

Council takes a full-time approach

7AF -- SSgt. Jesse L. Hall of Cincinnati is a man who believes that if a job requires full-time participation, then work full time.

Hall, assigned to the 377th Combat Support Group at Tan Son Nhut, is a full time Human Relations Council coordinator.

In defining his work with the Human Relations Council, Hall says, "People on the councils have regular jobs and only take an hour or two off to work on human relations. I have all day to work on my job as a coordinator, and have plenty of time to make contacts with commanders and individuals concerned."

When asked why some councils weren't effective, Sergeant Hall remarked it was "Lack of interest and lack of communication. Some people meet just once a month and that is all they will do

toward pushing the program. They don't get out and talk to their personnel to find out their problems.

"People don't even know who their representative is and some don't even know they have a council," he continued. "The councils that are doing a great job are those that consist of mainly younger airmen and junior officers. They really get in and study the problems, and make recommendations."

Hall is a former illustrator who volunteered for his assignment to the base Human Relations Council. Since his arrival here last April, he has been actively engaged in Project People, a program to assist minority group members qualify for colleges, trade schools and jobs.

FIRST IN VIETNAM

the OBSERVER



Vol. 9, No. 42

Saigon, Vietnam

February 19, 1971



Sergeant William D. Baldwin working with Company B, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, drops himself into a well to check out a possible tunnel complex while working an area in Quang Tin Province west of Tam Ky.

(USA PHOTO)

GI
grin*

When a small element of the 23rd Infantry Division (Amical) heard rustling noises in the brush around their night position recently, naturally they girded for an encounter with their usual enemy - the VC; and when the commotion came even nearer, they logically commenced a recon by fire. Of course, darkness prevented an immediate survey of the area, but with the coming of dawn, the true facts of the encounter came to light. There he was, lying behind a clump of bushes.. one large bear, killed in action.

The 'Baby Doc'

USAHAC -- If you think a neonatologist is a man who works on neon lighting fixtures, stop by the out patient clinic at the 3rd Field Hospital and Major Robert Kimbrell will straighten you out.

Not only does Dr. Kimbrell specialize in neonatology, the care of newborn infants, he also is involved with cytogenetics, medical genetics. Fancy terms for his work in the field of pediatrics.

As a pediatrician, Dr. Kimbrell is in a select class of physicians in Vietnam.

Explaining why the Army needs his services in Vietnam, Kimbrell said, "There are approximately 500 American dependents in the Saigon area and of this number, about 300 are children," he added. "We also treat children of American contractors and Vietnamese civilians."

As staff pediatrician, Kimbrell's duties range from consulting other physicians on drug dosages for children to working with Vietnamese nationals on projects such as treating children at the Hoa Binh and An Lac orphanages.

Kimbrell noted the biggest difference in his cases are in the nutritional standards of American and Vietnamese children, "I'd say that about 25 per cent of all my cases are related in one way or another to malnutrition," he said.

"Back in the States, you find a few cases in the backwoods and ghettos, but over here, it's more prevalent. This is a war zone and food is a lot more expensive so nutrition is a problem here," he added.

"We also run into the usual diseases common in tropical climates, such as tuberculous meningitis, tuberculosis, ear infections, abscesses and skin disorders," he said. "In addition, we find more virus infections."

Kimbrell explained, "The severity of most of these diseases is caused by persistent reinfection. Like in a case

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PFs provide protection



1ST CAV — In the near future much of the protection provided the individual small rural hamlets and villages of the Republic of Vietnam will fall upon the men of the Popular Forces.

The men of the 2nd Bn, 8th Cav are doing their part to insure that the PFs will be ready to assume the role of protection of their families, homes and crops against the enemy.

An all volunteer Combat Advisory Team is working with the PFs and instructing them on the tactics of the military. The four man GI team plus an interpreter have been in the "triangular fort" for more than a month and have helped the PFs completely rebuild the old 1st Cav Div firebase.

"Rebuilding was a very hard task for them," said Specialist 4 David Garcia, a radio telephone operator. "At first we were without any equipment and were having to cut the trees down by hand and carry them all the way to camp. Then we got a chainsaw and a utility truck and did twice the work in half the time. We worked right alongside them and soon there became a feeling that they really appreciated us and the work that we were doing."

Within two weeks, the old rotten logs were replaced,

sandbags put up, and the PFs were really proud of the accomplishment. "When we got there, we had to sleep on the ground," commented Garcia, "and then two weeks later we were sleeping in a heavily fortified hut, it was remarkable the way they worked."

Each day, the PFs can be seen carrying on their duties as the heads of their households; harvesting rice, hauling wood for their stoves and cleaning around the house.

Later they go to the camp where some of them are sent out to set up ambushes and the others pull guard. Some days they man checkpoints around the village to check identification and make sure no unauthorized personnel enter the village. Acting as a commander for the PFs is Sergeant First Class Xuan.

The PFs are given briefings by Sergeant Lewell Ray Crain, team leader, on patrols, ambushes and adjusting artillery. Specialist 5 Joseph Conrad is the team medic who worked with Company A, before volunteering to work as

an advisor. Late in the afternoon he performs "mini" Medical Community Action Programs under a tree near the camp and during the week he goes into the village to treat the old and young alike.

"They're just beautiful people," said Conrad, "They haven't been exposed to Americans much and they show us a lot of consideration and trust."

Private First Class Stan Pleviak who is the team combat assistant, said they even go to church with the people. "That really surprised them, and it was an experience for us."

Each week, the team and interpreter choose an outstanding PF for his work during the week and reward him. "They really get all up for it," said Garcia, "and work extra hard during the week."

The Combat Advisory Team has also made it possible for some of the children in school to be rewarded for their efforts. Each week, the most deserving child is presented with some backlogged C-rations for his family.

Friendship after terror

23RD INF DIV (AMERICAL) — A small Vietnamese boy was recently relieved of the tensions and terror of living under Viet Cong control, and in the process, made an everlasting friendship with an infantryman from the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade.

Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, acting on intelligence reports of possible enemy activity in a small hamlet southwest of Chu Lai, conducted a night raid on the hamlet that accounted for ten Viet Cong killed and the freedom of a small boy.

During the night attack, the small boy stole an AK-47 rifle from his captors and hid it in a rice storage room at the rear of his house. The child then hid in a bunker in his home until the fighting was over.

After the firefight, in which the "Ready Rifles" killed ten VC, the boy approached Specialist Four Ronald Jones. Jones saw that the boy was tired and weak and offered him some C-rations. The youngster eagerly devoured the contents of the can, and then began pulling at the arm of his newly-found friend.

"I was guarding some of the detainees we had received during the fight while the child was eating some of the food I had given him," said Jones. "I didn't know what he wanted, but I knew he wanted to show me something, so I went along with him."

The boy went into his home, entered the storage room, and urged his friend to follow. Jones admitted he was uncertain about entering the house alone after the contact his unit had just had.

"I told him to come back, but I could hear him rumbling around in the back of the house," Jones said. "When he came out, I got quite a surprise."

The boy returned holding out an AK-47 rifle for his American friend.



UP, UP AND AWAY — A CH-47 Chinook helicopter is airborne with a junior partner of the 101st Airborne Division's air fleet in tow, a UH-1 Huey "Slick."

1LT Jeffery Hasleff, of the 23RD INF DIV (AMERICAL) discusses surrounding terrain features with a local Regional Force Vietnamese soldier while working in Quang Tin Province. (US ARMY PHOTO)

Air force sergeant

Saving money

7TH AF — Several months ago Air Force Staff Sergeant Gerald Richards of Youngstown, Ohio, dreamed up an idea that he thought might save the Republic of Vietnam Air Force (VNAF) some man-hours and the U.S. government some dollars.

With the help of Airman 1st Class Dan W. Smith Jr. of Flagstaff, Ariz., he has seen his original suggestion expanded into a major training program for the VNAF.

Until a short while ago, all VNAF pilots who were returning to the United States for retraining in a different type of aircraft had to attend a six week English language refresher course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Richards, a member of Air Force Advisory Team 5, suggested that this course be offered on a part-time basis at Tan Son Nhut Air Base. This would mean that VNAF pilots could continue to fly missions here while attending the course.

Smith, an English instructor at the Armed Forces Language School in Saigon, was given the task of writing a course outline and devising an instructor's manual.

Richards, who also speaks Vietnamese, said, "Some of the VNAF colonels were discussing the problems associated with losing pilots while they were in the United States. I had the thought of an in-country refresher language program in the back of my head for some time so I decided to submit it through the Air Force Suggestion Program."

Viets end flood aid

USAHAC — Vietnamese employees of U.S. Army Headquarters Area Command (USAHAC) ended their relief drive for flood victims in Vietnam's northern provinces by donating a total of \$VN165,505.

Brigadier General Michael J.L. Greene, commanding general USAHAC and Miss Cong-Ton-Nu-Dieu-Minh, employees relations specialist for the Civilian Personnel Office, turned over the final installment of \$VN5,850 to the Helping Central Vietnamese Flood Victims Committee at City Hall on Dec. 15, 1970.

Greene also presented over 5,000 articles of clothing to the committee.

The money will be distributed by the National Rescue Committee to flood victims in need of food and shelter.

Scout becomes Eagles' friend

101ST ABN DIV - The closeness of men in the field, living and fighting together, has become proverbial. The men of the 2nd Platoon, Company D, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), have added yet another chapter to the history of men in arms being brothers while in the jungle.

Anh, the platoon scout and a former North Vietnamese Army regular, has gained the friendship and confidence of Delta Company's 2nd Platoon with his wry good humor and unfailing knowledge of the jungle and guerilla warfare.

"Anh is important to the platoon in quite a few ways," Sergeant Jose A. Andrini Diaz, platoon sergeant, commented. "He's a morale booster with jokes and a lot of good spirit, and he's a regular encyclopedia of knowledge of the jungle and the enemy. We all look to him for guidance in how to live in the field and more than a few of us owe our lives to him."

"It's as if we had a professor of military sciences and techniques right along with us," explained First Lieutenant Robert C. Blair, Jr., platoon leader. "He knows the NVA, the tactics they use, and he knows our way of doing things, so he's an invaluable aide in the field."

The "First Strike" troopers of the 2nd Platoon respect Anh as a scout who knows his business. They also like and trust him. "Anh is quite a guy," said Private First Class Ron Berry. "He'll do anything for you and you'll do anything for him. He's like a brother to most of us, not just a scout."

Anh takes his job seriously and does it well. "He's usually right up on the point, cutting trail if need be," Diaz said. "His knowledge of topography is amazing. He can just look at a map and tell us where we are

and then find the best route to any objective. And he always pulls his own weight with the platoon in whatever has to be done."

"Anh is learning English, as most of the scouts do, but he is applying himself to his studies diligently, as he does to anything else," Blair noted. "He's always carrying around an English-Vietnamese study book and practicing on the men. They really enjoy helping him too. He wants to learn and will spend hours at a time on his English."

There is a real sense of brotherhood between Anh and the men of the platoon. "Not long ago Anh's mother was sick and most of us worried as much about it as Anh did," Diaz said. "We took up a collection to help pay the medical bills. Also, we helped his family rebuild their home which had been damaged in the floods last year. And if one of the other men has family worries or something, Anh is the first to try to cheer him up or help in any way he can."

"Anh is very nearly the center of the platoon," Blair noted. "Each man is important, but occasionally it takes one man to help them pull together as a team. With us it's Anh."

"If Anh is typical of his people, then they will have no difficulties in the future," Diaz added. "He's dedicated and intelligent. What more do you need?"

NSF - The function of Harbor Security in Da Nang Harbor was turned over by the Naval Support Facility (NSF), Da Nang's Harbor Security Department to the Vietnamese Navy.

In a ceremony at NSF's Operations Causeway, Vietnamese Navy First Coastal Zone Commander, Captain Ho Van Ky Thoai, accepted the responsibility for security of the harbor.

The last two remaining LCPL's and one picket boat were also turned over to the First Coastal Zone, representative of the many boats which have been turned over in the past.

In a short speech Thoai said, "On behalf of the Vietnamese Navy and Chief of Naval Operations I accept this Harbor Security turnover and responsibility for the boats. I wish to give thanks to the U. S. Navymen for helping to work on the boats and training our sailors to run them. To these men I wish good luck on your next assignment and to those of you who will remain for a while as

advisors I wish you success in helping our young sailors."

Men from the U. S. Navy Harbor Security Department on board the boats turned over, took down the American flags and Vietnamese sailors came to take their places and raised the Vietnamese flags.

With the turnover of these last two boats the Republic of Vietnam now has the ninth largest navy in the world.

The 40 U. S. Navymen of the Harbor Security Department will be transferred to other Naval Support Facility departments while 16 of the men will become Naval Advisors to the Vietnamese Harbor Patrol.

This is a major milestone in the U. S. Navy's Vietnamization program begun last year.

Since the beginning of the ACTOV (Accelerated Craft Turnover) Program last May, the U. S. Harbor Security Department has been reduced from about 150 men to the present 40. There are about 140 Vietnamese sailors in the First Coastal Zone Harbor Security Department.

A&I teams help out

USASC - An integral part of the all-important Vietnamization program, the Saigon Support Command's (SSC) Advise and Instruct (A&I) team is currently touring various Army, Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) encampments in the III and IV Military Regions, observing the work of soldiers in their various duties and helping to prepare them for the task of taking over the bulk of the war effort.

The team, headed by Sergeant First Class James Archuleta, consists of six men, each specializing in a certain area. They spend six weeks at each installation with the aim of correcting any deficiencies and helping to make improvements in operations.

Spend a day with these men and you realize that their job encompasses more than just advice and instruction. They have many of the qualities of a civil affairs team - helping the people to help themselves.

They also have to be diplomatic with the Vietnamese who are a proud people and are at first affronted and a little suspicious of the team's intentions.

Interpreters break communication barriers and once these friendly men make their purpose clear, not only is a good working relationship established but many friendships formed.

The Vietnamese aren't as technologically advanced as the Americans, but the A&I team does not look down on them. Rather, they have a great respect for the skill, knowledge, dedication and conscientiousness exhibited by the Vietnamese. They are as eager to please as they are to learn. Some are adverse to changing the ways they have grown used to, but A&I members agree that new methods introduced will be accepted if they can show it will work.

The team has found that lack of supplies and facilities are far bigger stumbling blocks than any lack of knowledge. Services Specialist Staff Sergeant Major Williams reported that the Vietnamese are "not aware of all that they can do with their equipment" but this doesn't stop them from doing the job. Handicapped by outdated tools, the Vietnamese still manage skilled craftsmanship.

"It's really amazing what they can do with so little equipment," said Staff Sergeant Francis J. Rice. In his role as supply advisor he has been particularly impressed with the efficiency of the Vietnamese who "run a smooth, organized and

scrupulously efficient supply operation."

Vietnam is not a land of plenty. This is reflected in the judiciousness of the decisions of the Vietnamese regarding disposition of equipment needing repair. They will perform as much work as possible to salvage a piece of equipment before sending it up through time-consuming channels for higher echelon maintenance. "Retrograde" is a word not found in the Vietnamese vocabulary - they have to stay here and will be less likely than homeward-bound Americans to discard equipment as unserviceable.

Rice has helped them to set up a consolidated warehouse - one big warehouse to store what many smaller ones are holding now. This will help eliminate unneeded personnel and centralize operations.

Other improvements at Lai Khe, implemented with the help of the A&I team, include a firing pit for testing small arms and the use of the MIG welding gun - an aluminum welder used extensively in the ARVN's overhaul program on armored personnel carriers.

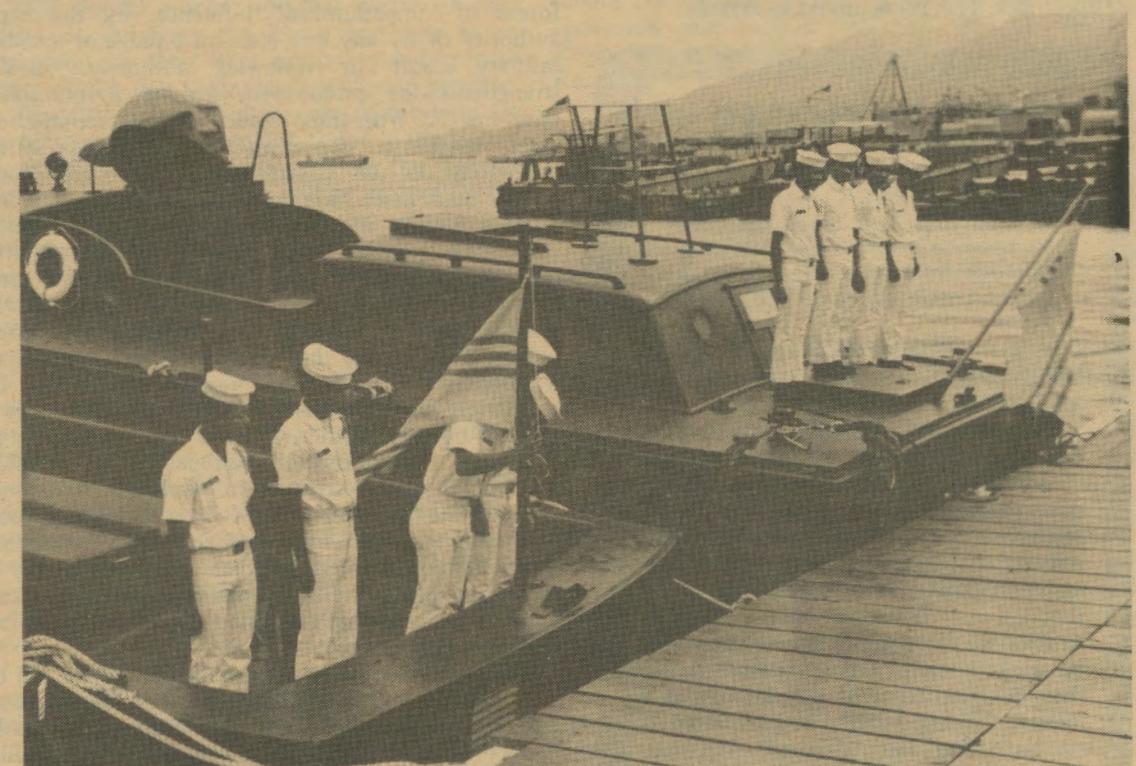
Archuleta has worked closely with Captain Nguyen Hung Khanh, the commanding officer of the 5th Maintenance Company, part of the ARVN's 5th Logistical Battalion which supports the units of the 5th Infantry Division. He and other team members have made many suggestions and pointed out problem areas. They will return in about a month to find out if the changes have been made and operations are going smoothly.

As Vietnamese infantrymen take over more and more of the fighting, so will their logisticians take over more and more of the support missions. The A&I team is helping to make sure that the transition will go smoothly.

STARTING NEXT WEEK:

The Changing Face of the Air War

Da Nang security in VNN hands



Vietnamese Navy boat crews raise their country's flag at turnover ceremony of U. S. Navy's responsibility for Da Nang Harbor security and remaining boats to Vietnamese Navy's First Coastal Zone.

(USN PHOTO By: FN R. M. Tally)

Observations

viewing vietnam



Buddhism was introduced into Vietnam in the second century A.D., and was spread for the next four centuries by Chinese and Indian monks. This was the first of three stages in the spread of Buddhism in Vietnam.

Buddhism reached its greatest heights in Vietnam in the second stage which ran roughly from the seventh to the 14th centuries. With expulsion of the Chinese in 939, Confucian scholars with their Chinese education were exiled temporarily from political life and Buddhism received official support.

A second reason for its growth was that pagodas also served as repositories of culture.

Between 1010 and 1214 the Ly dynasty made Buddhism a state religion. Monks were used as advisors in all spheres of public life, a Buddhist hierarchy established, and many temples and pagodas built. This was the high-water mark for official support of Buddhism.

By the close of the eleventh century, Buddhism had planted its roots so deeply in Vietnamese culture that it was no longer considered an imported religion.

The decline of Buddhism began with this adulteration of the pure religion and progressed with the lessening of official support. In the 15th century the rulers again favored Confucianism, which continued as the more influential religion in public life until the present century.

The admixture of the three religions, Taoism, Buddhism, and Confucianism, continued and formed the religion of many Vietnamese. Rites and practices of Animism also influenced popular beliefs.

The Three Jewels/Three Gems form the object of devotion in which every follower of Buddha puts his whole hope. They are Buddha, the Dharma or teachings of Buddha, and the Sangha or order of Buddhist monks.

The Sangha is composed of the bonzes or monks and nuns and is basically supported by the laity, mainly through gifts which earn merit for the giver. Their shaven heads and yellow, gray or brown robes mark their renunciation of worldly pleasures. While Mahayana monks may wear saffron robes, Theravada monks always do.

SITUATIONS

"SITUATIONS" continues this week with another episode on how an American can appreciate the Vietnamese point of view in a given instance. So read along, and try to put yourself in the other guy's shoes...

DO BE PREPARED FOR THE VIETNAMESE TO SMILE OR LAUGH AT UNEXPECTED TIMES

Reason: Confucius said, "the smiling face calms the anger". Buddhism teaches its adherents not to retaliate for wrongs done them, but rather to smile and turn wrath away. The Vietnamese often smile when in doubt, confusion or embarrassment. They may smile when they are most unhappy or use laughter as an antidote for weeping. A smile may also be used to conceal disagreement rather than risking offense. It may be used as a means of hiding genuine bewilderment as to just what the "strange" American wants. If directions are not understood the Vietnamese will sometimes try to "smile his way through" in the hope that all be well.

Each week, "Viewing Vietnam" explores a different facet of the Vietnamese people, their customs and their society. We have recently been studying the various religions of the country; this week's topic is Buddhism.

The monks perform many services and functions for the faithful. They participate in and lead religious observances and festivals. They may be invited to weddings although they do not officiate. At funerals they lead the rites in the home and at cremation or burial, and again at intervals after burial and on the first anniversary of death. Some have been commissioned as chaplains in the Vietnamese Armed Forces.

The Wheel of Life, earliest of Buddhist symbols, is a circle with eight or 12 divisions (spokes). The circle denotes the Buddhist concept of the endless cycle of existence. Eight spokes signify the Noble Eightfold Path and 12 spokes denote either the 12 principles of Buddhism or the 12-year calendar within an endless cycle of time. The symbol of Buddhist chaplains in the Vietnamese Armed Forces is the 12-spoke Wheel of Life held by the Hand of Mercy.

The Chu Van (swastika to most Westerners) is the symbol of Enlightenment, the achievement of Nirvana. It is often found on medals, decorating pagodas, or on the chests of Buddha statues as Buddhists believe it will appear on the chests of the Enlightened.

UP COUNTRY.[®]

WITH THE "RED DEVILS"

BY BILL DOLAN



.. HE WANTS TO KNOW WHERE THE "MARS STATION" IS...!!

The commander's role

By Sp5 John Wilcox

In determining appropriate punishment for any offense the commander should never rely on a fixed standard. He should tailor the punishment to the offense. The Table of Maximum Punishments in the Manual for Courts-Martial serves as a guide, but in the hands of a conscientious commander it will be used flexibly. He will think in terms of the three principal functions of punishment: correction, rehabilitation and deterrence. The purpose of military justice is to help commanders develop soldiers, not prisoners.

Colonel Vinet emphasizes that no commander can lead with the Manual for Courts-Martial in his hand, for discipline cannot be maintained through fear and the threat of harsh punishment. Military justice is an instrument for promoting discipline, not a weapon. Thus while the commander retains his judicial role as a decision-maker in matters of military justice, he is expected to turn to the Staff Judge Advocate for advice on questions of law and procedure. The commander's authority as a judge stems from his status as a commander because Congress gave this authority to commanders only, and then only to certain levels of command.

Despite the guidelines for controlling the power of the convening authority, unlawful command influence has long been recognized as a potential "flaw" in the military justice system. Article 37 of the UCMJ expressly prohibits all forms of "unauthorized" influence, by the convening authority or by any one else, on a judge or member of a military court or reviewing authority. Article 98 strengthens the prohibition, making it punishable by court-martial. With these explicit rules, there have been few cases where a convening authority has attempted unlawfully to use courts-martial to enforce command policy. Such cases have been reversed by the US Court of Military Appeals, if not by a lower reviewing authority.

Critics of military justice allege that command influence takes more subtle forms. They charge that a convening authority may appoint to the court subordinates who will bring verdicts of conviction in furtherance of command policy. They charge that court members assume, with or without prompting from their commander, that a conviction is expected and that their military career will be affected by their verdict. There is only one answer to such charges of corruption and dishonesty. In Colonel Vinet's words: "If this system is to work at all, it must be administered by honest men. It is expected that members of a court will fulfill their legal and moral responsibility to render fair and impartial judgments. There is no way we can be certain that a verdict in a military court is just, anymore than we can say what prompted a 12-man jury to reach its verdict in a civilian court."

There is no way that a convening authority can be sure that court members will be impartial. He can, however, state openly that in matters of military justice he has no "policy," that each case must be decided individually, that each court member must reach his decision on the merits in accordance with the law and his own conscience.

The UCMJ's prohibition of "unauthorized" command influence leaves room for lawful command influence in order to regulate the disposition of certain serious offenses. When, for example, a particular discipline problem takes on

serious proportions in a unit, the convening authority may stipulate that violations will be treated as a "serious" offense by reserving the Article 15 power over such cases to himself or to high level commanders, thus elevating the punishment authority from company to battalion or brigade level. The possible heavier penalty does not mean that the process of justice has been interfered with. There has been no change in the procedures of pretrial investigation or charging. The offense is simply regarded more seriously. The potential punishment is heavier, but the case is still processed impartially. There should be no problem of unauthorized command influence in such a case so long as subordinate commanders do not misinterpret policy and attempt to coerce convictions.

Colonel Vinet sees the commander in a father's role. "The commander should never be reluctant to encourage his men," he submits. "It is important not to condemn a man lightly or cause him to become discouraged and negative. No commander should be guilty of indifference. The great complaint of youth in modern society, and particularly in the Army, is their feeling of anonymity. This lack of identity, this feeling that no one knows them or respects them often serves as an excuse and a cover for irresponsible behavior. Direct discussion between the commander and his men can often be more effective than punishment and may avoid demoralizing the individual or ruining his chances for becoming a good soldier. No father would permit his children to be disciplined by another man; in this sense no commander should permit his discipline policy to be dictated by his superiors."

Colonel Vinet sees the problems of law and discipline as human problems. "No standard is too high for some men; they accept and meet any challenge, make any sacrifice demanded of them. For others even the slightest obstacle is difficult to overcome. We cannot explain why people are different, but we should try not to condemn them. Condemn their misconduct but not them as individuals, for 'The less they deserve, the more merit is in your bounty.'

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The OBSERVER is an authorized newspaper published weekly by the Command Information Division, Office of Information, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, for United States Forces in Vietnam. Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect policies or positions of the Department of Defense or any of the Armed Forces. The OBSERVER, printed offset at Pacific Stars and Stripes in Tokyo, uses material from the American Forces Press Service and other Department of Defense agencies. Direct mail to: Editor, The OBSERVER, Hq MACV, (MACOIC), APO 96222. The OBSERVER has a circulation of 60,000.

Black Studies

With this week's issue, *The Observer* joins in celebrating "Negro History Week," which has been set aside to promote the study and recognition of Black Americans. Significantly, these people have made many outstanding contributions to the growth and development of our nation, and fought bravely against our enemies since before the Revolution.

Militarily, they engaged the British during both the Revolution and the War of 1812, helped preserve the Union during the Civil War, and served faithfully in World Wars I and II, Korea, and Vietnam. In civilian life, there is a lineage of Negro scientists, educators, and statesmen which includes such famous names as George Washington Carver, Booker T. Washington, and Martin Luther King.

Complementing this renewed emphasis on Negro history, the United States Armed Forces Institute (USAIFI) has made available two new correspondence courses. Course No. A210, "The Negro in American History," is on the high school level; it uses the 600-page illustrated text "Eyewitness: The Negro in American History," by William Katz. Course No. A462, "History of the American Negro," is on the college level; it employs two texts, "From Slavery to Freedom: A History of Negro Americans," by John Hope Franklin, and "The Black American: A Documentary History," by Leslie Fishel, Jr., and Benjamin Quarles. For additional information on the courses, contact your local education office.

For the serviceman more interested in developing his own reading program, Special Services libraries also have a number of books and magazines on Black history and culture available.



Discourse lowers pressure

GIs air drug problems

17TH CAV GP - For the past few months C Troop, 7th Squadron, Air Cavalry, has conducted a highly successful drug amnesty program.

Through group discussions open to everyone interested, individual's problems are revealed and solutions developed. Regularly scheduled meetings are avoided. Meetings during off-duty hours are called by the men themselves whenever they feel the need to reduce pressure and air problems. Officers and EM meet on an equal level during the meetings.

Everyone feeling the need is invited to present his views on drug use. Many of the frequent users have explained methods and use of different drugs to be found in Vietnam. A few who have been helped through this program have volunteered to

speak to all newly assigned personnel during the CO's briefing.

Only time will determine if this preventive measure is accomplishing its purpose, but already several men of the troop have accepted the program and have been treated at the Qui Nhon Hospital.

C Troop, commanded by Major Sydna B. Allen, is looking forward to continued success with the program, and they hope other units are also achieving success in the program. Major Allen was quoted as saying, "We have received verbal commendation from the Mental Hygiene Clinic in Qui Nhon and are proud of the success of our men."

Pay Grade	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 5	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 26	
OFFICERS																
0-10	\$2111.40	\$2185.80	...	...	...	...	\$2269.50	...	\$2443.50	...	\$2618.40	...	\$2793.30	...	\$2967.60
Difference	1956.90	2025.90	...	...	...	...	2103.30	...	2264.70	...	2426.70	...	2588.70	...	2750.40
0-9	154.50	159.90	...	...	...	...	166.20	...	178.80	...	191.70	...	204.60	...	217.20
Difference	1871.40	1920.60	1961.70	...	...	...	2011.20	...	2094.60	...	2269.50	...	2443.50	...	2618.40
1734.30	1779.90	1818.00	...	...	...	...	1863.90	...	1941.30	...	2103.30	...	2264.70	...	2426.70
0-8	137.10	140.70	143.70	...	...	...	147.30	...	153.30	...	166.20	...	178.80	...	191.70
Difference	1595.00	1745.70	1787.40	...	...	...	1920.60	...	2011.20	...	2094.60	...	2185.80	...	2269.50
1570.80	1617.90	1656.60	...	...	...	...	1779.90	...	1863.90	...	1941.30	...	2103.30	...	2188.20
0-7	124.20	127.80	130.80	...	...	...	140.70	...	147.30	...	153.30	...	159.90	...	166.20
Difference	1408.20	1504.20	...	...	...	...	1571.10	...	1662.60	...	1745.70	...	1920.60	...	2025.90
1305.00	1394.10	...	...	...	...	...	1456.20	...	1540.80	...	1617.90	...	1779.90	...	1902.30
0-6	103.20	110.10	...	...	...	...	114.90	...	121.80	...	127.80	...	140.70	...	150.30
Difference	1043.70	1147.20	1221.90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1263.30	...	1463.10	...	1537.80
967.20	1063.20	1132.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1170.90	...	1356.00	...	1425.30	
0-5	76.50	84.00	89.40	92.40	...	107.10	...	112.50	...	114.90
Difference	834.60	980.70	1047.90	1080.30	...	1137.90	...	1213.80	...	1304.70
773.40	909.00	971.10	...	...	...	...	...	...	1021.10	...	1054.50	...	1125.00	...	1209.30
0-4	61.20	71.70	76.80	79.40	...	83.40	...	88.60	...	95.40
Difference	704.10	856.50	914.40	...	...	...	938.60	...	972.30	...	1038.30	...	1097.10	...	1147.20
652.50	793.80	847.50	...	...	...	...	862.50	...	901.20	...	962.40	...	1016.70	...	1063.20
0-3	51.60	62.70	66.90	...	...	...	68.10	...	71.10	...	75.90	...	80.40	...	84.00
Difference	654.30	731.10	781.20	864.90	...	...	906.00	...	938.70	...	989.10	...	1038.30	...	1063.80
606.30	677.70	723.90	801.60	839.70	...	...	870.00	...	916.80	...	962.40	...	985.80	...	1000.00
0-2	48.00	53.40	57.30	63.30	...	...	66.30	...	68.70	...	72.30	...	75.90	...	78.00
Difference	524.40	622.80	748.20	773.10	789.30
0-1	38.40	45.60	54.90	56.70	57.90
Difference	450.60	499.20	622.80
417.60	462.60	577.20
0	33.00	36.60	45.60
OFFICERS WITH OVER FOUR YEARS OF ENLISTED SERVICE																
0-3	...	...	...	864.90	906.00	938.70	989.10	1038.30	1080.30	...	...	...	...	...	...
Difference	...	...	...	801.60	839.70	870.00	916.80	962.40	1001.10	...	...	...	...	...	...
0-2	...	...	...	63.30	66.30	68.70	72.30	75.90	79.20	...	...	...	...	...	...
Difference	...	...	...	773.10	789.30	814.20	856.50	889.80	914.40	...	...	...	...	...	...
0-1	...	...	...	716.40	731.40	754.50	793.80	824.70	847.50	...	...	...	...	...	...
Difference	...	...	...	56.70	57.90	59.70	62.70	65.10	66.90	...	...	...	...	...	...
WARRANT OFFICERS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
W-4	666.30	714.60	...	731.10	764.40	798.00	831.00	889.80	930.60	963.90	998.10	1022.10	1056.00	1137.90	...	
Difference	617.40	662.40	...	677.70	708.30	739.50	770.10	824.70	862.50	893.40	916.80	947.40	978.60	1054.50	...	
W-3	48.90	52.20	...	53.40	56.10	58.50	60.90	65.10	68.10	70.50	72.30	74.70	77.40	82.40	...	
Difference	605.70	657.00	...	665.10	673.20	722.40	764.40	799.30	814.20	838.80	864.90	897.90	930.60	963.90	...	
W-2	561.30	609.00	...	616.50	624.00	669.80	708.30	731.40	754.50	777.30	801.60	832.20	862.50	893.40	...	
Difference	44.40	48.00	...	48.60	49.20	52.80	56.10	57.90	59.70	61.50	63.30	65.70	68.10	70.50	...	
W-1	530.40	573.60	...	590.40	622.80	657.00										



...after...Captain Roger Templar patches the guilty hole...



Inflation's the name of the game...

Transiting the Song Ba Ky by

23RD INF DIV (AMERICAL) — You might think that an infantry company that plays with "rubber ducks" has just been in the field too long, but when Company B, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, plays with "rubber ducks" while on maneuvers...watch out Charlie.

On a mission about 14 miles west of Chu Lai recently, the 198th Infantry Brigade company discovered that they were on the wrong side of the Song Ba Ky River for searching out an enemy force which had been observed on the opposite side.

After the order was given to cross the swiftly flowing river, six men from Company E, 26th Engineers were flown by helicopter to the location with two inflatable rafts to transport the men across the 50-yards of water. "This will be the first river crossing by raft that the battalion has ever done while in Vietnam," said Captain Roger Templar, commanding officer of Company B.

First, artillery fire from the 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery at Landing Zone Ky Tra was requested by the company to scare up enemy elements which might have been waiting in the brush on the other side.

Then, after artillery had peppered the east bank, Company B moved the rafts to

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SP4 GUY WINKLER

the river and began to inflate them for the "swing line" crossing.

But bad luck popped up as the rafts were being inflated for the crossing. The first raft had two holes in it, and was discarded. The "spare" one was inflated, but it, too, had several holes.

The necessary patch-work was performed on the spare raft as infantrymen and engineers pitched in to help glue patches on the holes. Since the raft was too wet for gluing patches, wooden pegs were inserted in the holes and covered with glue. It was ready for launching.

After tying one end of a rope to a tree, an attempt was made by Specialist Four Daryl Hart to swim the other end to the opposite side and tie it to a tree, in order to guide the raft across without it being washed down stream. The current of the 15-foot deep river caught Hart and swept him down stream, as he clung to the life preserver tied to the end of the rope.

Hart was pulled ashore as Private First Class Walter Colon stripped down to make the long swim against the pulling current; he made it in about two minutes, and tied the rope to a tree.

The "rubber ducky," as christened by the company, was then lowered into the water for its historic crossing of the Song Ba Ky River. Using one raft, ten trips were required to transport the entire company across the river.

Asked why a helicopter wasn't used to lift the men across the river to save more time, Templar said, "Time wasn't the deciding factor in this mission. It was just to get the men across. Besides," he added, "It would have tied up a helicopter needed more elsewhere."

The "rubber ducky" served its purpose as Bravo Company scored a first for the 5th Battalion in crossing a river without getting wet...except for Specialist Hart and PFC Colon.

Or, how to cross the bridge that wasn't there when



troops
r way!

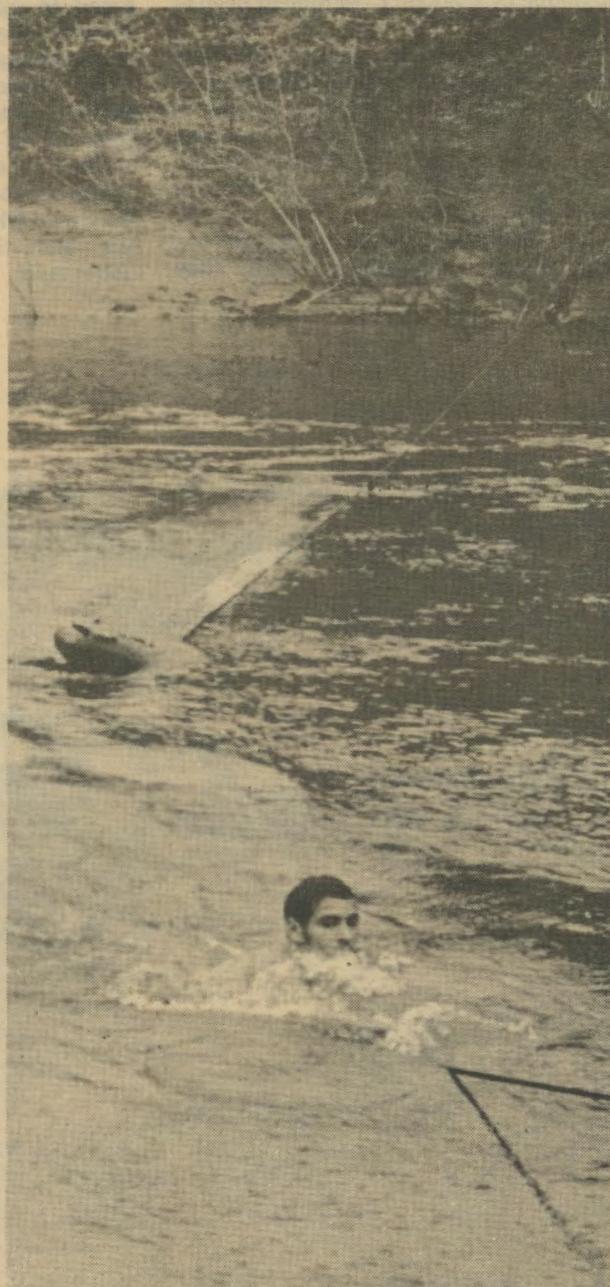


Pulling to shore after crossing the Song Ba Ky.

rubber ducky'



got to it...



PFC Walter Colon returns after swimming across the river.

Navy: now new life for old Nam Can

NAVFORV - Brown syrupy-colored rivers and canals, lined with dense growth, run like spider webs through the southern portion of the Republic of Vietnam. Along one of these rivers the Vietnamese and United States Navies have built a base over debris that once was Nam Can, the Republic of Vietnam's southernmost city.

Almost 3,000 people were living in Nam Can city when the Viet Cong launched their 1968 Tet offensive. The 200 miles separating the city from Saigon enabled the enemy to sever communications and supply lines; government support was virtually cut off during the drawn-out campaign.

By the time the enemy push was halted, Nam Can had been reduced to rubble.

Then, in October 1968, U.S. Navy Swift boats started dashing up the Cua Lon River and its tributaries, blazing away at enemy structures and fortifications that lined the banks.

For the next eight months the U.S. Navy conducted a series of raids and sweeps in the area.

Until June 1969, when a floating base was towed into the Cua Lon River which cuts through the southern tip of Vietnam, the area had been considered communist territory. This floating base called "Seafloat" by the Navy, was anchored in the river adjacent to old Nam Can.

Last September new facilities were completed on the north bank of the river. The floating base was broken up and its responsibilities for repairing river combat craft and supporting their crews were moved to solid ground.

Appropriately enough, the U.S. Navy dubbed the new base "Solid Anchor," connoting the solid nature of the base to provide an anchor for a permanent Republic of Vietnam Government deep in the delta.

Numerous Swift boats and two Vietnamese Navy River Interdiction Divisions (RID) now use Solid Anchor as a base for their operations. They have made the enemy aware of their presence while patrolling the rivers and canals in the Nam Can area.

The first RID arrived at Seafloat last June with its armored river craft. They



Armored Troop Carriers operating out of Solid Anchor stand by as a blocking force for Vietnamese Marines who have invaded the thick mangrove swamp in search of the enemy.

were followed in October by the second RID and its combat craft. According to Chief Petty Officer J.H. Boerum, senior American enlisted advisor for one of the divisions, there is one U.S. Navy advisor assigned to each boat.

The mission of the river interdiction divisions is to continue driving the Viet Cong out of the area and provide safety for the local citizens.

Thanks to the U.S. and Vietnamese Navy men who operate from this remote base and the protection they offer, fishermen and woodcutters who

previously fled in the face of communist extortion, kidnappings and murders, are returning.

Thi Tran, a hamlet located about one mile east of Solid Anchor, has sprung up, and in late November had a population of over 3,000 people.

Directly across the Cua Lon River from Solid Anchor, troopers of the Vietnamese 7th Marine Battalion, and their U.S. Marine advisors are bringing additional protection to the area.

The base also serves as a re-arming and re-fueling station for U.S. Navy and Army

helicopter gunships. In addition, it houses a unit of psychological warfare specialists, Vietnamese Rangers and Luc Luong 66.

U.S. Navy Seabees of Mobile Construction Battalion 74 (MCB-74), from Gulfport, Miss., are presently working on a 3,000-foot runway which they hope to have completed in early 1971. They have already completed more than eleven hundred feet of the runway.

The completion of the runway, which can accommodate C-130 cargo planes, will greatly aid in resupplying units at the remote base.

Story By: PO1 Bob Williams
Photos By: PO1 Bob Williams
PO1 Dick Clinton



The waterways in southern Vietnam are again open to commercial traffic thanks to the safety provided by the men at Solid Anchor.



Marines of the Vietnamese 7th Marine Battalion debark from troop carrier and begin an operation to root the enemy out of the thick tropical growth.

Civil Affairs

Priest regroups

Builds village

USASC - Across the bay of Cam Ranh from the huge Army and Air Force installation, a Vietnamese Catholic priest and a group of his followers are proving that the Vietnamese understand the benefits of liberty.

Father The was originally a resident of North Vietnam, but the partition of the country and the religious persecution he would have suffered under Communist rule forced him to move south. From his home near Hanoi he migrated to the Central Highlands of South Vietnam, and finally to a valley ten miles west of Cam Ranh Bay.

Father The brought literally nothing with him. He had formed a group of Vietnamese Catholics who looked to him for leadership, but he had no money, no land, and no home. His people were his only asset.

With his leadership and help from the Vietnamese government and the United States Army, Navy, and Air Force, the people of Father The's community built the village of Vin Cam.

From the beginning the priest wanted his village to be something different: a source of pride to its residents and a place in which their religion could be fostered.

Instead of huddling the villagers together and devoting the outlying lands to crops, Father The divided his land into lots and spread his people over it. Each resident of Vin Cam cleared his own land and began tending the fields around his home.

Within the last year Father The has found time to develop the center of his town. With cement donated by US forces the villagers made their own bricks for the construction of a grade school. No sooner was that completed than a high school rose nearby. Next a market place was begun using the same construction methods.

Already Father The had the nucleus of his town. The only thing lacking was the building he most wanted, a church. In July, construction began on Vin Cam's church. Rusted and bent reinforcing rods began to rise above and immense cement floor. The plans for the church far outstripped anything the villagers had attempted before. Reinforced concrete replaced the brick and mortar construction of the earlier structures to form a cross-shaped church with high arches.

Work is still progressing on the church. Next an orphanage. After that, who knows.

JUST A FEW DROPS - Capt. (Dr.) L.H. Blanton shows Sister Pierre Thien the proper procedure in preparing medication for a sick pig at the Ben San Leprosarium. (USAF PHOTO By Sgt. P. Chauncey)



'Black Hawks' teach and build library

23RD INF DIV (AMERICAL) - The rebuilding of a country is not accomplished solely through a liberal application of hammers, nails and wood. More often the path to progress is paved in the classroom and the "Black Hawks" of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry are doing their share of the roadwork.

With funds donated by the men of the squadron, the "Black Hawk" Civil Affairs Office has embarked on a two-fold program of educational assistance to the children of Quang Tin Province.

Approximately two months ago, Captain James J. Benanto and First Lieutenant William Knight, S-5 and Assistant S-5 respectively, hit upon the idea of teaching English to children in Tam Ky City. They chose the all-girl Quang Tin School for the project.

Every Monday afternoon one of the officers arrives at the school to present a basic English lesson to a high school class.

"The regular teacher for that particular class assists us in giving the lesson and acts as an interpreter in cases of a misunderstanding with either of the two languages," explained Benanto.

"The atmosphere and manner of teaching are the same as any language class found in the United States. We'll say the phrase and have the students repeat it. Then the phrase will be written on the blackboard and students will be called upon individually to pronounce them."

Like their counterparts throughout the world, the girls break out in uncontrollable giggling if a word or phrase is said somewhat backwards, Benanto noted.

"The students have shown a willingness to learn that is hard to believe unless seen," Knight pointed out. "They digest every word that we say with an insatiable appetite for the new language."

At the end of the teaching period the 196th Brigade officers open the class up for a question and answer period during which the students ask their new teacher anything they would like to know about him or the United States.

"The questions run the gamut from 'How long have you been in Vietnam?' to 'What was your job in the United States?'" Benanto recalled. "For some mysterious reason the one question that is, without fail, always asked is 'Do you sing?'"

During one recent session that question induced Knight to sing a rousing chorus of "Jingle Bells" after which he taught the girls the stateside holiday perennial and directed them in a rousing songfest.

"In the future we want to expand the program and teach more classes on a regular basis," he said.

The other recent project in the "Black Hawks" Civil Affairs Program involved the construction and stocking of a library for a Buddhist school located near the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) Compound at Hawk Hill, 196th Brigade headquarters.

"Approximately 95% of the students at the school are children of ARVN soldiers and it is sponsored and staffed by men of the 5th Regiment, 2nd ARVN Division," explained Lt Knight.

"The director of the school, Lieutenant Thick Tam Hien, a Buddhist monk and Regiment Chaplain, approached me with the idea of making up a list of books that would be necessary for starting a library."

"We got together and compiled a list of books we felt were needed and using funds donated by the men of the squadron ordered the books from Saigon."

A section of the school previously used as office space was chosen as the site of the library and the men of the ARVN regiment, utilizing lumber gleaned from ammo boxes, built bookshelves and tables for the facility.

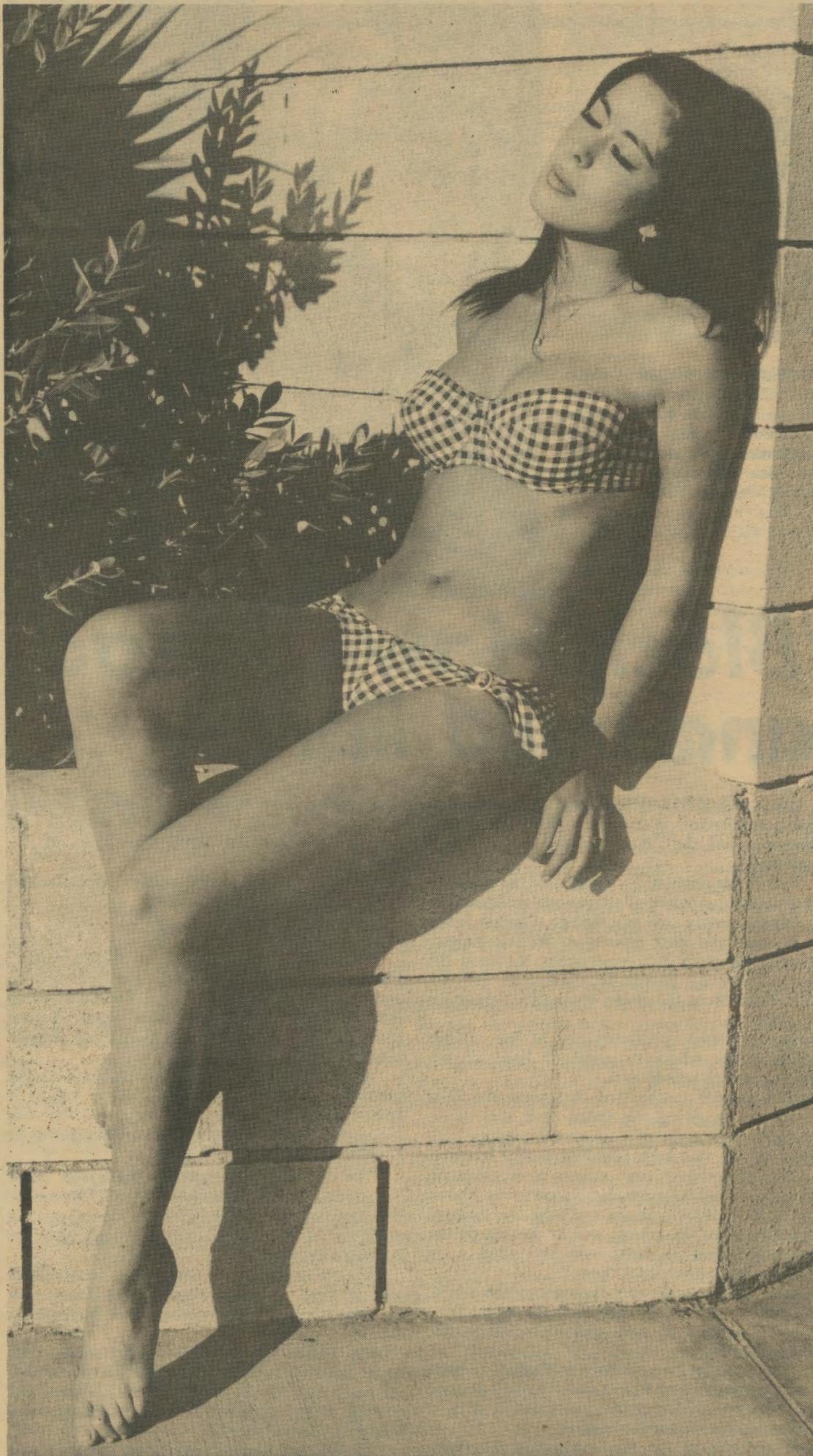
"We feel the library was a great idea both for helping the children and strengthening our community relations," Benanto commented. "With the help we gave them on it, I am certain they will continue to improve the library on their own."

"We want to help start libraries in more of the surrounding schools, as well. I'm sure that if they could just get a little financial and technical assistance they would be as successful at other schools as we were with the Buddhist school here."



A Vietnamese elementary school student is an enthusiastic participant in a recent fluoride treatment conducted by the 12th Combat Aviation Group in Bien Hoa Province.

Entertainment



BUNKER BUNNY SEZ,

"Are you dreaming about that R&R coming up soon. Remember that personnel will not be processed at the R&R departure points unless they possess a completed set of MACV Form 439 orders. Also, all personnel must have a current and valid ID card and up to date immunization record in their possession. Play it smart, check with your unit R&R coordinator to insure that all your documents are correct and up to date. I sure would hate to see all your R&R dreams turn into a nightmare."

VIEW FROM THE GREEN

By Sp5 Larry Green

Last year's National Basketball Association expansion program opened up virgin territory in the far west and the result aptly enough was the Portland Trailblazers. Portland, for you pioneers who never ventured west of Chicago, is that outpost of civilization on the Pacific frontier between Seattle and San Francisco in Oregon Country. A glance at a typical home game attendance figure shows that the Blazers have been warmly received by the 700,000 population of the greater Portland area. Oregon's first major league franchise is prospering right well. Distances being what they are in the West, it's 700 miles to San Francisco from Portland and over 400 to Seattle. Thus, there really isn't a logical alternative to the Blazers - lovin' them being easier than leavin' them.

In Cleveland owner Nick Milioti cavalierly shrugged off experience and stressed youth-result: a lot of under 30 losers. At Buffalo the Braves made an inferiority complex inevitable by grabbing Knickerbocker castoffs. Portland went for the best players available.

The Blazer's first draft choice was Princeton's Geoff Petrie, a flashy guard who is currently leading the club in scoring with a 21 point average. He may just be the NBA's rookie of the year although Pete Maravich gets more press exposure and Dave Cowens of Boston is also deserving. Early in January Petrie scored 30 or more points in five straight games before cooling off to 28 in a win over Boston.

Rick Adelman is Petrie's running mate at the other guard. Jim Barnett sometimes starts at guard but can play forward too.

Barnett was acquired from San Diego for guard Larry Siegfried. The former University of Oregon star is a local favorite and carries a 20 point scoring average.

LeRoy Ellis, scoring at a 16 point per game clip gives the Blazers a smooth, experienced center - a must in the NBA. Much of the rebounding muscle, though, comes from forward Gary Gregor who stands six foot seven and weighs 235. He came to Portland from the Atlanta Hawks for Jerry Chambers but missed the first 36 games due to a torn thigh muscle. Gregor's board strength has been the key factor in recent Blazer successes.

Seeing considerable action as reserves are forwards Stan McKenzie, Dale Schlueter and Shaler Halimon, along with center Ed Manning.

Portland, at this writing, has won three in a row, beating the Milwaukee Bucks, Atlanta Hawks and the San Francisco Warriors. Not too shabby. The Blazers lead the new expansion teams in victories with 20.

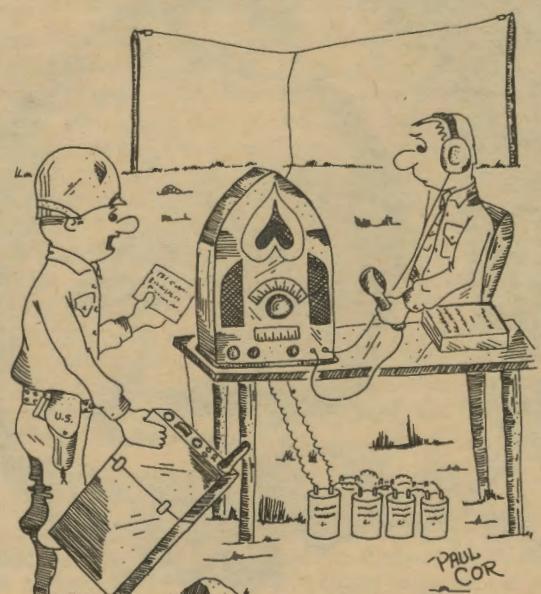
* * *

Brooks Robinson, the premier glove man in Major League Baseball and World Series hero, has signed his first \$100,000 contract. He enters a salary class enjoyed by a select few that includes Willie McCovey, Juan Marichal, Willie Mays, Pete Rose, Henry Aaron, Frank Robinson, Harmon Killebrew, Curt Flood, Denny McLain, Frank Howard, and Carl Yastrzemski among others.

Robinson's stellar performance at the hot corner has earned him the title of vacuum cleaner and gives him the distinction of being the only man to earn \$100,000 a year primarily because of fielding prowess.

Manager Bill Rigney of the Minnesota Twins joked recently that he was fining his players \$50 every time they hit the ball to third while Brooks was playing. That would be something unique, an offensive shift to stop a defensive player. What an incentive to hit to right field and quite a tribute to Baltimore's vacuum cleaner.

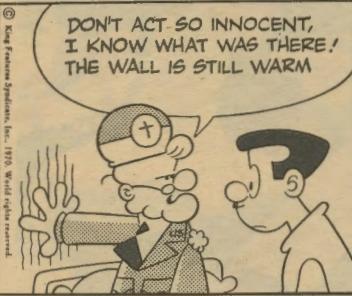
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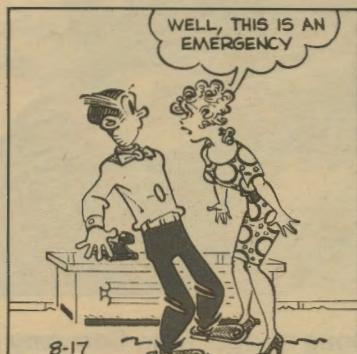
Beetle Bailey



By Mort Walker



Blondie



"TAKE STOCK IN AMERICA WITH U.S. SAVINGS BONDS", suggests Jeanie Smith, "Mrs U.S. Savings Bonds, 1970-71".



OHHH.. SO IT'S GONNA BE ONE OF THOSE DAYS!!!

*..WITH THANX TO THE U.S.ARMY *BUDDY*
"TUNNEL RATS"...

.... every night at the movies

FEB 28 - MAR 6	SUN (28)	MON (1)	TUES (2)	WED (3)	THURS (4)	FRI (5)	SAT (6)
TAN SON NHUT No1		Airport		The Liberation Of L.B. Jones		The Graduate	Tarzan's Deadly Silence
MACV ANNEX	The Landlord		Support Your Local Sheriff		Airport	The Liberation Of L.B. Jones	The Great Bank Robbery
MACV COMPOUND	The Grasshopper	Ned Kelly		The Landlord		Support Your Local Sheriff	Airport
TAN SON NHUT No2	Hornet's Nest		The Grasshopper	Ned Kelly		The Landlord	Support Your Local Sheriff
BIEN HOA AB	Tell Me That You Love Me Junie Moon		Hail, Hero		Hornet's Nest	The Grasshopper	Ned Kelly
DA NANG AB No1	West Side Story		Tarzan's Jungle Rebellion		The Adventurers	The Boys In The Band	The Chairman
DA NANG AB No2	My Lover, My Son	The Bridge At Remagen		West Side Story	Tarzan's Jungle Rebellion		The Adventurers
FREEDOM HILL	WUSA		My Lover, My Son	The Bridge At Remagen		West Side Story	Tarzan's Jungle Rebellion
PHU CAT	Butch Cassidy And The Sundance Kid		Watermelon Man	Then Came Bronson		The Best House In London	Johnny Cash
TUY HOA AB	Cotton Comes To Harlem		The Honeymoon Killers	My Sweet Charlie		W.D. The Love Bug	Land Raiders
CAM RANH BAY	Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice		Where It's At	Heaven With A Gun		Ben-Hur	The Bushbaby
PHAN RANG	Too Late The Hero		The Fox	The First Time		The Moonshine War	Let It Be
CAN THO	Hello, Dolly		Death Of A Gunfighter	The Comic		Z	Dracula Has Risen From The Grave
VUNG TAU	W.D. The Boatniks		Jenny	Skullduggery		Southern Star	The Maltese Bippy



A radio-packing young trooper from Company A, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry of the 23rd Infantry Division studies the remains of a Communist light machinegun which was found among the many enemy articles uncovered by Alpha Company about 30 miles northwest of Tam Ky. It's believed that an estimated battalion of NVA soldiers occupied the area.

(USA PHOTO By: Sp4 Guy Winkler)

Increase MARS service

23RD INF DIV - An increasing number of MARS (Military Affiliated Radio System) calls will become available to personnel in the northern regions of South Vietnam with the coming of stateside summer months, according to a MARS station representative.

"Our monthly rate of completed calls for the 196th Inf Bde will grow from roughly 600 calls, which we handle during the monsoon months, to perhaps 1,200 calls, which we project for June, July and August," said Sergeant Richard J. Horton, senior radio operator at Hawk Hill's MARS station.

In handling calls for men in the 196th Inf Bde, Horton's telephone net covers most American installations in Quang Tin Province, which is located in MR I.

Horton explained that relatively poor stateside contact during the monsoon season here is due primarily to winter atmospheric conditions for the northern hemisphere, combined with such astronomical factors as meteor showers and magnetic storms.

"If their connection is poor, people often assume that the

fault lies with either the MARS operator or the MARS equipment," said Horton. "Usually, it's neither. For instance, during December, January and February, conditions favor the southern hemisphere for making MARS calls. However, we're located in the northern hemisphere, so we suffer the consequences."

Horton stated that Hawk Hill's MARS station is responsible for putting through roughly 10 per cent of all MARS calls in South Vietnam during about nine months out of the year. Such efficiency may be partially explained by the three to four enthusiastic operators who answer phones 21 hours daily, shutting down from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m.

"Last summer's conditions were so good that we solicited people in the Brigade to take advantage of their MARS station," said the senior radio operator.

Personnel wishing to make a Hawk Hill MARS call should place their request preferably at 6:30 a.m. or 8 p.m., although listings will be accepted at all times except during the shut-down period.

Stateside contact varies

considerably, but the northernmost stations in South Vietnam, such as the one here, pick up stateside contact about 7 a.m. for the day shift. For the night shift, this contact usually begins between 10:30 p.m. and 2:30 a.m.

Most MARS calls average \$1.50 or less based upon a three-minute stateside rate. "We can also run calls to military installations in Japan, Korea, Thailand and Germany," said Horton, "so long as there are ham radio operators there to receive our calls."

VNAF gets Shadow

7TH AF - The U.S. Air Force began in-country training for Republic of Vietnam Air Force (VNAF) AC-119 Shadow gunship aircrews at Phan Rang AB recently.

The AC-119 Shadow is scheduled to enter the VNAF combat aircraft inventory during 1971. It will provide additional gunship capability for the VNAF which now operates the AC-47 Dragon and UH-1 Huey in the gunship role.

The 14th Special Operations Wing is conducting aircrew training for pilots, navigators, flight engineers, weapons systems specialists and illuminator specialists.

The training program will be conducted in three phases according to Lieutenant Colonel Edward A. Elbert Jr., commander of the 17th Special Operations Squadron.

"The first phase is the ground school which lasts about a week," he said. "The second phase involves basic flying training with emphasis on instrument and emergency procedures. The third phase concentrates on combat tactics on actual combat missions."

Lieutenant Colonel Wendel E. Cosner, chief of the VNAF

89 Ralliers

23RD INF DIV - In a period of one month, 89 Viet Cong laid down their weapons and rallied to the Government of Vietnam in the Div's 198th Inf Bde area. Nearly 90 per cent of the ralliers came from the once Viet Cong infested Batangan Peninsula, southeast of Chu Lai.

The total for the month was four times the average for the Brigade and is the largest number of ralliers received in a one-month period in at least a year.

The reason for the great increase of ralliers lies in the fact that four distinct yet cooperative operations have drained the enemy of his manpower and his will to carry out missions in this area.

Allied small unit operations, land clearing projects, pacifications programs, and concentrated psychological operations have all combined to cause major setbacks for the enemy in the Batangan area.

"All of these reasons have been cited by the ralliers as why they came over to our side," said First Lieutenant Willism Cain, the Brigade Civil Affairs Officer. "The enemy's very existence is being threatened every day in this area."

Small unit operations have saturated the area with U.S. and Vietnamese patrols. Night movement by these allied forces have nearly stifled enemy movement and supply routes. The 1st Bn, 6th Inf has been largely responsible for upsetting enemy activities on the peninsula with its combat operations and its support of the pacification program.

Land clearing operations, conducted by the 59th Land Clearing Company and Company B, 26th Engr Bn, have eliminated thousands of former enemy hiding places, tunnels, bunkers and booby traps, under the cover of which enemy elements used to be able to roam almost at will throughout the countryside. The land clearing projects have left enemy units and guerillas without cover and thus vulnerable to allied ground units.

The area is also becoming a showplace pacification site with the hamlets of Giem Dien, An Thien, and Van Thien proving the worth of the pacification effort.

Vietnamese civilians in the area are less and less tolerant of enemy activities, and with the loss of popular support, more and more Viet Cong are seeking a better life by returning to the Government.

"Many of the Viet Cong want to come across but are afraid of what might happen to them," Cain said. "Our job is to make sure they know they will be taken care of, and we have been successful in this effort, partially by employing a live broadcast technique."

The live broadcast technique was initiated by the Brigade to enable former Viet Cong to give direct messages to their past comrades from helicopters. The ralliers tell their friends that they are being well treated and they urge their friends to rally also.

Other taped broadcast are subsequently made to show the enemy still in the field how his former friends who have rallied are progressing under Government protection. Many ralliers have said that this method of showing "follow-up" progress has encouraged them to rally.

They asserted that they had wanted to rally but were not sure how they would be treated. These "follow-up" broadcasts have eliminated this fear for many Viet Cong.

The AC-119 Shadow is armed with four side-firing miniguns, each capable of firing more than 6,000 rounds per minute. The aircraft has armor plating for crew protection and is equipped with a gunsight, fire control system, flare launchers, a 2-million candle power white light and infrared illuminators plus a variety of electronic equipment.

Training of AC-119 aircrews is a part of the continuing VNAF improvement and modernization program.

'Baby Doc,' continued

of rheumatic fever, a child may develop a mild case and start recovering. Then, the chances for reinfection are greater and the disease becomes worse."

Asked what he hoped to gain in his year in Vietnam, he stated, "I'd like to gain more experience in these types of diseases, especially in the field of parasitology with malaria and ring worms. I doubt if I'll have another chance to see some of the different types again, so I'd like to learn as much as possible."

Kimrell continued, "There are a lot of challenges in the field of medicine here. Particularly, the two fields in which work needs to be done are preventive medicine and sanitation conditions. Really, they go hand-in-hand. By improving the sanitation conditions, you're preventing a lot of diseases from occurring. Once you take care of the basics, you can start in your specialized fields of medicine.

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