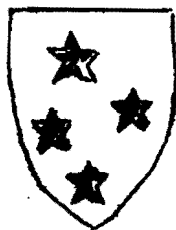


AMERICAL

news sheet



MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Friday to mostly cloudy with intermittent afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms. Winds east-northeasterly at 10-20 knots. High Friday 94. Low Friday night 76.

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THURSDAY

June 6, 1968

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—The Americal Division continued with increased action yesterday as elements of the Division killed 13 VC and 32 NVA and captured 80 individual and two crew-served weapons. The 198th Infantry Brigade accounted for most of the weapons captured when they uncovered a large cache in Operation Burlington Trail.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry combined to kill 18 NVA and capture an AK-47 and a .50 caliber anti-aircraft gun in an area eight miles northwest of Tam Ky. An additional enemy was killed by "F" Troop in the Thang Ninh area.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed five NVA and three VC in light action in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday.

In the most significant action, units of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Robert Corrigan (Arlington, Virginia) and CPT James Humphries (Pacific Grove, California) came into contact with an unknown size enemy force eight miles west of Tam Ky. One of the units knocked out a .50 caliber machine gun position and air strikes accounted for five NVA killed.

A unit of the 11th Infantry Brigade's 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry operating in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area killed one VC and captured a hand grenade.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry led by CPT John Wolfe (Marcellus, Michigan) accounted for two VC killed in separate incidents yesterday 11 miles west of Tien Phuoc.

Action in the 11th Infantry Brigade's area centered in the Tra Khuc Valley yesterday as 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry elements and "Hero Scout" Infantry elements killed six VC and two NVA, apprehended 13 suspects and captured three weapons. "Jungle Warriors" in the Duc Pho area killed two VC and apprehended nine suspects.

"Old Guard" soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry commanded by CPT John A. Gonzalez (Queens Village, New York) engaged and killed three VC in a sampan and destroyed the sampan 10 miles west of Quang Ngai. Moving up the river, the unit killed three more VC and captured an AK-47 in two contacts.

"Hero Scout" helicopters of the 123d Aviation Battalion, operating in the same area, inserted their ground troops

who engaged and killed two NVA and recovered an M-1 carbine and a K-44 rifle.

In the Duc Pho area, a unit of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry killed one VC four miles northwest of Duc Pho. Another VC was killed by 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry soldiers 11 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Enemy activity increased in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday as 198th Infantry Brigade soldiers killed seven NVA, captured four weapons and found a large weapons cache containing 74 firearms. One VC was killed by the Brigade in the Chu Lai area.

Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry engaged and killed one NVA in the jungle northwest of Chu Lai. An AK-47 and three hand grenades were captured in the action. Later, a 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry unit engaged and killed five NVA and captured three weapons in two incidents in the same area.

An element of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry engaged and killed one NVA and captured two hand grenades in fighting northwest of Chu Lai. Another unit of the Battalion located 72 individual and two crew-served weapons in one large cache 20 miles northwest of Chu Lai. The cache, "large enough to outfit an enemy company", contained 36 Soviet carbines, 15 sub-machine guns, two M-1 carbines, four 7165 bolt action rifles, three BARs, two machine guns, two M-1 rifles, two Mark #4 Lee Enfield rifles, one Soviet PPSH, one K-50, one French 7.5 rifle, one .45 caliber grease gun, more than 3,500 rounds of ammunition and 99 hand grenades.

5th Battalion, 46th Infantry unit killed one VC late yesterday eight miles south of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of the Brigade treated 233 Vietnamese in seven MEDCAPs yesterday.

Division forces suffered three soldiers killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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DATELINES AROUND THE WORLD—UPI

LOS ANGELES—Senator Robert F. Kennedy was shot and wounded critically early Wednesday moments after he had jubilantly declared a victory in the California Primary Election.

A swarthy gunman fired a bullet into Kennedy's brain as the Senator left a crowd of supporters cheering the election results in a ballroom of the Ambassador Hotel.

Firing again and again, the gunman hit Kennedy twice and wounded five other persons.

The jubilation in the ballroom turned to pandemonium as witnesses shouted "Bobby's been shot".

Kennedy was taken to a Hospital where a team of six surgeons three hours later operated in an attempt to remove the bullet.

At 4:50 A.M. PDT, a Kennedy aide told newsmen the senator had been in surgery for two hours. He said physicians estimated he would remain in surgery "for another hour—perhaps two hours".

Whatever the outcome of the operation, Kennedy's political future was uncertain, despite his victory over Senator Eugene McCarthy in Tuesday's critical California Presidential Preference Primary.

Moments before he was shot Kennedy had gone before his supporters and a television and radio audience. His brief statement included a remark deploring violence.

Flashing a victory sign, he walked from the ballroom to where the gunman was lurking.

Kennedy aides, including a professional football star and an Olympic champion, subdued the gunman and turned him over to police who whisked him away in secrecy under heavy guard. The gunman refused to give his name, and police were unable to identify him.

The world was shocked by the shooting, and President Johnson ordered the Secret Service to guard all the other presidential candidates.

The Senator was shot down 4½ years after his brother, the late President John F. Kennedy, was slain by two bullets from an assassin's rifle while riding in a motorcade in Dallas, Texas.

Although the Senator had aides who helped him when necessary in crowds while campaigning, none was regarded as a body-guard.

Kennedy on several occasions had refused offers of police protection while in Los Angeles. This was disclosed by Police Chief Thomas Riddin at a news conference in which he announced "as near as we can tell, there's only one person involved".

PARIS — France is on the verge of a nicotine fit. The latest and most humiliating effect of the country's domestic crisis is that the heavy smoking nation has run out of cigarettes.

Even the calmest Frenchmen—somehow unperturbed by the paralysis of transport, disappearance of gasoline supplies, shortage of cash, street rioting and unprecedented traffic jams—pushed the panic button when their right to dangle a cigarette from the lower lip came into question.

Last week when many neighborhood tobacco stores ran out of government produced "brown" tobacco cigarettes, Frenchmen gave in and bought "blond" tobacco cigarettes imported from the United States and other European countries.

