

**Everybody
Picks The
'64 Pennant
Winners**

(See Sports, Page 7)

The Observer

Published By The MAAG Information Office
For U.S. Forces In Viet Nam

**Oddest Naval
Armada
In History
Fights VC**

(See Pages 4 & 5)

Volume II, No 48

SAIGON, VIET NAM

April 4, 1964

McNamara Bares New VN War Plans; ARVN Expansion

Outlining plans to increase efforts against communist insurgents in Viet Nam, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara told a national television audience in the U.S. Sunday that Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh plans to increase Vietnamese military forces by 50,000 men.

He also said the United States will help foot the bill — to the tune of about a million dollars a week.

The defense chief also said on the NBC color special that General Khanh will probably proclaim a national service law to conscript the additional fighting men.

Earlier, he told the Forrestal Memorial Awards Dinner in Washington that the U.S. will also provide required additional material, to include strengthening the Vietnamese Air Force with better aircraft and improving the mobility of the ground forces.

He also said in his speech at the dinner that a civil administrative corps will be established that ultimately will include 40,000 personnel, with the 1964 goal set for an additional 7,500 persons. The civilian corps will bring public services to people in 8,000 hamlets and 2500 villages.

McNamara estimated Viet

Cong strength at 20 to 25,000 hard core guerrillas, who have been able to recruit an irregular force of 60 to 80,000 from among South Vietnamese, "mainly by coercion and 'band wagon' effect, but also by promising material and political rewards."

On television, McNamara noted that General Khanh has the ability to lead a stable government and is acting "as an aggressive, able, intelligent, decisive leader of his country."

"We would strongly oppose another coup," the DOD chief stated. "We have told his people that we fully support him and the program he has underway."

He said that U.S. training personnel assigned to Viet Nam will return as their mission is completed, but advisory personnel will remain as long as required "to fully control the insurgency of the communists."

Moorer Named Pac. Fleet C.O., Nominated For Four Star Rank

Vice Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, present commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, was named by the White House last week as the new commander-in-chief of the Pacific Fleet.

President Johnson also nominated Moorer for four star rank.

He will replace Adm. U.S. Grant Sharp Jr., who is slated to succeed Adm. Harry D. Felt as Commander-in-chief, Pacific Fleet is scheduled to retire soon.

All three admirals have made recent official trips to the Republic of Viet Nam.

Vice Adm. Roy L. Johnson, presently deputy commander-in-chief of the Pacific Fleet will succeed Moorer as Seventh Fleet chief.

Johnson's post will be filled by Rear Adm. Bernard A. Clarey, who was nominated for vice admiral rank. Clarey is currently in command of the Pacific Fleet's submarine force.

In other high level naval shifts, Rear Adm. William E. Ellis was named to take over the Sixth Fleet and was also nominated for three star rank. He will succeed Vice Adm. William E. Gentner Jr., who will become commander of the Taiwan Defense Command.

Missing L-19 Crew Identified Here

The two American officers reported missing in Quang Tri province since last Thursday, when their L-19 failed to return to Khe Sanh Special Forces camp after a two-hour reconnaissance mission, were identified as USAF Capt. Richard L. Whitesides, (Stockton, Calif.) the pilot, and Army Capt. Floyd J. Thompson, (Ft. Bragg, N.C.) the observer.

The search for the missing plane is still in progress with 18 fixed wing aircraft including L-19s, T-28s and C-123s checking the general area of the L-19s flight plan.

As of Monday, 188 sorties totalling some 300 hours had been flown in the search operations. Poor visibility, bad weather and the mountainous terrain continues to hamper the search operations.

When the aircraft did not return to Khe Sanh as scheduled, a ground communications check was immediately initiated but failed to reveal any information on its status. No emergency messages or position reports were received from the aircraft after it took off from Khe Sanh.

Two H-34 helicopters are on stand-by for medical evacuation and twelve other H-34s are on alert to fly troops to secure the area when the missing plane is located.

Voting Details Available At MACV

Military personnel desiring to vote in their respective states may secure the standard absentee ballot forms from the SJA, MACV by calling 50515.

Questions arising from voting requirements in different states maybe referred to SJA, MACV in writing or by telephone.

**Your Last Chance
To Give To
The Red Cross
(Fund Drive Closes Mon.)**



FROM VIET NAM TO KOREA— Maj. Gen. Do Cao Tri, commander of the Vietnamese Army's II Corps at Pleiku, Viet Nam, presents a plaque to Maj. Gen. Charles J. Timmes, Chief, MAAG on a recent visit by General Timmes to General Tri's headquarters. General Tri asked that the plaque be sent to the commander of the U.S. First Corps in Korea. General Tri received a similar plaque from the First Corps several months ago while he was serving as Vietnamese I Corps Commander.

Dateline Viet Nam Small Unit Actions Show Sharp Increase

Major ground operations against Viet Cong insurgents declined sharply last week, while small unit actions increased significantly, to over 4,000, with 106 of these resulting in contact with the enemy.

Fifty-two of the small unit clashes were at night.

Fifteen Viet Cong were killed and a reported 20 wounded carried off in a two day operation that ended Sunday in the northern province of Quang Nam. Two Self Defense Corps soldiers were killed on the government side and 13 were wounded.

The communists also lost a machine gun, four submachine guns, and five individual weapons.

An Army unit clashed with a Viet Cong battalion early Monday morning in Binh Duong province about 20 miles north of Saigon. Thirty-two VC were killed, while the ARVN lost five killed, 30 wounded, and a carbine.

In southern An Xuyen province on the Ca Mau peninsula, a four day operation ended Sunday with

six VC killed and four captured. Two Czech machine guns, ammunition and a Vespa motor scooter were seized by the government forces, who lost one killed and seven wounded.

In a breakdown of figures, a U.S. military spokesman said that in the week ending Tuesday, III Corps again led in major and small unit actions. Throughout the country, there were only 44 major ground operations, with 18 resulting in contact with the Viet Cong.

Vietnamese forces suffered 450 casualties, with 90 killed, 300 wounded, and 60 missing or captured. The Viet Cong lost 150 killed, 60 captured, and gave up 13 weapons.

The Air Force flew 5,710

(Continued on page 8)

The Observer

"Comment is free but facts are sacred."

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EDITORIAL

Dignity Of The Human Being Is Basis For Many Freedoms

(Second in a series of ten award-winning editorials from the San Diego Calif., Evening Tribune. Reprinted with permission.)

The Founding Fathers of this nation had a passionate belief in the dignity and worth of the individual.

It was upon this belief that they built.

And it was to insure against the undermining of this firm foundation that they embedded certain freedoms of the people in the Bill of Rights.

Hard by the first stake — the right to worship God in one's own way — they drove into the bedrock of America:

The right of free speech and freedom of the press...

The right of the people to assemble peaceably...

The right to petition the government for redress of grievances...

These are heady freedoms, indeed. But the proper recognition and use of them is essential, if representative government is to be more than a lofty, but empty, ideal.

It is a measure of their confidence, as well as their faith, in the dignity and worth of the individual, that the Founding Fathers proclaimed these rights... these freedoms.

For there is a fine line beyond which the exercise of such personal freedoms can become license.

The genius of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights is that, in their fundamental statements and in subsequent interpretations, there are definite clauses that keep this whole structure of freedom in balance.

Freedom of speech isn't abridged, for example, by the prohibition of a blasphemous, libelous, or indecent public address, injurious to public morals or private reputations.

"Freedom of the press," the Supreme Court has held, "may protect criticism and agitation for modification or repeal of laws, but it does not extend to protection of him who counsels and encourages the violation of the law as it exists."

Peaceable assembly, obviously, is no sanction of mob rule.

No, the Founding Fathers sought no licenses. They sought to insure the freedom and dignity of newly freed men and their prosperity by:

The right to stand straight and speak... to read freely and fully, with confidence in an unhobbled press...

To gather with others sharing a common concern... to petition without reprisals or the sneer of official contempt.

Let us remember and rededicate ourselves to these manly goals.

AF Academy Marks 10th Anniversary

The United States Air Force Academy celebrated its 10th birthday Apr. 1.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the bill a decade ago, some 35 years after military air power was significantly proven in the battlefields over Europe in World War I.

The first class of 306 cadets were sworn in July 11, 1955 at Lowry AFB in Denver and produced its first academy graduates in 1959. Present cadet wing is about 2,500 with 800 new cadets entering the academy every year.

The U.S. Air Force Academy boasts the nation's first undergraduate laboratory of astronautics where cadets learn how missiles and satellites are built, launched, powered and controlled. There are concentrated studies in space technology and planetary trajectories.

Speaking at a recent Founder's Day banquet honoring graduates of the U.S. Military Academy, Maj. Gen. Robert H. Warren, Air Force Academy superintendent, said that the newest of America's military institutions offers a proud and rewarding future for those who graduate and become officers in the U.S. Air Force.

Citing the Academy record of scholastic excellence, General Warren noted that in the past three years Academy students have taken the graduate record examination, and ranked second twice and last year placed first in the nation.

The oldest living graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy is only 30 years old. Since its establishment in 1954, the academy has graduated 5 classes and now has 1,500 alumni on active duty in the U.S. armed forces, some of whom are serving now in Viet Nam.

SPEAKING OF * CUSTOMS...



"CUSTOMS MAY NOT BE AS WISE AS LAWS, BUT ARE ALWAYS MORE POPULAR!"

...DISRAELI

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

Man Or Dreamer?

By Chaplain (Lt.) ERNEST A. DOLLAR, USN

Often in our daydreaming we visualize a wishful ideal for our life. However, when we awake to the brutal facts of life, most often we say, "What's the use, after all it's impossible to gain that goal for my life."

The Marine Corps has an ideal for its recruits and it stops at nothing short of a Marine who can handle his weapon properly, meet the physical requirements, and fight the enemy successfully. The enemy they are trained to fight is only the visual and not the greater invisible enemy. Their goal of life is temporal, not the eternal life.

It has been said a man must be four square all round, upright and a yard wide. But Our Lord Jesus Christ gave us a command for our life in Matthew, Chapter 16, when He said, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross."

When we meet this standard then men will marvel over our successes and take notice that in reality we are a man not a dreamer.

Freedoms Foundation

'64 Letter-Writing Contest To Focus On Voting Rights

Valley Forge, Pa. (AFPS) — Officials of the Freedoms Foundation Letter Awards Program for Armed Forces members have announced that the 1964 contest will focus on voting, under the theme, "My Vote: Freedom's Privilege."

Competition for the \$1,000 first prize and 100 other cash prizes totaling \$7,500 opens April 1 and closes November 1. All members of the Armed Forces on active duty are eligible to enter.

Cash awards include 50 of \$100 each and 50 of \$50 each. A George Washington Honor Medal will go with each cash award, and a number of medals will go to top entries that fall short of cash awards, it was announced.

Letters must be limited to 500 words. Each entry must include full name, rank or serial number, branch of service, military address and home address. Type or write plainly on one side of paper only. Entries should be sent to Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa.

Letters entered in the competition must be non-partisan in approach, and

should stress the American heritage of freedom. Letters should discuss the responsibility of all Americans, including those in uniform, to vote intelligently — after they have studied issues and candidates, officials said.

Five top winners will be invited to Washington for the Presidential Inauguration, one each for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. There they will receive their cash awards and medals and meet top officials of their respective services, as well as U.S. Senators from their home states.

Winners of the next five awards will be invited here on George Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22, 1965, to receive their awards. They will then go to Washington for visits with top officials and trips to historic sites.

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PURPLE HEART WINNER— Sp4 Robert S. Darling, a radio teletype crew chief in the 39th Signal Battalion receives the Purple Heart Medal from the battalion commander, Maj. Leo White. Darling, from Duluth, Minn., was wounded in a recent Viet Cong terrorist bombing.

HONOR ROLL

BRONZE STAR

MEDAL

Third Award

Maj. John P. Lamond
MSgt. Frank H. Erben

Second Award

Capt. Andrew P. O'Meara Jr.
1st Lt. James H. Fox
1st Lt. Phillip M. Werbiski

First Award

Lt. Col. Leo J. Farber
Lt. Col. Alvan C. H. dley Jr.
Maj. Robert M. Bayless
Maj. Vernon W. Carlson
Maj. Peter G. Grassner
Maj. William H. Jefferson
Maj. Robert H. Kies
Maj. David L. Lindsey
Maj. Jack B. McGurk
Maj. Durward F. Williams
Capt. Paul A. Brun
Capt. David H. Helela
Capt. Albert A. Lamphere
Capt. Fred G. Logan
Capt. Paul C. Oge
MSgt. Hobart J. Nantz Jr.
SFC Alexander A. Bjornstal
SFC Andrew R. Zimmer
MSgt. Robert J. Gibbs
SFC Roy Dennis
SFC Alexander S. Doule
SFC Harold O. Griffith Jr.
SFC John Morris
SFC Claude Neal
Sgt. George C. Dowle
Capt. Paul J. Osborne
Capt. John C. Rogers
Capt. Ronald J. Shea
Capt. Thomas A. Stoy
Capt. Harold Woodman
Capt. Chester C. Zebroski
1st Lt. Benjamin D. Gibbons
1st Lt. Richard N. McInerney
1st Lt. Fred E. Redd
1st Lt. Ronald H. Routh
1st Lt. Alfred L. Sachse
WO William A. Chadwick
MSgt. Leo Blevins
MSgt. Joseph L. Brun
MSgt. William R. Farver
MSgt. Robert J. Gibbs
SFC Roy Dennis
SFC Alexander S. Doule
SFC Harold O. Griffith Jr.
SFC John Morris
SFC Claude Neal
Sgt. George C. Dowle
Sp5 Jerzy Gruzewski

PURPLE HEART

Second Award

Capt. Ralph C. Thomas
SFC Johnny V. Bramblett

First Award

Capt. Stephen K.H. Aayong
Capt. Franklin W. Collins
1st Lt. John L. Hiti
1st Lt. Hershell B. Murray
MSgt. Edward R. Johnson
SFC Harry E. Way
SFC Louis A. Schindler

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN

BADGE

Third Award

Maj. Carl A. Oja
SFC James L. Johnson
MSgt. Ernest L. Watson

Second Award

SFC Henry H. Delano
Maj. Richard E. Mack
Maj. Edward L. Zuber
Capt. Richard D. Waite
MSgt. Andrew Bumpers
SFC William C. Sindledacker

MSgt. George J. Paulshock
Maj. William E. Johnson Jr.
Maj. George A. Millener Jr.
Maj. Hartwin R. Peterson
Capt. Glenn T. Eure
SFC Calvin J. Bowlin
MSgt. Ronald L. Weaver

First Award

Maj. John D. Bethea
Maj. Victor E. Chandler
Maj. Albert Elias
Capt. Charles D. Burnette
Capt. Alton B. Parker Jr.
Capt. Fielding L. Tyler
Capt. Vernon R. Whitley Jr.
1st Lt. Shon Castillo Jr.
SFC Richard B. Alford
SFC Samuel G. Near
SFC Samuel G. Tiller Jr.
SSgt. Lathaniel A. Cranford
Sp5 John R. Binghamon
Sp4 Emilio Montez
Capt. Roosevelt M. Goode Jr.
Capt. Alfred E. Horlitz
Capt. Anthony W. La Caprucia
Capt. Roscoe W. Webber Jr.
1st Lt. James W. Price
SFC Joseph J. Caruso
SFC Leonard Harding
Capt. Francis X. Harrison
Capt. David B. Sain
SFC William M. Bevel Jr.
PFC Andrew E. Petroski Jr.
Maj. James E. Bagley III
1st Lt. Frank S. Reese
SFC Calvin D. Thompson
Capt. Thomas B. Barton
Capt. Vernon G. Doniphan
Capt. Donald B. Smith Jr.
Capt. Joseph A. Villa
1st Lt. Charles L. Boss Sr.
1st Lt. Joe K. Hallum
1st Lt. John H. Mack
1st Lt. Ralph G. Redmond
1st Lt. Joseph R. Regelski
1st Lt. Morris G. Strickland
1st Lt. Robert M. Tarbet Jr.
SFC Harry I. Barnett
SFC Thayer E. Bennefield
SFC Gilbert J. Binkley
MSgt. Joseph W. Brooks
PFC Lee A. Bertman

AIR MEDAL

Fourteenth Award

1/Lt Roger E. Gauvin (posthumously)
(Twelfth Award)

Sp5 Carleton W. Upton (posthumously)

Does Uncle Sam Owe You Travel Pay?

Washington (ANF) — Active duty and former members of the Armed Forces will benefit from a new law which opens the way for filing travel claims.

Public Law 88-238 is the basis for authority to pay claims for travel performed on a previous change of station order. Under this law, service personnel whose orders were canceled or modified while they were on leave or enroute to a new station may be reimbursed.

Formerly, a member was entitled only to travel reimbursement from his old duty station to the new station even though he may have traveled hundreds of miles in the wrong direction, unaware of a change.

The period covered extends from October 1, 1949, to December 23, 1963, date of the legislation. Deadline for filing is December 22, 1964.

Details and assistance can be obtained from the Finance Office or Personnel Office of any military installation.

Unclaimed Mail

The following individuals have unclaimed mail at the main APO according to a release made by Lt. Edward O. De Bary, postal officer, Det. 1, 11th Air Postal Sqdn.

Ray Alexander
Col. Paul L. Bogan
F.S. Besson
Sgt. Martin E. Brundley
Maj. Niven J. Baird
PFC Harry Bilbrey
CMCM Ralph B. Brumwell
Sp4 Ronald G. Caldwell
Col. Andrew Cox
Jessie C. Cultillas
Capt. Julian D. Dussell
Pear De Silva
Stephen M. Dunagan
ABH2 M. G. Flores
Boyette Findley
Lt. J.H. Hall
SFC Harold R. Lewis
Maj. Thomas McLean
Sgt. Wilfred L. Phillips
Sp4 Willie J. Shankle
PFC John T. Wilson Jr.
Dr. John E. Gee

Weather Eye

April is the hottest month — according to past records — with the mean maximum temperature up to 94° and an all time maximum of 104° for Saigon. The average monthly minimum is up to 77° while lowest temperature for April is 67°.

The average relative humidity is 75%.

Cloud cover averages 59% for the month. Rainfall averages 2.1 inches, with a maximum of 7 inches. The lowest total is less than .05 inch. The greatest amount in one day was 3.5 inches.

An average of three days with precipitation occurs in April. There are an average of three days with thunderstorms. That about covers it for April.



By SSgt. Bob Reid
USAF

KEEPING UP WITH THINGS — We woke up sharp as a tack Wednesday. One of the first things that happened to us was this little kid, see, who said there's a bug on your shirt and we said no there ain't, thereby ruining a perfectly good April Fool's joke.

But we didn't know what the day had in store for us. They were all out to get us, a giant conspiracy of April Fool's jokes on a colossal scale.

First guy we run into tells us that they are gonna bring in 50,000 U.S. troops. We perked up, thinking we had stumbled onto the story of the year. Turns out that he has misread a newspaper, and was only referring to the troops to be added to the Vietnamese Army. April Fool.

We then tried our luck in the Navy Exchange. A guy had told us about a fabulous buy on a movie camera.

"We wanna buy a Canon 8EEE," we told the pretty salesclerk, eyeing the item in question on the shelf.

"We no have eight eeh, eeh, eeh," she replied sweetly.

"Of course you do," we said, nodding toward it.

"We never have eight eeh, eeh, eeh," she insisted.

"Okay," we answered, "than give us that plain old Canon there."

She handed us the 8EEE. "Number one camera," she generously offered her opinion.

"Right," we agreed, "eight eeh, eeh, eeh."

"Plain Canon," she smiled, staring at the label plain as day.

"Give us three rolls of film," we asked, giving up.

"Color?" she asked.

"No, black and white," we said.

"No have black and white," she said, "just color."

"Okay, give us color then." We surrendered. April Fool.

After lunch, back at the office, we discover that a reporter has taken off for the field with all his notes on a story for this edition. Won't be back until way past press time. We tell another reporter to try to fake it up.

"Fake it yourself," he says. April Fool.

On the street a cyclo driver spots us and bursts into song, grinning broadly... lovely white teeth, both of them. While staring at the cyclo driver, a taxi almost gets us. April Fool.

The only recourse is to try to recall the best April Fool joke we ever heard.

Concerns a bunch of the boys who were sitting around in an all night poker session one April 1st.

They took turns calling a buddy, starting at about 11 a.m. Every twenty minutes or so, throughout the night, one of them would call.

When the buddy answered the phone, the voice would ask, every time: "Is Joe There?" The buddy, of course, would say no, and go back to bed. He'd no sooner get to sleep when the phone would ring again: "Is Joe there?"

Finally, about four a.m., the poker group made their final call. The buddy picked up the phone and growled, "yeah."

And the innocent voice from the poker parlor said: "This is Joe. Any messages for me?"

* * *

NOTES IN OUR POCKETS — A guy tells us that a young Vietnamese girl, furnished him a piece of intelligence that should be immediately reported to the American Dental Association: "Kissing on the lips gives one cavities in the teeth." Sure it does, and holding hands causes skin cancer.

* * * *

A reader furnishes this week's slogan: "Why Do It Right The First Time? (You'll have to do it over again anyway.)" And our only comment is that these darn slogans are getting too close to the truth.

Junk Force: The Strangest War Arm



SENIOR ADVISOR— CDR. Jerome L. Ashcroft Jr. (right), Senior U.S. Navy Junk Force Advisor, chats with his counterpart LCDR. Khuong Huu Ba, Commander of the Vietnamese Junk Forces, while on a cruise aboard a command junk.

History Of VN Junk Forces

The Republic of Viet Nam Junk Force was established on 12 April 1960, as a para-military force which was to operate in inshore areas as directed by the Department of Defense.

The force began operating with a very limited number of junks, which in most cases were operated by fishermen without the benefit of military training.

A Junk Force Training Center was opened at Cam Ranh, where all recruit Junkmen receive an intensive three months basic training.

The mission of the Junk Force is three-fold:

...Preventing the incursion by sea route of those junks and boats jeopardizing the security and order of the Republic of Viet Nam.

...Conducting control over the movements and operation of junks and boats in prescribed areas.

...Providing assistance for

the Customs Agencies, Surety Agencies and Fishing Agencies in controlling smuggling, licensing junks and boats, and conducting census of fishermen.

"Junk Force" — one of the strangest war armadas in maritime history, is today in Viet Nam accomplishing one of the most significant tasks in the struggle against communist insurgency.

The boats consist of fishermen's junks of all description, armed with 50 and 30 caliber machine guns, and manned by as

tough a collection of men as ever South Seas.

At present numbers over of which more are power engines, capable up to 15 knots — mo are located in thern part of Nam — use sail

Because of quantity of war materiel bled in to the sea, the force is ized as a co sure and also communist sub tivity.

During the six months, the

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SFC HARRY B. MORGAN



ADVISOR AND COUNTERPART— Lt. Wesley A. Hoch and ENS. Tran Van Tam discuss technical aspect of weapon. Lieutenant Hoch was recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal with "V" (Valor) device for meritorious achievement while serving as advisor with Fourth Junk Force Coastal District.



CIVIC ACTION— Spreading goodwill, GMGI Joe T. Pritchard, Junk Force advisor, passes out candy in a small village on Phu Quoc Island. Junk advisors also administer medical aid and show movies during their stops along the coastline.



JUNK FORCE VISITOR— Maj. Gen. Charles J. Timmes, Chief, MAAG is greeted by Vietnamese naval officers during trip to the Fourth District Junk Force Headquarters, Phu Quoc Island, in the Gulf Of Siam.

OPERATION
side a Patrol
off the coast of
support junks

SPIT & PO
normally have
crew, depending
cooked on the

Canada In Naval History Suppresses VC

tion of crew-
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of South Viet
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counter-mea-
o to prevent
ubversive ac-

e past six
he Junk Force

has stopped and searched 145,472 boats, questioned 493,383 persons, and destroyed 29 Viet Cong facilities. A large amount of contraband, including narcotics, was also confiscated during the period.

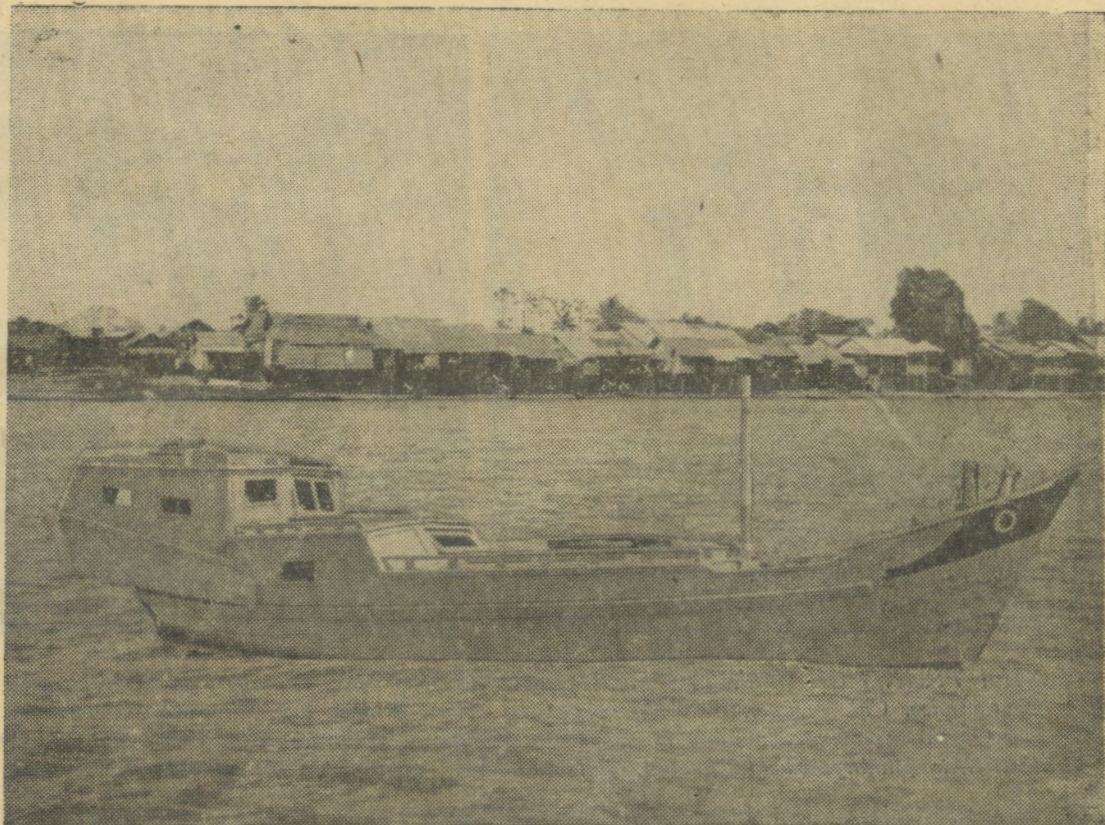
The force is divided into four naval districts with over 4,000 crewmen. Most of the men are former fishermen, capable of enduring the hardships of sea life in the tiny boats.

Assisting the Junk Force are U.S. Navy advisors from the MAAG Navy Section. These advisors spend most of their time at sea with their counterparts patrolling specific areas of operation. The

advisors also operate a goodwill Civic Action program in the small fishing villages along the entire coastline of Viet Nam.

To demonstrate how determined they are to rid the country of Viet Cong, most of the crewmen have the words "Sat Cong" (Kill the Communist) tattooed over their hearts, and the slogan is painted prominently on the district headquarters buildings.

Expressing his feelings about the junk crewmen, CDR. Jerome L. Ashcroft Jr. Senior U.S. Navy Advisor, states, "I think we have some of the best and most dedicated people in the country, and they are doing a tremendous job".



MOTORIZED JUNK— A typical command junk has marine engine for power, can cruise as fast as 15 knots with its 225 horsepower diesel engine. Some motorized junks, unlike one pictured here, also have sails to supplement engine.



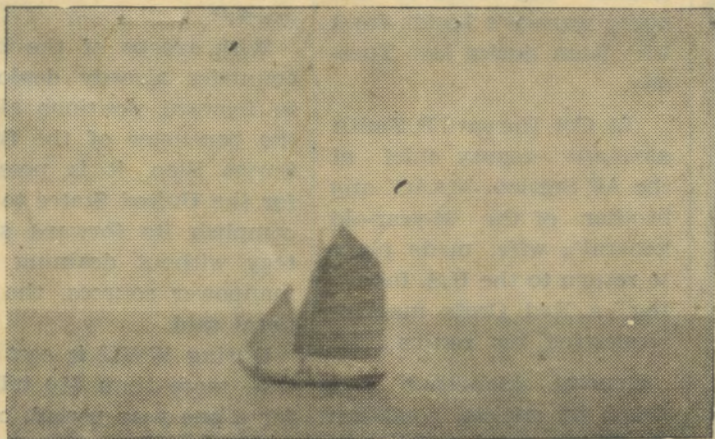
COMMAND JUNK— Command junk pulls along-craft prior to briefing on a junk operation off the Ca Mau Peninsula recently. Patrol crafts are in each of the four coastal districts.



PATROLLING COASTLINE— GMG1 Joe T. Pritchard (right) Navy Gunnery advisor, and crewmen patrol off the southern tip of Viet Nam. All boats and villages are searched for contraband and communist Viet Cong suspects. "Eye" painted on bow is to ward off evil sea spirits.



LIVING QUARTERS— Living quarters aboard a junk have four bunks. Six men comprise an average crew on the type of vessel. Chow is usually served at the stern, weather permitting.



SAIL JUNK— This version of naval junk relies solely on sailpower to cruise. The majority of sail junks are in the northern portion of country where winds are more gusty.



SEARCH— Junk force personnel board a civilian boat to search for war materials and check papers of crew for authenticity. Viet Cong have often attempted to use sea routes to smuggle in supplies.

45 New Pilots Join Fight Against Viet Cong



NHA TRANG GRADUATION CEREMONIES — (left photo) Viet-Nam Premier Maj. Gen. Nguyen Khanh (1) and Vietnamese Air Force Commander, Col. Nguyen Cao Ky salute the colors to open last Saturday's ceremonies. (Center photo) Maj. Richard E. Heflick, USAF Training and Operations officer, receives his honorary VNAF wings from Maj. Gen. Do Cao Tri, II Corps commander, while four other USAF instructors await their pinning. (Right photo), fellow VNAF officers pin the shoulder epaulets on the newly commissioned pilots.

Prime Minister Maj. Gen. Nguyen Van Khanh pinned VNAF wings on 45 observation pilots graduated last Saturday morning at the Nha Trang Air Base.

The newly graduated class, second group to be trained by MAAG, USAF Det. 921R, brings to date a total of 95 observation pilots graduated within the past seven months by the US-instructed fixed wing flying school in Viet Nam.

General Khanh pinned VNAF pilot wings on Lt. Vo Tong Loc, class valedic-

torian while Maj. Gen. Do Cao Tri, II Corps Commander, pinned honorary pilot's wings on Col. Leslie S. Cruikshanks, 921R Detachment Commander and four other USAF instructors.

The new observation pilots received 80 hours of flight instruction during the four-month course, with the first month devoted entirely to ground training. The newly graduated pilots will serve as liaison pilots and will fly unarmed Cessna U-17A Skywagons.

The Skywagon can carry

four passengers and two pilots. Powered by a 255 horsepower engine, the U-17A has a maximum speed of 176 mph and a range of 1235 miles.

General Khanh recalled that he received the wings of an observation pilot at Nha Trang ten years ago and that special regulations for the VNAF would be one of his major concerns.

The USAF training detachment, consisting of 25 officers and 85 enlisted men, are scheduled to phase out of the training school after the fourth class is graduated. Thereafter, the fixed wing training school will be operated entirely by the VNAF.

MAP Funds A Bargain: Foreign Troops Cost 10% Of U.S. Price

Washington — What is the average yearly cost of pay, allowances, subsistence and clothing for a U.S. serviceman?

The total is approximately \$4,340, according to General Robert J. Wood, Defense Department director of military assistance.

General Wood provided this figure as a comparative cost for soldiers from key countries receiving U.S. military assistance — Greece, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Thailand, the Republic of Viet Nam, South Korea and the Republic of China.

Military assistance to these countries "makes it possible for them to maintain a total military strength of over three-and-one-half million men in those areas against the Iron and Bamboo Curtains.

"The same cost for a soldier from any of these nine countries," General Wood explained, "averages less than 10 percent of that (\$4,340) figure — \$415 to be exact."

With troops of the nine countries already deployed in forward positions along the perimeter of the Sino-Soviet Bloc, it is possible for the United States to accomplish its forward strategy without draining our manpower sources, the general said.

During WWII it cost the U.S. more than \$80 billion for a one year period, compared to approximately \$1 billion spent annually on military assistance to these nine key countries.

Former Advisor Receives Bronze Star At Ft. Knox

Fort Knox, Ky. — Capt. Andrew P. O'Meara, Jr., has received the Bronze Star Medal here in recognition of his outstanding performance of duty as an advisor to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

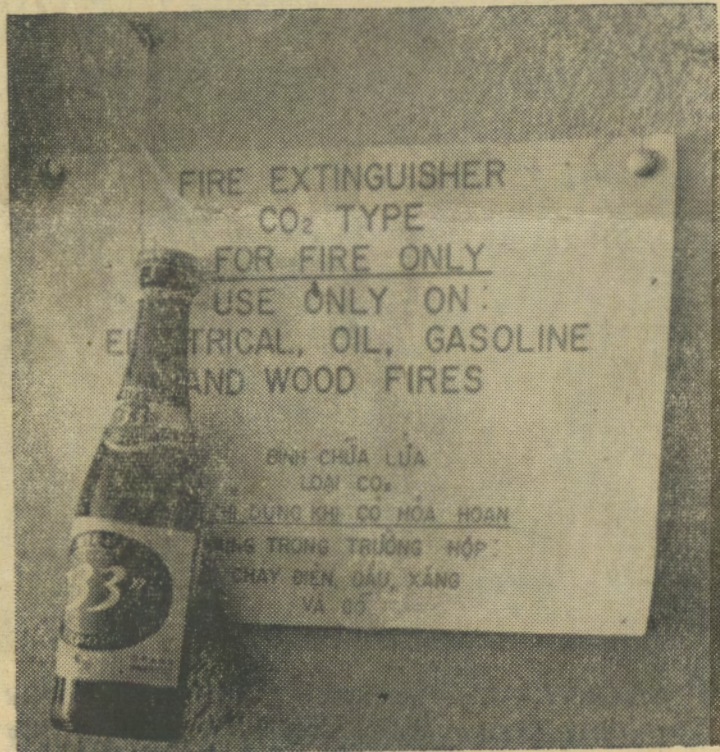
The award was bestowed at a retreat parade held here recently by units of the U.S. Army Training Center, Armor, where he is a commanding officer in the 1st Training Brigades, 2nd Battalion. The presentation was made by Col. William A. Knowlton, Commander of the Brigade.

Captain O'Meara returned from Viet Nam last August after having served 14 months as an advisor to a mechanized rifle troop conducting counter-insurgency operations.

A 1959 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, the captain is the son of Gen. Andrew P. O'Meara, Caribbean Commander-in-Chief.

Captain O'Meara has served in Europe with the 1st Cavalry's 2nd Medium Tank Battalion. He has had both Ranger and Airborne Training and has been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Crazy Captions



"And in case of earthquake... run!"

McArthur Kin In VN Flies To Bedside

The brother-in-law of critically ill Gen. Douglas McArthur was called to the aging warrior's bedside from Viet Nam duties last Tuesday.

Lt. Col. Harvard P. Smith, assistant deputy chief of the AF Section, MAAG, and brother of the 84-year-old general's wife, made plans to return to the U.S. following a Red Cross message requesting his return.

General McArthur was listed in critical condition by Walter Reed hospital in Washington following a third major operation within a month, last Sunday.

Roving Photographer

Man On The Street Picks The Pennant Winners

The national madness known as baseball takes over the United States — body and soul — on April 13, and there are as many baseball prognosticators around as there are fans.

With that in mind, our perpetual roving photographer roamed the streets this week trying to get a line on the 1964 season with the query:

In little more than a week, the major league baseball season will open in the States. Who do you think will win the National and American League pennants, and why?



YASH CONYERS

MSgt. Paul J. Yash, Maint. Advisor to the 514 Ftr. Sq. Air Force Sec. MAAG, ABAT 2 Bien Hoa, Phoenix, Arizona: "N.Y. Yankees! You can't go wrong on the Yankees."

Sgt. John M. Conyers, Marine Advisor, Navy Section, MAAG, Miami, Fla.: "If I knew that answer for certain I could get rich! But the Giants have improved their pitching, and might give the Dodgers a run for it... The Yanks, of course, in the American League, as always."



JOHNSON HORTON

SFC Silas D. Johnson, Operations and Intell. NCOIC, 118th Avn. Co. Black River Falls, Wisc.: "It is my belief that the Dodgers will win if only to save face and put Chicago again in the headline." (Editor's note to roving photog: "how's that again, chum?")

MSgt. Philip R. Horton, Armament Advisor for the 514th Ftr. Sq. Air Force Section Abat 2, Bien Hoa, Glendale, Ariz.: "Yanks and Dodgers again with Yankees winning in five games."

Capt. Bobby E. Bogard, Operations Officer, 118th Avn. Co. Air Mbl Lt., Little Rock, Arkansas: "In this



BOGARD KING

isolated spot it is very difficult to keep abreast of sporting events, I couldn't venture a guess?"

Yn 2 Larry E. King, Yeoman for Operations and Readiness Division, Navy Section MAAG, New Lexington, Ohio.: "Is Brooklyn still in the League? How did Ted Williams do last year? See? I really don't know that much about it, but I suppose one should stick with the champs: the Yanks and Dodgers."



(AFPS Feature)

The surprising number of Armed Forces members taking up the sport of curling must have as tough a time learning the sport's terminology as they do handling the equipment.

Not only do they push around 42-pound stones and wield funny-looking brooms, they must become familiar with an elaborate signaling system and know terms like in-turns, out-turns, takeouts, sweepouts, skip and pebbling, just to mention a few.

Curling resembles deck shuffleboard, only the pucks are king-sized and the game is much more scientific.

The game is played on an ice rink. Each team has four players and each team member delivers two stones, alternating with a member of the other team. Points are awarded to the team with stones inside a large circle and closest to the center of a small inner circle.

After all players on both teams have made their deliveries to complete one end (round) of play, one point is awarded for each stone inside the opponents' closest stone. The number of ends played in a game is decided before play begins but is usually from 8 to 10, except in championship play when 12 ends are most frequently played.

But that's not the half of it. Properly played, curling leaves no stone unturned. In this game precise spin on the puck-shaped stones — which have handles by which they are sent sliding — is of great importance. Spinning is necessary to get position by curving a stone around other stones and accounts for the terms in-turn, out-turn and take out.

Players man brooms to frantically sweep out a path in front of a spinning stone as it travels toward the circles. This causes static electricity on the ice, giving the shot greater distance. Pebbling is spraying a mist of water over the ice to make the surface faster.

SPORTS QUIZ

(AFPS Feature)

1. What is the fastest time recorded for a woman running the mile.
2. What is the record for the heaviest weight lift?
3. What country has won the most Olympic hockey titles?
4. What was the highest price ever paid for a race horse?
5. What was the height of the tallest race horse?

Answers to Quiz

1. Marise Ann Millicent ran a mile in 4 minutes 41.4 seconds, in 1935.
2. 6,000 pounds was lifted by Paul Anderson (U.S.) in 1957.
3. Canada; 6 times since 1930.
4. Nashua was sold for \$1,251,200 in 1955.
5. 18 hands (about 72 inches). The horse was American-bred, foaled in 1873.

Crystal Baseball

Military 'Experts' Pick Yanks, LA To Win In '64

New York — It'll be the New York Yankees and the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 1964 World Series!

That, at least, is the consensus of 252 Armed Forces sports editors who responded to the Armed Forces Press Service 1964 baseball poll, aimed at finding out how military "experts" pick the 20 major league teams to finish this season.

Voting on a point basis of 10 (for first), 9 (for second), 8 (for third), etc., for the 10 teams in each league, the voters made the Yankees an overwhelming favorite to take the American League pennant for the 5th straight year, but the National League Dodgers were on less firm ground.

The Yanks polled 202 votes for first in the American League, a percentage of .801. Defending world champion Los Angeles received 58 percent of the National League first-place votes — 147.

Behind the Dodgers, the military sports editors picked the San Francisco Giants (63 first-place votes), and figured that the Minnesota Twins (22 for first) would chase the Yanks home.

The balloting revealed that sports editors think the scrambles for the first division in each league will be close, just as they were

in 1963. The editors placed the teams this way:

American—Yanks, Twins, Detroit, Chicago, Baltimore, Boston, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Kansas City and Washington.

National — Dodgers, Giants, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Houston and New York.

Other noteworthy results in the poll include the choice of the Braves to finish fourth in the National League, ahead of the Reds and Phils who beat them out last year. The 1963 AL runner-up, Chicago, was dropped to fourth. And the cellar-dwelling Mets and Senators were given little hope of getting out.

Of the 252 ballots cast, 84 were Air Force, 83 Army, 68 Navy, 14 Marine Corps and 3 Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard did not agree with the four larger services, which were pretty much in agreement down the line. Coast Guard balloting picked the Giants and Twins to win pennants.

Armed Forces Press Service — 1964 Baseball Poll —

NATIONAL LEAGUE			AMERICAN LEAGUE		
Team	1st pl. votes	Total points	Team	1st pl. votes	Total points
1. Los Angeles	147	2397	1. New York	202	2455
2. San Francisco	63	2166	2. Minnesota	22	1935
3. St. Louis	31	1876	3. Detroit	10	1768
4. Milwaukee	2	1460	4. Chicago	6	1721
5. Cincinnati	6	1440	5. Baltimore	6	1498
6. Philadelphia	1	1212	6. Boston	1	1315
7. Pittsburgh	1	1203	7. Cleveland	2	1294
8. Chicago	1	1087	8. Los Angeles	3	1127
9. Houston	—	584	9. Kansas City	—	729
10. New York	—	437	10. Washington	—	389

Sports editors of 252 Armed Forces newspapers voted. Points compiled on a 10-9-8-7-6, etc., basis. Ballots received by services: Air Force (84), Army (83), Navy (68), Marine Corps (14), Coast Guard (3).



LEGION OF MERIT— Col. Allison G. Brooks, deputy commander of the 2nd Air Div. here, receives the Legion of Merit from Maj. Gen. Sam Maddux Jr., (r) commander of the 13th Air Force, during a recent visit of the latter to Viet Nam. Colonel Brooks received the award for outstanding achievement as commander of the 62nd Troop Carrier Wing at McChord AFB, Wash.

Four MAAG Units Hit 100% For ARC

Four more MAAG sections reported 100% participation — Hqs, MAAG; Hqs, USASEC; Compt. Div., and MAP Div. — as the ARC Fund Drive for 1964 moved into its final week Monday.

According to ARC Field Director W.W. Bruce, the Red Cross Gray Ladies will extend their volunteer work with the HSAS Naval Station Hospital. The volunteer workers, wives of military personnel, are composed of highly qualified women who have contributed thousands of hours of free volunteer work to the American Red Cross.

'Tickee For Turnee' At Saigon Red Light

Vehicles may no longer make right turns at red traffic lights in Saigon, the City Hall announced Monday.

In the past, the announcement said, police had been lenient in allowing the practice, but abuse of the privilege — such as pulling into the left lane to pass stopped cars and swing in front of them — has led to the crackdown.

▲ Dateline

(Continued from page 1) sorties.

The communists initiated 513 incidents, the majority of which were acts of terrorism, propaganda, and armed attacks, in that order.

Oops! Somebody Goofed!

Certain published reports have stated **The Observer** was in error in a story last week, the gist of which stated that personnel serving in Viet Nam are automatically granted an extension to June 15 to file their 1963 income tax returns.

The information came from the MACV Staff Judge Advocate's Office, and to our knowledge, was not in error.

What the story did not further state because the information was not furnished the paper, was that persons who owe more tax than that withheld from wages must pay interest, at the rate of 6% per annum on the portion owed, during the 60 day extension period.

DOD Orders Draft Of 12,000 In May

Washington — The Defense Department has asked the Selective Service System to provide 12,000 men in May for assignment to the Army.

The May draft call will bring the total number of inductees requested of Selective Service to 2,958,450 since September 1950.

The procurement objective for May, for men who have had no prior service, is 17,700. Twelve thousand of these will be provided by the draft.

SECRETARY



A LION— Telephone operator on MAAG's Lion switchboard is attractive Nguyen Thi Ngoc Nu, a 29-year old charmer. Born in Nha Trang and now living in Saigon, she has been plugging in telephones for MAAG for four months.

75% Meet Success Now

Importance Of Area Preference Statements Scored By MAAG

Enlisted Army MAAG personnel, grades E-1 to E-6, are reminded to completely fill out their 'area of preference' statements to insure maximum consideration of requested stateside assignments according to a Department of the Army announcement.

"Personnel serving in Viet Nam," said Maj. Howard F. Goldberg, Chief, Pers. Br., USASEC, MAAG, "have been averaging 75% success in requested army area preferences and also inter-theater transfers."

The 'area of preference' statement is an important factor in the determination of an assignment. However, there are other factors that are considered, including the requirements of the Army.

The individual's MOS and grade is checked against requirements in the requested area of preference. Certain specialists in the missile, medical, signal, ordnance, quartermaster, and transportation fields may be assigned only to specific posts in the U.S. because their specialty is employed at such installations.

According to Major Goldberg, all Army MAAG personnel get their statements four months before their rotation date. Senior enlisted personnel, grades E-7 to E-9, can fill out their statements as early as two months after their arrival in the command.

Enlisted personnel promoted from E-6 to E-7 must fill out another preference statement, since their status changes and their assignments are released directly by Department of the Army. Personnel who have any questions regarding their statements may write directly to CWO Norwood W. Kratzer, Chief, Enlisted Rec. Sec., USA

SEC, MAAG.

"All personnel are cautioned to answer the special qualification data," emphasized Major Goldberg, "so that special skills can be considered in getting the individual's choice. In the event of a change of preference caused by personal hardship problems, the individual must notify MAAG personnel so that an adjustment can be made immediately."

Control of assignments for senior enlisted personnel in grades E-7, E-8 and E-9 is the responsibility of the Senior Enlisted Control Branch (SECB) of the Enlisted Personnel Directorate, Office of Personnel Operations, Department of the Army.

Assignment procedures have been improved since the establishment of the Senior Enlisted Control Branch in July 1962. To broaden the careers of senior enlisted personnel and to relieve an imbalance in certain MOS's during FY 63 and the first half of FY 64, DA directed the reclassification of 1418 personnel into other MOS's to fill specific requirements. As a result, some were given formal school training enroute to their new assignments.

According to Major Goldberg, personnel who are wounded in Viet Nam and acquire physical limitations that are specifically identified are reassigned after a careful review of the physical limitations against the requirements of the new assignment.

R & R SCHEDULE

April 1964

Date of Departure/Return	Passenger Check-in TSN	Spaces Available
TO HONG KONG		
* 7-12 Apr.	0800-0830	36
** 11-15 Apr.	0800-0830	36
* 13-18 Apr.	0800-0830	36
** 21-26 Apr.	0800-0830	36
* 28 Apr.-3 May	0800-0830	36
** 29 Apr.-4 May	0800-0830	36
TO BANGKOK		
9-14 Apr.	0500-0530	36
17-22 Apr.	0500-0530	36
25-30 Apr.	0500-0530	36
TO NHA TRANG		
17-20 Apr.	0600-0630	36
24-27 Apr.	0600-0630	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.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

From :

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HQ MAAG USASEC-Log Div.
APO 143, San Francisco, Calif.



TO :

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Floresville, Texas 78114