

**SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ARRIVES IN VIET NAM** — This was the scene at Saigon's Tan Son Nhut airport last Sunday morning as U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and his party arrived in Viet Nam to check on the progress of the war against the communist Viet Cong. LEFT: McNamara, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor and U.S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge on rostrum before huge crowd of greeters. CENTER: Slogans such as this were in evidence at airport and were bannered over Cong Ly Street, route into city. RIGHT: Part of crowd of over 2,000 flag waving, cheering students who turned out to greet the DOD Chief.

# The Observer

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SAIGON, VIET NAM

March 14, 1964

## Dateline Viet Nam No Major Battles Reported; Mop-Up Operations Continue

Major actions against the Viet Cong were limited last week, with government forces concentrating on mop-up operations throughout the country in pacification programs.

Twenty-eight VC were killed and 33 captured in a one day operation in Vinh Binh province last Friday in the Mekong Delta. Government forces reported no casualties and seized two hand grenades and a quantity of enemy documents.

On Monday, in Binh Dinh province, some 280 miles north of Saigon, Vietnamese forces launched an operation to consolidate a series of new life hamlets in two districts. Seventeen VC were killed and 12 captured during the operation's first day. Three weapons, four grenades, and a quantity of documents were also seized by government troops who suffered no losses.

Also on Monday, a U.S. Army UH-1B helicopter, escorting the Secretary McNamara party crashed into the Bassac River in An Giang province about 100 miles west of the capital near the Hoa Hao village which the DOD chief visited. The two gunners on the plane were missing, but the two pilots were rescued.

There was no ground fire, and cause of the mishap is under investigation.

Last Sunday, Col. T.M. Hergert, Deputy Chief of the Air Force Section, MAAG, lost his life when the VNAF A1H Skyraider he was piloting crashed near Tay Ninh, 75 miles northwest of Saigon. There was no ground fire in the area, and cause of this accident, also, is being investigated. Colonel Hergert's remains were recovered by ground parties Tuesday morning.

In other scattered actions, nine VC were killed in Phong Dinh province in the Mekong Delta Monday. Four weapons and large quantities of munitions were seized by the government troops.

Viet Cong activity was confined to acts of terrorism, sabotage, propaganda, and attacks on new life hamlets and outposts throughout the country, with no major communist attacks initiated.

## Highest VN Decoration To Slain Advisor

U.S. Army airborne advisor Capt. Thomas W. McCarthy, killed in action Mar. 3, near the Cambodian border was awarded the Vietnamese Medal of Honor, First Class, South Vietnam's highest decoration for foreigners.

The medal was pinned to the flag-draped coffin at the planeside ceremony held at Tan Son Nhut prior to the return of Captain McCarthy's remains to the United States.

## Lower Frequency Of Cholera Needle

Col. R.B. Sigafos, MACV Staff Medical Officer, announced the requirement for cholera re-immunization every three months is rescinded effective immediately.

According to the MACV directive, the HSAS Naval Station Hospital will give all American military and civilian personnel and dependents cholera re-immunization shots at the normal six month interval.

During the recent cholera epidemic, there were no cases of infection among Americans in Viet Nam. Medical teams from MAAG, USOM and other military units will conduct periodic on-the-spot checks on individual requirements and health records.



**A CHAT WITH VILLAGERS** — U.S. Defense Chief McNamara chats with residents of the Hoa Hao village in An Giang province about 100 miles west of Saigon, during visit Monday. He also presented a hearing aid to the aged mother of the late pope of the Hoa Hao Buddhist religion, and received a souvenir book on the sect in return.

(MACV-10 Photo by Col. B.L. Baker.)

## Sec. McNamara Arrives In Viet Nam; Pledges Continued Support

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and his party of high-ranking dignitaries — including Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor — arrived in Viet Nam last Sunday morning to review the progress of the war against the Viet Cong.

Saying in an airport statement that the U.S. will maintain its interest and presence in Viet Nam, the DOD Chief pledged "we will stay as long as it takes," and that "we shall provide whatever help is required to win the battle against the communist insurgents."

McNamara and his party, which also included Maj. Gen. Nguyen Khanh, new Undersecretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs; Central Intelligence Agency chief John A. McCone and Wil-

liam Sullivan, head of the newly created "task force" on Viet Nam, immediately plunged into a series of briefings and conferences with U.S. and Vietnamese leaders here.

Sunday was spent in day-long briefings at the Embassy and MACV headquarters.

Monday, the group, with Prime Minister Maj. Gen. Nguyen Khanh, toured installations and villages south of Saigon, and Tuesday saw another day of closed door

(Continued on page 8)

# The Observer

"Comment is free but facts are sacred."

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CHIEF MAAG ..... Maj. Gen. Charles J. Timmes  
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## EDITORIAL

### Noted Writer Pays Tribute To U.S. Troops In Viet Nam

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Last fall, Mr. Frank Coniff and the Hearst Task Force visited Viet Nam. On that occasion, we chatted at length with Coniff and discovered him to be impressed with the 'GI in Viet Nam.' Here is his tribute to the servicemen stationed here, published Feb. 21.)

By FRANK CONIFF

New York Journal American

Viet Nam is a complex jaw-breaker almost impossible to understand and positively defiant of explanation when one tries to reduce it to terms comprehensible to the average person. In fact, Viet Nam is about as involved as the preceding sentence...

Perhaps the commentators too often attempt to delineate the whole complicated structure of military, political, and regional mores at one gulp, instead of openly acknowledging their inability to translate such a tangled mess into a few hundred words.

And perhaps we would be better advised to take out separate entities of the swarming whole that are susceptible to analysis. Take, for instance, the 16,000 American officers and men presently stationed in Viet Nam. These cannot be understood in terms of World War II or even Korea, where we assembled large fighting formations. Our men in Viet Nam are specialists and instructors.

They undoubtedly represent the elite of the American Army. They have, for the most part, single, separate missions with the Vietnamese troops. There is little sense sentimentalizing over them as American "boys" doomed to a foreign war, because most of them are professional soldiers by choice. We believe a survey would show most volunteered for posting to Viet Nam. As dedicated professionals, they sought service on the one wheel in town where action could be found. A surprising number fought in Korea, and they want Viet Nam, too, on their service record.

We would guess that from the 16,000 men now assigned to Viet Nam, cadres could be found for the formation of five to eight World War II-type divisions. We met at least two high officers who in the event of war would qualify overnight as acceptable corps commanders... Junior officers ready to take over companies were also present in ample quantities.

This, then, is the quality of the American troops currently in action in Viet Nam... The enlisted men are likewise specialists for the most part and are absolutely first-class soldiers... You hear no griping in Viet Nam. They are "pros," proud of their profession, competent resourceful, and probably the best-trained officer corps in the world today. Viet Nam can't be all bad if it has given us this combat reservoir of dedication and ability.

## Gen. Harkins Endorses Red Cross Fund Drive

For the second time, while serving in the Republic of Viet Nam, I am pleased to endorse and to express my appreciation for the work of the American Red Cross.

As in the American tradition, the President of the United States has designated the month of March as American Red Cross month for the annual membership and fund campaign. I encourage an active participation in this effort.

During the years 1962 and 1963 there was an unprecedented build-up of U.S. advisory efforts in Viet Nam. Large numbers of American servicemen were quickly alerted, and sent to this area, then, as well as now, deemed an area of threat to world democracy and world peace. The swiftness of this buildup obviously created problems for the families left at home and for the servicemen here.

It was very reassuring to these families at home that they could turn to the Red Cross chapters for help, and it was just as comforting to the servicemen in Viet Nam to know that the Red Cross was here to assist him.

We shall continue to rely on the Red Cross to make its contribution to the welfare and morale of the Armed Forces around the world in 1964.

PAUL D. HARKINS  
General, U.S. Army  
Commander, MACV

Always there... with your help



The Red Cross serves those who serve

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THE OBSERVER  
60213

## CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

### St. Patrick - No Irishman!

By Chaplain (Maj.) JOHN T. CALTER

On Tuesday, Mar. 17, in Dublin and in Frankfurt, from New York to San Francisco, all over the world wherever there is a touch of Irish (including those that are not Irish) everyone will wear a bit of green.

St. Patrick's Day in honor of the patron saint of Ireland, has become an international event for the Irish and all people that love the Irish.

Many will be displaying the green shamrock which resembles the three-leaf clover. St. Patrick used the shamrock to illustrate a teaching.

"There is only one plant yet three leaves, separate and distinct. There is only one God yet three persons, one-God life, yet three distinct intelligences, capable of three thoughts simultaneously: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit," said St. Patrick.

When the Irish honor St. Patrick, they honor a man who was not an Irishman. He may have been French, Italian, German or Spanish. He probably came from a coastal town because he was kidnapped and sold into slavery and was brought to Ireland on a slave ship.

He was treated like a son by the family which purchased him. The fairs and the field work and the dances of the people captivated Patrick. He promised himself to escape, to acquire more schooling and return to teach Christianity to the Irish.

Becoming a stowaway on a ship, he went back to the continent and studied for the priesthood. When he returned to Ireland, he was priest — a man of God with personality, force and poise.

The enmity of the Druid priests and their plots against him failed and the charm of Patrick won them over one by one. And when the clan chiefs embraced God, their people followed them. The hearts of the Irish went out in great love for the new religion.

Churches were built throughout the country. In one generation the old laws of revenge and vendetta were wiped off the books and laws reflecting Christian concepts became the law of the land.

And the man responsible for this? Patrick, whose poise and courage and forceful personality came from a keen feeling of the presence of God.

"The eyes of God are upon you. God walks in front of you and behind you. God walks by your left hand and your right hand," were the constant words of Patrick.

Living in God's presence as he walked the roads of Ireland gave this man the calm eye and the masterful bearing which inspired the Irish to walk the ways of Christ. So with parades, with sprigs of green and with shamrocks the Irish honor a man who was no Irishman.



SECOND STAR — Newly promoted Maj. Gen. Milton B. Adams, USAF, MACV J-5, receives his second stars from Gen. Paul D. Harkins, COMUSMACV, and from Mrs. Adams. General Adams has been MACV J-5 since Dec. 1962.



**AWARDS CEREMONY** — Brig. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, CG, USASCV, congratulates Lt. Col. William C. Sibert, CO, 52nd Avn. Bn., after presenting him the first and second oak leaf cluster to his Air Medal. General Stilwell presented the Air Medal and oak leaf clusters to 27 members of the unit during the ceremony.

## Posthumous Promotion, For Marine Kinh-Do Hero

Maj. (posthumously promoted) Donald E. Koelpner, USMO, has been recommended for an appropriate award for heroism shown in the Viet Cong terrorist bombing of the Capitol Kinh-Do Theater on February 16. He was recommended for the award by Capt. W.H. Hardcastle, Jr., USN, Chief, Navy Section, MAAG.

Major Koelpner was posthumously promoted and awarded the Purple Heart, the day of his funeral, February 26, by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Wallace M. Greene. The ceremonies were attended by the parents of both Major and Mrs. Koelpner as well as other close relatives of both families.

From Aug. 13, 1963 until his death, Koelpner served with the Marine Advisory Division of the Navy Section, MAAG. He was the section's first fatality.

On the night of February 16, Major Koelpner and Lt. William J. Greeves, USN, had just purchased tickets and entered the Capitol Kinh-Do when they heard a shot fired outside. A Vietnamese civilian carrying a package wrapped in white cloth approached, stepped inside the lobby, placed the package down and hurriedly left.

The officer said, "I consider Captain Koelpner's action to have been the most unselfish I have ever witnessed."

Captain Hardcastle concluded his letter to the Secretary of the Navy by saying: "Captain Koelpner knowingly, selflessly, and without hesitation, exposed himself to extreme danger and in so doing sacrificed his life to give warning and thus give others a better chance of survival. This act was, indeed, one of conspicuous gallantry above and beyond the duty of any individual."

An Army lieutenant, who

was in the audience of approximately 500 servicemen and dependent women and children at the time of the explosion, said without the warning, the debris falling from the ceiling would probably have caused many more injuries.

An Army major, also in the audience at the time of the disaster, said that he thinks he saw one of the doors, blown off its hinges by the force of the explosion, strike Major Koelpner as he stood in the aisle warning others to get down.

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An Army lieutenant, who

## HONOR ROLL

### BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Lt. Col. Charles G. Noice, Jr.  
Lt. Col. Robert G. Wilke  
Maj. Frank W. Bucholz  
Maj. William A. Greyndolls  
Maj. Roy M. Jones  
Maj. Selby F. Little, Jr.  
Maj. Roger P. McBride  
Maj. Karol P. Mijal, Jr.  
Maj. George B. Price  
Maj. Al Tanno  
Maj. Jay C. Webb  
Capt. Erie M. Christensen  
Capt. Robert H. Clough  
Capt. Hugh R. Fain  
Capt. Ger. Id G. Chikalla  
Capt. David L. Diorenzo  
Capt. Andrew P. Glovas  
Capt. Robert W. Harris  
Capt. Howard C. Hartsfield  
Capt. Peter G. Jones  
Capt. Charles F. Mabelitini  
Capt. Dillard E. Medford  
Capt. Charles E. Price  
Capt. Robert R. Rafferty  
Capt. George F. Ridpath  
1st Lt. David M. Bockoven  
1st Lt. Douglas E. Emery  
1st Lt. James H. Fox  
1st Lt. William M. Hagan  
1st Lt. Robert W. McMahon  
SFC Jacob L. Blanton  
SFC John J. Godzinski  
SFC Kenji Ito  
SFC Robert G. Laughead, Jr.  
SFC Donald D. Wallace  
Capt. Jack E. Adams  
Capt. Edward J. Junier  
Capt. Byron D. Nichols  
Capt. Colin L. Powell  
Capt. Don A. Schwab  
Capt. Donald B. Whitmarsh  
Capt. Donald A. Wisdom  
Capt. Donald W. Woodruff  
Capt. Roger B. Woods  
1st Lt. Robert W. Becker  
1st Lt. Dean H. Darling  
1st Lt. Ira Dorsey  
Capt. Frank T. Rivera  
Capt. Derrell J. Savage  
Capt. Robert C. Trippel

### COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

#### Second Award

Capt. Robert H. Anspaugh  
Maj. Roger D. Anderson  
Maj. Theodulpho Arbiol  
Maj. Foster C. Berry  
Capt. Milton B. Snow  
Capt. Donald L. Hill

#### First Award

Capt. Charles W. Crawford III  
Capt. Neil H. Kempf  
Capt. Donald J. Zurbrigen  
Maj. James E. Cole  
Maj. William E. Wallace  
PFC Richard J. Minicar  
Maj. Donald B. George  
Maj. Robert H. Kleinfelder  
Capt. John V. Barner  
Capt. Richard W. Brown  
Capt. John F. Collier  
Capt. James A. Conley  
Capt. Gilbert N. Dorland  
Capt. Raynor L. Morrison  
Capt. John W. Moser  
Capt. Leslie K. Nakamura  
Capt. Donald E. Reid  
Capt. Richard T. Rushton  
Capt. Buck L. Russell  
Capt. Edward M. Scott  
Capt. Ralph C. Thomas  
1st Lt. Quentin M. Garcia  
1st Lt. Kenneth J. Hayman  
1st Lt. John L. Hitti, Jr.  
1st Lt. James L. Paap  
1st Lt. Larry E. Joyce  
1st Lt. Robert W. O'Keefe  
1st Lt. Robert L. Phillips  
1st Lt. Robert C. Saunders, Jr.  
Maj. Robert A. Anderson  
PFC Buck Jones  
SFC John A. McCutchen  
PFC Paul K. Stevens  
Capt. Irving A. Beauchamp  
Capt. Thomas J. Bergin  
Capt. Maury S. Cralle, Jr.  
Capt. Norman C. Floyd, Sr.  
Capt. James F. Henrionnet  
Capt. Charles R. Johnson  
Capt. Philip J. Stevens  
Capt. John W. Watkins  
Sp4 Romaldo Camacho  
1st Lt. Edward L. Schmidt  
Capt. Thomas W. Marshall III  
Capt. Oathes J. Gill, Jr.  
SFC Reuben Brinley  
Sgt. Johnnie L. Beaver  
Maj. Thomas E. Nesbitt  
Capt. Napoleon Booker  
Capt. Elton E. Buchanan  
Capt. Robert H. Clark  
Capt. James Devage  
Capt. Santiago A. Garcia  
Capt. Richard J. Kattar  
Capt. Rodney F. McConkey  
Capt. John F. Reineck, Jr.  
Capt. Blaine A. Revis  
Capt. Goebel R. Thacker  
Capt. Deward E. Webster, Jr.  
1st Lt. William F. Edgar  
1st Lt. Theodore G. Kershaw, Jr.  
Maj. Robert L. Fate  
Maj. Arthur N. Iyomasa  
SFC James R. Lokey  
Maj. Herbert Pennington  
SFC Cleveland E. Stokes  
Pvt. William C. Thornton  
SFC Jimmie F. Gennaro  
Sp4 Barry A. Davis

## POCKETFUL of NOTES

By SSgt. Bob Reid  
USAF



**KEEPING UP WITH THINGS** — Slogans, appropriately lettered on blazing banners are all the rage now. No self respecting developing country or emerging nation would be caught dead without a whole basketful of pithy (there's that word again) mottoes.

Every group, from the Society Against Indecency to Naked Animals (whatever happened to them?) to the Anti Digest Dialing League, has a nice batch of slogans.

Now... how about us? Let's get organized, here, fellas. We really are undergoing a drought of slogans. With just a little thought and limited imagination, the troops in Viet Nam could dream up all kinds of good, snappy aphorisms.

How about "Mosquitoes Beware! You Are Playing A Dangerous Game" for a starter. This could immediately be followed with, "We Endorse Bigger Malaria Pills."

Warming up to the business, we could create such masterpieces as "Let's Put Hubcaps On Jeeps." Or, maybe, with a humanitarian eye, we could coin "Better Uniforms For Garbage Collectors." That's a very important one, there. Yes sir.

Reeling with success, we could branch out with such profound and moving proverbs as: "Suggest! It Creates Employment For Suggestion Readers." Or, becoming a little more militant we could easily "Demand To Know Where Elephants Go To Die."

The troops in the field ought to be able to produce some dillies. "Homemade Yes, Thompson, No!" might be a snappy opener. Perhaps "Fight Spike Traps With Spike Traps" might catch on. A sure winner would be "No Rice, No 'C' Rations." And how could you lose with "33 Yes, Hepatitis, No!"

Even conventional banners flying over outposts would be nice. Like, "VC Go, Home," or, "Viet Cong, Net For Long." An inspiring one would be "A VC A Day To Earn Our Pay."

If our slogans caught one, we could go to inventing weeks, and days for special events. "Let's All Ride Cyclos Week" would be a boom to that transportation industry.

The distaff side would be overwhelmed by an "All Buy A Bar Girl A Drink Week."

We might try a "Don't Boil Your Water And Take A Chance Day." How about this one? "Down With Rainy Season Week." That one ought to get some fast action from higher up.

A National "Ride A Taxi Without The Meter Running Week" could make overnight millionaires of the thousands of blue and white taxi drivers. (The taxis are blue and white, not the drivers, we mean.)

Anyway, you can all see how a thing like this could snowball. Alright, everybody, out with the poster paint and on with the old thinking caps. Remember: "A Thought A Day Keeps The Headshrinker Away."

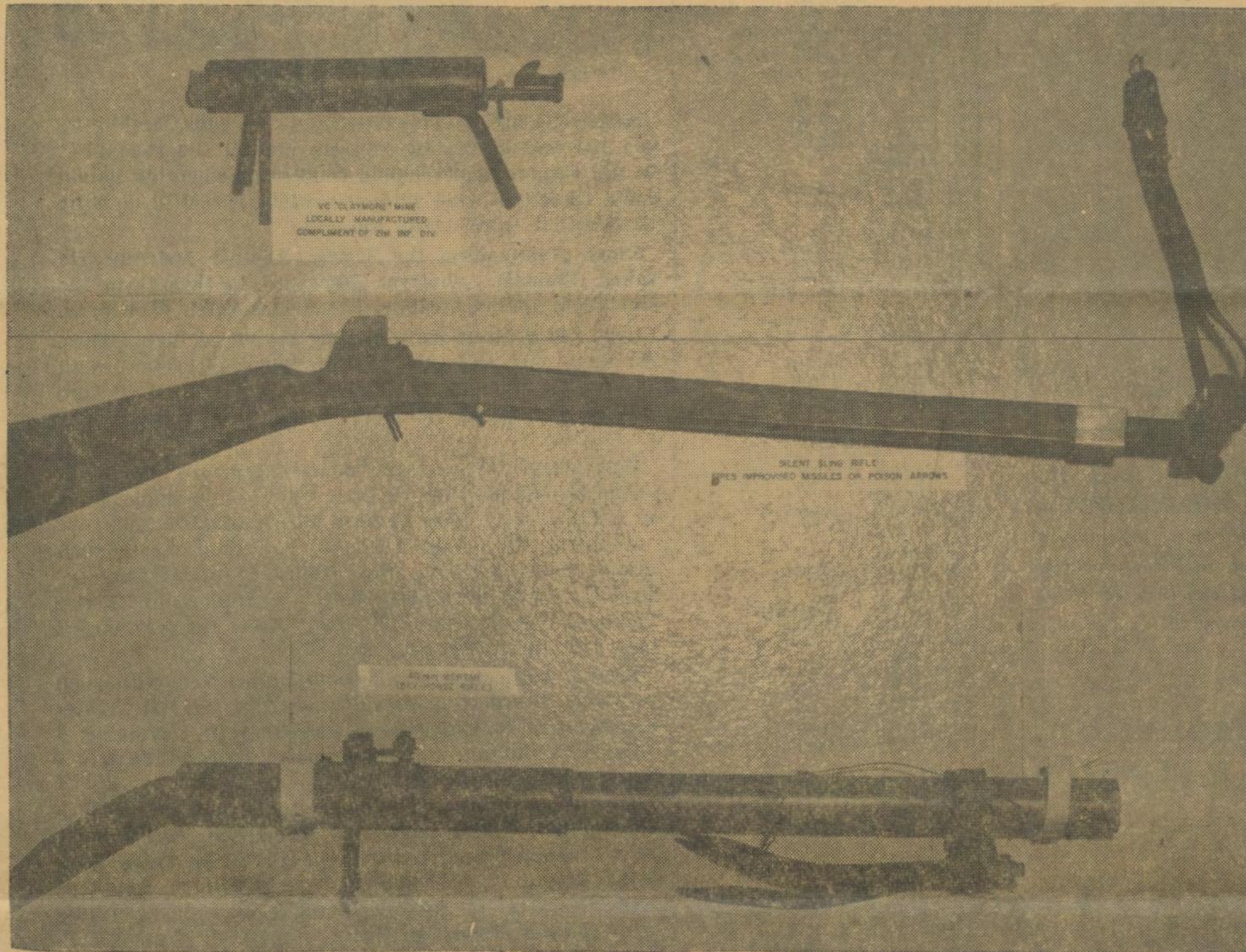
**NOTES IN OUR POCKETS** — We were idly going through a first aid kit of the type they issue here in Viet Nam... sort of a survival kit thing. We came across a batch of pills, which claimed to be "keep awake" pills. Written on the instructions was the stern warning that the pills could not be taken without the expressed permission of an officer...

Now here's this guy see, who's been shot down, and he's all alone out in the jungles, and he's been chased around for two days and nights by the VC, and he wants to stay awake, but he can't find an officer to give him permission to take a bennie which he has in his kit, and he's getting desperate, and... oh, okay, we'll quit.

\* \* \*

The Observer welcomes a new photog this week, SP5 Ray Jewett of Carlisle, Pa., freshly arrived from the U.S. Army War College. We quickly put him to work, as attested by his Secretary McNamara picture spread on page one, and other photos scattered throughout this edition.

# Liaison Mission Proves Viet Cong



**LOCALLY MANUFACTURED**— Some war equipment is smuggled into South Viet Nam through the Ho Chi Minh trail and the adjoining borders by the Viet Cong while other "local" weapons such as the "Claymore" mine, (top) a silent sling rifle capable of firing poisoned arrows and improvised missiles, (middle) and a "Sky Horse" 40mm mortar, (bottom), are made here in the south.



**VC WEAPONS EXHIBIT**— Evidence of Communist support gathered for display at the ARVN Joint General Staff headquarters, Camp Tran Hung Dao, shows all types of weapons, ammunitions, propaganda documents, and war equipment captured by the Vietnamese forces from the Viet Cong guerrillas.



**HAND GUNS**— Captured 9mm VC made Luger and submachine gun are impressive copies of similar hand guns manufactured in Czechoslovakia and Italy.

STORY AND PHOTOS  
SFC TONY BERMUDEZ

In a strongly-worded protest to the International Control Commission last month, the Vietnamese Liaison Mission presented a list of Communist weapons and equipment captured from Viet Cong insurgents in past engagements against government forces.

According to a Viet Nam Press announcement, the weapons used by the Viet Cong guerrillas have increased since the publication of the ICC's special report last June 2, 1963. The mission's report said that the war equipment being supplied from Hanoi was coming from Russia, Czechoslovakia and Red China.

The Mission announced

that the captur and equipment exhibited to the bers at the Jo Staff headqua Viet Cong have modern weapon did not have a of the cease-fire.

Some of the supplied weapon the Mission incl lowing:

- Russian - ma Nagant carb bayonet.
- 75 mm recoil made in Red
- 90 mm anti-tar rifles made in
- 7.92 mm cal. guns made in and copied



**VC WEAPONS BRIEFING**— Maj. Gen. the 2nd Air Div. briefs visiting Air Commodore the Royal Air Force.

# ng Weapons Supplied By Reds

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recoilless rifles  
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VC COLLECTION — (Top to Bottom) Dis-  
played are a  
20mm rifle, a  
"Sky Horse"  
rifle, copy of  
a U.S. 45 cal.  
submachine  
gun and 9mm  
submachine  
gun of French  
manufacture.



VC COLLEC-  
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a U.S. 45 cal.  
submachine  
gun and 9mm  
submachine  
gun of French  
manufacture.

German 1908 machine  
gun model.

• 7.62 mm cal. submachine  
gun (K.50) manufactured  
in Czechoslovakia. The  
K. 50 fires 700 to 750  
rounds per minute.

Weapons and equipment  
made in North Viet Nam  
and used by their regular  
troops include the modified  
Mas-49 submachine gun  
and the 12.7 mm cal. ma-  
chine gun; helmets, uni-  
forms, flags, currency, belts,  
sweaters and mess gear.

Weapons captured by the  
ARVN troops in the field  
include hand guns, rifles,  
mortars, recoilless rifles,  
machine guns, and sub-  
machine guns manufactured  
in France, Japan, Denmark,  
Germany, Italy and Eng-  
land. All these assorted  
types of weapons have  
found their way into the  
hands of the Viet Cong.

Most of the weapons and  
equipment used by North  
Viet Nam regular troops  
have been manufactured in  
Hanoi, Hai Phung and Ha  
Dong. Other VC made wea-  
pons and ammunition have  
been produced in the Me-  
kong Delta area.

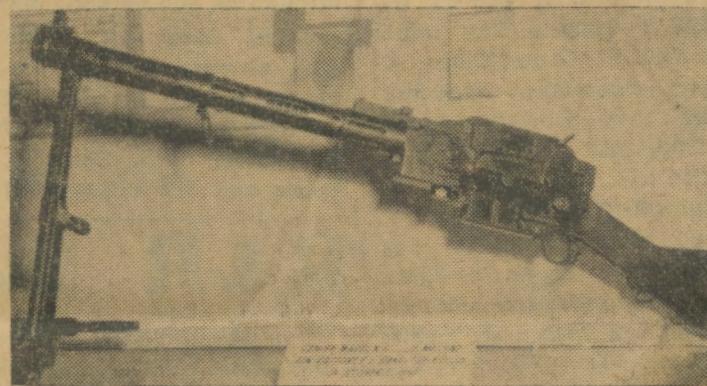
Support from North Viet  
Nam has increased during  
the past six months and  
weapons with larger bore  
have been captured in ad-  
dition to a variety of sophis-  
ticated mines and sabotage  
devices.



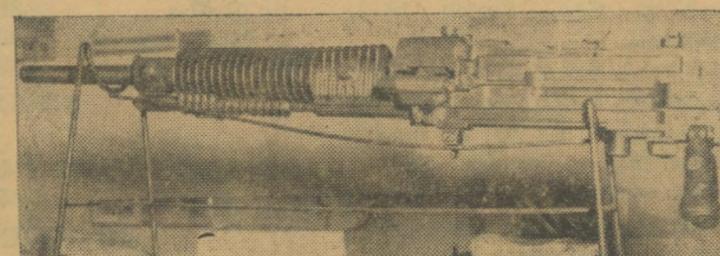
VC MORTARS — A typical 60mm shell and launcher, (left) and 60.2mm mortar captured at Kien Tuong province. Mortars of Red Chinese manufacture have been copied from U.S. models while others are of Russian, Czech, and French origin. In addition to locally manufactured weapons, the Viet Cong have been using all types of equipment in their operations.



Commander Joseph A. Moore, (right) Commander of the 2nd Air Div Photo.



DANISH-MADE — An 8mm light machine gun of the Masden type.



JAPANESE-MADE — A 7.72 Hotchkiss heavy machi-  
ne gun captured in VC cache.



BLOODY VC FLAG — Author points out bloody spots  
on a captured Viet Cong flag. Items such as flags, hel-  
mets, uniforms, currencies and individual mess gear are  
produced in North Viet Nam. Viet Cong guerrillas have also  
built "mobile" manufacturing centers in the Mekong Delta.  
(MAAG Photo by SFC Harry Morgan)



**AN HOI FIRE**— Bordering the Mekong River in Can Tho, headquarters of the ARVN IV Corps, the three-hour fire claimed the lives of five persons and caused an estimated damage of \$VN 5 million. Photo shows gutted block-wide area. (IV Corps IO Photo).

## U.S. Firefighters, Relief Aids Can Tho Fire Victims

Four persons were killed and several injured Mar. 5, when a three-hour fire razed squatters' huts in the An Hoi hamlet in Can Tho leaving nearly 500 families homeless. Damages were estimated by the Viet Nam Press at around VN\$5 million.

Vietnamese and U.S. military personnel joined Can Tho's civilian fire fighters in controlling the fire which gutted a square block before the fire was brought under control.

Maj. James L. Patterson of the Can Tho Air Base dispatched an AF fire truck to the fire to assist the local fire department truck. Rev. Harold Collins, serving as interpreter, assisted Major Patterson in coordinating the joint fire-fighting group.

Although the exact cause of the fire has not been determined, preliminary investigation indicates it could have been caused by an exploding gasoline lamp.

Arriving at 9:45 p.m., the AF fire truck went into action with AF SSgt. Charles R. Caithame maneuvering the vehicle through throngs of refugees and piled up personal belongings.

Directing the cab-mounted nozzle and high pressure water on the spreading blaze, the military firefighters stopped the fire on one side.

Finishing up on one side, the AF fire truck maneuvered to the other side of the block edging through narrow alleys with barely enough room on each side.

A breeze blowing from the southwest to the northeast forced the flames away from the main thoroughfare and other residential areas of the city restricting the movement of the fire. By 11 p.m. the fire was com-

pletely under control and in the smoldering stage.

U.S. firefighters included AF SSgts. Ronald T. Snell and Henry M. Turk, A1Cs John W. Patterson, Raymond B. Paragin, Lee M. Whittenburg, and Donald E. Yeager, A2C Jerome C. Loomis, Airmen Charles W. Ables and Army SFC William Robinson and Sgt. Patrick M. Colgan.

Local government and military officials, with the assistance of U.S. personnel quickly organized a committee to assist the fire victims. The homeless were fed and housed in military barracks and school buildings.

Relief supplies were supplied by military personnel and the province chief. Aid stations were set up by the IV Corps, USOM, U.S. personnel and the province chief. Aid stations were set up by the IV Corps' chief surgeon with Buddhist Boy Scouts assisting the fire victims.

In Saigon, the U.S. Forces American Chapel donated \$VN20,000 to the Mennonite Committee for distribution to the homeless. USOM also donated relief supplies immediately after the fire.

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara and Prime Minister Maj. Gen. Nguyen Khanh visited the victims of the Can Tho fire Monday and each donated \$VN500,000 for relief assistance.

## Old Grads' Fete At Founder's Day Dinner Tonight

U.S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge will deliver the main address tonight at the annual United States Military Academy Founder's Day dinner at the Rex BOQ roof-garden.

Gen. Paul D. Harkins, MACV Commander, (Class '29) will host the affair. Maj. Gen. Richard G. Stilwell, J-3, MACV (Class '38) will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Lt. Gen. William C. Westmoreland, MACV Deputy Commander, (Class '36) and the 45th Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy, will deliver the traditional toast to the Cadet Corps.

General Stilwell, former USMA Commandant of Cadets, will deliver the toast honoring the Commander-in-Chief President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Special recognition honors will be presented to General Harkins as the oldest USMA graduate and 1st Lt. Robert M. Tarbert Jr. (Class '62) as the youngest alumnus.

In addition to graduates of the U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, representatives of the Philippine Military Academy, Finnish Military Academy, Australian Military College, Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, will attend the affair.

General chairman for the 1964 Founder's Day affair is Col. H. Lane, (Class '40) and committee chairman are Maj. Howard Parks, (Class '50), Reception and Finance; Maj. Marshall D. Talbott (Class '50), Program and Entertainment; Maj. Walter F. Ulmer Jr. (Class '50), Decoration and Menu; and Capt. Henry W. Meetze (Class '55), Invitations and Publicity.

### Gen. Stilwell To Speak At DSA Meeting Mar. 27

Brig. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, CG, USASCV, will be the guest speaker at the Defense Supply Association dinner-meeting to be held Mar. 27, at the Rex BOQ roof garden.

A social hour, beginning at 7:30 p.m., will precede the dinner. Reservations should be made by calling 60184.



'HUEY' UNLOADS MORE WRECKAGE ONTO LST From Ca Mau, 12 loads of salvage.

## Army, Navy Team-Up To Salvage Planes

Tan Son Nhut (IO) — Two U.S. Army helicopters and a U.S. Navy LST teamed together recently to prevent loss of life, time and money in an unusual aircraft recovery operation in the Mekong Delta region of Viet Nam.

To avoid flying 12 loads of damaged aircraft from Ca Mau to Vung Tau—180 miles over VC guerrilla-infested swamps and groves—the Army's 611th Transportation Co. employed a CH-37 Mojave and a UH-1B Iroquois helicopter to sling-load the salvage to an LST anchored three miles off Viet Nam's west coast, in the Gulf of Thailand. The Navy landing ship then carried the load around the peninsula to Vung Tau.

Ranging from 1,500 to 6,000 pounds, each load presented aerodynamic problems, causing heavy drag on the two transporting helicopters. Overcoming these difficulties, the bulkiest and heaviest load—a VNAF A1H airplane—was maneuvered onto the deck of the ship by the giant CH-37 piloted by Capt. Larry L. Foore and CWO Raymond

C. Clayton.

The entire operation cost \$19,500 and required 22 flying hours for the two helicopters. Had the LST not been used, the same operation would have required 55 hours for the CH-37 alone. Since the Army approximates a value of \$500 per flying hour for the Mojave, a savings of \$8,500 was realized. More importantly, the helicopters saved more than 40 hours exposure over terrain in which the Viet Cong operate heavily.

When the LST anchored off the tip of Vung Tau two days later, the two helicopters reversed the process and off-loaded the cargo, delivering it to the Vung Tau airfield, the home of the 611th maintenance men.

Two armed UH-1BS from the 114th Avn. Co. provided escort for the mission.

## R & R SCHEDULE

Date of Departure/Return	Passenger Check-in TSN	Spaces Available
<b>TO HONG KONG</b>		
**16-21 Mar	0800-0830	36
*20-25 Mar	0800 0830	36
**22-27 Mar	0800-0830	36
*24-29 Mar	0800-0830	36
**28 Mar-2 Apr	0800-0830	36
*30 Mar-4 Apr	0800-0830	36
<b>TO BANGKOK</b>		
18-23 Mar	0500-0530	36
26-31 Mar	0500-0530	36
<b>TO BAGUIO (CLARK)</b>		
27 Mar-2 Apr	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.		

Roving Photographer

## Reader's Skeptical Of Fact Saint Patrick Was Not Irish

It came as a great shock to The Observer staff to learn, after editing the Chaplain's Column on page two this week that St. Patrick, whose day falls next Tuesday, was not really Irish.

Realizing this fact would come as a great shock to our readers, our roving photographer went out and felt the pulse of the man on the street to get his reaction to this awesome news, with the question:

Elsewhere in this week's paper is an article proving that the Irish patron saint, St. Patrick, was not really an Irishman. What's your reaction to this shocking news?



WALDIE THOMPSON

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Thomas J. Waldie, MAAG, New York City. "Saint Patrick wasn't Irish? He was probably Scotch. But the French, the Italians, and the English claim him too. Just goes to show you what a great man he was. Everybody wants him."

Maj. Edmund R. Thompson, O&T Div., MAAG, Springfield, Mo.: "This statement is obviously VC propaganda."



DRAEGER BELL

Sp5 Raymond R. Draeger, Officers Records Clerk, Personnel Div., MAAG, Marion, Wis.: "I believe he was Irish. Proving he wasn't is of no consequence to me."

Capt. Joel H. Bell, District Advisor, Bien Duong province, Richmond, Va.: "Saint Paddy has been the number one Irish inspiration for years. Although I myself am not Irish, I know that no facts could convince me that Saint Pat was anything but."



SCHURMAN JOSEPH

YN3 Jack E. Schurman, TDY mailroom, Navy Section, MAAG, Hawarden, Iowa: "I think it'll come as a great shock to the man who paints the green stripe down 5th Ave. in New York each March 17."

TSgt. Robert L. Josephson, Executive Office, MAAG, Oshkosh, Wis.: "It'll be a terrible traumatic experience for the Notre Dame football team, and further, Irish whiskey will never taste the same again."

### Ben Martin 'Re-Ups' As Falcon Grid Coach

Air Force Academy, Colo. (AFNS) — Air Force Academy football coach Ben Martin has signed a new three-year contract covering the 1964-65-66 seasons. His old contract had one season remaining.

Martin, the dean of Service academy football coaches, came to the Academy in the spring of 1958 and won national acclaim by piloting the '58 Falcons through an undefeated season and an ultimate berth in the 1959 Cotton Bowl. In his six years here, the cadets have posted a 33-36-3 record.

Last fall the Falcons recorded a 7-3 mark but were shut out in the Gator Bowl by North Carolina.

Martin's signing was the last in a series of contract negotiations which began in January. Assistant coaches Charlie Rash, Homer Smith and Joe Moss have all penned their signatures to 1964 agreements.

Jim Bowman, the last remaining member of Martin's original staff of 1958, will assume duties of fresh football coach. He has served as chief scout and junior varsity coach the past six seasons.

Taking over the junior



MCINTYRE AND FRIENDS WITH JEEP  
Top speed 15 mph, and an \$800 offer.

## Saigon Seabee Builds Cutest Jeep; Half Pint Size, And Baby Blue, Yet!

It's baby blue and the cutest darned thing you ever did see.

It's a miniature jeep that really runs, built from personal plans in his spare time by a Saigon-based Seabee, CM1 Robert C. McIntyre of the motor pool garage.

McIntyre, of De Witt, Mich., actually has had the idea mulling around in his head for ten years — when he drew the plans — but just recently completed his midget jeep with the help of three Vietnamese craftsmen.

The work was all done at night and on weekends with materials purchased by McIntyre. The jeep is exact one-half scale of the real McCoy, is powered by an Italian motor bike engine, and boasts a two-speed transmission and clutch, brakes, and every minute detail of a standard jeep.

The seats, chrome, and top were contracted, the hubcaps are by Mercedes-Benz, and all the rest was hand-fashioned by three

varsity from Bowman will be Capt. Bernie Raetz. He has been head football and basketball mentor at the Academy prep school for the past two seasons.

Lt. Col. Felix (Doe) Blanchard rounds out the changes by moving from the fresh coaching post up to an administrative position in the athletic director's office.

All staff changes are slated to take place early this month.



A VIETNAMESE TICKET?  
It's all in fun.

Vietnamese motor pool employees who worked on their own time for minimum wages: body man Mai Van Phan, machinist Le Nhut Niem, and painter Le Tan Si.

The baby jeep has a top speed of 15 miles an hour, and carries one gallon of gasoline. McIntyre actually built the vehicle as a present for his six-year old son, Todd, and intends to take the jeep back with him to the states when he returns in August. "But there's enough seats for the other two kids, too," he notes, "Susie, 2, and Robbie, 1."

Although he has only \$125 and 350 man-hours invested in the cutest jeep in the world, McIntyre has already been offered as much as \$800 for it.

But it ain't for sale, he says.

## PROMOTIONS

### Sergeant Major

MSgt. Jedekiah Cassell  
MSgt. Frank L. McBee  
MSgt. Carl W. McDaniel  
MSgt. Ray J. Terrill

### Master Sergeant (E8)

MSgt. Arnold J. Crell  
MSgt. William A. Hancock  
MSgt. Vernon H. King  
SFC Joseph H. Kuntz, Jr.  
MSgt. James D. Martin  
MSgt. Ray L. Martin  
MSgt. Arthur F. Montgomery  
MSgt. Michael J. Mustara  
MSgt. Herbert Pennington

### Sergeant First Class (E7)

SFC Russell T. Allen  
SFC Hershel Anderson  
SSgt. Billy D. George  
SFC William W. Gobet  
SFC George T. Hoff  
SFC Stephen M. Hudack  
SFC Louis J. Kochanee  
SFC John L. Saylor  
Sgt. Henry H. Walker  
SSgt. Marvin G. Yoder

Come To The  
**USO**  
(119 Nguyễn Hué, Saigon)  
"Your Home Away  
From Home"  
For  
**FUN & FACILITIES**



**FIRST DONATION** — Gen. Paul D. Harkins, commander, MACV, kicked off the annual Red Cross Fund Drive in Viet Nam this week by making the initial donation to Maj. Gen. Richard G. Weede, MACV Chief of Staff and general chairman for the drive.

(MACV-IO Photo by SFC Jimmie L. Adams.)

## Red Cross Fund Drive Kicks Off In Viet Nam

The American Red Cross fund drive for 1964 kicked off yesterday and will run through Apr. 6, according to ARC Field Director W.W. Bruce.

Maj. Gen. R.G. Weede, USMC, Chief of Staff, MACV, has been reappointed as general chairman for the fund drive campaign in Viet Nam.

This year's slogan is "Always there... with Your Help."

Serving as project officers and command chairmen are Maj. Roy L. Anderson, MACV; Lt. Col. Raymond A. Knox, MAAG; Maj. T. Fair, USASCV; Maj. Alvin C. Sherrill, Jr., 2nd Air Div.; Chaplain (LCDR) Harry R. Miller, HSAS and Capt. R.D. Walters, CTE, USMC.

Serving as an emergency communications link between Viet Nam based military personnel and their families, the ARC last year handled nearly 7,500 individual cases and provided over \$75,000 for financial assistance.

Contributions may be made in U.S. dollars, personal checks (made out to the American Red Cross) or piasters. Last year the command contributed 116% of their goal with 86% participation throughout the command.

General Harkins appealed to all military personnel in Viet Nam to support the 1964 campaign to the maximum extent for the American Red Cross depends entirely on the contributions of the individual American.

## Protestant Men Elect New Slate

Officers of the American Chapel chapter of the Protestant Men of the Chapel were installed Mar. 1 at the USIS auditorium.

The following officers will serve for a six-month term: Col. Earl E. Anderson, president; SSgt. R.E. Ladner, 1st vice-president; Lt. Col. Raymond A. Knox, 2nd vice-president, Sgt. S.L. Ferguson, secretary-treasurer.



**MEDAL FOR LIFESAVER** — Maj. Donald M. Reese (Left), receives the first oak leaf cluster to his Army Commendation medal from Col. Edward D. Mohlere, Chief, Log. Div., USASEC, MAAG, Feb. 28. Major Reese was cited for heroism in saving the life of MSgt. Joseph Villegas, who was drowning at Back Beach, Vung Tau, Sept. 10, 1963.

## MACV Officer Wins Literary Award

Maj. Walter F. Ulmer, Jr., Operations Staff Officer, Current Operations Branch, MACV J-3, was named as one of the first two winners of the Military Review for his article entitled "Diluted Professionalism" which appeared in the December 1963 issue.

In his article, Major Ulmer argued that to assure professionalism the Army must adopt controlled specialization for its officers.

Under the new award program, outstanding articles, without limit as to number, will be recognized as Military Review Award articles. All authors of articles published originally in the Review are eligible to receive the award.

## Nine AF Officers To Get Gold Leaves

Nine captains assigned to the 315th Troop Carrier Group (Assault) in Viet Nam have been selected for promotion to major according to a release recently made by the office of Brig. Gen. Richard H. Ellis, commander of the 315th Air Div. (Combat Cargo) at Tachikawa AB, Japan.

The promotions become effective after July 1, during the first three months of FY 1965.

Selected for promotion to major are Captains Franklyn T.M. Hasty, Harold K. Hoskins, William H. Lewis, George F. McCarthy, Fred L. Owens Jr., William I. Randall Jr., Robert E. Simon, Myron L. Tong and Grover Townsend Jr.

## Army Plans Evaluation In Secondary, Additional MOS's

Enlisted Army personnel will be evaluated and tested in primary and secondary military occupational specialties effective May 1, 1964 according to an announcement released by Department of the Army.

Maj. H.F. Goldberg, Asst. AG, Pers. Br., MAAG, reported that enlisted personnel in grade E-3 and above, assigned in Viet Nam, will be evaluated and tested upon their return to CONUS. All testing for enlisted personnel assigned in Viet Nam has been suspended.

Under the revised enlisted evaluation system, personnel will first be tested in their primary and secondary MOS and the following year tested in their primary and additional MOS.

The expanded evaluation will provide flexibility in future assignments and maximum utilization of skills and training acquired by enlisted careerists. The improved system will also provide a broader base for promotional opportunities for personnel qualified in their secondary and additional specialties.

The testing is mandatory

for all enlisted personnel in grade E-3 and above except candidates for Officer Candidate School and warrant officer flight trainees and enlisted personnel with approved retirement applications submitted three months before the first day of the test month.

Testing and evaluation of additional MOS are identical to PMOS evaluation.

### ▲ McNamara

(Continued from page 1) conferences in Saigon with U.S. officials.

The Secretary returned to the field again Wednesday for more on-the-spot inspections of the war effort in the northern I Corps area.

Wednesday night, McNamara was the guest of honor at a dinner held at Gia Long Palace by the Prime Minister.

The group was scheduled to return to Washington Thursday evening.



**FELLOW SPARTANS** — Lt. Gen. William C. Westmoreland, (left) Deputy Commander, MACV and Maj. Gen. Joseph H. Moore, (right) Commander, 2nd Air Div. get together. Both generals who recently arrived in Viet Nam, are from Spartanburg, S.C. (USAF Photo.)

## Mail THE OBSERVER Home

From

Major Edward R. Hicks  
HQ MAAG USASEC-Log Div.  
APO 143, San Francisco, Calif.

TO :

Mrs. Edward R. Hicks  
Floresville, Texas 78114

