



BATTLE CASUALTY— A young American Marine is given medical treatment for a wound received during fierce fighting near Chau Nha, about 50 miles southeast of Da Nang. American and Vietnamese troops trapped the 21st North Vietnamese Regiment on four sides and clobbered the "commies" in one of the most successful operations since the beginning of the war. (UPI Radiophoto by Bob Ibrahim)

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First In Vietnam

THE OBSERVER

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Canberras Strike Viet Cong Gun Site, Spend Night Bombing Fuel Cache

Da Nang (USAF)— Two Air Force B-57 Canberra crew members missed their Viet Cong target during a night attack on an enemy anti-aircraft gun position, but the lucky miss set off an explosion that gave bomber crews a "field day" wiping out a giant VC fuel cache.

Bomber pilot Capt. Curtis E. Farley and navigator 1st Lt. Dennard J. Jenkins were flying a night armed reconnaissance mission near the Laotian border, trying to spot vehicle traffic. Reports of unusually heavy VC traffic in the area had prompted the flight.

"During a flare lightup near a river crossing," said Farley, "we suddenly spotted a large group of men in the water. They appeared to be building an underwater bridge. Just then a barrage of tracers came at us from the river bank. We made a quick bomb run and Jenkins let go with a 500 pounder."

The bomb hit just short of the target, but it apparently landed right in the middle of a big fuel cache. Flames and smoke and the concussion from a tremendous secondary explosion shot skyward.

"I saw several trucks about that time," continued Farley, "and figured we'd stumbled onto a fuel storage or transfer point of some kind."

For an hour the bomber crew made bombing and

strafing runs, and kept setting off secondary explosions. The whole area was aflame and the sky was bright as day and a second Canberra relieved Farley and Jenkins who were out of ammunition.

"I counted 13 trucks blazing," Farley concluded. "I figured we'd had a good night's hunt."

In the second Canberra bomber were pilot 1st Lt. George H. Lyddane and navigator Capt. Francis P. Hyland. "When I arrived over the area, it looked like an open blast furnace," Lyddane said. "I didn't think there would be anything left for us to strike until I saw tracers coming at me from the edges of the fire."

Lyddane skirted the burning area and made

several bomb runs, and with each pass new fires started. He called Da Nang and requested more bombers. "I was running low on ammunition," the pilot recalled, "and it looked like we still had some good targets."

In another half hour, two more Canberras arrived over the target area and continued the attack until dawn and a final tally showed 19 trucks destroyed, 25 secondary explosions and 1 square mile of jungle ablaze.

Billion-To-One Hole-In-One As Round Hits Round

Chu Lai (USMC) — The numerical possibility of an enemy's bullet traveling 300 yards across a field and entering a Marine's rifle barrel, striking the round in the chamber and causing it to explode, and not injuring the Marine, is about a billion to one.

It couldn't have happened — but it did.

PFC Warren Bacon, of the 7th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, wears the enemy's bullet around his neck on a chain as a reminder of the incident.

"It was during a recent operation," relates Bacon when we got into a firefight. One of the first rounds the VC fired went down my barrel and caused a small explosion in my hands.

"It took a while to figure out just what happened," concluded Bacon, "and even though it happened to me, I still find it hard to believe."



NEW 173RD CG — Brig. Gen. Paul F. Smith, a veteran of two World War II combat jumps, has assumed command of the 173rd Airborne Brigade at Bien Hoa. General Smith replaces Brig. Gen. Ellis W. Williamson, who had led the outfit since its organization in 1963. The change-of-command ceremony took place at Bien Hoa Feb. 21. (USA Photo)

Play Dead To Survive; 'Thank God It Worked'

Lai Khe (USA) — Six men moved through the gate of the compound. They had an hour before dark, plenty of time to reach their position. Their mission was to spend the night as a listening post for the compound. They were soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division.

The duty was not new to the men for they had spent many nights in the jungles.

Sp4 Arvin R. Crawford

President Announces Interest Increase On U.S. Savings Bonds

Saigon — Interest on U.S. Savings Bonds will increase from 3.75 per cent to 4.15 per cent, according to an announcement Feb. 16 by President Johnson.

"This means that the bonds you have and the bonds you buy in the future will earn you more money," said the President. "It means a fairer return for those millions of Americans that are already enrolled in the Savings Bond Program. And I hope that it will encourage millions more of you to join."

The President's announcement also signals the beginning of an intensive effort toward increased participation in the program. He added, "Not all of us are called upon to fight for freedom in Vietnam, but we can help in that cause by strengthening our country and by strengthening its economy here at home."

was the last to pass the gate and paused momentarily to load his weapon. He moved to the right side of the road where Sp4 James W. Haas had already taken his position in the column.

The group was approaching the last of the tactical wire. It was their last link with base camp and its security.

Almost past the wire, the men were rocked by a loud explosion followed by small arms fire. A claymore mine!

The concussion was so

(Cont'd on P-12, Col. 1)

Pilot Survives NVN Crash, Feels 'We Have To Be Here'

(By LTJG T. E. Sleeper, USN)

South China Sea (USN) — The green delta of South Vietnam lay behind as Navy Commander Ken Shugart signaled his wing man to head for home. Minutes later

his speedy jet Skyhawk attack bomber was jerked to a halt as its tailhook grabbed the arresting gear of the USS Hancock, an attack carrier operating in the South China Sea.

Commander Shugart, a flier, is commanding officer of Attack Squadron 212, which operates from the giant

carrier to bomb and strafe Viet Cong positions in South Vietnam. This day he had destroyed VC trenches and bunkers in support of American troops on the ground.

All of Commander Shugart's pilots returned from the mission safely, but

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

EDITORIAL

New Interest Makes Bonds Better Than Ever Investment

Investment in U.S. Savings Bonds has always been attractive to service men and women. Payroll savings plans that provide for automatic deduction, regular interest, and known security have drawn thousands of military personnel into bond buying programs.

Now, Savings Bonds are a better investment than ever. Interest on Series E and H Bonds has been increased from 3.75 to 4.15 per cent. Under the increased interest a \$100 Series E Bond, costing \$75, can be redeemed for its face value after seven years.

U.S. SAVINGS BONDS



... NEW 4.15% INTEREST

In making the announcement of increased bond interest, President Johnson called bonds "the most important investment that any American can make."

The President said, "The Savings Bond Program is both prudent and patriotic. It is prudent because it strengthens the security of your own family. It is patriotic because it strengthens the economy of your country, it supports our fighting men in Vietnam... and it supports the cause of our freedom everywhere in the world. It helps to preserve the buying power of our American dollars."

With the increase in bond interest, service men and women should give serious consideration to joining or increasing their investment in the Savings Bond Program. It's a sound investment in yourself and your country. (AFPS)

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Support From Home

(Editor's Note—Gen. W. C. Westmoreland receives, daily, hundreds of letters, scrolls, petitions, etc., from the citizens of the United States from every corner of the U.S., backing the U.S. policy in Vietnam. Since it would be impossible to print all the names of individuals and organizations in THE OBSERVER, we will pick at random several and print them in one column periodically.)

RESOLUTION

Chamber of Commerce
Brielle, N. J.

SCROLL

Student Body Signatures
Herbert Hoover High School
Glendale, Calif.

RESOLUTION

County Commissioners
Randolph County
Wedowee, Ala.

PETITION

Over 2,000 Signatures
Monmouth College
West Long Branch, N. J.

RESOLUTION

Eureka City Council
Eureka, Calif.

LETTER

Holy Redeemer School
Students
College Park, Md.

RESOLUTION

Mississippi Intercollegiate Council
Blue Mountain College
Mississippi

SCROLL

AFL-CIO Assembly
Chemung County
Elmira, N. Y.

RESOLUTION

Independence JAYCEES
Independence, Iowa

LETTER

2,278 Signatures
Naples, Fla.

PETITION

Hundreds of Signatures
St. Mary's of Redford SHS
Detroit, Mich.

LETTER

Student Body Signatures
South Junior High School
Colorado Springs, Colo.

RESOLUTION

Student Body Signatures
Lyons Township High School
La Grange, Ill.

Myths And Realities

More misinformation has been spread abroad about Vietnam than probably any other subject in recent years. Vietnam has been the breeding ground for a host of myths which continue to circulate despite, in some cases, their obvious untruth. For the next several weeks THE OBSERVER will print some of the major myths about Vietnam and present their corresponding realities. Information taken from JUSPAO Field Memorandum No. 9. (The Editor)

MYTH

THE USE OF TEAR GAS BY VIETNAMESE AND AMERICAN FORCES IN VIETNAM REPRESENTS AN INHUMAN FORM OF WARFARE.

REALITY

The use of riot control agents, such as tear gas, has been used for decades around the world. They are in no way related to the poison gases of World War I. Far from inflicting serious injury or death, they reduce casualties in some cases to the zero point. When Viet Cong troops mix with innocent civilians, in underground tunnels for example, use of the riot control agent is far more humane than use of explosives. It is the difference between being red-eyed for a few days or being dead.

Tear gas is regarded as a humane method of subduing criminal elements, such as the Viet Cong, because it incapacitates them for combat without causing death or physical harm.

Since Jan. 1, 1964, tear gas has been used by the forces of law and order against outbreaks of violence in Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Sudan, Korea, Malaysia, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Venezuela, Bahrain, Iran, Pakistan, the U.S. and South Vietnam. Police forces throughout the world are equipped with tear gas for use in dislodging armed criminals who try to resist arrest in buildings or tunnels similar to those used by the Viet Cong in their resistance to the forces of Vietnam and its allies.

The effects of tear gas are an intense flow of tears, minor respiratory irritation, coughing and sneezing, all of which last for five or ten minutes. The cure for the effects is merely to breath fresh air.

Questions & Answers

The War In Vietnam

Editor's Note: Most U.S. personnel know why America is keeping its promise to help the Republic of Vietnam resist communist aggression. Sometimes, however, it is difficult for the serviceman to put into words the answers to questions he encounters at home and abroad. Here is one of 20 questions (one question will be printed each week) most widely asked, with concise, factual answers. (Information taken from Headquarters, Field Force Vietnam, Troop Topic "The War In Vietnam.")

QUESTION: Isn't the fighting in Vietnam different—a war between the Vietnamese people themselves, a kind of civil war?

ANSWER: The fighting primarily involves the Vietnamese, but this is no civil war. In 1954, a 14-nation conference at Geneva agreed that newly-independent Vietnam should be separated into two parts—North Vietnam for followers of communist leaders, and South Vietnam for those who wanted another way of life. Since then the two parts have gone their own ways—North Vietnam as a typical communist dictatorship, South Vietnam as a republic. The war against South Vietnam is directed from Hanoi, capital of the North, through an organization of communist guerrillas called the Viet Cong. It is not a rebellion of the people of South Vietnam—it is aggression from North Vietnam.



FLOCK OF BIRDS—Four squadrons of helicopters from Marine Aircraft Group (MAG)-36 and one squadron from MAG-16 unload Marine riflemen during "Operation Double Eagle." The 'copters carried over 400 Marine infantrymen into the battle zone. (Photo by LCpl. B. A. Halstead, USMC)

Eternal Flame, For Fallen Pilots

Da Nang (USAF)—Somber skies, a stirring eulogy and the lighting of an eternal flame highlighted dedication ceremonies of an impressive stone monument here.

The monument, a permanent tribute to the valiant airmen of the Vietnamese and U.S. Air Force, who have given their lives in the constant struggle for freedom in this war-torn country, also marked the final tribute to a courageous VNAF pilot, Maj. Nguyen Ngoc Bien.

Major Bien, a former member of the 41st VNAF Wing and holder of more than a dozen decorations, including a U. S. Presidential Unit Citation, was killed

in a ground accident at Pleiku.

As the Vietnamese National Anthem sounded, a special banner was unfurled in the shadows of the winged monument proclaiming, "The spirit of sacrificing soldier Nguyen Ngoc Bien will never die."

When the final strains of the anthem had faded, Maj. On Van Tai, deputy commander of the 41st VNAF Wing, offered a stir-

ring eulogy in honor of the memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice.

Closing of the ceremonies, attended by flying colleagues of Major Bien as well as numerous U.S. Air Force advisors, was marked by the lighting of an eternal flame by Lt. Col. Duong Thieu Hung, 41st VNAF Wing commander.



MEMORIAL—Vietnamese Air Force officers place a wreath of flowers at the base of a memorial dedicated to Vietnamese and American pilots who have given their lives in defense of this nation. Joining the Vietnamese aviators in paying tribute to their fallen comrades were their U.S. Air Force advisors and flying colleagues. The memorial is located on the Capt. Hue parade ground at Da Nang Air Base.

Orange Jets: Really Flying Black Boxes

Tan Son Nhut (USAF)—Among the camouflaged aircraft prowling the skies of the Republic of Vietnam, three orange-painted C-140 Jetstars stand out like sore thumbs.

The Air Force four-jet planes streak over Viet Cong-infested jungles at altitudes ranging from treetop-level to 40,000 feet. Their mission is to check aerial navigation aids operated and maintained in Vietnam by the Air Force Communication Service.

The three Jetstars literally are flying "black boxes." Lining the interior of each is an electronic testing panel for checking manned and unmanned navigational facilities on the ground.

With about a third of the plane painted an easy-to-see, bright orange, the hazard of VC groundfire is increased. But the color lessens the danger of not being seen by other pilots in the many flight traffic patterns of Vietnam.

On its 200th mission over Vietnam, one of the Jetstars was hit by Viet Cong ground fire. The jet was being used to check the Binh Thuy ground control approach radar in the Mekong Delta at the time. Despite battle damage, the C-140 aircrew finished its job.

Gen. Eifler Lauds Truckers For Fuel Delivery Actions

Saigon (USA)—Army truckers of the 556th Transportation Company, who traveled sniper-infested highways to deliver more than 9-million gallons of fuel in a two-month period, have been commended by Brig. Gen. Charles W. Eifler, commander of the 1st Logistical Command.

General Eifler praised the men for their "exceptional performance" in supplying fuel to the combat units of the 1st Infantry Division. He particularly cited their "vigorous efforts and detailed planning" in speeding fuel to battle elements.

One platoon of the 556th has been loaned to the Saigon port, operated by its parent unit, the 4th Transportation Command, to keep the strategic flow of supplies moving. Working around the clock, this platoon has moved over 10,000 tons of cargo from the port to distribution centers.

'If You Have Rope, You Can Go Anywhere, Anytime,' Marine Says

Da Nang (USMC)—Sgt. Harry R. Lefthand has an old saying—"If you have a rope, you can go anywhere, anytime."

The sergeant is acting platoon commander in A Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, and he and his platoon had the opportunity recently to put this saying to practical application.

While serving as the point for the 3rd Recon on "Operation Taut-Bow," the platoon encountered a fast-moving stream which they had to cross to reach their objective for the evening, about 22 miles southwest of Da Nang.

"Here is where the rope came in handy," said Sergeant Lefthand. "A few of the men in the platoon acted as a security guard while the remainder of us used the rope to construct a bridge across the stream."

"Fortunately, we didn't receive enemy fire. It took about 10 minutes to put the bridge up."

"Everyone got across in

good shape. Only a few got wet feet."

The battalion used the ropes earlier to good advantage, tying them from tree to tree to use as a hand rail while climbing a steep, muddy hill.

"We worked it just like anyone would use a hand rail on a flight of stairs," Sergeant Lefthand said. "The ropes once again saved the men from falling and perhaps injuring themselves."

According to Sergeant Lefthand, every Marine in Recon knows how to use ropes to aid them in any way possible.

"Give me ropes anytime," concluded the sergeant. "They can be used in many situations. The ones we use are nylon, 160 feet long and stretch one-third their normal length. They can support 2,000 pounds per square inch. So, as long as I have a rope handy, I doubt if I'll ever be stranded."



"VAN BUREN" MEDIC—Sp5 Charles W. Boren, a member of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, carries a Vietnamese child to a medical facility for treatment near Tuy Hoa, 200 miles northeast of Saigon. Boren and his fellow paratroopers were in the area protecting the rice harvest on "Operation Van Buren," which kept some 50,000 tons of harvested rice out of the hands of the Viet Cong. (USA Photo)



COMBAT CASUALTY—PSgt. Michael Pantano, medical assistant, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, looks over a wounded scout dog as its master kneels near by. Sergeant Pantano treated the injured animal after it was shot three times by attacking Viet Cong during "Operation Rolling Stone." (USA Photo)

Air Force Commandos Urge Viet Guerrillas To Quit

Saigon (USAF) — The success of most warfare can be estimated by counting the number of enemy soldiers killed, but in psychological warfare, it doesn't work that way. To determine your success, you count the number of enemy you convert.

Each month more than 1,000 insurgents in the Republic of Vietnam desert the Viet Cong, and turn themselves over to government authorities. This large number of converts can be partially attributed to the psychological warfare efforts of the Air Force's 5th Air Commando Squadron.

Flying C-47 Skytrains and U-10 Couriers, the Air Commandos bombard Viet Cong areas with millions of leaflets each month. They supplement this by broadcasting psywar messages from loudspeakers mounted in the aircraft.

Messages on the printed

leaflets include accounts of recent battles, pictures of homes and families, stories of communist atrocities and appeals to tradition.

The loudspeakers broadcast direct appeals for surrender, sounds of funeral music, children crying for their missing fathers and other emotional and logical appeals.

The results of psychological warfare seldom make the headlines, but in the final analysis, leaflets and recorded messages may prove to be one of the most important weapons in the war against the Viet Cong.

'Sighted Snake, Killed Same:' New Battle-Cry

Phu Loi (USA) — "Sighted snake, killed same," might be the motto of the men in Troop D (Air), 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Division.

Recently, the men in the unit's supply tent discovered a four-foot cobra under the cool floorboards where the deadly reptile had found a home. No one knew how long the snake had been there, but its brief "reign of terror" came to an abrupt halt when he was discovered and "disposed of."



COMBAT BREAK—Army SFC Boyce M. Walker found an old French bathtub during "Operation Mastif" being conducted by the 1st Infantry Division at Michelin rubber plantation. He cleaned the tub out and took a cool breather from the war during the afternoon heat. (USA Photo)

Marine Acrobatic Choppers Save Downed Huey Crew

Qui Nhon (USMC)— One of the two Marine helicopters behaved more like a jet fighter and the other was a rice-paddy-bound machine gun nest, but for all their unorthodox actions, they saved the lives of four Huey crewmen.

The "heli-drama" unfolded 60 miles south of Qui Nhon, during a combined Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) and Korean Marine operation supported by U.S. air and artillery.

In mid-afternoon of D-Day, two Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM)-363 helicopters were sent to evacuate ARVN wounded in the foothills below Tuy Hoa. The Marine 'copters were escorted by two U.S. Army Huey gunships.

The Marines asked for colored smoke grenades to mark the precise pick-up point. Almost immediately, red smoke curled from the ground about a mile away.

"We have you sighted," 1st Lt. Jesse Richardson radioed to the ground. But the American advisor with the ARVN had also seen the red smoke and called back, "Negative! We're using yellow smoke!"

The enemy, monitoring the radio net, had tried to draw the 'copter into a trap.

The HMM-363 planes were about to set down and pick up the wounded when the radio crackled with, "We're receiving fire... (pause)...our bird's crashed... Can you come right in to get the crew?"

One of the escorting Hueys had been shot down while investigating the red smoke. The Marine pilots, assured that the wounded could wait

a few minutes, pulled up and headed for the action.

The Huey lay on its side in a flooded rice paddy, the surviving Huey rocketing a hill to the left while enemy fire poured down the slopes.

Lieutenant Richardson set down 30 feet from the crashed Huey while the second Marine UH34D, piloted by 1st Lt. David Bittig, joined the Huey trying to suppress the VC.

As Richardson's 'copter settled into the water, his crew chief, Sgt. Rawlin Gull, leaped out. Three of the soldiers were wading towards him, but the fourth wasn't in sight. The sergeant half-ran and half-swam through the waist deep water. As he neared the downed plane, the fourth crew-member tumbled out and disappeared beneath the surface.

The remaining Huey and Bittig's UH34D were wheeling and firing like fighter planes. Hueys are designed for sudden turns and firing passes at 90 mph at 50-foot altitudes, UH3Ds are not. Still, the HMM-363 troop-carrier wheeled and spun firing its two machine guns. Before it was over, Bittig's crew had knocked out a VC machine gun.

After what seemed like "five years", according to Lieutenant Richardson, the Huey crew was aboard and the Marine 'copter rose out of enemy range.

The "five years" was more accurately timed by the ARVNs, when the Marines landed to pick up the wounded they had been sent for. "You're only seven minutes late," the American advisor said.

1st Log Grocers Supply Troops Anything But Artichoke Hearts

Saigon (USA) — Even though they are halfway around the world, engaged in a war which is a logistical nightmare, American servicemen in Vietnam are eating very much the same kind of food-stuffs as their counterparts back home.

It takes a lot of food to keep a soldier fighting—210 pounds a month, and almost half that total is fresh food—meat, vegetables, fruit and dairy products.

Every day, thousands of pounds of fresh meat and frozen vegetables are trucked over sniper-infested highways in refrigerated vans to combat support units by the Army's 1st Logistical Command, grocer for the 170,000 U.S. and Free World servicemen in central and southern Vietnam.

The 1st Logistical Command insures fresh foods in every serviceman's diet at least once a day, if the tactical situation permits, and supplies canned meats, vegetables, and fruits to units for the other two meals.

Vietnam has brought no change in appetites. As at home, the favorite dishes are steak and American-made ice cream. Soldiers, sailors, Marines and air-

men usually are served plenty of fresh pork. Chicken, beef or fish, are also favorites.

Fresh-frozen vegetables like beans, peas and corn also reach field messes each day, as do thousands of pounds of fresh bread, baked in the seven 1st Logistical Command bakeries strategically located along the peninsula.

Rounding out the military menu are Vietnamese-grown tomatoes, cabbage and peppers, fresh salad items which are highly popular with U.S. personnel.

"Almost every American can find his favorite food on the menu sometime," SFC Joseph A. Long, 1st Logistical Command food supply specialist, said, "unless of course, his favorite is artichoke hearts."

This seems never to make the menu, but the sergeant claims not to have received any complaints.

Tanks, Personnel Carriers Hit Viet Cong

Cu Chi (USA) — Personnel carrier 11 made a sharp left turn in the grove of young rubber trees and stopped.

Overhead, a delta-winged Air Force jet screamed by in a shrieking dive and unloaded its ordnance not a thousand yards away, and the thick, black smoke of a secondary explosion spurted into the air.

The rest of the platoon swung into line at the edge of the clearing, and the radio in Track 11 crackled, "This is One-zero. We are ready to

move out. Keep in line and watch for snipers from your rear. Move out."

Seven M113 personnel carriers and three M48 tanks broke from the rubber plantation and headed across the rice paddies toward a growth of scrub jungle to their front.

This was the beginning of a search and destroy mission mounted last week by elements of the U.S. 2nd Brigade, 25th Division. Taking off from the brigade's base camp near Cu Chi, 20 miles northeast

of Saigon, the operation was designed to reduce Viet Cong harassment of the division's sprawling installation.

Several islands of woods and brush were the objectives today, and as the lumbering, tracked vehicles smashed their way into the heavy growth, frightened, squawking chickens ran from deserted dwellings.

The radio in Track 11 crackled as an excited voice said, "This is One-eight. I'm receiving sniper fire from my

right flank. I can't see him, but I'm firing in his direction."

Lt. Anthony C. Trifiletti, platoon leader of the 1st Platoon, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry known as the "Three-quarter Horse," riding in command Track 10, told 18 to hold his position unless the sniper fire got worse. The platoon's 50-caliber machine guns chattering and the ugly muzzles of the 90mm guns on the tanks searching for a target, crashed into the thick jungle growth.

Before the mission started, SFC Jacob L. Recla, commander of Track 11, explained, "The Three-quarter Horse is protecting the right flank of the operation. The 2nd of the Wolfhounds (27th Infantry) are sweeping on foot, supported by a company of the 5th Mech. We'll sweep up and down this wooded area to make sure the VC don't hit the Crunchers' flank."

As Track 11 ripped through the jungle, twigs, leaves and red ants fell into the open hatch, the ants leaving huge, itching welts as they bit in irritation at being disturbed.

The platoon plunged across another rice paddy into a second patch of jungle, and with one of the M48s holding the pivot, the platoon swung north, crunching through VC houses, gardens and isolated rice paddies, coming suddenly to the edge of the jungle. They skirted a 20-foot crater from the Air Force's earlier bombing that had ripped up a stand of banana trees and set fire to a nearby house, then turned and swept back to where they had entered the jungle.

Once again the radio blared. "This is One-eight. I see five VC in the open. I'm taking them under fire."

The heavy chatter of a 50-caliber machine gun broke out, underscored by the faster, lighter rippling of an M60.

One again the excited voice of 18 came over the radio. "We've got two of them, and wounded two more. One of them is trying to drag the others behind a rise in the ground. I'm going to have One-six throw a round of 90 at 'em."

A sharp crack sounded, and an instant later a dull boom indicated the splash of the heavy round from the M48, and then quiet.

"This is One-eight. I can't

see 'em any more. One-six must have done the job."

"This is One-zero. Good job, One-eight. Let's turn around and sweep back to the burning house."

After the lunch break, the troop moved forward from the tree line and swung through an area of open rice paddies, the ungainly carriers nosing sharply upwards as they crossed the paddy dikes, then dropping with a clatter and a cloud of dust on the other side. The line swept left again, then entered an area that resembled a desolate moon-scape. Huge bomb craters dotted the terrain, and blackened stumps of trees poked their torn roots toward the sky. A miasmal dust seemed to hang over the barren land.

"We were through this area last week," Sergeant Recla said. "We had the engineers with us, and they leveled with bulldozers everything the Air Force didn't knock down or burn with bombs and strafing."

The radio sputtered again. "This is One-zero. Do a one-eighty and hold your line. The Crunchers will be coming through us in a minute, and you'll be getting some white phosphorus on the right flank as a smoke screen. We'll hold until they're through us, then head for home."

The late afternoon air was stifling as the blazing sun turned the interior of tanks and carriers into ovens, and the fine, white dust seeped into everything. The line of infantrymen plodded wearily through the protective cordon of armor and toward the base camp.

As reports from all units came in, the total results of the operation added to 6 Viet Cong killed by body count, 500 pounds of rice captured, a booby-trapped weapons cache blown and 21 bunkers and 2500 yards of trenches destroyed.

Back in the platoon area seated on the ramp of track 11, Sp4 Ron Kalonowski wiped the sweat off his face, creating an area of mud from the encrusted dust. He had pushed Track 11 through the jungles all day long from the driver's seat, and he now drained the last drops of water from his canteen, wearily lit a cigarette and remarked, "Not bad for a single day's work. Man, I hope they've held the shower point open."



SMOKE SCREEN — White phosphorus mortar rounds from the 4.2-mm tubes of the 25th Division's 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry, provide a smoke screen for troops of the 27th Infantry moving between the personnel carrier mounting the 50-caliber machine gun (foreground) and the bursting mortar rounds, screening the movement from VC elements in the background.



TANK-INFANTRY MISSION — A rare sight in Vietnam, not considered ideal armor terrain, a wary infantryman of the 25th Division, supported by an M48 tank of the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry, moves past the shattered remains of a VC dwelling, bombed earlier in the day by Air Force jets. The still-smouldering house was surrounded by trenches and tunnels, part of a VC defensive complex.



BANDAGE AND CIGARETTE— Viet Cong snipers put the boat group commander out of action when they hit Lt. J. G. Chuc twice during an ambush on Long Xuyen

River. Chuc is administered first aid and provided with a much needed cigarette by crew members.



THE TEAM— American advisor to RAG counterpart, Lt. Comdr. Thieu Ta Hon, 26th on a map on the top deck of the monitor. T "Dan Chi 205" because there was no comma

'Armored Trucks Of The Delta' Put Crimp In VC Operations

(Story and Photo's by Sp4 H. B. Bryan, USA)

Can Tho— An ambush of lead, erupting from the jungle banks, sprayed River Assault Groups (RAGs) 25 and 26 as the armored boats patrolled Long Xuyen River about 50 miles from Can Tho in Vietnam's Delta region.

With almost routine precision, three 50-caliber machine guns blindly opened up on the jungle wall while the forward gunner on the command monitor climbed inside his 40mm mount and battered the trees until they gasped of smoke.

"Charlie's in there somewhere!" shouted Lt. J.P. Jackson, American Naval advisor to RAG 26, as he picked up the phone and alerted all hands on "Operation Dan Chi 205."

The 81mm mortar boomed and a shell exploded about 50 yards on shore, in anticipation of the Viet Cong retreating from their ambush positions.

It was just one ambush in five during the four-day operation, which left six wounded men on the RAG decks. Referring to enemy casualties, Lieutenant Jackson noted that, "We always get some, but we are never around long enough to count bodies."

The River Assault Groups are a part of the oldest Viet-

namese Naval force in the Republic with a history dating back before the days of French occupation.

"They are the armored trucks of the Delta, and their *Esprit de Corps* bows to none," said Lt. Com. John W. Hughes, senior advisor for the Fourth Riverine Zone (IV Corps waterways).

During the quiet hours on the Delta rivers, sea stories are exchanged in Vietnamese and the sailors wave to the children on the banks. Radiomen keep their ears pinned to the radio and the coxswain steers the boat with his feet or hands keeping his eyes glued to both banks and the waves ahead.

Suddenly a barrage of gunfire sounds from the rear of the column of boats. "What kind of weapons fire are you getting back there?" queries Gunners Mate John Kloppek, American advisor, speaking into his radio. "I can't tell because we're putting out such a volume of lead," is the reply.

Soon the fire-fight ceases and the RAG continues to steam up stream, intermittently firing on the shore line with the pretense of spotting the enemy.

"Operation Dan Chi 205" finished one of 29 combat

missions per month conducted by RAG boats. More than 2,000 troops were transported and 1,000 howitzer shells delivered to isolated outposts in the Delta, and 3 Viet Cong junks were seized.

Limping slightly from a sniper bullet in his right foot, Thieu Ta (Lt. Com.) Hon, operational commander, ordered the boats to return home but cautioned that, "where the Viet Cong didn't ambush us on the way down river, he will probably be waiting for us on the way back."

The RAG did not return the same way.

The River Assault Groups are docked at My Tho, Vinh Long, and Long Xuyen with headquarters at Can Tho. Two American advisors are assigned to each group of 19 boats (one enlisted, one officer). Each assault group usually includes one commandment, the command ship; two monitors, heavy weapons boats; five LCMs, troop carriers; two LCVs, minesweeping craft; and STCANs, French designed boats.

Whether it is a logistics lift, escort work, river patrol, or a troop movement, the armored boats are always in

danger of land detonated water mines and ambushes on the narrow waterways.

"As long as the children shout okay, the women wash and the elders smile, all's well, but if the only sound is the solemn drone of RAG engines, 'Charlie' lurks near," warns Lt. D.C. Ruthford, Naval advisor to RAG 25.

All was not well in 1965, for three American advisors were awarded two Silver Stars and the Navy Cross posthumously. They were victims of 50-caliber machine gun fire.

Enemy ambushes are often set up less than 100 yards from the RAG fleet which travels at an average speed of 10 knots and slower on the narrow, twisting canals in South Vietnam's Delta.

The 50 Vietnamese sailors who man the river boats are capable of firing any of the four variations of mounted guns on the armored boats — 30 caliber, 50 caliber, 20 mm and 40 mm.

During extensive operations, the crew will go on shore to buy rice, chickens, coconuts and pineapples from friendly villages or local market places. The "home cooked" meals are prepared and eaten on board the boats.



STOPOVER— Eight-hundred ARVN soldiers and RAG Landing Craft Mediums (LCMs) at miles from Can Tho. The LCM is used as



26, Lt. J.P. Jackson, left, and his Vietnamese
th RAG commander, review the area of operation
The monitor was used as the command ship on
mandament in the operation.



NIGHT PATROL— The night is only a state of light for
the River Assault Groups which begin most operations under

the cover of darkness. A French FOM is silhouetted at
dusk. FOMs are used primarily on patrols.



oldiers disembark
Go Quao, 35
carrier

with a capacity of 80 to 100 troops. More than 75,000
troops were transported by the combined RAG forces in the
last eight months.



SEARCH WARRANT?— The monitor pulled out of formation to investigate and confiscate
Viet Cong junks along the shore. A sailor goes aboard the enemy junk, above right, and
sieves the motor and five gallon gasoline cans.



INSTRUCTION— Gerald F. Hardcastle, member of a Department of Army team of civilian experts who are instructing workers at the 1st Logistical Command's "junkyards" in Vietnam, points out a method of cataloguing to several men connected with property disposal in the Republic. Listening are (left to right): Sp5 Dennis R. Parker, from Nha Trang's yard; 1st Lt. Blake Starkey, property disposal officer at Nha Trang; Hardcastle; PFC Gerald T. Phelps, from 1st Log headquarters; and Sgt. Ronald N. DeWarms, 506th Quartermaster Company.



SPIKE JONES— Vietnamese yard worker at Go Vap junkyard uses sledge hammer to drive center pieces out of used shell casings. The two parts are made of different kinds of metal and will be salvaged and sold separately.



CONFERENCE — Capt. Donald Maruszewski, right, officer-in-charge of the Property Disposal Yard at Go Vap, and Sgt. Maj. Ray D. Jones, chief of the yard workers there, talk over the disposition of some used shell casings. Everything from bullets to bulldozers which is no longer serviceable comes to the yard for re-sale.

'You Name It, We've Got It,' Says Go Vap 'Junkman'

Go Vap— Army Sgt. Maj. Ray D. Jones is a "junkman." But before you get the wrong idea, listen to the explanation.

Jones is chief of the yard workers at the 1st Logistical Command's Property Disposal Yard at Go Vap, just outside Saigon and within F-100 roaring distance of Tan Son Nhut.

"You name it," Jones said, "and I've got it here." One quick walk around the yard reveals the accuracy of that statement. In one corner are parts of helicopters, in another a huge pile of used casings from recoilless rifles. Tires, empty bullet casings, cars, trucks and a thousand and one other items dot the landscape at the yard.

When material arrives at the yard—either because it is damaged beyond economical repair or because it is excess to the needs of the unit—it is catalogued and stored. When enough material is accumulated, the yard sets up a govern-

ment sale, for which there are world-wide bidders.

The successful bidder, which in most cases turns out to be one of the local national firms, is then responsible for removing the goods.

"Right now," said Capt. Donald Maruszewski, officer in charge of the yard, "we have \$13 million worth of scrap and material here." That figure, the captain explained, is the acquisition cost and is not really an indication of the material's present worth.

Presently, a team from Department of Army, U.S. Army Japan and U.S. Army Pacific is working with American enlisted personnel and officers from the various yards in the 1st Log's property disposal set-up, instructing them in techniques for handling disposable property.

It's a "junkyard" with a big job and the Army "junkmen" who operate it are proud of their work.



TIRES, TIRES EVERYWHERE — Tires are stacked awaiting re-sale. Material at the Go Vap "junkyard" is stacked and catalogued until sufficient supplies are stocked to set up a sale of surplus property.



FINISHING THE JOB— Little Vietnamese boys wait impatiently for Marine Cpl. Cornelius A. Smith to finish building a footbridge in the Marble Mountain area, near Da Nang. Marines have constructed many bridges for local villagers. Smith is a member of 3rd Engineer Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. (USMC Photo)

Small Voices Say 'Thank You' To Three Marines Teaching English After Hours

Da Nang (USMC)— Three 3rd Marine Division combat engineers trade their shovels for chalk each night as they teach English to children in a small hamlet near this base.

The three Marines, Cpl. Roger Marach and PFCs Patrick Moore and Richard Keller, are all members of the 7th Engineer Battalion.

Each evening when they finish work, the trio shoulder weapons and walk to the hamlet of Chom Tam. There, in a crude, one-room tin hut, they teach English to about 20 children ranging in age from nine to 19.

Most of the children, like their elders, are refugees from the north who have moved to the safety of the Da Nang area. For many, this is the first school they have ever attended.

Each evening as the lesson begins, crowds of smaller children stand outside, silently following the proceedings in a kind of rapture as

they strain to hear the strange language.

And sometimes the hamlet chief stops by to watch. It's evident by his face that he approves, and there is even a glint of pride as he watches his charges struggle to grasp vowels and consonants.

Sometimes he invites the three Marines for cool drinks after school. That, the Marines explain, is reward enough for their task.

But the greatest reward is to see the look on the faces of the three young Marines when, as they leave the hamlet, dozens of children gather to see them off.

Long after the hamlet is out of sight, voices can be heard in the quiet Vietnamese night: "Thank you very much!"

Engineers Cannot Go Near The Water, Solve Problem By Digging Two Wells

Cu Chi (USA)— The versatility of Army engineers with the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, has solved the problem of providing water for the erstwhile hot, parched and grimy infantry troopers.

The brigade was in the middle of a Viet Cong stronghold some 20 miles northwest of Saigon, and the water trucks were unable to provide the needed water.

A truck, dispatched to a nearby stream, was driven off by the VC who were dug in near the water.

The engineers of the 65th Engineer Battalion, called on the infantry to

provide an armed escort for a second attempt to draw water from the stream.

The hidden VC had mined the road leading to the river, and snipers were waiting for the water trucks.

The engineers finally came up with the answer to the problem. They dug a well.

The water was relatively pure and was made potable

with a minimum of treatment.

Teams from the engineers unit's headquarters company worked around the clock to provide 20,000 gallons of water a day for drinking and to supply the mess halls of the brigade.

The unit then dug a second well to provide another 20,000 gallons a day for laundry and shower units.

'Vanguards' Route VC From Heavily Fortified Position

Dau Tieng (USA)— Sgt. James J. Lee followed his point man through a thick, brushy hedge near Dau Tieng and the Michelin rubber plantation. It looked artificial. Then Sergeant Lee saw huts, trenches and a bunker amid a tangle of vines and trees. Suddenly the VC opened fire.

Back at the 1st Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade operations center a group of soldiers listened to strained voices coming from a speaker, monitoring the command radio net. "They've found Charlie," an officer remarked. "Must be Company C again."

For the second time in a matter of weeks Company C, 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry was locked in combat with a fortified VC position. During "Operation Mallet II," the company became decisively engaged with a line of enemy bunkers. Attacking repeatedly with armor and air support, the "Vanguards" finally overcame the position in a night-long firefight.

Now, instead of Nhon Trach district it was Dau Tien and the Michelin rubber plantation. Company C was back again and the way they were dishing it out one would have thought it was round two of the same old fight.

Sergeant Lee saw a flash of fire from within the opening of a bunker. A bullet slammed into his left arm, just above wounds he had received during the firefight at Nhon Trach.

When the first shots were fired, everyone hit the ground only to realize that they were surrounded by booby traps of every variety. Lee pointed to what appeared to be a tar covered cylinder about eight inches long near his platoon leader's head. An aluminum firing device with a striker held in place by a pin was fixed to one end. From the pin a nylon string led off in the direction of the bunker. Above the soldiers, 82mm mortar rounds hung suspend-

ed like fruit from vines in the trees.

Lee and the others eased their way back out of the area just as the VC began setting off the command detonated mines. Some of the booby traps exploded above the heads of the troops, others were yanked from the trees by the hidden defenders and went off on the ground.

Because of the dense undergrowth grenade launchers and rockets were practically useless against the enemy positions.

While Company C troops put down a furious field of fire, the company's wounded were led or carried to a clearing 100 yards from the firefight. Medics attended the casualties, and the platoon maneuvered for an attack. Again the company tried to get inside the perimeter of booby traps and mines,

but this time darkness called a halt to the operation.

The next morning the men of the company roused from their grimy, damp ponchos and filled in the gaps left in their ranks from the previous night. A "dustoff" helicopter had flown out the wounded, and now it was up to those left to finish the job.

In the pre-dawn light, Company C resumed the attack, but unlike the evening before they met no resistance. This time each booby trap was noted and carefully avoided. The troopers gingerly entered the bullet-riddled enemy camp. For the company it was a repetition of something they had seen before—the VC had left.

Back at the French plantation house, serving as brigade headquarters, troops followed the operation and talked with wonder about the company that never quit.

Chaplain Almost Finds Viet Cong Congregation

An Khe (USA)— When Army Chaplain Harold B. Selke of the 1st Air Cavalry Division went in search of a congregation one morning during "Operation White Wing," he almost found an opportunity to convert some Viet Cong.

Someone told Chaplain Selke that the 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery was just 30 kilometers up the road, and the chaplain set out to find the cannoneers.

"We drove and drove," said Selke, "but you know, it got kind of spooky after a while. We'd go through a village and the people wouldn't wave and shout like they usually do. They just stood there and stared. I was beginning to think something was wrong." It was.

The first Americans the chaplain and his assistant met were a group of Marines in place as a blocking force above Bong Son. They just stared too. Then they asked where the pair thought they were going. Chaplain Selke had taken the wrong road.

The jeep left a trail of dust like a hurricane's wake on its way back to Bong Son. "If the Lord had given me wings, I'd have been airborne," said the chaplain.

Acquiring a new set of double checked directions, the two set out again and

finally found the artillery unit. The sermon was quite inspiring.



SSgt. Franklin D. Strong, of the 1st Infantry Division's Company B, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, shows where three Viet Cong bullets came out of his helmet. He was wearing the helmet at Michelin rubber plantation when a sniper opened up with an automatic weapon from the rubber trees behind him. Three rounds penetrated the front of the helmet and came out the back, but Sergeant Strong was only knocked out from the shock of the bullets striking his helmet. (USA Photo)

— World News Summary —

President Signs Cold War Bill

Following unanimous Congressional approval, President Johnson signed into law the Cold War bill, Mar. 3, which will benefit five million veterans who have served in the armed forces since Jan. 31, 1955.

Included in the new bill are provisions for educational benefits for veterans who are not high school graduates and for members of the armed forces on active duty.

McNamara Authorizes 20,000-Man Vietnam Buildup

The United States will commit 20,000 more troops to the 215,000 already in Vietnam, announced Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense, at a news conference Mar. 2.

McNamara added that the United States could increase its manpower status in Vietnam to more than 350,000 in 90 days without calling up the reserve.

Johnson Requests 3.2% Pay Hike For Civilians

A proposed \$485 million a year salary increase for civilian employees was presented to Congress Mar. 7 by the Johnson Administration.

The pay raise will average 2.8 per cent while fringe benefits will increase the salary of government employees 3.2 per cent.

40 Die In Mississippi Twister

A tornado tore through the downtown shopping district of Jackson, Miss., killing an estimated 40 persons and injuring 300, Mar. 3.

The twister left a shopping center in shambles and the major part of Jackson in the dark, said authorities.

Russian Satellite Crashes On Venus

Russia hit Venus with an unmanned satellite Mar. 1, to mark the first time a man-made object has ever come in contact with Earth's look-alike.

Soviet news agency Tass reported that communications had been lost with Venus-3 as the satellite neared the planet, indicating that the space craft had crashed upon contact.

Great Blizzard Of '66 Kills 17 To Date

The storm which weathermen have dubbed "the blizzard of '66" blew at a 40-mile-an-hour pace through New England after claiming 17 lives in four northern plains states.

Ushering in the worst "March lion" in eight decades, the blizzard left Nebraska, North and South Dakota and Minnesota in snowdrifts up to seven feet high. The four states reported 25 persons missing and thousands heatless in the four-day blast which kept temperatures from zero to ten degrees.

Japan Scene Of Three Major Air Disasters In Month

A British Overseas Airways Boeing 707 jetliner plunged into Japan's Mount Fuji Saturday morning, Mar. 5, killing all 124 aboard. Eighty-nine were Americans. It was Japan's second major air disaster in two days and third in a month. On Feb. 4, 133 were killed as an All-Nippon Airways Boeing 727 plunged into Tokyo Bay. A Canadian Pacific DC 8 crashed Mar. 9 into a six-foot seawall at Tokyo's Haneda International Airport, killing 64 of the 72 aboard.

NASA To Select 15 Additional Astronauts

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration will select 15 more pilot-astronauts in early June. Most of the new spacemen will be picked from the armed services and will begin training next January. Some likely will be tapped for the series of Apollo manned expeditions to the moon, the space agency said.

— Vietnam News Wrap-Up —

Phantoms Chase MIGs To Hanoi

A flight of U.S. Air Force F-4C Phantoms was jumped by three MIG-17 jets about 80 miles northwest of Hanoi, Mar. 4. The MIGs made quick firing passes with cannons and fled toward the North Vietnam capital. The U.S. planes were not hit.

Two flights of Phantoms chased the MIGs, but the enemy jets reached the safety of the Hanoi area before U.S. pilots could open fire.

The Phantoms were protecting F-105 Thunderchiefs carrying out dive-bombing attacks on railroad and highway bridges in the area.

Viet Cong-Initiated Actions Decrease Slightly

Viet Cong-initiated incidents decreased slightly between Feb. 27 and Mar. 5, an official spokesman said, both in number and intensity.

The usual pattern of harassment of U.S. Marine Corps troop concentrations in I Corps reflected a decline, attributed to the effects of friendly operations.

A battalion of the 1st Division in Binh Duong province dealt the Viet Cong a sound defeat when a friendly patrol detected an enemy force preparing to attack the battalion.

1,622 Viet Cong Killed

A reported 1,622 Viet Cong were killed in action during the week, Feb. 27 to Mar. 5. United States and Free World forces lost 69 during the same period to hostile fire. The enemy also lost 193 prisoners, 417 individual weapons and 35 crew-served weapons to friendly forces.

U.S. Ground Forces Push Operations

"Operation Harrison," conducted by elements of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, in the Tuy Hoa area of Phu Yen province, had a major engagement with Viet Cong forces during the week ending Mar. 5. The action brought the cumulative enemy losses for the operation to 214 killed, 12 captured and 54 weapons seized.

In other U.S. ground actions during the week, a battalion of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, contacted an estimated multi-battalion enemy force. Calling in a battalion of reinforcements by helilift to the area, the 1st Infantry Division killed 189 Viet Cong in a six-hour firefight. Friendly casualties were light during the action, which was part of "Operation Cocoa Beach," in Binh Duong province.

'Operation New York' Adds 115 Dead Viet Cong

Cumulative enemy losses for "Operation New York" increased to 277 killed, 17 captured and 54 weapons seized when a U.S. Marine Corps battalion reinforced an ARVN search-and-destroy operation in a coastal area east of Hue.

The marines forced the Viet Cong into 1st ARVN Division blocking positions and with the help of air strikes the combined Free World-ARVN offensive netted 115 enemy troops killed, 17 captured and an estimated 85 enemy weapons seized.

ARVN, Marine Troops Trap Enemy

Intelligence paid off when the 1st ARVN Airborne Battalion and two U.S. Marine Corps battalions were helilifted into an area just north of Quang Ngai city, Quang Ngai province, and engaged a suspected Viet Cong regiment Mar. 3 and 4.

The ARVN and Marine Amphibious Fleet forces and an ARVN airborne battalion, supported by tactical air support and artillery, caught the enemy regiment trying to move west out of the valley.

The operation, which was still in progress Mar. 5, had netted 443 Viet Cong killed, 5 captured and 13 weapons seized. Marine casualties were reported light.

'White Wing' Still Wages

"Operation White Wing," a U.S.-ARVN-Republic of Korea operation, continued during the week, claiming 1,841 enemy killed and 701 captured since the action was initiated Jan. 24. U.S. losses were light, a spokesman said.

▲ Pilot Survives NVN Crash

(Continued from P-1, Col. 3)

such is not always the case. Once the commander himself didn't make it back.

A year ago, he was on a mission near Vinh Son, North Vietnam. The target was on the coast, but at the time he was hit, he was heading inland.

The first concern the commander had was to get over the relatively safe water, where sea rescue would be possible. Even out over the water, though, he had to avoid the junk boats along the coast, and at the same time baby the stricken aircraft away from land as far as possible.

Suddenly, the aircraft shuddered, and Shugart's hand shot to the ejection

button. Seconds later, he was floating down toward the warm, tropical waters.

"I actually felt sort of detached from the thing, from the time that I realized that I had to get out of the airplane till I was picked up," the commander said. "There were certain procedures that I had to remember to follow. Some that I didn't remember, I should have. However, I recalled the main ones and all the survival gear worked as advertised."

Down the coast at Da Nang, 120 miles away, an amphibian aircraft was on duty. The other men in Shugart's flight sent back word that he was down. The commander climbed into his

rubber raft, while the planes overhead provided cover and protection from the nearby junk boats.

In another hour the rescue helicopter was in sight. It sat down on five-foot swells and taxied over to the downed pilot. Shugart left his raft and swam to the aircraft and was soon safe aboard.

Commander Shugart says he is proud of what he is doing in Vietnam. "I think we have no choice but to be here," he said. "We're fighting not just for the Vietnamese, but for our own freedom as well."

Shugart, like other Navy pilots in Vietnam, will fly again tomorrow and the next day. He has a mission to perform and will do it to the best of his ability.



Well men, if we start back now we should catch the last half hour of "Combat" on TV...

SCHEDULE AFRT, Vietnam

RADIO

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

MONDAY—THROUGH—FRIDAY

0005 De 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	Tues.—Footlights, and
0705 Devotions	Sound Tracks
0830 Ira Cook	Wed.—Jazzbook, Vol. 11
0905 Destination Noon	Thur.—George Shearing
1205 Johnny Magnus	Fri.—Folk Music of the World
1315 Focus	2105 Australian News
1320 Siesta Time	2110 Night Beat
1405 Monitor	2200 News Thirty
1505 Country Corner	2230 Night Beat
1605 Swinging Sixties	2330 Tonight Show

SATURDAY

0008 De 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 Sunny Davis Jr.
0905 Destination Noon	2005 Grand Ole Opry
1205 Swing Serenade	2105 Australian News
1315 Focus	2110 Night Beat

SUNDAY

0008 De 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 Singing	2105 Australian News/Sports
0820 Myron J. Bennett	2115 Till Midnight

TELEVISION

MONDAY

2000 I've Got A Secret
2030 Information Feature
2100 News
2105 Combat
2200 Ben Casey
2300 News
2305 Sign Off

WEDNESDAY

2000 Voyage To the Bottom of the Sea
2100 News
2105 What's the Action Is
2130 The Tonight Show
2300 News
2305 Sign Off

FRIDAY

2000 To Tell The Truth
2030 Armed Forces Feature
2100 News
2105 G n Smoke
2209 Danny Kaye Show
2300 News
2305 Sign Off

TUESDAY

2000 CBS Golf Classic
2100 News
2105 Rawhide
2200 Red Skeleton
2300 News
2305 Sign Off

THURSDAY

2000 G. E. College Bowl
2030 NFL Highlights
2100 News
2105 Perry Mason
2200 The Jimmy Dean Show
2300 News
2305 Sign Off

SATURDAY

2000 Sports Special
2130 News Headlines
2200 Hollywood Palace
2300 News
2305 Sign Off

SUNDAY

2000 Weekly Newsweek	2200 Ed Sullivan
2030 Ted Mack	2300 News
2100 News	2305 Sign Off
2105 Bonanza	

ALL PROGRAMS ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

PEANUTS

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



'Big Red One' Donates Cash To Leprosarium

Di An (USA) — Members of the 1st Infantry Division recently added more than \$635 to the donations they have made to the St. Joseph's Leprosarium near this village.

This second contribution of 74,941 piastres was made by Maj. Gen. Jonathan O. Seaman, the division commander, to Sister Rose of the leprosarium's staff. The division

now has given 230,000 piastres to the colony.

The 1st Division band played several selections, and some of the patients at the colony were given an opportunity to "conduct" the band. Refreshments were served to the American guests, with the Rev. Victor Berset, C.M., as host.

Matchless Marine Gets Hot Pocket

Da Nang (USMC) — LCpl. Vincent Ries did a slow burn the other day after the Viet Cong made it hot for him. In fact, he was flaming mad as he threw searing invectives in a matchless rage.

Ries, a fire team leader in A Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, was leading his team into a VC position when a bullet tore through his trouser pocket, igniting five books of matches.

"It's enough to make a guy quit smoking," he said as he slapped his pocket to put out the flames.

▲ Play Dead

(Cont'd from P-1, Col. 2)

powerful it knocked Crawford and Haas into the ditch. Crawford and Haas were quick to recover from the VC attack and started firing M79 grenades. Crawford's attention was drawn from the fight by one of his wounded buddies who was asking for help.

Haas' continued heavy firing made the VC think it was coming from the compound and three of them ran out on the road to recover the weapons from the fallen men.

Crawford, after helping his buddy, suddenly realized that the enemy was less than 10 meters away. Impossible to fire his launcher at such close range he looked at Haas and said "Play Dead."

Picking up the weapons the Viet Cong ran for cover. Crawford fired his M79 and scored a perfect hit and all three VC dropped. One of them scrambled to his feet and was killed by Crawford.

By then help had come from the compound and the wounded were treated and returned to the base.

"I thought we were all going to die but the idea worked. How I hoped and prayed that they would think we were dead," Crawford said.

"Thank God it worked," Crawford sighed.

Robert Mitchum Gets Tabbed For Bar Bill

Phuoc Vinh (USA) — One of the rules of Club 45 at 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, encampment is, don't wear your hat in the house; Actor Robert Mitchum found out the hard way.

The western-garbed actor was making his rounds through the 1st Battalion area and dropped into the Club 45, NCO club, forgetting to remove his ten-gallon hat.

Upon hearing cat calls and reading the rules, Mitchum promptly ordered the bar a round of drinks and produced a \$10 scrip note for club manager SFC Charles Dubre which he signed, "Cheers, Robert Mitchum."

The famous actor is currently touring American field sites in the Republic of Vietnam.

Water - Safety Program May Cut Drowning Rate

Saigon (USA) — With the number of deaths due to accidental drowning on the increase in Vietnam, the USMACV J1 Section in conjunction with the American Red Cross, has instituted an intensive water safety instruction program in an effort to increase water safety awareness.

The current six-day class is designed to produce qualified water safety instructors who in turn will teach the men of their respective units.

Personnel selected to participate in the six-day course must have previous water safety instructor training, senior life saving training or be a good, strong, all-around swimmers.

Conducting the class is Mr. Carl A. Ross, a water safety instructor for forty years.

According to MSgt R. E. Allen, of the Special Services

If the U.S. Space Agency hurries up and gets a space platform into orbit the promoters of the Clay-Terrel bout might have a place to put on the fight. So far, the list of towns, states and provinces that have refused the fight reads like the appendix of a Rand-McNally world atlas.

In the latest move, it looks as though Toronto has some doubts about allowing what is likely to be a complete fiasco to be staged within the confines of its fair city.

● Jittery Jay Brewer Jr., erratic with his irons and losing his putting touch, still managed to post a 16-under-par 272 and take the Pensacola Open Golf tourney in Florida. Bruce Devlin of Australia and Jacky Cupit were pushing Brewer hard in the final round, but couldn't overcome the lead Jittery Jay had piled up in the first three rounds. The win was worth \$10,000 to Brewer.

● Both major undefeated college basketball teams were no longer undefeated after this week's action as Kentucky was beaten by Tennessee 69-62, and Seattle jumped Texas Western 74-72 and snapped the Texan's victory string at 23 straight.

Despite the loss to Tennessee, Kentucky's coach, Adolph Rupp was named college basketball's Coach of the Year by UPI poll.

● How high is up?

For Bob Seagren of the Southern California Striders it's an even 17 feet.

Seagren set a new World's

indoor record in the pole vault at the AAU track meet at Albuquerque, N.M. He missed three tries at 17-4, after his nearest competitor, John Pennel went out at 16-6.

● And in baseball, Mesanori Murakami should have stayed in San Francisco.

The ex-Giant reliever, now pitching for the Nakai Hawks in Japan, was tagged for a homer in the fourth inning of a spring training game with the Hanshin Tigers, and gave up another run in the fifth as Hanshin won 5-1.

STATESIDE SPORTS SCENE

By "The Ancient Reporter"

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

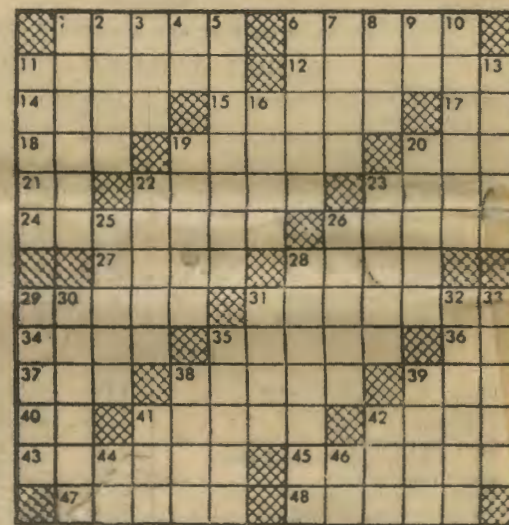
- 1-Sheets of glass
- 6-Lance
- 11-Dwell
- 12-Damaged
- 14-City in Russia
- 15-Din
- 17-Symbol for gold
- 18-Land of the free (init.)
- 19-Mountain lakes
- 20-Beast of burden
- 21-Preposition
- 22-Bristles
- 23-Parcel of land
- 24-Scooped
- 26-Showers
- 27-Young girl
- 28-Principal
- 29-Mortification
- 31-Join
- 34-Makes into leather
- 35-Indian tent
- 36-Three-toed sloth
- 37-Goal
- 38-Complaint (slang)
- 39-Shade tree
- 40-Paid notice
- 41-Old
- 42-Romanian
- 43-Heraldic bearing
- 44-Deadly
- 45-Becomes tight
- 47-Speak in slow, lengthened tone
- 48-Spirited horse

DOWN

- 1-Individual
- 2-On the ocean
- 3-Nothing
- 4-Man's nickname
- 5-Lawmaking bodies
- 6-Polish

- 7-Free ticket
- 8-Before
- 9-Part of "to be"
- 10-Cause
- 11-Conquers
- 13-Cleans away particles of dirt
- 16-Toward the mouth
- 19-Brief
- 20-Place in line
- 22-Junctures
- 23-American political philosopher
- 25-African antelope
- 26-Hindu queen
- 28-Youngsters
- 29-Take unlawfully
- 30-Passed around by hand
- 31-Furnish with a ceiling
- 32-Mailed
- 33-Incandescent
- 35-Shrill tone
- 38-Eat away
- 39-Gaelic

A	L	P	H	A	S	T	E	I	S	T
A	I	R	A	L	A	R	Y	N	E	E
R	E	E	R	A	M	E	V	A	N	
			V	I	M	P	A	S	T	E
A	F	A	R	P	A	L	E	S	S	E
M	A	R	H	E	N	P	E	T	E	R
L	I	M	E	S	R	E	M	I	T	
O	S	C	A	R	A	I	L	G	O	A
N	E	A	R	S	N	A	H	A	N	D
			T	E	S	T	S	E	A	T
D	U	O	T	O	W	E	R	I	S	M
E	R	R	E	L	E	M	I	O	P	A
W	I	S	T	E	R	S	E	N	A	P



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