

ALLIES DISRUPT COSVN ELEMENTS IN CAMBODIA (TEXT)

WASHINGTON—NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG ELEMENTS IN CAMBODIA HAVE BEEN GREATLY DISRUPTED BY ALLIED MILITARY OPERATIONS NEAR THE CAMBODIAN-SOUTH VIETNAM BORDER, THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT REPORTS. PERSONNEL OF THE COMMUNIST CENTRAL OFFICE, SOUTH VIETNAM (COSVN), WHICH CONSISTS OF SEPARATE MILITARY, INTELLIGENCE AND POLITICAL UNITS IN VARIOUS BASES, SUSTAINED CASUALTIES AND HAVE HAD TO MOVE HURRIEDLY AWAY FROM SOUTH VIETNAMESE AND U.S. FORCES.

THE PENTAGON REPORT CAME AMIDST A NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENTS IN WASHINGTON ON THE CAMBODIAN SITUATION.

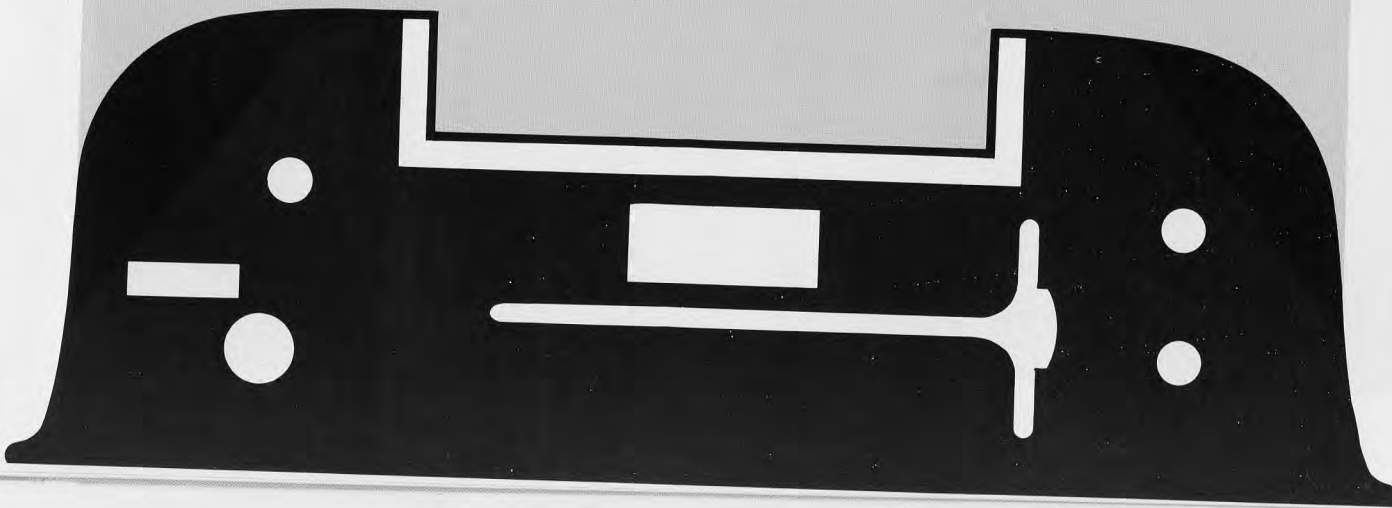
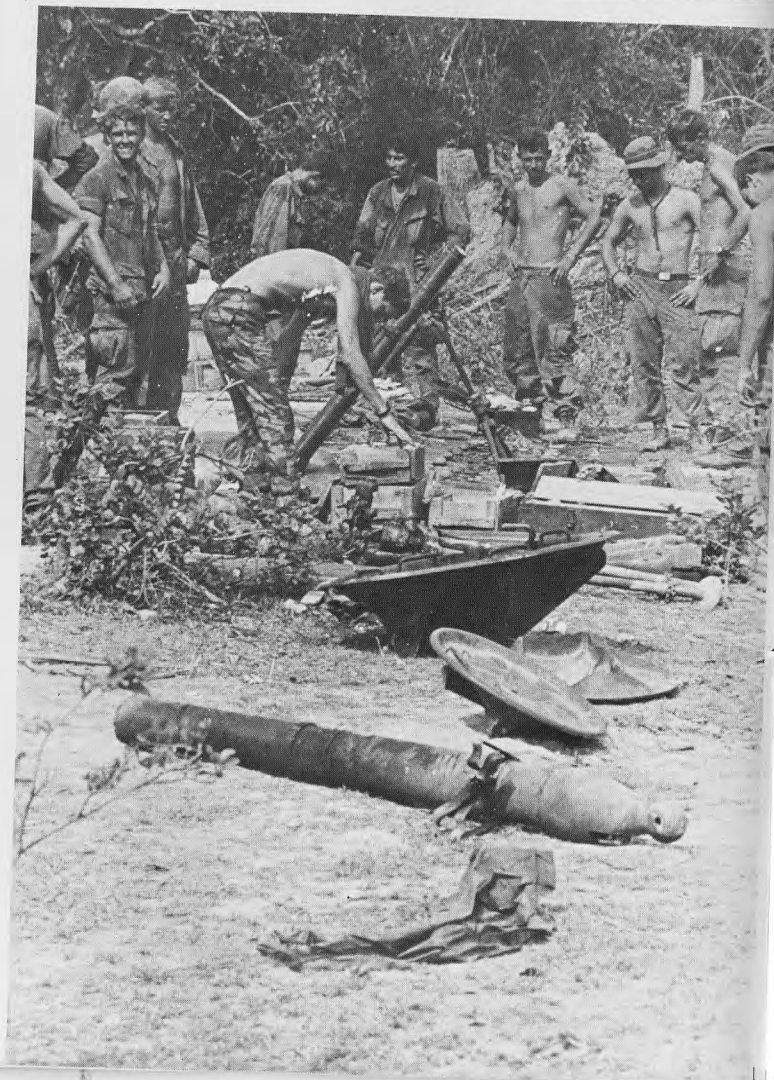
DEFENSE SPOKESMAN JERRY FRIEDHEIM ON MAY 21 DISIRIBUTED A FACT SHEET ASSESSING THE DAMAGE DONE TO THE COSVN APPARATUS BY ALLIED GROUND AND AIR OPERATIONS. HE STRESSED THAT COSVN FOR YEARS "HAS KEPT SEPARATE AND MOBILE, MOVING PERIODICALLY FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY AND SECURITY."

MR. FRIDHEIM ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT COSVN PERSONNEL WERE NOT THE MAJOR REASON FOR ALLIED MOVES INTO CAMBODIA--THAT ENEMY "SUPPLIES AND FACILITIES" WERE THE PRIMARY TARGETS.

HE TOLD NEWSMEN THAT ALLIED OPERATIONS ON LAND AND SEA HAVE PREVENTED NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG CONQUEST OF A STRIP OF CAMBODIAN LAND FROM LAOS TO THE SEA.

THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT REPORT SAID IN PART, "SINCE THE EARLY STAGES OF ALLIED OPERATIONS IN THE SANCTUARIES ASTRIDE THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIAN BORDER, SERIOUS DISRUPTION OF COSVN ELEMENTS HAS BEEN APPARENT. MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE ELEMENTS HAVE BEEN ON THE RUN, HAVE HAD LIMITED SUCCESS IN COMMAND AND CONTROL BETWEEN COSVN ELEMENTS AND SUBORDINATE ECHELONS, AND HAVE BEEN ENDANGERED BY ALLIED MILITARY OPERATIONS."

MR. FRIEDHEIM SAID THAT SOME COSVN HEADQUARTERS AND TROOP UNITS HAD BEGUN MOVING TOWARD THE INTERIOR OF CAMBODIA EVEN BEFORE THE FIRST SOUTH VIETNAMESE UNITS CROSSED THE BORDER APRIL 28. SOME COSVN PERSONNEL





LEFT THE FISHHOOK AREA JUST BEFORE U.S. TROOPS ENTERED THERE MAY 1, HE REPORTED.

MEANWHILE, AT THE WHITE HOUSE, PRESS SECRETARY RONALD ZIEGLER TOLD NEWSMEN THE "EXPECTATIONS" EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND OTHER HIGH WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS REGARDING THE PROJECTED CONCLUSION OF THE CAMBODIAN OPERATION STAND. ALL U.S. PERSONNEL, THE PRESIDENT AND OTHERS HAVE SAID, ARE TO BE WITHDRAWN BY JUNE 30.

WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS LAST WEEKEND TOLD NEWSMEN THEY HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE FORCES WOULD REMAIN IN CAMBODIA FOR ANY APPRECIABLE PERIOD BEYOND JUNE 30. HOWEVER, SOUTH VIETNAM'S VICE PRESIDENT NGUYEN CAO KY WAS QUOTED IN NEWS REPORTS MAY 21 AS SAYING SOUTH VIETNAMESE FORCES WOULD REMAIN IN CAMBODIA "AS LONG AS NECESSARY."

MR. ZIEGLER, NOTING THAT HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT, REPEATED THAT THE U.S. ROLE IN THE CAMBODIA OPERATION WOULD BE CONCLUDED BY JUNE 30. HE SAID, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE HAVE "NO INTENTION OF OCCUPYING CAMBODIAN TERRITORY."

IN CONGRESS, MEETING IN CLOSED SESSION, THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE RECEIVED A PRELIMINARY REPORT FROM TWO COMMITTEE STAFF MEMBERS WHO HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA.

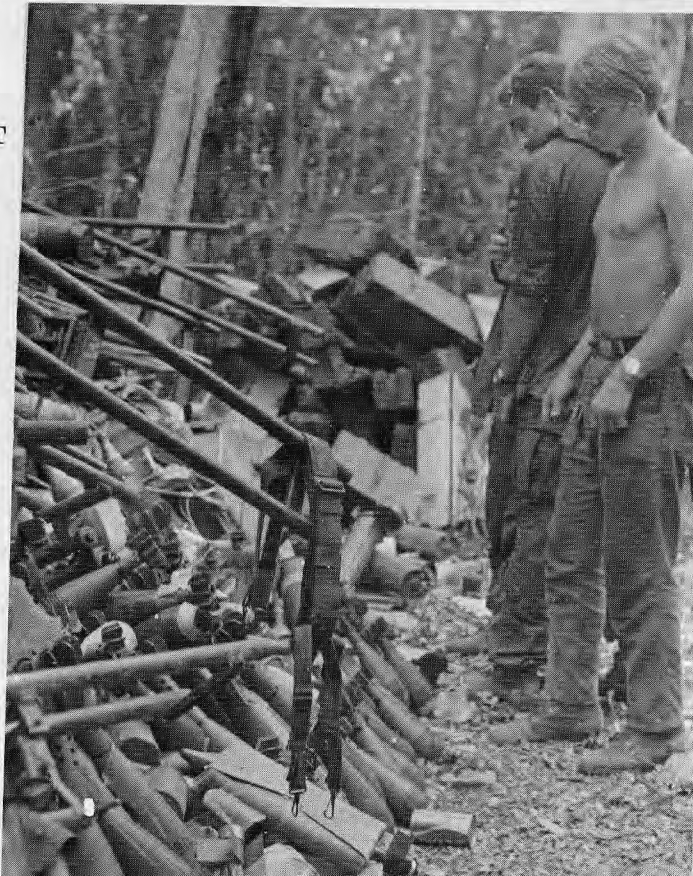
A PUBLIC REPORT WILL BE RELEASED "IN DUE TIME" ON THEIR FINDINGS, THE COMMITTEE SAID.

BRIEFING NEWSMEN AFTER THE SESSION, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT SAID, "THE PRINCIPAL FINDING OF THE STAFFERS WAS THAT FROM A SHORT TERM THE CAMBODIAN OPERATION WAS A MILITARY SUCCESS." HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT HIS OWN CONCLUSION IS THAT "IN THE LONG TERM THE OPERATION IS NOT USEFUL IN SECURING A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN WAR."

FOLLOWING IS THE PENTAGON FACT SHEET ON "DISRUPTION OF COSVN": (BEGIN TEXT)

1. THIS FACT SHEET PROVIDES A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF THE DAMAGE TO THE COSVN APPARATUS BY RECENT ALLIED GROUND AND AIR OPERATIONS.

2. COSVN DIRECTLY CONTROLS ENEMY OPERATIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM'S 3D AND 4TH CORPS. THE HIGHLY MOBILE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX NORMALLY LOCATED IN THE CAMBODIAN "FISHHOOK" AREA, IS MADE UP OF A NUMBER



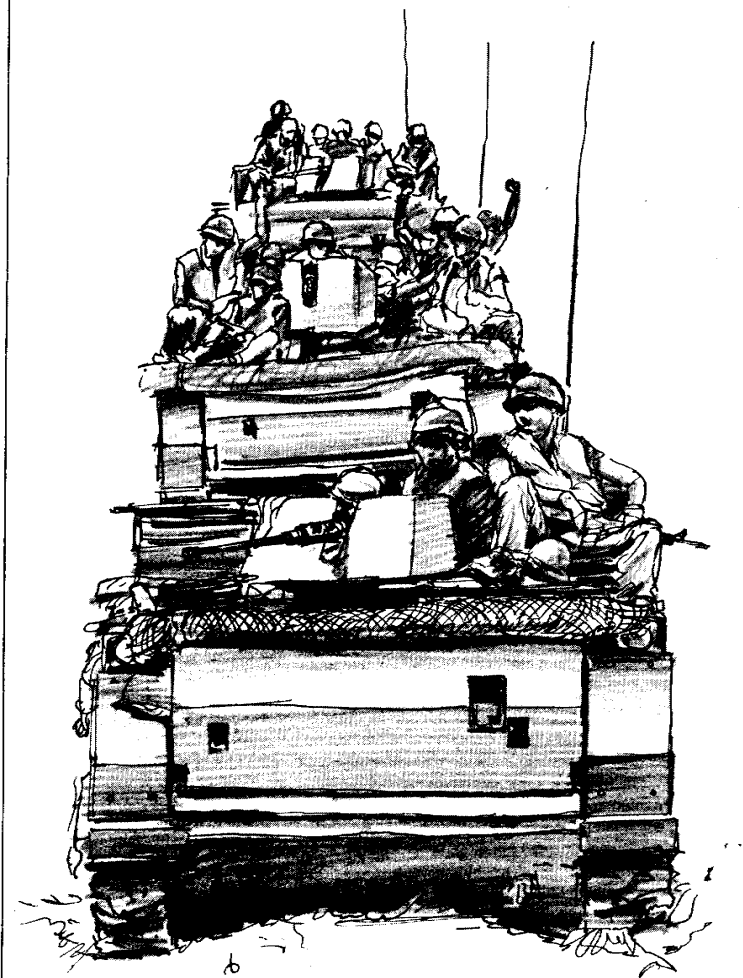


OF POLITICAL AND MILITARY SECTIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF INTERRELATED COMMAND-AND-CONTROL FUNCTIONS. COSVN PERSONNEL HAVE LONG BEEN AWARE THAT THEIR SAFE OPERATION DEPENDS IN LARGE PART ON FLEXIBILITY AND MOBILITY. AS A RESULT, THE VARIOUS HEADQUARTERS' ELEMENTS USUALLY ARE DISPERSED IN A SERIES OF SMALL BASE CAMPS.

3. SINCE THE EARLY STAGES OF ALLIED OPERATIONS IN THE SANCTUARIES ASTRIDE THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA BORDER SERIOUS DISRUPTION OF COSVN ELEMENTS HAS BEEN APPARENT. MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE ELEMENTS HAVE BEEN ON THE RUN, HAVE HAD LIMITED SUCCESS IN COMMAND AND CONTROL BETWEEN COSVN ELEMENTS AND SUBORDINATE ECHLONS, AND HAVE BEEN ENDANGERED BY ALLIED MILITARY OPERATIONS. DURING ONE BRIEF PERIOD, THE MAJOR POLITICAL ELEMENT OF COSVN WAS COMPLETELY UNABLE TO MAINTAIN COMMAND AND CONTROL OF ITS ELEMENTS.

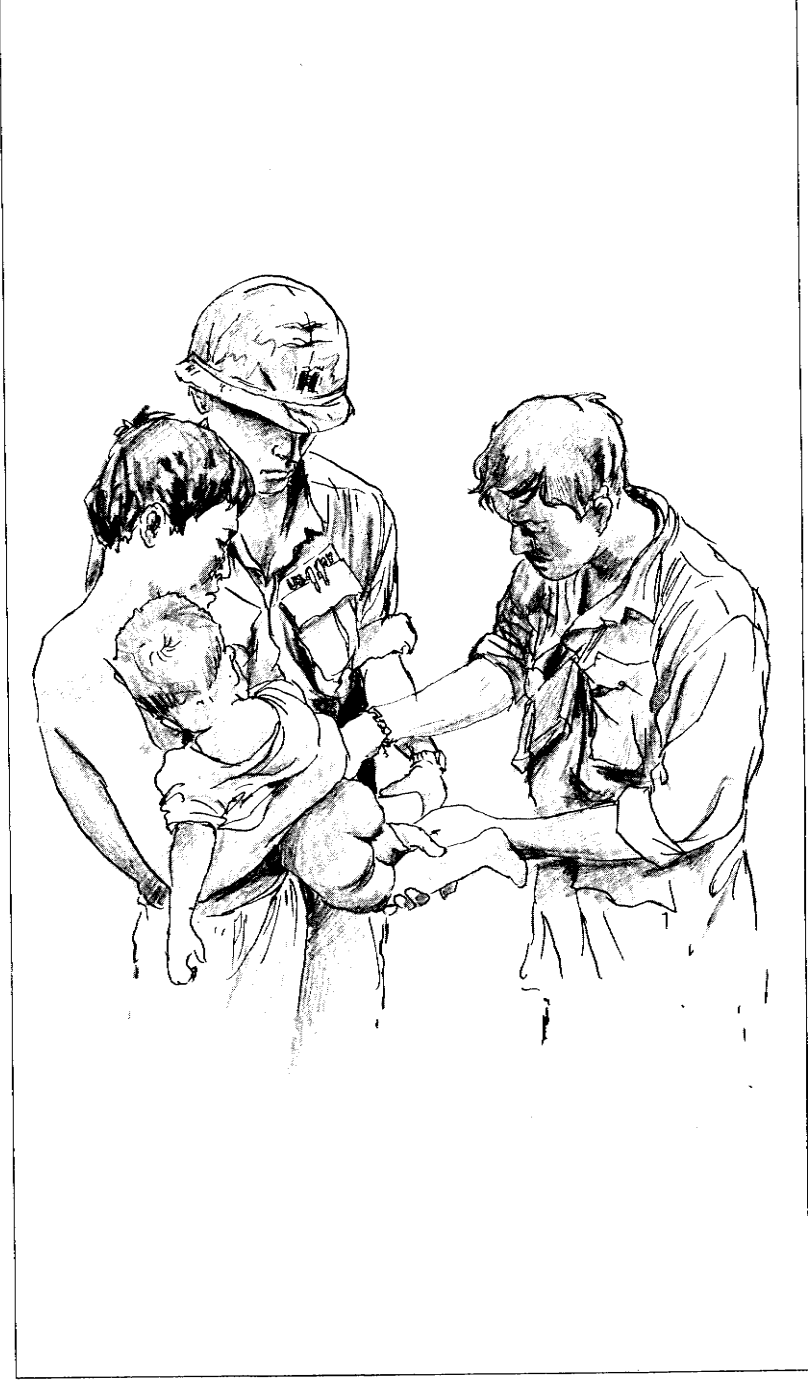
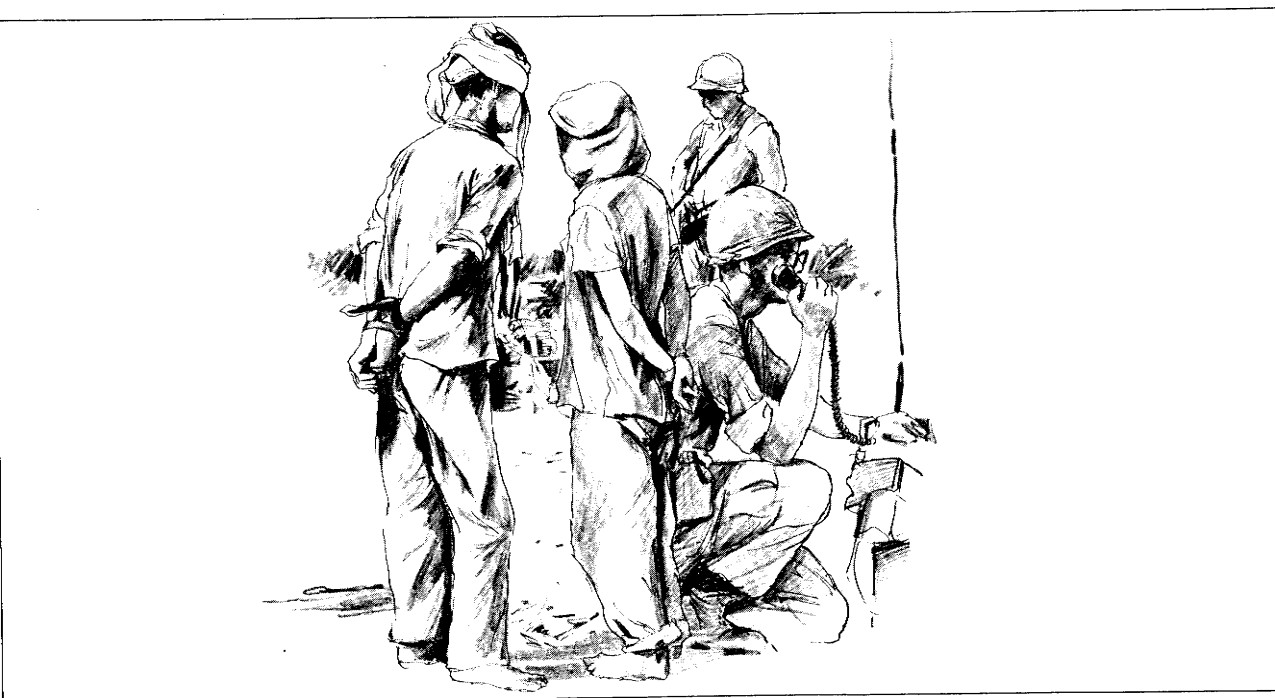
4. A RALLIER WHO SERVED WITH A COSVN OFFICE STATED THAT A PERMANENT BASE FOR 12 COSVN STAFF ELEMENTS AND TWO SUPPORT UNITS WAS LOCATED 10 MILES WEST-NORTHWEST OF MEMOT; HE SAID ABOUT 1,000 MEN WERE LOCATED AT THE CAMP. THE SOURCE ADDED THAT PERSONNEL AT THE BASE CAMP WERE BEING RELOCATED ON 11 MAY 1970, BUT THAT ONLY TWO-THIRDS OF THEM HAD BEEN MOVED OUT BEFORE THE INSTALLATION WAS HIT BY A B-52 STRIKE. A GROUND FOLLOWUP OPERATION ON THE 17TH DISCLOSED 150 ENEMY BODIES AT THIS SITE.

5. ALSO ON 17 MAY 1970, ALLIED FORCES DISCOVERED A COMPLEX NEAR THE BASE WHERE THE RALLIER HAD BEEN STATIONED CONTAINING 135 BUNKERS, 10 CLASSROOM BUILDINGS, 57 SHELTERS, 35 GENERATORS, MORE THAN 130 RADIOS, FIELD TELEPHONES AND HEADSETS, AND MORE THAN 400 POUNDS OF MISCELLANEOUS SIGNAL EQUIPMENT. DOCUMENTS, DIAGRAMS, AND TRAINING AIDS ALSO FOUND AT THE SITE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES, INDICATE THAT A COSVN SIGNAL SCHOOL WAS LOCATED THERE. A STUDY OF THESE DOCUMENTS AND THE RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SHOULD PERMIT A MORE COMPLETE ASSESSMENT OF THE COSVN STRUCTURE AND THE EFFECTS OF OPERATIONS AGAINST THE SANCTUARIES ALONG THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM-CAMBODIA BORDER.
(END TEXT)



SKETCH BOOK: CAMBODIA









SSG Paul MacWilliams, formerly a forward observer with Delta Company 2d Battalion, 27th Infantry "Wolfhounds," is a division combat artist. Traveling with infantry, mechanized, armor and artillery units during the Cambodian operation, MacWilliams was for the most part unnoticed. Except for his sketch pad, he was just another body on a track, another grunt on a sweep, another guard in a laager site.





ANGKOR WAT

Photos by MAJOR WARREN J. FIELD

When American troops moved into Cambodia, many were amazed by the cultural difference between the two bordering countries. Where and how did this other culture originate? What is its most basic characteristic?

To seek the answers in any one place may be foolhardy, yet as in any country, the monuments, the icons and the temples tell us much of the people's history.

In north central Cambodia, in the sloping valley of Siam Reap, jungle envelops the enormous and intricately detailed temples that mark the seat of the Khmer Empire, an empire that in its day drew tribute from Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

For mile upon mile these ruins extend, the result of more than three hundred years of back-breaking labor. These temples were built as tombs for kings, for in Cambodian Buddhist belief, gods were the only ones who lived under the roofs of stone. The king lived in wooden castles until the end of his natural life, moving into the temples only when he became a living god and part of the spirit of Vishnu.

In 1431, there was a disastrous war in which the armies of Siam attacked and easily destroyed the once mighty Khmer nation which, by then, was weakened by the massive demand on its manpower and resources that the temples had posed.

The Khmer court moved to Phnom Penh, 150 miles to the southeast, where it has remained since. The Thais sacked and plundered the temples but did not remain.

It was then the jungle's turn to play with these magnificent temples. The vines and giant creepers moved in and with their powerful fingers tore apart the towers and strangled the statues. Seedlings blown in from the west grew in the mausoleums and ferociously tore apart the walls and turrets.

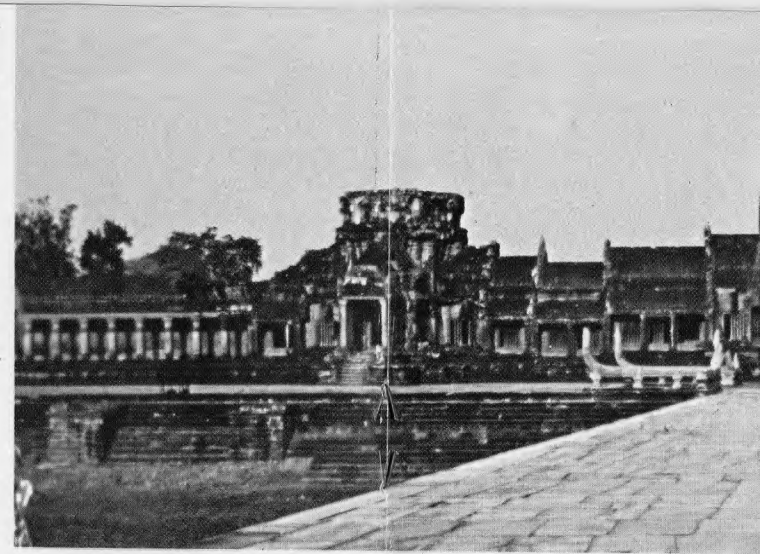
In the mid-19th Century, Pierre Lot, a French archeologist who happened on the sculptured ruins, recorded his astonishment: "I looked up at the tree covered towers which dwarfed me, when all of a sudden my blood curdled as I saw an enormous smile looking down on me and then another smile on another wall, then three, then five, then 10 appearing in every direction. . . ."

Only in the last 50 years have archeologists reversed the course of decay, cutting back the vegetation, restoring buildings, uncovering roads and canals. Much of Angkor's grandeur is once again open to the sun, but as a recent article in a national magazine quoted, "It is a melancholy victory." For once again the kingdom of Khmer is fighting for its freedom from foreign aggressors.

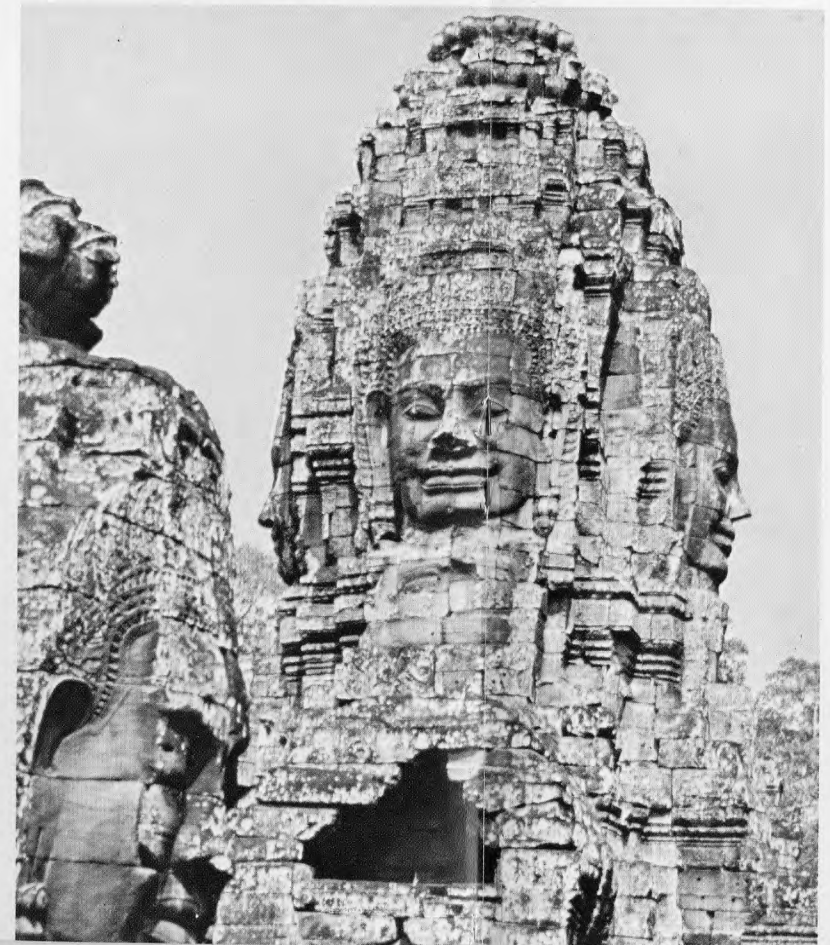
Angkor Wat towers from the second to third levels shaped in the form of Lotus buds.



The main entrance through the outer wall,
Angkor Wat is hidden behind.



Three faces of Jayavarman VII, one of the more than 50 towers of Angkor Thom.





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An elaborately carved labyrinth in the Terrace of the Leper King.



Apsara at Angkor Thom—dancing girl from Indian mythology.

