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First In Vietnam

THE OBSERVER

Published Weekly For U.S. Forces In Vietnam
(Circulation: 60,000)

Vol. V, No. 2 SAIGON, VIETNAM May 16, 1966

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81mm Mortar Rounds Dropped By Choppers

Bien Hoa (USA) — Two companies of the 173rd Airborne Brigade were pinned down by heavy Viet Cong fire in the thick jungle of War Zone D. Artillery fire was needed, and although the dense jungle foliage was too thick for company mortars to be used, mortars were still to save the day.

Suddenly the cracking of small arms fire was broken by the roar of a flight of Army helicopters. "We made three passes and dropped 83 mortar rounds on the enemy," said Capt. Duane C. Ingram, a platoon leader with the 173rd Aviation Platoon.

The company commanders, who had been pinned down, saw bodies flying through the air, and an estimated 200 VC were killed or wounded in the first

assault against the enemy by air-dropped mortars.

The ingenious idea of dropping mortar rounds from a helicopter was suggested by Brig. Gen. Ellis W. Williamson, commander of 173rd when it arrived in Vietnam, after company commanders noted that mortars weren't easily used in the dense jungle.

Captain Ingram and PSgt. Thurman C. Casey, working with plans made up by General Williamson, devised a plywood rack and the first

experiments began.

With a wooden trough in each door of the helicopter, the men found they could drop as many as 60 high explosive 81mm rounds at once, and with a full load, dropping one at a time, an area 2,500 yards long and 25 yards wide could be blasted.

The only problem encountered was keeping the nose down on the mortar rounds after they left the chopper. The altitude and speed at which the rounds were dropped was not sufficient to allow the small fins on the 81mm mortar to stabilize it into a nose down attitude.

Somebody, perhaps a kite enthusiast, suggested a tail made of engineers tape be tied to the rounds. Three foot sections of tape were tied on the rounds, which proved 100 per cent successful.

Why three feet? "Well that is the first length we

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



PHYSICAL THERAPY — Little Miss Nguyen Thi Bing, who lost her arm in an automobile accident, is examined at the 17th Field Hospital in Saigon by Maj. Barbara D. Gray, the only physical therapist in the U.S. Army stationed in Vietnam. (Photo by Sp4 Gabriel A. Saad, USA)

Angry 'Tunnel Rat' Kills 6 Viet Cong

Cu Chi (USA) — Sp4 Andres Ramirez stood before a trap door on an enemy tunnel and listened cautiously to Viet Cong chattering away inside. Then, armed with a pistol and a flashlight, he opened the door and crawled into the black hole.

Some five seconds later the 5-foot 4-inch Texan came flying out the tunnel entrance just as an explosion rocked the ground. Grabbing a hand

grenade, he stormed back inside.

"When I got in the tunnel," Ramirez explained later, "I saw a flash and a second trap door closing. As soon as Charlie's grenade went off I dropped mine into his trap door." The grenade killed six Viet Cong, and the company recovered a rifle, tape recorder, transmitter and a microphone from the tunnel.

Pulling Viet Cong out of their tunnels and trenches is all part of a day's work for Ramirez, who is a "tunnel rat" with the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division.

Previously, the 120-pound soldier was an automatic rifleman, but because of his size, agility and courage he was selected to lead a team of tunnel-clearing specialists on operations.

Ramirez said he cannot understand the enemy. "When I've searched a tunnel, I've found dope and needles. You know, they give 'em dope, hand 'em a few rifle grenades, ammunition and say 'go kill some Americans'."

'They Sustain A Legacy Of Freedom, Democracy'

Freedom is indivisible. It is not secure in America when it is brutally denied elsewhere on this earth.

The struggle to be free is a struggle worthy of man's unceasing sacrifice. And it is worthy of America's abiding commitment in Vietnam and in other parts of the world where violence threatens man's earnest desire to be free.

Those who serve in distant lands in the uniforms of our Armed Forces know the meaning of this commitment. They know the meaning of the bond which inextricably unites America's freedom with the freedom of her friends around the world.

They bravely and selflessly uphold a historic commitment. And they sustain a legacy which has made this nation the world's arsenal of freedom and democracy.

As Commander-in-Chief, I join all my fellow Americans in the traditional observance of Armed Forces Day, and in high tribute to the valor and dedication of those whose courageous service this day commemorates.



LYNDON B. JOHNSON

VC Copy Gangsters With U.S.-Type Guns

Cu Chi (USA) — It could have been a back alley in Chicago or New York. But it was on the "island" of Xom Moi, a tree-covered hill surrounded by flat rice paddies, that the men of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division discovered a cache of unusual small arms.

"They're lousy," said a voice with the distinctive Bronx twang.

"Man, back on my block those wouldn't have lasted a day," said another soldier, who admitted he was from the Windy City.

What did they find in the spider hole?

"Eight Viet Cong zip guns," said the platoon sergeant.

"Hey," said one soldier,

"don't write that, I wouldn't even dignify 'em by calling 'em zip guns. They're not even made right."

Most of the rusted weapons had wooden stocks and a spring-powered nail for a firing pin. They were thought to be 32-caliber weapons.

"Some Charlie was really trying," said the Bronx soldier. "He even tried to put a trigger on his."

EDITORIAL

Armed Forces Day, May 21

In the Proclamation for this year's Armed Forces Day, President Johnson wrote, "our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coastguardsmen, from whom we ask so much, are the cornerstone of our military might and richly deserve to have a special day set aside in their honor." He also invited the American people to "take part in observances planned by personnel of the Armed Forces as a report to the Nation which they are sworn to protect."

Thus, Armed Forces Day 1966, to be celebrated May 21, has a dual purpose. It is a day to pay tribute to Americans in military uniform. It is also a day when men and women in the Armed Forces can report directly to the task at hand—protecting the nation.

AFPS



A Report to the Nation

The Armed Forces are like an investment in insurance made by the American people. Billions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of young men and women have been poured into this investment. The desired result of all this is a firm assurance that the nation which they built, and are building, will continue as a strong force working toward the betterment of man.

During Armed Forces Day 1966, the American people will be able to see the results of their investment. The Armed Forces, under the format, "A Report to the Nation," will present what will amount to a stockholders' report to the people.

It is the people from whom the men and women of the Armed Forces draw their responsibility, resources and support. As the people honor those in uniform, it is fitting they should be able to see that the trust of the nation's defense is being carried forward with energy and dedication. (AFPS).

THE OBSERVER

(CIRCULATION: 60,000)

THE OBSERVER, an authorized weekly publication, is published by the Command Information Division, Office of Information, HQ USMACV, for U.S. Armed Forces in Vietnam and is printed in Saigon by Vietnamese personnel.

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense or of any of the Service departments. This paper uses the facilities of Armed Forces Press File, Armed Forces News Bureau and news services of the Service departments to augment local news. Mailing Address: THE OBSERVER, HQ MACV, APO 26243, U.S. Forces.

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Washington Memos

AIR OPERATIONS LEVEL carried on in Southeast Asia is unprecedented, said Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara. No ground operations in the history of war have ever had this level of air support, he said, adding that it was planned this way.

TOTAL BOMB TONNAGE dropped in March, the Secretary noted, was approximately 50,000 tons or slightly higher; almost three times tonnage dropped in an average month of the Korean War.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE officials say married persons must file new form W-4 to obtain correct withholding under new Federal income tax withholding system. If the form is not filed the employer must treat married persons as single, withholding more of their pay.

TOTAL NUMERICAL STRENGTH of Armed Forces on March 31, 1966 was 2,968,027 based on preliminary reports. Figures by service: Army, 1,139,632; Navy, 736,423; Marine Corps, 244,283; and Air Force, 847,689.

MILLIONS OF AMERICANS have chosen U.S. Savings Bonds for building toward economic security for themselves, their community and their children.

NORTH VIETNAM'S MONSOON offensive against South Vietnam is expected to be launched initially against outposts along the Laotian and Cambodian frontiers.

This was disclosed by U.S. officials, who said the first attacks would probably take advantage of bad weather hampering U.S. and RVN air support operations.

Officials said stepped-up activity can be expected throughout RVN, but would not speculate on particular areas or activities.

The estimated enemy strength in RVN is 23 regiments confirmed, and two unconfirmed.

CURRENT PURCHASES OF insect screening wire by the Defense Industrial Supply Center, Philadelphia, would reach from Saigon to Hanoi, a distance of more than 750 miles, if unrolled and laid end to end.

FORMER PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S aircraft, Columbine III, a VC-121E Super Constellation has arrived at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, for retirement in the Air Force Museum. Named after the flower of Mrs. Eisenhower's home state of Colorado, Columbine III has been used by the Air Force since 1954.

'We Can, Will Pay Freedom's Cost'

On this Armed Forces Day we must resolve to continue our maintenance of powerful, ready military forces. We must also resolve to demonstrate our willingness to use these forces where our vital interests are at stake.

It is my hope that all Americans will lend their full support to our military forces defending the frontier of freedom in Vietnam. Such wholehearted support is basic to the strength of our defense effort.



Robert S. McNamara
Secretary of Defense

Let us reaffirm that we can and will pay freedom's cost—whatever it may be. When aggressor states are convinced that war is no longer a feasible method to extend the area they control, our security is enhanced. When they are convinced that we will resist with force any encroachment on our vital interests around the world, the chances of war are diminished.

This is worthy of our abiding commitment in Vietnam and wherever freedom is threatened.

Questions & Answers

The War In Vietnam

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 are two of 20 questions (questions 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." (Editor)

QUESTION: How long has Hanoi been carrying on its current large-scale war against South Vietnam?

ANSWER: Military aggression has been intensified since 1961, as Hanoi has sent more and more troops across the border to fight with the Viet Cong.

QUESTION: Why has the United States become so deeply involved?

ANSWER: As Hanoi's aggression has increased, so has American military support of South Vietnam. President Johnson summed up the U.S. position recently, pointing out that the United States is in South Vietnam to carry out a promise made in 1954 to help that country build and develop in peace and freedom, as the Geneva agreements provided. The country's peaceful development was well on its way, although a substantial part of South Vietnam's resources and manpower had to be diverted to fighting off the Viet Cong. But the addition of tens of thousands of North Vietnamese Communists to the Viet Cong changed the picture. The communists made their objective plain: to drive the United States out of South Vietnam, and then to conquer the country for communism. It was then that President Johnson reaffirmed the solemn commitment of the United States to support the people of South Vietnam in their struggle against aggression from the North.

Engineers Create Dust, Sand, Gravel

Cam Ranh Bay— A cloud of dust hangs almost constantly over a small area of this sprawling sand dune that is rapidly becoming one of the world's largest port facilities.

This cloud marks the location of a vital operation in the transformation of this one-time fishing village into an Army supply base where cargo ships offload the supplies of war and where the cargoes are stockpiled for future use by combat units.

Rock crushers at a quarry operated by the 864th Engineer Battalion are raising the dust as they work from daybreak to dusk in providing other engineers—the road builders—with crushed rock, sand and clay for road beds.

Their task is not an easy one, according to Lt. Ronald E. Morain, of Company A, 864th Engineer Battalion, as they have found the rock here is "the hardest I have ever seen."

Granite rock, blasted from the mountains on this peninsula, plays havoc with the grinding gears of the rock-crushers. In some instances, teeth have been snapped off the gears by the hard rock, Morain said.

Right now the engineers at the quarry site—opened about two weeks ago at its

present location—are producing some 600 tons of rock and sand daily for the road builders, using one rock crusher.

Soon, however, they will have four other machines in operation, and expect to be providing 14,000 tons of materials for the road beds, operating 20 hours a day.

They are part of the 35th Engineer Group which was given the task of building the road network linking the depots and pier facilities with the nearby airport.

When the roads are completed—with an asphalt top—the supplies of war can be more readily and rapidly moved to the airport and shuttled to the combat units.



BOOM—A cloud of smoke and dust marks the spot on a mountain where rock for building roads at Cam Ranh Bay is blasted from hard granite. The rock is trucked to a quarry where rock crushers transform it into small rock and gravel for road beds.

Army Litter Tactics Bring VC Defectors

Di An (USA) — 1st Infantry Division psychological warfare teams are fast proving to be among the world's worst litter bugs on Operation Birmingham 50 miles northwest of Saigon.

"Every litter bit helps," says Maj. Conrad K. Hausman, psychological warfare officer.

His section has dropped more than five million propaganda leaflets and news letters in Tay Ninh province, marking one of the largest psychological warfare tactics ever employed in the Vietnam war. Aimed primarily at local insurgents and enslaved recruits, the leaflets are also slanted toward the Viet Cong regular troops from the North.

While 1st Div. fighting men rout the VC from their jungle strongholds, along the banks of the Rach Cai Bac River, psychological warfare personnel bombard the beaten enemy with leaflets that make no promises, but state basic truths that appeal to the enemy's common sense to surrender.

Ground and aerial loudspeakers support the leaflets whenever possible in the insurgents' native language. They appeal to the Viet Cong and their sympathizers to lay down their arms and join the Chieu Hoi Program—an open arms policy supported by the Vietnamese government for those who surrender.

Newsletters also remind the North Vietnamese regular soldier of the hardships he suffered during his 60-day march down the Ho Chi Minh Trail where more than 30 per cent of his comrades contracted malaria.

Defectors, which have totaled about 2,000 on past 1st Div. operations, receive rewards for weapons they bring with them and a tem-

porary allowance to buy food for themselves and their families.

If they are South Vietnamese insurgents, they are reunited with their families and may receive land grants or voluntarily enlist in the Vietnamese Army.

After Combat He Wants An Ice Cold Drink

An Khe (USA) — When the men of the 1st Air Cavalry Division come back to their base camp after a month of combat operations, they hope that there will be a bath, a cold drink and maybe a package waiting for them.

When Sgt. Raul Garza of Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry returned from Operation Mosby in the central highlands, he had all three.

After he had cleaned up, he opened a four-and-a-half foot high package that had been waiting for him. Inside, he found an electric ice machine, a gift from the people of his home town, Chicago.

They also sent along a street sign from the corner of State and Madison, the Hollywood and Vine of the Windy City.

Sergeant Garza presented the ice machine to the men of his company.

Now the men are hearing that wonderful tinkling sound that had been missing from their lives for so long.



RAISING DUST— Rocks, carried by trucks to a quarry site, are run through this rock crusher where they are transformed into gravel (left) and fine sand (right) by the equipment that raises a constant cloud of dust at the quarry operated by Army engineers.

Operation Harrison Roughs Up North Vietnamese Troops

Tuy Hoa (USA) — The the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division recently spent 30 days flushing out units of the 95th North Vietnamese Army Regiment in a successful search and destroy operation through the rugged jungle covered mountains and rice paddyland that surrounds the former communist stronghold of Tuy Hoa, 220 miles northeast of Saigon.

In one recent 30 day period during Operation Harrison the "Screaming Eagles" accounted for 224 Viet Cong killed, 46 estimated dead, and 20 captured. The paratroopers also added 165 individual and 16 crew-served weapons as well as 448 hand grenades to the growing list of VC arms falling into American hands.

The turning point of the operation came when the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry, engaged battalion sized elements of the enemy in

the village of My Phu, south of Tuy Hoa. After seven hours of bitter fighting, much of it hand-to-hand, the paratroopers counted 109 dead North Vietnamese plus 43 communist weapons.

From this point to the termination of the operation the troopers ran into only light scattered resistance as the insurgent unit broke into small elements to avoid contact and detection. In pursuing the North Vietnamese, the "Screaming Eagles" found a major weapons cache, an

abandoned VC hospital, numerous deserted camps, and vital communist documents.

The success of the operation and the speed of the U.S. advance was evident when the 101st captured the VC hospital with three wounded which had been left behind by the fleeing Viet Cong.

The 1st Brigade of the 101st has been in almost constant combat with the enemy since they arrived in Vietnam in July 1965 and have spent only two weeks of this time at their base camp,

For Training In U.S.

Advisors Teach Shipboard Lingo To Vietnamese Tars

Saigon — Less than two months ago, the 21 Vietnamese Navy petty officers could speak little or no English.

Today, they are proficient in the language, especially in the technical terms used by Navy men the world over.

The men are graduates of a special English class conducted at the Republic of Vietnam's Naval Training Center. The training gave them a working knowledge of English, which they will need at the U.S. Navy's advanced schools in the States.

They will form the nucleus of a crew for a U.S. Navy vessel that is being given to Vietnam's ever-growing Navy.

U.S. Navy Damage Controlman First Class James A. Slotterback, one of the advisors at the training center, gave the language training in a special six-week course to these hand-picked men.

"Some of them had been students in the basic English-language course, and others were in the intermediate class," Slotterback said. "A few of them knew some English, but most spoke very little before the class started. The class average was over 85 per cent in spoken English."

The hand-picked petty officers will be part of a 60-man crew of a ship that will be picked up in Philadelphia and will sail back to Vietnam. The crew will re-

ceive the underway training, usually given by the Vietnamese Navy instructors at the training center, during the voyage back to Saigon.

But first, these specialists in damage control, gunnery, signals, electronics and other skills, will attend U.S. Navy schools at Norfolk, San Diego and the Great Lakes to give them added proficiency. The basic techniques of their specialties were learned at schools conducted at the training center here, according to Lt. William H. DeWitt, advisor to the commandant of the Vietnamese Navy-run center.

When Slotterback is not conducting classes in English, he serves as damage control advisor for the training center. Senior Chief Radarman Cecil G. Ford, communications and electronics advisor, and Chief Engineman Henry Rodriguez, engineering advisor, complete the U.S. Navy advisory staff.

Lt. Cdr. Nguyen Van heads the 35-man staff of Vietnamese Navy officers and enlisted men who run the training center. Most of these

instructors received training in the U.S. and speak fluent English, according to DeWitt.

In addition to the classes in English—basic, intermediate and advanced—which are given orally and on tape recorders, the training center conducts six-week classes in training of seamanship.

Also, there are one-week courses on the various engines of the Vietnamese Navy's craft, in the guns used and in minesweeping.

The men trained in the six-week classes will crew River Assault Group and Junk Force ships and those trained in the short courses will go to the Vietnamese Navy Sea Force.



TANGLED SWAMP — Troopers of the 1st Infantry Division slog through a tangled swampy area 40 miles northwest of Saigon during Operation Birmingham, a search and destroy operation which has discovered masses of enemy supplies and equipment. (UPI Radiophoto by Steve Van Meter)

If Jet Pilots Eject, Will They Survive?

Saigon (USAF) — What chance does a jet fighter pilot have of surviving an emergency bail out over enemy territory or the ocean?

Carrying more than 120 pounds of survival equipment they are able to cope with almost any situation.

Starting from the top, jet pilots wear specially-fitted flying helmets with built-in sunglasses and earphones. For survival in hostile territory, they wear vests in which they carry 38-caliber revolvers, extra ammunition, food packets, day and night flares and survival radios.

To protect them from blackout, they wear G-suits equipped with rub-

ber bladders over the stomach and around the legs to counteract the effects of gravity during high speed climbs and dives. Also contained in the G-suits are knives and more food packets.

They wear specially designed boots to keep their feet dry. The boots have removable insoles for air circulation. For protection against punji sticks, placed

in paths and trails by the enemy, the boots have built-in steel sole plates. Ankle supports for hard parachute landings and tractor soles for walking through muddy areas, round out the combat features of the boots.

When pilots bail out, they literally take their aircraft seats with them. Forty-five pound seat packs attached to the pilots contain a one-man raft, emergency radios, signal mirrors, canned water and food, sea-marker dyes, shark repellent, whistles, first aid kits, socks, gloves, sun hats and snake bite kits.

New parachutes used by the pilots feature an automatic opening device for either high or low altitude ejection. The parachutes are equipped with a lanyard which automatically opens the chute during low altitude ejections one second after the pilot is separated from his seat. On high altitude ejections, air pressure sensing devices automatically open the parachutes at 14,000 feet.

Beacon radios are attached to the parachutes to help rescue crews find downed pilots. The radios give out a beep-beep sound as soon as the parachute opens.

With this array of gear, jet fighter-bomber and reconnaissance pilots stand a good chance of surviving almost any conditions.



PIGGY BACK — A Montagnard woman peers apprehensively at the photographer who snapped her picture as a 1st Air Cavalry Division unit passed through her village in the central highlands. The baby being carried piggy back, however, was unimpressed by a mere photographer. (Photo by Sp5 Marv Wolf, USA)

Ingenuity Puts Ailing Bulldozers To Work

Nhon Co (USA) — "We have done so much, so long, with so little that we now know we can do anything with nothing". Sp4 Jimmy L. Williams, an engineer assigned to the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division has proved this adage true.

Combining ingenuity and hard work, and using C-ration cans, baling wire, and a rubber tourniquet bandage to repair three Vietnamese bulldozers near the Nhon Co airstrip 90 miles northwest of Saigon.

Moving into the area the paratroop engineers were shown three inoperative bulldozers belonging to the Quang Duc province. Beginning with an Oliver OC-18 bulldozer Specialist Williams welded and wired locally-made parts to the machine, wired the fuel lines together with C-ration box baling wire and cleaned the fuel tubes.

A TD-18 dozer posed a

unique situation with a radiator and cooling system that resembled a sieve. Using empty C-ration cans as patches and a rubber tourniquet bandage to hold them in place Williams plugged all the holes allowing the dozer to work. An additional TD-18 was a "mechanics nightmare" as Williams put it; however a number of minor repairs got it going.

A hot rod mechanic before entering the Army Williams was later joking about changing the engine from the larger Oliver dozer to the smaller TD-18 machine giving him full tracked 'dragster.'

Conduct Of War

U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee March 3, 1966, where he answered a number of questions pertinent to the conduct of the war in the Republic of Vietnam. For the next few weeks, *The Observer* will publish some of the questions and the Secretary's answers for the benefit of its readers. (Editor) Sixth of a series of nine questions.

QUESTION

Are we not facing in Vietnam an unlimited, open-ended military commitment to a major land war in Asia?

ANSWER

Before commenting on the military aspects of the issue, I would like to note that our military operations in South Vietnam are facing us with no more of a threat to an open-ended major land war in Asia than was expressly recognized by this committee in its report on the proposed treaty at that time.

My answer to the question is that I do not believe that we are facing in Vietnam an unlimited, open-ended commitment to a major land war in Asia if we keep our objectives limited and persistently make clear to all concerned—friend, foe and neutral alike—that our objectives are limited.

The risk of a major land war in Asia would increase significantly if our military strategy in Vietnam were such as to threaten the destruction of the North Vietnamese regime or the occupation of its territory. As I have already

stated, this is not in any sense an objective of the United States policy in South Vietnam. On the contrary, our policy is essentially defensive—to protect South Vietnam from attack. From aggression that is supported, directed and guided by North Vietnam.

Moreover, the war can be considered a limited one in a strictly military sense as well. As I have sought to point out we estimate that there is an upper range or limit for the enemy forces in South

Vietnam that can be generated and supported by North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in the face of our intensive efforts to pursue the enemy, to interdict the enemy's supply lines, to destroy their base areas and to prevent their consolidation of control over large areas of South Vietnam.

In conducting the war in Vietnam as we have, it has been one of our basic objectives to persuade Hanoi to cease its aggression without changing the limited character of the war—with respect to both geography and the parties involved.

We have been successful thus far in keeping the war limited while blunting the communist drive, we expect to be successful in the months to come.



Robert S. McNamara
Secretary of Defense

Delta Paddy Control Does Big Brother Job

Can Tho (USA) — At 0338 hours the airman was listening over his radio and watching on his radar a flight of three F4 Phantom jets preparing to make a strike on a Viet Cong target. One of the pilots suddenly yelled out "MAYDAY... MAYDAY."

The airman immediately notified the combat operations center (COC) at IV Corps headquarters, and COC scrambled a pair of armed helicopters out of Vinh Long. A Navy fighter-bomber was diverted to provide air cover for the downed pilot.

Based on the last radar plot of the downed pilot, the armed choppers and the fighter-bomber were sent into the plotted location.

At 0355 hours, or 17 minutes after the pilot yelled the international distress signal, one of the armed choppers picked him up and headed for Vinh Long.

This emergency is just one of at least 10 that happen every month and is handled by "Paddy Control" which is a control post located at the Can Tho airfield 80 miles southwest of Saigon.

The correct title for this installation is Detachment 3, 619th Tactical Control Squadron commanded by Maj. Karl G. Sale. To the hundreds of pilots that use it, Vietnamese and American... Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force, its just plain Paddy.

Known as the eyes and ears of the Delta, Paddy has

Downed Commie Bridge Kills Hanoi-Haiphong Rail Traffic

North Vietnam (USN) — Aircraft from the attack aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk cut the Hai Duong rail and highway bridge, dropping two spans into the water, April 17.

The bridge has long been considered a major transportation artery in North Vietnam and was a much sought-

after target. Weather has hampered attacks in the past; however, improved weather conditions allowed A6 bom-

bers and F4 fighter-bombers to launch a successful surprise attack.

Thirty miles east of Hanoi, the bridge connected the seaport city of Haiphong with North Vietnam's industrial city and capital, Hanoi. Constructed of steel and sitting on four masonry piers, the bridge had five spans, each span being 258 feet long for a total of 1,290 feet.

Although heavily defended, thousands of pounds of bombs were dropped "on target." The second and third spans dropped into center-channel of the Song Thai Binh River, thus blocking the river, rail and road traffic.

Pilots encountered intense anti-aircraft and automatic weapons fire from surrounding defensive gun positions, flack-suppressing aircraft attacked and silenced one 37mm and six automatic weapons sites with multiple direct rocket hits.



UNDER WATER — Two spans of the Hai Duong rail and highway bridge lay practically submerged in the Song Thai Binh River after U.S. Navy bombers knocked out the bridge severing a vital artery between Hanoi and Haiphong. (USN Photo)

Ice Machines Due For Troops

Saigon (USA) — Ice making machines, capable of providing six pounds of ice per man on a daily basis, are beginning to arrive in Vietnam the U.S. Army's 1st Logistical Command announced recently.

Logistics officials feel that the introduction of the machines will undoubtedly be one of the finest morale boosts the troops have had since the start of the Vietnamese war. In many cases now, in troop areas in highland and jungle, ice is either non-existent or in short supply, since it must often be imported from civilian sources as far as 100 miles away.

Twenty-four electrically-operated ice machines are expected by the end of June, with more scheduled to arrive by late summer. "We'll move them out to the 'troop customer' as quickly as we can," a supply official said. "You don't have to be in Vietnam very long to regard a small piece of ice with about the same affection that a woman admires a diamond."

Installed near water purification points, the ice makers will turn out their product in 100-pound blocks for distribution to line units.

In addition to providing ice for beverages, the plant will also serve medical installations which have a "major requirement" for the product, the spokesman said.

25th Infantry Div. Donates To Needy

Cu Chi (USA) — The widows of soldiers who have lost their lives on the battlefield against the Viet Cong could smile today in a village near here.

Until today, there wasn't much time for smiling. The women wore the strains

of war on wrinkled faces, calloused hands and slim figures. But the burden they carried today was bundles of clothing, cans of juices and salad oil and boxes of rolled wheat.

Each woman was called forward to accept items which might take some of the strain off the coming weeks.

The bundles were passed out at the headquarters building for the village chief of Tan An Hoi, near the base camp of the 25th Infantry Division.

The donations were among the first to be passed on to people of South Vietnam under the 25th Infantry Division's "Operation Helping Hand."

The "Helping Hand" project originated in Hawaii, former home of the Tropic Lightning Division, and citizens throughout the Aloha state contributed thousands of dollars worth of clothing, health and sanitation goods, books and toys, work items and food to assist the Vietnamese people in areas where the 25th Div. is located.

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

Resettlement Begins New Life For Rural Villagers

Story & Photos by Sp4 H. B. Bryan, USA, Staff Writer

Quang Duc — A Montagnard family huddled in the rear of each dusty, green Army truck as an armed convoy of 20 vehicles rumbled down a winding, clay road in Viet Cong territory in II Corps.

The people were crouched in fear of an enemy attack, but their spirits were high. They knew that ahead waited a better way of life as they departed their ancestral grounds en route to a new homeland inside the defensive perimeter of friendly artillery at Gia Nghia.

For six days Capt. Donald O'Neill, a sector advisor, had been living with the villagers assisting the District Chief coordinate the loading of two convoys a day of 12 to 20 trucks, hauling the possessions of one family in each vehicle.

The Viet Cong employed a live-and-let-live policy while they watched the Montagnard villagers roll through dense forests on mountain roads taking with them food, shelter and the strength of numbers.

Machine guns clanked in their mounts on the armored escort cars as they thundered over a hand-carved forest road. Observation planes kept

a close vigil on the surrounding countryside, reporting all signs of ground movement to the mortar teams and rifle companies stationed along the route of the caravan of trucks.

The convoy was part of a 15-day operation to resettle 2,000 people and is a link in the master plan for Quang Duc province which will eventually bring 97 per cent of the population under the protection of government forces.

On one of several overlapping artillery positions stationed on high ground along the route of the convoy, Capt. John D. Purdy, senior advisor to the 1st Battalion, 45th Infantry Regiment, spoke into his field radio to the Army pilot flying an L-19 observation plane overhead.

"No wonder you fly-boys never see anything, you fly so high!" remarked Purdy, as the plane nearly scraped the tree tops in search of enemy positions. The Vietnamese battalion command post, where Purdy advised his counterpart, Capt. Nhuyen Mao, had been the target of Viet Cong harassing fire for three successive nights. The battalion reported three cas-

ualties while enforcing the defense of the migration.

When the convoy arrived at its destination in Khlem Duc district, Lt. Col. Nguyen Huu Man, province chief, directed the people into temporary shelters where they would live while they built their permanent homes.

Anxious Montagnard families hurriedly unpacked each truck and moved everything from pigs to smoking pipes under shelters before the afternoon rains.

During the night, 105 mm howitzers on the mountain above the village racked the silence as its rounds exploded in areas of suspected enemy concentration. The Montagnard citizens were not new to the sound of the big guns, but it was the first time that the shells were used to guard their "back door."

At sunrise, the homesteaders arranged their belongings and began building the standard five family houses adopted for each new hamlet.

While walking through the burned off farm land and unfinished homes, Capt. Gordon Alvadj, civic action

advisor, emphasized that not only are these people protected from the Viet Cong, but they can no longer be used by the enemy as a source of manpower, a place for refuge nor a ready food supply.

The advisor said that the people are now close enough to be afforded medical treatment, sufficient clothing and adequate living conditions with the aid of the Vietnamese government.

George Gaspard, U.S. Agency for International Development representative in Quang Duc province, says that "by the end of May, 9,000 people will be resettled completing the province's projected resettlement plan for 1966." Gaspard is responsible for coordinating the aid from various U.S. relief agencies sending help to the province.

According to Maj. Steven W. Bachinski, senior advisor at sector headquarters, the 35,000 inhabitants of South Vietnam's most sparsely populated province will be resettled in new homes on fertile farm land inside an 11-mile radius of Gia Nghia. Four hamlets are in the making and eight are expected to be completed this month.

EVACUATION — A Vietnamese sentry stands the entrance of a Montagnard village as the a 20-truck convoy leads the evacuation of



HOW ABOUT THAT — Sheer delight is evident as Province Chief Colonel Man, fits him for a new shirt. Colonel Man refers to the youngsters as "the



LIGHT POP? — Capt. Donald O'Neill, Regional Force advisor, lights a cigarette for an Montagnard elder. The caravan of trucks carries everything movable from an out-

lying hamlet in Quang Duc province en route to new hamlets and a better way of life.



stands guard at
the first truck in
the hamlet on

the 50-kilometer ride to Gia Nghia. The empty village is
booby trapped and mined behind them to greet Viet Cong
homesteaders. It is also marked for possible bombing strikes.



PROTECTING ARMS—It is not the Ritz, but it is a new home for these Montagnards, and
it sits above fertile acres of cleared land and is complimented with 3,500 piasters. Capt.
Gordon Alvadj, civic action advisor, received the word that everything was "okay" from
this small boy who probably spoke his first word of English.



expressed on the face of a Montagnard boy as
his first pair of trousers, supplied by USAID.
the promise of tomorrow's Vietnam."



LOCK AND LOAD — Vietnamese artillerymen load the
105mm howitzer gun aimed over the new homes and land
of Quang Duc's population surrounding Gia Nghia. The

MACV compound below the howitzer is capable of giving
mortar and automatic weapons support to the settlements.

Able Medic Saves Dying Infant's Life

Oman (USA)— When the mother brought her year-old son into the small dispensary, his heart had stopped beating. For the next 12 hours, a U.S. Army medic worked feverishly through the night to bring the infant back to life.

SSgt. Isaac Bilbo began chest massages and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Within 30 minutes, the boy began to breathe for himself.

Suffering from flu, diarrhea and an extreme case of dehydration, the infant's life hung between life and death throughout the night. At dawn, the child began to show signs of recovering and by mid-morning he was off the danger list.

Although the case cited is unusual, it is just one of thousands handled by Bilbo who is with Advisory Team 96 in the Phong Phu sub-sector 12 miles northwest of the river port of Can Tho.

Located in the sub-sector headquarters in the town of Oman, Bilbo's dispensary handles over 150

patients daily. He treats hundreds more as he travels to outlying villages and hamlets throughout the heart of the Mekong Delta.

Bilbo's dispensary is stocked with some of the latest and most advanced medical supplies, including more than 50 different types of medication.

Since arriving in Vietnam seven months ago, Bilbo has performed just about every medical task imaginable. He has sewn up countless wounds, performed minor surgery, changed thousands of bandages, and even delivered two babies.

"This is the most rewarding assignment I've had in my 17 years of service," Bilbo remarked.



HEALTHY LUNGS—SSgt. Isaac Bilbo Jr., a medical advisor with Phong Phu sub-sector examines one of his 150 patients a day. Bilbo recently saved the life of an infant whose heart had stopped beating. (USA Photo)

Pilot Wounded, Loses Two Choppers In 29 Days

By Lt. Barry J. Nelson, USA

Saigon (USA) — Army 1st Lt. George T. Beckett didn't stay long in this country—but he saw plenty of the war.

Wounded in the left arm by a Viet Cong sniper, the helicopter pilot found himself in a field hospital just 29 days after his arrival in Vietnam. He was then evacuated to the United States for treatment.

After signing into his unit, the 17th Aviation Group's 129th Airmobile Company, 10th Battalion, Lieutenant Beckett began flying his Huey on combat missions three days later.

At first he flew combat assault missions, fast moving operations where troop-carrying choppers move infantrymen into landing zones (LZ), often enemy infested, while other, heavily armed helicopters fly at tree-top level pouring rocket and machine gun fire all around the landing zone.

One day Lieutenant Beckett and WO Ronnie D. Griggs, were sent on a rescue mission to pick up a patrol sent out by the 101st Airborne Division. The patrol had been hit hard.

One of its members had been cut off from the rest and stood alone in the middle of a field of elephant grass.

The smoke grenade he had thrown to mark his position for the rescue aircraft had set fire to the grass and drawn the attention of VC gunners who were now zeroing in on his position.

"We knew we were going to get shot up if we went in after him," Beckett recalled from his hospital bed, "but there was no decision to make; we just went in. He would

get killed if we didn't."

As their chopper approached the paratrooper's position, a sudden burst of enemy fire caught the tail rotor. The

ship spun suddenly and fell. The four crew members scrambled out, unhurt, and, signalling for the soldier to join them, ran and crawled under fire through the dense grass to another helicopter whose pilots had also braved enemy bullets to make the rescue.

This one was successful and all five, were returned to their units unharmed.

Back to duty the next day, the lieutenant was flying co-pilot on a combat assault with Capt. Phillip A. Saunders. On approach into the LZ the ship had a mechanical failure 50 feet in the air, and "fell through," as pilots say, crashing and overturning on impact. In addition to the crew, there were eight infantrymen aboard the helicopter, but again there were no injuries.

So Beckett, after losing two aircraft in two days, was given the next day off.

But on the third day he was in the air. The flight that day was considered administrative—a battalion commander of the 101st needed to visit companies in the field, and Beckett, along with CWO Dale Swafford was to

(Cont'd on P-11, Col. 2)

Exchange Pilot Logs 1,000 Hours

Cam Ranh Bay (USAF)— Marine Capt. John Gagen who is serving with the Air Force here as an exchange pilot, recently joined a select group who have 1,000 hours flying time in the F-4C Phantom jet.

Gagen reached the milestone while leading "A" flight of the 559th Tactical Fighter Squadron in strafing and bombing Viet Cong troops attacking a friendly village southeast of Saigon.

The Air Force has an exchange program with other branches of the Department of Defense. The program is designed to acquaint officers of one branch with the operations of other services.

Besides reaching the 1,000-hour mark in the Phantom jet during the mission, Gagen also recorded his 100th hour of combat and passed the 2,600 hour-mark as a jet pilot.



FRONT-LINE FRILLS — Actress Ann-Margret models one of the outfits she wore on her tour entertaining the troops in Vietnam.

Chaplain's Assistant Helps War Wounded

Nhon Co (USA) — A chaplain bent close over a fallen paratrooper. A machine gun kicked up dirt a little way to his right, and farther on another trooper clutched at a growing red spot on his breast, and crumbled to the ground.

"Son, this is Chaplain Bowers," the minister said quietly. "You're not hurt badly and you're gonna be okay. Whitney and I will get you back to the 'dust off'."

Two yards away crouched

another paratrooper, Sp4 Maurice Whitney. He carried an M-16 rifle. His eyes moved continuously over the surrounding terrain looking for any movement or mark that would betray an enemy soldier — and possible sudden death. His mud-splotted face showed the strain of his fatigue, and, in his torn, blood-stained jungle fatigues, he looked like any other trooper in the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry of the 101st Airborne's 1st Brigade.

But, this determined young trooper with the battle-hardened muscles and ever-watchful eyes is neither an infantryman nor a combatant. He is one of a handful of paratroopers in Vietnam that have one of the most joked about jobs in the

Army... chaplain's assistant.

Differing from the cartoonist's image of a bespectacled, middle-aged man with a cherubic expression on his face, Whitney is young and has seen many months of combat.

Since his arrival Whitney has been through three major engagements, scores of minor ones, and hundreds of skirmishes remembered only by the men that survived them. Soon he will be going home, but until that time, Whitney, like the men with whom he serves, finds there is always another rice paddy to cross, another hill to climb, another village to be searched, or another wet foxhole to sleep in.

Handicapped Shooter Uses Odd Technique

Da Nang (USMC) — Marine Sgt. Richard K. Akuna is a rifle squad leader with a different outlook when it comes to rifle shooting.

He fires right handed but sights with his left eye.

A member of E Company, 9th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, Akuna developed the strange shooting style after losing the sight in his right eye during a fire fight in the streets of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic last year.

He has since undergone a cornea transplant operation in his right eye and is gradually regaining his vision.

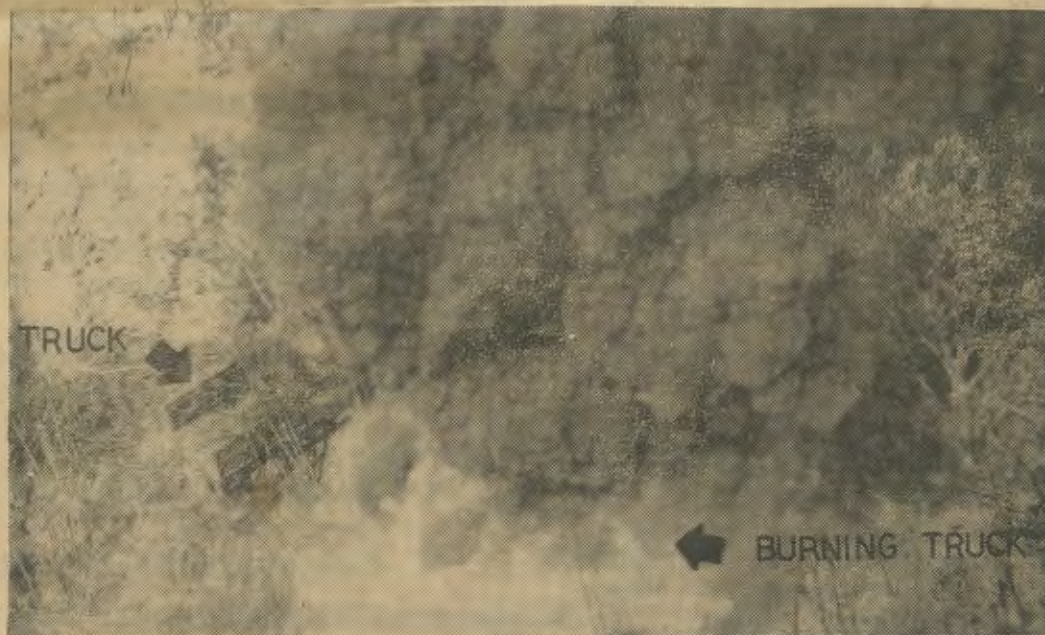
"My eye is getting better, but it's not good enough to shoot with," said Akuna, "so I've developed my own way of shooting for the time being."

Apparently his shooting method is effective; he's still leading his squad in successful missions against the Viet Cong, and has two enemy kills to his credit.



LUNGE — A Vietnamese soldier lunges at a simulated Viet Cong during bayonet training at the Chi Lang National Training Center. The center, located near the Mekong Delta city of Chi Lang, trains soldiers for the regular army and local militia units. (Staff Photo by Sp4 D.R. Brown, USA)

Nighttime Photo Shows Bomb Damage



VIET CONG TRUCKS BURN—A fire breaks out in a Viet Cong truck park hit by the 7th Air Force fighter-bomber crews on a mission over North Vietnam. The trucks were snapped by use of intensity magnesium flares for lighting. (USAF Photo)

Choppers Sink 9 Sampans

Bien Hoa (USA) — It started as a routine day, flying overhead cover for the commercial vessels en route from Vung Tau to Saigon. By the end of the day, the armed helicopters killed three Viet Cong and destroyed nine sampans.

All day, the two teams of helicopters had flown their missions without spotting the enemy. Shortly before dusk, on the last flight of the day, an enemy sampan was spotted

in the lower part of the Rung Sat Special Zone, a free-fire area.

The helicopters received permission to fire and the mission turned out to be similar to an old-fashioned turkey shoot. Each time they fired on a sampan, another one was sighted.

The enemy boats were camouflaged and partially hidden by overhanging trees. The Viet Cong in several of

the sampans fired on the Hueys, but no hits were scored. The pilots of the gunships reported two enemy killed and six sampans destroyed.

The next day, the commander of a unit based nearby sent out a reconnaissance patrol. Their report disclosed the enemy lost three killed, seven wounded and that nine sampans were destroyed and one was damaged.

New Truck Radios For 'Big Red One'

Di An (USA) — The 1st Infantry Division recently exchanged their vehicle radios for the new VRC-12 series.

The new radio is the most powerful FM radio to be used in a combat area. It has a range of approximately 20 miles and has three times as many channels as the older GRC-3 through 8 series.

Maintenance is made easier by the use of printed circuits: the insertion of a new circuit panel will fix the radio in a matter of minutes.

Collapsible Tanks Repaired By QM

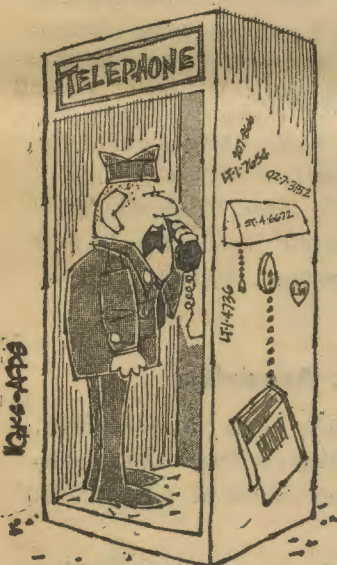
Cam Ranh Bay (USA) — Repairmen at a quartermaster shop here are realizing a savings for the Army of more than \$2,500 daily.

The shop, a joint effort of the 59th and 574th Quartermaster Companies, repairs the 500-gallon collapsible fuel drums which are used to carry all types of liquid fuel to support combat operations.

Each of the drums costs \$840, and before the shop opened, the damaged tanks were discarded or shipped to the East Coast in the U.S. for repair. At the present time, three or four drums can be repaired each day, but when a permanent shop is set up, the mechanics will be able to repair at least seven a day, according to Sgt. Oscar Gomez, the shop foreman.

The huge tanks can be carried by truck or helicopter, paraded from cargo aircraft or towed like a wheel over rough ground.

BILLET PROOF...



- Vietnam News Wrap-Up -

Identical Enemy Kill Marked

Small unit actions during the period from May 1-7 hit a new high with a total of 4,895, but the kill ratio of 3.1-to-1 in favor of friendly forces—with 456 killed—remained the same as during the previous period of April 24-30.

Free World Forces losses totaled 85 killed in action and 627 wounded. Of these, 82 KIAs and 615 wounded were Americans. Battalion-size operations with enemy contact totaled 16 by U.S. units and two Republic of Korea units. There was also one combined operation.

Leathernecks Open New Actions

Operation Georgia, a U.S. Marine Corps reinforced battalion-size search-and-destroy mission ended May 10 with no significant contact with the enemy. The Leathernecks netted 103 enemy killed and 12 captured in the operation which started April 21 in Quang Nam province. Marine casualties were light.

The Leathernecks kicked off two new operations. One, dubbed Montgomery, launched May 9, is a combined 1st Marine Division and Vietnamese Army multi-battalion force. The helicopter armada carrying the troops to their landing zone 18 miles west of the city of Quang Ngai, is one of the largest ever massed in I Corps.

The 3rd Marine Division launched Operation Wayne May 10, and by May 13 had reported killing five Viet Cong, questioning five suspects and seizing eight individual weapons.

Contact Sporadic In Birmingham

The 1st Infantry Division-controlled Operation Birmingham in Tay Ninh province continued May 13. Contact with the enemy in the search-and-destroy operation continued to be sporadic, according to a spokesman. Enemy losses to date are 98 killed, 11 captured and 18 suspects detained.

More than 1,700 tons of rice, 290 tons of salt, 700 gallons of cooking oil, 1,000 pounds of medical supplies, 19 boats with motors and 35 sampans have been uncovered during the operation. Air Force B-52s have flown sorties during most of the operation.

Marine Pilots Score A First

For the first time in history, jet aircraft have been launched from a land-based catapult during combat. Leatherneck jet pilots of Marine Aircraft Group 12 scored the "first" May 11 with the launching of four Skyhawks from Marine airfield at Chu Lai.

The planes were airborne within 1,400 feet of the 8,000-foot aluminum panel runway. The expeditionary airfield was built by Navy Seabees and Marine engineer teams.

Combined Force Grounds Freighter

A 120-foot, steel-hulled coastal freighter was forced aground May 10 after it was caught in the act of slipping weapons and ammunition to the Viet Cong. Personnel of the Coast Guard cutter Point Grey, which had been shadowing the ship, attempted to board the vessel after it had gone aground but were driven off by weapons fire from the beach.

Navy vessels joined the Point Grey in shelling the area, and U.S. and Vietnamese Air Force planes struck the ship. One explosion reportedly blew the stern off the freighter. Recoilless rifles, heavy and light machine guns and small arms—and ammunition for all the weapons—were later salvaged from the grounded ship. One machine gun carried Russian markings.

Air Combat Sorties Near 2,000

Strike pilots flew a total of 1,909 combat sorties against the Viet Cong and his facilities in the May 7-11 period. During the same period, Air Force and Navy pilots flew 324 missions north of the 17th Parallel into North Vietnam. The pilots reported seeing five MIG-17s. Two SAM sites were hit on separate days, and heavy damage was inflicted on railways, roads, supply areas and river shipping by the Air Force jets and carrier-based Navy planes.

Air Force B-52s flew missions in support of Operation Birmingham. Dragon-ships and Providers flew more than 30 flare-drop missions for night operations by Free World ground forces in the May 7-11 period.

Market Time, 'Warden' Patrols Active

U.S. Navy and Coast Guard units on Market Time patrols detained six junks and 78 persons in the May 7-12 period. More than 3,800 junks or sampans were searched or boarded.

Meanwhile, Game Warden ships—the river patrol boats, Swifts and the RAGs—of the U.S. and Vietnamese Navy forces patrolling the Rung Sat zone inspected more than 1,200 vessels and checked 4,000 persons. Eight suspects were held.

- World News Summary -

Practice Launch A-OK

Astronauts Thomas Stafford and Eugene Cernan and their space machines went through an important countdown rehearsal May 10 in a key step toward their launch into space scheduled for May 17. Everything went off without a hitch.

Wearing space suits as if it were the real thing, the pilots spent more than two hours in the cramped quarters aboard the Gemini-9 capsule before its mock liftoff. Earlier, launch teams put the Atlas-Agena rendezvous through a simulated blastoff to duplicate the start of the three-day meeting in space and spacewalk flight.

President, Lodge Discuss RVN Role

President Johnson and his top military and diplomatic advisors held a wide-ranging review of the war May 10 with Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge. The President called the talks "very profitable."

Without going into any specifics, Johnson broadly outlined an agenda covering key military, political and economic factors in the Vietnamese situation. The review of developments were to last until Lodge was to return to his post in Saigon.

Dirksen Breaks Hip In Hospital

Senate Republican Leader Everett M. Dirksen suffered a fractured hip May 10 when he slipped and fell in his room at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He had entered the hospital the day before for a routine check.

A hospital statement said the accident occurred when the senator awoke, sat on the edge of the bed and then slipped, falling to the floor. Dirksen's office said the senator probably would have to spend two or three weeks in the hospital.

Connally Wins In Texas

Gov. John B. Connally swept to an easy victory in the primary vote in Texas May 7. Although he swamped two other candidates by a 3-1 margin, his voter attraction was not enough to carry his secretary of state, Crawford C. Martin, into nomination as attorney general without a runoff which will be held June 4.

A Democratic candidate for the state senate in New Mexico, Robert Haner, won his nomination by a head. He tied with opponent Irene Mathias at 988 votes each for the primary election. They decided to waive their rights for a recount and flipped a coin to decide. Haner called heads and won.

Cold, Snow Destroy U.S. Crops

Snow fell May 10 in wide areas of the northeast U.S., and record cold hit the upper Midwest. Crop losses were estimated into the millions of dollars. More than 20 states were alerted for frost or freezing temperatures in an area stretching as far south as North Carolina, Alabama and Georgia.

Up to two inches of snow fell during a six-hour period in parts of Vermont and New Hampshire as part of a belt of precipitation from the Middle Atlantic coast into New England. Two fruit-growing counties in Michigan reported losses up to \$10 million. It was warmer Tuesday in Anchorage, Alaska, with 41 than it was in Louisville, Ky., with 35.

Texas Wife Named Mrs. America

Mrs. John (Joy) Noufer of Houston has been named Mrs. America of 1966. She started her reign Mother's Day with breakfast in bed served by her husband, vice president of a Houston business forms company.

A student at the University of Houston, Mrs. Noufer is majoring in psychology. Mrs. Noufer has three children. She will receive about \$20,000 worth of prizes, including a trip to Europe, a Caribbean cruise for two, \$500 in cash and other sponsors' prizes.

An Unglamorous But Vital Job

Cam Ranh Bay (USAF)—Supporting every combat sortie flown by pilots of the Seventh Air Force's 12th Tactical Fighter Wing is a group of hard working but anonymous airmen who bear the unglamorous title of "support troops."

One such group of men —parachute riggers—are directly responsible for the safety of the pilots in case the pilot has to bail out.

Thus far, 12th Tactical Fighter Wing pilots have rarely had to use their personal chutes. However, on every landing, the pilots do use their aircraft drag chutes to help slow down their twin-engined F-4C Phantom jets.

Popping out of the tail of the aircraft, the drag chutes act as brakes on the slick aluminum mats of the temporary runway here.

"Although we have only 10 men in the shop," says TSgt. William E. Hawkins, non-commissioned officer in charge of the parachute shop, "we manage to meet our commitments. In March alone, my men packed 2,700 parachutes."

▲ Delta Paddy Control

(Cont'd from P-5, Col. 3)

takes place when an aircraft takes off from most any place in the Delta or comes into range of the radar.

According to Capt. Edward Brown Jr., an Army helicopter pilot assigned to the 13th Avn. Bn., it's nice to know that when you're flying over VC territory Paddy is looking and listening. "Knowing Paddy will have a rescue ship to you in 10 minutes or less if you get in trouble, is a comforting feeling and makes the job a little easier," said Brown.

▲ 81mm Mortars

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

tried, and it worked, and so that has been the standard ever since," Ingram said.

Captain Ingram added that the greatest effect he hopes the system will achieve is to cause the Viet Cong to hit the deck every time they see a helicopter fly over. "If we can do that," he said, "we'll really be achieving a psychological coup, and the company commander still retains his mortar capability, without having to carry it through the jungle."

▲ Pilot Wounded, Loses 2 Ships

(Cont'd from P-8, Col. 5)

provide helicopter transportation.

The landing zones were considered relatively secure, as combat areas in Vietnam go. In one of the company areas, however, a VC sniper opened up as the battalion commander and his staff stepped out.

Lieutenant Beckett said he thought the sniper's bullet that ripped into his arm, was probably intended for the commander. But instead the round fired from directly in front of the ship missed the commander and his party and tore through the windshield, smashed the instrument panel and hit him.

"My arm exploded in blood," he said. "Mister Swafford pulled pitch (the control movement that makes a chopper climb) the instant I said I was hit and we were back in the air before I knew what was happening. Our crew chief, PFC Caesar Guerra, immediately started patching me up and was able to at least get the bleeding slowed down. An hour after it happened I was on an operating table in the hospital. Those guys saved my life."

Army doctors told him later that very few people lose as much blood as he did and live to talk about it.

Lieutenant Beckett laid with his bandaged left arm propped on a pillow and dragged reflectively on a cigarette.

"Do I want to go home?" he said.

"I guess I do. But this is no way to do it."

"I'll be back," he said.



BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



PEANUTS

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



The Week's Sports Highlights

By Ed MacKay

Cassius Clay, in London to meet Britain's Henry Cooper for the defense of his world heavyweight boxing crown, sparred with reporters—answering the questions he liked, discarding one or two completely—and came out well ahead on points.

Referring to his fight with Cooper, set for May 21, Clay said that Cooper's left hook "is a fast punch and a good one. I don't intend to let him hit me with it."

Clay and Cooper were to meet British Prime Minister Harold Wilson in his rooms at the House of Commons "within the next few days," so that the Premier may shake hands with the two boxers and say, "May the best man win."

• The San Francisco Giants pushed across a run in the 15th inning on three singles and a forceout May 10 to defeat the Pittsburgh Pirates 2-1 and stretch their National League lead to nine games.

In a 12-inning contest last Tuesday, the Baltimore Orioles scored on an infield out for a 3-2 victory over the Chicago White Sox and moved into sole possession of first place in the American League.

The Cleveland Indians, who had been tied with Bal-

timore lost 3-2 to the Detroit Tigers.

In other National League games, Sandy Koufax struck out 10 men and picked up his fourth win against one loss in the Los Angeles Dodgers 6-1 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies. Jim Maloney and Milt Pappas teamed in a twin-bill sweep by the Cincinnati Reds over the Atlanta-Milwaukee Braves.

The St. Louis Cardinals blanked the Chicago Cubs 8-0 and the New York Mets downed Houston Astros 7-4, in other National League games.

In the American league the Kansas City Athletics edged the Boston Red Sox 3-2 in 10 innings and the Washington Senators defeated the California Angels 4-1. The New York Yankees game with the Minnesota Twins was rained out.

• The Montreal Canadiens beat the Detroit Red Wings 3-2 as Henri Richard slammed home a sudden-death goal to enable the Habs to keep the National Hockey

League Stanley Cup. It was Richard's first score in the seven playoff games.

Detroit had forced the game into overtime midway in the third period when a goal by Floyd Smith tied score 2-2. Jean Beliveau and Leon Rochefort had given Montreal an early 2-0 lead before Detroit came back midway in the second period. The victory was the fourth straight for the Canadiens and their 12th Stanley Cup and seventh in the last 11 years.

• Kauai King, Maryland-bred son of the great Native Dancer, took the lead at the start and led all the way to romp home with the win in the 92nd running of the Kentucky Derby.

Blue Skyer, a last-minute entry challenged Advocate, a surprise second place finisher, but lost out in the close finish. Stupendous was fourth in the field of 15 entrants. Abe's Hope, the favorite, was in fifth place.

• On the local scene, Carlton Simpson of Miami, Fla., who, as a left end, won the Air Force Academy's Most Valuable Player award in 1963, is now a forward air controller in Vietnam. He flies with the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division in support of ground action against the Viet Cong.

With his ground-gaining activities now contained to aiding, from the air, the infantry troops of the "Screaming Eagles," Simpson says he "would like an assistant coaching position at the Academy" after his tour is completed in Vietnam.

• Also in Vietnam, Larry C. Palmer of Tampa, Fla., has traded his bat and flannels for a rifle and fatigues. The former infielder and pitcher—he was a full-time infielder with the Pony League in Florida before being signed to the St. Louis Cardinals farm system—is with the 1st Logistical Command.

The Florida soldier started in the Little Leagues and played American Legion ball before being signed by St. Louis scout Robert Keely after Palmer graduated from King High School in Tampa in 1964.

SCHEDULE

AJRT, Vietnam

RADIO

(News on the hour unless otherwise indicated)

MONDAY—THROUGH—FRIDAY

0005 Be Still and Know	1105 Analysis of Events
0015 Night Train	1110 USO Show
0305 Mon.-Sound of 60's	1130 Continental Varieties
Tues.-Blg Bands	1205 Bill Stewart
Wed.-Bob Hope Show	1300 News Roundup and Sports
Thur.-Silver Platter	1330 World of Show Business
Fri.-Night Train	1405 Monitor
0330 Ira Cook	1505 Country & Western
0405 Bill Stewart	1600 Baseball Game of the Day
0505 Country Corner	1800 News & Sports
0610 Chaplain	1810 Swingin' Sixties
0615 Dawnbuser	2005 Jim Ameche
0830 Ira Cook	2100 News
0905 Armed Forces Digest	2105 Aussie News
0910 Spotlight on Artists	2110 Night Beat
0930 America's Popular Music	2200 News Thirty & Sports
1005 Small World	2230 Night Beat

SATURDAY

0005 Be Still and Know	1405 Country & Western
0015 Jazz Showcase	1805 Bob Hope Show
0100 News	1830 Navy Hour
0105 Night Train	1855 World of Money
0505 Jim Pewters	1905 Sammy Davis Jr.
0605 Dawnbuser	2005 Grand Ole Opry
0705 Dawnbuser	2105 Aussie News
0905 Polka Party	2110 Point of Law
1005 Bolero Time	2115 VN Newsreel
1105 Saturday Swing	2130 Night Beat
1300 News & Sports	2200 News Roundup & Sports Page
1330 Silver Platter	2230 Night Beat
1355 World of Money	

SUNDAY

0005 Jim Pewters	1255 Point of Law
0105 Be Still and Know	1300 News Roundup and Sports
0110 Night Train	1330 Army Hour
0505 Dutch Light Music	1355 World of Money
0520 Myron J. Bennett	1405 Panorama
0530 Hawaii Cais	1600 Baseball Game of the Day
0600 News & Sports	1805 World of Jazz
0615 Music for a Sunday	1835 Gunsmoke
0805 Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir	1905 Johnny Magnus
0830 Protestant Hour	2005 Footlight and Soundtracks
0905 Message of Israel	2105 Aussie News
0930 Catholic Hour	2115 Studio 7
1005 Music for a Sunday	2200 News Roundup and Sports Page
1205 Silver Platter	2230 Studio 7
1230 Big Bands	

TELEVISION

MONDAY

2000 Where The Action Is
2030 Information Feature
2100 News
2105 Combat
2200 Dean Martin
2300 Sign Off

WEDNESDAY

2000 Voyage To the Bottom of the Sea
2100 News
2105 I've Got A Secret
2130 The Tonight Show
2300 Sign Off

FRIDAY

2000 To Tell The Truth
2030 Information Feature
2100 News
2105 Gun Smoke
2200 Danny Kaye
2300 Sign Off

TUESDAY

2000 Golf Special
2100 News
2105 Rawhide
2200 Red Skelton
2300 Sign Off

THURSDAY

2000 G.E. College Bowl
2030 My Favorite Martian
2100 News
2105 Perry Mason
2200 Jimmy Dean
2300 Sign Off

SATURDAY

2000 Ben Casey
2100 News
2105 Lawrence Welk
2200 Hollywood Palace
2300 Sign Off

SUNDAY

2000 Weekly Newsreel
2030 Beverly Hillsbillies
2100 News
2105 Bonanza
2200 Ed Sullivan
2300 Sign Off

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

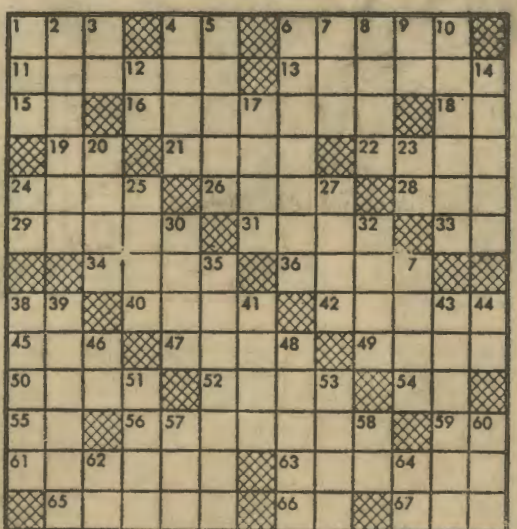
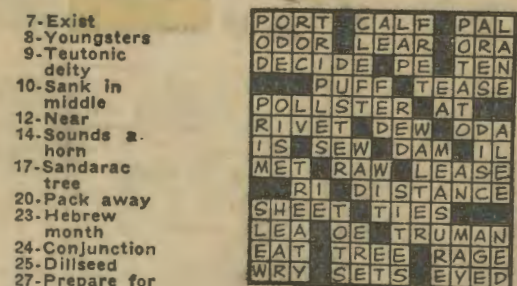
Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1-Snake
- 4-Dental surgeon (abbr.)
- 6-Evaluates
- 11-Draw tight
- 13-Biblical mountain
- 15-Symbol for krypton
- 16-Handled
- 18-Proceed
- 19-Exists
- 21-Fruit cake
- 22-Starch made from East Indian palm
- 24-Things done
- 26-Type of cabbage
- 28-Wager
- 29-Rock
- 31-Communists
- 33-Dental surgeon (abbr.)
- 34-Source of water
- 36-Expired
- 38-Symbol for calcium
- 40-Bound
- 42-Instruct
- 45-Native metal
- 47-Declared
- 49-Heavenly body
- 50-Reject
- 52-Sand bar
- 54-Man's nickname
- 55-Printer's measure
- 56-Cloaks
- 59-Lead (abbr.)
- 61-Salty
- 63-Weirder
- 65-Hindu guitar
- 66-Saint (abbr.)
- 67-Attempt

DOWN

- 1-Inquire
- 2-Rigorous
- 3-Pair (abbr.)
- 4-Sell
- 5-Move about furtively
- 6-Disconcerted (colloq.)



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