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Saigon Sentry Smiles as Officers Hoof It

By **BUCK LANIER**
Military Editor

SAIGON — An Army sentry in front of the Rex Hotel was smiling.

And why not.

Assorted officers were having to hoof it up five flights to eat chow. One of the city's periodic power failures had killed the elevators.

Their sulphric comments drifted outside.

Spec. 4 Del Archey, 23, of Torrance, was covert about his laughter, saluting officers as they entered the hotel.

In addition he stays busy during his eight-hour shift checking papers and for weapons on the Vietnamese working in the hotel.

Then there is the chance of a terrorist attack at any time.

This is a far cry from his civilian job as a plastic fabricator for missiles at North American Aviation at Inglewood.

"In addition to our regular shift we are on an eight-hour alert and rotate our sites. Roving patrols are seconds away if we need help," the 1961 Narbonne High graduate said.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Archey,

Archey has been in Saigon since June with Divisional Security of the 716 MP Battalion. A full day off every 15 days is average.

"This is better than being in the field," he said, "but the word is we are going to get a Christmas 'present' — a transfer to the field."