

The Observer

"Comment is free but facts are sacred."

Volume II. No. 41

SAIGON, VIET NAM

February 15, 1964

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Two U.S. Killed, 23 Injured As Explosions Rip Softball Stands

Two Americans were killed and 23 were wounded last Sunday night as two simultaneous bomb blasts ripped through a large section of spectator bleachers at the Special Services' Pershing Field softball diamond while a game was in progress.

The twin explosions brought to three killed and 33 wounded the number of U.S. casualties in Saigon bombings in eight days.

Three suspected terrorists were apprehended following the blast at the sports field, located near the Vietnamese Joint General Staff headquarters at Tan Son Nhut.

The blasts occurred at 8:35 p.m. while fans were watching a game between the 2nd Air Div. Cobras and

and seven were hospitalized, including three seriously wounded. Medical facilities of both the USAF Dispensary at Tan Son Nhut and the Navy Station Hospital in Saigon were pressed into service.

The bombing was one in a series of accelerated communist terrorist activities prior to the Lunar New Year, celebrated this week.

Four Killed, 40 Wounded In Blast At Saigon Bar

A powerful bomb blast—presumably a plastic charge—rocked the Playboy Bar in Saigon last Friday night, killing four Vietnamese, and wounding 34 others, plus six Americans.

The device exploded against the front wall of the bar at 10:35 p.m., showering the crowded area with debris. The bar is located just two doors from the entrance to the Metropole Hotel, an American enlisted billet.

None of the six wounded Americans was seriously hurt.

All the wounded were initially treated at the HSA Station Hospital. One of the wounded Americans was held for further treatment.



DIVISION ADVISOR DECORATED—Lt. Col. Tyron E. Tisdale (right), Sr. Advisor to the ARVN's 22nd Div., receives the Combat Infantryman Badge from Col. Charles E. Balthis, II Corps Sr. Advisor at recent ceremony held at Pleiku. Colonel Tisdale got the award while serving as advisor to the 51st Regt. (USAF Photo.)

Tax Cut Bill Passes Senate

The Senate-approved tax cut bill of \$11.6 billion passed Friday after seven days of debate, has been forwarded to the House for conference.

Passed by the House last Sept. 25 with a recommended cut of \$11.1 billion, the tax bill will slash income levies for individuals and 30,000 corporate tax payers.

The tax cut bill, at the top of President Johnson's 1964 legislative list along with Civil Rights, is the keystone of his entire economic program.



CINCUSARPAC ARRIVES—Gen. James F. Collins, Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Army Pacific, (left) is welcomed at Tan Son Nhut Feb. 5 by Gen. Paul D. Harkins, Commander, U. S. Military Assistance Command in Viet Nam and Maj. Gen. R. G. Weede, USMC, MACV Chief of Staff, (right) during a two-day visit. (MAAG IO Photo.)

Dateline Viet Nam

VC Pre-Tet Tempo Increases; Bitter Battle In Tay Ninh

Communist Viet Cong cadre—in keeping with announced intentions—accelerated their activities in all regions of Viet Nam last week, as expected during the pre-Lunar New Year period.

A VC threat in Tay Ninh province failed to materialize last Thursday and created a major clash between the insurgents and government forces.

A large force of 500 or more guerrillas swept into an area of Tay Ninh province some 50 miles northwest of Saigon last Thursday morning, overran a series of new life (formerly strategic) hamlets and a Self Defense Corps post, and vowed they would remain 48 hours and depart at their leisure.

ARVN forces reacted immediately to the attack with three companies of infantry moving in from the south by noon, and a company of airborne sealing off the north by 4 p.m. Both forces met vicious resistance, and the airborne were reinforced later in the day by two more companies.

The bitter fight lasted until nightfall, and heavy air strikes were brought to bear against the communists.

During the night, the enemy withdrew, less than 24 hours after initiating the attack.

Losses were heavy on both sides, with the government suffering 94 troops

killed, along with 31 civilians. Of the total friendly casualties, 65 were killed in the initial VC assault and the remainder during the reaction counter-attack. Sixty weapons were also lost.

According to villager's reports, the Viet Cong, who fled in the dark, carried away more than 200 killed and wounded, and left five bodies behind.

In Phong Dinh province about 80 miles southwest of Saigon, an estimated VC battalion attacked the Thoi Lai post last Wednesday defended by SDC and combat youth. There were 6 killed, 3 wounded, and 15 missing friendly forces after the attack, along with 38 weapons and two radios.

Later the same morning, a Civil Guard, Self Defense Corps unit in pursuit of the guerrillas was ambushed, losing 26 killed, 17 wounded, 23 missing, and 66 individual weapons. VC losses were unknown.

Throughout the country, Viet Cong forces continued to hit small posts and hamlets, indulged in acts of terrorism, sabotage, and murder, and in general increasing the tempo of their activities.

the MAAG Support Branch. The second inning had just been completed, with the Cobras leading 6-1 when the fiery explosion splintered the bleachers.

"All I could think of," said one of the players, "was the propane gas explosion at Indianapolis last year... a blinding flash of light, the tremendous explosion, and then all the casualties."

A spokesman reported that the bombs apparently were of the heavy fragmentation type, placed under the stands along the first base line about 15 to 20 feet apart.

Seats in the center section of the bleachers were splintered by the explosions, and four sections of galvanized roofing were torn away.

Casualties included U.S. military and civilian personnel and dependent women and children.

Of the 23 wounded, 16 were treated and released,

The Observer

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EDITORIAL

No Educational System Offer Students More

Service in the Armed Forces of the United States offers an opportunity to secure one of the best educations in the world, particularly in the technological fields, according to a report from the Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University.

The Columbia report says the Armed Forces spend more dollars on education than all the American colleges and universities combined and provide one of the most extensive and advanced educational programs.

The report examines basic recruit training, technical training, officer-candidate courses, officer training, the service war colleges, the joint colleges and off-duty education at local institutions, on base and by correspondence courses provided by the service.

It also covers the military services' teacher-training programs, educational research projects, other research, and instructional methods.

The report says "the quality of instruction in the Armed Forces is superior. The time and money spent by the Armed Forces on educational research greatly exceed that of traditional academic institutions."

The subjects taught by the Armed Forces range from the three R's to requirements for a Ph.D. degree. At any one time, the survey shows, as many as 300,000 military personnel may be attending school.

Are you among these 300,000? Can you afford not to be? Many jobs in the Armed Forces now require skills and knowledge that were unheard of a few years back.

Don't let your job advance beyond your capabilities. Columbia University says you have one of the best educational systems at your disposal — take advantage of it.

Movie Schedule

(Feb. 16 through Feb. 22)

Sun. & Mon. — THE LIST OF ADRIAN MESSENGER
 George Scott — Dana Wynter

Tues. — THE YOUNG AND THE BRAVE
 Rory Calhoun — William Bendix

Wed. — IF A MAN ANSWERS
 Sandra Dee — Bobby Darin

Thurs. & Fri. — TARZAN'S THREE CHALLENGES
 Jack Mahoney — Woody Strode

Sat. Matinee — TOY TINKERS
 RING-A-DING RHYTHM
 Jessie James Rides Again (Chapter 2)

Sat. Evening. — BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
 Joyce Tailor — Mark Damon

USO

Someone will be the USO's 200,000th guest this week — and it could be you! Whoever he is, the USO has all kinds of surprises as well as prizes in store for him.

Activities scheduled for today include a photo tour at 2 p.m. and Folk singers hootenanny at 8 p.m. Bring your instruments and if you have none — the USO has guitars and bongos available.

Events for this week include:

Sunday: Drop in from church services for coffee and toast from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Pool tournament starts at 3 p.m. and followed by a Jam « Pineapple » Session at 5 p.m.

Monday: Model airplane builders meet at their corner at 7 p.m. and film showings on Far Away Place — « India and Thailand » at 8 p.m.

Tuesday: Chairborne strategists and kibitzers can watch Chess enthusiasts in a battle of wits at 7:30 p.m. VAA stamp club meets at 7:45 p.m. and a show your slide session at 8 p.m.

Wednesday: Guest Nite from 8 to 11 p.m. preceded by an Open Bridge session starting at 7 p.m.

Thursday: Servicemen's Council Meeting at 2:30 p.m. and recorded songs of Stephen Foster at 7 p.m. Photo enthusiasts and beginners meet for darkroom instructions at 8 p.m.

Friday: Folksingers jamboree at 8 p.m.

VN-Based USAFmen Receive Promotions

Seventeen Vietnam-based USAF enlisted personnel were promoted Jan. 28 in promotion orders released by the office of Brig. Gen. Richard H. Ellis, CG, 315th Air Div. (Combat Cargo).

Promoted to Staff Sergeant were John E. Carter, James Eddins Jr., and Duane E. Mesloh, 8th Aerial Port Sqdn.; Mark W. Roper Jr., 310th TC Sqdn.; and Robert E. Barham, 311th TC Sqdn.

Promoted to Airman First Class were John A. Donnelly, Salvador E. Harguindeguy, Woodrow M. Neshitt, Enrique M. Ortega, Terrence V. Pallas and Stephen A. Stropko, 8th Aerial Port Sqdn.; and Jackie L. Strain, Hqs., 315th TS Sqdn.

Promoted to Airman Second Class were John W. Deans, Donald R. Marietta, Roger D. Moore, William W. LeGrange and Don J. Farnes, Hqs., 315th TC Gp.

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

1,000 Roles

By Chaplain (LCDR) HARRY R. MILLER

A few years ago, an actress died in New York City. Although she never became a world famous star, the newspaper account of her life stated that she played 1,000 roles.

Think of the varieties of acting and of the demands made upon her for actually becoming for a few hours, in front of large crowds of people, 1,000 different persons and for entering into their lives and problems.

Many persons have had this rich, enlarging experience of putting themselves into many roles. Jesus entered imaginatively into so many lives. Think of a few of them.

He could feel sharply with the woman who had spent all her money seeking a cure for her sickness and was no better at all. He could recognize the stewardship of the poor woman who put two small coins, all she had, into the treasury box for the poor.

He could sympathize with the man born blind. He could understand the anxiety of the woman whose little children were brought to Him that He might touch them. He entered into a thousand lives. It is a great way to live.

In contrast, some people play only one role — themselves. Their one role is forever. And they play it to the hilt. Everytime they come upon the stage, they repeat the tiresome story of "me, myself and I."

As we have the opportunity to give of ourselves and our substance to the people in need in Viet Nam and to the work of the Health Agencies in our own land, let us all enlarge our repertoire and take part in many lives.

Tax Tips...

Many military families have invested in mutual funds, or more accurately, regulated investment companies and a common question is how are mutual fund distributions treated for income tax purposes.

By complying with certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, mutual funds are usually able to avoid having to report income at the company level. Amounts received by shareholders from a mutual fund are taxable and are reported by them; the mutual fund being merely a conduit. Distributions by a mutual fund, whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional shares for the shareholder, consist of (1) dividends, (2) capital gains, or (3) both.

The dividend amount is reported on Form 1040, Schedule B, Part I; or, if the total dividends received are not more than \$200, such amount, less the \$50 per recipient exclusion, may be reported also on Form 1040A. The dividend receiving credit may be taken only on Schedule B, Part VII, of Form 1040.

The capital gain amount must be reported on Form 1040, Separate Schedule D. since Form 1960A may not be used if the taxpayer had any capital gains during the taxable year.

A mutual fund is required to notify its shareholders as to which portion of the amount distributed during the taxable year is to be treated as a capital gain and which portion as a dividend. Most funds supply their shareholders with a form which gives the amount of each type of distribution. Service members having questions regarding the reporting of mutual fund distributions are urged to see their local Legal Assistance Officer.



SOLDIER'S MEDAL — Maj. Joseph E. Roy, (right) receives the Soldier's Medal from Maj. Gen. William P. Yarborough, CG, U.S. Army Special Warfare Center, while Col. Theodore Leonard, (center) CO., U.S. Army Special Forces in Viet Nam looks on.

In-Flight Heroism Wins Soldier's Medal For Maj.

The Soldier's Medal, the highest award presented for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, was recently presented to Maj. Joseph E. Roy by Maj. Gen. William P. Yarborough, Chief of the Army's Special Warfare Center.

Major Roy, who was serving as escort in Viet Nam for a party of senior officers that included General Yarborough, extinguished a burning flare from the lap of Col. Quang Tai, Inspector General of the Vietnamese Special Forces.

The flare grenade was accidentally ignited, while an aircraft was in flight Jan. 16 over Tay Ninh, and landed on the lap of Colonel Tai burning his clothes.

Quick thinking and swift action on the part of Major Roy averted serious injury to Colonel Tai and other passengers and damage to the aircraft.

American Art Prints At VAA

An exhibition of original American prints will be on display Feb. 17 through Feb. 28 at the Vietnamese American Association Villa with the formal opening scheduled at 5 p.m., Monday.

The prints were selected from 2,054 submitted by 639 artists and represents a cross section of the best work done in this field in the last three years.

The public is invited to view these outstanding etchings, engravings, wood-cuts, and lithographs. The exhibition is the work of 55 American artists.

HONOR ROLL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

Third Award

Maj. John J. Dorociak

Second Award

SSgt. John Chickaul
Maj. Raymond E. Phares
Capt. Donald S. Cunningham

First Award

Capt. Frank Bauer
Capt. Max A. Clapp
Capt. Ramon R. Lopez
Capt. Joseph B. McDermott
Capt. Kenneth J. Winchell
1st Lt. James J. O'Brien
MSgt. William W. Harper
SFC. Donavan L. Riggs
Capt. Leonard E. Carter
Capt. Howard J. Gell
1st Lt. Desmond W. Flanigan
1st Lt. Starling D. Hunter
Sgt. Louis J. Kochanec
Sgt. Richard N. Chapman
PFC Lance T. Zarnowski

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Sixth Award

SMaj. Glenford A. Solville

Fifth Award

SFC Bernard D. Thomas

Fourth Award

MSgt. James Young

Third Award

Sgt. James R. Zimmerman
MSgt. Leonarde Trevino
MSgt. Leonard P. Scarr
SFC. John T. Andoval

Second Award

SFC. Verrill R. Worcester, Jr.
SFC. Woodrow H. Weaver

First Award

Sgt. George A. Fourre
Sgt. James R. Potratz

PROMOTIONS

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Daniel J. Dombrowski
Gary J. Merlino
Harry R. Parker

Sixty Nations Get MAP Dollars

Washington (A F P S)

— The Armed Forces of more than 60 allied and friendly nations now receive equipment, training, and related services under the Defense Department's Military Assistance Program.

In the 1965 proposed budget, funds for military assistance are included under the Defense Department, reflecting a new emphasis on closer coordination between this program and the Department's other regular missions. In the past these funds were included in the foreign aid budget.

The Military Assistance Program, as outlined in the government's budget report, is based on the recognition that the security of the United States is interdependent with that of the rest of the Free World.

The report also explains, "The program also helps to maintain our access to overseas bases, which allows optimum deployment of our own military forces. To replace the forces of our allies with comparable and similarly deployed American troops and facilities would cost us much more in terms of both manpower and expenditures."

Today, in response to the changing nature and direction of the Communist threat, approximately 70 percent of the total assistance program goes to nine key countries on the periphery of the Soviet Union and Communist China — Greece, Turkey, Iran, India, Pakistan, Thailand, the Republic of Viet Nam, and the Republic of China and Korea.

In the less developed nations of Latin America and Africa, the report points out, "Our military assistance is directed primarily toward strengthening internal security and helping indigenous forces in civic action projects."

The budget request for this program in 1965 is \$1.1 billion the same as last year.

The report explains that Western European Nations in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization now supply almost all the financial support for their own military forces and also provide military assistance to others.

POCKETFUL of NOTES

By SSgt. Bob Reid
USAF

KEEPING UP WITH THINGS — About a year ago we published in these pages a glossary of slang invented by the troops in Viet Nam. The war here, just as in any other war, has developed its own GI jargon.

Well, the piece we wrote is now a year old, and most of the folks here then have rotated, and a couple who are still around have asked us to re-run the glossary.

So here it is, with a few updates to keep it current:

CLICKS : These are kilometers used to measure distance or speed. Therefore, a certain town is "40 clicks from here," or you drive down the road at a speed of 80 "clicks" which is 50 miles an hour. And that is just about the minimum safe speed out in the country to prevent giving Viet Cong snipers a slow moving target.

* * * *

KAMIKAZE CABS : Derived from the World War II Japanese suicide, or "Kamikaze" pilots, this is the name which Americans have dubbed the thousands of little blue and white French-made taxis that zip around Saigon with a degree of gay abandon sufficient to send a sensible traffic engineer to a nut factory. Because of the cheapness of their fare, they are sometimes called "blue and white staff cars," and, more recently, "blue darts."

* * * *

VC AND COKE : A popular after duty refreshment in American clubs is "VC and Coke." But because American servicemen are here as advisors to the Vietnamese armed forces, and the enemy is the communist Viet Cong, or VC, the name has been changed to "VC and Coke."

* * * *

GRAND PRIX-IN-THE-ROUND : Like Paris' Champs Elysees, many avenues and boulevards in Saigon sport traffic circles with a round island in the middle. All manner of traffic — cars, bicycles, pedicabs, motor scooters, even pony and ox carts — whirl around these circles at a dizzying counter-clockwise pace. To Americans, it looks like a frantic, midget-sized Indianapolis 500, hence the name.

* * * *

NUMBER TEN : The Vietnamese language has an expression, "so dach" which literally means "number one," which is the superlative for everything good. It means "tops," "super," or even "keen." But they don't have an opposite superlative in their language for things that are the very worse. The GI's have generously filled this gap with "number ten." For instance, a number ten steak would be indeed rough and tough. This expression never fails to draw an amused smile from the Vietnamese.

* * * *

NOTES IN OUR POCKETS . — Plaudits, kudos, and a tip of The Observer hat go to the tireless and devoted doctors and corpsmen at the Navy Station Hospital in Saigon, and the USAF Dispensary at Tan Son Nhut who have been working feverishly, and professionally with the rash of bombing victims. Treating a score of emergency patients at a time, they manage to get the job done quickly, coolly, and efficiently.

* * * *

Notes on the news : Heaven spare us from lady pipe smokers, who puff away in public, such as the ones lately reported by the American press. Pretty soon it'll be cigars, and who knows... maybe chewin' tobacco.

* * * *

Also, please spare us from any more news concerning Dickie, Liz, and Eddie, or the real-life love life or Lolita.



315th T Under Adve



MANY-FACETED— This montage shows the many-faceted operation of the three VN squadrons of the 315th Troop Carrier Group (Combat Cargo) of the Japan-based 315th Air Div., and their role in the Republic of Viet Nam, serving the Vietnamese Armed Forces in logistical and combat support roles. Term "mule train" was recently dropped.



BENEFACTORS— Lt. Peter P. Cyr (left) has played an active role in aiding orphans at Da Nang's Sacred Heart Orphanage. Here he helps Chaplain (Capt.) Thomas McManus open first bag of gift Texas wheat which Cyr was instrumental in obtaining.



THAI TROOPS, TOO— Royal Thai troops disembark from a 315th C-130 Hercules at a base somewhere in Thailand during an exercise there. Okinawa-based C-130s supported the exercise.

Photos Courtesy Of
IO 315th Air Div.
TACHIKAWA, AB, JAPAN



READY TO GO— Sgt. Nguyen Ba Ninh, Vietnamese jumpmaster from the ARVN airborne brigade, is shown here in an anxious paratrooper seconds before the pair hit the silk over a drop zone in the jungles northeast of Saigon. He carried 500 ARVN airborne troops in the operation pictured here.

Whether it's hauling artillery howitzers, troops at bump and grind airstrips, dropping into communist strongholds, or simply making a run of wheat to a Vietnamese orphanage, b

Son Nhut air base near Saigon. Attached to the 315th Air Division with

at Tachikawa AB, Japan, the group, bo troop carrier squadrons, was organized in of 1962 to serve as Southeast Asia's biggest

For the 315th Air Division, responding cies — such as the one in Viet Nam — is 1

As January closed out, the Division celebr

successful year of operations as one of the

lines in the world.

The major airlift arm of Pacific Air For its units are far-flung, stretching 4,000 northern Japan to Bangkok, Thailand.

Its planes on Okinawa are frequently d support exercises involving friendly nationawa-based planes are turbo-prop C-130 E C-124 Globemasters.

The 315th Air Division is commanded by Richard H. Ellis, who took the reins in A after five years in Washington culminati job as executive to USAF Chief of Staff, E. LeMay.

In Viet Nam, the 315th Troop Carrier bat Cargo) — composed of the 309th, 310t Troop Carrier Squadrons — compiled am during its first full calendar year of 1963.

Commanded by Col. Thomas B. Kennedy, flew 245,019 sorties and logged more than hours.

It takes a lot of passengers doing a h

Troop Carrier Group: Airline Of Southeast Asia

Adverse Conditions; Impressive Records

ers, resupplying paratroops making a mercy dash — it's the 315th, based at Tan

th headquarters boasting three in the autumn ggest airline.

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Forces (PACAF), 10 miles from

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er Group (Com- 310th, and 311th amazing statis- of operations in

nedy, the group han 28,000 flying

a heap of flying

to amass a million passenger miles, but the 315th in Viet Nam logged 20.5 million passenger miles in 1963, from the tip of the Ca Mau peninsula in the south to the strips near the 17th parallel in the north.

The unit airlifted 190,000-plus passengers last year, and hauled more than 36,500 tons of vitally needed cargo.

And for a combat operation where their reliable C-123 Providers fly under the most adverse conditions of weather, terrain and strange landing sites, the airline has an amazingly low accident rate: 5.7 per each 100,000 hours flown.

In 1963, its planes also suffered two combat losses.

A major locust plague, threatening corn crops in Thailand was suppressed by 315th C-123 insecticide spray planes in 1963. A C-123 also made a daring night medical evac from a remote airstrip under almost impossible weather conditions, late in the year.

Urgently required artillery pieces, needed to suppress attacking Viet Cong were quickly airlifted by the unit in one emergency situation, and the biggest single combat drop of Vietnamese paratroops in the history of the war was made by C-123s of the 315th.

The unit is amassing amazing cargo haul records with new speedloading techniques it has developed, unloading a C-123 in ten seconds.

The book on combat cargo airlifting is being re-written by the rugged C-123s of the 315th Troop Carrier Group, and its dedicated crews.



GERONIMO VIETNAMESE STYLE — Paratroops of the Vietnamese 1st Airborne Bn. leap from five of the 315th's C-123 Providers on a recent exercise near Saigon. C-123s have dropped VN troops in actual combat, too. No photos of this jump were taken on ground as area was deliberately left unsecure in hopes of making contact with Viet Cong.

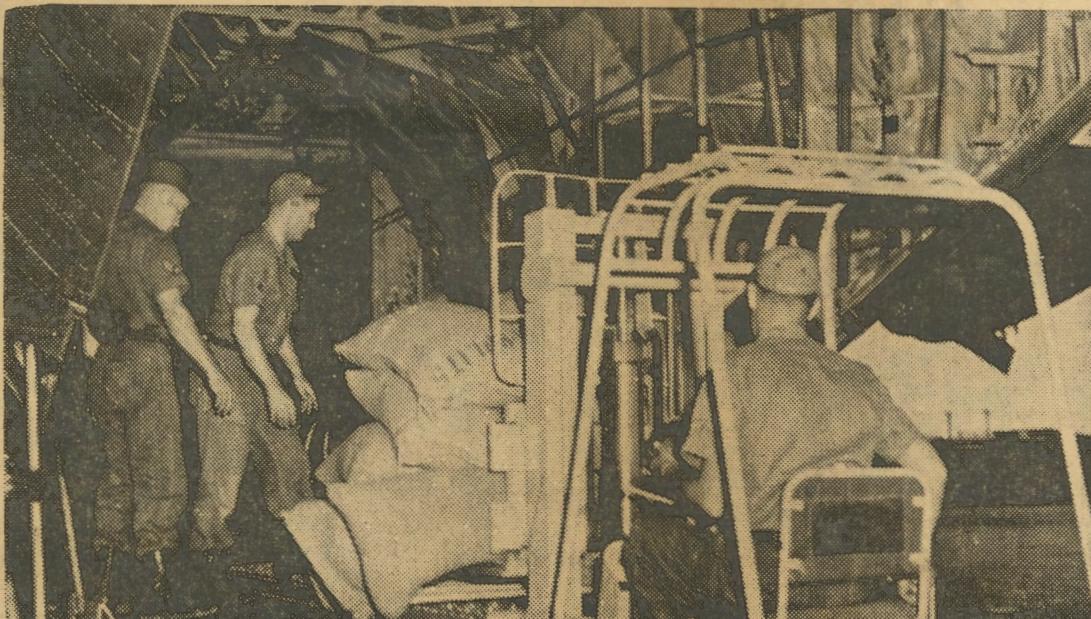
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PROVIDER — The three squadrons of the Viet Nam-based 315th Troop Carrier Group (Combat Cargo) use the slow, but sturdy and reliable C-123 Provider, shown here on ramp at Tan Son Nhut.



JOINT OPERATIONS — Lt. Them Van Nguyen, VNAF, Capt. Thomas J. Mankin Jr., and SSgt. George L. Killgrove check the flight schedule in the Joint Operations Center's airlift section at Tan Son Nhut.



MERCY MISSIONS, TOO — A/C William A. Wallace, an expert fork lift operator from the 315th Troop Carrier Group's 8th Aerial Port Squadron terminal at Da Nang, loads bags of wheat onto a truck for the last leg of a journey to the Sacred Heart Ophanage in Da Nang. Wheat was donated by the citizens of Tulia, Tex., and flown to Viet Nam by USAF planes.



SPEEDLOADING — 315th Air Div. commander, General Ellis (second from left) gets a demonstration of Viet Nam-developed "speedloading" techniques by which a cargo-filled C-123 can be off-loaded in just ten seconds. Capt. Allen D. Miller, 8th Aerial Port Sqdn. speedload project officer (left) and Lt. Murray La Hue (third from left) discuss the technique with General Ellis.

Welcome Visitors Bring Help To Exotic Island Of Cham

STORY and PHOTOS
By I Corps Information
Office

Across a 14-mile expanse of the South China Sea, adjacent to the northern coastal city of Da Nang, lies a densely vegetated but sparsely populated island known as Cham.

On one trip recently, a ship brought a group of American Navy personnel, including two doctors, to the island. When it was explained to the people who the Americans were, they eagerly crowded around and patiently waited their turn outside the small brown hut temporarily being used as a dispensary.

Inside, the doctors went about their task of taking care of the sick. Generally, they found that their work was not hampered by any local superstitions, for the islanders were eager to have their miseries treated.

One of the doctors treated a multitude of cases including malnutrition, intestinal parasites, and body paralysis. The other, a dentist, found that he treated more dental patients that day than any other day in his career.

The 250 people that live in the island are descendants of an ancient race of people who once inhabited Viet Nam. Rice and fish make up their diet. Their

main source of income is from a low grade of firewood which they sell or barter for their needs like kerosene.

During the summer months, the island is a virtual paradise. Fishing craft dot the calm, blue sea while the fishermen haul in catches more than ample to feed their families. Travel between the island and the mainland is easy.

The winter, however, is not so kind to the islanders of Cham. Rough and angry seas seriously disrupt fishing and plays havoc with the rice crop. The resulting deterioration of their diet, caused by the weather, sharply increases diseases among the population.

With travel to and from the mainland brought to a standstill, income and medical aid dries up, for the province lacks the ships to get supplies to the island.

Much needed medical attention would be non-existent if it were not for the mercy missions performed by the Vietnamese Navy and volunteer medical personnel.

In its proudest tradition, the Vietnamese Navy is committed to come to the aid of the islanders. As often as they can make the trip, patrol ships journey out to the island with medical supplies, doctors, and food.



CHAM SICK CALL—Dr. (Lt.) Paul C. Charbonneau, (right) extracts a young Cham's tooth while Dr. (Lt.) Donald F. Swanger, (center), Corpsman William V. Baltzer, (left) and interpreter listen attentively to one of the island's leaders thank the American medical team for their visit.



APPRECIATIVE FATHER—While Dr. (Lt.) Ronald F. Swanger examines a sick baby, the distraught father looks at the American doctor with gratitude. The islanders were responsive to the visiting team of Navy medics and chaplains.

R & R SCHEDULE

Date of Departure/Return	Passenger Check-in TSN	Spaces Available
TO HONG KONG		
**17-21 Feb.	0800-0830	36
*20-24 Feb.	0800-0830	36
**23-27 Feb.	0800-0830	36
**26 Feb. - 1 Mar.	0800-0830	36
*29 Feb. - 4 Mar.	0800-0830	36
TO BANGKOK		
27 Feb. - 2 Mar.	0500-0530	36
TO BAGUIO (CLARK)		
20-25 Feb.	0500-0530	36

* Passenger stop at Da Nang. Reporting time Da Nang personnel: 1130 for 1230 departure.
** Passenger stop at Nha Trang. Reporting time Nha Trang personnel 1030 for 1130 departure.



CHAPLAINS AT WORK—Chaplain (Lt.) Herman F. Wendler (kneeling) gives a box of candy and a book to a young Cham girl while Chaplain (right) Ernst A. Dollar looks on. The chaplains distributed books, school supplies and candies to the young children on the island.

Servicemen May Claim Retroactive Travel Pay

Washington — Members of the Armed Forces who have not been paid for extra travel involved in a change to PCS orders received while on leave may now claim that money.

Public Law 88-238, dated Dec. 23, 1963, provides for retroactive payments to active duty and former members of the uniformed services for travel performed under orders cancelled or changed while on leave enroute between stations.

Deadline for filing claims is Dec. 22, 1964. Travel by the member or his dependents must have been accomplished on or after Oct. 1, 1949.

Directives detailing claims procedures are now being prepared by each of the services.

Jewish Services Slated Here

Chap. (Capt.) Alan A. Greenspan, I Corps, Korea, will arrive in Viet Nam next week to conduct Jewish Services. Chap. Greenspan will hold services Friday, 21 February, at the Rex BOQ Chapel, Room 322, at 8 p.m.

PHONE YOUR
NEWS TIPS
TO
THE OBSERVER
60213

Roving Photographer

Fellas Find "Ao Dai" Both Fashionable & Practical

Authors wax lyrical over the unique female dress worn by the Vietnamese, with its pantalons and long split skirt, and many-colored designs.

Our roving photographer was curious as to the reaction of our military man on the street to the dress, and this week, asked:

QUESTION: What do you think of the "Ao dai" (Vietnamese dress) worn by female Vietnamese?



KNOX



AO DAI

JOYNER

Lt. Col. Raymond Knox, adjutant general, MAAG, (Birmingham, Ala.): "I think the Vietnamese dress is very charming, in fact, my wife is having two of them made. They are also real eye-catchers and the choice of colors are very pleasing."

SKC Walter Joyner, asst. fiscal advisor, Navy Section, MAAG, (Greenwood, Miss.): "The attire is very attractive and I am quite sure the girls enjoy wearing it in this hot climate."



OTIS HANNAS

Lt. (jg) Dick Otis, fiscal advisor, Navy Section MAAG, (Silversprings, Md.): "I think it is very interesting and very colorful — adds interest to our foreign tours. The world is becoming so western that it is good to see the attire."

SSgt. James M. Hannas, NCOIC, AG Orders Branch, MAAG, (Keyser, Wash.): "It is ideal for this type of weather and is a very attractive dress."



CAUDILL WOLFE

PFC William Caudill, R & U clerk, MAAG Supply office, (Salyersville, Ky.): "I think it is O.K. for some of the girls, personally I go for the American or Chinese style dress."

SSgt. Lawrence Wolfe, chief clerk, AF Section, MAAG, (Hight Point, N.C.): "I think it is a lovely garment and it is most appropriate for the hot weather here."

SPORTS

HSAS Threatens In National League As Cobras Firmly Ahead In American

By EDDIE SHERROD

Excitement is still rising as each game is played at Pershing Field, the top teams are still leading their league, but the second place team in the National League is closing the gap the 3rd RRU opened during the first round robin.

HSAS won its ninth straight victory by beating the 1964th Comm. Grp., and took sole possession of second place which they were sharing. Although the 1964th had it won until errors paved the way for the HEDSUPPACT team to come from behind and win 6-5.

The play that proved to

be the most fatal for the Comm. Grp. was taken from the Official Rules of Softball, Section 9, "the baserunner is out when the baserunner legally over runs first base, attempts to run to second base before returning to first and is legally touched while of base."

Leading 5-4 in the top of the 8th, the pitcher for 1964th turned the wrong way on a bunt, and heads up ball playing by the pitcher of HSAS touched the runner for an out that proved fatal and cost them a run.

Bill Wurcher, big, left hand pitcher for HSAS, helped win his own ball game, by hitting a 2-2 pitch over the right field fence, in the bottom of the 6th inning, with Roger Navarre on.

The homerun was the first to be knocked over the fence since the first of the season at Pershing Field, the only other ball that was hit over the fence on a fly was by Davie Reed of 2nd ADVON, in the American League.

Another well hit ball by Bill Tackas of HSAS was ruled as a ground rule double as it hit the wiring in left field.

The 7th Finance behind the pitching of their newly required right hand pitcher, Landtroop, (formerly of the HHD, USASG-V team in the American League) gave the 1964th Comm. Grp. their third straight defeat on Saturday, by winning 2-0. The win for the 7th Finance may help solve their problem for a pitcher, and they should win more as this third round robin continues.

In other National League Games this past week, the 120th Avn. Co, revenged their earlier loss to the Military Police by winning 14-11. The MP's took an early lead, but 6 runs in the 6th inning proved to be fatal, as the game ended in

a tie at the end of seventh.

In the 8th the 120th came across with five runs and the MP's could only muster up two in their half to lose the high scoring ball game.

Softball League Standings (Feb. 11, 1964)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	Won	Lost
2nd Air Div.	17	0
330th Trans. Co.	13	5
Support Branch	12	6
Embassy	11	6
39th Sig. Bn.	10	7
MACV	7	10
HHD USASG	6	12
Teenagers	3	15
145th Avn. Bn.	0	18

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	Won	Lost
3rd RRU	13	3
1964th Comm. Grp.	12	6
HEDSUPPACT	11	6
232nd Sign. Co.	11	7
Coco Club	9	9
Military Police	8	10
120th Avn. Co.	7	11
7th Finance	6	11
VAA	1	17

QUIZ

(AFPS Feature)

1. Where did roller skating originate?
2. What is the lowest recorded golf score ever scored on an 18-hole course?
3. What is the longest unbeaten streak by an American college football team?
4. Who scored the greatest number of knockouts as a professional fighter?

5. In professional basketball, who holds the record for the most consecutive foul shots made in competition?
6. Who holds the record for the greatest number of field goals in a single game in the National Basketball Association?

Answers

1. 1962.
2. A.E. Smith, an English professional, shot a 55 on a 428 yard par 70 course in 1960.
3. University of Washington, in England, shot a 55 on a 428 yard par 70 course in 1960.
4. Archie Moore 133.
5. Bill Sharman, Boston, ed 36 with Philadelphia in 1959 players.
6. With Chamberlain scores.

Sp4 Juggles His Way Into Montagnards

Pleiku (10) — The information specialist at the 52nd Aviation Battalion, U.S. Army Support Group, Viet Nam, is an honorary member of a Montagnard tribe living in a village southwest of Pleiku.

Sp4 James N. Shipley, 25, of Linthicum Heights, Md., was present at the Montagnard village during a wine drinking ceremony which included the slaughtering of a water buffalo. In appreciation for allowing him and other men from the battalion Headquarters Company to witness the ceremony, Specialist Shipley entertained the Montagnards with a one-man juggling act.

Some of the villagers looked bewildered during the performance, but when Shipley completed his act, they smiled in obvious enjoyment. As a result, the village chief presented Shipley with a Montagnard bracelet, making him an honorary member of the tribe.

Shipley, who has been in Viet Nam since March 1963, has been practicing juggling acts for many years, but this was the first time he performed for anyone but his American friends.



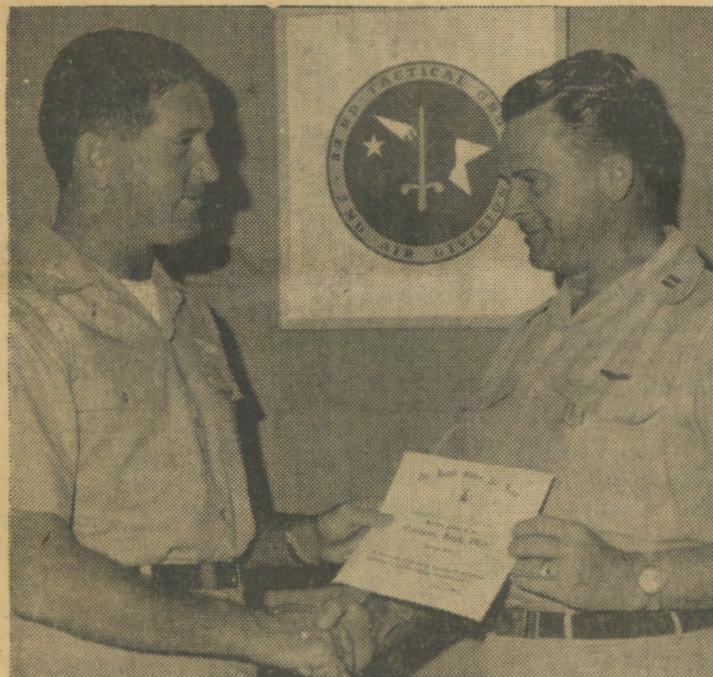
HE'S A MONTAGNARD NOW
Shipley juggles way into tribe.

USIS Officer To Lecture At VAA

Mr. John Melton, USIS public affairs officer at Dalat, will present a lecture at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21 at the VAA auditorium in Saigon.

The lecture, which is open to all VAA members and the general public, is entitled "U.S. Foreign Policy in Concrete Form: The Overseas American," is the third in a series of lectures on American culture.

A graduate of Montana State University where he earned a B.A. degree in philosophy, Melton took graduate studies at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. A career foreign service officer, Melton has been in Viet Nam for the last six months.



TOP SUPPLY AWARD — Capt. Bufford L. Mask, (right) 33rd Base Supply, accepts USAF Outstanding Supply Award from Col. Richard C. Bender, 33rd Tac. Gp. commander. The award was earned by Captain Mask while assigned to Chennault AFB, La., where he placed in the top 15% of all supply officers in the USAF worldwide competition. (2nd Air Div. Photo)

DOD Bars Free Cigarettes; None Distributed In Viet Nam

Department of Defense plans to prohibit the distribution of free cigarettes in military hospitals and to establish an Armed Forces educational program to point out the hazards of smoking.

Hospital authorities at the HSAS Station Hospital in Saigon, the 33rd USAF Dispensary at Tan Son Nhut and the 8th Field Hospital at Nha Trang reported that military patients do not get free cigarettes.

Department of Defense is not considering the prohibition of individual purchase, possession or use of tobacco products.

The action is a result of Armed Forces study of "Smoking and Health," a report published by the U.S. Public Health Service. The report linked smoking to lung cancer and heart disease. No specific date was announced for application of the new Defense policies.

Surgeons general of the Armed Forces and health and medical directors of the Defense Department are continuing their study of the report and further action for the health protection of military personnel in relation to smoking may be taken.

Post Office Stamps Out Time of Day

Washington — The Post Office won't give you the time of day anymore, but there's good reason for it.

As of Feb. 1, the time of day has been dropped from the postmark and in its place is a simple "a.m." or "p.m." designation.

Postal officials announced that dropping the time from the postmark will result in savings of man hours and dollars.

For years, the postmark has indicated the time of cancellation to the nearest half-hour. But the Post Office said changing the time required a manual operation 48 times a day which resulted in a slowdown of work for as many as nine men in every large post office.

Officials said about half of all first class mail today is metered or pre-canceled by the mailer with a canceling machine. Since this postmark doesn't include the time of day, postal authorities reasoned there is no point in keeping the time in the rest of the mail, especially if considerable savings could be realized.

Mailers who want the time shown on their letters may be satisfied by using registered or certified mail, officials said.

The Post Office practice of putting the time on the postmark dates from the early 19th Century but it has now gone the way of the Pony Express.

100 Attend Psywar Meet

Gen. Paul D. Harkins, opened the recent three-day conference on psychological operations and civil affairs held at the Vietnamese American Association in Saigon.

Over 100 U.S. advisors and their Vietnamese counterparts attended the confab along with representatives from the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, DA Civil Affairs, PsyWar Training Center, CINCPAC, USARPAC, USAFPAC, 97th CA Gp. (Okinawa) and USJUSMAG, Thailand.

The theme of the conference was on the intensification of military efforts to gain and maintain the support of the civilian population in the counterinsurgency program against the Viet Cong guerrillas.

Col. William F. Lovell, chief of the Psywar/CA branch, MACV J-3 and Col. Nguyen Van Chuan of the Psywar directorate, praised the conferees for the progress of their respective programs in their assignments.

Other speakers during the conference included British Advisory Mission chief William James, David Sheppard of USIS and C.C. Too, director of the Malayan Psychological Warfare Center.

CARTOON OF THE MONTH

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