



Down . . . But Not Out

Maintenance crews lift a C-7A Caribou from the runway, after the crew landed it on a foamed runway with just the nosewheel down after it was discovered that the right main gear would not lock. When the aircraft came to a halt on the runway, the only portion which was damaged was a fairing on the left side of the aircraft. This was repaired in 38 man-hours at a cost of less than \$100.



Two Phantom Crews Scramble; Destroy Several Enemy Bunkers

CAM RANH BAY—Two flights of Phantom crews scrambled from the 12th Tactical Fighter Wing alert pad at Cam Ranh Bay AB recently to destroy 26 enemy bunkers, two radios,

"Friendly ground troops were 1,100 meters southwest of the target," added Major Gonzales. "The mission was very effective in that we destroyed so many fortifications. It was rewarding that the Army chopper pilot and the FAC said our work was outstanding," concluded

"Our target was just 100 yards west of the previous one, which consisted of a narrow tree line, approximately 10 meters across. It looked like a boundary marker," said Colonel Levy.

He added, "We held for a

Phan Rang Controllers Keep Busy

PHAN RANG — Air traffic controllers of the 1882nd Communications Squadron direct approximately 20,000 landings and take-offs each month on the busy flightline of Phan Rang AB.

From their positions in the control tower, they control air traffic that includes AC-47 Dragonships, B-57 Canberra bombers, F-100 Supersabres, C-123 Provider transports, HH-43 Huskie rescue helicopters, and O-1 Bird Dog observation planes.

It is a complex job, because of the wide variety of air speeds and traffic patterns employed by these aircraft. The controllers must also contend with combat blackout conditions. Aircraft lights are kept off during most of the night landings and take-offs to foil any enemy snipers in the area of the base.

"It is our responsibility to insure that all aircraft taxiing, departing, or inbound are provided sufficient spacing so that they will not collide with one another," said SSgt. Robert Ackerman, Oshkosh, Wis.

A sample of the pressures faced by the controllers is the situation which confronted Ackerman on a recent morning. Nine B-57s and two F-100s were aloft in the traffic patterns, with their crews awaiting landing directions.

At the same time, the crews of seven C-123s and three F-100s awaited take-off instructions for their aircraft on the flightline.

Ackerman smoothly directed the required landings and take-offs.

Series 'E'

A Series E Savings Bond purchased for \$18.75 in May 1941 is today worth more than \$42 and is continuing to earn interest at a higher rate than before.



Take-off—C-7A Caribou climbs after take-off at Cam Ranh Bay.

C-7A's Versatility Makes Ideal Pinpoint Air Resupply Aircraft

CAM RANH BAY — Mist was falling over the fog shrouded hills of central Vietnam as a C-7A Caribou of the 483rd Tactical Airlift Wing droned monotonously onward, carrying oil and "beef on the hoof" to a Special Forces camp.

Suddenly the pilot slowed the plane to near stalling speed, then dropped down between the cloud layers and landed smoothly on a 1,000 foot dirt strip adjacent to the An Lac camp.

A harrowing landing? No. An exciting mission? No. It was simply another routine cargo errand flown by the men of the 483rd TAW. Yet to the personnel of the An Lac Special Forces camp, and to those stationed at the hundreds of other such camps throughout the Republic, it was a vitally important mission supplying them with food and ammunition. Literally providing them with their life's

blood.

Six squadrons of Caribou's comprise the wing headquartered at Cam Ranh Bay Air Base. This self supporting wing is commanded by Col. William H. Mason, Rusk, Tex., and is responsible for supporting all operational units throughout South Vietnam.

Safe Drivers

HQ SAC (SAC PS) Grand Forks AFB, N.D. has been named winner of the Strategic Air Command private motor vehicle "Drive Safe" annual trophy for 1967. This award is for Group I competition which includes bases with a military strength of 3,000 or more.

The award for Group II (bases with less than 3,000 military population) went to the 6th Strategic Wing, Eielson AFB, Alaska.

The versatility of the C-7A makes it an ideal cargo aircraft for the typical supply missions in Vietnam. It's capability to be flown, fully loaded, at extremely slow speeds enables the crew to make pinpoint air drops to friendly forces in the jungles and mountains.

With highly skilled pilots at the controls, an 800 foot dirt strip is all that is required to make successful landings and takeoffs.

The 483rd TAW has averaged 13,000 sorties transporting 37, 446,000 pounds of cargo each month.

Early this month, Mason welcomed the one millionth passenger to be transported by the wing since January, when he arrived here.

Besides having two squadrons at Cam Ranh Bay, the wing also has two at Vung Tau and an additional pair at Phu Cat.

Veterinarian Saves Dog's Failing Ears

TUY HOA — A pair of delicate operations known as modified zepps has restored the fading hearing of Rebel, a sentry dog with the 31st Security Police Squadron, at Tuy Hoa AB.

The surgery was necessary after Rebel had suffered from chronic infection in both ears over a period of two years. Capt. Samuel W. Tate, Virginia Beach, Va., base veterinarian, worked with medicines trying to arrest the infection; however, it soon became apparent that the operations were the only answer.

The modified zepp surgery involves opening the ear tracts of the animal which allows the infection to drain away. Had the surgery not been performed, Rebel would have eventually lost all hearing and would have had to be destroyed.

Following the second operation, performed two weeks after the first, Tate said, "It looks beautiful. Rebel's infected ears should be completely normal in a matter of weeks." The dog is now recovering from the surgery and should be returned to duty guarding the base in about three weeks.

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ckman is replacing Maj. Harold Pickering, Tiverton, I., who has been reassigned to Detachment 5 of the Eastern Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Center at Suffolk County AFB, N.Y. Pickering is returning to the position he held before his Vietnam tour of duty.

One of the more spectacular "saves" made during Pickering's command was the rescue of a Thai merchant ship that had taken on a critical amount of water. Pickering's men, flying Air Force HH-43 Huskie heli-

covery mission.

use of a magnetic field.