

The Observer

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For U.S. Forces In Viet Nam

Volume III, No 1

SAIGON, VIET NAM

May 9, 1964

Dateline Viet Nam 'Worst' Air Crash Kills 10 Americans, 6 Vietnamese

Ten Americans were among 16 military personnel killed Tuesday morning in the crash of a U.S. Army CV2 Caribou at the Tan Hiep airfield, 25 miles southwest of Saigon.

The accident occurred immediately after takeoff.

One source reported that the pilot had radioed shortly before the crash that he had an engine on fire. However, it was not immediately determined if the cause of the crash was ground fire or mechanical.

Six of the dead were Vietnamese servicemen.

There were no survivors. According to an official military spokesman, the wreckage of the plane was scattered over a wide area, and identification of the victims was very difficult.

The military spokesman termed the mishap the worst single air disaster of the Vietnamese war.

The plane normally carries a crew of four. The craft was stationed at Vung Tau, and was on the way back to Saigon on a twice-weekly "milk run" from Tan Son Nhut, to Tan Hiep, to Ben Tre, to Moc Hoa, to Tan Hiep and return to Tan Son Nhut.

Cause of the crash is under investigation.

Elsewhere, a U.S. military spokesman revealed that Viet Cong casualties increased significantly in the weekly period ending Tuesday. The insurgents suffered 580 killed and 60 captured, compared to 225 total casualties the previous week. Eighty weapons were seized, compared to 55 the week before. ARVN losses were also up, with 100 killed, 410 wounded and 20 missing, as opposed to 390 total casualties the week before. Friendly weapon losses were down significantly to 90, from 200 the previous week.

The statistics show that over 5 VC were killed for each government fatality in

action.

U.S. casualties last week were one killed and 18 wounded.

A major operation along the Kontum/Quang Ngai provincial border about 300 miles north of Saigon continued this week, with VC casualties to date listed as 56 killed and 15 captured, as well as two who surrendered. Dubbed 'Operation Quyet Thang 202' the operation is designed to destroy the Viet Cong Do Xa stronghold.

Considerable military equipment, installations and food have been seized.

Last Saturday in Hau Nghia province about 25 miles west of Saigon, an ARVN company reinforced by a Civil Guard platoon were removing a Viet Cong roadblock when they were ambushed by an estimated Viet Cong battalion.

The communists were deployed along both sides of

(Continued on page 8)

Terrorist Grenade Wounds 8 Americans

Five U.S. officers and three enlisted men were wounded last Saturday evening at 6:55 when a terrorist riding a bicycle hurled a hand grenade on Bach Dang Quay St. across from the My Canh floating restaurant.

Four of the officers, all captains assigned to MAAG, were headed for dinner at the My Canh, while the other group, a lieutenant and three enlisted men on temporary duty with the 121st Avn. Co., had just finished dining at the floating restaurant.

The wounded soldiers were brought to the Naval Station Hospital. Three of the victims were released Sunday and one evacuated to Clark AB hospital in the Philippines. The remaining four soldiers in the hospital are reported in good condition.

Wounded were Captains Jack T. Gordon (Cleveland, Ohio); Thomas G. Stanton (Cheraw, S.C.); William F. Sietman Jr. (Green Cove Springs, Fla.) and Evan F. Holland (Baltimore, Md.).

1st Lt. Hector T. Dittamo (West Patterson, N.J.); SSgt. Ireneo S. Mayo (Pangasinan, Philippines); Sp4 John W. Arnett (Jefferson, Ind.) and PFC Joseph G. Gustafson (Bayfield, Wis.).



USNS CARD AFTER EXPLOSION
On bottom of Saigon River.

Explosion Rips 'Jeep' Carrier; Settles To Bottom Of Saigon River

A powerful explosion ripped the hull of a converted escort carrier in Saigon harbor last Saturday morning, sending the ship to the bottom of the Saigon River.

The ship, the USNS Card, manned by a civilian crew, went to the bottom in 48 feet of water, with the main portion of the ship still above the surface.

According to the second mate, Raymond Arbon, who was on gangway watch at the time, the blast occurred shortly after 5 a.m. on the starboard side below the water line, directly under the gangway. Fifty-nine of the 73 man crew was on board at the time. No one was injured.

The captain, Borge Langeland, 49, told reporters "it was apparently an outside explosion."

The Card, converted to a transport ship, had hauled a load of helicopters to Saigon and had on-loaded repairable CH-21 helicopters. It was due to sail at 10 a.m. Saturday, just five hours after the explosion.

Captain Langeland said the ship could be refloated and repaired, but the work would probably take several months. A crew of naval divers was at work on the

damage Monday morning.

The Card was berthed at Pier 13 along the Saigon commercial pier area. The area is restricted and patrolled by ARVN troops.

The explosion occurred on the starboard side of the ship, the side against the pier.

The Card's normal draught is 24 feet, and it settled 24 more feet to the bottom following the blast.

Salvage Ship Here To Assist 'Card'

USS Reclamer, a Pearl Harbor-berthed salvage ship arrived Monday afternoon to repair the damaged USNS Card, sunk last Saturday in the Saigon Harbor.

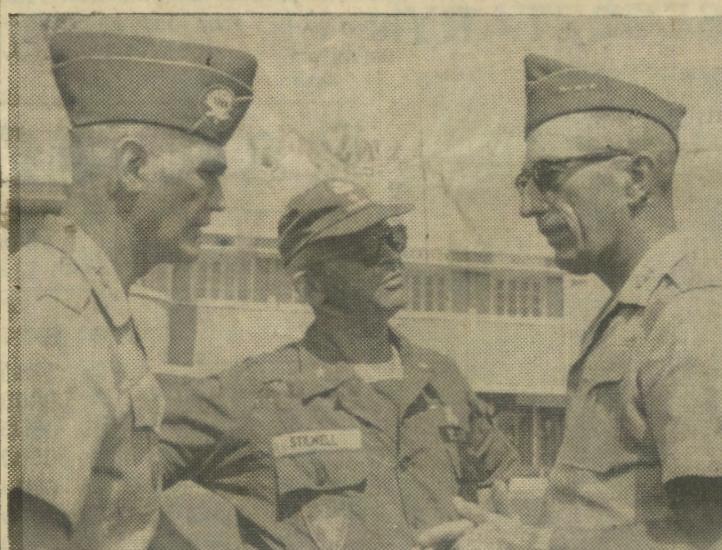
The salvage ship is equipped with high capacity salvage pumps, rigging gear and is also equipped with tugging gear. Dewatering operations on the USS Card will start after her hull is patched.

Destroyer 'Swenson' Docks In Saigon

The 7th Fleet destroyer, USS Lyman K. Swenson (DD 729) arrived in Saigon Monday on a routine operational mission.

It carries a crew of 20 officers and 260 enlisted men.

The ship was scheduled to remain in the capital two days.



DEPUTY CINCUSARPAC— Lt. Gen. James K. Woolnough, (right) is welcomed at Tan Son Nhut by Lt. Gen. William C. Westmoreland, (left) Dep. COMUSMACV and Brig. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, USASCV Commander, (center). Upon his arrival last week, General Woolnough conferred with top U.S. and Vietnamese military officials during his three-day visit.

More M.P.'s Possible For Saigon Security

Two military police units, withdrawn last December, may be returned to Viet Nam for security of Americans.

Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs William Bundy made the announcement earlier this week in Washington, saying it was "possible" they may be sent back.

**OBSERVER Begins
Third Year
Of Publication
(See Page 4)**

The Observer

"Comment is free but facts are sacred."

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STAFF

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE 1st Lt. Richard W. Emmert EDITOR SSgt. Bob Reid

EDITORIAL

Right To Choose Employment Is Hallmark Of Free Economy

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

A man's job — or a woman's — is a lot more important than the money it brings in.

This may be the first reason we give as to why we work: To pay for food, a place to live, clothing, education...all the expenses of living a decent American way of life.

But deep inside all of us, if we will but take a moment for contemplation, is the feeling that it is the job itself...the accomplishment...that rewards us beyond wages.

Work is the way man proclaims his worth.

Work, is the way man justifies the living room he takes up on the planet.

Work, the small voice reminds, is the expression of thanks for the talents you have and for the opportunity to use them to make this a better life.

It matters little whether the calling is considered high or low. The sense of usefulness can be the same if one examines closely how his or her job fits into the grand design of the American way of life.

What matters much, however, is the right to work in callings and localities of our choice.

This is one of the basic rights of free Americans, stemming from the Founding Father's fundamental concern for the dignity and freedom of the individual.

The right to change jobs, to go somewhere else to look for work if one so chooses, is so basic that many Americans probably take it for granted as too many take other aspects of our heritage of freedom for granted.

But millions of human beings don't have this simple freedom. Can you imagine a toiler in a Communist Chinese commune, or even in a Soviet or satellite state-owned factory, going up to the boss and saying, "I'm chucking this job for a better one?"

In America, the relationship between employee and employer suggests another right with which we have embellished the older right to work in callings and localities of our choice.

This is the right to bargain with our employers and employees.

Laws establishing the rights of labor and management are the outgrowth of our dynamic economy. But even they, in their modern dress, still stem from the basic American concern for the dignity and freedom of the individual.

This legislation is based on the old and revered American concept that a man's — or a woman's — job is important, and that the freedom of choice surrounding it must be protected from those who would exploit workers, voiceless and en masse.

MACV Names New Insp. Gen.

Col. George Juskalian, IV Corps Dep. Sr. Advisor for the past eight months, was recently named Inspector General for the Military Assistance Command, Viet Nam.

A two-time winner of the Silver Star medal and combat veteran of World War II and the Korean War, Colonel Juskalian served as assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, 4th Logistical Command, Verdun, France.

The 49-year-old paratrooper also holds the Bronze Star Medal w/2 OLC and the Combat Infantryman Badge with one star. A journalism graduate from Boston University, Colonel Juskalian is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Armed Forces Staff College.

Unclaimed Mail

The following personnel have unclaimed mail at the main APO in the Commissary Compound, according to a release made by Capt. Norman R. Vitez, CO, Det. 1, 11th Air Postal Sqdn.

Capt. Fred A. Ant
Sgt. Gary L. Allen
Sgt. George Burke
Mr. Melvin Burkett
Pvt. Ralph W. Catchings
Mr. Peer De Silva
Maj. John L. Daniels
Capt. Daniel L. Dawson
Capt. Terry P. Eymard
Sgt. Joseph E. Fields
Sgt. Grady Gaskill
Mr. Alfred M. Huet
WO Jerry D. Hill
Capt. Carlton J. Holland
MSgt. Marvin D. Holland
Sgt. Donald D. Johnson
PFC Joseph Koshi
Capt. Antonio L. L'Heureux
CWO Claude G. McKee
Mr. Bobby L. Morris
Pvt. Richard G. Nienhaus
Sgt. Clyde O. Nesbitt
T Sgt. Josephy E. Nickerson
Sgt. Harold L. Price
Sgt. Earl I. Rash
WO Bobbie G. Ross
SFC Johnny A. Trujillo
Sgt. James A. Whitener
SFC R. F. Ziemer

SECRETARY



VIVACIOUS — Mrs. Nguyen Thi Kim Sam, a native of Da Nang, is a clerk-typist for the I Corps MAAG. The 24-year-old employee has been with MAAG for the past two years.

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

Mother's; Write Them

By Chaplain (Maj. JOHN) W. FRITTS, USA

All of us owe a great debt to our mothers because from them came our earliest spiritual nurture as well as our earliest physical nurture.

J. Edgar Hoover says: "As a small boy I sat at my mother's knee while she read the Bible to me and explained its' meaning with stories as we went along. It served to make the bond of a faith between us much stronger. Those wonderful sessions left me an imprint of the power of faith and the power of prayer which has sustained me in trying moments throughout my entire life."

With each of us it has been a special story because of the uniqueness of each mother, but for all of them we can be thankful and show our thanks to them by respect, loyalty and consideration.

Just as surely as we have received spiritual and physical care and nurture from mothers we have gained one other thing, an idea of what should be our relationship to our wives and sweethearts.

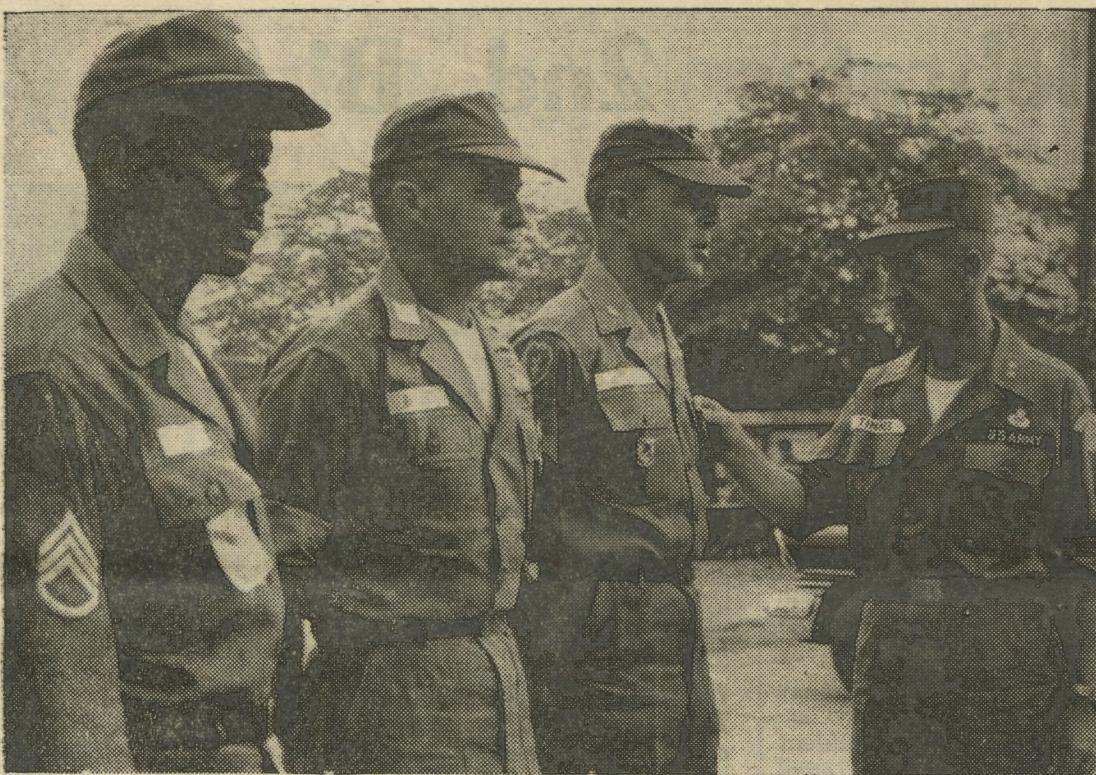
They, too, have shown us respect, loyalty and consideration. They are entitled to receive the same from us. A serviceman far away from home should place these ideas into action by returning respect, loyalty and consideration. Write to them this time of the year, make it something special for very special people.



SUBMARINE FORCE COMMANDER — Rear Adm. Bernard A. Clarey, (right) newly designated Dep. Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet, is greeted by Maj. Gen. Richard G. Weede, Chief of Staff, MACV, (left) upon his arrival at Tan Son Nhut. Admiral Clarey, presently U.S. Commander of the Pacific Fleet's Submarine Force, arrived in Viet Nam Apr. 27, for a three-day familiarization tour.

R & R SCHEDULE

Date of Departure/Return	Passenger Check-in TSN	Spaces Available
TO HONG KONG		
** 15-21 May	0800-0830	36
* 17-23 May	0800-0830	36
** 20-26 May	0800-0830	36
* 22-28 May	0800-0830	36
** 25-30 May	0800-0830	36
* 27 May-2 Jun	0800-0830	36
** 29 May-4 Jun	0800-0830	36
TO BANGKOK		
12-18 May	0500-0530	36
TO NHA TRANG		
15-18 May	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.		



GENERAL TIMMES DECORATES 9TH DIVISION MAAG ADVISORS
Honored (l to r) Sergeant Ellis, Captain Brant and Major McGowan.

9th Division Advisors Presented Awards

In a recent visit to the MAAG Detachment of the 9th Inf. Div., at Saigon Maj. Gen. Charles J. Timmes, Chief, MAAG presented awards to three advisors.

Maj. Robert S. McGowan, Sector Advisor, was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" device; Capt. Ernest E. Brant, Infantry Advisor, was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge and Purple Heart medal; and SSgt. Robert F. Ellis, Medical Advisor, was presented the Purple Heart medal.

Major McGowan was cited for valor for his action last Sept. 1963. When the 27th Civil Guard Bn., which he was then advising, was attacked by a VC battalion, Major McGowan, although wounded, assisted his ARVN counterpart in deploying troops and bringing fire upon the enemy.

He exposed himself in waving away helicopters which had begun to land in an area which was under heavy enemy fire, and later he was instrumental in the successful withdrawal of the friendly forces under cover of darkness.

Major McGowan also holds the Bronze Star and Purple Heart from Korean actions, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Korean service medal.

Captain Brant was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Purple Heart for wounds he received from a grenade explosion during an action with his battalion. He holds two Bronze Stars for valor and is a senior parachutist.

Sergeant Ellis was awarded the Purple Heart for

wounds he received while operating with a MEDCAP team in Vinh Binh province. Sergeant Ellis was also wounded by a grenade explosion.

JFK Savings Bond Sales Begin May 1

Washington (AFPS) — A \$75 Series E U.S. Savings Bond, bearing the likeness of the late President John F. Kennedy, was scheduled to go on sale May 1, 1964. Purchase price of the bond is \$56.25.

Beneath the portrait of the late President on the bond will be these words from his inaugural address: "Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country."

Viet Nam Newsmen Win Pulitzer Prize

Veteran newsmen Malcolm Browne of the Associated Press and David Halberstam of the New York Times shared honors for the coveted Pulitzer prize for international reporting in 1963, Columbia University announced Monday.

The two reporters were cited for their outstanding on-the-spot coverage of the war in Viet Nam and the overthrow of the Diem government.

HONOR ROLL

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1st Lt. Martin S. Kuchesky "V"
PURPLE HEART

First Award

1st Lt. Edward M. McDonald
1st Lt. Roger W. Zailskas

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Fourth Award

Maj. Lawrence M. D. Menkens
Lt. Col. John O. Ensor
Maj. Matt B. Sims Jr.

Third Award

Capt. Carlos W. Guisinger
Maj. James F. Martzke
Capt. Fredrick H. Borneman
MSgt. Robert J. Woolverton

Second Award

Maj. James J. Harrison
Capt. John D. Imhof
Capt. Jones Taylor
SFC Robert E. Black
SFC Louis J. Kochanec
Lt. Col. James Castrale
Lt. Col. Robert O. Mitchell
Maj. LeRoy Jorgensen
Maj. Thomas H. Qualy
Capt. Kenneth A. Jolemore
Capt. Edmund J. Sieminski
1st Lt. Leroy H. Olander Jr.
MSgt. William C. Amans
SFC James Johnson
Capt. James Paradise Jr.
Capt. James W. Poarch Jr.
Capt. Gilbert A. Polk
Capt. Donald W. Pulisifer
Capt. Warren A. Samouch
Capt. Donald F. Tandy
1st Lt. Byron C. Stone
1st Sgt. William D. Kennedy
MSgt. Lester G. Dabson
MSgt. Francis Lawson
SFC Emil E. Ball
SFC Nicklos Petrovich
SFC Coleman Thomason
Sgt. John Chickaul
Sgt. William R. Killingsworth
Sgt. James A. Jenks
Sgt. Melvin J. Skaleski
PFC Arthur O. Terwilliger

First Award

Maj. Richard D. Boyd
Maj. Richard R. Cook
Maj. James W. Grimes
Maj. George R. Swilley
Capt. Gordon B. Frank
Capt. Franklin C. Harris
2nd Lt. Robert A. Nelson
WO Billy J. Southern
MSgt. Carlos Garcia
SFC Harrison J. Faust
Sgt. Ernest P. Cerdas
Sgt. Charles F. Crisp
Sgt. Manuel T. Amaral
Lt. Col. Myles M. McManus
Maj. Forest J. Dicus
Maj. Robert J. Kelly
Maj. Dewey M. Lowe
Maj. Clement J. O'Neill
Maj. Robert J. Raim
Maj. Ramon C. Reed
Maj. Nick Scarpa
Capt. James E. Anderson Jr.
Capt. Leonard E. Carter
Capt. Harvey M. Dick
Capt. Paul W. Humphrey
Capt. Arlyn R. Madsen
Sgt. Armando Garcia-Vishal

POCKETFUL of NOTES

By SSgt. Bob Reid
USAF

KEEPING UP WITH THINGS — We hate to spoil your day, but we're back again, after a three week bout with dengue fever, or something. It's got a funny name, but that's where the humor ends. Better you should be bit by a rattlesnake. Less painful.

But even greater tragedy has been lurking in the pages of the daily newspapers. Dick Tracy quit! Cold, just like that. After 31 years working with Pat Patton he upped and walked out, without so much as cleaning out his desk.

You all know why. Junior's on the moon with Moon Maid, who is a good-looking dish, except that she has horns, but all the other equipment seems normal and well placed. And we couldn't expect Junior to remain 15 years old forever, could we, sport? Of course, not: he's 17 now.

Well, Dick didn't think he was yet old enough for girls, and tried to put the knock on the romance with Moon Maid, and Junior and the horned babe purloined Diet Smith's space coup and made the scene.

What we think really happened is that Junior was getting too chummy with Little Orphan Annie, who has also been about 15 years old for several decades. Sandy, who has to be the oldest dog in history, got wind of the romance, and went arf-ing to Tracy, who threatened to arrest Daddy Warbucks right out of the old people's home.

But what we really want to know, what is Chester Gould planning for Tracy now? Will he turn him into an embittered private eye, a la Mickey Spillane, to go around blasting people with a laser ray? (A .45 is much too archaic for Tracy.) Or will Dick become a business tycoon as the leading dealer in wrist televisions?

Or maybe, heaven forbid, Gould plans on killing Tracy off!!

After he cleans out his desk, naturally.

NOTES IN OUR POCKETS — The Marines in Da Nang have donated 5,000 pounds of cement to a Catholic orphanage there to build additional dormitories. Another goodwill gesture from a team that always seems busy in people-to-people projects.

Two mystifying telephone calls came in this week. The first one was a gent wanting to know if we had taken a picture of a group of VC standing around a sand table with a plan of a hamlet they were about to attack thereon. We had to tell him that we weren't accredited by the VC. But it all turned out to be a misunderstanding. They were VC prisoners.

The second one came from a guy who desperately wanted to know if we had a picture of a naval admiral without a hat on. No, we said, our photo of him is with hat. Then he told us he HAD to get a picture without a hat. Said the reason was that he had to find out if the admiral was bald, or had hair. Huh?

And our slogan of the week: "Beware of Tigers, Or You'll Be EIA." (Eaten in Action, they say.)

Come To The

USO

(119 Nguyễn Huệ, Saigon)

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Facilities Available :

- Reading Room
- Snack Bar
- Ping Pong
- Tape Recording
- Music Room
- Photo Darkroom
- Bingo
- Full Length Movies

OBSERVER Celebrates 2nd Birthday

By SFC TONY BERMUDEZ

Today marks the second birthday of the command newspaper of the United States Forces in Viet Nam.

In the highest traditions of military journalism, the **OBSERVER** has reported all the significant activities of American military personnel serving with the Armed Forces of the Republic of Viet Nam.

Despite the restriction of limited space, the command newspaper also reported the activities of other U.S. agencies serving in the country. During the past two years of its existence it has attempted to fulfill its primary mission of ...informing the troops.

Under the guidance of

Maj. Gen. Charles J. Timmes, Chief, MAAG, Viet Nam, the **OBSERVER** emerged from a four-page photo offset newspaper to an eight - page letter - press weekly tabloid.

During 1963, the **OBSERVER** staff covered on-the-spot events in the muddy mire and swamps of the Viet Cong infested Mekong Delta in the IV Corps to mountainous regions of Quang Tri in the I Corps area.

Staffed by seasoned combat correspondents and photographers headed by Maj. William V. Koch, MAAG Information Officer, the **OBSERVER** staff covered the entire country reporting U.S. assisted-operations

with the Vietnamese Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps.

Stories written by **OBSERVER** editor SSgt. Bob Reid and newsmen SFC Harry B. Morgan, SFC Tony Bermudez and photographer Sp5 Ray Jewett have been carried by the United States Information Service and also in the local, military and international news services.

The downfall of the Diem government last November was effectively covered by the **OBSERVER** staff. When the news of the tragic assassination of President Kennedy broke, the command newspaper scooped all the English and Vietnamese language newspapers in Viet Nam with a special edition, scant hours after the event.

Sergeant Reid, a winner of the USAF top world-wide journalism award, turned in spectacular news stories about the VNAF and won praise for his story on the notorious VC nest in Rang Rang in War Zone "D."

For the past 52 issues, the **OBSERVER** staff reported a running column... **DATELINE VIET NAM**... keeping the field advisors informed. Features carrying the bylines of Major Koch, Sergeants Morgan, Bermudez and Reid became part of the weekly command paper.

Coverage of VIP visits from Secretary of Defense McNamara, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, to America's top military officials ...to celebrities like Raymond "Perry Mason" Burr ...were both entertaining and informative.

The **OBSERVER**, in addition to its regular staff, has been professionally enhanced by the contribution of the information officers in the four Corps areas and the information personnel of the U.S. Army Support Command, 2nd Air Division, HSAS, and MACV.

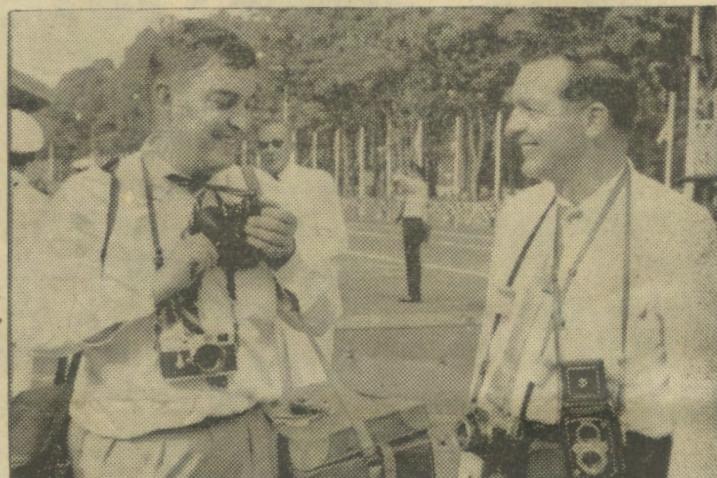
A newcomer to the **OBSERVER** is Sp5 Ray E. Jewett. Reassignments have taken a great toll on information personnel in Viet Nam but the **OBSERVER** has come into its own and has truly matured into a positive and progressive tool of the U.S. military command in Viet Nam.



OFFICER IN CHARGE— 1st Lt. Richard Emmert (left) waits for arrival of Defense Secretary McNamara with correspondents Joe Fried of the N.Y. Daily News and Beverly Deepe of the London Daily Express and the N.Y. Herald Tribune.



STAFFER— SFC Tony Bermudez recoils in horror as he carries a mortally wounded Vietnamese boy from the rubble of the VC bombing of MAAG compound last June 28.



EDITOR— AF SSgt. Bob Reid (right) chats with famed Associated Press photographer Horst Faas following coverage of a Vietnamese national event recently.



MAAG INFORMATION OFFICER— Maj. William V. Koch (left) takes time to get on the other end of camera with ranger advisor Capt. Daniel Atkins during combat coverage in notorious War Zone "D."



NCOIC— SFC Harry B. Morgan awaits, camera in hand, for coverage of the arrival of Secretary of State Dean Rusk during his recent visit.



PHOTOGRAPHER— SP5 Ray Jewett, Observer photographer, poses with a Vietnamese marine while on a recent story of a search and clear operation in the Mekong Delta in the south.

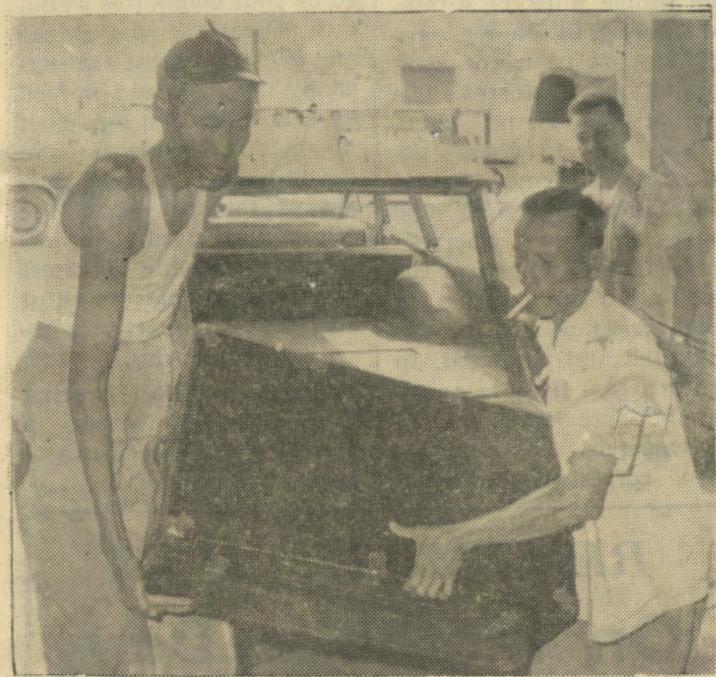
Household Goods: VN's Biggest Movers Of Air Freight



HUMMING WITH ACTIVITY— Chief Anthony Love, (1) and assistant, SK2 Neal Ross, check in a new air freight shipment while workers (rear) busily prepare the day's shipments for movement.



PULCHRITUDE, TOO— Miss Kieu Chinh, (1) one of the most senior U.S. employees in Viet Nam, as well as one of the prettiest, is supervisor of Vietnamese personnel. Here, she checks with clerk, Miss Kim Anh. Miss Chinh is also a well-known Vietnamese movie star.



ANOTHER SHIPMENT— SFC Robert Richardson (rear) observes workers removing his air freight footlocker from station wagon for processing. Customs check was next.

Moving — bag and baggage — a town the size of, say, Danbury, Conn., or Daytona Beach, Fla., would be, one must admit, a formidable task. It would be even more difficult if one had to accomplish the job 100% by air.

A equivalent chore, however, is being accomplished every year in Viet Nam by the Household Goods Section of Headquarters Support Activity, which processes some 24 million pounds of air freight baggage annually for servicemen returning to the U.S.

Based on an average American family's household possessions of 6,000 pounds, the section's job is to move the equivalent of a city of 40,000 persons.

Headed by Navy Chief Storekeeper Anthony S. Love, assisted by SK2 Neal E. Ross, the section processes up to 200 people a day with no more fuss than it takes one to check out of a supermarket.

Love says that 98% of the air freight that men forward is processed in the section's small shop on the military side of Tan Son Nhut AB, but persons with over 300 pounds to ship may request commercial movers to come to their billets to pack the goods.

Customs inspections are made by the section, either by Love or SK2 Claude Thomas, both authorized U.S. customs inspectors. Chief Love says the majority of customs violations



CUSTOMS INSPECTOR— SK2 Claude Thomas checks a household goods shipment for unauthorized merchandise while Vietnamese contract movers busily pack goods.

come when persons try to ship home weapons without a permit, and ammunition. "The ammo type," says Love, "all use the same excuse.... I'm a bum shot and need the ammunition for practice." Regardless, like duty free cigarettes, alcohol, and dolls stuffed with rice, the stuff can't get a customs seal.

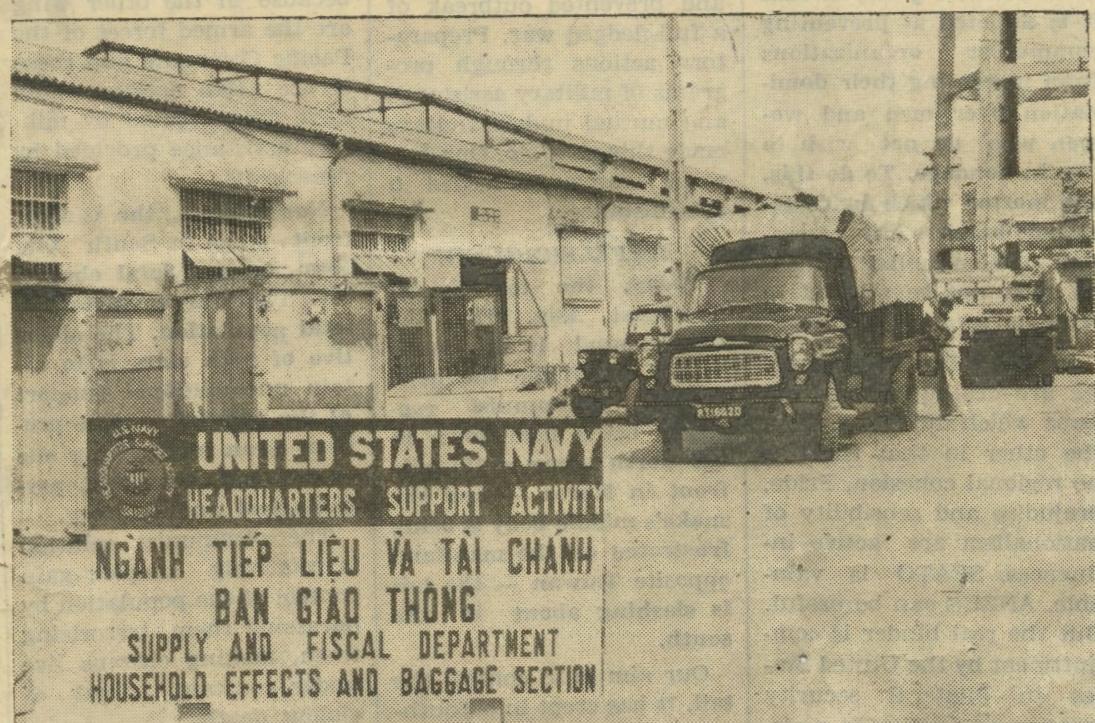
The section promises that the air freight will be at its destination within 21 days, and at Travis AFB in California within 72 hours.

A new service allows personnel to split their air freight shipment into two shipments one to their homes and the other to the next duty station, providing the home is closer than the duty station. If not, the serviceman pays the difference in the states.

Eight copies of the serviceman's orders are required to process each air freight shipment through the section. In the rare instances where there is also a surface shipment, used generally by men with dependents in country, another 10 copies are required.

Weight allowances for air freight vary with rank. An E-4 and below with under 4 years is authorized 200 pounds. E-4's over 4 and above receive a 400 pound limit. Officers through O-5 get 600 pounds, O-6 and O-7 800 pounds, and the remainder 1,000 pounds.

The Household Goods Section is supervised by Navy Lt. R.L. French, traffic officer, and accomplishes its staggering job with only 13 people assigned.



HOUSEHOLD GOODS SECTION— Housed in unobtrusive building at Tan Son Nhut, the HSAS Household Goods Section processes an incredible amount of air freight annually for returning U.S. servicemen.

Adm. Felt's Address To Military Assistance Program Solons

The following is a complete text of a speech delivered by Adm. Harry D. Felt, Commander in Chief, Pacific, to the House Foreign Affairs Committee on Apr. 24 in connection with their hearings on the fiscal year '65 Military Assistance Program.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee.

The basic problem in the part of the world where I have some responsibilities is security. The mission of the Pacific Command is to defend the United States from attack — to assist in carrying out the policies of the United States — to further United States objectives in the Pacific Ocean area.

Over four hundred million free peoples of Asia and the South and Western Pacific are on our side — related to the U.S. by security treaty military assistance agreement — or neutral, sharing the common fear of communist aggression. We have a mutuality of interests with these people.

RED THREAT

All of us are threatened by the communist organizations. In the Pacific area, Chinese communists have declared their hostility toward all free countries with objectives of extending their control over Korea, Japan, Taiwan and Southeast Asia while concurrently forcing a disillusioned United States to quit the area. They wish to make tributary states of their neighbors who are now free.

My understanding of United States policy is that it is directed at preventing communist organizations from increasing their domination over men and women who do not wish to live in bondage. To do this, the mortar which holds together barriers to expansion of communist influence must not be allowed to crumble away.

In the Western Pacific, we are dealing with situations which differ one from the other in that there is no regional cohesion. Pride, prejudice and sensibility of nationalism are active influences. SEATO is valuable. ANZUS can be useful. But the real binder is commitment by the United States in bilateral security treaties and military assistance agreements. There is a mutuality of interest bet-



Admiral Harry D. Felt

ween the United States and each of the non-communist Asian and South Pacific states.

MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Japan, Korea and the Philippines have given us the privilege of basing in their countries. In the Republic of China, Thailand and the Republic of Viet Nam, with funds provided by U.S. Military Assistance programs, we have built airfields, communications systems and basic logistics facilities which are available should it be necessary to move armed forces of the Pacific Command into Taiwan or Southeast Asia to fight alongside our brother free men.

You will remember we moved fighter aircraft into Taiwan airfields and ships into the Strait in 1958. Co-ordinated effort between ourselves and the Chinese Nationalists put the damper on communist designs and prevented outbreak of a full-fledged war. Preparatory actions through programs of military assistance and mutual understandings made this possible. Our forward strategy succeeded in this instance.

BATTLEGROUND

Today, the test is in Southeast Asia. The key battleground is in South Viet Nam. While the head of the communist reptile is being held down in the north along a 151-mile front in Korea — and the snake's middle body is being frustrated on the mainland opposite Taiwan — the tail is slashing about in the south.

Our aim is to control the tail. It has crept into Southeast Asia where subversive organizations have tried to devour the substance of the

established governments. Where subversion has failed, as in the Republic of Viet Nam, the organization is resorted to guerrilla warfare camouflaged as civil war. This then progressed to military intervention — infiltration of trained armed forces and material into South Viet Nam from the north — direct intervention by Hanoi.

In one wing of this setting is the communist Chinese Army — capable of attacking concurrently Southeast Asia and Korea. The Red Army is mobile and fitted for warfare in Southeast Asia. Its strength lies in its austerity, strong limbs, soldier stamina, and huge manpower reserve. It has marching and massing ability which was demonstrated in the fall of 1950. Its logistics back-up is adequate. The voice in this wing is bellicose, but the mind is not adventuresome because in the other wing are the armed forces of the Pacific Command and those of the Asian nations which have been created by military assistance provided by Americans.

Nevertheless, the conflict front stage in South Viet Nam, is of a total character. The war involves the total population. The objective of both sides is to attain unconditional support of the population. The problem is an interlocking one — political, economic, psychological and military.

The communist solution is relatively simple: gain control of the population by harassing them, terrorizing them, making citizens live under constant threat of violent death.

On the other hand, government programs are designed to help the people,

having consideration for their needs — to give them the means of protection — to encourage them to rally in their opposition to the communist organization and ultimately to destroy it — to give the people a chance to make their choice between a life of servitude and a life as free citizens. A national pacification plan has been developed by the government, and the blueprint for their program calls for:

- Clearing areas progressively by military action;
- Following up with holding forces;
- Destroying the Viet Cong structure and organization;
- Providing schools, health services, sweet water, agriculture assistance.

The biggest difficulty, as in all situations, is management. Careful and selective use of resources is fundamental, as is the training of able and motivated men, to take leadership of interlocking problem areas on levels from cabinet to district to hamlet and from joint general staff to corps to naval district to air division to the smallest tactical unit. Evaluation of performance, discipline and awards are recognized management tools. Stabilization of personnel is essential.

Outstanding in this sense is the fact that the situation has not gotten out of hand despite a deterioration during the past year. Military tactics are improving. The Viet Cong can no longer claim exclusive ownership of the jungle at night. National authority recognizes that loyalty of the people must be attained in order to remove logistic support from the communist armed forces. The morale of the rural population is good where the government Armed Forces clear areas and then hold them against guerrilla raids. Large numbers of the population are coming to some areas asking to be relocated and protected. In other areas, he sees a picture of confusion where bad management has not yet been corrected. Improve-

ment comes from realization of the importance of quality and motivation.

Outstanding also in the scene is that Americans are there, carrying out the design of or policy, to assist in implementing a good plan of action designed by the Vietnamese national authorities themselves. Insofar as U.S. military men are concerned, they are dedicated and committed. Some of them have honored their commitment with their lives. They hold the firm belief that it would be folly to counter the danger from Peiping and Hanoi by a show of weakness.

I am trying to speak for them — and all of the other fighting men in the Pacific — some 425,000 strong — when I ask support for continuing military assistance to our Asian friends whose means to protect themselves adequately should not be permitted to deteriorate.

CONTINUED SUPPORT

When I appeared before you two years ago, I said that the image of free world strength in the minds of communist strategists is terribly important to me. It still is. I want to add on this occasion that it is equally important for our allies and friends to have a true image of our strength. I have seen, talked, and listened during January, February and April of this year to representatives of the peoples of free Asia. They are uncertain about us. They are worried about being abandoned. Our voice in full support of military assistance and the bill now being considered by your committee would be a message of reassurance and encouragement requested by my men and needed by U.S. allies. On our part, we should continue to strive for improved management, always mindful that the communists push hardest where they find greatest weaknesses, and mindful also that superiority is essential to security.

Thank you for hearing me again. It is always a privilege and a pleasure to appear before you.

REMEMBER MOM
On Mother's Day
Sunday, May 10

Roving Photographer

Troops Acclaim Star-Studded Radio Show For Saigon USO

A host of the greatest names in the U.S. entertainment industry recently got together to tape a special spectacular two hour show exclusively for the troops in Viet Nam, to celebrate the first anniversary of the Saigon USO.

Stars three score strong aired their tributes and entertained in the program broadcast over AFRS and then re-broadcast because of great demand.

Our roving photographer queried the man on the street this week, asking about reactions to the show, with the question:

Did you listen to the all-Star USO Show broadcast on the 26th and 29th of April? How did you enjoy it?



NAMTVEDT MCDONALD

AMC Roland F. Namtvedt, Billeting Office, HSAS (Buffalo Lake, Minnesota): "No, I am sorry to say, but I heard from all my friends that it was tremendous."

SFC Archibald C. McDonald, Hotel Supervisor for Billeting in Saigon HSAS (Havre De Grace, Maryland): "The radio program for the USO was great, put on by the best people in show biz. We need more of these shows or programs in Viet Nam."



DRUMMOND MCDONALD

PFC Robert J. Drummond, Asst. Dispatcher, MAAG Dispatch Office (Salem, New Jersey): "Yes I did, both days, and I liked it very much."

A1C Alvin L. McDonald, Admin. Specialist, 2d Air Div. Procurement Office (West Palm Beach, Fla.): "Yes — In fact I taped the program, it was an excellent program with a star-studded cast."



WILLIAMS WEES

BM2 James A. Williams,



QUIZ

(AFPS Feature)

1. Who holds the all time record for the most bases on balls received in one game?

2. Who holds the major league record for the greatest number of total bases in a lifetime?

3. Who holds the record for the greatest number of consecutive hits in a single ball game?

4. Who holds the record for the greatest number of runs batted in for a single season?

5. Who holds the record for the most times at bat in the major leagues?

Answers to Quiz

5. Ty Cobb, 11,429.

4. Hack Wilson, Chicago, 1930, 190.

3. Willie Keeler, Baltimore, 1892, 7 hits.

2. Stan Musial, 6,134.

1. Jimmy Foxx, walked 6

times, for Boston in a game

in 1938.

6. Jimmie Foxx, walked 6

times, for Boston in a game

in 1938.

Billeting, HSAS (Wilmington N.C.): "I think it was a real fine show, in fact I could listen to it all over again. As a matter of fact I did hear it twice."

Lt. Col. Dale R. Wees, Project Officer, Log/Comm. Div. ACTIV (East Point, Ga.): "Yes, I listened to the USO Birthday broadcast and thoroughly enjoyed it. I think it was a wonderful way of expressing thanks to an organization that has been doing a great job for the serviceman since WWII."

● The United States has on launchers approximately 750 intercontinental ballistic missiles; the Soviets have less than one-fourth of that number in operation.

U.S. Military Striking Power Can Destroy Any Aggressor

Washington (AFPS) — U.S. strategic nuclear forces are so large and so powerful, Department of Defense officials say, as to be capable of absorbing a full first strike directed against them and surviving with sufficient power to completely destroy the aggressor.

A DOD announcement said the magnitude of U.S. superiority "has been increasing and it shall continue to increase."

Comparing U.S. military striking power with that of the Soviet Union the Defense Department outlined the following:

● The United States has 540 strategic bombers maintained constantly on alert which could take off and fly to their targets in the face of a surprise missile attack. It is estimated the Soviets could place over this country, on two-way missions, no more than approximately 120 heavy bombers plus perhaps an additional 150 medium bombers, the targets for which would be limited to Alaska and the northwest areas of the U.S.

● The United States has on launchers approximately 750 intercontinental ballistic missiles; the Soviets have less than one-fourth of that number in operation.

● Our Navy has 192 Polaris missiles deployed; the Soviets have substantially fewer submarine-launched missiles in operation. All

U.S. Polaris missiles are carried in a nuclear powered submarine — only a small percentage of the Soviet missile carrying submarines are nuclear powered.

Our Polaris missile can be launched from below the surface — none of the Soviet missiles have that capability, and each Polaris has a range of 1,500 miles or more — the range of the Soviet missiles is less than one-third as much.

Baseball Standings

(As of May 6)

American League

	W	L
Cleveland	9	5
Chicago	8	5
Baltimore	9	7
New York	7	6
Minnesota	9	9
Detroit	8	8
Los Angeles	8	10
Kansas City	7	6
Boston	7	9
Washington	8	12

National League

	W	L
San Francisco	12	4
Milwaukee	12	6
Philadelphia	10	6
St. Louis	11	8
Pittsburgh	10	8
Cincinnati	10	9
Chicago	6	9
Los Angeles	8	12
Houston	8	12
New York	3	15



LOCAL TALENT PROVIDE VARIETY SHOW — Montage of pictures show crowd of American military, civilian and dependent guests that attended the first anniversary of the USO Club in Saigon. Providing a local touch to the birthday celebration was a variety show with Jim Plake, MC and comedian; Bob Ford, magician; Judy Begley, pianist; Gina Zarba, vocalist and Jon Dee, hypnotist.



FOR VALOR — 1st Lt. Martin S. Kuchesky, (left) Asst. Bn. Advisor, 2nd Bn., 48th ARVN Regt., receives the congratulations of Lt. Col. N.G. Grimland, Sr. Advisor, Phuoc Binh Thanh Special Zone, during a recent ceremony held at Dong Binh My.

Heroism Under Fire Earns Bronze Star For MAAG Lt.

1st Lt. Martin S. Kuchesky, Asst. Bn. Advisor, 2nd Bn., 48th ARVN Regt., recently earned the Bronze Star Medal for valor.

The 26-year-old lieutenant was cited for heroism during a clear and hold operation in Binh My, Phuoc Thanh province last Nov. 5. Two Viet Cong companies infiltrated the Binh My hamlet and encircled the battalion's command post.

Employing mortar, automatic weapons and small arms fire, the communists attempted to annihilate the battalion command post. Lieutenant Kuchesky exposed himself to heavy fire while calling in friendly artillery fire and pointing out targets in close support of the defenders of the CP.

Despite the fallout of shrapnel in the defensive area, he fearlessly exposed himself and assisted in the firing of an 81mm mortar at the Viet Cong. His actions inspired the Vietnamese troops to repel the Viet Cong guerrillas.

A New Yorker, Lieutenant Kuchesky entered the Army in Apr. 1961 after earning a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Siena College. Prior to his assignment to Viet Nam in Aug. 1963, he served with the 5th Tng. Regt., Ft. Dix, N.J.

PHONE YOUR NEWS TIPS TO THE OBSERVER 60213

Army Offers Retraining Option To Some Re-Uppers

Effective Jul. 1, 1964, all personnel in grade E-5 and below with more than four years service for pay purposes and less than seven years active Federal service at the time of reenlistment will be authorized a further choice of option to retrain out of surplus career fields.

The announcement made by SFC Frank C. Godfrey, MAAG reenlistment counselor was contained in a DA release made by Lt. Col. Gibson R. Finley, Chief of the Procurement Div., DCSPER.

This option is extended to qualified personnel recommended for further reten-tion in the Army.

Option choices available to this category of personnel are as follows:

- If currently serving in an overage MOS, individual may reenlist for retraining in any shortage MOS area for which qualified.
- Individuals currently serving overseas, who re-enlist under the above option, will be required to submit choice of options not earlier than six and not later than three months prior to departure from the overseas theater. Provided requirements at time of submission of choice preclude entry into first course selected, individual will submit additional choices until firm school commitment is obtained.
- Entry into selected training upon completion

▲ Dateline

(Continued from page 1)

the road when they opened fire. After the initial fire-fight the VC broke contact and were pursued. ARVN troops, reinforced by helicopter lifted forces, re-established contact shortly after noon and a running fight lasted throughout the afternoon before contact was terminated late Saturday.

Friendly losses were 17 known killed, five missing or killed, and 31 wounded, as well as 39 individual weapons lost. The VC suffered six killed and gave up one prisoner.

In other action throughout the country last week, there were 60 major operations, 30 of which made contact with the enemy. The IV Tactical Zone in the south led in contacts. There were also 4550 small units actions, 60 of which resulted in contact, with 30 of these at night.

PACAF, parent unit of the 2nd Air Div. and its attached units, has slightly higher quotas: MSgt., 111; TSgt., 238; SSgt., 278; A1C, 713; A2C, 669; and A3C, 2,009.

The June quota, representing the fiscal year wrap-up, is lower in all grades than previous cycles in FY '64. The biggest drop is at the staff sergeant level where the stripes allocation is only about half the number authorized in either the October or February cycles.

The master sergeant quota is down about one-third from last December. Airman first class stripes are about 40 per cent less than either of the two previous fiscal year cycles. The drop in airmen second class and technical sergeant promotions is not quite so noticeable.

Eligible to compete for the June stripes are 65,500 E-2s; 95,800 E-3s; 101,300



Outlook Glum For AF Stripes In June Cycle

Washington — Airmen in the grades of airman third class through technical sergeant hoping for an extra stripe in the June cycle face tough competition.

A promotion quota of 40,800 in all grades against slightly more than 400,000 eligible indicates a selection ratio of about 1 to 9.8. Broken out for specific grades, the ratio increases sharply for E-5, E-6 and E-7.

Stripes programmed for June are 2,300 master sergeants, 4,800 technical sergeants, 3,800 staff sergeants, 12,400 airmen first class and 17,500 airmen second class.

In Headquarters Command, which encompasses Viet Nam-based AF personnel not in the 2nd Air Div., the command quotas are: MSgt., 91; TSgt., 161; SSgt., 104; A1C, 148; A2C 142; and A3C, 646.

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Eligible to compete for the June stripes are 65,500 E-2s; 95,800 E-3s; 101,300

E-4s; 88,900 E-5s; and 48,900 E-6s.

Officials said a number of factors are responsible for the lower year end quota.

The main reason is that the bulk of stripes programmed for FY '64 was awarded during earlier cycles. For example, the Air Force promoted 7,258 airmen first class in February out of its yearly quota of 17,100 staff sergeants. E-5 promotions are made three times per year.

Excluding airmen second class promotions, the overall FY '64 promotion is caused by completion of the phase-in period in 1963 of E-8 and E-9 stripes. Since the Air Force had reached the number of supergraders authorized, this year's quota was based on attrition and was considerably lower. This produced a correspondingly smaller number of vacancies in the lower grades.

Another reason is that attrition in other non-commissioned grades, particularly master sergeant, did not occur at the rate expected. The 1963 pay bill and speculation of another in 1964 apparently caused a number of personnel to stay in beyond the 20-year retirement point. Each anticipated retirement would have produced a vacancy in each lower grade all the way down the line.

One pay raise and the possibility of another probably induced other airmen in lower grades to reenlist, thus cutting down on potential stripes vacancies.

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