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SAIGON, VIETNAM

Jan. 22, 1966

U.S. Marine Civic Action Fund For Vietnam Tops \$100,000 Mark

Washington (USMC)—The Marine Corps Reserve Civic Action Fund for Vietnam, receiving assistance from grateful mothers, governors, and untold thousands more, has topped the \$100,000 mark in contributions already, and has established an additional \$100,000 goal by March 1.

Reports from Marine Reserve units around the country indicate a variety of sources for fund contributions.

The Marine Air Reserve Training Detachment in Seattle, Wash., has reported the owner of 15 restaurants in that area contributed his Christmas Eve receipts to the Civic Action Fund.

Early in the drive, two governors, George Romney of Michigan and William Scranton of Pennsylvania, proclaimed December 1965 "Marine Corps Civic Action Month" and urged citizens to contribute to and support the fund. Kentucky's governor, Edward Breathitt, likewise marked the opening of the program by urging support in his state, and similar reports from many other states are now being received.

Students and faculty at the University of Wisconsin added to the fund with contributions to CARE in the name of Dickey Chapelle, woman war correspondent and photographer, who was killed November 4, 1965,

while with a Marine patrol near Da Nang.

Marine Reserve units in Dallas have afforded citizens in their area the opportunity to demonstrate their support for U.S. action in Vietnam in a local Civic Action Fund drive they call DALLAS-DEMONSTRATION-65. They boosted the success of the program by obtaining extensive press, radio and television coverage and through use of a special envelope provided by CARE officials.

Letters and contributions, many of them from mothers of Marines in Vietnam, many from youngsters eager to share in the Vietnam war, have flooded the CARE office in Washington, expressing thanks for the opportunity to help the Marines in Vietnam.

A letter received at CARE sums up the spirit behind the contributions. It read: "Dear Sir: I can't do much, but that's (the contribution enclosed) for a Merry Christmas for a Vietnamese mother from a U.S. mother..."

Soldier Gets Urgent Advice

Saigon (USA-10) — A soldier in the Army's 1st Logistical Command doubts that he received good advice from an American fifth grader. A letter addressed by the youth to "Any Soldier in Vietnam" said he hoped the recipient would "hurry and win the war and kill all the Germans."

USO Handles Phone Calls To States, Operations Extended

Saigon — A serviceman in Saigon now can pick up a telephone handset and within minutes be in contact with an operator in San Francisco.

From there, he completes his call to any place in the U.S.

These calls to the U.S. — previously made at the Saigon post office and booked through Manila — now are available at the Saigon USO.

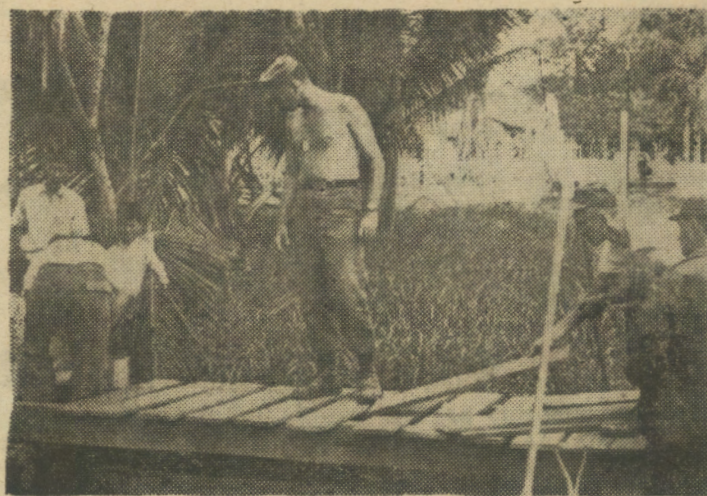
At the present time, the calls can be placed between 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., but, according to Joe Walters, the club director, plans are being made to extend the time to 11 p.m.

The USO provides the facilities for the calls — the waiting room for those calling home and the booths for the phones — but the Saigon PTT conducts the operation as it did when the calls were made at the post office, Walters said.

More than 100 servicemen pass through the Saigon USO daily to use the stateside call service, according to Walters.

The service — available to all those who are authorized to use the USO — takes two to three days from the time the caller applies for the call, but emergency calls are

(Cont'd on P-11, Col. 5)



LOG SPAN REPLACED — Army Capt. C.R. Anderson, center, supervises the construction of a wooden bridge which replaces a log span used to cross one of the canals. This is part of a project to lay nearly a quarter of a mile of concrete roadway through the Bac Lieu hamlet of Xom Moi-A in the Delta.
(See story on Page 4)

High Rate Accepted For Consecutive Overseas Tour Within PACAF For Airmen

Airmen with AFSCs which can be utilized within Pacific Air Forces, and who apply for a consecutive overseas tour (COT) within the command, are being accepted at a high average, figures released by the command Directorate of Personnel reveal.

The figures referred to those airmen forecasting in October 1965 for April 1966 rotations. Within Thailand 345 airmen forecasted who could be utilized in PACAF. Of this number, 34 applied for COT in PACAF, and all were granted the COT.

Of the 490 forecasting in Vietnam who could be utilized within PACAF, 46 applied for COT and 41 were retained through the COT route.

The remaining five were not given consecutive tours due to a lack of vacancies within their AFSC in areas requested.

Airmen with AFSCs which

can be utilized within the command are being urged to apply for a consecutive overseas tour, personnel officials have stated. These airmen should be receiving special counseling at the time of forecasting.

Personnel interested in remaining in the command via the COT route, or volunteering for a tour in Southeast Asia, are urged to visit their base personnel office for further information.
(PACAF NS)

Free Messages Now Travel To States Courtesy Of MARS

Saigon — From Vietnam to the States, messages by radio are now available free to American servicemen stationed throughout the Republic.

Last month, the U.S. Army Strategic Communication Command and the Army's 2nd Signal Group set up seven Military Affiliate Radio Service (MARS) stations, the first of their kind to be established in Vietnam.

Army-operated MARS stations are located at Qui Nhon, An Khe, Cam Ranh Bay, Nha Trang, Soc Trang, Long Binh and Di An. In addition, there is one Air Force-operated unit at Tan Son Nhut Air Base for personnel sta-

tioned in the Saigon-Cholon metropolitan area.

Messages travel from the local stations to the main MARS facility at the Pentagon. From there, the messages are sent to the station nearest the address of the message, where they are typed and mailed through regular mail channels.

Personnel interested in sending messages through the MARS network to stateside addresses are urged to contact the MARS affiliate nearest their duty station.

(Editor's Note: The following letter from General W.C. Westmoreland, COMUSMACV, to Lt. Gen. Cao Van Vien, Chief of Joint General Staff, expresses the hopes for a happy and prosperous New Year for the people of Vietnam of all American and Free World military forces.)

Lieutenant General Cao Van Vien
Chief of Joint General Staff
Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces

Dear General Vien:

On the occasion of the Lunar New Year and on behalf of the members of the Free World Military Forces, I extend to you and all the people of Vietnam my sincere best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

The Year of the Snake witnessed vast changes in this noble struggle here in Vietnam. The gallant Vietnamese Armed Forces, joined by Free World Military Forces, inflicted serious defeats on the enemy and demonstrated spirited determination to rid this nation of the Viet Cong scourge. These victories presage greater successes throughout the Year of the Horse.

In keeping with the spirit and traditions of TET, it is my fervent hope that the Lunar New Year will find members of the "Family of Vietnam!" returning to the hearth of their ancestors in ever increasing numbers.

May you and all of the people of Vietnam enjoy a year filled with good health, good luck, prosperity and peace.

Respectfully,

W.C. WESTMORELAND
General, United States Army
Commanding

Respect Vietnamese New Year

For many of you, this is your first tour of duty in a foreign land and your first encounter with the traditions, customs and mores of a foreign people. You may have already witnessed some religious ceremonies and taken part in some holiday festivities.

Yesterday was the most important holiday for the Vietnamese people, the New Year or TET. The occasion is of such magnitude that strict traditions and customs are followed, for it is believed that the manner in which one conducts himself during the beginning of the new year will reflect his actions throughout the entire year.

With the coming of the new year, celebrated for three days that started Jan. 21, the TET holiday provides a time for the Vietnamese to throw off all worries, rancors and hates of the past year. Everyone is jovial during this time, for to be otherwise would be wishing ill upon oneself.

We Americans are guests of the Vietnamese people and have the obligation to conduct ourselves properly during this important holiday season, for respect for the beliefs of others is fundamental to the American way of life. (The Editor)

Men, Might, And Morale

Napoleon Bonaparte possessed a profound knowledge of the morale of an individual engaged in battle. He is reputed to have said on one occasion, "Every soldier carries in his knapsack a marshal's baton." — a remarkable tribute to the fighting man.

A review of history leaves no doubt that the confidence and respect expressed in those famous words brought to France victory after victory.

Napoleon's combinations of military strategy and understanding of the motivations of men made him an irresistible force on the European continent for a quarter of a century—truly a manifestation of the genius of the man.

He knew that morale, invisible and intangible, is a powerful force. Morale can help overcome the most formidable obstacles and turn defeat into victory.

Morale cannot be left to chance. Individual and unit morale must be nurtured, for good morale is a key to military success. (ANF)

SCHEDULE

AJRC, Vietnam

RADIO

(News on the hour and at 0630 and 0730 daily)

MONDAY—THROUGH—FRIDAY

0008	Be Still and Know	1830	Bandstand USA
0010	Night Train	1905	Jim Ameche
0505	Country Corner	2000	To 2200 Monday Only
0605	Dawnbuser		Pro Football or Basketball
0635	Devotions	2005	Tues.—Footlights and Sound Tracks
0705	Devotions		Wed.—Jazzbook, Vol. II
0830	Ira Cook		Thur.—George Shearing
0905	Destination Noon		Fri.—Folk Music of the World
1205	Johnny Magnus	2105	Australian News
1315	Focus	2110	Night Beat
1320	Siesta Time	2200	News Thirty
1405	Monitor	2230	Night Beat
1505	Country Corner	2330	Tonight Show
1605	Swinging Sixties		

SATURDAY

0008	Be Still and Know	1320	Swing Serenade
0010	Spotlight on Jazz	1405	C&W Waxworks
0105	Night Train	1605	Swinging Sixties
0505	Big Band	1805	Shindig
0530	American Popular Music	1830	Bandstand USA
0605	Dawnbuser	1905	Sammy Davis Jr.
0905	Destination Noon	2005	Grand Ole Opry
1205	Swing Serenade	2105	Australian News
1315	Focus	2110	Night Beat

SUNDAY

0008	Be Still and Know	0830	Protestant Hour
0010	Spotlight on Jazz	0905	Destination Noon
0105	Night Train	1205	Silver Platter
0505	Sounds of The 60's	1230	Folk Music of the World
0530	Catholic Hour	1315	Panorama
0605	Navy Hour	1600	College Football
0635	Moods in Melody	1835	Meet the Press
0705	Army Hour	1905	Small World
0735	Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir	2005	Till Midnight
0805	Navy Swings	2105	Australian News/Sports
0820	Myron J. Bennett	2115	Till Midnight

TELEVISION

Weekly Armed Forces Radio and Television, Vietnam, program schedules will begin in the January 29 issue of The Observer.

Honor Roll

LEGION OF MERIT

2nd Award

Col Howard B. St. Clair

1st Award

Lt Col Charles L. Martin
Lt Col John A. Sadler

BRONZE STAR MEDAL w/V

(Posthumous)

Sp4 Marvin M. Belt

BRONZE STAR MEDAL w/V

Capt Frank S. Adams
Capt Gerard C. Royal
1st Lt Edward C. Brady
1st Lt Everett C. Harris
1st Lt John W. Thompson
MSgt Antonio Gutierrez

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

(Posthumous)

SSgt Arthur E. Hickman
Sgt Ralph E. Farmer

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

3rd Award

Lt Col Walter R. Adkins Jr.
Lt Col Lloyd R. Cain
Lt Col Dmitri J. Tadish
Lt Col James D. Tynan
Capt Samuel W. Smith
Capt Patrick M. Trinkle
Capt James L. Drinkwater

2nd Award

Lt Col Francis J. Ford
Lt Col Daniel L. Johnson
Lt Col John L. Mohl
Maj Robert Gilliam
Capt Charles B. Toftoy
Capt Joseph E. Conn
MSgt Walter H. Bruce
MSgt Andrew G. Voytko
SFC Douglas H. Campbell
SFC Julius E. Sasser

1st Award

Col Ralph L. Miller
Lt Col Edward H. O'Donnell
Maj John E. Place
Maj James R. Austin
Maj Clayton W. Humphreys
Maj Harry H. Wilt
Capt Anthony U. Harring
Capt Joseph Lucas
Capt Charles S. Mills Jr.
Capt Robert M. Schmid
Capt Roger D. Venden
Capt Cole B. Whaley
Capt Ludwig A. Bezemek
Capt Bernard C. Heer Jr.
Capt Leroy D. Hammond
Capt Richard D. Pecco
Capt John P. Booth III
Capt Frederick J. G. Caristo
Capt Gerald G. Osburn
Capt David Roche
Capt Robert T. Smith Jr.
SMJ Daniel S. Spurling
SMaj Jimmie W. Armentrout
SMaj Seaborn W. Byars
MSgt Doyle N. Sadler
SFC Cecil O. Bowen
SFC Andrew C. Jackson
SFC Lonnie L. Spivey Jr.
SFC William E. Woods
SFC William B. Woody
SFC Neal E. Hinegardner
SFC John B. Casavant
SFC Ernest R. Davis
SFC Paul Miller
SFC Donald Wilson
Sp7 Billy M. Nieman
SSgt Hiram T. Harmon
SSgt Claude H. p.
SSgt Jerry J. Moreau
SSgt James B. Seaquist
SSgt Emory G. Snell
SSgt Billy J. Blackmore Sr.
SSgt Daniel R. Lowrey
Sgt Wayne S. Churchill
Sp5 Clarence J. Myhre
Sp4 Phillip P. O'Donnell
Sp4 Arthur L. Reichstadt
Sp4 Douglas F. Larson

JOINT SERVICE COMMENDATION MEDAL

Lt Col Edmund G. Renter
Capt Warne D. Mead

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL w/V

Maj John U. Thompson
Capt James W. Sawey
Capt Dorrance D. Major
1st Lt John F. Reid
MSgt Andrew G. Voytko
MSgt James E. Putman
SSgt Rufus W. Mendenhall
SSgt Raymond G. Henderson
SSgt Joseph W. Hudson
SSgt Roy E. Shelmut
SSgt Eddie L. Williams
SSgt William F. Jackson
SSgt Ilif D. Rundall
SSgt Samuel E. Lamb
SSgt Donald W. Linton
Sp4 Paul E. Mitchell
PFC Ronald J. Stuckey

—Stability Operations—

By 1970, we may be faced with more far reaching changes in Army force structure. These struggles between government and organized insurgents for control of land and people threatening independence will place increasing demands on the U.S. Army as a major resource of the United States in coping with such situations.

As before in our own history, when soldiers from afar, Generals Von Steuben, Kosciusko, Count Pulaski, Lafayette, and others served the United States in our revolutionary war for independence; now U.S. Army leadership can serve the developing nations which request U.S. assistance by helping to provide for them that security without which stable political, economic, and social institutions cannot prosper and preservation of independence is impossible.

Readiness to assist the developing nations in this type war are one of the major challenges of our professional future, and on this "battleground of the future..." we intend to maintain our position in the best tradition of the Army, up front to "the head of the column and to the right of the line," as always, whenever the national interests and the security of the United States are threatened, no matter the degree of that threat.

Brig. Gen. Robert C. Taber
Deputy Dir. Strategic Plans and Policies
Department of the Army

All Services Now Make VRB Payments

Washington (AFNB) — The Variable Reenlistment Bonus (VRB) program went into operation for all services Jan. 1, after final Department of Defense review.

First term reenlistees in qualified skills may receive from one to four times the regular bonus.

VRB payments do not count against the \$2,000 a person may earn in regular reenlistment bonuses throughout a career.

Each service requires a person to be E-3 or higher to qualify, although Army and Marine Corps specify certain specialties must be pay

grade E-4 or higher to qualify.

Almost all specialties now under proficiency pay will receive the bonus. Many other specialties will also qualify for VRB.

Payments will normally be spread out in equal yearly installments with the first payment on reenlistment and the others on each reenlistment anniversary date.

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C. G. Gen. W. C. Westmoreland
Info. Off. Col. B. W. Legare

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Father, Son Team Blast Viet Cong From China Sea

Saigon (USN-IO) — The radio came alive. It was a spotter ashore. He needed the aid of off-shore Naval gunfire.

Aboard the destroyer USS Ingraham, the company of Ferris and Ferris

Music At Midnite Aired By USO Aid

Saigon — Early morning listeners to Armed Forces Radio Station Vietnam can choose music ranging from the classics to the popular selections, and hear a true-to-life American female voice announcing the program.

For one hour every day—just after midnight—Patricia (Patty) Krause conducts a show for the audience that works the night shift, or for those whose who want to relax after a busy evening.

Patty—as she is known to those who are becoming regular listeners—does the show in her off-duty time. She is kept busy during the day as an associate director at the Saigon USO.

Radio work is “old hat” to Patty. She worked with the Far East Network in Japan, masterminding “Bedside Bandwagon” for the patients at the U.S. Air Force hospital in Hokkaido. Most of the programs on the half-hour show originated at the station, but some were actually done from the bedsides of the hospital patients, Patty said.

jumped to the gun as the familiar sound of the “general quarters” alarm beat through the ship.

For Ingraham, it was another job designed to blast out the Viet Cong. For Ferris and Ferris, it was much the same as they slipped into their positions on gun mount 52. Lin Ferris, a first class commissaryman, gave Bob Ferris, fireman apprentice, a pat on the back as the order came from the ship's gunnery control to “commence firing.”

Lin is the projectile loader on this five inch gun, Bob is the powder loader and Lin's son. Together they are a formidable father-and-son team that makes Ingraham a top notch fighting machine and unit for peace.

When the order came to secure, Lin headed for the mess deck and a well deserved meal with his son. Also, a word of congratulation from Bob on his father's recent reenlistment for another six years in the U.S. Navy.



FERRIS TO FERRIS TO VC — Lin Ferris, commissaryman first class (left) and his son Bob Ferris, fireman apprentice, work hand-in-hand in Mount 52 aboard the destroyer USS Ingraham in a recent Naval gunfire support mission. (U.S. Navy Photograph)

Air Force Men At Bien Hoa Aid Local People With Gifts, Work

Bien Hoa (UAF-IO) — Vietnamese soldiers stand guard outside Thoi Son hamlet and school protecting the makers of good will.

“Kids pop out of nowhere when we use our heavy equipment on the roads,” comments SSgt. John E. Runion, one of 40 Air Force men involved in the village road improvement program and construction work at the hamlet's school. During each work period, an armed squad of Vietnamese soldiers stands guard to protect the workers.

Other officers and airmen stationed at the tactical fighter base at Bien Hoa volunteer to work on large scale good will projects in their off-duty time.

Maj. Wayne M. Spray, base humanitarian officer, coordinates the charitable activities of such groups as the Protestant and Catholic Men of the Chapel, officer's and enlisted men's clubs and several tactical and maintenance squadrons involved in local good will projects.

Good will may come in the form of a bar of soap, a pencil, or a small toy from organizations and individuals in the U.S. to the 140 children at Tan Mai orphanage, three miles from the base.

“The look on the kids' faces as we handed each of them a toy made it all worthwhile,” said Sgt. Glen H. Edwards who led “The Good Shepherd Project,” which brought the much needed goods to the children.

About 75 U.S. Army and Air Force men provided construction assistance, new facilities, clothing, dental and medical care for the 60 children at Ho Nai orphanage. Chaplain (1st Lt.) Dennis M. Dwyer, base Catholic chaplain, who spearheaded the

Ho Nai project, said that the gifts from the U.S. for the orphanage “have been pouring in at a gratifying rate.”

Three hundred Vietnamese students are learning to say “thank you” in English

thanks to 12 Air Force men teaching them conversational English at Bien Hoa High School.

The Air Force men at Bien Hoa are on target with their bomb of good will.

Screaming Eagles Have Close Calls With Viet Cong Bullets

Bien Hoa (USA-IO) — A rifle bullet penetrated the helmet Sp5 Henry L. Copen was wearing, and all he received was a headache. Another rifle slug struck a hand grenade slung on the rifle belt worn by Sgt. Albino Lopez and split the grenade.

The two men, both with the same company of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, were on a search and destroy mission when the incidents happened.

Copen was manning a .50 caliber machine gun as part of the unit's perimeter defense. The bullet penetrated the helmet he was wearing, but fell to the ground instead of continuing on its way.

The Korean War veteran had always complained about wearing the helmet, but now “I never want to take it off,” he remarked.

Lopez was leading a fire team from the landing zone

after a helicopter assault when a bullet, fired at close range, struck one of the hand grenades he had slung on his belt.

The impact knocked him down, and he felt his side to see where he had been hit, Lopez recalled. “There was no blood, but I noticed that the bullet had struck the grenade's detonating device and then split the grenade.”

“I was lucky on two counts,” Lopez said. “The bullet could have hit me and the grenade could have exploded to finish the job. I'm sure glad it didn't because I have a four-month-old girl back home I haven't seen.”



SERGEANT HOLDS ORPHAN — “Is it alive?” seems to be the question of this Vietnamese tot as she looks at a toy duck held by Air Force SSgt. Joseph I. Liebson. Gifts of toys to orphanages near Bien Hoa is part of a project sponsored by Air Force Protestant Men of the Chapel at Bien Hoa. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



CASUALTY — A wounded Vanguard from the 18th Infantry is readied for evacuation by aid men. The unit was part of the 1st Infantry Division's elements which participated in "Operation Smash" in jungles north of Bien Hoa.

Civic Action Project Develops Quarter-Mile Concrete Roadway

Bac Lieu (USA-IO)— A joint civil action project dubbed "Self Help" got off to a spirited start the day after Christmas among Americans and Vietnamese deep in the heart of the Mekong Delta.

Object of the project was to surface a perpetually mud-filled road running through the Bac Lieu hamlet of Xom Moi-A and to stimulate the local populace into improving their living conditions through community development.

The idea for the project was born when the main road was closed for security reasons, and the hamlet inhabitants were forced to use a secondary, mud-splattered road that runs alongside a drainage canal.

Feeling this was a good opportunity to awaken the energies and talents of the people, a quorum of cooperation was organized among Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, United States Operations Mission personnel and local civic leaders.

Sparked by U.S. Army Capt. Edwin B. Zipp, com-

mandant of the MACV detachment at Bac Lieu, rock and sand was secured from local government sources, cement from USOM channels, and a volunteer labor force from MACV personnel, Bac Lieu high school students and Xom Moi-A hamlet residents.

The project opened with an overwhelming response. On the first morning, more than 100 students turned out, along with dozens of hamlet residents, while a score of American soldiers extended help to their neighbors.

At the end of the first day, rocks were laid over the muddy sections of the road, cement was poured over long stretches of rock bed, and a 10-foot wooden bridge was built to replace a single-log span.

Those working on the project are using only off-duty

time and the project still has a long way to go. But, when it is completed, the hamlet people will have nearly a quarter-mile of concrete road—a road they can be mighty proud of because they built it themselves.

Airmen Told To Use Good Judgement When Selecting Stateside Assignments

Airmen currently in Southeast Asia are being asked to be realistic in selecting bases of choice when they are scheduled to rotate to the CONUS. In this way, they can avoid disappointment, say Directorate of Personnel officials at PACAF Headquarters.

The following message from Hq. USAF was received recently by the PACAF Directorate of Personnel and sent to the units in the field for compliance:

"Reference is made to the designation of bases of choice by airmen oversea returnees outlined in paragraph 1013 and 7013D, AFM 39-11.

"The sizable buildup of Air Force personnel in Southeast Asia and the programmed continuing increases will generate an equally large rotation back to the CONUS as tours are completed,

"It obviously will not be possible to maintain the high selection satisfaction rate of a base or state of choice that has been experienced by airmen returnees in past months.

VC 'Chow Call' Interrupted By 'Red One' Raiding Party

Bien Hoa (USA-IO)— Elements of the 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, have inflicted heavy losses on the Viet Cong in recent operations in the jungles north of here.

The Vanguards of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, interrupted "chow call" at one of the 16 VC camps they destroyed during "Operation Smash." Hot food was on the tables at a VC quarter-master depot, and there were pens containing pigs and chickens in the camp.

At another camp, training devices—barbed wire obstacle courses, punji traps and trip wires attached to bamboo fences—were discovered.

The Vanguards destroyed a total of 500 pounds of flour, 1,200 pounds of rice and some small arms ammunition during the operation.

In another raid near Di An, elements of the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, Rangers also found hot food on the tables at a large VC base camp.

The camp apparently had been used as an ammunition depot. More than 70 claymore mines—in various stages of construction—were found, as well as some anti-personnel mines and more than 10,000 rounds of U.S. rifle ammunition.

In a dispensary at the same camp, documents on VC medical cases, anti-malaria pills and a quantity of penicillin were discovered.

The Rangers also picked

up 500 pounds of rice and some VC uniforms before they destroyed the camp.

Water Witch Finds Hidden Stream For Battery Showers

Phu Loi (USA-IO)— Water, water everywhere, but not a drop can be found to take a shower.

This was the problem of Headquarters Battery, 23rd Artillery Group, 1st Infantry Division, until PFC Jack D. Pitman displayed the powers of a water witch.

Pitman broke off a forked branch from a bush and walked around holding the "divining rod" in front of him in the manner of water witches since time immemorial.

After scouting the area under the disbelieving eyes of other men, Pitman's witching stick "nosed down", affirming the presence of a water vein.

Soon the skeptical onlookers pitched in with the confident private, driving a galvanized iron pipe into the ground.

Thirty-five feet of digging produced enough water for all the men to take a shower.

Fortunately for Private Pitman, the days of witch burning are past history.

Illinois Pays Bonus To Vietnam Service Veterans

The Illinois State Legislature has enacted a bonus for servicemen and veterans who served in Vietnam.

The following is an extract of the Illinois Bonus Law:

"Section 2: Every person who has served on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States on or after Jan. 1, 1961, and prior to such time as Congress declares such persons ineligible for the Vietnam Service Medal, is entitled to receive compensation of \$100 for

such service if (a) he had been a resident of the State of Illinois for at least 12 months immediately preceding the time he entered the service; (b) he is still in active service, is honorably separated or discharged from such service, has been furloughed to a reserve or has been retired,

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ment, the following guidance should be added to counseling of the airmen on rotation to CONUS from all oversea areas:

"Airmen possessing skills directly supporting a specific weapon system should logically expect assignment to the CONUS bases, states and areas under the jurisdiction of the major air command, which utilizes that particular weapon system. As examples, airmen with skills utilized primarily by MAC should expect CONUS assignment to MAC bases; those with skills supporting ADC weapon systems would expect assignment to ADC bases, etc. This logic applies especially to airmen personnel deploying with TAC units, who should expect almost certain return to TAC bases when they rotate to CONUS." (PACAF NS)

"For the individual's benefit and to lessen the likelihood of disappoint-

Washington Memos

NORTH AMERICAN AIR Defense Command, Colorado Springs, Col. will be reorganized April 1, including its component commands. The move includes realignment of the U.S. Army Air Defense Command and RCAF Air Defense Command.

NORAD'S REALIGNMENT is in consonance with the changing emphasis of the major threat to North America from manned bombers to ballistic missiles and overall improvements being made to the air defense weapons control system. The reorganization will coincide with acquisition of an improved back-up interceptor control (BUIC) system coupled with the SAGE system.

AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING Unit Award was presented to 1st Air Commando Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla., for pioneering in Special Air Warfare tactics and techniques. In two years since its founding, 1st Air Commando Wing has deployed training teams to three foreign countries to train indigenous personnel in special air warfare techniques. The wing conducted training for U.S. personnel and provided a rapid reaction Air Commando Force which was twice deployed overseas under emergency conditions.

COUNSELLING FOR OBLIGATED Volunteer (OBV) junior officers is being tested by Army to encourage OBVs to change categories and evaluate what Army offers careerwise. Counselling is by a six-officer Office of Personnel Operations team. Backgrounds qualify members to represent all Army career branches during visits to selected installations.

NAVY HAS CONDUCTED operational tests on an unusual rescue net for use in UH-2 Seasprite helicopters. The net, with a ladle-shaped handle for stability, can be towed to downed airmen. It has capacity for two persons in event a crewman is lowered into the water. New net has been incorporated into UH-2 production program and will be retrofitted into all delivered Seasprite aircraft.

U.S. ARMED FORCES personnel traveling to Thailand by commercial carriers must have correct credentials, including a valid passport, prior to their arrival. Only military personnel traveling entirely by military aircraft are exempt from passport requirements in that country.



ENEMY RIFLE— Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor inspects a Chinese Communist 7.62 automatic weapon while visiting the 173rd Airborne Brigade near Bao Trai, RVN. The weapon was captured by the paratroopers the day before the Secretary's visit, in a fierce engagement with the VC, which left 111 enemy dead. From left to right are: Brig. Gen. Ellis W. Williamson, commanding general, 173rd, Secretary of the Army Resor and Maj. J.O. Seaman, commanding general, 1st Infantry Division. (U. S. Army Photo by Sp5 Charles Sparrow)

Chopper Crew Risk Lives Saving Injured U.S. Marine Pilot Buddy

Chu Lai (USMC-IO)— The injured Marine was lying on a steep rock-slide slope overlooking an 800-foot drop.

Piloting a Marine Observation Squadron (VMO)-6 Huey, Maj. Herbert J. Harkey leveled his helicopter 40 feet above the victim, keeping the Huey's rotor tips less than three feet from the slope of the slide.

Cpl. Frank Dalton, crew chief, lowered a sling to the infantry Marines protecting their wounded buddy. The helpless pilot had been wounded in the hip and had both legs tied together as a first aid measure. In his extended position, Dalton could not winch him into the side hatch without guiding the lift.

Sliding out the doorway of the 'copter, the corporal balanced himself on a two-inch landing skid, and guided the lift toward the hatchway. In the cockpit, Major Harkey delicately shifted the control stick to compensate for the lopsided balance.

As the victim came abreast of the hatchway, Dalton eased the rifle from the pilot's back to prevent the chopper's blades from hitting the weapon.

After the crew had successfully guided the suspended body into the 'copter, he pulled himself back in and off the skid.

The major, throughout the weight-shifting, counterbalancing pick up, was never more than a wrist flick from crashing the helicopter into the side of the mountain.

Carry-All 'Bus Service' Doing Booming Business

Qui Nhon (USA-IO)— The seats aren't padded and some of the neighborhoods it frequents are classed as rough ones, but the Army's 1st Logistical Command in Qui Nhon has a mighty popular "bus service" that's doing quite a lot of business.

The 579th Transportation Company "bus and truck line" has hauled everything from equipment-laden soldiers ready for combat to 10,000 pounds of barbed wire per truck from Qui Nhon into the mountains of central Vietnam.

Commanded by Capt. Ronald Bodziony, the 597th has been providing hauling service for the U.S. Army Support Command, Qui Nhon, and the units that Qui Nhon backs up logistically. Such Army combat units as those in the 1st Cavalry Division were customers of the 597th in their first long, dangerous trek up VC-infested

Route 19, and they continue depending on the 60 big stake-and-platform tractor-trailers for their daily resupply of logistics from Qui Nhon.

Men and equipment have been hauled all over the highlands sector for almost five months by the "buses" that like to rough it.

The trucks make their way almost daily up Route 19 to An Khe and beyond to Pleiku frequently. And when the situation warrants it, the 597th pushes in active battle areas to get the supplies through to combat forces.

more than a wrist flick from crashing the helicopter into the side of the mountain.

Vanguard Chapel Dedicated; People Of RVN Give Plaque

Bien Hoa (USA-IO)— "Blood, sweat, tears and agony went into the construction of this chapel for friends who died in combat. These efforts make this as important as the great cathedrals of Europe."

These were the opening remarks of Chaplain (Col.) Daniel O. Wilson at the dedication of a memorial chapel for the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry.

The Vanguard Chapel was built by men of the 2nd

25th Inf. Div. Walks Only 75 Yards During 'Hike' From Hawaii

Pleiku (USA-IO)—Troops of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, had to walk only some 75 yards to get to their new home in Vietnam.

U.S. Air Force C-141 Starlifters air-shuttled the "Tropic Lightning" fighting men from Hickam Field, Hawaii, to Pleiku. They disembarked and walked the 75 yards to the waiting stake and platform trucks from the 27th Transportation Battalion 4th, Transportation Command. The next stop was the Pleiku staging area.

Army Gives Shock Cases Intensive Care

Washington (ANF)— An intensive treatment unit, one of a few of its kind in the world and the only one in U.S. military or government service, has been installed at the Army's Walter Reed General Hospital here to care for shock cases that do not respond to standard treatment.

The unit is made up of a small but highly complex group of devices clustered around a special bed which permits a wide range of treatment without moving the patient.

Quick diagnostic information comes from a small laboratory section and a large-screen fluoroscope.

In addition, the bed provides a constant indication of the patient's weight, down to the nearest gram, an important factor in gauging the exact amount of blood required.

Hospital officials indicate that the unit will be devoted to refractory shock cases, especially trauma produced by enemy action, in which the emphasis is on sustaining the patient through the crisis period.

Battalion, 18th Infantry, as a memorial to those who have fallen in battle in Vietnam.

Men from the rifle companies secured mahogany for construction of the building. After the louvered sides and rafters were in place, men from the unit's headquarters company provided the sheet metal for the roof.

Sp5 David P. Botzenherdt, who supervised the building's construction, personally attended to the finishing touches of the chapel's interior.

The chapel will accommodate 96 people.

Following the ceremony inside the chapel, a plaque at the building's entrance was unveiled.

The plaque, a gift of the Vietnamese people, reads: "In memory of our comrades of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, who gave their lives selflessly and gloriously in the service of their country and on behalf of the free people of the Republic of Vietnam."

TET Scenes W

Similar Scenes Welcome Year Of The Horse This We

Saigon—TET is the Vietnamese Lunar Festival—the biggest and most significant holiday of the year.

Instead of centuries, the Vietnamese calendar is divided into 60-year periods.

Each year of a period is designated by one of the five elements: wood, fire, air, metal and earth, and one of 12 animals: rat, buffalo, tiger, cat, dragon, serpent, horse, goat, monkey, chicken, dog and pig.

The year of 1965 was the Year of the Snake. This is the Year of the Earth and Horse, referred to as the Year of the Horse.

As TET begins, man throws aside worries, rancors and hates of the past year. He pays all debts, wears new clothing and has only cheerful thoughts.

There is public worship and veneration at the family shrine. There are pres-

ents, feasts and boisterous public celebrations. All is accompanied by the sounds of gongs and cymbals for the unicorn dance.

The unicorn brings luck, especially to those who hang money from their windows for the unicorn to eat.

The first household visitor of the new year is thought to influence the well-being of the family during the entire year. Some families go out of their way to invite a propitious first guest and discourage all others from entering before he does.

Around each house a circle in lime will be drawn on the ground to ward off the plague.

A bow and arrow will also be drawn in lime in front of the door as added protection against evil spirits.

The CAY NEU is a 10-meter bamboo pole, decorated with significant objects, set in front of the house on the eve of TET. It stands for seven days to ward off evil spirits.

TRA and UAT LUY are the good geni who protect homes. Their sign is the apricot tree or its branches.

THUY TIEN is the narcissus flower (also known as the water fairy). It is good luck to have a narcissus

bloom during TET.

NA ONG and male and female who hate people during hours of light hence gongs and cymbals the nights of TET.

Feasting occupies a principal place in New Year. Characteristic TET are BANH TET, and DUA HA melons.

The square rice filled with pork, sausage and jam wrapped in green leaves and boiled hours.

According to cakes represent the arrival of green foliage is a peace and prosperity the Earth, the cardinal points with savory and r

Watermelon—quarter slice—is each meal to bring good luck during year. It can substitute drinks, except lic

From the oldest, TET is forgetting the old year and a better new year



SKYROCKETS— A main attraction of the Lunar New Year celebration is the traditional fireworks display.



BUDDHIST MONKS— During TET Buddhists conduct special worship services amidst swirling incense and are accompanied by gongs and the TET drum.



WORSHIPPERS— Two women place their burning joss sticks amidst countless others outside a pagoda during TET.



SIGN PAINTER— An artist in a sidewalk shop paints TET greetings in gold on strips of red paper. The red and gold signs are hung on doors to bring good luck.



TET DRUM— The TET drum sounds as long as there are wor

Welcome Year Of The Snake

Week

TET.

and NA BA are male evil genii who roam the land of darkness. They are driven away by the lights, the sounds of gongs and drums during TET.

occupies a principal place in the Lunar New Year celebrations. TET dishes include rice cakes, roast pig, HAU, water-

rice cakes are made of glutinous rice, pork, beef, beans, and jam. They are boiled for 12

to legend, the Earth was created at the Spring. The rice cake is a symbol of prosperity and, like the real cake, has four corners and is filled with rich elements.

— preferably a whole pig — is served after the New Year to bring health and good luck. The coming of the New Year is a substitute for all the bad of the old year.

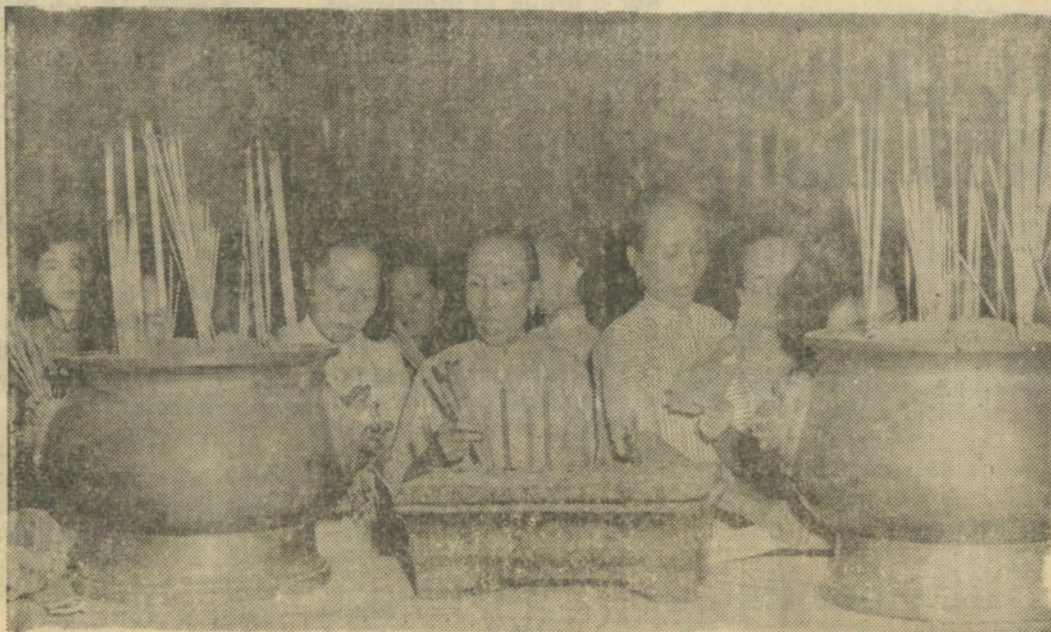
youngest to the oldest is the time for giving money to the children and hoping for a good year.



TOYS— A young boy selects a TET gift.



DRAGON— Hundreds of people will support the symbolic dragon as it winds its way through the streets.



INCENSE— Candles and joss sticks burn inside pagoda as people come to worship during the traditional and religious holiday.



FLAMING URN— Incense is burned in and around the great ceremonial urns outside the pagodas to call people to worship during TET.



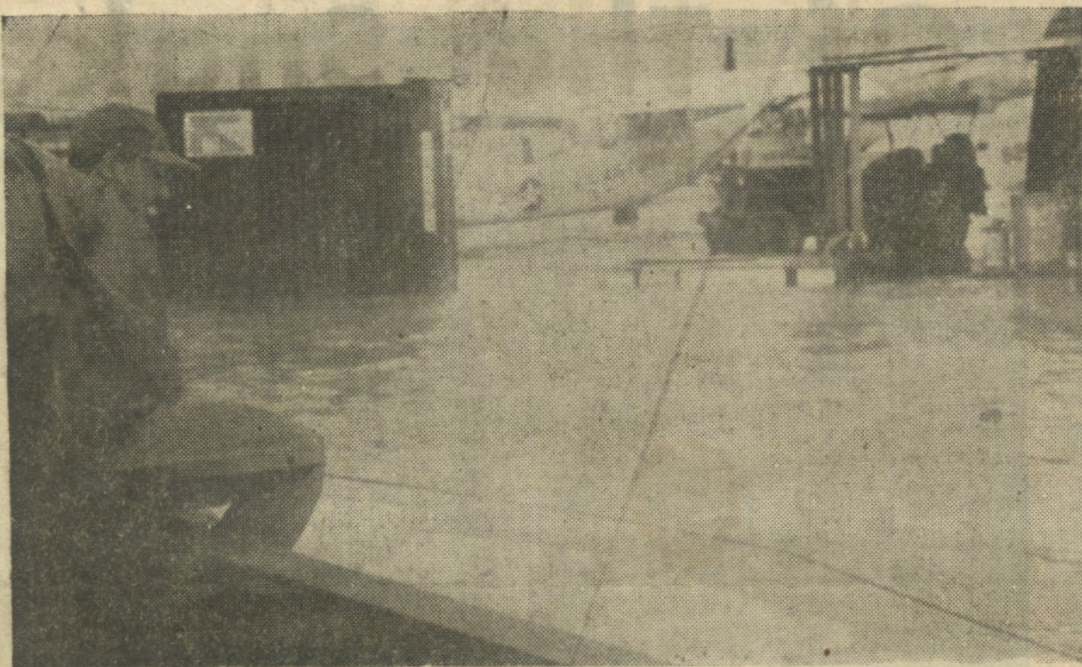
sounds continuously during the celebrations as worshippers inside the pagoda.



TET MASK— The jovial fat man, traditional friend of the children, follows close behind the dancing unicorn.



UNICORN— The traditional TET unicorn dance. Happiness and good fortune will come to those who hang money from their windows for the unicorn to eat.



NOT BITING — Avid fisherman, Air Force TSgt. Dom Fedoro, dug out a fishing pole hoping to get a "bite" in the foot-deep lake caused by monsoon rains at the Nha Trang airfield. The area where the sergeant is "fishing" was dubbed "Officers' Pool" and "Runway River" by the airmen forced to cross it. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

Marine Mailmen Sort, Deliver 12,000 Pounds Of Mail Daily

Chu Lai (USMC-10) — I wish I would get a little more of this mail!" This Marine mailman means a little more of the 12,000 pounds of letters and packages he sorts and distributes daily with the help of five other mailmen in the 3rd Marine Division.

Sgt. Donald F. L'Italien, who is NCO in charge of Postal Unit 11, Branch 14030, observes that, "The amount of mail we handle for the Marines in Chu Lai sector is unbelievable."

Working 16 hours a day, seven days a week, the Marine mailmen sort and distribute an average of 1,000 pounds of incoming letters and 9,000 pounds of packages every day. An additional 200 pounds of letters and 1,500 pounds of outgoing packages are also handled by these six hustling Marines.

In one month 6,494 money orders were sold to Marines for a total of \$335,369.57.

Stamps accounting for \$5,188 were also sold during the same month.

To break the monotony of a continuous job, the men rotate positions every five days. This way, every man knows all five jobs, which includes money order clerk, finance, dispatch, rework and registry.

The sixth man, Sgt. Carol R. Hawbaker, is in charge of Mobile Unit-6, which travels to outlying Marine and Navy units to handle sales of money orders. Hawbaker, says, "I travel in all weather conditions by all means of trans-

portation, from helicopter to amphibious tractor."

One consolation to their job is that they know their work keeps other Marines' morale high.

500 Pounds Gear, 20 Owners Packed Into Marine 'Wagon'

Da Nang (USMC-10) — Ever try to cram 20 people and 500 pounds of luggage into a station wagon? In effect, Marine 1st Lt. William Askins and his crew did. They were asked to move refugees from the embattled outpost of Que Son, 35 miles southwest of Da Nang, and they were flying a UH34D which has an interior about the size of large station wagon.

"I don't think I've ever seen such an assortment in my life," exclaimed Askins. "There were 20 people but they were carrying their lives on their backs. Sleeping mats, teapots, pans, rice, live chickens and fish were part of the refugees' belongings."

"At first we loaded 12, along with their gear. Then I lifted off and tried a practice hover to see if the chopper could stand more weight. It could," continued the lieutenant.

Three times Askins hovered experimentally and every time he set down his crew chief, Cpl. Richard C. Harrelson helped a few more people aboard.

Finally, all the refugees and their possessions were loaded and, heavy as a kite with a lead tail, the Marine Aircraft Group 16 chopper carried them to safety.

"There was one casualty," Harrelson reported. "One of

Monsoon Seasons Make Daily Rains Safe Bet

Nha Trang (USAF-10) — "Say, I'll bet it's gonna rain today!" came the remark that drew icy stares from the group of wet Air Force men waiting for the bus at the Nha Trang airfield.

The odds were good that it would rain—very hard all day long. The monsoons had arrived over a month ago, giving only occasional glimpses of the sun.

A huge pool of water accumulated on taxiway eight was dubbed the "Officers' Pool," alternately called "Runway River."

One clear-thinking forward air controller was seen pre-flighting his aircraft while wearing a swimsuit and a flack vest.

Clothes are never dry, but a group of industrious maintenance men were determined to do everything possible to keep from mildewing. They were seen poling their way out to an aircraft on a raft built from flare packing cases.

Trying to walk around the puddles usually lasts for a week or two, then it's easier to just wade right through.

The discomfort, inconvenience and difficulty caused by the rains never makes the job impossible. It is a tough job, walking a guard post, changing an engine or

loading cargo when you are wet, cold and miserable, but everyone knows that it has to be done—weather or not.

Little Theater Comes To Vietnam

Saigon—The Little Theater has come to Vietnam and it is loaded with local talent.

Some months ago an Army nurse started the theater group which is now on the road with "South Pacific."

The nurse, 1st Lt. Meredith Seapy of the 3rd Field Hospital, enlisted the aid of the Saigon USO in forming the nucleus of the talent-laden group. As a result, troops from one end of South Vietnam to the other will be seeing the group which made its debut Jan. 17.

Most of the cast have had acting experience—several have acted professionally—and they are from nearly all the services in Vietnam.

Along with Lieutenant Seapy, who has the role of Nellie Forbush in the show, are Army Capt. Samuel Meals, a doctor at the 93rd Station Hospital; Lt. Bonnie Graen, a Navy nurse, and 1st Lt. Jack Gittings of the U.S. Air Force. Army Sgt. Gene Thaden is the show's director.

Oregon's Vietnam Veterans Get State Educational Aid

Saigon—Vietnam Veterans, as well as certain recipients of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, from the state of Oregon have been authorized educational benefits, according to Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Entitlement to the benefits are available to veterans of Vietnam and veterans who served in Lebanon, Berlin, Quemoy, Matsu, Taiwan Straits, Cuba, Congo or Laos during certain periods.

The educational benefits range from fifty dollars a month for full-time students enrolled in undergraduate study to thirty-five dollars for 40 hours of study per month.

Recipients of the benefits must have lived in Oregon for at least one year prior to entrance into the armed forces and must have proof of receipt of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

Leatherneck Delivers Candy When Visiting Outlying Units

Da Nang (USMC-10) — "The money orders must go through," is the motto of Sgt. Robert E. DeVeaux, who sells postal money orders to 3rd Division Marines in the Da Nang area.

His job has taken him to the most remote areas of the Marine enclave at Da Nang. "If a Marine wants a money order, it is my job to see that he gets it," DeVeaux said.

Each circuit of the outlying Marine units takes 10 days.

The Vietnamese children in the villages along DeVeaux's route have come to know the mechanized circuit rider. Most of the Marines know him also.

DeVeaux distributes free magazines to the Marines who buy the money orders, and they know

him by name. He passes out candy to the village children, and they know him as "honcho."

The magazines and candy are donated by Marines from units near the 3rd Marine Division post office.

"When I started making these trips I noticed that the Marines seldom had any reading material," DeVeaux said. "When I asked if they would like some magazines, I got a loud 'yes' for an answer, so I have been bringing them since that time."

Defense Volunteers Trained Near Bac Lieu

Bac Lieu — The town lies astride a sluggish, muddy river in the flat, unrelieved landscape that is the south-eastern Delta.

Before the VC cut the highway to Saigon, it was one of the richest cities in the Mekong area, but since transportation of its rice to the Saigon market has become difficult, an apathy settled over the town, its buildings began to deteriorate and the whole place took on a shabby, dingy appearance.

This is Bac Lieu, nearly 150 miles south of Saigon,

headquarters for Vietnam's newest province of the same name. Included in the province boundaries are some of the richest rice lands in the Delta, mile after mile of coastal mangrove swamps, and fertile fruit and vegetable areas.

"The potential is certainly here," said sector advisor Maj. Francis W. Craig. "All it needs is development, and, as I see it, that's the basic job we have here."

When the sector was first formed last February, Regional and Popular Force

volunteers were sent to another province for training. Today, thanks to the efforts of the sector team, there is a training center just a mile from Bac Lieu where the home defense volunteers are trained.

The trainees have dug and stocked their own fish pond, and vegetables are growing in a large garden inside the compound, the seeds furnished by United States Operations Mission (USOM).

"We're getting a lot of help in our civic action program from USOM in the

way of materials and technical assistance and from Joint U.S. Public Assistance Office (JUSPAO) in the field of information. Both areas are vital to the success of building confidence of the people in the Saigon government," Major Craig added.

Gia Rai, halfway between Bac Lieu and Ca Mau, was the first sub-sector established. The advisory team there has enlisted the aid of the people in the rebuilding of their dispensary, the drilling of a well to furnish the village with non-contaminated water, a public health program and the improvement of the district market.

A month ago, a second sub-sector was established at Vinh Chau, north of Bac Lieu, and the most recent addition is the sub-sector of Vinh Loi, a suburb of the province capital.

"Right now, the VC are mostly just harassing us by blowing or digging up the roads," the major explained. "They haven't bothered the villagers too much, and most of the rice crop seems to be getting into the legal market."

When the Viet Cong began their stepped-up war in 1958, Bac Lieu was isolated from its principal market in Saigon, and the economic situation of the area deteriorated rapidly. But with the establishment of the headquarters of the 21st ARVN Division in the city and the arrival of the sector team, the town has been making a gradual recovery.

At the prodding of the U.S.

advisory team, merchants in the downtown part of the city are beginning a kind of urban renewal project designed to add to the beauty of the area. Major Craig feels that if the residents of Bac Lieu can be urged to take pride in the appearance of their places of business and houses, their morale will be improved, so store-fronts and apartments are being painted, roofs re-tiled and the streets improved.

As the pacification program spreads from the town itself into the surrounding villages, road travel has become possible, and a new high school began operation for the first time in September.

"Our problem before was that there weren't enough students in Bac Lieu alone to support a high school," explained Capt. Paul D. Smith, psywar officer for the sector, whose pet project is the new school. "But now that the roads are open, they can come from all over. This year they are only giving the first two years, but next semester the third year will be added."

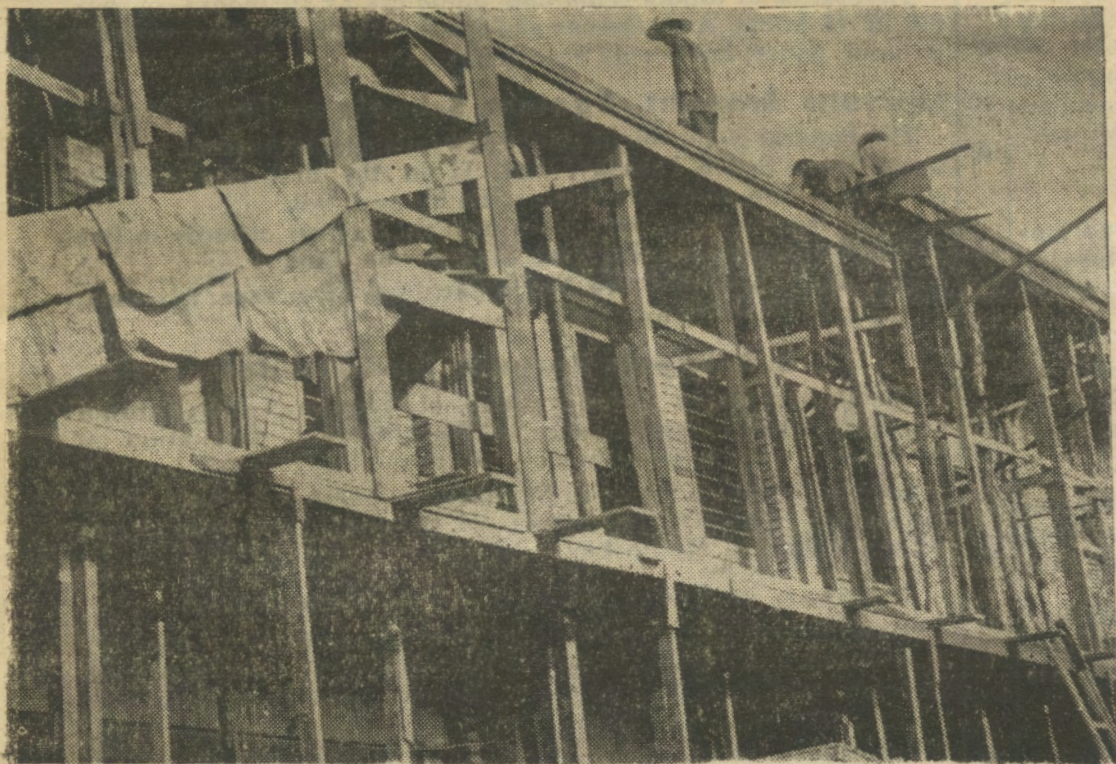
Materials for the school were furnished by USOM, some texts presented by JUSPAO and the cement walks built by the senior students with USOM cement.

Everyone in the sector advisory team is working at peak efficiency in his job, according to Major Craig. Psywar teams work around-the-clock to produce and disseminate propaganda designed to favorably influence the population toward the cons-

(Cont'd on P-11, Col. 1)



GRAVEL SIDEWALK — What was once a walkway of tires is now an easily negotiated path of gravel, rear, and a single log across a small canal becomes a wide bridge as U.S. advisors on off-duty time nail the final planks on the structure under the watchful eye of several Bac Lieu small fry supervisors. This community project will provide the residents of the city with an easy access to markets, the hospital and center of town.



URBAN RENEWAL — The town of Bac Lieu was one of the richest in the Delta before the war, but in 20 years of fighting the town has become somewhat run down. The U.S. sector advisory team has urged businessmen to improve the looks of the city, and these workmen are dressing up a block of buildings with new construction designed to improve the store fronts and upstairs apartments.



WATER POINT — A community water tap on the outskirts of Bac Lieu was inadequate for the needs of the area, so USOM drilling equipment was brought in and a well sunk. Capt. Paul D. Smith, of the Bac Lieu sector advisory team, and a Vietnamese friend check a concrete cistern and spigot installed as a temporary measure while a distribution system is being completed to the houses in the area.

- Vietnam News Wrap-Up -

Explosive Charge Hurlled At Da Nang BEQ

Two communist terrorists hurled an explosive charge at a U.S. Marine BEQ late Wednesday night, Jan. 12, in downtown Da Nang. The terrorists sped past the billet on a motor scooter and threw what was believed to be a grenade inside a paper container at the compound.

The package landed near the wall of the compound and exploded harmlessly. The Vietnamese guard fired several shots at the fleeing pair but was unable to stop them.

Two Die In Aircraft Mishap

Two crew members of a U.S. Air Force B-57 were killed when their craft caught fire and exploded on take-off at the Da Nang Air Base Wednesday Jan. 12.

Three Special Forces members at a camp at the end of the runway were slightly injured by flying shrapnel. No damage was done to other aircraft or to the runway.

The B-57 was carrying a load of 750-pound bombs, one of which exploded. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Combined Operation Nets 131 VC Killed

The combined "Operation Crimp" with elements of the U.S. Army's 1st Infantry Division, the 173rd Airborne Brigade and the Royal Australians, added another 31 communists killed Wednesday, Jan. 12, to bring a five-day total of 131 enemy dead, in a search-and-destroy operation 20 miles northwest of Saigon.

One element of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, after a skirmish with the enemy, used a riot control agent against a tunnel which resulted in the capture of 58 communist suspects.

The entire task force continued to probe tunnels, bunkers and trench systems uncovering enemy caches of ammunition, weapons, medical supplies and documents.

In addition to the 131 enemy killed, the joint force also captured 80 prisoners and detained 796 suspects. Friendly casualties during the operation were light.

SWIFTS Deployed On 17-Day Operation

Two SWIFT boats left An Thoi, Phu Quoc Island Friday morning, Jan. 14, for a thousand-mile, 17-day trip to the 17th parallel. This is the first long-range operational deployment of small boats to be conducted in Vietnam.

The operation is designed to test the capability of the SWIFTS in patrolling with destroyer escorts and minesweepers stationed along the South Vietnam coastline.

Communist Ranks Dwindle By 808

Although communist-initiated incidents decreased throughout the country, contact with the enemy forces increased during a week-long reporting period ending midnight Jan. 8, with Viet Cong losses at 808 for the period.

Of the total, 714 of the enemy were killed and 94 captured while Free World forces losses stood at 57, 43 of which were Americans. In addition to their personnel losses, 348 enemy weapons were taken by the Free World Forces.

The IV Corps Delta area continued to have the highest number of VC-initiated incidents. Terrorist activity was most prevalent throughout all the Corps areas and in the Capital Military Region.

POWs To Be Released

The government of the Republic of Vietnam announced that on the occasion of the New Year, it has decided to release a number of prisoners of war from PAVN (North Vietnamese regular) units who have infiltrated into the South.

A representative of the International Red Cross in Vietnam has been notified and given a list of the prisoners who will be released. The prisoners to be released will be given complete freedom in the selection of the area to which they will be sent.

Joint Action Enters Third Day

Operation Mallard, a combined U.S. Marine and ARVN search-and-destroy operation 16 miles southwest of Da Nang, entered its third day of operation Jan. 13, with only light contact thus far reported.

The Marines have accounted for 11 enemy killed and four captured with 50 suspects detained. The operation was highlighted Wednesday, Jan. 12, with an air strike by B-52 Strategic Air Command bombers in the area of operation.

No Air Strikes North For 21 Days

Communist North Vietnam entered its 21st day free from air strikes Friday, Jan. 14. During a four-day period ending Thursday morning, Jan. 13, U.S. planes flew 1,250 combat sorties against enemy concentrations in the Republic.

Pilots reported having destroyed 1,118 enemy structures and damaging another 670 during the four-day period.

- World News Summary -

Blaze Covers Square Mile

Two Americans were injured Tuesday, Jan. 11, while assisting firefighters put out a blaze that ravaged a square mile of buildings and homes in Misawa, Japan. More than 5,000 persons were left homeless and an estimated \$1 million damage was reported.

Flames, fanned by 45 m.p.h. gusts of wind, gutted an estimated 130 buildings in the heart of the city's business district. The blaze was caused by a defect in a gas range in a general merchandise store 200 yards from the main gate off the Misawa Air Force Base.

More than 700 Americans, living in private quarters off the base, were evacuated to emergency shelters on the base. An estimated 2,000 Air Force men joined the 350-man Japan Air Self-Defense Force to battle the blaze.

Indonesia Bars American Newsmen

Indonesian President Sukarno Tuesday, Jan. 11, issued orders that all American newsmen be barred from that country.

The Indonesian leader complained about the news of his country that appeared in American newspapers and magazines. He said that he had forewarned the foreign press that he would take such action if they continued to print such "lies."

Indian Prime Minister Dies

Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri died of a heart attack while in Tashkent, Russia, conducting peace talks with Pakistani President Ayub Khan.

The 61-year-old Shastri had 12 hours earlier signed a declaration with Pakistan renouncing the use of force between the two nations.

He was stricken shortly after returning from a farewell banquet given by Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin who acted as intermediary for the talks.

New York Transit Strike Ends

New Yorkers breathed a sigh of relief Thursday, Jan. 13, as subways and buses began running after 13 days of "footing it" to and from work.

The strike settled for an unprecedented 60 to 70 million dollars, incurring the anger of President Johnson for giving the strikers a wage hike of 15 per cent over a two year period.

At a press conference in Washington, the Chief Executive said he did not consider the settlement "in the national interest" but admitted he could do nothing but voice his displeasure.

Mudslides Kill 200 Persons

An estimated 200 persons were killed and more than 1,000 injured when torrential rains triggered a mudslide on Rio de Janeiro's slum-ridden hillsides, Tuesday, Jan. 11.

Thousands of others remained homeless as 10 inches of rain fell in 18 hours. Ambulances and fire fighting units were working without pause, answering emergency calls.

Lawsuits Brought Against Schools In Five States

The Federal government issued lawsuits against several schools in the Deep South Tuesday, Jan. 11 in the first of a series of steps to insure complete integration by next fall.

Seven legal actions have been brought against schools in five states, the largest number ever filed at one time.

The states involved are North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana.

U.S. Expels Burundi Ambassador

The United States Tuesday, Jan. 11, requested that Burundi promptly recall its ambassador to Washington in retaliation of the American ambassador having been expelled from that country.

Burundi ambassador Leon Ndenzako was handed a note which "protested strongly the action of Burundi," reported Press Officer Robert J. McCloskey.

Johnson To Press Ahead With 'Great Society'

"I am determined to press ahead in building the Great Society" in addition to living up to the Nation's military commitments in Vietnam, said President Johnson Tuesday, Jan. 11.

AFL-CIO President George Meany had sent a letter to the White House expressing concern that because of the war in Vietnam, there might be a cutback in spending on some of Johnson's domestic programs.

Johnson returned a letter to Meany stating that the 1967 budget will provide for both the U.S. military effort in Vietnam and maintaining the nation's forward movement in economic and social programs.

Samantha Finds Home And Job With Paratroopers

Bien Hoa (USA-IO) — Her name is Samantha and she is an operations specialist with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. In spite of her pert, youthful appearance she has not led an easy life, even by a dog's standards.

Born in the Bien Hoa area of somewhat dubious parentage, she had taken to the streets at a very tender age. She probably would have remained there had it not been for the arrival of 173rd paratroopers in the area.

She took an immediate liking to these men, and through sheer perseverance, made them aware of her presence.

Sergeant Major George J. Gatewood, of S3 (Operations), was impressed by her natural good looks, outgoing personality, and superior intelligence. He and his section quickly adopted her, but soon discovered that they had a problem on their hands.

"Sam" was not content doing nothing and her interest in Brigade operations necessitated giving her a "security clearance." This was not an easy assignment; her sketchy and somewhat sordid background made investigation difficult. Personnel were detailed to watch her, lest in a moment of indiscretion she should violate Brigade security.

It was finally decided that "Sam" had satisfied the requirements for a "top secret" clearance. She has been given her assignment and can be found at almost any hour sniffing out security violations in the map racks or sitting aloof, scrutinizing visitors to the briefing tent.

Volunteers

(Cont'd from P-9, Col. 5)

stituted government.

Medical personnel hold sick calls throughout the province and advise on public health matters.

Cooking oil and grain are distributed free to the needy by the advisors and ARVN troops, with the materials supplied by USOM.

"It's a cooperative effort," said Major Craig. "It has to be to get the job done. I think Bac Lieu is a model for vigorous civic action, and the results are beginning to show up in our ability to set up new sub-sectors in what were, a short time ago, solid VC areas.

"We certainly explore every possibility for action, and once we have another project going, we push and shove until it gets done. It's paying off."



TOP SECRET — Samantha sits beside the briefing tent at the 173rd Airborne Brigade. Her "top secret" clearance affords her the privilege of sitting in on briefings of the brigade near Bien Hoa. (Photo by PFC Robert Nasmith)

Air Force Snatches Downed Navy Pilot From Enemy Junk-Infested Waters

Saigon (USAF-IO) — Air Force Maj. Glen A. Higginson and Navy Lt. Frank Harrington met recently in the South China Sea in the midst of combat and while surrounded by armed Communist junks.

Harrington, an F-8 pilot from the carrier Bon Homme Richard, was downed by ground fire while on a strike over the communist North. He tried to keep his aircraft airborne, but battle damage was serious and he was forced to eject into the water.

"The force of the ejection broke my face visor and my pistol strap was torn loose," recalled Harrington, "and when I ditched my life jacket was damaged and wouldn't inflate."

The situation looked dim for the Navy lieutenant until an Air Force HU-16 Albatross, piloted by Higginson, flew into the area attempting a sea rescue.

"We were over the Gulf of Tonkin when we received a message that a pilot had been forced to eject," Higginson said. "My navigator made contact with a Navy destroyer who gave him the exact bearing and distance."

As the Air Force rescue plane sped toward the downed pilot, Harrington struggled to stay afloat in the choppy sea. His hand was cut during ejection and this hampered his efforts to inflate the life raft.

Meanwhile, overhead, fellow Navy pilots made strafing and rocket runs on some 50 to 60 communist junks converging on the stricken Navyman.

"My co-pilot spotted a green-dye sea marker and a bright yellow life raft," said Higginson. "We dropped our extra fuel tanks and started our approach for a landing."

"I was sure glad to see

the Navy Skyraiders keeping the junks at bay. The nearest junk had gotten 150 yards from the pilot."

The Albatross landed within 60 yards of the Navy pilot. The radio operator grabbed an automatic rifle and covered the right side of the plane while pararescue specialist TSgt. Raymond Hawco jumped into the water and swam toward Harrington.

"Waves were four to six feet high, but I swam as

fast as I could," related Hawco. "I tied my tow rope to the raft, dropped the raft's sea anchor and signaled the plane to pull us back."

"The complete rescue went smoothly," stated Higginson. "Our water time was less than five minutes. Each member of the crew acted swiftly and professionally."

Harrington was taken to the Da Nang Air Base hospital and returned the next day to the carrier.

and (c) he has received the Vietnam Service Medal. Service in the Merchant Marine is not service in the Armed Forces for the purposes of this Act.

"No payment may be made under this section to any person who, though in such service did civilian work at civilian pay or who has received from another state a bonus or compensation of like nature so provided by this act."

"Section 3: The widow or widower, child or children, mother, father, person standing in loco parentis, brothers and sisters, in the order named, of any deceased person shall be paid the compensation to which the deceased person would be entitled under Section 2 of this Act. Where such deceased person would have qualified for

compensation under Section 2 except for his death and his death was connected with such service and resulted from such service during the time period specified in Section 2, his survivors, in the order named in this Section, shall be paid \$1,000. Where a preceding beneficiary fails to file a proper claim for compensation before the final date set by law for accepting applications, succeeding beneficiaries who have properly filed claims before that time may proceed to qualify upon submission of satisfactory proof of eligibility.

"Section 4: No right or claim to compensation under this Act may be assigned."

"Section 6: Any application for compensation under this Act must be made to the commission by July 1, 1970, and no payment shall be made under the Act except on applications received by the Illinois Veterans' Commission before that date."

"Further information and application forms may be obtained from the Illinois Veterans' Commission, 221 West Jefferson Street, Springfield, Ill. 62704." (PACAF NS)

USO Handles

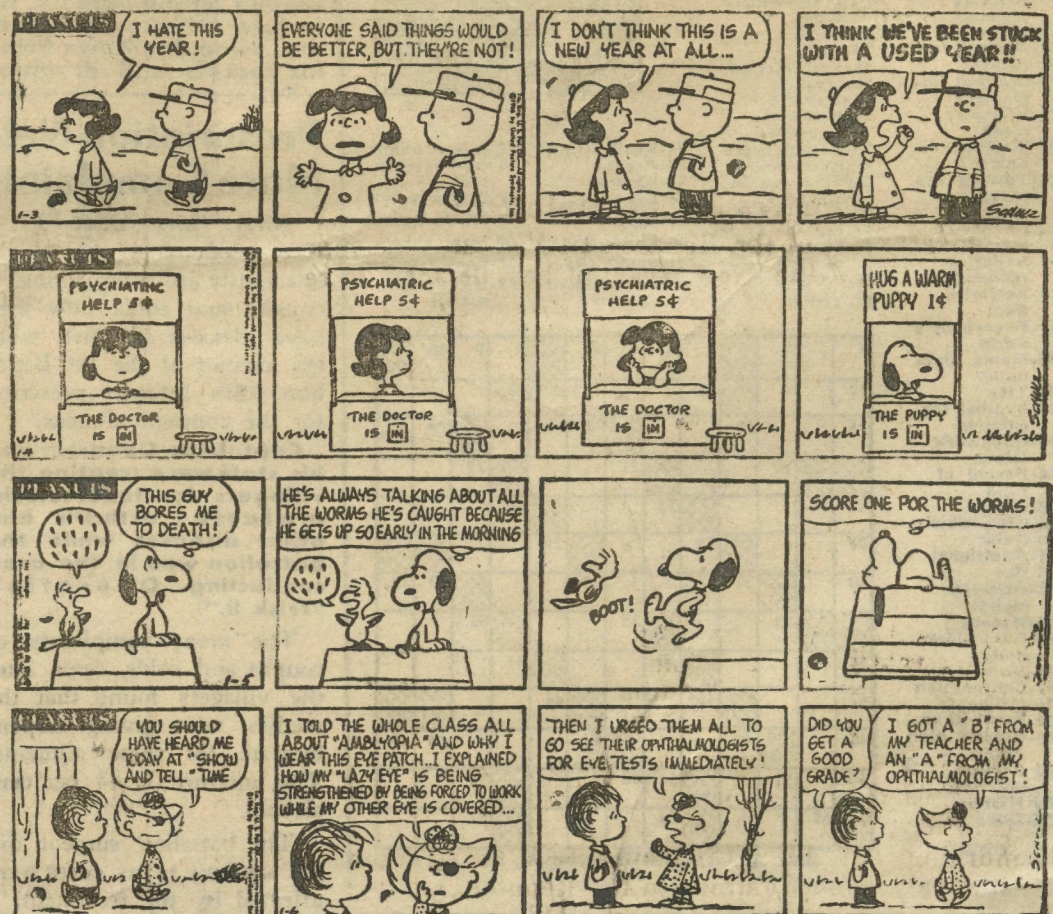
(Cont'd from P-1, Col. 3)

handled as soon as it is possible to get the contact in the U.S., the USO club director said.

While calls can be made only to the U.S. from the USO, those wishing to call Japan, Australia or other distant points, still may use the facilities at the Saigon post office, Walters said.

PEANUTS

By Cartoonist-Of-The-Year Charles M. Schulz



Observer Photo Of Week



AIR FORCE MEN ON GUARD— A1C Gary E. Tuck and James L. Schario guard the 4503rd Tactical Fighter Squadron F-5s at the Bien Hoa air base north of Saigon. Air policemen in the Republic of Vietnam patrol the perimeters of air bases as well as stand nightly guard duty to protect aircraft. (U. S. Air Force Photo).

Small Navy Tanker Performs King Size Job At Da Nang

Da Nang (USN-10)— Before the sun has fully risen over the massive aviation complex of Da Nang each morning, a small Navy ship breaks away from a large tanker anchored off shore and steams toward the Da Nang beachhead. Small and often unnoticed on its daily voyage, the tiny ship is performing a king size job, for without it the airways over the world's busiest combat airstrip would be starkly empty.

There are no piers or deep-water anchorages at Da Nang from which a large tanker can transfer fuel to the shore. So, the **USS Elkhorn**, a small gasoline tanker, hustles the fuel from tankers to the airfields at Da Nang and Chu Lai.

For the 97-man crew aboard the Elkhorn, the day begins at 5:30 a.m. and doesn't end until the following 1 a.m. In the pre-dawn darkness they get underway, and,

dodging a myriad of fishing boats and nets, steam their precious load of fuel into the beachhead where it is pumped into the fuel reserves at the air base.

Danger is never far away from the crew of the Elkhorn and the crew stays at general quarters throughout the workday, alert to sabotage threats from swimmers and small boats in the area.

At the end of the day when the Elkhorn has been pumped dry of the precious fuel and the combat planes are assured of another day of flying, the little ship hustles back out to the large tanker to take on another load.

A busy little ship doing a king size job doesn't give its crew much time for sleep, but the men aboard the Elkhorn are proud of the job their ship is doing. When they hear the mighty roar of jet bombers taking off from the air fields and hear the reverberations of bombs in the distant hills, they know that without their long hours and stalwart efforts the defense of freedom would suffer.

Bird Dog Pilot Foils Enemy Attack On Outpost

Nam Dong (USAF-10)— When the Viet Cong mounted an all-out assault on an outpost he attacked them with rockets and grenades in his tiny observer aircraft. His action surprised the communists and delayed their timing long enough for the outpost defenders to concentrate their fire and repel the enemy.

For this action U. S. Air Force Maj. David Rode, O-1 Bird Dog pilot with the Second Air Division, received the Silver Star Medal.

In June of last year, he was flying as forward air controller during a communist attack on an outpost at Nam Dong, 40 miles west of Da Nang.

He was flying through heavy enemy ground fire in his light craft to direct air strikes when the Viet Cong began a vigorous assault on the outpost. He in turn attacked the enemy, swooping down firing his rockets and dropping

grenades on the advancing communists.

The Viet Cong paused in their attack, surprised at their new assailant. The slight pause was all that was needed by the defenders who concentrated their fire on the main attack force and beat them into retreat.

Though low on fuel, Rode remained in the area directing a flare aircraft and two fighter-bombers in an air strike.

Rode was also awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism displayed during a nine-day period in which he flew low-level reconnaissance missions almost daily, receiving intense ground fire on at least three separate occasions, to direct air strikes for jet fighter pilots.



WARM WINTERS— Marion Scroggs, Sunken Gardens, Fla., model, likes to spend the winter months where the sun is warm and the breezes balmy.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

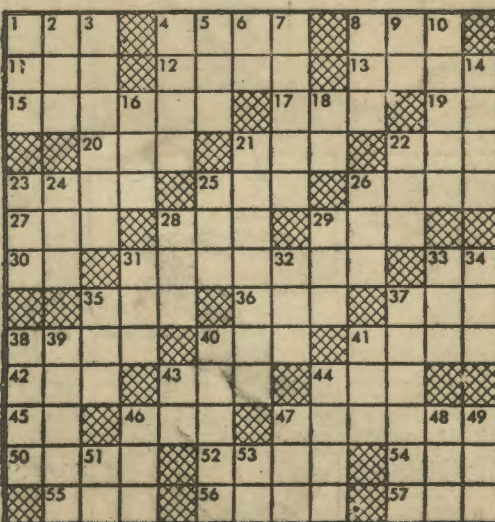
ACROSS

- 1-Once around track
- 4-Caudal appendage
- 8-Watch pocket
- 11-Girl's name
- 12-Conceal
- 13-Harvest
- 15-Kind of pigeon
- 17-Beam
- 19-Symbol for nickel
- 20-Writing implement
- 21-Witty remark
- 22-Man's nickname
- 23-Toward the sheltered side
- 25-Chapeau
- 26-Mound
- 27-Sailor (colloq.)
- 28-Aeriform fluid
- 29-Everybody's uncle
- 30-Man's nickname
- 31-Ties
- 33-Symbol for calcium
- 35-Openwork fabric
- 36-Period of time
- 37-Insane
- 38-Cook slowly
- 40-Exist
- 41-Additional
- 42-Cut
- 43-Distress signal
- 44-Rodent
- 45-Babylonian deity
- 46-Swiss river
- 47-Conjunction
- 50-Delineate
- 52-Fruit cake
- 54-Guido's high note
- 55-Sodium chloride
- 56-Handle
- 57-Edge

- 2-Fuss
- 3-Very poor person
- 4-At that time
- 5-Ventilate
- 6-Cyprinoid fish
- 7-European dormouse
- 8-Cook in fat
- 9-Faroe Islands whirlwind
- 10-Frite
- 14-Pellet
- 16-Golf mound
- 18-Near
- 21-Experts
- 22-Pronoun
- 23-Devoured
- 24-Young boy
- 25-Possesses
- 26-Same as 25 down
- 28-Ship channel
- 29-Nahoor sheep
- 31-Indefinite number
- 32-Before
- 33-Vehicle

PAC FLASK JAM
IDA LIANE ALA
PANTED EERIER
DIE REPEL
MOLL MEYER
AWE MALI KET
IN SPLINTS PO
NEAT LETO HEN
ERRED VO HALE
EROSE BIN
RENEGE SADDEN
ARA EASES LEI
MSS STARE ELL

- 34-Fruit drink
- 35-Recent
- 37-Parent
- 38-Lean-to
- 39-Rips
- 40-Chief artery
- 41-Small rug
- 43-A continent (abbr.)
- 44-Girl's name
- 46-Carpenter's tool
- 47-Bitter vetch
- 48-Man's name
- 49-Male sheep
- 51-Cooled lava
- 53-Indefinite article



DOWN

1-Part of face

Distr. by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

Prescription Nets More Complaints

Nhoc Vang (USA-10)— The residents of this village constantly are complaining of coughs and colds now they have discovered just what the medics of the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry prescribe for the common ailment.

Capt. Isaac Goodrich and his staff were treating the villagers for tuberculosis, malaria, arthritis and other diseases while the battalion was in the area conducting Operation "Frisk II."

The many complaints of coughs and colds came after the villagers found that the medics were giving terpenhydrate for these ailments. The mixture is 44 per cent alcohol.

The battalion surgeon did not say how many cures were affected by the treatment.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

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APO SAN FRANCISCO 96243



TO: ANNE MACDONALD

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98168