

# The Observer

Published For The U.S. Forces In Viet Nam

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SAIGON, VIET NAM

May 16, 1964

## Dateline Viet Nam Clash In Cambodia Follows VC Pursuit

Action against the Viet Cong was limited to small scattered clashes last week with the government reporting a 44% increase in operations launched.

Another Cambodian border incident occurred last Friday morning in Tay Ninh province about 80 miles northwest of Saigon when a squad of government armor, pursuing a fleeing VC battalion, penetrated Cambodian soil about 700 meters.

Cambodian tanks and infantry attacked the Vietnamese M-113 armored carriers, hitting one, setting it afire, and killing three soldiers and wounding two more.

The M-113 squad immediately withdrew when the error became apparent, leaving behind the burning troop carrier. Also lost was a .50 caliber machine gun, five individual weapons, and 15 weapons previously captured from the VC.

The initial clash with the VC occurred about 800 meters from the Cambodian border on Vietnamese soil and resulted in 50 insurgents killed and the 15 weapons captured. The remaining VC then fled toward Cambodia.

The Vietnamese Ministries of Defense and Foreign Affairs issued regrets over the penetration of

Cambodian territory due to geographical error, and said they hoped that the Cambodian government would take steps to prevent VC units from using Cambodia as a "sanctuary when pursued by our troops."

Elsewhere, the VC lost 30 killed and wounded in a company sized attack on an outpost in Kien Hoa province in the early hours last Thursday morning.

The Mekong Delta Self Defense Corps post of Giong Chua Dan reported that the Viet Cong carried off the 30 casualties following the 2:30 a.m. attack, but left behind a Czech submachine gun. Friendly losses were two killed.

Also last Thursday, the Ham Thuan district chief in Binh Thuan province some 100 miles east of the capital, personally led a company described as "local commandos" in an attack against a concealed VC base.

The forest base put up mild resistance until retreating with an estimated

(Continued on page 8)

## 'Perry Mason' On Return Visit

Actor Raymond Burr — TV's Perry Mason — returned to Viet Nam Thursday for a 15 day visit to American servicemen here.

Burr spent a brief visit here last January, and upon parting promised to return for a longer stay this month. On his previous trip, the strapping actor captured the hearts of the troops in the field with his warm, informal chats during field trips.

His schedule calls for him to informally visit U.S. troops in the IV Corps area through next Monday and then visit in I Corps from Tuesday through next Thursday.

II Corps troops will see him beginning next Friday through Monday, May 25th. He will wrap up his tour by visits in III Corps from Tuesday, May 26, to Saturday, May 30.

Burr will depart Saigon on Sunday, May 31.



GEN. TAYLOR (L) GREETED UPON ARRIVAL  
By MACV commander, Gen. Paul D. Harkins.

## McNamara, Taylor Visit To Review VN Progress

U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara arrived in Viet Nam Tuesday morning for an up-to-date look at the progress of the war against the communist Viet Cong.

His second visit to Viet Nam within the past two months followed a three-day conference at Bonn, West Germany, with Defense Minister Kai-Ewe Von Hassel on mutual defense matters.

At his press conference at Tan Son Nhut Secretary McNamara said,

"As you know, I have been meeting during the past few years every 30 to 60 days with the United States Ambassador to South Viet Nam and with the commander of the military assistance forces here.

"This is another of these

regular meetings.

"We will review the progress in achieving the program which we have agreed upon and laid out during my last visit in March.

"We will consider what additional action, if any, is required to fulfill the commitment of my government to the South Vietnamese Government, provide whatever economic assistance, military training, logistical support is required in whatever form it is required, for however long it is required to ensure the defeat of communists."

The DOD chief was accompanied by Assistant Defense Secretary for Public Affairs Arthur Sylvester, and Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs John S. McNaughton.

Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, Chairman Joints Chiefs of Staff, arrived in Saigon Monday morning from Hawaii.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, in a press conference held in New York, said that top U.S. officials such as Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Secretary McNamara would visit Viet Nam "every few weeks" to personally check on the progress of military and civilian operations in Viet Nam.

Secretary McNamara and his party held conferences with Ambassador Lodge, Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh, General Harkins and other high level U.S. and Vietnamese officials. The Defense chief, who will report his findings to President Johnson, left Saigon Wednesday night for Washington.

## MAAG Absorbed By MACV; Advisory Groups Remain

The Military Assistance Command in Viet Nam yesterday assumed all missions and responsibilities of MAAG, Viet Nam, in a reorganizational change designed to "eliminate duplication of functions and to improve responsiveness to COMUSMACV of the field elements of the command."

Navy Section, MAAG, is redesignated as the Navy Advisory Group with the Navy Advisory Detachments as subordinate elements. Capt. William H. Hardcastle Jr., is Chief, U.S. Navy Adv. Gp.

Air Force Section, MAAG, becomes the Air Force Advisory Group. Both the Air Force Advisory Group and Air Force Advisory Detachments will be under the command and control of the 2nd Air Division. Brig. Gen. Robert R. Rowland is Chief, USAF Adv. Gp.

The mission and organization of the U.S. Army Support Command, Viet Nam, under Brig. Gen. Joseph H. Stilwell, and

Headquarters Support Activity, Saigon, commanded by Navy Capt. Malcolm C. Friedman, remain basically the same.

The MACV Flight Detachment is now administratively assigned to Hqs. MACV, but will function under the operational control of the CG, USASCV.

Army field advisory detachment missions, formerly reporting to the U.S. Army Section, MAAG, will report directly to MACV. Senior advisors to the ARVN Forces are: Col. John H. Wohner, I Corps; Col. Charles E. Balthis Jr., II Corps; Col. Wilbur Wilson, III Corps; and Col. Sam-

(Continued on page 8)



LAST LOOK— Maj. Gen. Charles J. Timmes, Chief MAAG, stands before MAAG insignia for a last look at the decade old concrete emblem that graces the MAAG compound at 606 Tran Hung Dao St. in Cholon.



# The Observer

"Comment is free but facts are sacred."

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COMMANDING GENERAL. . . . . Gen. Paul D. Harkins  
INFORMATION OFFICER, MACV. . . . . Col. B.L. Baker

## STAFF

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

## EDITORIAL

### On Armed Forces Day: We Salute You

Today is Armed Forces Day — a day set aside each year to showcase our country's **POWER FOR PEACE**. It is also a day to honor our men in uniform and permit our countrymen and those of our allies to meet and see the fighting men and power of the United States.

Here, in Viet Nam, it will be another day of work, and perhaps danger. There will be no gala displays, no open houses, no festivities to mark the occasion as we help this valiant nation and its people oppose the creeping and insidious aggression that is communism.

And only by doing our jobs, no matter how seemingly unimportant, can we best show our armed forces and what we represent.

In the course of our travels about country, we, of the Observer staff have met many of you as we attempted to tell your story on these pages. Perhaps, Kipling's quotation from 'Departmental Ditties' partially states our view:

I have eaten your bread and salt.

I have drunk your water and wine.

The deaths ye died I have watched beside

And the lives ye led were mine.

We would add, however, that we have seen you happy, sad, lonely, tired, dirty, hungry, thirsty, oftentimes angry, and sometimes in pain. But, no matter the mood, or the conditions of your service, we find you always magnificent!

We salute you!

## R & R SCHEDULE

Date of Departure/Return	Passenger Check-in TSN	Spaces Available
<b>TO HONG KONG</b>		
* 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

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.

## Gen. Harkins' AFD Message

In the United States this week thoughtful citizens will pause to pay tribute to the men and women of our Armed Forces. Some will attend Open House activities at service installations where they will see the equipment used by our fighting forces. Some will attend dinners and hear speeches by top officials of the Department of Defense and the services. These speeches I am sure, will be most complimentary of the job being done by the personnel of all services here in Viet Nam. This is most fitting and proper because you have indeed done a magnificent job and deserve highest credit.

Here in Viet Nam on Armed Forces Day, Saturday May 16, we will not have any Open Houses, or any special dinners, or any speeches. We do not need to be reminded of the tremendous responsibility which is ours today. Or to be reminded of the task faced daily by the Armed Forces of the Republic of Viet Nam — to defeat the forces of communism which threaten their opportunity to live as free men in a nation independent of the yoke of an external power.

Even though we will not observe Armed Forces Day in the traditional manner, it might be well for each of us on that occasion to take stock of the job we are doing; to see if there is anything more which we might do; to see if we can make any improvement in the things we are now doing.

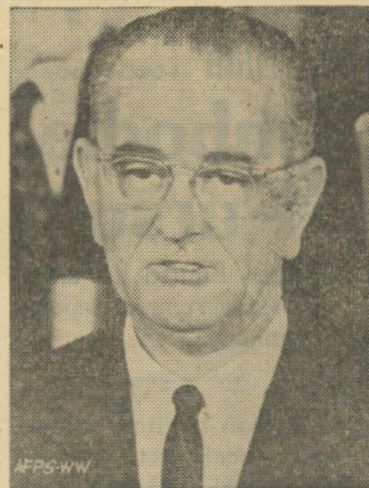
The eyes of the Free World are focused on Viet Nam today. The Vietnamese military and para-military forces have made much progress in the past two years. With our continued help, understanding and assistance I am sure they can finish the job — and stem the tide of communism.

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

**THE OBSERVER'S**  
NEW PHONE  
NUMBER IS  
**50409**

## Armed Forces Day Messages

### President's Message



Today, Americans everywhere can view with pride the performance and preparedness of their Armed Forces.

It is fitting that we set aside this day — Armed Forces Day — to honor the men and women who serve our country in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Their contribution to our freedom and safety is measureless. Our national security depends on the maintenance of alert military forces as a deterrent to any possible aggressor.

I invite all citizens to view and learn more of our Armed Forces and their preparedness to meet this challenge. And as Commander-in-Chief, I urge all of my countrymen to join me in honoring our servicemen and women on Armed Forces Day, 1964.

— Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States

### Secretary Of Defense Message



The wholehearted support of the American people is basic to a strong Department of Defense. Such support requires knowledge and understanding of what the Department is doing and why it is doing it.

Americans pay some \$50 billion for defense. It is natural that they be concerned about their money

being spent wisely. They want to see for themselves whenever they can, and we in the Department of Defense are delighted for every opportunity to give our fellow citizens a close look.

We can do this well on Armed Forces Day when our bases and installations are open and we demonstrate our equipment and training to the public.

This year Armed Forces Day offers us the chance to demonstrate not only our strength, but to demonstrate that we are determined that the taxpayer gets a dollar's value for every dollar spent. We can and will pay freedom's cost — whatever it is — but we will do this while observing the strictest standards in spending money.

On Armed Forces Day we must resolve to continue our maintenance of powerful and ready military forces. We must resolve to demonstrate our willingness to risk their use where our vital interests are at stake.

We must continue to hold out a helping hand to those nations directly opposed to Communist aggression and those nations which are striving to provide better life for their people. And, we must resolve to continue to keep open the door to peace.

—Robert S. McNamara Secretary of Defense





**READY FOR TAKEOFF** — SSgt. Tedder (inside helicopter) gives a helping hand to TSgt. James T. Locklear, EOD technician, as Major Saunders waits to board the UH-1. The side gunner, Army Sp6 William G. Kellum, is at the left. (2nd Air Div. Photo).

## "EATEN IN ACTION"

# Air Rescuemen Pull Rugged Duty In RVN

Hq 2nd Air Div. (OI) — One of the busiest and least known units at Tan Son Nhut is Det. 3, Pacific Air Rescue Center, located in a quiet corner of the 2nd Air Division Air Operations Center.

The entire detachment consists of five men; three officers and two NCO's, yet these men bear the whole search and rescue responsibility for all U.S. military aircraft in Viet Nam and Thailand.

Detachment 3 has direct communication with area rescue coordinators at all major air fields in Viet Nam and Thailand who handle rescue commitments at their respective bases with whatever manpower and equipment is available. Frequently, however, the personnel of Det. 3 must get "into the act" directly when the problem is beyond the capability of on-the-scene personnel.

The Detachment commander, Maj. Alan W. Saunders, sums up the situation by saying, "we have three basic problems; one, the stepped-up sortie rate—we're flying a lot more missions than we were two years or even one year ago; two, the increased capability and more sophisticated weaponry of the Viet Cong — there's a whale of a difference flying against people armed with cross bows and home made muzzle loaders and the same people armed with mortars and automatic weapons; and third, the lack of professional rescue personnel and specialized equipment."

The commander hastened to qualify his last statement. "Don't misunderstand me. I'm certainly not downgrading our on-site people. They're doing a fine job in very tough conditions, but we could certainly

use some paramedics and regular rescue aircraft and equipment."

Major Saunders knows whereof he speaks. A big, rugged man with the look of a complete outdoorsman, he has been awarded the bronze star and one oak leaf cluster for conspicuous conduct under enemy fire on two extremely hazardous search and rescue missions. The character of the country in which he operates is illustrated by one mission where an ARVN soldier of the security detail was listed as EIA (eaten in action). The unfortunate man was carried off by a tiger.

One of the four air rescue controllers is always on duty at Det. 3. All are veterans of air rescue operations. Capt. Joseph E. O'Connell is facetiously nicknamed "our naval expert" from his experience in four rescue operations in the ocean and tidal mud flats of the Vietnamese coast.

These two men and the other members of Det. 3 are Capt. John R. Cox, TSgt. Albert M. Miyasato and SSgt. James B. Tedder, who have gone far beyond normal, rescue responsibilities in recovering remains of aircrews killed in action, even removing parts of downed aircraft for investigation.

## HONOR ROLL

### PURPLE HEART

#### First Award

Capt. Alton B. Parker Jr.  
Maj. Paul A. Brinkman  
Capt. Errol E. Clark  
Capt. Larry J. Herrman  
Capt. Charles R. Kelly  
1st Lt. Morris G. Strickland  
SFC Jack Newman  
SFC Jesse S. Mendez  
SSgt. Rene Garza

### COMBAT INFANTRYMAN

#### BADGE

#### Second Award

MSgt. Walter J. Sabalauskis  
SFC James E. Bell  
SFC Walter H. Mitchell

#### First Award

Capt. Harold G. Beddow  
Capt. Carl G. Crowe  
Capt. Ronald E. Graves  
Capt. Shane N. Soldato  
1st Lt. Paul E. Kuester  
1st Lt. Marvin O. May  
1st Lt. Virgil C. Moore  
1st Lt. Paul C. Palmer  
1st Lt. William D. Richter  
MSgt. Wiley C. Bingham  
SFC Cecil R. Allen  
SFC Raymond T. Summer  
Sp4 Julius E. Hill  
Sp4 Robert E. Kinniburgh  
Sp4 Elton K. Wittcop

### ARMY COMMENDATION

#### MEDAL

#### First Award

Capt. Donald W. Pulsifer  
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  
SSgt. John Chickaull  
SSgt. William R. Killingsworth  
Sp5 James A. Janski  
Sp4 Melvin J. Skaleski  
PFC Arthur O. Terwilliger

### AF AIR MEDAL

#### Fourth Award

Lt. Col. John J. Wilfong, USAF

#### Third Award

Maj. Raymond H. Kehl

#### Second Award

Capt. Floyd B. Sweet  
Capt. John R. Wheatley  
Capt. David R. Carroll  
Capt. Donald F. Schell  
Capt. Kenneth G. Brinson  
1st Lt. Thomas Werne  
1st Lt. David G. Hmiel  
1st Lt. Leslie A. Hobgood  
1st Lt. John B. McDonald  
1st Lt. Donald L. Woldswinkel  
1st Lt. Jon N. Zachem

#### First Award

Capt. John J. Clark Jr.  
Capt. Walter C. Givens  
Capt. James R. Lehtonen  
Capt. William L. Hughes  
Capt. David W. Scott  
Capt. James C. Tally  
1st Lt. Dennis C. Brown  
1st Lt. Richard S. Oda  
SSgt. Charles J. Chambers  
SSgt. Eddie E. Miller

### GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

#### Seventh Award

MSgt. Thomas L. Johnson

#### Sixth Award

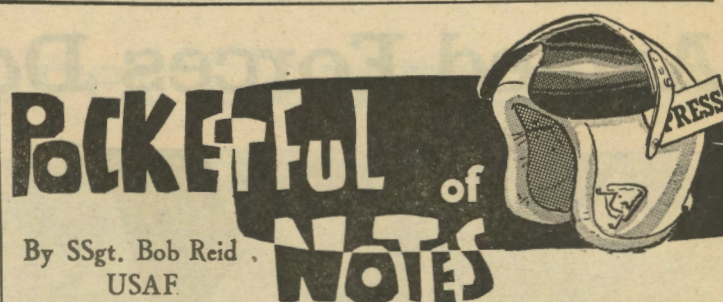
SFC Richard T. Nichols  
SFC Jack D. Rankin  
SFC Brooks Frazier  
SFC Hillard R. Pennington  
MSgt. Bill C. Chism  
MSgt. Milton R. Goodpasture

#### Fifth Award

MSgt. Dennis Clark  
MSgt. Veranus H. Crocker  
SFC Lewis E. Lammerding  
SFC Kenneth C. Dixon  
MSgt. Robert F. Higgins  
SSgt. Edward R. Kosakovich  
MSgt. Arthur N. Iyomasa  
SFC Elford F. Alley  
SFC Harley G. Clark  
SFC Walter G. Kitchens Jr.  
SFC Leon H. McGrath  
SFC Alvin J. Moore  
SFC Robert E. Flynn  
SFC Roger R. Guillaume

#### Fourth Award

SSgt. William T. Redican  
SFC George P. Hill Jr.  
SSgt. Allen H. Moss  
SFC Lester K. Powell  
SSgt. Marvin C. Summitt  
MSgt. James A. Thurmond  
Sp5 Robert S. Truesdale  
Sp7 Willie Walker  
SFC J.C. Britton  
SMaj. Charles E. Dohlmair  
SSgt. Stacy E. Ellis



By SSgt. Bob Reid  
USAF

**KEEPING UP WITH THINGS** — Now we all listen to AFRS, don't we fellas? Sort of the thing to do, huh?

But do you know what we like to listen to on Armed Forces Radio, Saigon? We do, because our spies have smuggled to us the results of a recent listener survey conducted by the station.

The survey shows that folks in general are happy with the present programming schedule, and their preference in music runs heavily to popular tunes, followed by that folksy country and western music.

Many, many listeners prefer country and western (you can't call it hillbilly anymore) but among them are not us. This, despite what good old folksy navy journalist John Loflin says about us on the air on his Saturday afternoon hillbilly, oops, country and western show.

We'd rather listen to a Hindu flutist play a cobra dance than to Tex Williams. Any day. Our room mate loves the stuff, and we have to hide in the bathroom Saturday afternoons. It's fine for them that likes it, old sport, but we're strictly pop and classical, all the way.

To get on with the reader survey, after popular and western music, readers prefer, in order, semi-classical, rock and roll, folk music, jazz, big band sounds, semi-popular (which to our way of thinking might be the same as semi-classical), classical, Dixieland, and Latin.

As far as news goes, 111 of 151 surveys returned thought the coverage adequate, and of the remaining 40, 17 wanted more local news, and 14 thought there was a lack of news in general. One wanted more news of Ardmore, Okla., as who doesn't.

We think AFRS does a fine job, despite such little minor boo boos on the news as bringing back President Kennedy about three times (when they meant to say Johnson) and calling the baseball teams the 'Cancinniti' Reds and the 'New York' Giants, the latter for which sports director Steve Southerland offered to turn in his press card and empty tape reel.

We thought we knew all the staff at the station, but one mysterious guy continually eludes us.

He's the Sunday night 'Diamonds in the Midst' deejay: AF Sergeant Don Edwards. We've checked all AF personnel files, and there ain't, no such guy in the country. (Would the AF IG know about this?)

Come, now, fellas. Will the real Don Edwards step forward, else we'll start referring to his show as 'Quartz in the Quagmire.'

**NOTES IN OUR POCKETS** — Dear chief in charge of billeting: we know you took our refrigerator, because refrigerators are scarce and rank has it's privileges, so you put our refrigerator into an E-5 chief's room, because we were only an E-5. But the chief who has our refrigerator lives alone, and we have a room mate who is an E-6, so doesn't that make our pad an E-11 room, adding us together like that? Can't we please have our refrigerator back? Pretty please?

\*\*\*\*\*

Some black heart has purloined volume three of the brand new set of Collier's Encyclopedia from the HSAS library, after it had been on the shelf only three days. Inasmuch as it is impossible to obtain a single volume replacement, the gals over there would like it returned, no questions asked. Either that, we presume, or come back and steal the rest of the set.

\*\*\*\*\*

Finally, our slogan of the week, inspired by a recent Florida wedding: "You're Not Dressed Unless You Wear Sunglasses At A Nudist Wedding." (And they help to keep your bulging eyeballs from showing, too.)



# Armed Forces Day: In Viet Nam, Another Da



**FIGHTER PILOT ADVISOR**— USAF Capt. Joe Saueressig gives pre-mission briefing to veteran VNAF fighter pilot Lt. Cuong Nguyen Huy prior to an AIH Skyraider airstrike from Bien Hoa AB north of Saigon.



**HELICOPTER GUNNER**— Medic Sp5 Roy A. Tabor stands close guard while the crew chief of a UH-1B helicopter, PFC Eugene L. Myers (rear) tends a casualty during a medical evacuation in central Viet Nam.



**COUNTERPARTS**— Capt. Thomas J. Ashley, training advisor to the Self Defense Corps, and his counterpart, Capt. Nay Beo, observe Montagnard trainees at Plei Blang during a mine detonation demonstration.



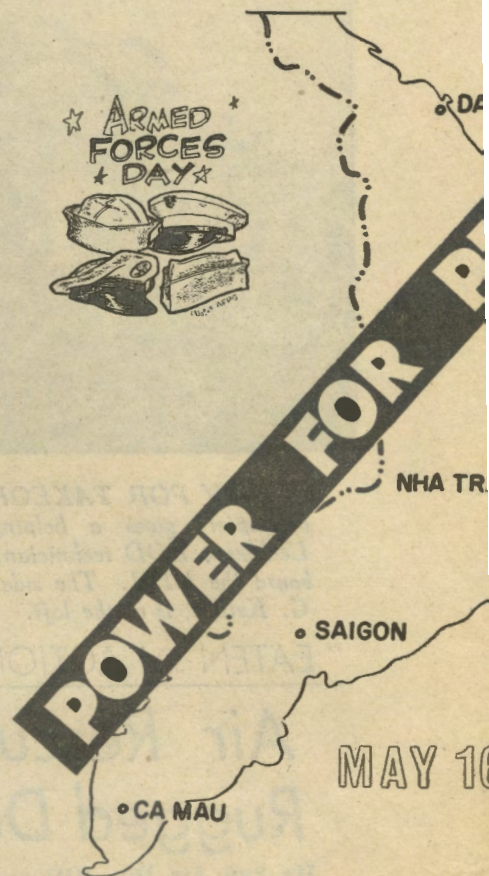
**MUNDANE THINGS, TOO**— Sp6 Lloyd B. Canady, serving his second VN tour, chats with his laundry woman at Camp Holloway, one of the many mundane things Viet Nam based servicemen go through daily.



**AFRS, MORALE BOOSTER**— Informative and entertaining, AFRS Saigon, with repeater stations, keeps the troops informed. Here, announcer PFC Brian Faulkner cues in sports director, Sp4 Steve Southerland (rear) for hourly newscast.



**SAIGON SECURITY DUTY**— PFC Richard T. Brewer of the 560th M.P. Co. checks with ARVN security guard, Pvt. Chau Kuong Hiep, guarding the USNS Card, damaged by terrorist explosion in Saigon harbor.



Story By  
SSgt. Bob Reid

Photo  
SP5 R.

Today, in the U.S. and throughout America's military might goes on display to the public during the annual Armed Forces Day celebration.

But for the American servicemen stationed in the Republic of Viet Nam it will be just another busy day, aiding, assisting, and training the forces of a gallant nation in its struggle against communist aggression.

It will be a day of slogging through mud; of riding the rear seat of fighter jets as they scream down on Viet Cong targets; of running into strange places with strange names to evacuate wounded; or perhaps, just standing away, drenched in tropical perspiration, performing thousands of mundane but necessary and support jobs.

How does the American serviceman's role here in Viet Nam?

A crew chief of a Huey chopper in the 1st Aviation Co., says: "My job is very important. It is a personal responsibility that I live for or sleeping. The pilot and copilot depend on me. His name is Sp5 Jewell Price, from California."

SFC Charles J. Gillespie, an aircraft shop foreman from Texarkana, Texas, says his job is important: "Through our support, we are helping keep the threat of the Viet Cong down. That's why my job is more important than in any other place, is important."

Serving his second hitch in Viet Nam as an aircraft inspector, Sp6 Lloyd B. Canady of Philadelphia, comments: "I know my job is important... to aid the Vietnamese in their struggle against the Viet Cong. I make sure that all inspections are carefully performed to insure the safety of the aircraft and the people whom will fly them."

Above are just a few of the quotes taken at random from dozens, all of whom are here in the presence of American troops in Viet Nam. It is an important and essential to halt the progress of the communist serpent in Asia. That's the feeling here on Armed Forces Day, 1964.



# ry Of Toil Toward Triumph Over Communism

NANG

FACE

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6, 1964

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**MONTAGNARD VISIT**— Sgt. Aubrey M. Cole, a radio operator from Birmingham, checks with a Montagnard village chief for ailing villagers somewhere in Viet Nam's central highlands. Cole is an "advance" man for civic action medical team.



**MARINE CORPS ADVISOR**— Maj. Alfred J. Croft Jr., carefully instructs a Vietnamese Marine Corps artillery crew on the operation of a 75 mm. pack howitzer in a remote village in the Mekong Delta area.



**BONE WEARY**— Drenched in perspiration, dog tired troops sweat out the torrid tropical heat while awaiting takeoff on one of the hundreds of daily flights that shuffle troops throughout Viet Nam.



**NAVY ADVISOR**— Senior Chief Yeoman James R. Rockholt Jr., of MAAAG, gets locale of recent operation from GySgt. Tran Van The, a platoon leader in the VN 2nd Marine Battalion.



**ON THE JOB FOR FREEDOM**— Armed Forces Day will just be another working day for troops in Viet Nam, including these three: control tower operator, Army Sp5 Russell W. Hall at old Pleiku airfield; AF flight engineer SMSgt. Sam A. Gilman shown beside his plane at main Pleiku AB; and aircraft mechanic Sp4 John S. Surinchak, at Camp Holloway.



**AIDMEN AT WORK**— Pot. Faust F. Guarino's broken leg is checked by SSgt. Thomas B. Ledford (center) and medic Sp5 Roy Tabor at the 52nd Aviation Bn. Dispensary.



# A Brief Historical Sketch Of MAAG's Decade Of Service

By SFC TONY BERMUDEZ

After nearly a decade of dedicated service to the Armed Forces of the Republic of Viet Nam, the Military Assistance Advisory Group yesterday faded from existence, merging with the Military Assistance Command.

For the past two years, MAAG, Viet Nam, the largest MAAG mission of the U.S. Armed Forces, has been under the leadership of Maj. Gen. Charles J. Timmes.

General Timmes, a 56-year-old combat paratrooper and holder of the Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star medals, arrived in Viet Nam in July 1961 and succeeded Lt. Gen. Lionel G. McGarr as MAAG Chief in July 1962.

The mission of MAAG, Viet Nam, now becomes an integral part of the Military Assistance Command, Viet Nam, commanded by Gen. Paul D. Harkins.

In 1950 the governments of the United States, France, Laos, Cambodia and Viet Nam made an agreement providing military assistance to Indochina. Thus was born MAAG Indochina, with the initiation of the first Mutual Defense Assistance Program (MDAP) support.

## Geneva Accords of 1954

After the fall of Dien Bien Phu on May 7, the Geneva agreements were signed on July 20 ending the hostilities and French rule in Indochina. MAAG Indochina became MAAG Viet Nam and MAAG Cambodia.

The mission of the Military Assistance Advisory Group in Viet Nam was to assist the government of the Republic of Viet Nam to raise the military capabilities of its Armed Forces through the advise and assistance of highly selected officers and enlisted men of the U.S. Forces.

MAAG provided advice to the Vietnamese Armed Forces on all matters of a military nature. General Timmes was preceded by top U.S. Army commanders who served as MAAG Chief. Prior to 1952, MAAG, Viet Nam, was headed by the late Brig. Gen. F.G. Brink.

General Brink was succeeded by then Maj. Gen. T.J. Trapnell, (1952 to 1954); Lt. Gen. John W. O'Daniel, (1954-1955); Lt. Gen. Samuel T. Williams, (1955-1960); and Lt. Gen. McGarr, (1960-1962).

When President Ngo Dinh Diem, ten years ago, sought the assistance of the United States, President Dwight D. Eisenhower wrote a letter to the President on Oct. 20, 1954 stating: "The purpose of this offer is to assist the government of Viet Nam in developing and maintaining a strong, viable state, capable of resisting attempted subversion or aggression through military means."

## Five Year Progress

From 1954 to 1959, through the economic help of the United States, the Republic of Viet Nam began their task of national reconstruction. During this

five-year period an agrarian program was initiated; the transportation system was rebuilt and rice production was increased enormously, reaching Viet Nam's pre-war rice production of 3.5 million metric tons.

By the end of 1959, Viet Nam was beginning to hold its own especially with the consistent economic aid granted by the United States. In Sept. 1960, Ho Chi Minh declared at the third national congress in Hanoi, that the North would start its war of liberation "...to liberate the south from the atrocious rule of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen.

Embarking upon a program of sabotage, murder, and terrorism, Viet Cong insurgents killed 3,000 and kidnapped 2,500 South Vietnamese civilians in 1960-61.

Unable to cope with the Viet Cong guerrillas, the government of Viet Nam in 1961 appealed to President John F. Kennedy to honor the unilateral declaration of 1954. President Kennedy promptly dispatched more American military advisors and equipment.

Two years ago the United States and Viet Nam announced an intensified program of additional American economic aid directed toward training government administrators, improving rural health, building more schools, pest and insect control, construction of new rural roads, expansion of industry, and the improvement of the living conditions of the mountain tribespeople.

In Feb. 1962, a United States Military Assistance Command was established in the Republic of Viet Nam. American advisors redoubled their efforts to help the Vietnamese people preserve their freedom and Independence. From Jan. 1962, to date, MAAG, Viet Nam, has suffered 22 killed in hostile action, 111 wounded and one missing.

Thousands of U.S. officers and men have seen service with MAAG, Viet Nam and have served with justifiable pride. Wherever these soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen are they carry within themselves an individual share of the priceless glory ...that of having served with MAAG, Viet Nam.



CABLE LOADERS AT WORK, TESTING STARCOM's SFC Cowart, ARVN's Sgt. Muoi

## STARCOM, ARVN Improve Phone Service On Military Circuits

Dial telephone exchanges used by the military in the Saigon-Cholon area will now be able to function more efficiently as a result of the installation of 'loaded cables' by ARVN signal personnel and communications specialists of the U.S. Army Strategic Communications Command.

The joint U.S.-ARVN signal project was formally opened last Saturday at the Telephone exchange in the headquarters of the ARVN Armed Forces at Camp Tran Hung Dao. Col. James M. Johnson, Chief, Sig. Br., Log. Div., USASEC, MAAG, and Lt. Col. Ta Thai Binh, Chief, ARVN Signal Directorate cut the traditional ribbon officially marking the event.

MAAG and ARVN signal officers responsible for the project reported that the system will reduce the tremendous overload on existing dial telephone exchanges. This is the first time that loaded communications cables have been installed in Viet Nam.

Loading of communications cables is done by inserting, at predetermined intervals, small coils of wire in each electrical path in the cable. By loading, the signal loss and distortion are greatly reduced allow-

ing for better quality of telephone conversation over greater distances.

The U.S. communications team was presented a commemorative plaque to carry back to USASCC headquarters in Alexandria, Va., by ARVN Signal Chief Lt. Col. Ta Thai Binh.

## Unclaimed Mail

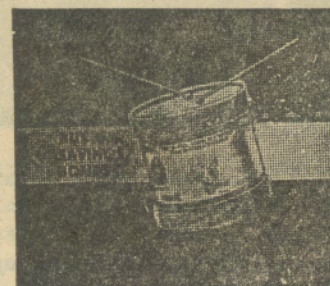
The following individuals have unclaimed mail at the main APO according to a release made by Lt. Edward O. de Bary, postal officer, Det. 1, 11th Air Postal Sqdn.

Personnel listed below are requested to call 60057 on or before June 7. If no word is received from addressee by this time, all letters will be returned to senders.

Sp5 Gary L. Allen  
Mr. Melvin F. Burkett  
SSgt. George Burke  
Pvt. Ralph W. Catchings  
PFC George Duncan  
Lt. Col. W. R. Eichelberger  
Sp5 Joseph E. Fields  
Sp5 Grady Gaskill  
MSgt. Marvin D. Holland  
Pvt. C. H. Higgins  
Maj. George E. Holtz  
WO Jerry D. Hill  
SSgt. Donald D. Johnson  
PFC Joseph Koshi  
Capt. Antonio L'Heureux  
SSgt. Clyde O. Nesbitt  
TSgt. Joseph E. Nickerson  
Pvt. Richard G. Niehaus  
Col. Harold L. Price  
Sp4 Earl I. Rash  
WO Bobbie G. Ross  
Maj. R. E. Shank  
Mr. Carl R. Stockton  
Sp4 Lawrence L. Thomas  
Capt. Robert L. Toye  
SSgt. James A. Whitener  
SFC R.F. Ziemer



**NOT NECESSARY—** Although MAAG, Viet Nam officially closed shop yesterday, it's not necessary to remove patches, as shown here. Present MAAG men with the patch on uniforms, may continue to wear it until they rotate.





## Roving Photographer

## Servicemen Here Would Like To Visit N.Y. World's Fair

The New York World's Fair which opened last month will be in operation for two years with a winter break from October to April. Americans serving in Viet Nam expressed their enthusiastic desire to visit the Fair. Even few servicemen, who saw the Seattle Fair and were disappointed, expressed high hopes that New York's "treat of the century" would be an experience of a lifetime.

Our roving photographer asked this week:

Do you plan to attend the World's Fair in New York City when you return to the United States?



Fr'koski Van Eynde

**Capt. Joseph P. Frankoski**, Advisor, PBTSZ, (Suffren, N.Y.): "Yes, I plan to visit the fair upon my arrival in the states next month. I hope that the New York World's Fair is better than the Seattle Fair."

**Capt. Donald Van Eynde**, Sr. Advisor, 37th Ranger Bn., Adv. Tm. 88, (River Grove, Ill.): "Yes. I plan to take my family there while on leave prior to my reporting to the Career Course at Ft. Benning."



Turner Ziffra

**Sp4 Roy D. Turner**, Signal NCOIC, Adv. Tm. 88, (Lake City, Ark.): "No! Due to circumstances beyond my control, I won't be able to visit New York when I get back to the states in December."

**PFC Allen J. Ziffra**, Radio Operator, Adv. Tm. 88, (Lombard, Ill.): "Yes. I am getting out of the Army this summer and I plan to take a vacation with my wife. I believe the Fair in New York would be the greatest attraction back in the States."

**Sgt. John J. Miciano**, Det. NCOIC, 39th Sig. Bn., (Los



Miciano Gishitomi

**Angeles, Calif.:** "Yes! I would love to go. When do I leave?"

**A3C Larry Y. Gishitomi**, Radio Operator, 1964 Comm. Gp., (Honolulu, Hawaii): "I wish I could see the New York World's Fair within the next two years. Right now, I would like to finish my tour in Viet Nam and then make plans."

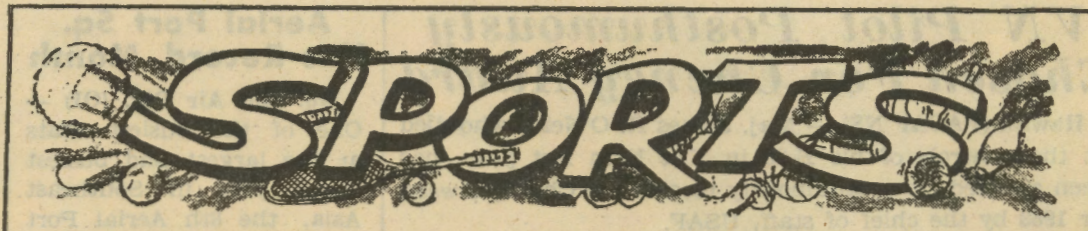


## (AFPS Feature)

1. What happened when the New York Giants' new halfback Dick James first got his hands on a football in the National Football League?
2. What record shared by Bob Allison and Harmon Killebrew was set July 18 in Cleveland during the 1962 season?
3. What was the original name of former heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano?
4. Where did pari-mutuel betting get its start?
5. How long did the New York Giants professional football team go without being shut out in a regular season game? Who ended their streak?

## Answers to Quiz

1. He ran a kickoff back out last season 31-0.
2. Pittsburgh shut them out. Pittsburgh shut them out without being shut out. The Giants went 10 years without being shut out.
3. The Giants went 10 years without being shut out.
4. This method of betting was introduced by a Parisian businessman, introduced by a Parisian businessman.
5. 4. Pierre Oller, a Parisian businessman.
3. His name was Rocco Marchegiano.
2. They hit grand slam bases loaded home runs in the same inning to establish a major league record.
1. They hit grand slam bases loaded home runs in the same inning to establish a major league record.



## Bien Hoa Airmen Form Vietnamese Little League

**2nd Air Div. (OI) —** Thanks to the persistence and enthusiasm of a small group of USAF airmen, Bien Hoa AB now has a four-team softball little league, believed to be the first in Southeast Asia.

Unaccustomed to any form of baseball game, the naturally quick and agile Vietnamese boys, with patient American coaching, rapidly mastered the fundamentals of the game. Official league play began on Apr. 11 with the four teams sponsored, respectively, by the Officers Club, Enlisted Men's Club, Holy Name Society and Masons.

The founder and present director of the league is SSgt. Joe Vega, a veteran coach of two stateside little league teams, who with the cooperation of A1C Bernard Thompson, conceived the idea and "sold" it to a group of their fellow airmen at Bien Hoa.

Many feared that the language barrier would be

OUT AT FIRST!  
Despite a language barrier.

too great a handicap and that the boys would lose interest. Undeterred by this skepticism, Sergeant Vega and airman Thompson visited the local primary school where the principal, Mr. Tran Van Gom, prepared a letter asking for boys from 11 to 15 interested in playing softball at Bien Hoa diamond.

The response so far exceeded expectations that the original plan for a three-team league was changed to include four teams for which sponsors, managers and coaches were readily found. Practice began in mid-March, and the volunteer coaches were unanimous in their praise of the boys' enthusiasm and the speed with which they gained skill at the game, despite the language barrier. Uniforms and equipment were furnished by the spon-

soring organizations and opening day was scheduled for Apr. 11.

In opening day ceremonies, Col. Ben S. Preston Jr., commander of the USAF 34th Tactical Group at Bien Hoa, congratulated Sergeant Vega on the success of his effort to bring the league into being. VNAF Captain Anh, executive officer of 23rd Air Support Group, threw out the traditional first ball of the game. The Officers and EM Club teams battled to a spirited 10-10 tie in seven innings.

The efforts of Sergeant Vega and A1C Thompson and the patience and cooperation of the team sponsors and coaches have not only brought a new game to the boys at Bien Hoa but also new concepts of teamwork, sportsmanship and international friendship.



AFPS WW

**TALENTED MISS —** Lovely Marianna Case, relaxing between scenes of her latest film, was a dental assistant before turning to modeling and then acting.

## Sojourners To Meet

The regular monthly business meeting of the Saigon Chapter, National Sojourners will be held at 7:30 Tuesday evening, May 19, at the Co Co Club, Nguyen Hue St. (Street of Flowers.)

Commissioned and Warrant officers, past or present, who are Master Masons and Sojourners are invited to attend. The meeting will be preceded by refreshments and a dinner.

## Baseball Standings

(As of May 6)

## American League

	W	L
Chicago	12	7
New York	13	8
Cleveland	13	9
Baltimore	14	10
Minnesota	13	11
Los Angeles	11	14
Detroit	10	13
Boston	10	14
Washington	12	17
Kansas City	9	14

## National League

	W	L
San Francisco	16	7
Philadelphia	14	9
Milwaukee	15	10
St. Louis	16	11
Pittsburgh	14	12
Cincinnati	13	13
Chicago	10	11
Houston	2	17
Los Angeles	10	16
New York	6	19



## VN Pilot Posthumously Chosen For Cheney Award

Hawaii (PACAF NS) — Maj. James R. O'Neill, who died at the controls of his B-26 in Viet Nam last year, has been selected to posthumously receive the Cheney Award for 1963 by the chief of staff, USAF.

The annual award is made for an "act of valor, extreme fortitude or self-sacrifice in humanitarian interest performed in connection with aircraft. The act need not necessarily be of military nature." However, it is limited to officers and enlisted men on active duty with the U.S. Air Force.

The 46-year-old Major O'Neill, according to official reports, sacrificed his life by remaining at the controls of his aircraft, after both engines had failed, to permit the navigator and observer to successfully bail out.

The twin-engine B-26 light bomber in which O'Neill was flying as instructor pilot to the Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF) crewman, lost power in both engines during an attack on communist Viet Cong defenses in the narrow, rugged mountain country near Pleiku AB on Feb. 6.

O'Neill took full command of the emergency and gave two orders in quick succession. The first was to salvo the bombs carried aboard the B-26, in order to lighten the bomber and give the crew added valuable seconds in which to bail out.

O'Neill's second order, according to Lt. James E. Johnson, rescued navigator on the flight, was for the crew to leave the ship. Following standard evacuation procedures, Johnson went over the side first. He was followed by the Vietnamese trainee-crewman.

"Time ran out for O'Neill,"

Johnson said. "He sacrificed his life for us by staying at the controls till we were both safely out."

Johnson hacked and crawled his way through dense jungles and over steep ridges for two days before reaching a clearing. He was spotted by another member of the air Commando group who was flying in a VNAF T-28 as part of a search effort.

Both crewmen told investigating officials that O'Neill, veteran of 50 combat missions in the B-26 during the Korean War, struggled to maintain control of the aircraft while they bailed out.

Thuong, the VNAF crewman, said he saw the B-26 crash into the side of a ridge and burst into flames shortly after his chute opened.

O'Neill is survived by his mother, Mrs. Caroline V. O'Neill of Huntington Station, Long Island, N.Y. O'Neill held the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters for his combat flying in Korea.

The Cheney Award was established in memory of Lt. William H. Cheney, Army Air Service, who was killed in an air collision at Foggia Italy, Jan. 20, 1918. The Cheney Award consists of a certificate bronze plaque, and a maximum \$500 honorarium.

Arrangements for the ceremony are now being made at Hq. USAF.

## Aerial Port Sq. Has Record Month

Hq. 2nd Air Div. (OI) — One of the busiest units at the largest and busiest aerial port in Southeast Asia, the 8th Aerial Port Squadron at Tan Son Nhut AB, has just completed a record month in its vital air cargo support of the special air warfare mission.

Three days before the end of the month, this hard working, round-the-clock organization had surpassed all previous records for tonnage of cargo handled in a single month. It was typical of this colorful squadron that the unit of cargo which broke the record was a 400-pound live tiger.

From March 27 through April 27, the 8th Aerial Port Sq. was directly responsible for handling and processing 11,670,861 pounds of military cargo and 6,875 passengers. These formidable totals were amassed during 1,389 aircraft missions. No aircraft experienced a delay in unloading or re-loading.

Crews working in shifts, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, unloaded cargo, sorted and rearranged it and reloaded it on other aircraft for delivery to field units aiding the Vietnamese forces in their fight against communist subversion.

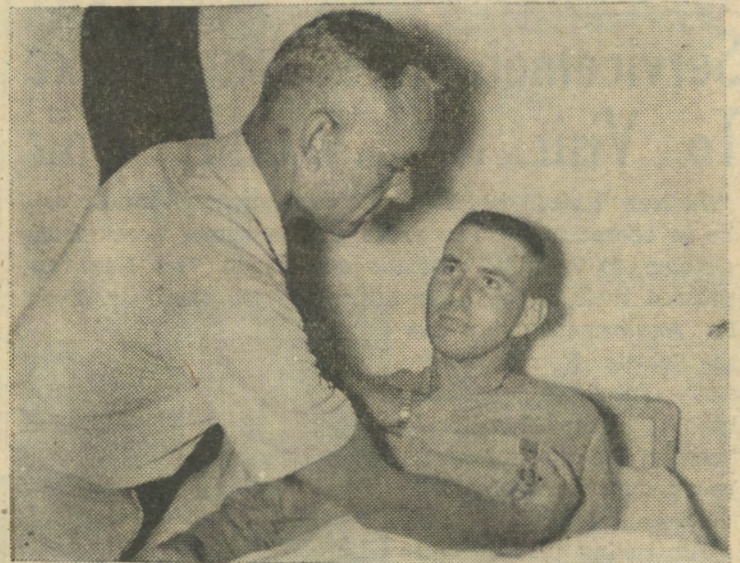
Detachments at Nha Trang, Qui Nhon, Da Nang, Can Tho and other airfields throughout Viet Nam and Thailand handle the delivery of the cargo to the "customer."

The tiger, a gift from a group of Montagnard tribesmen to the commander of the ARVN II Corps who gave it to Gen. Paul D. Harkins, commander of the US Military Advisory Command in Viet Nam, arrived at Tan Son Nhut on April 25. General Harkins, in turn, donated it to the Saigon Zoo. Other cargo ranged from field rations to ammunition.

The 8th Aerial Port Sq. is a component of the 315th Troop Carrier Group (Assault) air transport arm of the USAF 2nd Air Division, also based at Tan Son Nhut.

## Creative Writing Group

Personnel interested in joining the Creative Writing Workshop are invited to join the group every Monday at 8 p.m. at Rm. 29, 55 Mac Dinh Chi. This VAA - sponsored group is opened to all Americans.



**MARINE HERO—** Capt. Joseph N. Smith, Bn. Adm. ARVN Marine Corps Brigade, receives the Purple Heart medal from Lt. Col. Wesley C. Noren, (left) Sr. USMC Adm. during a recent bedside ceremony held at the HSAS Naval Station Hospital. He was wounded by a land mine during a recent operation. Captain Smith is the son of Brig. Gen. (USMC, Ret.) and Mrs. James M. Smith of La Mesa, Calif.

## MAAG Absorbed By MACV

(Continued from page 1)

mie N. Homan, IV Corps.

Also Col. Edward W. Markey, Sr. Adv., 7th Div., Lt. Col. John Hayes, Sr. Adv., Abn. Bde., Col. Frederick V. Harris, Sr. Adv., OG/SDC, Lt. Col. Andrew Nisbet Jr., Sr. Adv., Saigon Gia Dinh Spec. Sec., and Maj. James L. Singleton, Sr. Adv., Rail Security Det. Other assignment listings are scheduled to be released by MACV J-1 at a later date.

The new MACV command listing released by MACV Hqs. include the following assignments: Gen. Paul D. Harkins, Commander; Lt. Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Deputy Commander; Maj. Gen. Richard G. Stilwell, Chief of Staff; Col. M.J.L. Greene, SJS.

Brig. Gen. Ben Sternberg, J-1; Brig. Gen. Carl A. Youngdale, USMC, J-2; Brig. Gen. William B. De-

Puy, J-3; Brig. Gen. Frank A. Osmanski, J-4; Maj. Gen. Milton B. Adms, USAF, J-5; and Col. Philip S. Pomeroy, J-6.

Lt. Col. Keith B. Lain, Hq. Cmdt.; Col. Stanley J. Murday, AG; Lt. Col. Robert J. DeMund, SJA; Lt. Col. A.F. Driscoll, PM; Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Thomas E. Waldie, Chaplain; Col. Julian Juskalian, IG; Col. George T. Britton, Surgeon; Col. Basil L. Baker, USAF, PIO; Col. Harry L. Jones Jr., Comptroller; Col. Clyde R. Russell, Chief, SOG; and Col. Charles L. Jackson Jr., Director, O&T.

Col. William F. Lovell, Chief, Sector Affairs; Brig. Gen. John K. Bokes Jr., Director, JRATA; Col. Daniel A. Richards, Director, MAP; and Col. Edward D. Mohlere, Director, Army MAP & Log.

## Dateline Viet Nam

(Continued from page 1)

10 wounded, leaving five dead behind. Five VC barracks were burned down, 17 grenades and other munitions were seized, and 14 captives freed.

An air operational summary released by PACAF said that in the week ending May 3, ten government outposts were successfully defended from attack with air support, including one in daylight. C-47 and C-123 aircraft dropped 552 flares in defense of the outposts and hamlets.

Seventy VC were killed and 100 enemy structures

were hit by VNAF planes during the period during which 1,357 tactical air sorties were flown.

On the general war picture the VN Defense Ministry's press officer reported that last week the VC lost 194 killed plus 124 captured, 12 less casualties than the previous week. Government troops lost 87 killed, a 40 per cent drop. Friendly weapons losses were pegged at 71, compared to 113 the week before, while VC arms losses were put at 98 individual weapons and four "unit weapons."

## Mail THE OBSERVER Home

From :

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TO :

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Place Stamp Here

(8 cents Airmail)  
(5 cents 1st class)  
(Without Supplements.)