrillas in the Delta, according to Chieu Hoi returnee Doan Cong Chinh.

Thirty-year-old Chinh ended his three-year career as a resident Viet Cong guerrilla in the village of An Luc Long, 25 miles southwest of Saigon, April 21. He walked into the compound which houses both the Binh Phuoc district government headquarters and the 9th Infantry Division's 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry operations center.

In announcing his rejection of the Viet Cong, he joined more than 100 other former VC from the district who have become Chieu Hoi returnees since the 5th 60th began operations here in mid-March.

Action Company N-1, based in the village, moved through Ninh Binh, directing all villagers to the fair site.

Large tents were erected, Vietnamese music and instructions blared from public address systems, and the fair was underway. Navy medical and dental teams set up shop and were swamped with patients, treating 750 Vietnamese during the two-day fair.

Importance of upcoming elections was stressed by the district chief, Major Nguyen Ham, who urged the people to support candidates of their choice for official positions.

The role of the Marines in the area also was explained by Ham, emphasizing that the American presence was the wish of the South Vietnamese government.

The general theme, empha-

sized throughout the fair by the movies and Vietnamese officials, urged the people to better their lives and take interest in the government of Vietnam.

Early the third day, gear was packed, helicopters arrived and the county fair was over.

The people of Ninh Binh settled back to their normal trend of life, except for perhaps a better understanding of their government and the Americans.

Navy Veteran of 4 Wars, 67, Sets Pace for Younger Men

Da Nang (USN)—Chief Shipfitter Stephen Koteles, a 67-year-old veteran of World War I, now serves in Vietnam with a vigor equal to that of men many years his junior.

With more than 40 years of experience as a welder and builder, Chief Koteles is now a construction inspector at Da Nang's Naval Support Activity. Briefcase under-arm, the veteran of four wars moves at a rapid pace from project to project, giving advice on how things could be done better or built so that they will hold up longer.

Chief Koteles enlisted in the Army in 1917, and served as an assistant gunner during World War I. After the war he was released from active duty as a Corporal and entered the reserves.

In 1942, with the outbreak of World War II, Chief Koteles was called back to active duty. Because of his civilian experience in plumbing he entered the Navy as a Chief Shipfitter.

After the war, he went back to civilian life and became a full-time plumber. Then the Korean conflict started and he came back into the Navy.

Despite the chief's record of broken service since 1917, he recently celebrated his 30th year as a military man.

Prior to service in Vietnam, Chief Koteles was serving on the aircraft carrier Lake Champlain when his enlistment was about to expire. The Champlain's skipper asked him if he intended to "re-up" after 29 years as a serviceman.

"Well, I've seen the doctor and passed the physical exam with flying colors," was his reply.

The chief's reenlistment was probably one of the more memorable days in his life. The



Stephen Koteles

Champlain had just picked up astronauts James Conrad and Gordon Cooper after their mission into space.

That evening Chief Koteles was ordered to report to the skipper's stateroom, where Con-

rad and Cooper administered the oath of enlistment to the 29-year veteran.

Shortly after reenlisting, the chief was reassigned to the U.S. Naval Support Activity, Da Nang.

Lifeline Is One-Inch-Thick Wire

Bien Hoa (USAF) — The Air Force F-100 Supersabre pilot was returning to Bien Hoa after completing a successful combat mission over South Vietnam. He made a routine landing but when he popped his drag chute, it did not blossom fully and his brakes were not operating properly.

The pilot realized it was impossible to stop the plane using standard procedures. As quickly as the pilot flipped a switch in the cockpit, an arresting hook flopped down from the plane's tail section.

A thousand feet short of the end of the runway, the jet's tires flashed over a 150-foot-long, one-inch-thick wire cable suspended two inches off the ground.

The arresting hook engaged the wire and pulled the straining cable down the runway. The cable attached to reels installed on each side of the runway unwound as the aircraft continued to skid. After travelling 500 feet, the aircraft came to a stop.

An apparatus to recover planes in flight which are spiraling earthward out of control has yet to be invented. But three airmen at Bien Hoa claim to be operating the next best thing, an aircraft-arresting barrier.

Heading the group is Airman First Class Michael D. Merrick, August, Mich., who says that they play catch for a living but instead of catching fast pitches, "we snag 35,000 pounds of air-

plane and pilot coming over the plate at 200 m.p.h."

Merrick's slick fielding airmen are credited with 96 saves since the beginning of the year. The maximum amount of energy the arrester can handle is 55,000 pounds at 190 knots.

Each time the barrier is used, the crew observes the equipment during arrestment and rewind to detect malfunctions. Daily inspections and preventative maintenance keep the crew busy.

"The barrier's purpose is to save pilot lives," Merrick remarked. "But the lives of those on the ground, the property adjacent to the runway, and a million dollar aircraft are not overlooked."

Text of Statement on New Military RD Role

Saigon (MACV)—The following is a statement by Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker appointing General W.C. Westmoreland as head of the American pacification effort:

"Since being appointed U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam I have given a great deal of thought to how to organize most effectively the U.S. advisory role in support of the Vietnamese Government's Revolutionary Development effort. Like my predecessor, I regard Revolutionary Development—often termed pacification—as close to the heart of the matter in Vietnam.

"Support of Revolutionary Development has seemed to me and my senior colleagues to be neither exclusively a civilian nor exclusively a military function, but to be essentially civil-military in character. It involves both the provision of continuous local security in the countryside—necessarily a primarily military task—and the constructive programs conducted by the Ministry of Revolutionary Development, largely through its 50-member RD teams. The Government of Vietnam has recognized the dual civil/military nature of the RD process by assigning responsibility for its execution to the Corps/Region commanders and by deciding to assign the bulk of the regular Army of the Republic of Vietnam, as well as the Regional and Popular Forces, to provide the indispensable security so that RD can proceed in the countryside.

"As senior American official in Vietnam, I have concluded that the U.S. advisory and supporting role in Revolutionary Development can be made more effective by unifying its civil and military aspects under a single management concept. Unified management, a single chain of command, and a more closely dovetailed advisory ef-

fort will in my opinion greatly improve U.S. support of the vital RD program.

"Therefore, I am giving General Westmoreland the responsibility for the performance of our U.S. Mission field programs in support of Revolutionary Development. To assist him in performing this function, I am assigning Mr. Robert Komer to his headquarters to be designated as Deputy for Revolutionary Development to COMUSMACV with personal rank of Ambassador.

"I have two basic reasons for giving this responsibility to General Westmoreland. In the first place, the indispensable first stage of pacification is providing continuous local security, a function primarily of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, in which the U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam performs a supporting advisory role. In the second place, the greater part of the U.S. advisory and logistic assets involved in support of Revolutionary Development belong to MACV. If unified management of U.S. Mission assets in support of the Vietnamese program is desirable, COMUSMACV is the logical choice.

"I have directed that a single chain of responsibility for advice and support of the Vietnamese Revolutionary Development program be instituted from Saigon down to district level. Just as Mr. Komer will supervise the U.S. advisory role at the Saigon level as Deputy to General Westmoreland, so will the present Office of Civil Operations—regional directors serve as deputies to the U.S. senior advisors to the Vietnamese Corps/Region commanders.

"At the province level, a senior advisor will be designated, either civilian or military, following analysis of the local



NEW TEAM—America's new Ambassador to Vietnam, Ellsworth Bunker, flanks General W. C. Westmoreland and Assistant Ambassador Robert Komer following the announcement that General Westmoreland will head the American pacification effort in Vietnam.

(JUSPAO Photo)

situation.

"While management will thus be unified, the integrity of the Office of Civil Operations will be preserved. It will continue to perform the same functions as before, and will continue to have direct communications on technical matters with its field echelons. The present Revolutionary Development Support Division of MACV will be integrated into OCO, and its chief will serve as Deputy to the Director of OCO.

"As senior U.S. official in Vietnam, I intend to keep a close eye on all U.S. activities, including our support of Revolutionary Development. I am simply having this advisory effort report to me through COMUSMACV rather than through two channels as in the past. I intend to keep fully informed personally about all developments in this field, and to hold frequent meetings with General Westmoreland and Ambassador Komer for the purpose of formulating policy.

"Such a unified civil/military U.S. advisory effort in the vital field of Revolutionary Development is unprecedented. But so too is the situation which we confront. RD is in my view neither civil nor military but a unique merging of both to meet a unique wartime need. Thus my solution is to have U.S. civilian and military officials work together as one team in order to more effectively support our Vietnamese allies. Many further details will have to be worked out, and various difficulties will doubtless be encountered, but I am confident that this realignment of responsibilities is a sound management step and I count on all U.S. officers and officials concerned to make it work effectively in practice."

(Continued on page 5)

US Mission Changes Announced

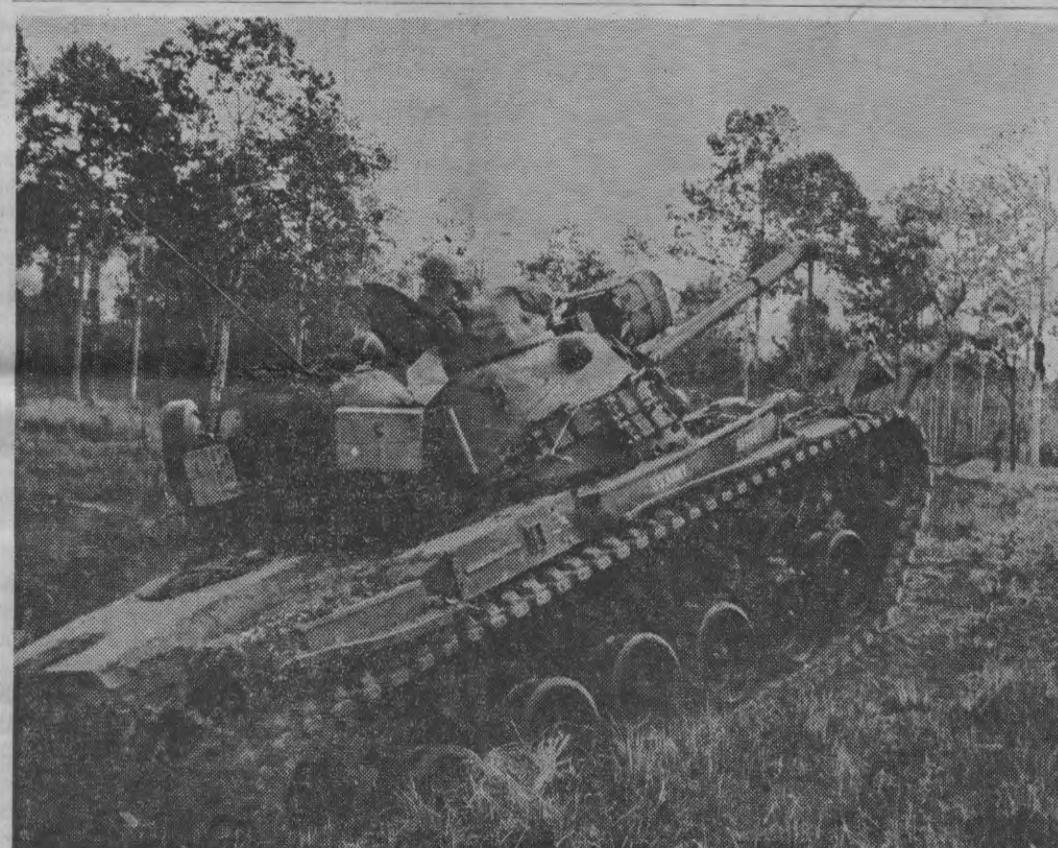
Saigon (MACV)—American Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker announced further reorganization of the American Mission concurrent with his appointment of General W.C. Westmoreland to head the pacification effort.

Deputy Ambassador Eugene Locke will serve the Mission as Mr. Bunker's alter ego, and will insure co-ordination of all Mission activities.

Two long time Mission leaders, Barry Zorthian and Major General Edward Lansdale, will remain at their posts as Minister-Counselor for Information and Mission Liaison Officer for Revolutionary Development.

Economist Charles Cooper will come to Vietnam in June to replace Leroy Wehrle as Counselor for Economic Affairs.

These four men under Ambassador Bunker, along with General Westmoreland and Ambassador Robert Komer in the pacification area, will make up the top team of the U.S. Mission in Vietnam.



MOBILITY AND FIREPOWER—An M-48 tank of the 11th Armored Cavalry "Blackhorse" Regiment races over a hilltop during an operation in support of infantrymen clearing the enemy out of his stronghold.

(USA Photo)



Lots of Leaflets

Air Force psychological warfare crews dropped more than 60 million leaflets while flying more than 400 sorties over enemy territory in the south this week.

Sly Aussie Leaves ID On AF One

Phan Rang (USAF)—The Royal Australian Air Force's insignia is identical to that of England's RAF with the exception that the Australian emblem has a red kangaroo in the center.

Every Australian vehicle, aircraft, tent, hootch, sign, latrine and many other objects carry this identification.

"Reliable sources" have stated that when any new or unpainted object arrives at Phan Rang air base, an Aussie airman is issued a stencil and a can of red spray paint. The airman is given no special instructions on what to do with the paint. But should he return with a full can of red paint, his fellow airmen like to josh him as being not worth to be a member of the Royal Australian Air Force.

Some the well-known United States aircraft that have borne the red kangaroo are Air Force One, President Johnson's airplane; Pacific Air Force Commander, General Ryan's C-135 and 7th Air Force Commander, Lieutenant General Momyer's White Whale.

In World War II it was "Kilroy was here," and at Phan Rang air base, it's the Red Kangaroo.



PRE-CHECK—Captain Bernard Muller-Thym, New York, (left) senior advisor to the 9th Recon Company, checks an ARVN soldier's wound, before he is evacuated.



VC SUSPECT—ARVN trooper confers with a Vietnamese woman who was injured in an grenade attack by a recon squad. The squad attacked the bunker in which the woman was hiding after two male VC threw grenades at the company from the mouth of the cave.

Delta Recon Co Tracks Wily VC



MEDEVAC—Hoisted aboard "Dustoff" ship by crewman and light weapons advisor, Sergeant First Class James Fox, Louisville, Ky., (rear) wounded recon soldier, gets a quick removal from the field.

Sa Dec MACV—Tracking and trapping VC in the Delta is strictly business to the 9th Recon Company, as the jack-in-the-box tactics of the guerrillas can hinder them in many ways.

Trying for a surprise of its own, the recon company landed in the operational area, near Sa Dec, in the early morning hours but found only traces of the elusive enemy. However, before an hour had passed, an ARVN soldier was injured by a grenade trap.

Settling on a mat of grass, a "Dustoff" ship removed the wounded soldier and the company pushed on. Nearing a bunker line, two figures popped up from the entrance of their lair and threw several grenades. Far off target, the grenades exploded harmlessly.

An ARVN squad blasted the bunker with M-1 carbine fire and grenades. A sobbing voice erupted from the bunker, firing stopped, and from its wake a young Vietnamese woman emerged.

Moving the injured woman from the fortification, the undaunted squad entered the bunker and found two dead male VC.

"I suspect that she's a VC, as casualty losses have forced them to use women," remarked Captain Bernard Muller-Thym, senior advisor, 9th Recon Company.

Flown out by helicopter, the woman was taken to a Can Tho hospital for treatment. When she recovers, she will be held for interrogation.

Story & Photos by
SSgt Geo. Hicks, USA
Staff Writer



Logistics Unit



Dove Unit



Hq ROKF-V
Joint General Staff

Pacification of the countryside is an important part of any operation designed to clear and hold the land. A trooper of the Tiger Division stands ready to assist and protect the 6,000 refugees who have gathered in less than 11 days at the Korean Refugee Center. Here they receive medical care, shelter and food.



Saigon (MACV) — It was in June, 17 years ago that the North Korean communists, attacking across the 38th parallel, began a full-scale invasion of the Republic of South Korea. The South Korean Army, at that time, was much like the South Vietnamese Army of today. Now, many years later and many miles from the Pusan perimeter, the Bay of Inchon, the frozen waters of the Yalu and the hills of Chorwon, the ROK Armed Forces are again facing an enemy in combat.

The enemy today bears a striking resemblance to the one he fought 17 years ago. For this enemy, too, is a communist soldier. Only this time supplied, trained and led by the government of Hanoi in North Vietnam.

The North Vietnamese Army like the North Korean in 1950, has invaded the south, has crossed the DeMilitarized Zone at the 17th parallel. Its goal is the domination of South Vietnam and its people.

Having shared a similar experience, the people of South Korea were sympathetic to



Lt. Gen. Chae, Myung-Shin
Commander, ROKF-V

ROK

a request from the South Vietnamese government for help. They responded immediately in September, 1964.

The first contingent of ROK forces to arrive was 140-bed Mobile Army Surgical Hospital which is located at Vung Tau.

This unit was followed in February, 1965, by a Korean Construction Support Group, known as the Dove Unit. It is located at Di An near Bien Hoa. In October, 1965 the 2nd ROK Marine Brigade, known as the Blue Dragon Unit, 4,500 men strong, arrived. It is located near Chu Lai in Quang Ngai province.

Units of the ROK Capital Division, known



The delicate touch of an eye surgeon brings opening its doors in 1964, the ROK hospital treated 46,000 patients and performed over 2,100

Vietnamese girls at the Qui-Nhon High School acquire a new virtue as they learn the art of Tae Kwon Do from a Tiger Division instructor. There are now 70 ROK Tae Kwon Do instructors in Vietnam training 11,408 Vietnamese and 40 Americans.



ROK-V

as the Tiger Division are located in Qui Nhon. In September, 1966, the White Horse Division, 9th ROK Infantry landed at Nha Trang and established base camp headquarters at Ninh Hoa.

Other ROK supporting units include the 100th Logistics Command in Nha Trang and Naval Transport Support Group, the Sea Gull unit in Saigon.

All Republic of Korea Forces in Vietnam are under the command of Lieutenant General Chae, Myung-Shin of Headquarters, ROKF-V, which is co-located with other Free World Military Assistance Forces in the

FWF compound in Saigon. Korean forces in Vietnam now number 45,000 men.

The primary job of the Tiger Division commanded by Major General Lew, Byong-Hion and the White Horse Division commanded by Major General Lee, So-Dong along with the Blue Dragon Brigade commanded by Brigadier General Kim, Yeun-Sang is to participate in combat action.

The ROK Construction Support Group commanded by Brigadier General Choi, Il-Yong is called the Dove unit because of the action programs and rural reconstruction peaceful aspects of its participation in civic projects, including the building of roads, schools, playgrounds, dispensaries and bridges.

The Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) serves both the Vietnamese and Korean forces as well as the Vietnamese civilian population in its area. The 100th Logistics Command is headed by Brigadier General Lee, Bom-June and the Sea Gull unit by Navy Captain Lee, Kae-Ho.



hope for relief to a Vietnamese patient. Since its arrival (MASH) at Vung Tau has treated more than 1,000 major surgical operations.



For the children of Loi Chen a new playground and a shelter from the sun and rain. One of 19 playgrounds built or repaired by the Dove Unit based at Di An since their arrival in Vietnam.



Blue Dragon Regt.



Tiger Division



White Horse Division



Sea Gull Unit

Enemy supplies captured by the Tiger Division are displayed for Colonel Samran, CO of the Royal Thai MAG.



Day And Night Security

Green Fatigue With Blue Helmet



ROVING TEAMS—Air Police Security Alert Teams roam inter-perimeter areas at Tan Son Nhut 24 hours a day and are usually first to the scene when trouble arises.



COMMUNICATIONS NERVE CENTER—Staff Sergeant Orvil E. Willis, Des Arc, Ark., a communicator at the Air Police Central Security Control, handles all communications with guard posts.

Tan Son Nhut (USAF)—Air Police from the 377th Air Police Squadron at Tan Son Nhut Air Base are alert day and night keeping a vigilant eye for any form of trouble at Vietnam's huge air base.

The mission of the 377th is to meet and turn back any penetration of the base interperimeter and, in addition, to handle law enforcement, customs inspections and other Air Police activities.

Air Police law enforcement sections in Vietnam are a little different than Stateside. Besides issuing tickets and handling traffic control, the section is at least 75 per cent a security force in itself. Quan Canh, Vietnamese guards directly under the control of the Vietnamese Air Force, assist in law enforcement activities.

Air Police are trained to do a job . . . and they do it well. Equipped with portable and mobile radio sets, Air Policemen manning posts around the base can contact the control center instantly. When an emergency call comes in, trucks loaded with quick-reaction forces are on the way to the scene.

Sentry dogs are invaluable to the 377th Air Police Squadron. Dog and handler teams are posted from dark to daylight,

immediately inside the air base perimeter. These teams are the first line of detection.

Following the April, 1966 attack on Tan Son Nhut, the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, made a study of the base defense. Many improvements have been made since the study was completed. New perimeter lights have been installed and key points refortified.

Another aid has been the spare-time project of the Air Police in clearing waist-high elephant grass along the base perimeter. The Air Police bulldozed, mowed and burned more than 700 acres of the dense reed-like growth. This clearance has robbed the enemy of a place to hide and has made it easier for K-9 and post patro's to observe anyone approaching.

Pride . . . in himself and his unit . . . flourishes among Air Police in Vietnam. They work as a team. There is still some "spit and polish" attached to being an AP. During guard mounts, whether it be the daytime force garbed in normal green fatigue uniform with blue helmet or the night unit dressed in traditional combat camouflage fatigues, Air Policemen are proud of their appearance and their job.

Story by SSgt Gerald S. O'Hara, USAF

Photos by SSgt Andy Sarakoh, USAF



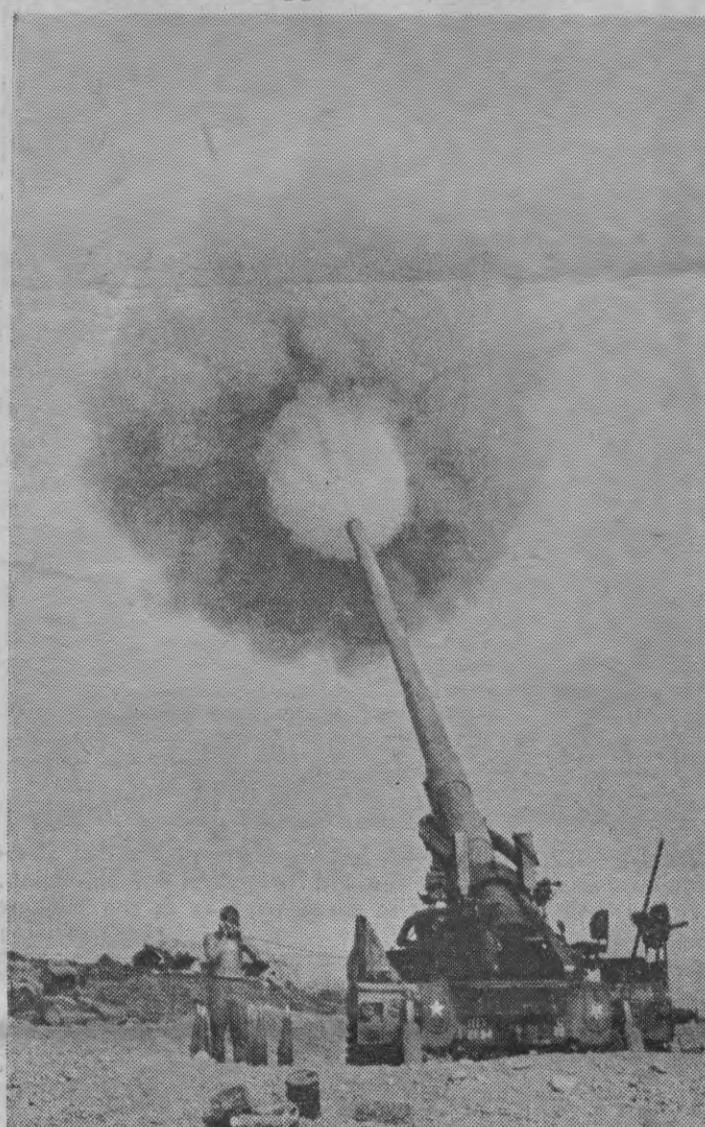
VITAL SENTRY DOG TEAM—Canine handler, Airman First Class Leon E. Senecal, Easthampton, Mass., and his sentry dog, Rex, patrol the perimeter.

Army Artillerymen at Beckon of Marines

Camp J. J. Carroll (USA)—Almost within "spitting" distance of the 17th parallel, three battalions of U. S. Army artillery now support U. S. Marines who slug it out with North Vietnamese soldiers in rugged

Quang Tri Province.

In a unique arrangement, the artillery units, under administrative control of the Army's I Field Force, Vietnam Forward, provide big gun support to the 3rd Marine Division.



NEAR THE DMZ—A smoke ring blooms as another 175-mm projectile roars to a target from U.S. Army guns supporting Marine Corps Activities on the DMZ. (USA Photo)

150 Pounds of Pressure Fights the War on Fire

Da Nang (USN)—Water fights with a stream of water 250 feet long with enough force to knock a man down seem like a strange way to fight a war.

Actually this is part of the on-the-job training for the crew of the modified LCM-3 (Landing Craft Medium) fireboat. The fireboat is stationed at Naval Support Activity, Da Nang, and covers all craft in the Da Nang harbor. The five-man crew of the boat is on call 24 hours a day.

Hand-held hoses can put out a stream at a distance of 80 to 100 feet with 150 pounds of pressure. The craft is also equipped with 3,000 gallons of foam for smothering burning fuel.

Each man aboard is a qualified swimmer and first aid training is a necessary qualification for men serving on the boat. Every member of the crew is also cross-trained in handling every other job on the boat.

The fireboat has actually been called on only once. The boilers of a merchant ship in the Da Nang harbor exploded in February and the boat was called for assistance. They watered down the resulting fire for an hour before it was under control.

Second Class Quartermaster

Jimmy Cain, Dallas, petty officer in charge, said, "Our division officer told us we could do anything as long as it was in the line of training." This consists of water fights (good training for pump men), emergency runs on burning beach fires and practice runs into tight places.

Chaplains Receive Aid From Phu Loi Soldiers

Phu Loi (USA)—The Vietnamese Protestant Church in the village of Phu Cuong now has hundreds of new Bibles and Hymnals, thanks to contributions from U.S. soldiers stationed at Phu Loi.

In a brief, simple ceremony the new volumes were presented to Huynh Van Thien, Christian Missionary Alliance pastor of the Phu Guong church by three Army chaplains.

Major David F. Tate, 23rd Artillery Group, Captain M.R. Standley, 1st Infantry Division Artillery, and Captain Jerry Woodbury, 11th Aviation Battalion, also plan to provide the church with a new organ.

Following the presentation, held on the pastor's porch, the chaplains were invited in for tea. The pastor then conducted

The big 175mm guns can fire a 146-pound projectile at ranges of up to 22 miles.

"We can cover nearly 99 per cent of Quang Tri Province, from the China Sea to the Laotian border if we have to," said Lieutenant Colonel Richard G. Treffry, commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery.

Because the big guns are self-propelled, they frequently move around when Marine commanders need to shift artillery support to another area.

"Whatever the Marines tell us to do, we do it gladly," said Colonel Treffry. "We also support Army Special Forces and ARVN (Army Republic of Vietnam) camps in the province."

Besides direct support of infantrymen, the Army's Camp Carroll-based 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery fires its 175's across the Demilitarized Zone at bunkers, command posts, troop concentrations and antiaircraft sites in North Vietnam.

B Battery of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery made a long move from Phuoc Vinh, 40 miles north of Saigon, to the DMZ to join the 2nd Battalion in October, 1966.

Forward observers, usually Marine reconnaissance teams on jungle patrol for three or four days at a time, radio back targets to the battalion's fire direction control center.

Small "Bird Dog" spotter planes flown by Army, Marine and Air Force pilots also radio targets to the big guns, including sites in North Vietnam within the guns' range.

"We never know who will be spotting for us out there, but it really doesn't matter," Colonel Treffry added. "They're all



TAILOR MADE FOR CHARLIE—Rows of heavy 175-mm projectiles, stand ready in their storage area for a firing mission near the DMZ. (USA Photo)

darn good at the job."

Both Camp Carroll and the Gio Linh site (less than a mile from the DMZ) have been heavily mortared by the enemy. "We sometimes live like moles in our deep bunkers, but we keep the guns firing," says one veteran of many heavy attacks at Gio Linh.

Captain J. J. Carroll, USMC, was mortally wounded on October 5, when hit by a shell fragment. After his death, his men

named the ridge on Hill 400 in his memory calling it "J.J." Ridge. Now an artillery park and military base in that area—Camp Carroll—is named in honor of the Captain.

Camp Carroll is also the home of a third artillery battalion, the 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery, which contains three highly mobile firing batteries of self-propelled 105mm howitzers, that supports and works closely with the Marines.

'Hoi Chanh' Records For Psyops 'Chieu Hoi Team

Dong Tam (USA)—A Hoi Chanh (returnee) who turned himself into 9th Infantry Division troops during a recent operation delivered a tape recorded message to his family and other members of his hamlet, Binh Thoi, only 45 minutes after he was evacuated from the area.

This mission was the first time that the psychological operations team stationed at the 2nd Brigade base camp had been able to take such swift advantage of a Hoi Chanh recorded message.

The former Viet Cong, who approached D Company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry waving a Chieu Hoi ("Open Arms" program) leaflet, was the agricultural committee chief of his hamlet.

His job included telling the villagers when, where and what

to plant, levying Viet Cong taxes, contacting the "middle man" to send rice to the market and making arrangements for fertilizer and water buffalo.

After he contacted the American troops, the Hoi Chanh was evacuated from his hamlet by helicopter to Dong Tam where he was interviewed by the 9th Military Intelligence Detachment to determine if he was, in fact, a reformed Viet Cong.

Following the interview, he was asked if he would like to give his family and friends a taped message and said he would. While the tape recording

was being made, a helicopter was outfitted with a loud speaker.

The tape was rushed to the helipad, and within 45 minutes after the man's evacuation, his tape recording was being broadcast to his hamlet.

The Hoi Chanh said he was glad to be back with the government, and that he had been treated well. He ended his tape by encouraging other Viet Cong to take advantage of the Chieu Hoi program.

Army Studies Use of SSAN

Washington (ANF)—The Army will conduct tests this month to evaluate problems involved in obtaining Social Security Account Numbers for all incoming service personnel.

The tests are in response to a Secretary of Defense directive that all individuals entering on active duty after June 30 have a Social Security Account Number (SSAN). The program will eventually substitute the SSAN for the military service number.

Leaving Vietnam?

You are not allowed to convert military payment certificates (MPC) to U.S. dollars in an amount greater than the total amount drawn during a one month period unless your conversion is supported by a certificate from your commander showing that the excess MPC was acquired legitimately.

Failure to obtain the required certificate will require that you make application to HQ USAF which is a time consuming process.

Caribous Deliver Like 'Elephants'

Saigon (USAF) — Like the elephants that once supplied Hannibal's army in the rugged Alpine terrain, Air Force's C-7A Caribous are the only thing capable of doing the corresponding job of today: the aerial resupply of Free World Forces in isolated forward areas throughout South Vietnam.

Caribou aircrews are a unique arm of the giant-sized airlift force which includes the C-123 Provider and C-130 Hercules operating in Vietnam.

"We don't compete with the C-123 and C-130 aircraft," said Colonel Paul J. Mascot, Waco, Tex., commander of the 483rd Troop Carrier Wing, based at Cam Ranh Bay. "The Provider and Hercules carry bigger loads, but the Caribou specializes in landing at forward camps and outposts which have very short dirt air strips hacked out of the jungle floor."

Some of these strips are no longer than 1,000 feet. No other airlift aircraft can get into such an area, deliver its cargo, turn around and take off again.

With a full load, the Caribou can take off and clear a 50-foot obstacle in 1,220 feet and land in 1,000 feet. Its top speed is 180 miles per hour and its range 1,250 miles.

Caribous haul almost any-

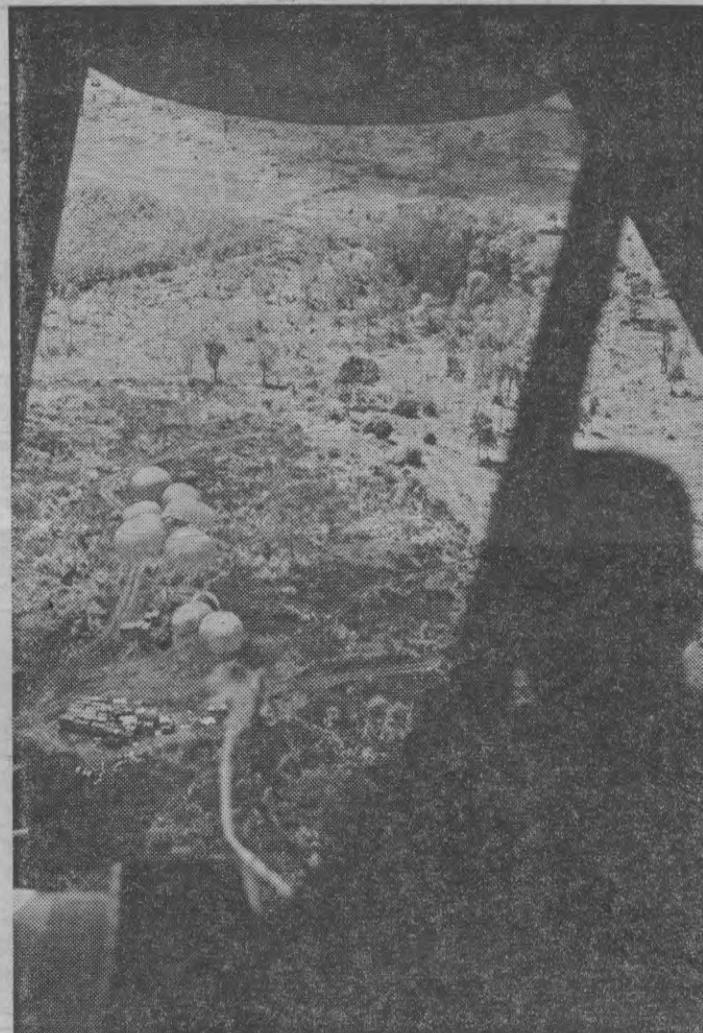
thing; including troops, equipment, rations and live animals. The aircraft can carry 32 fully equipped troops or 20 litter patients. As a cargo carrier, it can airlift three tons of supplies and equipment or two fully loaded jeeps. A Caribou crew is made up of three men—a pilot, co-pilot and flight mechanic.

The Air Force had no aircraft in Vietnam with the short take-off and landing capability until control of the Caribou was shifted from the Army Jan. 1. The transfer was made to consolidate fixed wing airlift in Vietnam under a single service.

The change was the first time in history that a fully operational aircraft was transferred to another service in combat. The 483rd Troop Carrier Wing, with 90 aircraft in six squadrons, handles the Caribou operation in Vietnam.

In the first three months of Air Force operation, Caribous airlifted more than a quarter of a million passengers. The combined passenger and cargo tonnage airlifted for the period was more than 51,707 tons. Caribous fly into some 200 air strips, many of which are solely dependent on this airlift.

Another important Caribou mission is tactical emergency airlift (troops or cargo needed immediately by ground forces to handle their mission).



CARGO DROP—An Air Force flight mechanic is silhouetted at the rear-cargo doorway of a C-7A Caribou following the release of cargo during the aerial resupply of a Special Forces camp. (USAF Photo)

No Slack...

(Continued from Page 1) jumped deep into Viet Cong territory. Landing at Duc Pho, the brigade moved out on Operation Le Jeune. The brigade is now part of the multi-brigade Task Force Oregon.

Colonel James G. Shanahan, 3rd Brigade commander, who was with the 25th Division as a platoon leader and a company commander during World War II, and a battalion commander in the Korean Conflict, said, "Vietnam has been saved from the NVA. The enemy seems to be fighting a retrograde action with an occasional well-planned but desperate attempts to regain lost control.

"The tide has turned and there is no longer the question, 'Will South Vietnam be free?' but rather the question is, 'When?'"

Iron Triangle For 2nd Time

Long Giao (USA) — Not many soldiers can claim fighting in two Iron Triangles, but Staff Sergeant William James, San Antonio, has fought in both the Iron Triangles — the one in Korea and here in Vietnam.

Nha Trang (USA)—Six-year-old Lanh Thanh has leprosy, and will have the disease for the rest of her life, or until an effective cure is found. But there is hope for her and all the other lepers in the Nha Trang area, thanks to the "Center to Cure Leprosy" and to those who contribute to the search for a cure.

Founded in 1947 by the Franciscan Order of Monks, the Center is presently located in new quarters two miles north of Nha Trang area; and from Cross Toan and 14 other Franciscans maintain the Center.

It is supported almost entirely by donations from people in the Nha Trang area; and from projects such as the one initiated by Second Lieutenant Jerry Wilkins, executive officer, Headquarters Company, I Field Force Vietnam.

Lieutenant Wilkins collected nearly \$100 and bought some 2,000 pounds of food, clothing and other supplies for the Center.

Doctor Nguyen Van Ba, director of Nha Trang's Pasteur Institute, pays a call every three days to the Center to treat the 200 permanent patients, and the more than 400 lesser ill patients who come from miles around.

This treatment consists of shots with the sulfa drug

Richmond's Three Guys And A Doll

Da Nang (USN) — Hail, hail the family's all here—almost.

Three brothers stationed in Vietnam were reunited with their sister, Miss Sharon Lee Richmond, an American Red Cross field office assistant, in Da Nang.

The brothers are U.S. Army Chaplain (Captain) Kenneth R. Richmond, stationed at Nha Trang, and Marine Corporals Robert W. and Ronald E. Richmond. Robert is assigned to the 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Division in Da Nang, and Ronald is with the Fleet Logistics Support Group, B Company, in Chu Lai.

Robert and Ronald are 21-year-old twins.

Ronald arrived in Vietnam in October, 1966. Three months later, Sharon was sent to Vietnam. A month after she arrived, Kenneth received orders to Nha Trang. Then in March, 1967, the fourth family member, Robert, reported for duty with the 1st Marine Division.

"We were very happy to have the reunion, even though it's in a war zone," Sharon said.

She added, "Although our parents are a little upset because so many of us are in Vietnam... they realize that our jobs are necessary and we're needed over here."

Dapsone and other sulfas, the only known checking agent for the disease. Nothing known can cure it.

Leprosy, an affliction of the nervous system, is not a highly contagious disease. Some of the symptoms are painful swellings or nodules on the body and a loss of feeling in some part of the body. If leprosy goes unchecked, the paralysis spreads and the disease becomes fatal.

A leper is more likely to die from a wound inflicted on the paralyzed portion of his body, which can become infected, than from the disease itself. For this reason the more critical patients have to be watched closely. They are housed at the Center with rooms for each, as well as food and clothing and constant drug treatment.

Old Timer at Exchange Interviews Applicants

Saigon (VRE) — One of the "old-timers" at the Vietnam Regional Exchange headquarters in Saigon is a Filipino who looks and sometimes dresses like a Vietnamese.

Mrs. Rosario ("Rosy") Tan, chief of the exchange's Local Nationals Employee Management Unit, has been in Vietnam since arriving in 1959 with her husband, a pilot in the Vietnamese Air Force.

Her husband died in action in 1961 but Rosy and her two daughters remained in Vietnam, except for short visits to her family in the Philippines.

Rosy joined the Vietnam PX service as an accounting clerk in 1962 when it was a Navy Exchange operation. The Army and Air Force took over the operation in December, 1965. At

Little Girl Is a Tough Assignment

Da Nang (USAF) — Tiny, six-month old Nguyen Thi Thu Huong has been baptized Melinda Suzanne Howes and will soon be on her way to the United States.

The newly adopted daughter of Captain Lawrence P. Howes, Rochester, N.Y., will be given the chance few Vietnamese orphans will ever have, a life with a family in the United States.

When Captain Howes arrived in Vietnam to become a member of Air Force Advisory Team 5, he came with a dual mission. He was to work as an advisor to the 41st Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF) Wing concerning maintenance of the A-1H Skyraider, and he was to look for a Vietnamese child to adopt.

This decision had been reached by Captain Howes and his wife, Billie, when he was alerted for the Da Nang assignment, while stationed at Lockbourne AFB, Ohio.

Now nearing the end of his one year assignment, the Captain said that finding the child was the hardest assignment he had ever undertaken.

"The wives of my friends in the Vietnamese Air Force helped me find Melinda, in the local Catholic orphanage," remarked Captain Howes. "The first time I saw her, she must have been all of ten days old."

Minimum Cash for R&R—\$125

Saigon (MACV) — Going on out-of-country R&R? How much money should you have in your pocket when you go?

The suggested bare minimum amount needed to cover expenses at any of the out-of-country R&R sites is \$125.

To ensure that you have an enjoyable stay on R&R, you should carry about \$250, or more if you plan to do extra shopping.

Personnel have been arriving at R&R sites with insufficient funds, and then going through the red tape of obtaining a partial pay. One man arrived in Bangkok with a mere \$17. His hotel bill alone was \$30.

Between April 11 and May 3, 148 R&Rers arrived in Bangkok with an average of only \$55 cash in their pocket, and many wasted time getting partial pay approved.

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