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UNBELIEVABLE BUT TRUE . . .

A Marine officer is confronted with the Viet Cong who have holed up into caves, using women and children as shields. He has three choices:

1. He can abandon the territory to the Communists.
2. He can use "conventional" weapons (explosives or flame throwers) which would destroy the enemy, but kill many innocent people.
3. He can "flush" the enemy out of the caves with tear gas.

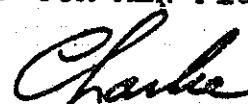
Wisely and humanely he decides to use tear gas.

1. The Viet Cong meekly surrender without inflicting any casualties upon the American forces.
2. The women and children emerge from the caves tearful but unhurt.
3. Even the lives of the enemy are spared.

And what happens to the Marine officer?

1. The press reports that "the offending officer" was "placed under investigation."
2. A "spokesman" announces such action is contrary to United States "policy" . . . although military policy is supposed to be secret.
3. A "high official" is disclosed as saying he would rather see the United States lose the war than use "gas."

WHAT WILL THIS DO TO THE MORALE OF OUR MEN FIGHTING IN VIET NAM?



CHARLIE