



FIRST IN VIETNAM

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National Elections Sept 3

SAIGON (MACV) — Voters in the Republic of Vietnam on September 3 will cast their ballots in nation-wide elections to fill the offices of president, vice-president and the seats of the Upper House of the National Assembly.

Their first opportunity for self-determination since their new Constitution was promulgated April 1 of this year, the populace will choose from among 11 candidates for president, 11 for vice-president and 440 running for office in the Senate.

On October 22, they will face the task of filling the seats of the Lower House of the Assembly, another in a series of moves towards representative government which began in May and June with elections of officials at village and hamlet level.

Under the provisions of the new Constitution, candidates for the presidency and vice-presidency are elected for four year terms. To qualify as candidates, they must be Vietnamese citizens by birth, must have lived in Vietnam for at least 10 years prior to election day, must have draft status in order, have the full rights of citizenship and be at least 35 years-old.

The Senate, or the Upper House of the National Assembly, is composed of from 30 to 60 members. Senators are elected for six-year terms. In this first National Assembly, however, the members will be divided into two groups by drawing lots. In order that half of the senators will be elected every three years in the future, one of the two groups of senators will serve only a three years term before they have to run again for office.

In order to qualify as candidates for the Upper House, individuals must be at least 30 years-old, enjoy full rights of citizenship, have draft status in order, and have held Vietnamese citizenship for at least seven years or be citizens by birth.

9th Inf Div Begins Project To Save Isolated Village

BINH PHUOC (USA) — The village of Tan Phu Long, isolated by Viet Cong terrorism, has been dying for two and a half years.

Two 9th Infantry Division companies, armed with ambitious projects, moved into the village last week and plan to save it from becoming a ghost town.

Indicative of Tan Phu Long's plight is its tiny hamlet of Xom Cau three miles east of Binh Phuoc. In 1965 the hamlet was the thriving district headquarters of Binh Phuoc with a population of more than 700.

Today only a small cluster of thatched huts and rusty tin frames house less than 200 villagers.

Why the change?

Communism. Infiltrating the village more than two years



HEY UP THERE — A trooper from the 101st Airborne Division is hoisted out of the mountainous jungles northwest of Quang Ngai City after being wounded.

(Photo by Sp4 Bob Towle)

'Hoi Chanh' Taught New Skills In Vietnam's Chieu Hoi Centers

BIEN HOA (III CORPS IO)

To Le Van Vong, the Bien Hoa Chieu Hoi Center is a "halfway house" on the road to a new life. He is one of the 35 former Viet Cong who accepted the government's "Open Arms" program during the month of July in the Bien Hoa province. In this and 43 other centers across Vietnam, useful citizens are being created from enemy troops who rallied to the government cause.

In 1966 Bien Hoa province received 221 ralliers; already 294 Viet Cong, as of 21 July, have chosen freedom this year. Nationally the statistics are just as encouraging. The Chieu Hoi Centers processed 20,242 returnees last year, and in the first half of 1967 the total reached 17,995.

These figures are important, say government officials, who point out that each rallier is a double victory: one less for the Viet Cong and one more for the Republic of Vietnam.

Of further benefit to the Allies are the weapons brought in by the returnees, the intelligence information gained from them and the help with propaganda volunteered by many.

But behind these statistics are people—people who may be getting their first decent meal, clean clothes or kind words in months. "Most of the ralliers are very pale, very haggard. Some have skin diseases. All are very hungry," said Mr. Pedro A. Guillermo, advisor to the Chieu Hoi program in Bien Hoa province. When they enter the center they are given two sets of clothes, necessary medical attention and a chance to recover their health.

"They are sent out to the districts or to their homes and it is very interesting to note the transformation. They are well-cleaned, well-fed—they are all smiles when they go out of the center," said Mr. Guillermo.

Many of the Hoi Chanh, or returnees, work in government jobs after their stay at the center. Some join reconnaissance patrols, pointing out VC location and helping to fight the communist enemy. They may also elect to return to their families. This wish to rejoin loved ones is quite often one of the reasons for rallying. "I wanted to go back to my family and work," said Le Van Vong, who had fought with the VC for three years.

Thirty-two-year-old Le Van Vong was pressed into service by the Viet Cong and became the leader of a three-man cell in guerrilla operations. His unit

In Bitter Battle

ARVN Rout NVA Forces

SAIGON (MACV) — Three maneuver battalions of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN), supported by one artillery battery and by helicopters of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, routed an estimated 2,000 North Vietnamese soldiers in a bitter battle near the Special Forces camp of Dak Seang, seven kilometers from the Laotian border.

The North Vietnamese suffered 209 killed and two captured in the action. Eight ARVN soldiers were killed and 60 wounded.

By the close of the raging 5-day battle, the ARVN units had seized a regimental-sized base camp—composed of 220 structures—and had killed one regimental and one battalion commander.

The camp at Dak Seang, manned by 600 Civilian Irregular Defense Group soldiers and Special Forces advisors, and ARVN counterparts had been under constant mortar fire in the days before the battle. But while positioned near an outlet of the Ho Chi Minh Trail, with the crucial mission of conducting border patrols and counter-guerrilla warfare, Dak Seang was never itself the object of a direct enemy attack.

Under the wet blanket of seasonal rains, and because the camp itself was so remotely positioned, the North Viet-

namese designed to lure an allied force into the area and to isolate, engage and destroy it on their own terms.

The three ARVN units, which included the 5th and 8th Airborne Battalions (1st Airborne Task Force) and the 1st Battalion, 42nd Regiment, were inserted quickly into the area to meet the enemy force. The 1st Battalion made almost immediate contact with two enemy battalions, so a reaction force from the Task Force—supported by choppers from the 173rd—swept into the area to join the fire-fight.

The 8th Battalion, moving westward, also met a multi-battalion NVA force, while the 5th Battalion—closing in from the north—approached the enemy from his rear. The 1st Battalion, assaulting NGOC-BICH Hill, was compelled to withdraw under intense fire.

Two days later the three battalions, with orders to take NGOC-BICH Hill, moved out in a general assault. Tactical air support was limited—due to bad weather—but artillery support from Task Force and the 173rd relentlessly pounded enemy positions.

In the bitter fighting that followed, the 8th Battalion repelled six determined enemy assaults in less than eight hours. The last attack, in which one UHID helicopter was shot down, saw the NVA forces reinforced by two additional battalions.

One day after the ARVN force had launched their major thrust at the enemy, the objectives were achieved, and on the day following the NVA forces made a disorderly withdrawal across the Laotian Border.

\$1 Million Savings Drive Sparked By HAC NCO

SAIGON (USA) — A NCO who spearheaded a drive which is saving Uncle Sam \$1 million a year in transportation expenses was awarded the Bronze Star Medal here.

Master Sergeant John J. Burke, who recently completed an 18-month tour of duty in Vietnam, voluntarily extended past the normal year in order to wind up his project. He was in charge of shipping personal property to and from the U.S. for servicemen stationed in the southern portion of Vietnam.

As NCOIC of Headquarters Area Command's Personal Property Branch, located at Tan Son Nhut, Sergeant Burke's statistics showed that commercial aircraft was handling 95 percent of the military baggage being shipped from Vietnam back to the states. At the same time, many military planes were heading back across the Pacific with empty baggage compartments.

The sergeant convinced his

superiors that substantial savings could be realized by using the available military space on a standby basis. Simultaneously, transportation officials were able to take advantage of the opening of a new aerial port of entry at Dover Air Force Base, Del. on the east coast.

As a result, military baggage could be flown directly from Vietnam to the east for servicemen being assigned there. Shipping time was shortened and further money savings were realized.

Processing more than 7,000 pieces of baggage a month for U.S. personnel of all armed services, as well as for many allied soldiers serving in the III and IV Corps Tactical Zones, Personal Property Branch has a motto, "Service is our most important product."

Thanks to Sergeant Burke and transportation officers who implemented his ideas, economy is right behind.

(Continued on Back Page)

Editorial

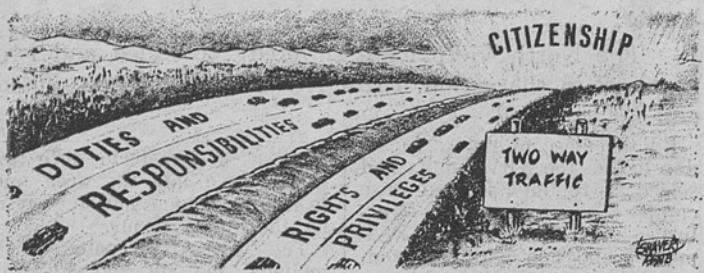
Responsibility

THOSE who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it." Freedom was not easily won, nor has it been easily maintained.

Those who wish to enjoy the rights and privileges of citizenship must also labor to earn them. For along with the rights of citizenship come the duties.

For every right, there is a responsibility; for every opportunity, there is an obligation.

You who serve in the Armed Forces are fulfilling one of the responsibilities of citizenship—providing for the defense of our Nation.



But to fully meet the obligations of citizenship and reap its benefits, every citizen must not only obey the letter of the laws, but the spirit as well. It is also the responsibility of every citizen to be well informed about current political and economic questions.

And, it is not only the right, but the responsibility of every citizen to exercise his franchise by voting in every election and urging others to do the same.

The preservation of freedom, equality and justice requires not only the intelligent exercise of the rights and privileges of citizenship, but willing, determined and intelligent assumption of all the responsibilities of citizenship as well. (AFNB)

ARE YOU AN EXPERT?

"How was it over there?" Just as sure as you are reading this, you are going to be asked this question when you have completed your tour in Vietnam and have returned home.

How are you going to answer it?

Your friends and neighbors and family are going to listen to what you have to say because you will have been here. You will be considered an authority, an "expert," if you will, on the subject of Vietnam. Your word will be taken above that of the TV commentator or the daily newspapers.

You are an expert?

Have you really made an effort to learn something about Vietnam, its people, its customs, its religions, its government and its problems? Have you studied books and periodicals, worked with the people in Civic Action projects, met them as friends when the situation permitted it, acquainted yourself with their long history, traditions and way of doing things, examined their efforts in the light of what you have been told about our reasons for being in Vietnam?

Or have you drawn your opinions, experiences and information from the alleyways and the bars, from prejudice and frustration, from rumor and hearsay? Have you closed your mind to a people who have requested our aid and our assistance so that you see nothing beyond the fact that their standard of living is not as high as ours?

We often hear that the American serviceman of today is the most well informed and the best educated in the history of our nation. It is true! This is why it is possible to take him from his civilian environment and put him into a combat area such as Vietnam within the span of a few months.

It seems only right that you do your best to be informed about all aspects of your service in Vietnam. Thousands of others have. Your unit and command newspapers regularly tell of individual and unit achievements in all areas of the nation-building effort of which you are part—a soldier-ambassador.

"How was it over there?" Keep an open mind and an open heart and be prepared to answer the question truthfully, factually and with pride in yourself and your comrades-in-arms.



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WITH PF COMMANDER

Soldier Enjoys Viet Meal

(EDITOR'S NOTE—Specialist 5 Michael Renshaw, a staff writer for the 9th Infantry Division, had an enjoyable cultural experience recently in Vietnam. The company commander of the 848th Popular Forces Company in Binh Phuoc asked the specialist to dine with him in the traditional Vietnamese fashion. This is his account of the evening.)

By SP5 Michael Renshaw
Staff Writer

BINH PHUOC — A small fluorescent light blinked high above the table sending blue shadows running across the straw-matted walls.

To my left sat the host, Captain Nguyen Van Toan, the company commander of the 848th Popular Forces Company. Captain Tommy G. Copeland, the civil affairs officer of the 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, sat at the far end of the table with Captain Frederick L. Starbuck.

Staff Sergeant Nguyen Thien Khang, an interpreter, sat to my right. Tall, ice-packed glasses, filled with Vietnamese beer, were served.

101st ABN Jump School
For Assigned Troops Only

LONG BINH (USA) — "Airborne! all the way!"

This is the chant heard as airborne troopers double-time through their physical training, and it seems in United States Army Vietnam (USARV) units there is many a soldier who would like to join them.

A recent article in The Observer about a jump school run by the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division to jump-qualified assigned troops has spurred a rash of personnel action requests to the USARV Adjutant General (AG) Office.

Non-airborne soldiers have applied in droves to attend the 101st school, not realizing it is unavailable to them. It is only for personnel assigned to the 1st

Washington
News Briefs

Carrying Own Records

WASHINGTON — According to Department of the Army message 823167, all Army personnel must hand-carry their official personnel records when traveling to the appropriate overseas replacement center, except unaccompanied enlisted personnel in grades E-1 through E-8 who are authorized leave enroute.

The message states that when unaccompanied enlisted personnel in grades E-1 through E-8 are assigned to a continental U.S. Army Overseas Replacement Station, and are authorized leave enroute to that station, commanders will send the complete military records by registered airmail to the appropriate U.S. Army Overseas Replacement Station immediately after these individuals have cleared their using unit.

Organization commanders will insure that all personnel records, including the health record jacket and the financial data folder, are complete, accurate, current and in proper order before the departure of the serviceman or servicewoman from his or her current organization.

Captain Toan addressed Sergeant Khang, and the sergeant nodded as the host finished his statement.

"He wants me to tell you," Sergeant Khang translated, "that because you are in Vietnam and not with your family, he wishes you to have a family dinner with him; and that is why he invited you."

Through Sergeant Khang, I gave Captain Toan my thanks and assured him that I was greatly honored by the invitation.

As the conversation progressed, rice bowls and dark wooden chopsticks were placed before us.

The first course was a deep dish of fried trout. As soon as the fish was placed in the center of the table, Captain Toan served his guests. We ate, placing the bones in a separate rice bowl. The fish was sweet-fleshed, with a strong taste of the sea.

After each guest had eaten at least one bowl of fish, the trout was removed and a large plate of chicken—topped with what seemed to be grass—was put before us. I asked Sergeant

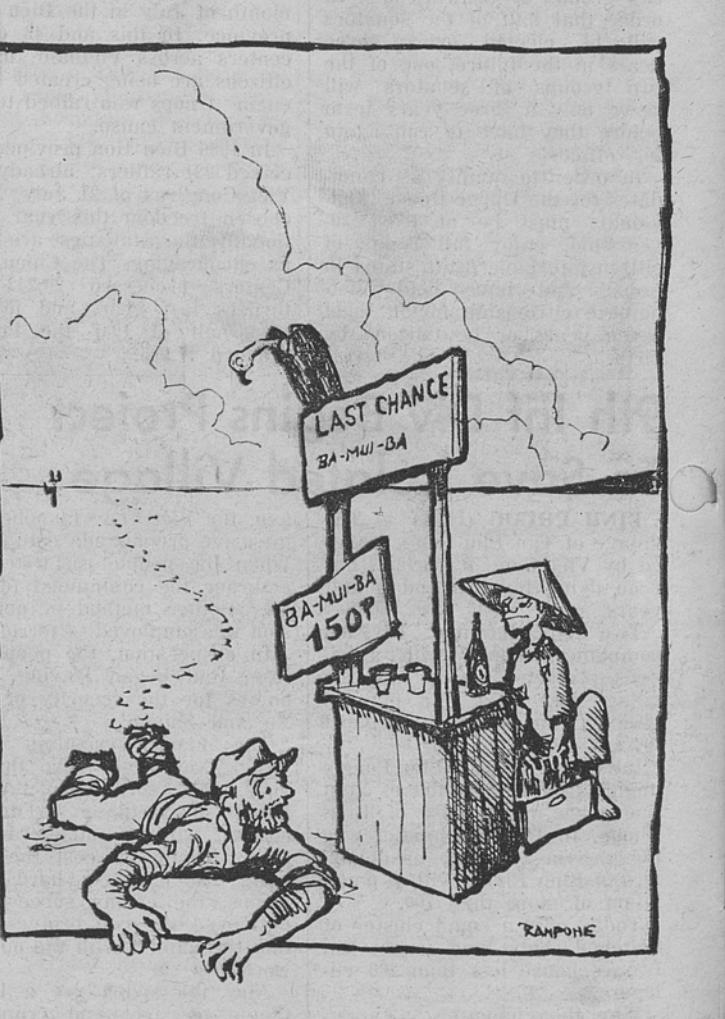
Also served for dessert was mang cut, a small fruit about the size of a lemon. The exterior is dark brown but the pulp is snow white. It is eaten in sections—like an orange—but tastes very much like strawberries. Each section yields a large black seed.

As the meal ended, the two captains thanked their host and returned to the Tactical Operations Center, which is only a matter of yards from the Popular Forces camp.

Captain Toan asked me to wait for a moment and disappeared into the building. Sergeant Khang explained that he was getting something for me.

The Vietnamese commander returned carrying a Viet Cong flag. Through the interpreter he explained: "I want you to have this communist flag. Many of my men died in battle before this flag was captured. I want you to take it back to your country and show all of the people."

I assured him that I would and, after thanking him for his hospitality and the enemy flag, I said good night, and gratefully accepted another invitation to dinner.



"I really would like one, but I've got to cut my piaster spending."

DivArty Increases
Village Assistance

PHU LOI (USA) — The Big Red One's Division Artillery (DivArty), which supports the infantrymen with fire power on the battlefield, is undertaking an intensive program of civic action in another phase of the war.

DivArty's new program is designed to build better relations with the Vietnamese community surrounding the base camp here. In this activity, the ammunition is medicine, school supplies and personnel hygiene material to the Christian Missionary alliance.

"Both the quality and quantity of projects administered by DivArty headquarters personnel during July represent a significant increase over the level of assistance offered in previous months," related a DivArty spokesman.

An example of this is that the Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) nearly doubled the number of Vietnamese given medical aid last month. In July, 390 were treated, while only 177 were treated during June.

During July, sick calls were held at the Ben San Leprosarium, the Division Artillery aid center, the Phu Cuong Chieu Hoi center and in the hamlets of Phu Loi and Binh Phuoc.

Hotel-7 is located in the hamlet of Thua Luu, midway between Phu Bai and Da Nang in one of the more isolated locations of a CAP unit.

Another part of the Civic Action Program, education for the native children, included the holding of English classes in the village of Phu Cuong and the DivArty chapel. A local teacher taught classes in Vietnamese history, world history and arithmetic to Vietnamese boys working here.

Like children around the world, the Vietnamese young

In anticipation of the new school year, the CAP has repainted the local school and drawn up plans for building an additional classroom for the local Catholic church school.

The market place roof has been patched with materials provided by the Marines, and a cement floor soon will be laid.

Surprisingly, there has been little VC contact. According to Staff Sergeant A. M. Ampasanes, NCOIC of the platoon, surrounding hamlets are infiltrated by the Viet Cong and the nearby mountains are suspected to harbor other enemy troops.

"Thua Luu is friendly enough but we have regular reports of Viet Cong and their sympathizers working nearby," Ampasanes said.

He had no friends, and only his family accepted him.

Until a Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) team spotted him during a village sick call and recommended plastic surgery for him, there was little hope that Hai would be able to lead a normal life.

Plastic surgery, explained Captain Stephen Alexander, 9th Medical Battalion physician, is virtually non-existent in developing countries such as Vietnam.

Hai's mother brought him to the Long Thanh dispensary for an examination. He was later transported to the 3rd Field Hospital in Saigon for corrective surgery. All plastic surgery cases are referred to the 3rd Field.

A surgeon specializing in plastic surgery at the Saigon facility repaired the youth's mouth. The expert hands of the Army surgeon transformed Hai's facial features into those of a normal Vietnamese boy.

Though it will require specialized speech therapy to correct his communication difficulties, Hai can now express himself well enough to be understood.

"I made several passes over the enemy positions and it frightened them right out into the open," he said.

Arrangements have been made for Hai to undergo surgery on his ear, Captain Alexander said.

Yorkshire Hogs To Beef-Up
Vietnamese Pigs In Phu Bai

PHU BAI (USMC) — Twelve young Stateside-bred Yorkshire hogs, spearheading a drive to increase the quality and quantity of livestock production near here, were presented to their new Vietnamese owners recently.

The hogs, two months old and each weighing around 35 pounds, will be crossbred with Vietnamese pigs to form a better and larger strain of animal.

The pigs were purchased by the Marine Corps Reserve Care Fund and distributed to selected farmers in the Thuy Chau and Loc Ban villages.

Under the agreement with the civil affairs office of the 3rd Marine Division, the villagers will return to the Marines one-half the number of pigs in the first litter. Hogs generally produce from nine to 12 piglets in each litter.

The piglets returned to the Marines will then be distributed to other Vietnamese families and the process will thus be repeated. In this way, Marine officials hope the area will be saturated by the improved strain.

Before receiving the pigs, Vietnamese families were required to build pens to U.S. specifications. Material for the pens was provided by Seabees and the 2nd Battalion, Twenty-Sixth Marine Regiment.



THE FIRST OF 12 YORKSHIRE BOARS ARRIVE

MEDCAP
Allows Boy
To Face Life

LONG THANH (USA) — For all of his ten years, Nguyen Van Hai had been miserable. Since birth he had been an outcast in his village of Sui Ca II in Bien Hoa Province.

Hai was deformed by grotesque birth defects—a hare lip, a cleft palate, and a deformed ear. A gaping fissure in the roof of his mouth made it impossible for him to speak clearly.

The airman, from the 3rd Division based at Guam, have been pounding the Viet Cong for months, but they seldom saw any actual fighting.

The airmen, with hands clapped to their ears, watched the 155 mm howitzers thunder as they were fired. One pilot described the fire power of the artillery with one word: "Fantastic."

Sirens Cause
Enemy Hysteria

BONG SON (USA) — The eerie cry of sirens spreads panic among the Viet Cong as helicopter gunships dive toward enemy bunkers. The VC run hysterically from the bunkers and into machine gun fire from the choppers.

The special sirens, known as "welp-welps," have been in use by police in the U.S. for several years. But as far as is known, the credit for using them in Vietnam goes to Captain James P. Hughes, commander of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's Troop B, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry.

The tall lanky captain related that he got the idea from a friend who works in psychological warfare. With the help of Warrant Officer Terrence M. Connor, the captain got a siren and tried it out.

Upon completion of the building, the Vietnamese carpenters—assisted by the Army Engineers—constructed 20 wooden beds to provide additional sleeping quarters for the youngsters.

The idea proved successful enough that it is expected to be adopted soon by the rest of the squadron.

After the total project was completed, the men accepted an invitation to dine with the children.

Joint Effort Helps
Viet Orphanage

BA NGOI (USA) — Through the efforts of Company C, 14th Engineer Battalion, 35th Engineer Group (Construction), the Ba Nghi Sea Nai Orphanage now has a better place for its children to live.

In a combined effort with Vietnamese carpenters, the clerks, truck drivers, combat engineers and other personnel of Company C gave up their free time to help pour a concrete pad and construct a 20-by 50-foot tropical building.

Upon completion of the building, the Vietnamese carpenters—assisted by the Army Engineers—constructed 20 wooden beds to provide additional sleeping quarters for the youngsters.

After the total project was completed, the men accepted an invitation to dine with the children.



Colonel Roger R. Bankson, outgoing Chief of Information, MACV, receives the Vietnamese Medal of Honor (First Class) from Brigadier General Tran Van Trung, Head of General Political Warfare Department, Vietnamese Joint General Staff. (Photo By Sp5 Thomas D. Holzhauser)

Civic Action Work Gains In Duc Pho

DUC PHO (USA)—A Vietnamese woman—shouting to U.S. soldiers and pointing at a bunker concealing Communist guerrillas—represented an unmistakable sign that MEDCAPS and other civil affairs programs are winning the confidence of the Vietnamese in Duc Pho District.

Units of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry have been conducting numerous MEDCAPS in the area south and southeast of Duc Pho since arriving in the area in April. While the villagers are given medical care, children are entertained and soap and candy distributed.

Indications of success appeared recently when the Reconnaissance platoon, with Regional Force soldiers, were moving toward the village of Vinh Phuoc.

The men were surprised to have a woman run up to them pointing excitedly to a bunker and shouting, "VC, VC."

Checking out the bunkers, the combined force killed three more enemy and captured an additional four weapons.

The men were surprised to have a woman run up to them pointing excitedly to a bunker and shouting, "VC, VC."



A BEATLE-BUS?—Very possible, though it also looks like a local mini-bus being used to transport crops from farm-to-market. (Photo By Dave Lyman)

Major Waterway Reopened In Delta

TRA ON (IV CORPS)—The Mang Thit-Nicolai Canal was formally reopened here recently in ceremonies presided over by Premier Nguyen Cao Ky and Major General Nguyen Van Manh, IV Corps commander.

The ARVN 9th Division and the Vietnamese Navy's River Assault Groups (RAG) reopened the canal which had been closed since 1963 because of heavy Viet

Cong harassment and illegal taxation of those who tried to use it. The canal's opening was one of the major National Priority Projects of the Vietnamese Government for 1967.

The move to open the canal began May 17, when nine RAG boats from Vinh Long carried 9th ARVN Division troops down the canal to set up outposts. The number of outposts was increased to 18, a gain of 11 over the original number, and their presence has gradually forced the VC from the area.

VN Navy Patrolled Canal

At the same time the Army was building outposts, the Vietnamese Navy patrolled the canal and river complex, coming under fire on 13 occasions, including four ambushes.

During the three-month pacification effort, three RAG boats were damaged; casualties were light for the Vietnamese sailors, who killed 15 VC. At one time, the VC attempted to swim under and attach explosive charges to the hull of one of the boats, but they were killed by grenades.

The two infantrymen of the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division, were taking advantage of the new program in the division's 2nd Brigade that offers a man a free three-day R&R for capturing an enemy soldier.

The program is aimed at raising the level of intelligence on enemy activity in the Operation Kolekole area. The combat operation, which began May 15, has already killed more than 200 Viet Cong southwest of the division's base camp here.

"There are many occasions when a VC can be captured," said Colonel Edwin W. Emerson, brigade commander, "and many possess information on enemy locations and movement that is extremely important to the allied effort in the area."

How does it feel to receive a vacation for capturing a Viet Cong? "Just fine," says Specialist Gidney, "we had a great time; Vung Tau is quite a place."

The R&R center offers good food, swimming, water skiing, sightseeing and many fine hotels and nightclubs.

After three days, both soldiers returned to combat assignment with their units. "Time went too fast," said Specialist Brown, "but we're both watching for more VC."



"Now that's what I call close air support!"

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Two U.S. Soldiers Live Uniquely Similar Lives

DAU TIENG (USA)—Two soldiers of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division left Vietnam recently on the same jet back to the United States. This is not unusual, but these two soldiers have had a record of similarities ever since they were drafted into the Army a year and a half ago.

The two men are Sergeant Lester D. Cooper of Pullman, Washington, and Sergeant Ralph W. Bafaro of Spokane, Washington.

It all started in the U.S.

—They were drafted at the

same draft board on the same day, but neither had seen the other.

—They went to the reception center at Fort Ord and then on to Fort Lewis for their basic training.

—Both were in the same platoon of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry and both received two weeks training to become squad leaders.

—On the same set of orders they were promoted to private E-2 after basic training, and then to private first class at the end of advanced individual training.

—Each was sent to the 6th Army NCO Academy on the same orders and both graduated in the upper one-quarter of the class. Promotion to acting sergeant came to the pair after NCO training. Later, both became sergeant E-5s on the same orders.

—After the 3rd Brigade's arrival in Vietnam, Sergeant Cooper and Sergeant Bafaro continued their identical ways.

—Both were squad leaders for 11 months of combat.

—Both received the Combat Infantryman Badge on the same day.

—Neither was wounded in 11 months of combat.

—Both have been recommended for the same award for their service in Vietnam.

—Finally, both left Vietnam on the same plane, on the same day, and again on the same set of orders, enroute to the same assignment at Fort Lewis, Washington.

—So far during their tour in the Army, everything has been the same for the two sergeants, except one thing—their serial numbers, of course. With the numbers, Sergeant Bafaro takes first place over Sergeant Cooper.

Sergeant Bafaro's number is 56378842 while Sergeant Cooper had to settle for 56378843—one away.

Famished Rat Nibbles Wire; Disarms Trap

TAN TRU (USA)—A U.S. 9th Infantry Division sergeant, who kicked the trip wire on a huge Viet Cong booby trap recently, is convinced that a Mekong Delta rat with an unusual appetite saved his life.

As Sergeant Marvin Zetocha of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry patrolled a trail near Tan Tru, his foot snagged a nearly invisible nylon cord stretched tightly across the path.

The sergeant expected the explosion of a booby trap—but nothing happened.

Following the trip cord, he discovered it led to a detonating system for a 105mm howitzer round just two feet away.

The death trap was rigged so that when the trip wire was jerked it would close a circuit connecting a battery and an electrical blasting cap, which was attached to the howitzer.

The artillery round failed to detonate, however, because a hungry rat had gnawed through one of the connecting wires.

Finds, Adopts Snake Killer

PHUOC VINH (USA)—When the truck reached its destination, it had one more passenger than when it started.

Private First Class Dennis E. Vittitoe was driving his truck down the road when he noticed a furry ball beside the road.

When he stopped to investigate, the ball resolved itself into a small baby mongoose.

Sergeant First Class Grady G. Haning, chief of the firing battery, now takes care of the battery's new pet. "I didn't know what to feed him at first," said the sergeant, "but I followed the advice of one of the men and fed him raw hamburger—and he really went for it."

Since then the mongoose has learned to eat almost anything, including C-Rations, but he still likes raw hamburger best, according to Sergeant Haning.

In his new home with the 1st Infantry Division's Battery B, 1st Battalion, 5th Artillery, the mongoose is the unit's bodyguard, watching for any cobras that may stray into the area.



TWO STEEPLE-JACKS HOOK UP CONNECTORS OF THE PRE-FABRICATED TOWER

Towers Oversee I Corps

SAIGON (USN) — one of the biggest problems facing the Viet Cong in I Corps involves

keeping themselves supplied

with the tools of war and the

seabees and Marines have

teamed up to see that his prob-

lem isn't made any easier.

The seabees are constructing

and erecting 50-foot observation

towers throughout the I Corps

area to help the Marines detect

enemy troop movements, mak-

ing it harder for the VC to move

supplies.

At the present time, 33 of the

planned towers have been com-

pleted. Most of these are located

along the DMZ around Da Nang.

Others are situated near Dong

Ha, Phu Bai and Chu Lai.

The seabees use several dif-

ferent types of construction

plans, each designed to fit a

particular situation. If the con-

struction site is fairly accessible, actual construction takes place at the site.

The tower may be pre-

fabricated into three or four

parts, flown to the site by heli-

copters, and the components

lifted into place with a mobile

crane.

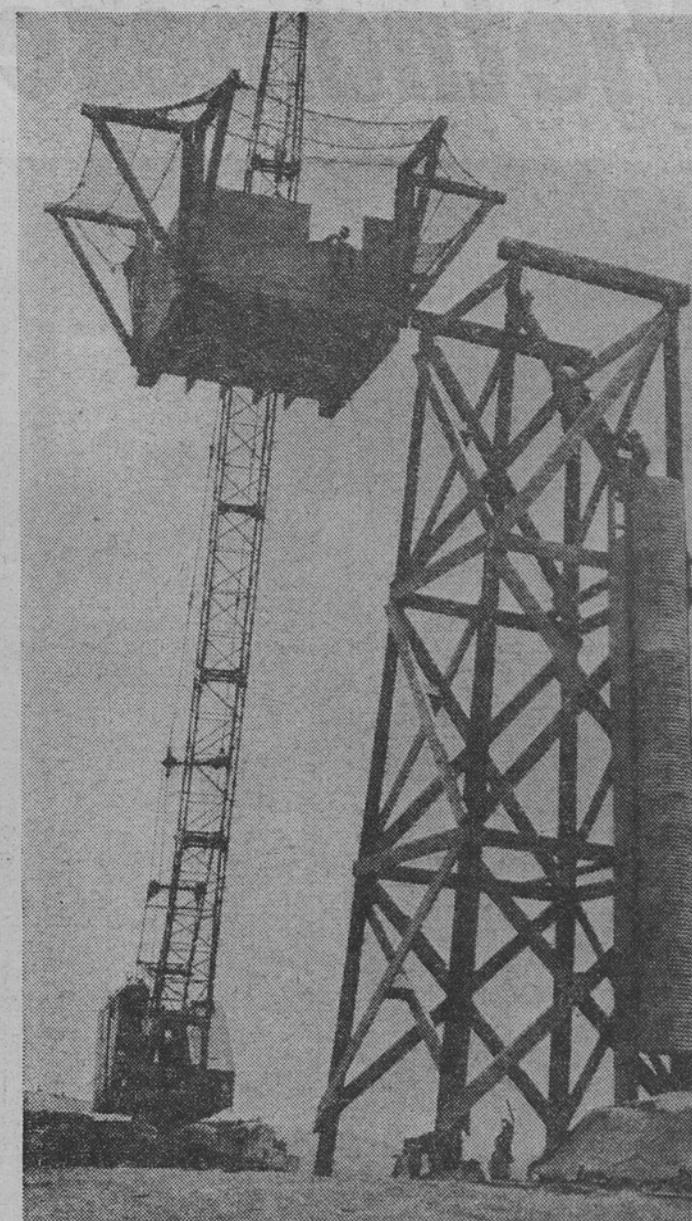
When the site is a remote outpost far from roads, another type of construction is called for. The tower is pre-fabricated at the seabee camp (except for the top) and transported to the site by Sea Stallion or Skycrane helicopters.

Then the seabees dig holes for the tower legs, put the platform on and let the helo raise the tower into place. When this is done, they complete the tower by building a bunker at the top as protection against VC sniper fire and inclement weather.

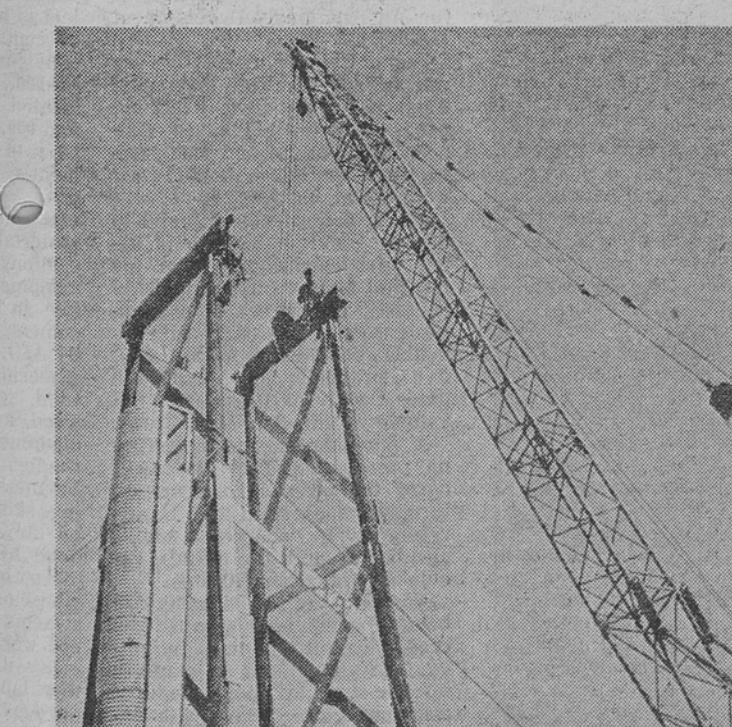
When the seabees began con-

struction of the towers along the

DMZ in late April, the VC



TOWER CONSTRUCTION MOVES INTO FINAL STAGES

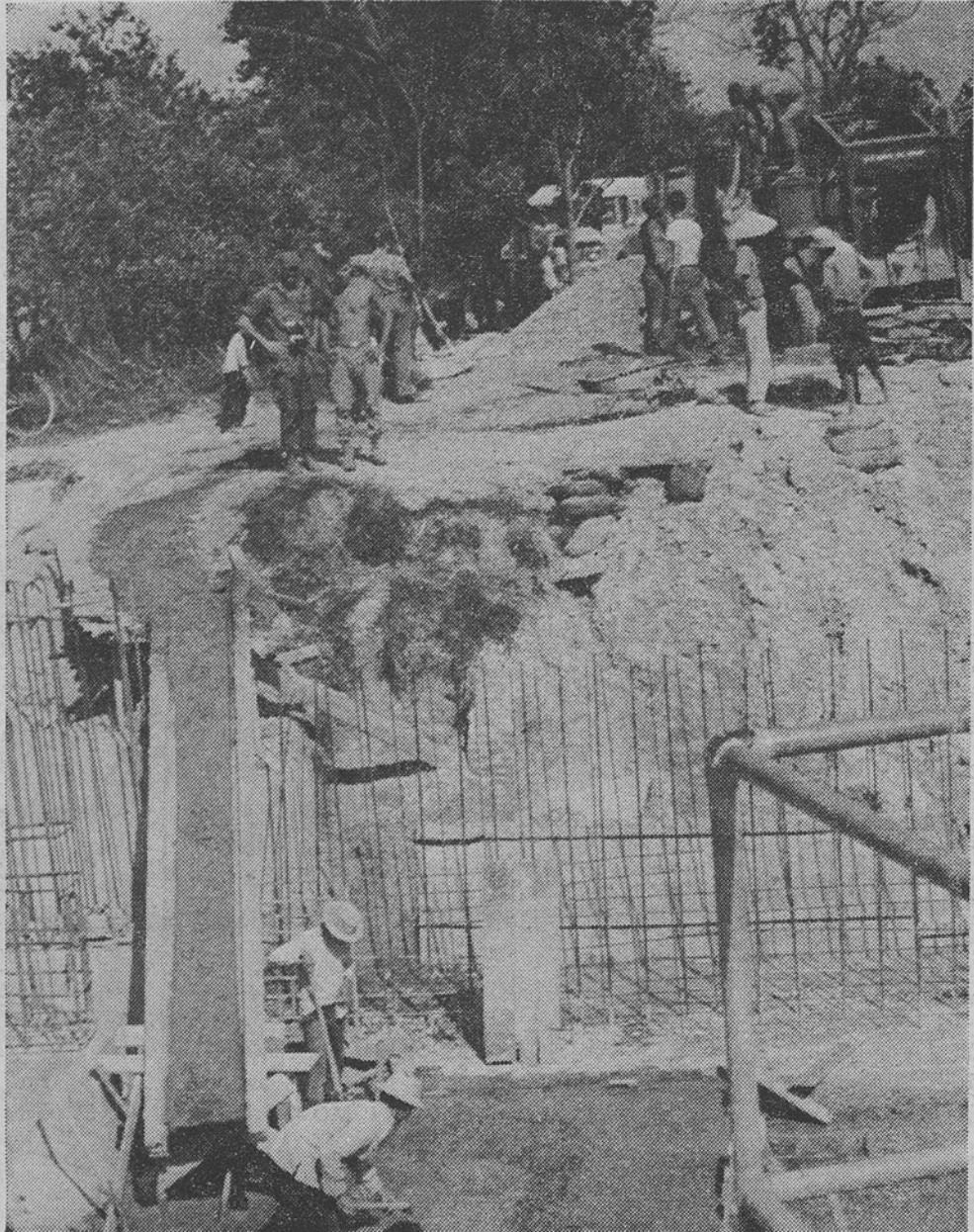


SEABEES LIFT PARTS OF A TOWER INTO PLACE

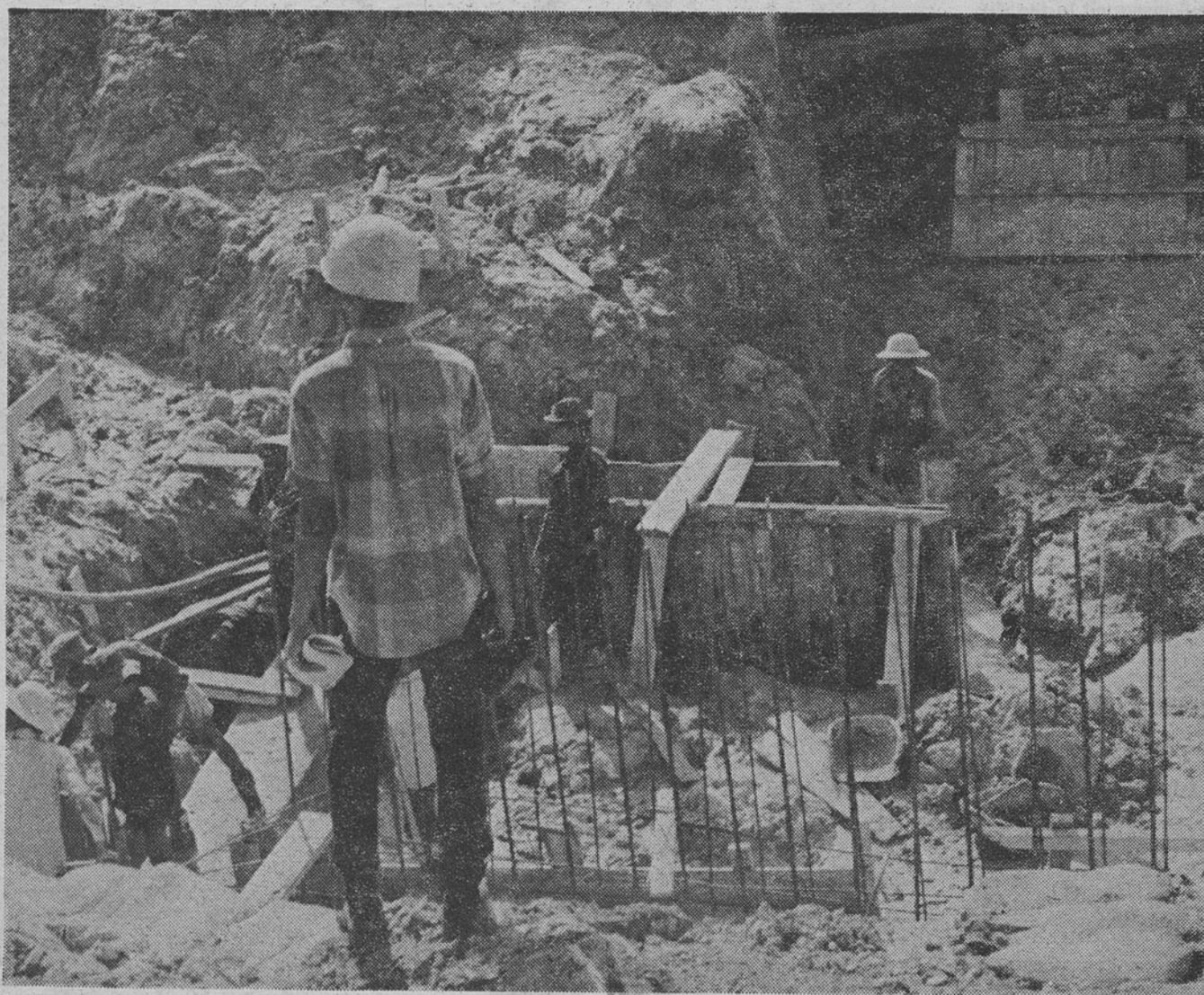


A SEA STALLION HELICOPTER LIFTS A 12,000-POUND TOWER INTO PLACE.

Vietnamese and Free World Forces Unite to Build Dam



VIETNAMESE AND U.S. SOLDIERS WORK SIDE BY SIDE ON DAM



ONE ADVISOR WATCHES AS THE FLOOR OF THE DAM RECEIVES A LAYER OF CONCRETE

SAIGON (JUSPAO) — Sunday morning in midsummer is set aside by many in Vietnam as a time to forget the war for a spell, to don their best finery and to go strolling in the park with the children.

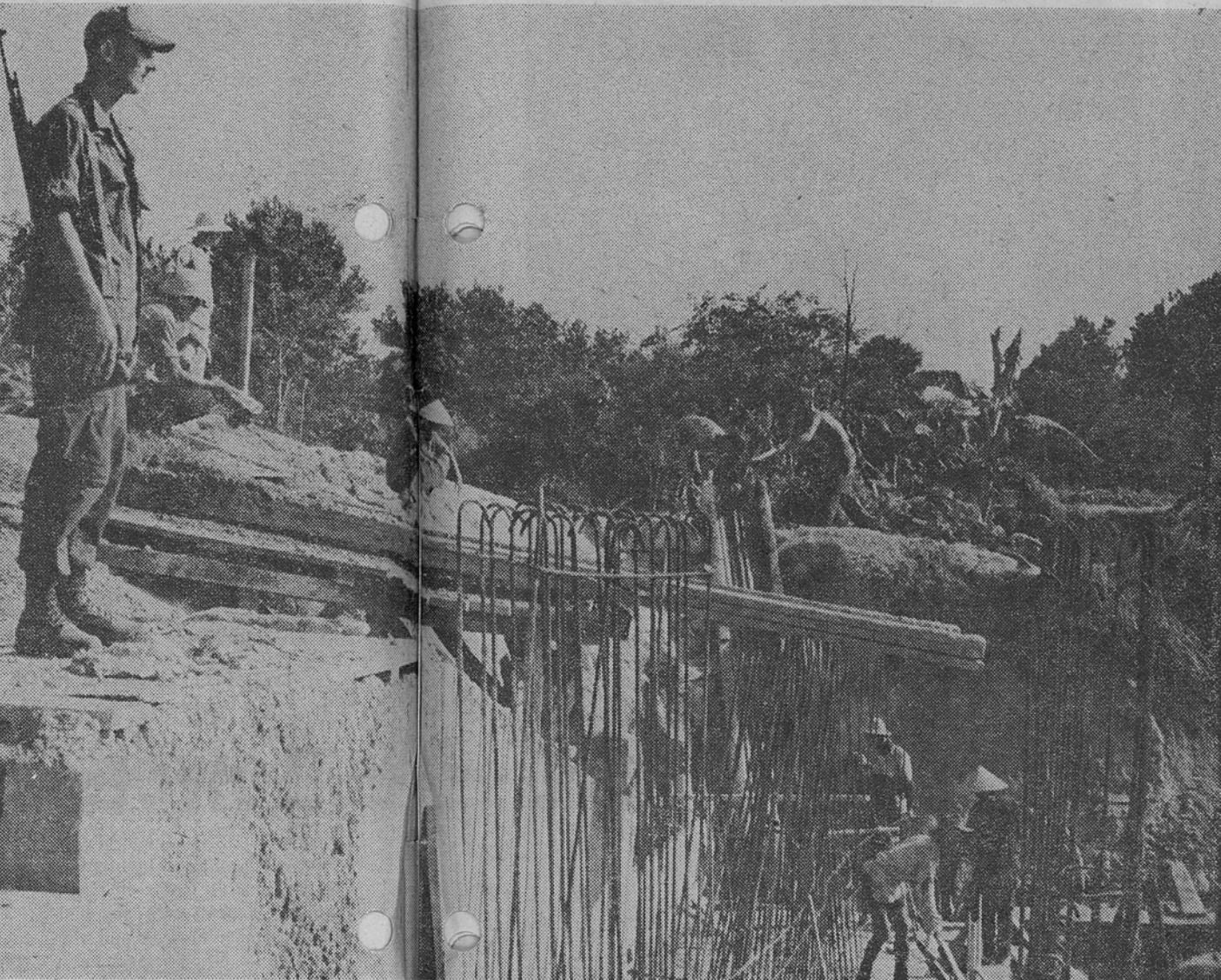
But on this Sunday morning in Tan Hiep, a village 33 kilometers north of Saigon, there was no holiday atmosphere. A band of mud-streaked, perspiring volunteers — farmers, students, officials, laborers, soldiers and advisors from four nations — worked with picks and shovels under scudding monsoon clouds.

They were building a dam and irrigation system that could increase the capital area's vegetable production by as much as 20 per cent.

As raindrops speckled the canals, the tempo of work speeded up. This time last year, swirling monsoon floodwaters had swept away a sandbagged earthen dam being built on the same site in Duc Tu District, not far from the giant airbase at Bien Hoa. Now the volunteers were racing to complete the foundation of the new, 29-meter concrete dam before the same fate could overtake it.

An American diplomat of ambassadorial rank blistered his hands on a shovel. He toiled as a member of the labor gang. Working beside him were villagers from Tan Hiep's 118 families, Chinese agricultural experts, Korean engineering troops, Vietnamese and American soldiers from neighboring camps, provincial legislative assemblymen, laborers from the Farmers Association, government service chiefs, Revolutionary Development team members, and about 200 gay but hard-working youngsters.

The boys and girls came from youth groups in Saigon and Bien Hoa, including the National



U.S. SOLDIER STANDS GUARD AS VIETNAMESE AND ALLIED FORCES PERSONNEL WORK ON DAM

al Youth Council, the Buddhist Boy Scouts, the Voluntary Youth Workcamp and Seminar Association, Student Marian General Association, the Anti-Fraud Association, and Wards of the Nation School for war orphans.

Started on April 17 and scheduled to be completed in Sept. 1957, the project is a pilot model being constructed under the direction of the Ministry of Agriculture and the technical supervision of the Chinese Agricultural Technical Mission (CATM). Since 1959 the Republic of China has sent CATM experts to work with Vietnamese agricultural services in the provinces with the support of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Eight Chinese currently are working at the Tan Hiep site. Their coordinator, T. K. Chau, needs his three languages — Chinese, Vietnamese and English — to keep his international crew working in harmony.

An irrigation system found to be successful in Taiwan is being introduced in Vietnam for the first time on Tan Hiep's 15 hectares (37 acres) of vegetable gardens. The dam, with its double concrete spillway and five two-meter-high hydraulic gates, will harness the full volume of the San Mau Creek.

A pumping system requiring no power source or fuel, will carry the water up six meters through pipes from the Dam's reservoir to concrete canals running through the lettuce, cucumber and bean gardens.

Now Tan Hiep's harvests are below expectations because the crops are insufficiently irrigated. The villagers must clamber up the steep, slippery slope of a six-meter creek bank with watering cans balanced on their carrying poles in order to keep the vegetable from drying up.

under the tropical sun. Then necrops can be introduced anew land can be broken. The creek can be stocked with fish. The vegetable gardens can be divided into strips 50 meters wide, each strip serving a gravity irrigation ditch and each ditch flanked by farm road. The roads can sell produce to new markets including the 4,000 Americans and Vietnamese airmen at Bien Hoa airbase who need fresh vegetables to supplement their rations. Then the scattered lots of Tan Hiep's 118 families can be consolidated so more efficient farming techniques can be introduced.

The cost of the Tan Hiep project is being borne by a number of central, provincial and foreign government agencies, with 550,000 pavers (US\$4,665) allocated for dam construction and 900,000 pavers for the Ministry of Revolutionary Development's program of rural improvement. The cost estimate includes many materials, both U.S. Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS) office in Bien Hoa is supplying cement and steel bars imported by AID, while the 79th U.S. Engineering Group is providing sand, gravel and framework wood as well as some of the equipment. The cost estimates include labor, for the Farmers Association is supplying skilled laborers and much of the manual work is being done by volunteers.

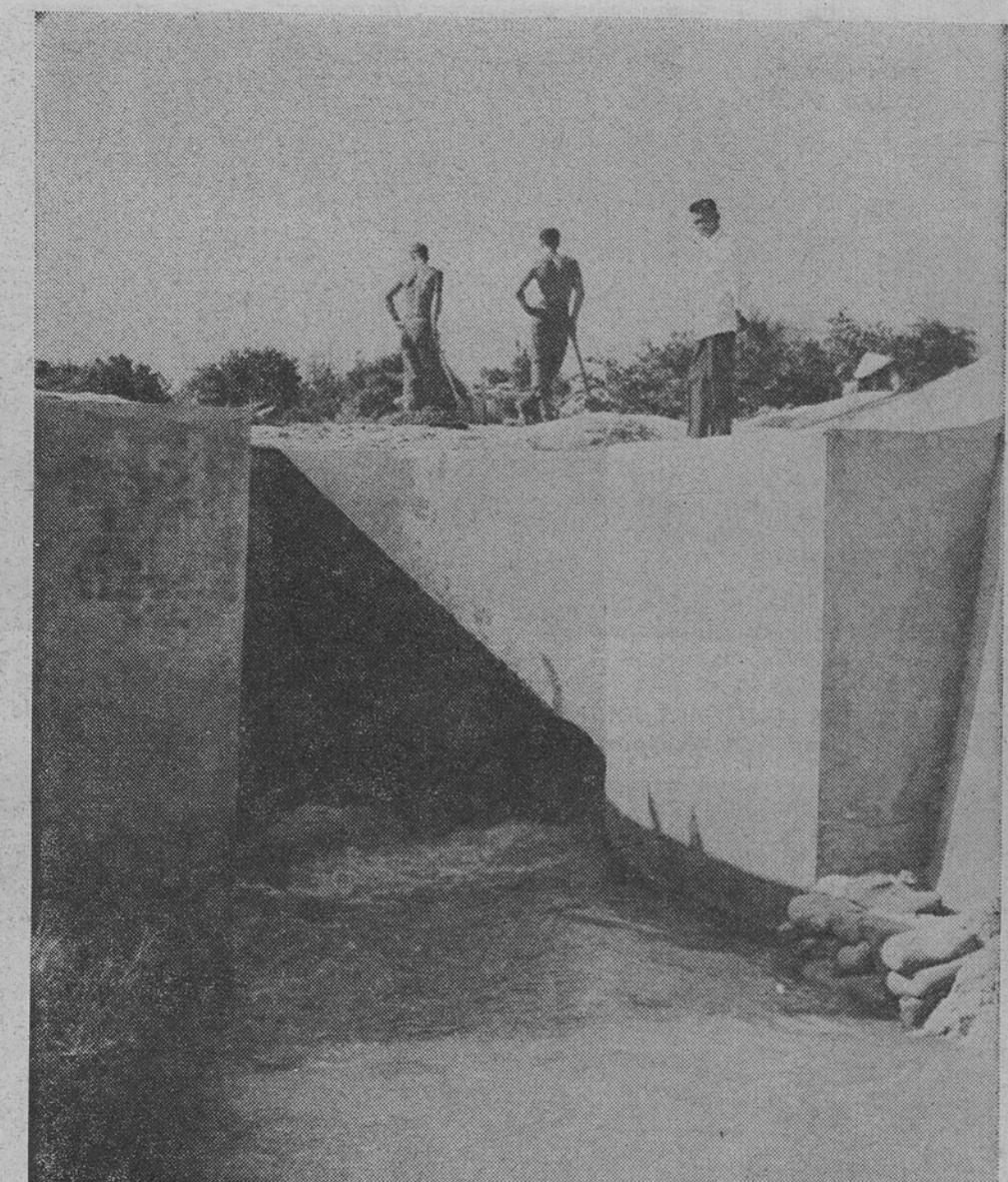
Foreign ambassadors and government officials and swarms of school children do not work on the Tan Hiep site every day. That type of volunteer labor can be enlisted only on weekends. But every day engineering troops of the Republic of Korea Construction Support Group in Vietnam, known

as the Dove Unit, work paving the entrance roads to the project.

Every day soldiers of the 100th U.S. Engineering Company from Long Binh man their huge cement mixer and trundle wheelbarrows full of concrete to the chute at the edge of the dam.

But more than a dam will be left behind at Tan Hiep when the Chinese and the Koreans

and the Americans and the Vietnamese volunteers pack up their shovels and move on. They also will leave behind a realization in the minds of the villagers that cooperation with their government is a two-way proposition, and that prosperity and security for the future can be found in the nation's Revolutionary Development program of people — government cooperation.



THE DAMS SPILLWAY WILL HELP HARNESS THE SAN MAU CREEK

Story and Photos By
Joint U.S. Public Affairs Office
(JUSPAO)



VOLUNTEERS FLOCK TO TAN HIEP TO HELP BUILD A DAM AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM FOR THE CAPITAL AREA

Dong Tre SF Camp Thorn To Viet Cong



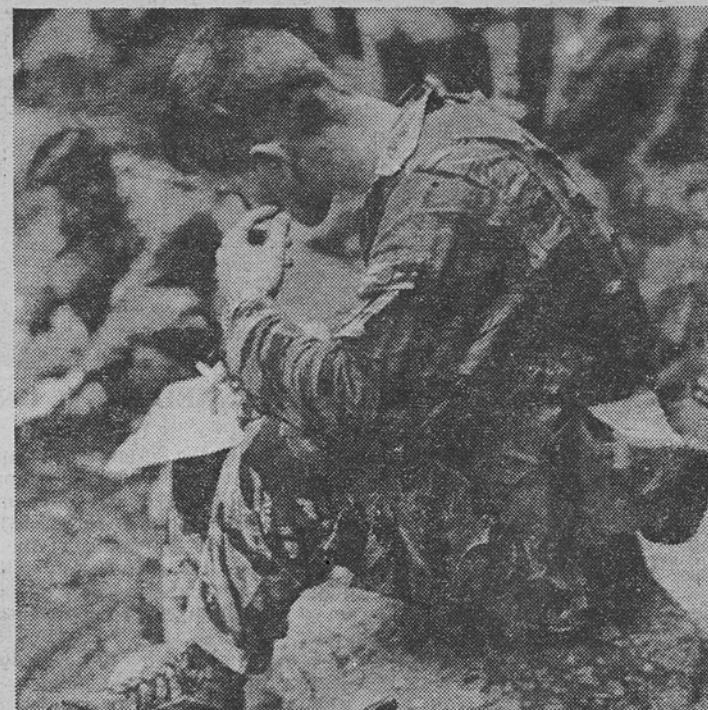
SPECIAL FORCES LIEUTENANT JOHN S. CLECKNER (RIGHT) AND Staff Sergeant Dale Bulick Examine Captured NVA Weapons.



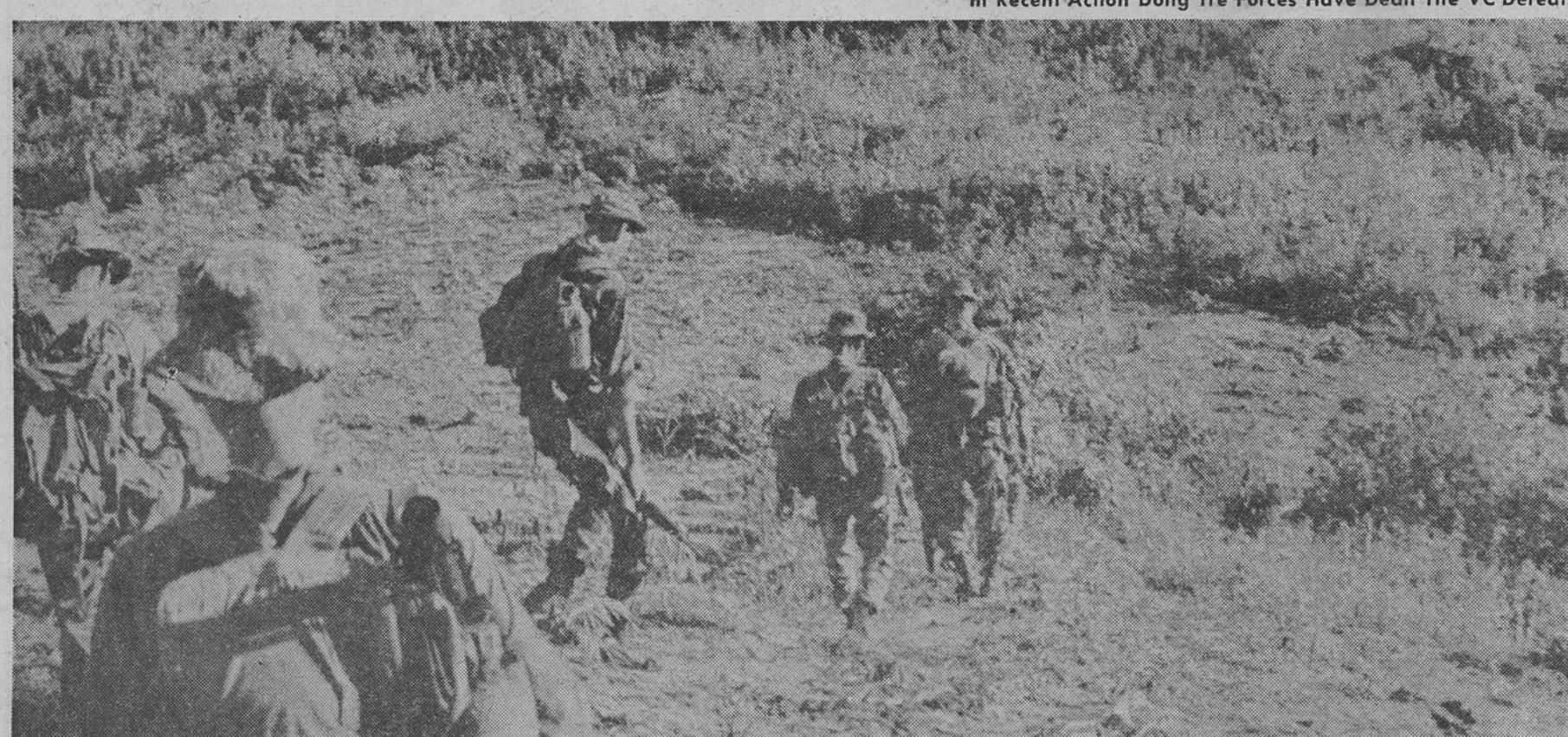
SERGEANTS ALLEN L. BAKER AND DAVID H. DOHERTY (RIGHT) Discuss Route And Patrol's Progress With Platoon Member.



SFC CARL L. WILSON EXPLAINS THE FUNDAMENTALS OF RADIO Which Is Vital In Camp's Defense, To CIDG Soldiers.



A SPECIAL FORCES ADVISOR PONDERS A RECON PROBLEM. In Recent Action Dong Tre Forces Have Dealt The VC Defeats.



DONG TRE SPECIAL FORCES PERSONNEL CONDUCT A RECON PATROL WITH Civilian Irregular Troops 50 Miles Southeast Of Qui Nhon.

VC Mine Takes Viet Boy's Life

DOC KINH (USMC)—The Vietnamese father watched his 12-year-old son lead the family buffalo along the dusty trail dividing the sun-baked rice paddies. It was a time for preparing the ground.

The two farmers were returning to the land of their ancestors, to work the ground, as their fathers had done before.

The boy never returned. His walk ended when a mine explosion ripped through his body. It killed the two water buffalo. It filled his father with shrapnel.

Dazed and shocked, the father walked to the Marines' combined action platoon base in Cam Chinh village. There, a Navy corpsman treated the wounds and called for a medevac helicopter.

The Marines going on patrol had warned the farmers not to reenter the area since sooner or later such an incident would occur. But warnings are lightly heeded when the land is rich, the harvest is great, and family ties to the ground are generations old.

The inevitable came, and the Marines were going now to bring out the mangled body of a youngster who had innocently left earlier to help his father farm the land.

As they passed through the village the Buddhist temple drum was already sounding its deep tones to announce the presence of death.

They filed past a small group of village elders gathered at the far end of town, squatting around a wicker-basket, half-coffin containing a gray blanket.

Wails of sorrow came from the Vietnamese as the Marines passed by. Then, five of the villagers picked up the blanket and followed the Marines—they were going out to recover their own.

Along the trail splotches of blood marked the way up a small hill leading to the dead water buffalo and the body of the boy. It was a trail marked from the father's wounds as he walked back to the CAP for medical aid.

The Vietnamese rushed to the body and gently placed the boy into the grey blanket and onto the Marines' stretcher.

Covering the stretcher with a straw mat, the Vietnamese countryfolk lamented as they carried the boy.

Men, women and children gathered at the village outskirts, joined in the procession of death as the body passed by.

A few hundred yards from his straw hut home, a mother's cry of sorrow cut through the

Toys For Tots

DA NANG (USMC) — When Marine Gunnery Sergeant W.C. Helm opened his birthday package, he wasn't at all surprised to find stuffed toy animals—they were already earmarked for Vietnamese children.

Sergeant Helm, legal chief for Marine Aircraft Group 11, had earlier received a letter from his mother asking what he'd like for his 35th birthday. "Something for the kids over here," he wrote.

The "something" arrived a couple of weeks later. In addition to the eight stuffed animals, the package contained sand buckets, crayons, coloring books and other toys.

"Birthdays are for the kids," said Helm, "they suffer the most in this war."

mournful sing-song chant of the villagers.

For the Marines the patrol was over.

Later in the afternoon, as several of the Marines sat in a one-room, straw-thatched hut serving as a home and restaurant in the village, the sound of wailing, and the high-pitched tones of Buddhist wind instruments mingled with the beating of drums, announced the boy's burial.

That afternoon, the dead water buffalo had been cut up, and other villagers were now returning to their homes carrying chunks of meat wrapped in banana palm leaves.

Ironically, the time of sorrow had brought fresh meat to the dinner table of many homes of the village for the first time in weeks.

There was nothing irreverent about the smiling faces of the old women and youngsters carrying the meat. It was simply a fact of life for these people who have been walking in the same shadow of death for a lifetime.

On this day, a small boy went to the land of his ancestors.

On this day, the homes of Doc Kinh had fresh buffalo meat.

Needy Get Captured Rice

CU CHI (USA) — Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division, operating northwest of Saigon, recently discovered that the Viet Cong often hide unlikely things in water buffalo pens.

Company C, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, was searching one of the small hamlets outside their night base camp when one of the soldiers found a false wall in one of the hundreds of pens in the area.

The shoulder-high wall was pried loose and fell to the floor, exposing a massive Viet Cong rice cache.

"Tropic Lightning" helicopters flew in hundreds of rice bags and, before night came, the soldiers had packed nearly 2½ tons of rice which was flown here for distribution to needy families.

This special money order postal service began eight months ago when Army officials in Saigon contacted the Vietnam Postal Region office and requested their assistance. Without this service, it was explained, many wives and families could suffer severe financial hardships.

Technical Sergeant Sherrill J. Peters, a postal NCO at Bien Hoa, volunteered for the job.

Response from the men was overwhelming. Many wrote to the students telling how good it was to munch the snacks while on operations.



LONELY JOB—A Civilian Irregular Defense soldier mans a guard post in rice paddies surrounding Minh Long "A" Camp. (Photo By Sp4 William P. Singley)

Flying APO Services Special Forces Camps

BIEN HOA (USA) — Once a month, Bien Hoa Air Base postal personnel, armed with money orders and M-16 automatic rifles, fly to the aid of U.S. Army Special Forces troops located at isolated outposts in South Vietnam.

Starting about 6 a.m., Lieutenant Larry L. Henry, commander of Operating Location 1505, Vietnam Postal District, boards an Army helicopter and is flown to Due Hoa for the start of his long journey.

The Lieutenant visits more than 15 Special Forces camps and sells over \$20,000 in postal money orders.

Working under the supervision of Captain Ellen Langston, head nurse, she was assigned duties similar to those of a practical nurse. "An evaluation by our medical board," explained the captain, "has shown his basic knowledge is equivalent to that of a practical nurse, so for the present his duties are restricted to changing dressings, taking temperatures and general patient care."

Starting with a collection of \$150, they bought and air-mailed to the platoon pounds of pepperoni and beef jerky.

Although the former Viet Cong doesn't speak English, the ward staff is teaching him medical terminology.

What are the doctor's plans for the future? Through an interpreter it was learned that he eventually hopes to qualify for medical school and become a licensed physician.

Bai Gieng Gets New Dispensary

BAI GIENG (USA) — With a helping hand from the 14th Engineer Battalion (Combat), 35th Engineer Group, the people of Bai Gieng Village have officially opened a village dispensary.

Construction of the medical facility, located two miles north of Dong Ba Thin, began in March. The villagers provided the carpentry skills and workers while the engineer battalion furnished the materials and a concrete mixer.

Lacking medical supplies and personnel, the official opening was delayed until recent assistance from the Medical Civic Action Program provided the supplies and two Revolutionary Development cadre nurses were assigned to the area.

Captain Alex G. Chronis, Knoxville, Tenn., 14th Engineer Battalion surgeon, now teams up with the nurses and holds sick call in the 20 by 100 foot dispensary every Saturday.



CAN HANDS BE THIS SMALL?—Sergeant Garrett V. Graves, Jr. of a 5th Special Forces "A" Camp, treats a small baby, from the village of Ba To, for a severe ear infection.

Ringo Gets 'Plastic' Jaw



DOCTORS EXAMINE RINGO'S NEW PLASTIC JAW

Rats, Fleas Caught Together In New Trap

SAIGON (USA) — Build a better mousetrap and the world will beat a path to your door, wrote a 19th century American author.

A hundred years later, an American scientist and author serving with the U.S. Army in Vietnam had done even better: he's built a better rattrap.

Richard B. Spurrier, holder of a masters degree in entomology, volunteered for a one-year assignment in Saigon to help defeat the insect and rodent.

"It's not only the rats that have to be destroyed," he said, "but fleas which rats carry. These fleas are potential spreaders of plague, and are just as dangerous as the rats."

Rattraps presently in use, Spurrier discovered, left much to be desired; in the humid Southeast Asian climate, the ground-level traps rotted quickly and their pest control chemicals lost effectiveness.

His "better rattrap," which he designed and successfully tested, consists of a wooden station built on small legs. As the rat feeds on slow-acting poison, its fleas are simultaneously offered a separate diet of fast-acting flea dust.

"The objective is to kill the fleas first," Spurrier points out, "before they can jump from the dying rat to another warm-blooded carrier and then continue to spread disease."

ARVN soldiers drove the children into the capital and transported them around the city for the tour.

A walk-through of government buildings, squares and stops at historical monuments were on the agenda but the children reportedly considered the zoo the highlight of the day.

The trip was the first of its kind in the Long Trach area according to Phap. He dubbed it a complete success and said, "We intend to continue these trips on a regular basis."

populated Society," was published in CONUS.

In the near future, Spurrier's traps will be ambushing rats in the Saigon-Cholon-Tan Son Nhut area for which IAC has engineering responsibility.

Is anyone beating a path to his door? "Time will tell," he said.

School Kids Visit Capital

RACH KIEN (USA) — To celebrate the opening of a school in the village of Long Trach, two miles north of here, an Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) major organized an educational junket to Saigon for the children.

Ninety youngsters, aged five to ten, were supplied with box lunches from the 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry of the U.S. 9th Infantry Division, then were trucked off to their nation's capital.

In order for the Self-Help Program to function in Ap Mui Lon Hamlet, the cooperation and co-ordination of the 1,600 villagers, the civil affairs officers and local Revolutionary Development (RD) cadre is required.

Major Tran Huu Phap, commanding officer of the ARVN 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry said he thought the children would learn a great deal by touring Saigon. None of the children had ever seen the city.

RD cadre teach the villagers such construction techniques as framing, roofing and cement mixing, while civil affairs personnel offer technical assistance and advice. But the people do the work.

"The materials are provided at little or no cost," said First Lieutenant William Henderson, civil affairs officer, 25th Supply and Transportation Battalion, "but when the people are involved with their own time and labor, they take more pride in the improvements."

In May of this year, Spurrier's first book, "The Over-

Villagers Welcome Marine Assistance

CAMP CARROLL (USMC) — In the Hung Phu Refugee Hamlet, seven miles below the demilitarized zone, U.S. economic assistance came recently in the form of sweat and a few bags of cement.

Civil affairs representatives from the Twelfth Marine Regiment visited the hamlet and learned from the elders that a new well was needed. The old one was contaminated and was causing illness, so the hamlet residents were forced to get water from distant hamlets.

Volunteer Marines from both Battery C, 1st Battalion and Battery I, 3rd Battalion, began working with the villagers to dig the well by hand.

At first, the Marines alternated shifts with the hamlet laborers. But, after breaking the language barrier with sign language, they began working together. Soon the villagers began

ARVN Sgts Decorated

DUC PHO (USA) — Three ARVN staff sergeants were made honorary Screaming Eagles when they received certificates signed by Brigadier General S. H. Matheson, commander, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne.

The certificates were presented to Sergeants Luong Thien Xuong, Tran Yen and Nguyen Van Huynh, interpreters attached to the 181st Military Intelligence Detachment.

The trio supports the brigade by translating documents and assists in interrogation of detainees.

Called a Biphasic Extraskelatal set, the appliance is screwed to be exterior of Ringo's jaw giving him a misshapen look, Ringo is now functional.

He drinks and eats normally and should be back in action in a few weeks when he regains some weight—his 11-day wandering stint resulted in the loss of 20 pounds.

Self Help Aids Village

CU CHI (USA) — The villagers of Ap Mui Lon in Quan Nghia Province are building an addition to their school with material and technical assistance from the 25th Division's Self-Help Program.

The school serves children between the ages of 6 and 12 throughout the rice-rich country side south of the district headquarters here.

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RD cadre teach the villagers such construction techniques as framing, roofing and cement mixing, while civil affairs personnel offer technical assistance and advice. But the people do the work.

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"What the hell sarge, a lot of the fellows have pets."

American Forces Vietnam Network—Channel 11

(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)

Guide For Week of Aug. 30—Sept. 5, 1967

Saturday Night At The Movies

Sign-Off-News

Sunday (Sept. 3)

1200 News Headlines

1230 RELIGIOUS PROGRAM

1230 EDUCATIONAL SPECIAL

1330 Window On Vietnam

1330 Sports Of The Week

1330 Sports Spectacular

1400 IN COUNTRY

1430 News & Sports

2000 Window On Vietnam

2005 Dick Van Dyke

2030 The Fugitive

2100 News Briefs

Bonanza

2200 News Briefs

Ed Sullivan

Sign-Off-News

Monday (Sept. 4)

1830 News Headlines

21st Century

1900 Fractured Flickers

1930 News & Sports

2100 News Briefs

2200 News Briefs

VARIETY SPECIAL

Sign-Off-News

Friday (Sept. 1)

1830 News Headlines

INFORMATION FEATURE

1900 Addams Family

1930 News & Sports

2100 News Briefs

2200 News Briefs

Tonight Show

Sign-Off-News

Saturday (Sept. 2)

1200 News Headlines

1230 Educational Britannica

1230 Social Science

1230 Assignment Underwater

1400 American Sportsman

1400 Daniel Boone

1500 Roy Acuff

1600 Sports Of The Week

1700 Lost In Space

1700 Official Detective

1700 News & Sports

2100 Wild, Wild West

2100 News Briefs

Away We Go

2100 News Briefs

Hue—Dec. 27-Jan. 2, 1968

Answer to Previous Puzzle

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1-Bitter vetch

4-Conjunction

5-Sedate

11-Lament

13-Experiences

15-College degree (abbr.)

16-Tours

18-Negative

19-Postscript (abbr.)

21-Humanly body

23-Mountain (abbr.)

24-Ward off

26-Warble

28-Golf mound

29-Worship

31-Roman tyrant

33-Dental surgeon (abbr.)

34-Produced

36-Evaluate

38-Exist

40-Baker's products

42-Ties

45-Beverage

47-Want

49-Center

50-Rage

52-Fall in drops

54-Spanish for "yes"

55-Latin conjunction

56-Brother of Odin

61-Calm

63-Christian festival

65-Sows

66-Quet!

67-Girl's name

BOWN

1-Recede

2-Harvested

3-Compass point

4-Ventilates

5-Narrow, flat boards

6-Stricter

7-Hip cymbals

8-The corma

9-Pronoun

10-Negated

12-Near

14-Painful spots

17-Conceited

20-Supercilious

23-Mountain (abbr.)

24-Note of scale

38-Revels

39-Puffs up

41-Withered

43-Implied

44-Compass point (abbr.)

46-Meter's measure

48-Eats

51-Woody plant

53-Chief god of Memphis



FIRST IN VIETNAM

THE OBSERVER

Vol. 6, No. 16

Saigon, Vietnam

August 23, 1967

Nine VC Captured By Psywar Team

DUC PHO (USA)—The power of psychological operations was clearly displayed recently when Team 9, 244th Psyops Company, attached to the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, captured an entire squad of Viet Cong without firing a shot.

The psychological "reactionary force," consisting of Sergeant First Class Heyward Rourk and a Vietnamese interpreter, were called into action when Company A, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry chased the heavily armed squad into a tunnel complex north of here.

Taking off by helicopter from Landing Zone Montezuma, the 3rd Brigade's forward base camp, it was only a matter of minutes before they had their portable loud-speaker system positioned at the tunnel entrance.

Sergeant Rourk, working through his interpreter, instructed the Viet Cong to surrender within five minutes or they would be killed by the waiting infantry unit.

When the time limit was up, one communist soldier emerged from the tunnel dragging an AK-47 behind him. The frightened captive walked up to the moustached sergeant and handed him the weapon.

The threats were followed by words of encouragement, and—seeing that the U.S. troops had no intention of harming him—the VC willingly talked the others in the tunnel into surrendering.

Along with four more prisoners, the U.S. soldiers collected another AK-47, grenades and a M-1 carbine with grenade launcher.

The squad leader, the first man out of the tunnel, directed the friendly forces to a nearby cave which concealed the other four members of his squad.

Upon command from the squad leader, the four gave themselves up and added two more AK-47s, one machine gun and a B-40 rocket launcher to the weapons haul.

the target.

To eliminate hitting friendly ground forces or civilians when the strike aircraft arrive, the FAC marks the target with one of four smoke rockets he carries under the wings of his Bird Dog.

After the fighters drop their bombs, the FAC flies in and assesses bomb damage. If the target isn't completely destroyed or damaged, he calls in a second strike force.

Most VNAF FAC pilots and observers were trained at the Nha Trang Air Training Center. Some go to the U.S. for advanced flying instructions.

Many of the VNAF forward air controllers are young officers with less than four years of Air Force service. In spite of this, it isn't unusual for them to have participated in more than 1,500 combat missions.

Fear Caused By Lies Is Dispelled By Truth

DA NANG (USMC)—“Most of the Vietnamese people brought in are scared to death of Americans because the Viet Cong have told them all sorts of lies about us. While they are here, I explain to them why Americans are in Vietnam. One of our biggest problems is the basic lack of communication between the Vietnamese people and the Americans.”

Speaking was Marine Private David R. Kincaid, who works with the prisoners and detainees captured by the 3rd Battalion, First Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division.

The battalion compound is an R&R center for captured VC, according to Private Kincaid. There is a shower for the prisoners to use. And they receive all the C rations they can eat, in addition to a hot meal of Vietnamese food which the prisoners cook themselves.

Private Kincaid has little trouble speaking with the people. He is self-taught in Vietnamese and speaks the local dialect.

“Just treating these people kindly and explaining that Americans are here to help them does a great deal,” he said.

Chieu Hoi Drafted Into NVA When 13

DUC PHO (USA)—Drafted at 13 and sent to South Vietnam at 14, the young private's career in the North Vietnamese Army came to a sudden and lucky end recently when he Chieu Hoi'd to Company C, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry in the hamlet of Chi Trung.

The tiny infiltrator was in a hut, near the hamlet, and dressed in black pajamas when Staff Sergeant Meredie Dube's squad from the 2nd platoon moved in and surrounded the structure. He came out of the door, hands up, and yelled . . . “Chieu Hoi!”

The battalion's interpreter asked the youth a few preliminary questions for Captain John H. Cavender, the company commander, and suddenly shook his head and looked puzzled.

“He is North Vietnamese. He speaks with their accent,” the interpreter said.

The boy's story then came quickly and willingly.

He was drafted at 13 years of age in June of 1966. He took three months of infantry training at the North Vietnamese training center at Hoa Binh—with 100 other 13-year olds in his training unit.

“He said they were drafting youths his age a year ago and still are,” said the interpreter.

The North Vietnamese boy was put into an infiltration unit and sent on the long, arduous walk toward the south, carrying only a rifle. He said he was the only 14-year-old in his unit but villagers in the area—being won over by the “Cacti” battalion's pacification programs since it arrived as part of Task Force Oregon in the Duc Pho region on April 22—have reported many young soldiers showing up in NVA units which had been in the area.

On May 19 his battalion was walking toward a rendezvous with death at the foot of a tunnel-laced mountain two kilometers south of Chi Trung. Eighty-one of his comrades died when the “Cacti Green” caught the NVA unit and mauled it in a 30-hour battle.

The boy was lucky—he didn't go to that fight. Sick with Malaria, he had been left to the mercy of local Viet Cong, his weapon taken. He was told that when he was well, he would be picked up by his unit. But they never came.

Villagers fed him and cared for him . . . because “I was just 14,” the boy said. “They didn't worry about me, they felt sorry for me and said I was too young for fighting anyway.”

After recovering, the local Viet Cong made him pay for his keep by working at planting rice. The thin, half-starved boy showed hands with the palms cut and festered from this work. He said that his clothing was taken and that he had got a new set of pajamas to replace the ragged farm clothes.

He had to walk for two hours to another village and buy clothes with the few piasters he had been paid.

As the weeks went by, his battalion failed to return. The U.S. troops had pushed it out of the area, with a pursuit which hit the unit hard again after the fight on the mountain. Army patrols by the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division soldiers and aggressive sweeps in the region kept the NVN battalion out, pressuring the local VC day and night. And so the boy could not

(See CHIEU HOI, Page 12)

Surgery Restores Eyesight

DONG BA THIN (USA)—Peeking out from behind an eyepatch, seven-year-old Ngo Thi Thung can now recognize her mother and Staff Sergeant Eldon Nobles, the man who arranged for an operation to improve her eyesight.

Sergeant Nobles, a water point operator for the 35th Engineer Group, learned of Thung's poor vision through her mother, his housemaid. She told him Thung had to tilt her head to the right to see even small objects clearly.

The sergeant asked the battalion surgeon to look at the girl, also checking several Vietnamese hospitals in search of proper facilities and capable medical personnel to care for the child.

The Evangelical Clinic in Nha Trang took the case and determined a corneal transplant was required to correct Thung's vision in one eye.

Bearing the expense of the hospitalization, Nobles said he has been repaid time and again when young Thung peeks out from behind the gauze pad, looks up at him and with her smile says, “Thank You Sergeant Nobles.”



GEE THAT'S DUSTY—A radio operator of Company A, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry's “Golden Dragons,” after guiding in a medevac chopper, turns and grimaces as rotor blasted dust fills the air during action north of Duc Pho where the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division was conducting search and destroy operations.

(Photo by Sp4 Paul D. Halverson)

Viet FACs Perform Vital Air Mission

TAN SON NHUT (USA)—Flying the two-seat Cessna O-1E Bird Dog with a top speed of 100 m.p.h., Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF) forward air controllers (FACs) risk their lives daily seeking Viet Cong strongholds and directing aircraft to their targets.

A VNAF crew, consisting of a pilot and an observer, normally flies two types of missions—visual reconnaissance and strike.

In a visual reconnaissance mission, the FAC patrols an assigned area and looks for tell-tale signs of Viet Cong activity. Since even the most innocent looking village can harbor the enemy, nothing is overlooked.

The FAC knows his area thoroughly. He is suspicious of anything and everything. Dead give-aways are fresh trails in a field or unusual activity in a village. When he spots something that he feels should be checked, it is marked on the map, and when he patrols the area several days later, he again checks his observations.

When his observations, coupled with intelligence information gathered from other sources, clearly indicate that Viet Cong are in the area, the province chief is contacted and his permission is requested for an air strike.

There are 44 provinces in South Vietnam, each run by a government-appointed chief who is often an officer of the Vietnamese Army. The province chief must approve all air strikes within his province.

With approval of province chiefs, the Tactical Air Control Center (TACC), which keeps contact with all airborne strike aircraft, directs the fighters to

Editorial

Guaranteed Return

HOW would you like to invest your money in a plan that will guarantee a \$10 return for every \$100 you invest?

No, the investment is not in stocks, oil field gambles or a mining venture. In fact, the investment is reserved strictly for you while you're serving overseas.

The Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program pays 10 per cent interest, compounded quarterly, on money you deposit during your overseas assignment.



Any member of the Armed Forces serving outside the 50 States, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, the Canal Zone, Guam or American Samoa can save any amount of his unallotted pay and allowances under the program. This includes basic pay, special pay, proficiency pay, incentive pay, Family Separation Allowance, hostile fire pay and reenlistment bonus.

Deposits can be made either in cash or by allotment in \$5 increments and will continue to draw interest up to 90 days after you return from overseas.

Although you won't normally be able to withdraw your deposits and interest while you're still overseas, provision have been made for emergency withdrawals under special circumstances.

Once you return to the United States, all deposits plus interest will be paid to you immediately upon your written request at either your port of debarkation or new duty station or upon separation from active duty.

This is not only a great plan to help your money work for you, but it helps our government as well.

By putting your money in the Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program instead of spending it while you're overseas, you help the Nation's economic strength by reducing the balance of payments expenditures and the resulting drain on our gold reserves.

For more complete information on this savings program see your personal affairs or finance officer. (AFNB)

Army Initial Plan Approved To Manage Key E-9 Careers

WASHINGTON (AFN) — The U.S. Army Chief of Staff has approved initial plans for a Command Sergeants Major Program to identify and manage the careers of Command Sergeants Major (CSGMs).

A CSGM is a sergeant major assigned to the senior enlisted

Huge Volume Handled By Eight Ports

TAN SON NHUT (USA) — The 1st Logistical Command's three major ports at Saigon, Cam Ranh Bay and Qui Nhon handled 530,131 short tons of cargo during the month of July. Its five smaller ports at Cat Lai, Vung Tau, Nha Trang, Vung Ro Bay and Phan Rang handled a total monthly figure of 227,286 short tons of cargo.

Cam Ranh Bay broke its old record by 6,000 tons, while the others equalled their normal monthly quotas.

Free World Assistance goods earmarked for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) handled 80,553 short tons at Saigon and Qui Nhon. Civilian Import Program (CIP) cargo accounted for 1,573 short tons at Saigon port in the monthly handling of non-military goods.

The need for a visual means of identification for the CSGM is being considered.

Profile Of Binh Phuoc Dist. Chief

BINH PHUOC (USA) — American leaders must rely heavily on Vietnamese provinces and districts for cooperation during Allied combat operations, and these men can often mean the difference between success or failure of a mission.

Here is a characterization of one of the Vietnamese district chiefs who work with the 9th Infantry Division.

Twenty-one years of combat have left their mark on Vietnamese Marine Corps captain, Truong Van Nhat, chief of Binh Phuoc district in the Mekong Delta. Recently shrapnel from an enemy booby trap shattered his left arm, and twice before that exploding booby traps scarred him.

The commander of a U.S. battalion in the 5th Division has praise for Captain Nhat after four months of close association with him. Lieutenant Colonel Allen S. Flynn, commander of the 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry credits cooperation with Captain Nhat and his district forces with much of the military success in Binh Phuoc district.

Captain Frank Phelan, plans and operations officer of the battalion, with which Captain Nhat's 133rd Popular Forces troops regularly operate, said that Captain Nhat "has the reputation of being the best leader in the entire Long An province."

Born in North Vietnam, Nhat fled to the south in 1954 when the Geneva Convention partitioned the country. He served with French forces here and trained with U.S. Marines on Okinawa as well as with the Vietnamese Marines.

Qui Nhon (USA) — COTS, Common Sense and Consciousness are the three Cs of the safety program being emphasized by U.S. Army Colonel Robert F. Higgins, commanding officer of Qui Nhon's U.S. Army Depot.

COTS is the abbreviation for Correction On The Spot. Through this program, supervisors in the depot have improved receiving, storage, and shipping procedures and have eliminated many of the safety hazards previously found.

Although more than 4,000 tons of supplies are shipped and received daily, the accident ratio remains low.

The Common Sense approach is used to avoid accidents. The depot dispatches an average of six convoys daily. Approximately 750 trucks depart and arrive.

The long trips from Qui Nhon Support Command to An Khe and Pleiku have many driving pitfalls—dust, rough roads, enemy action, and the most common hazard of all, fatigue. Rest stops along the road are stressed. Bed checks for drivers assure the necessary "shut eye" to be mentally alert.

All depot personnel are encouraged to strive for improved safety procedures, practices, and habits. The depot commander rightly feels that if the

The new plan calls for the establishment of a CSGM section at Department of the Army level to handle assignments, personnel actions, career management, and records maintenance for those sergeants major assigned

According to the plan, the CSGM section will take over the centralized career management of about the first 200 CSGMs from the highest levels of command (brigade and higher.)

All remaining CSGMs will be brought under the centralized control of the section as operations allow.

The need for a visual means of identification for the CSGM is being considered.



SEVERAL SAFETY SIGNS ARE POSTED AT DEPOT

Safety Being Stressed Through Use Of Signs

QUI NHON (USA) — COTS, Common Sense and Consciousness are the three Cs of the safety program being emphasized by U.S. Army Colonel Robert F. Higgins, commanding officer of Qui Nhon's U.S. Army Depot.

The use of a jeep with a sign on the front reading "SAFETY PATROL" and "EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED" on the rear, provides a psychological effect wherever the vehicle is seen.

Safety posters on walls and road signs throughout the depot are constant reminders of the importance of the program. Slogans like "safety pays," "accidents don't just happen—they are caused" and "the life you save may be your replacement" keep the personnel thinking safety as they go about their jobs.

"Our primary mission in the depot is receiving, storing and shipping supplies," Colonel Higgins said, "but hand-in-glove with this mission is the safety program that creates better working conditions, increases production, and results in higher morale."

The long trips from Qui Nhon Support Command to An Khe and Pleiku have many driving pitfalls—dust, rough roads, enemy action, and the most common hazard of all, fatigue. Rest stops along the road are stressed. Bed checks for drivers assure the necessary "shut eye" to be mentally alert.

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C-130 Fleet Lifts Record War Tonnage

VIETNAM (USA) — The Air Force's 315th Air Division C-130 Hercules Fleet continued to set the pace in the Vietnam Airlift during the first six months of 1967.

The Lockheed Hercules hauled 240,592 tons of cargo, some 25 per cent more than for the same period last year and 731,826 passengers, almost 80 per cent more than in the first half of 1966.

The combined passenger and cargo tonnage, 328,411 tons, was 50 per cent more than the first six months of 1966.



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Bravery Wins Boy College Education

CAT LAI (USA) — His name is Lang, age 12, and recently he won the respect and friendship of an infantry platoon by alerting them of a nearby Viet Cong ambush.

To repay Lang for his bravery, an appreciation fund was begun which is sufficient now to

finance his college education.

It all began one day when Lang was tagging along with a recon platoon from Company E, 4th Battalion 12th Infantry, 199th Light Infantry Brigade, while on a search and destroy mission near here.

During a break in the sweep, Lang decided to gather a few stalks of sugar cane for his American friends. But as soon as he entered the sugar cane field, he spotted a squad of Viet Cong waiting in ambush.

Lang alerted his friends of the danger lying ahead and, in so doing, endangered his own life to save the lives of many.

Lieutenant Leonard Cummings, platoon leader, decided it would be appropriate if the entire company give Lang a gift of appreciation for his bravery. After much discussion the men decided to begin a fund to finance Lang's college education.

In a short time, word of Lang's bold action in the field spread throughout the battalion and soon other company commanders were asking if their men couldn't help contribute to the fund.

Last payday, all five companies in the battalion contributed to the fund, and now there is more than enough money to put him through school.

The 5th ARVN Division, well aware of the sanctuary, assigned the task of pacifying the area to the 80th Regiment.

Due to thick jungle, Company C, 301st Combat Engineer Battalion, commanded by Captain Ngu Lo Tinh, was assigned the responsibility of clearing land and building an adequate road network.

Utilizing four large bulldozers, Company C began clearing the jungle. "It wasn't an easy task," said Captain Charles E. Dominy, senior U.S. advisor. "Initially, each dozer tripped 10 to 20 booby-traps daily."

To neutralize the danger of the traps injuring the operators, the unit devised an armored cab in which the driver could sit while operating the dozer. An armored plate protected the radiators from the exploding devices rigged by the Viet Cong.

With the problem of the booby-traps solved, the engineers continued to level the jungle. Working 10 hours a day since the beginning of March, they have already cleared 1100 acres of heavy jungle. The unit cleared an additional 50 acres so the villagers could have more farming land.

Four modern wells, one in each hamlet, and an outpost for the village also resulted from the efforts of Company C.

With members of the 8th Regiment — plus Revolutionary Development cadre — working with the villagers and the engineers developing the land, the VC are losing their one-time sanctuary, and Tan An Xa is rapidly becoming a model village.

Two weeks before, 35 miles north of here, another search and destroy mission obliterated bunkers, emplacements and anything which would be of any possible value to the enemy.

DA NANG (USMC) — A MEDCAP team of the 101st Airborne entered a small fishing village southwest of here recently and was given initially a cool reception. Mothers brought their babies and the elderly hobble towards the doctor's jeep. Soon the line grew to more than 50 persons.

The majority of the people were treated for malaria and numerous skin infections. "Soap and water would eliminate most of these sores," said Captain Richard Porter. "We have to teach the people the basics of personal hygiene before we can expect any permanent improvements."

The paratroopers of the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry were the first Americans to offer assistance to the village.

The civil affairs action is contributing to the overall mission of destroying enemy influence in I Corps as part of Task Force Oregon.

"I was just going out the gate of the compound when I looked down the highway and saw one of these three-wheeled buses turned over about quarter of a mile down the road," said Corpsman Evans.

Both were in shock and the marines called for a Medevac helicopter to carry them to a hospital here. While they awaited the chopper, the man stopped breathing.

Corpsman Evans hurriedly began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation as a marine massaged the man's heart. Moments later he began to breathe again.

"Two marines and I raced to the bus, where we found a young woman still pinned under the wreckage and a man walking around in a daze. He seemed to be okay, but then he collapsed as we walked up to him."

The two were carried to the

CAP compound where it was found that the woman had severely broken fingers and toes as well as many cuts and bruises. The man was unconscious and suffering from internal bleeding, with a possible skull fracture, according to Corpsman Evans.

The 101st Military Police and the Vietnamese National Police, escorting the MEDCAP team, suspected enemy presence in the area.

"The people didn't come out of their homes at first," said Sergeant William Page. "Sometimes that means Viet Cong in its wake."

The people didn't come out of their homes at first," said Sergeant William Page. "Sometimes that means Viet Cong in its wake."

New 'A' Camp Rousts VC

SGT DANNY B. COX CHECKS SOLDIER FOR EAR INFECTION



THIS WALL WILL PROVIDE PERIMETER DEFENSE

MEDCAP Changes Outlook For 170 Duc Pho Villagers

DUC PHO (USA) — A MEDCAP team of the 101st Airborne entered a small fishing village southwest of here recently and was given initially a cool reception. Mothers brought their babies and the elderly hobble towards the doctor's jeep. Soon the line grew to more than 50 persons.

Some stood outside the hut watching as he worked on other patients. Others sat on a crude wooden bench waiting their turn.

As each approached Blagg, they would repeat the same word "dat" (hurt) and point to the area where the pain was. With the aid of a Vietnamese interpreter, Blagg would diagnose the illness, treat each patient and prescribe medicine.

The majority of the people were treated for malaria and numerous skin infections. "Soap and water would eliminate most of these sores," said Captain Richard Porter. "We have to teach the people the basics of personal hygiene before we can expect any permanent improvements."

Some of the people crowded around the MP's and National Police, displaying various afflictions to them, as if anyone in uniform could give treatment.

"It sure made me feel useless not to be able to help these people," said a paratrooper. "The doctors and medics had the treatments, but I wish I had the training to help."

More than 170 patients were treated during the team's visit. Candy, cigarettes and soap also were distributed. The MEDCAP team worked in the health improvement phase of his unit's civic action program.

LUONG HOA (USA) — In the lowlands of the III Corps Tactical Zone, 30 miles southwest of Saigon, is one of the newest Special Forces "fighting 'A' camps" in Vietnam.

Construction on Camp Luong Hoa has been underway for slightly more than a month. Despite the rains and other conditions which would normally slow the building process, the camp is rapidly moving toward completion.

This is a result of long hours of hard work by soldiers of the Civilian Irregular Defense Group, the Green Berets and the 539th Engineer Detachment.

Since the camp lies next to a waterway, it can be understood why the Viet Cong do not want to give up their former stronghold. The enemy indicated by recent attacks which were quickly repelled.

Surveys for the Revolutionary Development project will be taken after completion of the camp. The area shows a real need for this type of program.

The projected plans for the Special Forces here will require a combined team effort with no shortcuts.

Corpsman Dubbed "Bac-Si"

CAMP CARROLL (USMC) — To the sailors, he is Hospitalman Third Class John R. Blagg.

To the Marines of Combined Action Platoon (Tiger Poppa Five), he is Doc.

To the villagers of Doc Kinh, he is Bac-Si.

In his present assignment, Blagg could best be described as a country doctor. On July 21, Bac-Si Blagg opened his office for the villagers of Doc Kinh for the first time.

Slowly they came—old men and women, mothers carrying babies, and children. They came with all kinds of ailments, diseases, sores, cuts and bruises. They came to the straw-thatched hut that serves as the village dispensary. They came with apprehension, anxiety, and hope to see the new Bac-Si who was there to help them.

VNAF's Support Sparks Self-Help

DA NANG (USA) — Through the efforts of the Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF), some 200 boys and girls are now strengthening their educational future.

The strength is in the form of a newly-opened dependent's elementary school which was completed by the Vietnamese civil engineering squadron and other base units.

The project began last fall. The then existing school was small, in poor condition, and supported only 60 students. In fact it was in such poor shape that parents who could afford it would send their children elsewhere.

But the men of the base were determined to correct the situation. They not only wanted to repair the school, but sought to expand it as well.

The result was a full scale civic action program.

Captain Nguyen Van Do, commander of the VNAF base civil engineer squadron, tells about it.

"We received assistance from practically everybody," he said. "Before finishing, we had help from the 366th Tactical Fighter Wing (TFW) engineering squadron, the Navy, Marines and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). They helped supply the school with vital construction supplies and materials.

"Most of our support, though," said Captain Do, "came from personnel of the 41st Fighter Wing (VNAF), Air Force Advisory Team-Five (AFAT-5) volunteers, and other members of the 366th Tactical Fighter Wing."

The school's foundation and electrical facilities (including wiring) were handled by the TFW. Most of the AFAT-5 personnel were involved in the project.

One of the Air Force advisors connected with the school's development was Lieutenant Colonel Richard T. Andrews.

"In addition to the new school," Colonel Andrews said, "the Vietnamese engineers built new desks and benches, erected a wood perimeter fence and a flagpole in the center of the compound.

"The roof framing, sheeting and painting took some real ef-

Parents Travel 10,000 Miles To See Son In VN

CU CHI (USA) — Eleven thousand miles from home, Specialist 4 Bernard Saffren received the surprise of his life recently when he came in from the field for a medical checkup and learned that his parents were in Saigon.

Specialist Saffren, an armored personnel carrier driver and radio operator with the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division, received permission to travel to Saigon for a day visit with his family.

His parents, who were on a tour of the Far East, almost missed their son when they checked into the wrong hotel. He was at Tan Son Nhut air base awaiting a ride back to his unit when contact with his parents was finally made. They spent an enjoyable day together.

HELP STRENGTHEN
AMERICA'S PEACE POWER
BUY U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

fort, and the engineers deserve a lot of credit for their fine job."

The six-classroom school is now open, complete with lights, fans, training aids and modern classroom equipment.

The dedication and formal ceremonies commemorating the school are over. And the task of strengthening the future of the 200 children is just beginning.

Almost half of the 625 TMP vehicles are on seven-day

Saigon Support Command TMP Totals Over 10,000,000 Miles

SAIGON (USA) — Many sets of tires and long hours of driving have made it possible for the drivers of the Saigon Support Command's transportation motor pool (TMP) to log more than 10 million miles during the past 14 months.

The 10-million mile journey was completed in the III Corps area in support of U.S., Korean and Australian forces stationed in Vietnam.

Almost half of the 625 TMP vehicles are on seven-day

Psywar Effort Brings 'Em In —Over 67,000

SAIGON (MACV) — The one-billionth psywar leaflet rolled off the U.S. Army 6th Psychological Operations Battalion's printing press last month.

A thousand million leaflets appealing to Viet Cong to turn themselves into the government's Chieu Hoi (Open Arms) program have been air-dropped over both South and North Vietnam since the 6th Psyop Battalion began producing them a year and a half ago.

The more than 67,500 returnees that have rallied to the government side are largely a direct result of these leaflets.

Specialist 5 Claude Heath and Specialist 4 William Marino say they turn out more than 200,000 leaflets a day on their printing press. The leaflets are dropped from low-flying aircraft over South Vietnam.

Over North Vietnam, Air Force F-4C Phantom jets drop the anti-propaganda messages in M129-E1 bomb shells that break apart at a certain altitude.

Army Colonel John W. MacIndoe, director of Psychological Operations Directorate, MACV, visited the battalion's printing facility to watch the billionth leaflet come off the press.

According to Lieutenant Colonel David W. Aflleck, commander of the 6th Psyop Battalion, production capacity will be increased when their additional press begins operating.

9th Div Medical Teams Continue To Assist Viets

LONG THANH (USA) — Since

Customers of the Vietnam Regional Exchanges can testify to this fact, as they buy and use television sets, radios, tape recorders and many other delicate-wired electronic equipment in this country.

Under his supervision, 150 to 200 items can be checked in per day over the customer's counter. In addition, outlying service units may send truckloads of articles for repair. While these items arrive, the post exchange system itself may add unpacked goods, found defective, to a row of 20 conex storage containers. These containers act as giant filing cabinets for television sets and other items that must be checked out before customers buy them.

Inside the repair shop proper, five different rooms house 40 repairmen at their work. One room is storage space for spare parts.

Shops getting underway at Da Nang, Qui Nhon, Pleiku, Nha Trang, Cam Ranh Bay, Bien Hoa and Vung Tau, and it is hoped that they will relieve congestion in the Saigon repair shop.



REPAIR WORK—Seabees of the 3rd Naval Construction Brigade remove damaged steel matting from the parking apron at the Dong Ha Airfield following an enemy attack. (USN PHOTO)

VRE's Electronic Repair Fights VN's Weather

SAIGON (VRE) — Few other spots on earth can boast a climate more harsh on sensitive electronic parts than Vietnam.

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In the meantime, Le Quang Diep, a Vietnamese supervisor, I

takes the responsibility for running the busy establishment. Starting with the Navy PX Stores, he has worked continuously in the PX electronic repairs section since 1962.

Under his supervision, 150 to 200 items can be checked in per day over the customer's counter. In addition, outlying service units may send truckloads of articles for repair. While these items arrive, the post exchange system itself may add unpacked goods, found defective, to a row of 20 conex storage containers. These containers act as giant filing cabinets for television sets and other items that must be checked out before customers buy them.

After taking the Chieu Hoi to the collection point, the police platoons continued on their search missions, accompanied by U.S. advisors from the 1st Air Cav's 545th Military Police Company.

Two Engineers Are Afloat In A Mighty Strange Boat

BAC LOC (USA) — Three engineers of Company B, 14th Engineer Battalion (Combat), 35th Engineer Group, will probably long remember the night their camp received more than two inches of rain in less than four hours.

Assigned to the mission of modifying an existing airfield, the men of the unit were constantly complaining that the monsoon rains had caused their bulldozers and trucks to get stuck in the thick red mud.

Canh Sat Picks Up NVA Cpl

BONG SON (USA) — Two platoons of Vietnamese Field Police had just climbed off a Chinook and were preparing to move out on a sweep through the coastal village of Chau Me, north of here.

Company B of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, had cordoned off the village during the night and were ready to stop anyone who might try to escape.

Moments after the big helicopter lifted off, shouts were heard from one of the Vietnamese police squads. Out of the tree line emerged a small figure, clad in black pajamas and conical straw hat, with his hands held high.

After a quick search for weapons and papers, one of the policemen pulled off his green T-shirt and gave it to the NVA soldier to wear over the black pajamas. The shirt would mark the NVA corporal as a Chieu Hoi when he was brought to the collection point where villagers would be questioned throughout the day.

A little apprehensive at first, the 26-year-old soldier quickly broke into a smile as the curious policemen crowded around and began asking questions.

Later, through an interpreter, the corporal told about his life in the NVA. He said he had been forced to join the army after being imprisoned by the Hanoi government because he had been an employee of the French colonials. Some of the NVA soldiers who came to the south were volunteers, he said, but many like himself were forced to make the long trip on foot through Laos and Cambodia.

Before leaving his homeland, he had been told that South Vietnam had been almost completely liberated and that he would find very little fighting.

He was told to expect harsh treatment from Americans if he ever came into their hands. He said, with a smile, that he was surprised and happy at the reception he received.

He had left his unit five months before, after three years in the NVA. He said that for some time he had been planning to turn himself in to the allies. When he saw the Vietnamese Field Police platoons land near the hamlet where he had been hiding, he decided the time was right.

After taking the Chieu Hoi to the collection point, the police platoons continued on their search missions, accompanied by U.S. advisors from the 1st Air Cav's 545th Military Police Company.

Teams have treated as many as 1,881 patients at village sick calls during one day, he reported.

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August 23, 1967

OBSERVER

MPs "Ride Shotgun" On Ships And Tugboats

Story and photos by Major George W. Ogles, USAF

SAIGON (MACV) — A GI truck wheeled up to a pier at Vung Tau, its headlights piercing the 3 a.m. darkness that blanketed the harbor. Out jumped 12 MPs with M-14s, M-79 grenade launchers, M-60 machine guns and portable radios.

They walked to a nearby LCL-6 landing craft and quietly went aboard, guided by flashlights. They stretched out on the deck as the craft began a 35-minute run to the distant specks of light dotting the horizon.

These men of 560th Military Police Company, 95th Military Police Battalion, 18th Military Police Brigade, USARV, were beginning another round of duty which, although routine to them, is unique among MPs.

Their job — riding "shotgun" on supply ships moving up the Long Tao and Saigon Rivers and on transient vessels traveling to the Delta.

The two young MPs watched the river banks. Their job was to repel any sniper or Viet Cong attack against the ship. With their portable radios they could quickly receive air support and assistance from Navy river patrol boats.

About half-way to Saigon, PFC Specialist 4 Joseph Munley and Private First Class Samuel Midgett carefully transferred their gear from the bobbing landing craft and made their way up the ramp of the sleeping ship.

Sergeant Jesus Rodriguez, duty NCO for the early morning detail, waved from the landing craft as it moved toward the other dispersed ships which would receive a team of MPs (ammunition ships get three MP security guards).

Both sides of the river bank, reaching back 500 meters in some places, had no vegetation more than two feet high due to recent defoliation and burning.

Before the MPs began riding "shotgun" on the ships, many vessels were attacked by snipers or groups of VC. The attacks have subsided since MPs began accompanying the ships, and especially since the shorelines were cleared.

However, in April, VC hit the USS Conqueror with recoilless rifles and .50 caliber machine guns as the ship was 12 miles south of Saigon. One crewman was killed and others were injured.

Most ships must wait one or two days while the 4th Transportation Command, Saigon Support Command, schedules docking space in the busy Saigon port area.

A year ago some ships waited weeks at the mouth of the Saigon River because of the con-

gested port facilities. Often, ships arriving at the Saigon port were unloaded in mid-river because there were no vacant berths.

However, construction of the deep port at Cam Ranh Bay and the recent completion of a new multi-million dollar port in Saigon have done much to eliminate the previous logistic problems.

The Weyerhauser lifted anchor and got underway at 7:25 a.m. Forty-five miles across the Song Nga Bay and up the Saigon River was the destination — the new port of Saigon, appropriately named "Newport." The water route would take four or five hours. The aerial route takes about 15 minutes.

Slowly the World War II ship, with its load of lumber, slid past sampans and fishing boats. Entering the Saigon River, the ship followed the main channel, skillfully navigated by a Vietnamese pilot who boarded at Vung Tau and who would direct her to the dock.

The two young MPs watched the river banks. Their job was to repel any sniper or Viet Cong attack against the ship. With their portable radios they could quickly receive air support and assistance from Navy river patrol boats.

Soon the LCL was alongside the S.C.E. Weyerhauser, a large cargo ship carrying thousands of tons of lumber, barbed wire and construction materials from Portland, Ore., to the port of Saigon.

About half-way to Saigon, PFC Specialist 4 Joseph Munley and Private First Class Samuel Midgett carefully transferred their gear from the bobbing landing craft and made their way up the ramp of the sleeping ship.

Sergeant Jesus Rodriguez, duty NCO for the early morning detail, waved from the landing craft as it moved toward the other dispersed ships which would receive a team of MPs (ammunition ships get three MP security guards).

Both sides of the river bank, reaching back 500 meters in some places, had no vegetation more than two feet high due to recent defoliation and burning.

Before the MPs began riding "shotgun" on the ships, many vessels were attacked by snipers or groups of VC. The attacks have subsided since MPs began accompanying the ships, and especially since the shorelines were cleared.

However, in April, VC hit the USS Conqueror with recoilless rifles and .50 caliber machine guns as the ship was 12 miles south of Saigon. One crewman was killed and others were injured.

Most ships must wait one or two days while the 4th Transportation Command, Saigon Support Command, schedules docking space in the busy Saigon port area.

A year ago some ships waited weeks at the mouth of the Saigon River because of the con-

gested port facilities. Often, ships arriving at the Saigon port were unloaded in mid-river because there were no vacant berths.

However, construction of the deep port at Cam Ranh Bay and the recent completion of a new multi-million dollar port in Saigon have done much to eliminate the previous logistic problems.

The Weyerhauser lifted anchor and got underway at 7:25 a.m. Forty-five miles across the Song Nga Bay and up the Saigon River was the destination — the new port of Saigon, appropriately named "Newport." The water route would take four or five hours. The aerial route takes about 15 minutes.

Slowly the World War II ship, with its load of lumber, slid past sampans and fishing boats. Entering the Saigon River, the ship followed the main channel, skillfully navigated by a Vietnamese pilot who boarded at Vung Tau and who would direct her to the dock.

The two young MPs watched the river banks. Their job was to repel any sniper or Viet Cong attack against the ship. With their portable radios they could quickly receive air support and assistance from Navy river patrol boats.

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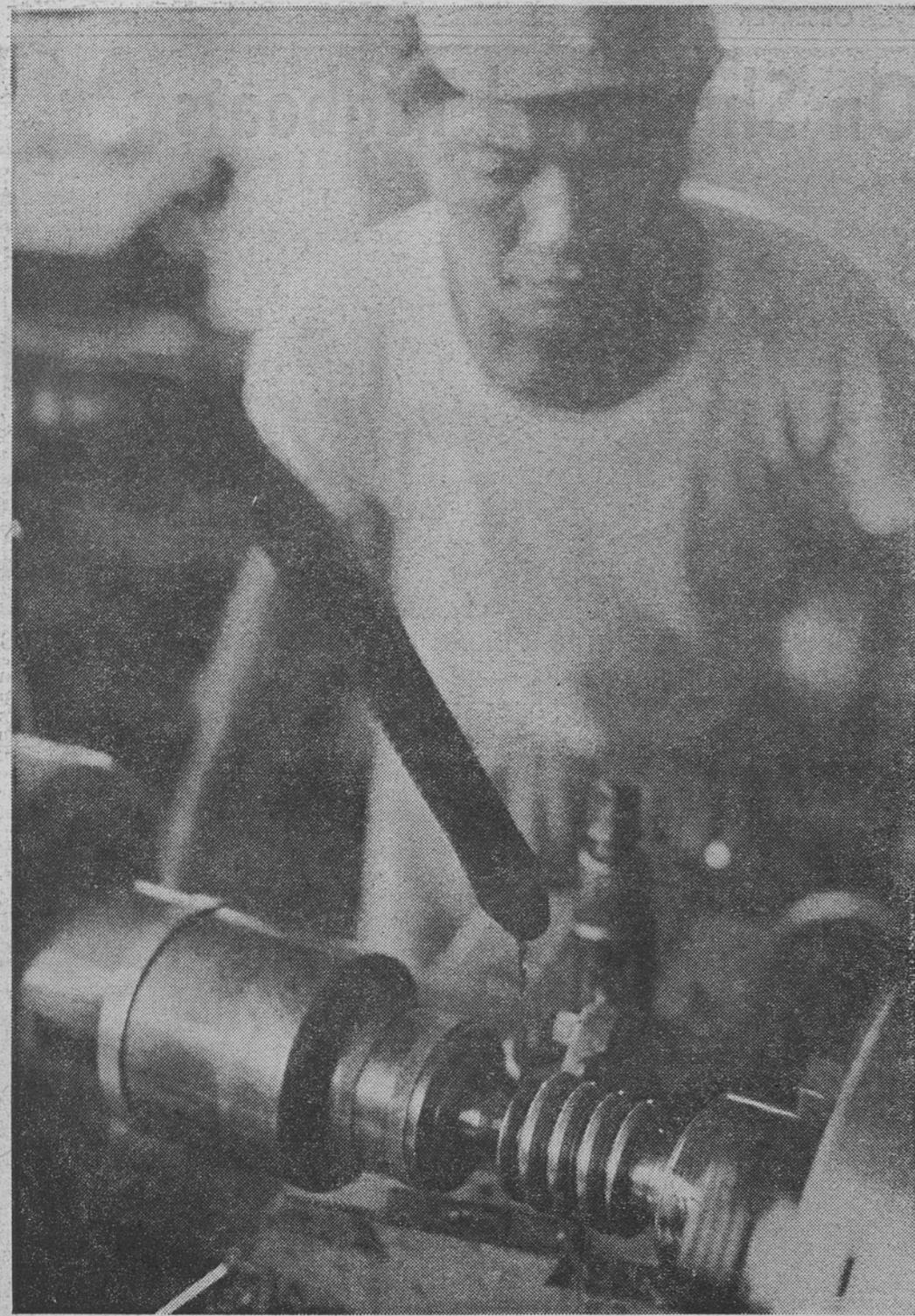
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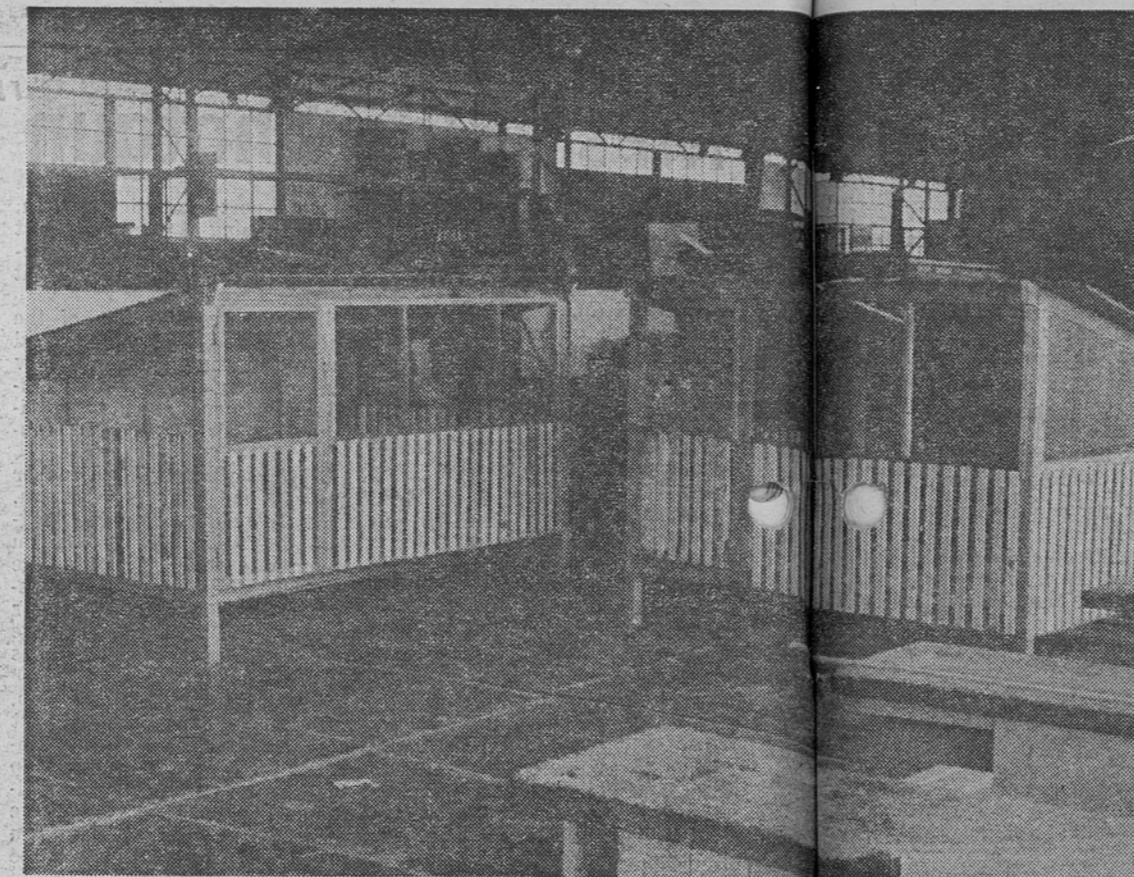
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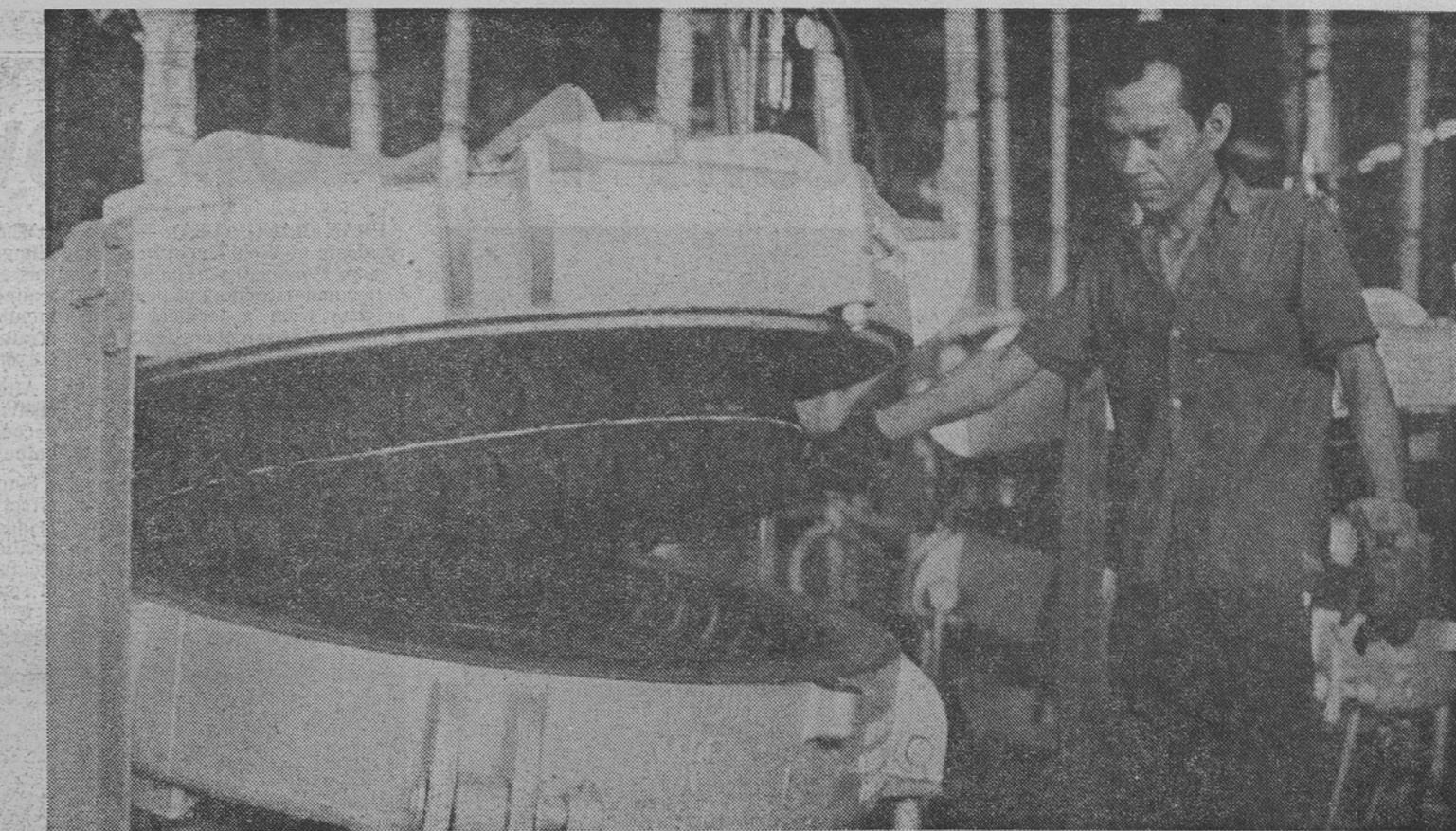
WITH MUCH SKILL, THIS WORKER REBUILDS ENGINE PART



ARVN NCO INSTRUCTS DEPENDENT CHILDREN AT THE BASE'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



THESE CHICKEN COOPS ARE PART OF THE U.S. ADVISORY TEAM'S CIVIC ACTION



THE RECAP SHOP CAN TURN OLD TIRES INTO FINE RETREADS IN A FEW HOURS

Viet Depot Rebuilds ARVN Ordnance

SAIGON (MACV)—The Army of the Republic of Vietnam has units equal to any similar unit in any of the allied armies helping to fight for her freedom.

One excellent example is the 80th ARVN Ordnance Rebuild Depot just north of Tan Son Nhut air base in Go Vap District near here.

The depot is the only ARVN installation in Vietnam capable of completely rebuilding any piece of equipment in the ARVN supply system—from small arms to tanks, armored personnel carriers or delicate optical instruments.

Built in 1951 and 1952 with the

aid of the French, the depot is a 143 acre complex which houses more than 22 different types of repair shops, an elementary school, a technical high school, the ARVN Ordnance School, a weapons museum, enlisted and officer housing and a parade field.

Sections within the depot include shops for the repair or rebuilding of sedans, wheeled vehicles, combat vehicles, engines, power train assemblies, small arms, artillery pieces and optical instruments.

A machine shop and foundry, a battery production plant, a tire re-capping shop, and a complete leather, glass and wood work shop are also part of the facility.

When a field unit is unable to repair a damaged piece of equipment, it is transported to the

depot for repairs or disposal. After a short tour through the installation, a combat damaged vehicle emerges looking like new.

Soldiers of the depot have a dual mission. During the day, they work at their individual skills and at night, after the civilian employees have left to spend time with family and friends, they equip themselves for regular perimeter defense and ambushes.

the technical know-how and ability of any other personnel in the world," asserted the major.

"The depot is as well laid out as any U.S. facility of this kind I have ever seen," he added.

Many of the 1,100 elementary students at the depot's school are instructed by ARVN NCOs. A complex of new classrooms was recently completed with the assistance of the U.S. advisory team.

To assist base personnel, the U.S. advisory team—composed of two officers, two sergeants and four civilians—started a vegetable farm and fish hatchery. The farm already has pro-

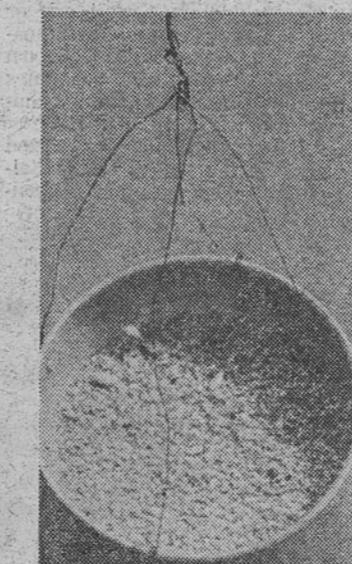
duced five garden crops and the advisors plan to hold a fishing party for the school soon, with each child taking home what he can catch.

A chicken breeding project is soon to get underway with two of the pens already completed.

The MACV agricultural advisor has promised baby chicks, which, when grown, will be given to the base personnel and their families.

Major Palmer has briefed visitors of every rank in the military on the depot. "Almost everyone who visits the depot is surprised to find the Vietnamese Army with a post and unit like this one."

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY
SP5 BOB COLLINS, USA
STAFF WRITER
PHOTOGRAPHER



ADVISORS BUILT FISH HATCHERY AS CIVIC ACTION PROJECT



WORKMEN EXAMINE GUN WHICH WAS DAMAGED



VIETNAMESE WORKER HEATS METAL IN THE DEPOT'S FOUNDRY



BRICKS FOR A NEW CLASSROOM AT THE DEPOT'S SCHOOL ARE MADE BY BASE PERSONNEL

Airborne Cleans Face Of Poverty



PERSONAL HYGIENE DISPLAY

The Team Uses Soap To Combat Skin Diseases Which Are A Problem Among Villagers

Story And Photos
By
Captain Wes Grosbeck

PERPLEXITY SHOWS ON THE CHILD'S FACE
Vietnamese Mothers Were Urged To Use TubsA PART OF MEDCAP
An Airborne Officer Stresses Cleanliness To A Village TikeANXIETY, HOPE, ARE APPARENT
A Team Medical Officer Offers Relief To Young Patient

PHAN RANG (USA) — The residents of Vinh Thuan in Ninh Thuan Province are gaining a better understanding of personal hygiene from a medical team composed of members from the Support Battalion, 101st Airborne and the 568th Medical Company.

The integration of personal hygiene with the medical aid program began when the team discovered most of the ailments were caused by improper hygiene. Two washtubs, sturdy wash cloths and soap were added to the team's medical supplies.

When the team visited the village, a portable dispensary was set up. While villagers waited in line for treatment, members of the team demonstrated how to bathe a child correctly.

After the explanation and demonstration, the Vietnamese were encouraged to use washtubs to bathe their children.

Since the program went into effect a month ago, nearly 1,000 people have attended the demonstrations and received medical treatment. More than 5,000 bars of soap have been distributed.

PFs Help Renovate School

BONG SON (USA) — One Monday in mid-July, soldiers went again into the hamlet of Trung Luong. But this time the Popular Forces (PFs) came to the tiny community in the northern part of Binh Dinh Province to renovate the local school.

Standing in a palm grove a few hundred yards from the An Lao River, the school had mud walls and a mud floor. A rusted piece of tin divided the building into two rooms, and the hamlet's 120 students had no desks.

To direct the labors of the PFs was Lieutenant Ho Dang Loi, who came from Saigon three years ago and took over as civil affairs officer for the surrounding district.

The school project was part of the lieutenant's campaign to show the people of the district that their government is interested in them and willing to work for them.

When the young lieutenant came to Bong Son, the 3rd North Vietnamese Army Division had control of the area. Since then, the ARVN and 1st Air Cavalry Division troops have wrested control of the province from the enemy.

Now he is working to consolidate the military successes, to bring the people back to their government, to develop their respect and trust of the Vietnamese military forces.

Lieutenant Loi, who had the PFs on several other projects in the Bong Son area, had no reason to expect that the work at Trung Luong would be different; the soldiers would work with the people.

But this was different.

On the second day of the project, as the PFs began to sort through the materials supplied from allied channels, the hamlet chief announced that the people were grateful for the help they were receiving and they desired to assist in rebuilding their school.

Four men, skilled as masons and carpenters, volunteered their time. With their help the work progressed quickly. In less than two weeks the Trung Luong school had new concrete walls and floors, wooden doors, a wood partition, a fresh coat of paint and 48 desks.

"This is a good project," said Lieutenant Loi. "It got the people working jointly with the Popular Forces."

Use Your Head— It's Easier

DUC PHO (USA) — Private First Class John J. Colligan, new to the 101st Airborne Division, has found that ingenuity goes a long way.

"Everything gets easier when you use your head a little bit," said PFC Colligan.

The paratrooper found that a downhill trail through elephant grass was slippery. Five times he lost his footing and found himself sitting down on the job.

After the fifth fall he just stayed there. He crossed his legs and, using a stick like a paddle, moved down the trail like a canoe.

"I'm just glad I didn't have a punji stake rip my hull," he said, after reaching level ground.

DA NANG (USA) — Some 60 girls, all members of the Vietnamese Woman's Army Corps, are helping their soldiers in the effort to win the war in the I Corps tactical zone.

The girls are members of the I Corps Social Welfare Division. The girls supply field units with such items as cloth, medicines, soap, towels, cooking utensils and toothpaste.

"We're just grateful for what the soldiers are doing and want to help out," said the welfare director, 1st Lieutenant Cao My Nhan.

"We're almost like a modern military Family Service unit," Lieutenant Nhan said, "but we try to go just a little further. After all, we owe those who fight a great deal."



WOMEN WORK AT EASE WITHIN A MALE ENVIRONMENT

Engineers' Project Protects Hospital's Helicopter Pads

LONG BINH (USA) — Company A, 62nd Engineer Battalion, 159th Engineer Group is now working on a project to provide protection for helicopters at the 93rd Evacuation Hospital parking pads in Long Binh.

The protection consists of revetments made of 55 gallon steel drums, filled with laterite, which surround each parking space.

To produce as many revetments as possible in the shortest time, the tops of the drums are blown out by the use of a single loop of detonating cord.

The drums are then placed empty on lowboy trailers and scoop loaders fill them with laterite. After being hauled to the 93rd Evac Hospital helipad, the filled drums are off-loaded with a crane and placed on two sides of the parking pads.

After stacking the drums (two rows topped by a single row), they are covered with sandbags and sprayed with a light coat of soil-binder to keep the loose laterite from being blown around.

At the beginning of each week, more than 200 workers from the public works program move into a hamlet to start work on

the helicopter rotor blades. This method of building revetments provides protection from chain reaction explosions caused by one damaged helicopter igniting another. The laterite filled drums also stop mortar fragments from hitting the aircraft.

DAU TIENG (USA) — Operation Friendship — a combined Vietnamese and US effort to keep the local people — healthy, well-fed and well-informed — began here recently.

The program pools the resources of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division with the information services of the local province officials. The entire operation is expected to last for five weeks — one week in each of the five hamlets of the village.

The purpose of Operation Friendship, stated Captain Vincent D. Loucks, 3rd Brigade civil affairs officer, "is to bring to the people of these hamlets information about their government and to demonstrate the willingness of the government, nationally and locally, to assist in the improvement of their community."

The week is terminated with

Soldier Gets Lost While On Search

DUC PHO (USA) — Lost, fatigued and after fighting off six Viet Cong by himself, Private First Class Melvin Gilpin of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division continued his trek down a lonely stretch of beach north of Duc Pho until he was able to signal his rescuers with the top of a C ration can.

An hour and a half elapsed

and the entire company was committed, along with tanks and APC's from Company C, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor. Helicopters equipped with loud speakers circled the area trying to locate the lost soldier as a complete sweep of the area was made.

When PFC Gilpin realized that he was separated, he fired two signal shots in the hope that they would be answered. After waiting in the area for five minutes and not receiving an acknowledgement, he entered a trench and followed it for about two kilometers to the beach on the coast of the South China Sea.

Once on the beach he began walking south to link up with another element or make it back to the brigade's forward base camp.

"I was walking along the water's edge and had moved about five clicks," said PFC Gilpin, "when I received fire from my right. I was able to spot six VC firing from behind small sand dunes."

With a full magazine and an M-79 round in his over and under M-16, he engaged the six enemy.

After killing two, later confirmed by aircraft, the other four fled to the tree line.

Spotting an observer plane in the area, PFC Gilpin cut the top off of a C ration can and signaled the O-1 Birddog — within a few minutes a gunship was in picking up the wayward soldier.

Units Join To Assist Hamlet

CU CHI (USA) — Green Beret medics from the Dong Hau outpost in Hau Nghia province recently teamed up with 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry "Wolfhounds" medics to provide critically needed medical treatment for the people of Hiep Hoa hamlet.

Together, the two medical teams treated 85 patients for everything from toothache to serious skin diseases. U.S. 25th Infantry Division helicopters flew in to carry two young boys to the Cu Chi base camp for further care and treatment.

The 2nd Battalion is taking part in the monsoon campaign Operation Kolekole southwest of Cu Chi. In addition to working with local Special Forces medical teams, they have several Medical Civic Action Programs with Vietnamese Army medics and nurses.

Information Program Helps Fight Enemy

The roads and drainage ditches. The workers are refugees who were relocated due to combat operations in their area. For their labor, the refugees receive food and a plot of land on which to build new homes.

In addition, a door-to-door information program is started with members of the 3rd Brigade Civic Action Team, the Vietnamese Information Office, the Chieu Hoi program and the Census Grievance Committee.

This type of personal contact gives the people a chance to meet their officials and express their needs and problems. The week is terminated with

Orphans Receive Support

QUI NHON (USA) — In Vietnam, a village or hamlet is often victimized by the Viet Cong, who leave behind a wake of destruction and death, and of children whose parents were killed or conscripted by the enemy and whose homes were burned or blown apart by VC grenades.

Where can these orphans turn for food, shelter, clothing and medical care?

In Long My hamlet, 13 miles west of here, there are 26 war orphans who look to Company D, 459th Signal Battalion, for their second chance in life.

To the men of Company D, these youngsters' plight became known last Christmas. After hanging cardboard sleighs on the sides of a jeep, a soldier, dressed as Santa Claus, took the children for a holiday ride, then passed out gifts of food, clothes and toys which had been donated by the company.

Since then, the orphanage has assumed major importance in the civic action program of the company. First investments in the project included donations of money, food, clothes and toys.

As the orphanage grew, a two-building complex was constructed by Company D, the 41st Signal Battalion and USAID (United States Agency for International Development).

The first of the two buildings contains a chapel and school, with the other serving as the home for the children.

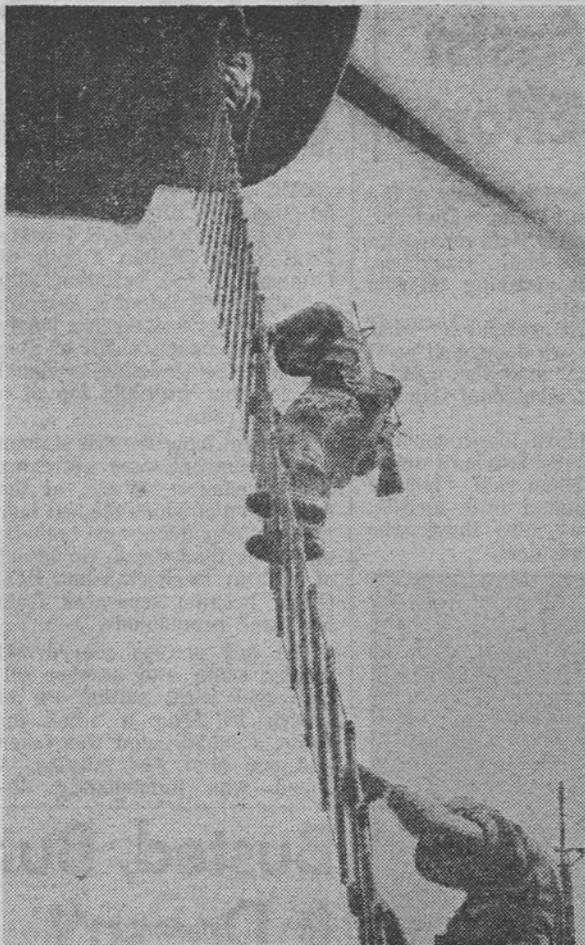
The new chapel, replacing the old one which was destroyed by the VC, will be furnished with an altar, railings and benches.

The new school, which will take the place of a one-room shack of benches that had no lighting or blackboard, will be for the use of all the village children.

The living quarters of the orphanage will have canvas cots and a kitchen, and the children will be tended by an elderly couple. Until now, the orphans have lived with the villagers in overcrowded huts.

A doctor from the 142nd Medical Detachment, Phu Thanh Valley, will make medical records for the children and visit them once a month for treatment and care.

A team of nurses from the 64th and 87th Evacuation Hospitals will visit the orphanage twice a month.



TRAINING CLIMB—1st Infantry Division engineers, with full field gear and weapons, fight the instability of a ladder hanging down from a hovering "Chinook" during a training exercise designed to acquaint some of the newer members of the unit with one more phase of their mission—descending into thick jungle to cut helicopter landing zones. (US ARMY PHOTO)

Has Anyone Seen A Congregation?

SAIGON (USA) — The only rabbi south of the Central Highlands is looking for a lost Jewish community here.

Chaplain (Captain) Gerry J. Rosenberg recently arrived in Vietnam to tend the spiritual needs of the more than 400 Jewish military and civilian personnel in the III and IV Corps.

Assigned as assistant staff chaplain for Headquarters Area Command, Chaplain Rosenberg serves Jewish personnel of all forces from Nha Trang to below the Mekong Delta. There is only one other Jewish chaplain in Vietnam.

A doctor from the 142nd Medical Detachment, Phu Thanh Valley, will make medical records for the children and visit them once a month for treatment and care.

"One of my problems is finding my congregation," he commented. "Troops here move around so much that it's almost



Viet Cong District Official Plucked From Fowl Hideout

DUC PHO (USA) — The Viet Cong infrastructure in Duc Pho District was dealt a severe blow recently when the Reconnaissance Platoon of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division flushed out and killed a high ranking VC district official along with four other local guerrillas.

The platoon was led to the village by a "Chieu Hoi" (Open Arms Returnee), who — after rallying — reported that he could lead U.S. forces to where the five were hiding.

Withstanding grenades and rifle fire, the VC held on until Sergeant Hull crawled up to the hole and dropped in another claymore.

Following the explosion, the Recon Platoon searched the bunker, uncovering the five dead Viet Cong and four weapons (a Thompson submachine gun, an M-14, an M-16 and a .38 caliber pistol).

Documents found on one VC indicated that he was a high ranking district official.

In I Corps

VNAF Choppers Support ARVN

DA NANG (I CORPS) — A versatile unit here, the 213th Helicopter Squadron (VNAF), one of two Vietnamese helicopter squadrons in I Corps, evacuates wounded soldiers, resupplies isolated outposts and carries Vietnamese troops to wherever they are needed.

The primary mission of the squadron is to support the ground troops. About 60 per cent of the total sorties are trooplift — transporting Vietnamese Airborne, Ranger and Army soldiers to and from the field — and resupply missions.

About one out of every five

Navy Digs Down Deep; Helps Army

CHU LAI (USN) — Even with the demand for water increasing as Vietnam's summer temperatures rise and water tables recede, utilitymen from Company B, Mobile Construction Battalion 71 have all but solved Chu Lai's mounting water shortage problem.

"We haven't lost a bird to ground fire in the past year," said Major Edwin G. Flanigan, one of two US advisors to the unit. "We get battle damage about once a week but we've been lucky."

sorties is a MEDEVAC, and the remainder of the missions range from search and rescue operations to liaison and VIP airlift.

"We are a versatile outfit," said Major Dao Duc Tran, squadron commander. "We not only have a variety of missions but provide choppers to the 1st and 2nd ARVN Divisions."

The squadron has 16 H-34 helicopters which can carry from 12-15 Vietnamese troops or a ton of cargo. It has a range of 140 square nautical miles and can fly three hours without refueling.

During the first half of 1967, the squadron airlifted 13,831 military passengers and 597 tons of cargo. It also evacuated 828 soldiers. On a recent mission north of Hue, choppers lifted five tons of ammunition to a unit in heavy combat. It then evacuated 40 wounded and dead troops.

"We haven't lost a bird to ground fire in the past year," said Major Edwin G. Flanigan, one of two US advisors to the unit. "We get battle damage about once a week but we've been lucky."

Kids Love Clean Fun In Tan An

TAN AN (USA) — Preparations were made recently to accommodate a group of village youngsters for one of the frequent 'scrub down days' sponsored by the 3rd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division.

About 150 children were expected to show here for the shower and mess hall treats that make up the activity.

Members of the brigade were surprised when 542 children descended on the shower point. Hasty arrangements had to be made.

Workers from the brigade's Headquarters Company volunteered to stay until the last tot was washed. The mess hall agreed to whip up enough extra desserts to accommodate the large turn out. And the day turned into a watery laugh fest for the pint-sized battalion.

The 3rd Brigade provided showers and soap for the children as part of its Medical Civic Action Program. Soldiers, clad in bathing suits, lathered the Vietnamese children and splashed under the showers with them.

After the "scrub down" the children feasted on cake, chocolate, milk and fresh fruit.

impossible to keep track of them."

The chaplain is in the process of setting up a system of Jewish lay leaders to conduct services in the many remote locations of the country.

But what about the lost Jewish community? "Right after my arrival," he said, "a friend of mine told me that there was a Jewish congregation in Saigon, complete with its own synagogue. I don't know if the members are Vietnamese or French or what, but I would love to make contact with them."

To date, the chaplain's search has been in vain, but he hasn't given up hope.

"If anyone sees a temple in Saigon with a Star of David on it, please give me a call," he added.

The water was safe and came in sufficient quantities, 20,000 gallons per day, to satisfy the needs of the ice plant.

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Chaplain's Interest Sparks Large Civic Action Project

CU CHI (USA) — Months of hardwork and perseverance by a chaplain assigned to the 25th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade led the way on one of the largest and most comprehensive civic action projects yet undertaken by the division.

The village of Phu Hoa Dong, located at the edge of the notorious Fil Hol Plantation, 25 miles northwest of Saigon, has long been a haven for the Viet

Cong operating in that area as well as a suspected vital link in the VC's supply line into Saigon. Its population of approximately 10,000 is suspected to be 80 per cent VC or VC sympathizers.

An operation was formulated to deny the local Viet Cong the use of the village. The operation began July 8 as the three infantry battalions assigned to the 1st Brigade, in conjunction with three ARVN infantry battalions,

sealed the village and permitted no traffic in or out. Registration of the people and an intensive house-to-house search followed.

Then it was turned over to the Civil Affairs teams. Extensive Medical Civic Action Programs (MEDCAP) were held to treat the sick and ailing in the village.

Schools were surveyed to determine what equipment they needed most and all other areas pertinent to the health and welfare of the villagers were examined to decide how the government could best help the village.

Several months prior to the operation, Chaplain (Major) James A. Peterman learned the Phu Hoa Dong had a church with no priest.

Working with his assistant, a Catholic priest from here, who is also Vietnamese and a Vietnamese interpreter, Father Peterman began regular visits to the village.

At first only a few of the Catholic villagers attended confession and masses, but with the persistence of the chaplain and his co-workers, the people gained confidence in the chaplain. He came unarmed and without security into the heavily-infested VC area.

It was always risky. Once, the day before their weekly visit, the VC mortared the hamlet, causing death, injuries and destruction.

On another occasion Chaplain Peterman and his associates were waiting to be picked up by a helicopter when they were hit by mortar and small arms fire. No one was injured, but they were delayed two hours.

The town has responded to the spiritual guidance lately afforded to them. People now smile and await the chaplain's arrival.

The children are lively, playful and happy. From an empty, nonfunctioning church, the joint Vietnamese-U.S. project is marked by capacity-filled masses and confessional periods.

Father Peterman celebrated the first day of the operation by performing 25 baptisms and six marriages.

CHIEU HOI...

(Continued From Page 1)

rejoin his unit.

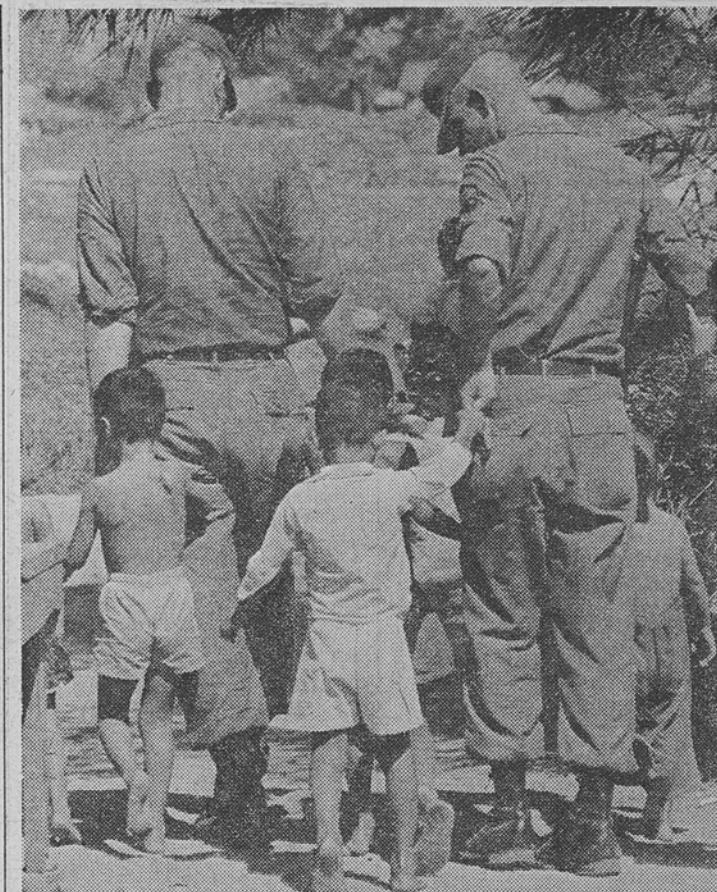
He was frightened when the big American's approached the village, but—tired of a meager subsistence—he rallied willingly.

The boy was scared on his first helicopter ride to the 3rd Brigade Command Post at LZ Montezuma for further questioning.

He got out tagging behind Lieutenant Jeffery C. Chandler, Company C's executive officer, who towered more than two feet over the 85-pound boy soldier. Shrinking from the blast of the Huey's rotors as they walked toward the headquarters, the boy reached up and took the lieutenant's hand. He had found a new friend.

Trying American chow, he ate up a storm. He tested ice cream and cold sodas. Volunteering to go back to Company C and show them trails used by the VC, he was given a pair of jungle boots—to large, but worn proudly—and clean clothes. Attending a MEDCAP in the area where he rallied, he made a visible impression on the villagers, who looked at the face of this new version of the enemy and puzzled over the men in the North who had sent a boy like this to fight.

Company C hopes he can go through the Kit Carson scout training program and come back to them as an adopted son.



AN HAI—Big Brother to the youngsters of Gadsden Village, Specialist 5 Thomas R. Katke (right) had been with the Army's 23rd Artillery Group in Vietnam for nearly two years.

Viet Boy Now Walks Because Of 9th Inf Div

TAN HIEP (USA)—With the help of corrective surgery, arranged by doctors from the U.S. Army's 9th Infantry Division, Huynh—a somber 5-year-old boy who was born with club feet—is now walking.

The twisted feet, a congenital deformity, would not support his tiny body, so while other children were learning to walk Huynh was still crawling.

Huynh's future was brightened after his mother carried him to a Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) conducted by the 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry in one of the hamlets near Tan Hiep.

"After I saw the little fellow, I realized that it would be quite possible to correct the boy's condition if he were sent immediately to a hospital in Saigon," said Captain Milton E. Gibson, the 5th Battalion surgeon who examined the boy.

The surgeon submitted a detailed report to Major Richard W. Townsley, Battalion Civil Affairs Officer, who made arrangements for the boy and his mother to enter a Saigon hospital for the operation.

A little more than a month later, when mother and son

emerged from the hospital, Huynh was walking. He was clutching his mother's hand and his progress was slow, but the child was moving under his own power.

When asked, through an interpreter, about her son's condition, Huynh's mother replied: "My son walks now. I thank you and thank you."

Vietnamese Girls Express Thanks To US Wounded

DA NANG (USMC)—Miss Cong Huyen Ton Nu Kim Ngan wanted to tell the U.S. servicemen helping her country's fight for freedom that their efforts were appreciated.

Gathering her family and friends, Miss Kim Ngan suggested they all make embroidered handkerchiefs for the wounded in the hospital near here.

Fifty volunteers helped and a week later Miss Kim Ngan, accompanied by Major General Norman J. Anderson, commanding general, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, went to the hospital and presented her gifts.



CIDG—Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) soldiers examine an RPG-2 rocket and launcher captured from Viet Cong after a mortar and ground attack on a Special Forces camp at Tong Le Chon. Attacked by a multi-regimental force, the CIDG soldiers and Special Forces advisors fought off the attack for more than six hours.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

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TO:

Open VN Farm Credit Bank

Low Interest Loans Offered To Spur Farm Yield, Profit

SAIGON (MACV)—A specially tailored program for Vietnamese farmers was instituted last May with the opening of the nation's Agricultural Development Bank (ADB). The bank has two main goals.

As described by Doctor Nguyen Van Hao, the ADB director, the goals are "to offer credit to boost agricultural production, and to improve living standards of the rural population."

"ADB is an enterprise to serve the whole rural population, which comprises 85 percent of the total population, and one that is difficult to satisfy," Doctor Hao said.

First, said Dr. Hao, the bank will support the Ministry of Agriculture by providing credit and implementing new ministry programs to improve farming techniques. These programs will involve mechanization of farming, distribution of fertilizer and insecticide, low-cost housing, irrigation, and land reform.

Second, the ADB will aid the Ministry of Trade by providing capital to those engaged in the marketing of farm products.

Intervention of the government in the field of agricultural credit not only is necessary, said Dr. Hao, but it is an effective way of assuring the success of economic development programs.

Because of the high credit risks involved in financing farm projects, no private bank or local money-lender can extend credit at rates the farmer can afford to pay. Therefore, he said, "the government must take the responsibility for the risks in granting credit to farmers."

This, he added, "is not a social act, but an essential economic operation" which will lead to the development of agriculture on a commercial basis and ultimately to economic prosperity.

To help him in mapping the structure of this kind of bank, Dr. Hao traveled to Japan, the Philippines, the Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and the United States, where, he says, "I observed agricultural banks and studied their advantages and disadvantages in terms of the situation in Vietnam."

Joint Effort Results In Better Road

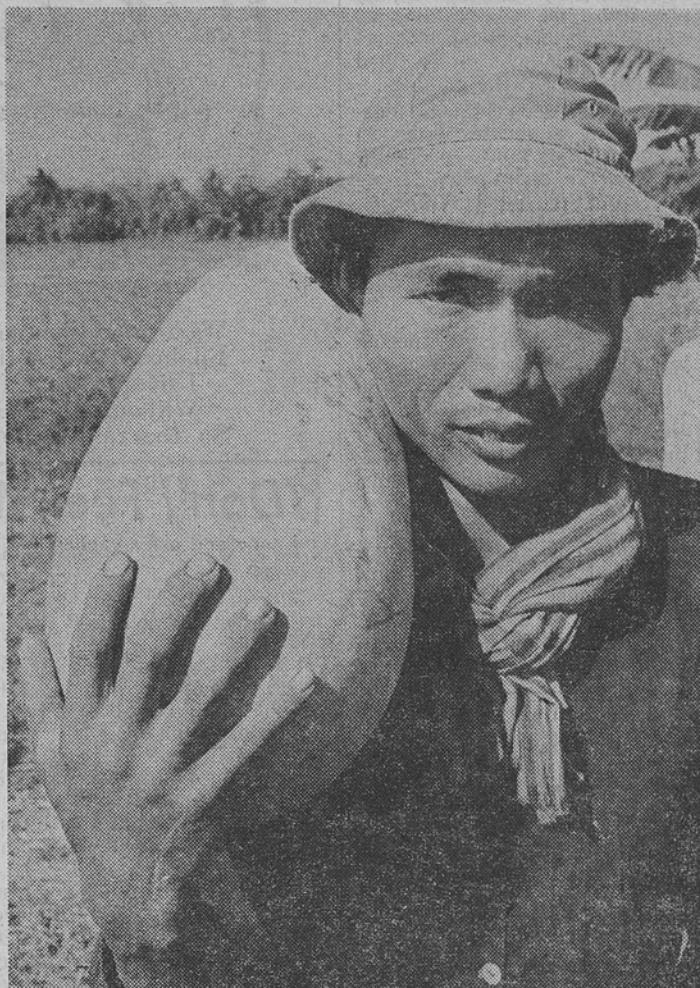
CAN THO (IV Corps)—ARVN combat engineers, U.S. advisors and Vietnamese laborers have just resurfaced the 617-mile stretch of road between the Can Tho and Ben Tuy airfields in the Delta.

The road, damaged by heavy traffic and monsoon rains, is the only passable route in the area during the rainy season, according to Major Stanley R. Johnson, advisor to the ARVN engineer unit on the project.

Heavy equipment—consisting of two graders, five dump trucks and two diesel rollers, together with operators—were provided by the 40th ARVN Combat Engineer Group.

Other laborers were supplied by the Vietnamese Ministry of Public Works.

The project, which was completed this month, used more than \$15,000 worth of gravel weekly. The road was also widened a meter on each side.



FARMER OF TRUNG AN, AN GIANG PROVINCE Shows Off Watermelon Grown Under Farm Credit Plan

On his return to Saigon he sought the help of Glenn Browne, deputy governor of the U.S. Farm Credit Administration, then visiting Vietnam.

"Two years ago," recalls Hao, "he and I worked together for one month and studied how we could transform the National Agriculture Credit Office (NACO) in the Agricultural Development Bank that we have today. At those sessions we became the fathers of the ADB."

This launched the program, and ADB's staff of 178 in Saigon and 506 in the provinces set to work to achieve its aims. Orders went out from the head office overlooking the Saigon River, to ADB's nine branches and 20 branch annexes.

Within seven weeks, ADB had loaned to 25,743 borrowers a total of 334.8 million piasters (US\$2,837,290)—only 35.2 million piasters less than NACO loaned in all of 1966.

In seven weeks ADB loaned approximately one-sixth of the 2,000 million piasters earmarked for agricultural development loans in 1967.

During those seven weeks of May and June, a total of 127.2 million piasters was loaned to 5,786 Vietnamese farmers by the division of ADB which administers "hard" loans, or ones on which repayment is reasonably assured according to normal banking guide rules.

These loans are financed by the bank's capitalization of 200 million piasters and by deposits made in ADB by private firms

and individuals.

In the same period, a total of 207.6 million piasters was loaned to 19,951 farmers and six private dealers by ADB's other division, which administers special programs designed to stimulate agricultural production.

These borrowers in many cases do not have the collateral or economic resources to enable them to get low-cost credit from private banks that judge risks by normal banking guide rules. These special loans are financed by a fund of 900 million piasters provided by the Vietnamese government and well over 1,000 million piasters from the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID). The eight programs (See OPEN, Page 12)

Former VC Saves Sergeant "He Has Eyes Like A Fox"

RACH KIEN (USA) — An open arms returnee, who at one time set booby traps for the Viet Cong, saved the life of a 9th Infantry Division sergeant near here recently.

Phuc Van Cuc, who had been a Hoi Chanh, became a scout for Company A, 3rd Brigade, 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry.

During a search and destroy operation near here Staff Sergeant James A. Swearington started to enter a house. The former VC, spotting an enemy grenade rigged to the door, "ran up and pushed me to the ground," recalled Sergeant

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U.S. Brigades Switch Patches

LONG BINH (USA) — Two combat-seasoned U.S. Army brigades have changed shoulder patches in a move establishing geographical as well as unit integrity for the 4th and 25th Infantry Division, Headquarters, U.S. Army Vietnam, announced.

The 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, has been redesignated a brigade of the 4th Infantry Division. Concurrently the 4th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade put on the "Tropic Lightning" patch of the 25th. Each unit will continue to be the 3rd Brigade of its new division.

The dislocation of the two brigades from their parent divisions came about as a result of the phased employment of Army forces to Vietnam and was influenced by the tactical situation at the time.

When the 25th Division was sent to Vietnam, its 3rd Brigade was assigned an area of responsibility around Pleiku—some 200 miles north of the division headquarters and the other two brigades.

The 4th Infantry Division deployed to Vietnam a few months later. Its tactical areas of responsibility was also in the Pleiku area. With the combat-experienced 3rd Brigade of the 25th Division already there, the "Ivy" Division's 3rd Brigade was detached at sea and sent to Cu Chi, the main base of the 25th Infantry Division, to bring the "Tropic Lightning" division back to three-brigade strength. Both brigades have fought mainly in areas separated from their parent divisions.

Maneuver battalions and brigade artillery battalions were transferred in-place from one division to the other. These units retain their battalion and regimental affiliations. For example: the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry, 3rd Brigade, 25th

Infantry Division will hold the same numerical designations except for the division designator—which will become 4th Infantry Division.

Soldiers of the 4th and 25th Infantry Division brigades will be able to wear the shoulder patch of their former division if they desire. A soldier wears the insignia of his current unit on his left shoulder. On his right he can wear the patch of the unit he served with in combat. The men involved in the redesignation can wear both the 4th and 25th Infantry Divisions shoulder insignia while in Vietnam.

Members of the two brigades will continue to receive their mail at the same APO's which previously served them.

VN Soldier Cited For Heroic Act

SAIGON (USA) — An ARVN sergeant who gave his life in a vain effort to rescue his U.S. comrade from a swollen river was posthumously awarded the Army's highest decoration for non-combat heroism.

Mrs. Nguyen Van Hiep, widow of the heroic NCO, received the award of the Soldier's Medal in ceremonies held in the office of Brigadier General Robert L. Ashworth, commanding general, Headquarters Area Command.

Last year, Sergeant Hiep, assigned to the Vietnamese Riverboat Patrol Training Center, along with a military policeman from the 716th MP Battalion, was on a joint boat patrol along the Saigon River.

Word came of a suspected larceny from a barge anchored nearby, and Sergeant Hiep and the MP headed for the area. As they reached the barge and tried to tie their boat up to it, the MP slipped, lost his balance and fell into the river.

Without hesitation, his ARVN partner plunged into the swift-moving river in a rescue attempt. But trying to assist the weakening MP and fight the dangerous current proved impossible; both men were swept away and drowned.

"Sergeant Hiep's heroic act," read the citation, "will remain as an expression of the true spirit of union, self-sacrifice and togetherness exhibited daily among the men of both the Vietnamese and United States armies."

Editorial

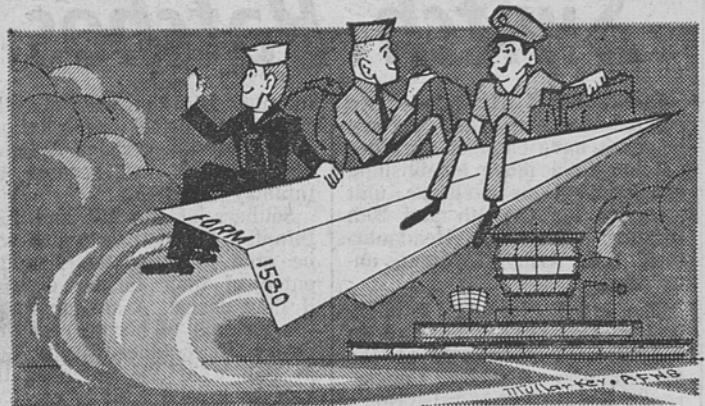
'Form' for Flying

EACH year, millions of Americans travel on commercial airlines. A large portion of these travelers are servicemen and women.

Often separated from their families by great distances because of duty and limited in their available time for travel, men and women of the Armed Forces sometimes rely on rapid air transportation to get maximum value from their leaves and passes.

Along with the special discount for military fares, the Department of Defense and the airline industry have agreed to issue and use a new form which can make your reduced-rate airline travel smoother and more enjoyable. It is DD Form 1580, Military Standby Authorization for Commercial Air Travel.

When the form is properly completed by the authority issuing your leave papers or liberty pass, it will confirm your leave or liberty status and your entitlement to reduced military fares. The airlines may also use the form in establishing priorities among military standbys.



It is, however, your responsibility to initiate the request for sufficient DD1580's to cover every leg of your trip, both coming and going. In any case, you should obtain not less than five completed copies of the form from the command authorizing your leave, liberty or pass.

Even in the case of emergency leave when travel and leave authorizations are prepared on short notice, be sure you don't forget to get your DD1580 forms.

An added advantage of DD1580 is that Vietnam servicemen granted R&R leave in Hawaii can provide their wives with copies of their leave orders and DD1580's so they can travel from the West Coast to Hawaii and return at a special rate.

Although not now required by all airlines, the DD Form 1580 will be accepted and will go a long way to making your air travel easier.

Complete details on the use of DD Form 1580 and reduced fares can be obtained from your transportation section or the nearest Joint Airline Military Traffic Office. (AFNB)

Support Is Widespread For U.S. Vietnam Role

Expressions of support for efforts of U.S. and Free World forces in South Vietnam arrive frequently, addressed to the commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. It is the policy of the OBSERVER to announce the receipt of some of these resolutions, telegrams and letters on this, the editorial page.

The following communications have been answered by General Westmoreland:

Statement in support of troops in Vietnam signed by more than 400 staff and faculty, Washington State Univ., Pullman, Wash. sent by Professor Bernard E. Bobb, 412 Grant St., Pullman.

**BUY
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BONDS**

New Offshore PX Catalogs Coming Soon

HONOLULU (PACEX) — A new offshore catalog is being developed by Headquarters Pacific Exchange System for use by exchange customers in the Pacific.

Primarily, the catalog will contain some 200 high-demand items, of offshore origin, which have been popular with the troops as souvenir items.

The old offshore catalog, popularly referred to as the "JAKOR Catalog," will be replaced by the new catalog as soon as possible. Meanwhile, orders will continue to be filled through the JAKOR catalogs.

Since the new catalog is designed to duplicate items in Southeast Asia stock (primarily for Vietnam and Thailand), orders from the catalog will be accepted for delivery from APOs to CONUS addresses only, according to Colonel A.E. Garoni, commander, Pacific Exchange System.

The new catalog is expected to reduce the present logistics problem in Southeast Asia, where items purchased from Japan, Korea, Thailand and Hong Kong are first shipped to the buyer who then trans-ships them to CONUS.

The new catalog will be distributed in Vietnam and Thailand, and will be available at most customer service counters. In smaller exchanges, catalogs will be available at managers' offices.

Nobody Else Can Satisfy Your Family

One of the most important items on the list of morale factors for a soldier overseas is mail call. But does the soldier realize that this also ranks high with the folks back home?

We should realize that the extremely detailed coverage of the war gives the people in America a picture of daily violence and death in Vietnam. When they read of bombings in Saigon or rocket rounds falling on Phu Lai or Da Nang, they immediately are upset if they have loved ones in those areas. They have no idea of the size of cities or base camps in this war zone.

Sitting at home with the daily routine of civilian life provides too much time for a wife, mother, child or sweetheart to sit and fret. Only your letter makes them feel better. They look for the mailman as eagerly as you await mail call. Their disappointment when no letter arrives, or their joy when one of your letters is delivered, is as great as yours.

You know what's going on, they don't and they often imagine the worst. Reassure them, don't air all your gripes and disappointments. It doesn't change anything for you here, and it sure makes their morale drop if they think you are constantly unhappy.

A little gift now and then helps, too. The PX has lots of small, inexpensive items that can be airmailed home for amazingly low rates . . . their thanks and surprise, expressed in their letter, will do more for your state of mind than a beer or five.

Remember, it's a long year for them, too. If you care, then care enough to send the best—a letter from you, frequently.

Petition supporting efforts in VN, signed by members of Beyer's State of California. Forwarded by Governor Ronald Reagan.



With promotion comes a raise in my pay,
I'll invest all of that in some way.
I live on what I get,
Without going in debt
So the raise'll be bonus—DEROS-DAY

"Don't Feel Worth A Dong!"

Two 50 piaster notes, old friends who had not seen each other in three years, were reunited one day inside of a GI's wallet.

"Say," said one note to the other, "you've gained a little weight since I last saw you."

"Yeah," said the other, "I'm a little inflated. You look like you put on a little weight yourself. Working hard?"

"Too hard," said the other. "And the harder I work, the heavier I get."

"I can't seem to settle down. I'm always getting crammed into someone's wallet or pocket. Last night, a GI used me to buy a beer. Imagine that. He gave me away for one stinkin' bottle of brew."

"I remember," said the other note. "Nobody kicked sand in his face. But I guess the bigger you are, the softer you are inflated."

"I'd like to get out of this rat race and find me a nice small hamlet in the country."

"You're a dreamer."

"I know, but I'd tear off my top left-hand corner for just a chance to settle down at the bottom of some little old lady's empty nuoc mam vat, to be a part of her life's savings."

"How do you feel?"

"I feel worse than I did this morning. Why?"

"I don't know. Something tells me we've both gained some weight today."

"I feel a little more inflated, too, if that's what you mean."

"Yeah, that's what I mean... a little more inflated, a little less useful, with a little less dignity and self-respect."

"I sure wish those GIs would wise up — I look terrible in a girdle."

"That's right?" said the one.



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Paratroopers Freed Prisoners From These Stocks Used By VC

22 VC Prisoners Released; Some Were Held Two Years

DUC PHO (USA) — A grisly account of life in a prison camp was revealed as three women and 19 men from Quang Nghia Province told 101st Airborne paratroopers of intimidation, abuse and death at the hands of the Viet Cong.

The women—42, 57 and 67 years old—were kidnapped by the VC because their sons serve in Popular Force (PF) units. The men, ranging in age from 17 to 68, were abducted for various reasons: sons in ARVN units, informing government forces of VC activities and refusing to join the Communist guerrillas.

The women also worked while prisoner in the VC camp. One 42-year old mother of four was kidnapped on March 30 because her two sons and younger brother served in the ARVN. For four months she worked within the compound, preparing the meager daily meal for the prisoners and mending clothes. She and the other women were bound each night.

As each former prisoner related a personal story of the captivity, the others nodded in agreement. They had been given only a half cup of rice a day, were tied hand and foot and beaten frequently.

One of the newly-freed Vietnamese—a 67-year old woman—asked to be returned to her family. One of her five children was a platoon leader in the ARVN, she said.

An interpreter told her and the others that they would be taken to the province hospital at Quang Nghia and then reunited with their families.

The old woman nodded with a contentment she had not known since being captured in February. Soon she would be home.

Mechanized: More Water; Less Energy

AN KHE (USA) — The villagers of An Xuyen are finding it much easier to draw water from their wells these days, due to the recent installation of two windlasses by members of the 1st Air Cavalry Division.

Residents of the hamlet were at first dubious about the devices, but after preliminary instruction and encouragement by the village chief, the hoists proved a complete success.

He told of the VC treatment at the camp since its capture in May, 1966.

The mechanical advantage of the windlass permits even the frailest woman to lift three times more water with less effort than she previously could using a small pail and dropline.

Improve Health Of Montagnard Children

LE THANH (USA) — A youth Health Improvement Program designed to improve the health and stamina of Montagnard children dwelling in the Edap Enang resettlement area and in numerous villages in the 4th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade area of operation was initiated recently by the brigade's Civil Affairs section.

Skin diseases among the villagers was one of the greatest problems facing the 1st Brigade Medical Civil Affairs Program (MEDCAP) teams when they arrived in Vietnam's Central Highlands. Simple bathing with soap solved this difficulty.

Regular medical care is offered to the Montagnards through four MEDCAP missions



ARVN Soldier And Hamlet Chief Await Evacuation

Navy Goodwill Program Restores Sight To Blind

DA NANG (USN) — In working with a goodwill program called "Vision for Vietnam," Lieutenant Commander John W. Tomlinson, an eye specialist aboard the Navy hospital ship USS Repose, performs cornea transplants on Vietnamese.

The transplant involves the removal of cornea from the eye of a dead person to the eye of the patient. Although the operation takes from one and one-half to three hours, recuperation can take as long as three months.

The eye must be kept under heavy sedation and medication for at least two months to prevent tiny blood vessels from growing into the transplant.

Success of the operation cannot be fully known until the medication is discontinued. While medication is being used the patient will be able to see but not to the full extent," Tomlinson said.

The first step in transplanting involves an examination and a consultation with the patient to determine if a cornea transplant will help. If there is a good chance for success, the commander contacts the International Eye Bank in Ceylon.

to each hamlet weekly. During each mission, the children are given a glass of milk and a vitamin pill to help correct serious dietary deficiencies in their daily diet.

Since the program's beginning last month, more than 10,000 Montagnard children have been treated.

Periodic dental checkups are

Finish Boy Scout—Soldier Project

PHAN RANG (USA) — Vietnamese Boy Scouts joined with U.S. servicemen stationed near Phan Rang to build a playground for children of this coastal city, 175 miles north of Saigon.

Paratroopers of Company B, 87th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division helped the scouts of Ninh Thuan Province

Vietnam Lumber Industry Assisted By AID Experts

SAIGON (MACV) — A team of timber experts from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), with the aim of packing some hard muscle into the Vietnamese economy, are providing technical assistance to Vietnamese lumberjacks.

The team, recruited by the U.S. Forestry Service, is serving the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) under a Participating Agency Service Agreement (PASA) with USAID.

There are four objectives in the team's mission:

- To increase lumber output.
- To lower production costs and prices.

—To improve logging practices.

—To manufacture better lumber.

While intensifying their efforts toward the achieving of these objectives, the team will also assist primary and secondary wood industries with other technical problems — particularly in the field of wood seasoning, furniture manufacturing, lumber storage, wood preservation, and charcoal production.

Another important aspect of the job is to help the Republic of Vietnam's National Directorate of Forests make a comprehensive survey of the nation's timber resources and to generate management plans for the national forest areas. In doing this, the team will work closely with the Directorate of Forests in implementing the programs. The aim is to assist the Directorate and not to supplement it.

Vietnam is composed of 17,146,000 hectares (2.47 acres per hectare), of which 5,620,000 hectares (or 33 per cent) are considered forest. The most heavily timbered provinces, according to the Directorate, are Phuoc Long, Binh Long, Tay Ninh, and Long Khanh, all of them in the southern third of the country, and Quang Dac and the southern half of Darc in the Central Highlands.

Dense rain forests predominate in these provinces. The best mangrove areas are in Kien Giang, An Xuyen and Bac Lieu provinces, all of which are located in the southern tip of the Mekong Delta.

The principle commercial pine provinces are Tuyen Duc and Lam Dong, both of which are in the Central Highlands, while there are areas abundant with hardwood timber in Pleiku and Gia Lai.

The principle commercial pine provinces are Tuyen Duc and Lam Dong, both of which are in the Central Highlands, while there are areas abundant with hardwood timber in Pleiku and Gia Lai.

AN KHE (USA) — During recent months, the men of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's 1st Brigade, 27th Maintenance Battalion — working with the civil affairs office — renovated two elementary schools for 158 students of Bong Son and 200 students of An Khe.

Three classrooms in each school were completely rebuilt with concrete floors, new desks and blackboards. Both schools were also equipped with sets of metal playground equipment.

In Bong Son, the children received basketballs and T-shirts which were donated by the 12th Cavalry.

In order to beautify the school at An Khe, the cavalrymen, with the assistance of the local villagers, erected a flag pole in front of the school and built a picket fence around the school's yard.



AID Industrial Specialist Lewis Metcalf Talks With Sawmill Manager in I Corps Area.

Kontum Province.

With the exception of 1950, sawlog output rose steadily from 1948 through 1956. Then it gradually declined — from a high of 552,000 cubic meters in 1956 to 318,000 cubic meters in 1965.

There are twice as many sawlogs cut illegally in Vietnam as are cut legally (by permit), a fact which can be attributed to Viet Cong activity.

Most of the sawmills in the Republic are small, and many of them have old equipment in need of a repair. But Vietnamese sawmill operators have shown more than a flash of ingenuity in using available equipment, and they are usually able to keep their mills operating if the logs are available and the

roads to market are secure.

The capacity of the mills could be doubled — perhaps tripled — with the addition of minimal support equipment. The machines needed include manually-operated trim saws, a mechanical means of turning and positioning large logs, bull edgers (for trimming logs) and dead rolls, which convey lumber from the headsaw to the edger to the sorting chain.

PHU THANH (USA) — American soldiers stationed near Qui Nhon prevented a raging fire from becoming a major disaster and then they helped to pick up the pieces.

Since the Free World Forces in Vietnam procure most of their lumber from CONUS, there is no immediate need for more sophisticated sawmills in-country. The existing mills can meet the demand for lumber and timber—at least until the country is no longer at war.

Heroic AF Sentry Dog Recovers And Retires

SAIGON (USA) — The Vietnam war is over for Nemo—an Air Force sentry dog credited with saving his master's life during a battle with four Viet Cong in South Vietnam.

The principle commercial pine provinces are Tuyen Duc and Lam Dong, both of which are in the Central Highlands, while there are areas abundant with hardwood timber in Pleiku and Gia Lai.

The heroic canine left Tan Son Nhut air base for retirement at the sentry dog training school, Lackland AFB, Tex. Battle-scarred from wounds suffered in the Vietnam war, Nemo has received first class medical care and is well on the road to recovery.

In the first moments of encounter, the airman killed two of the VC. But, before additional security police could reach them, Airman Thorneburg was wounded in the shoulder and Nemo received severe facial wounds. The remaining enemy were soon killed by other security police.

The event that altered Nemo's life began on Dec. 5, 1966. He and his handler, Airman First Class Robert A. Thorneburg, were on a patrol at Tan Son Nhut air base. The preceding day, Tan Son Nhut had been hit by a Viet Cong mortar attack. During the attack, about 60 VC swept through an opening they made in the base perimeter's barbed wire fence.

Nemo was credited not only with saving the life of Thorneburg, but indirectly prevented further destruction of life and property at Tan Son Nhut.

The battle for Thorneburg was over. Master and dog soon parted. Thorneburg was airlifted from South Vietnam, with Nemo remaining at Tan Son Nhut for treatment by the base veterinarian.

The infiltrators were stopped and turned back by the 377th Security Police Squadron's main line of defense. But four VC

Reaction Team Is In Orbit

CU CHI (USA) — They travel fast and light, and they're just looking for trouble. That's how the jump teams of the 25th Infantry Division go into battle.

Orbiting over the combat area in assault helicopters, the mission of the jump is to provide a lightning-swift attack force that can react immediately to any Viet Cong move.

A typical day for a jump team begins early in the morning when members scramble aboard their ships and climb to orbit altitude. A Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry did just that recently during a combat sweep by the battalion, part of Operation Kolekole forces of the Division's 2nd Brigade operation northwest of Saigon. The company circled for three hours as ground troops swept through hamlet after hamlet within contact.

Then the order was radioed to Lieutenant Mike Tarantola, A Company Commander: "See what you can stir up by assaulting a hedgerow complex south of the swamp." The ships dived for the ground. The team members jumped from the helicopter skids before they touched down, and were into the hedge row in seconds.

Gunships overhead spotted two Viet Cong soldiers fleeing to the north as the team drove in from the south. Ground soldiers moved in to seal off escape routes to the east and west while the gunships swept low on rocket and machinegun runs.

The jump team assaulted right up the center following the VC into the swamp. Fighting in water that was often shoulder deep, they killed one enemy soldier while the gun ships accounted for the second.

While ground soldiers moved into the area to search for any possible remaining enemy troops, the jump team sprinted back to their ships and spiraled back up to orbit altitude, ready for another mission.

36th Sig Bn Recaps Civic Action Project

LONG BINH (USA) — The 36th Signal Battalion maintains an effective civic action program at Thu Duc, Long Binh Province by supporting the Fatima Orphanage.

Support to Fatima began shortly after the battalion arrived in November 1966. The program included medical aid, food, clothing, education and construction projects.

When members of the battalion first visited the orphanage, almost all of the children needed medical attention so arrangements were made for weekly visits by a medical team from the 93rd Evacuation Hospital.

Also, the water system at Fatima was inadequate. The signalmen solved this by purchasing a pump and obtaining a water tank and pipe. A new system will soon provide the orphanage with fresh water.

The battalion chaplain conducts weekly English classes for the nuns and children at the orphanage.

Since the 36th began Project Fatima, 13,750 pounds of food and 400 pounds of clothing have been distributed.

As Refugee Center Expands

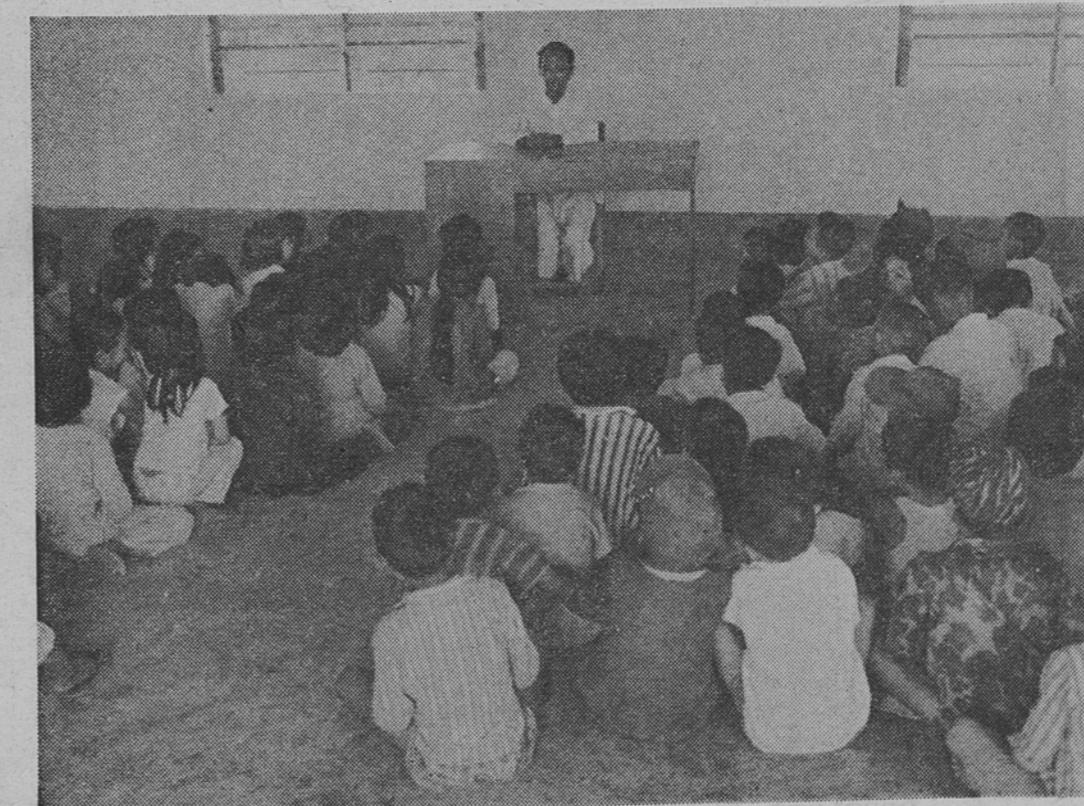
Self-Help Is Key At Gheng Rang



Before Self-Help Program, Refugees Had Primitive Surroundings



The People Do The Work, With Materials From U.S.



One Of New Schoolhouses Built By People Of Gheng Rang, Improvements Will Come



Soon 6,000 More Refugees May Settle Here

Two Schools Renovated By Air Cav Unit

AN KHE (USA) — During recent months, the men of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's 1st Brigade, 27th Maintenance Battalion — working with the civil affairs office — renovated two elementary schools for 158 students of Bong Son and 200 students of An Khe.

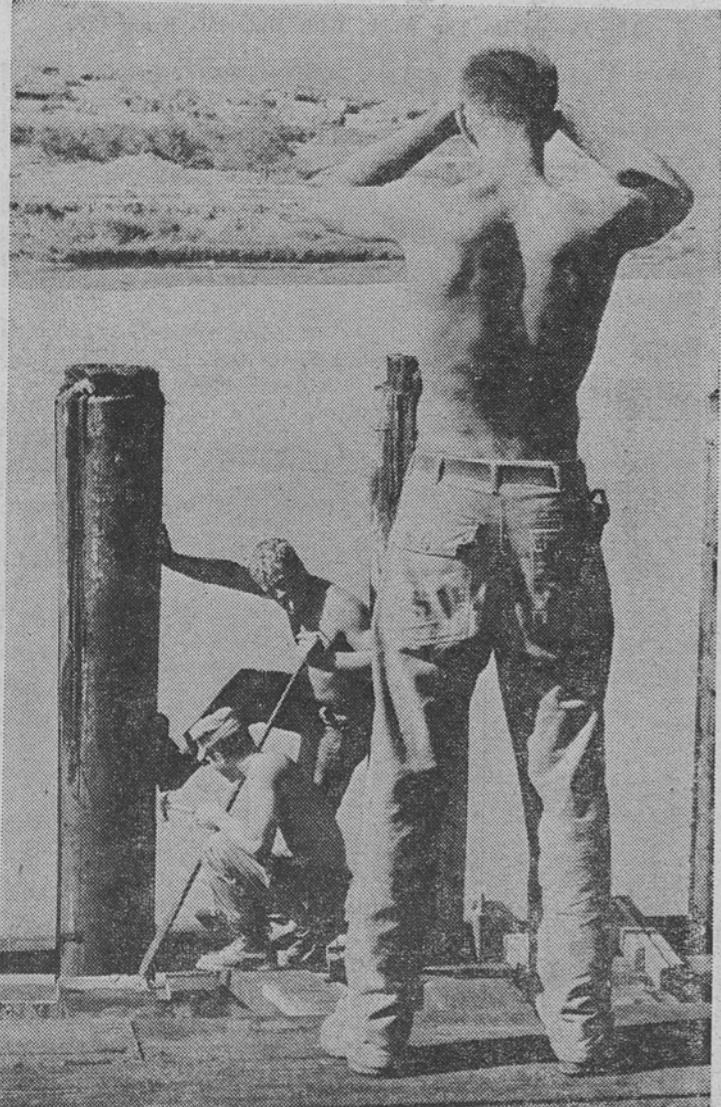
Three classrooms in each school were completely rebuilt with concrete floors, new desks and blackboards. Both schools were also equipped with sets of metal playground equipment.

In Bong Son, the children received basketballs and T-shirts which were donated by the 12th Cavalry.

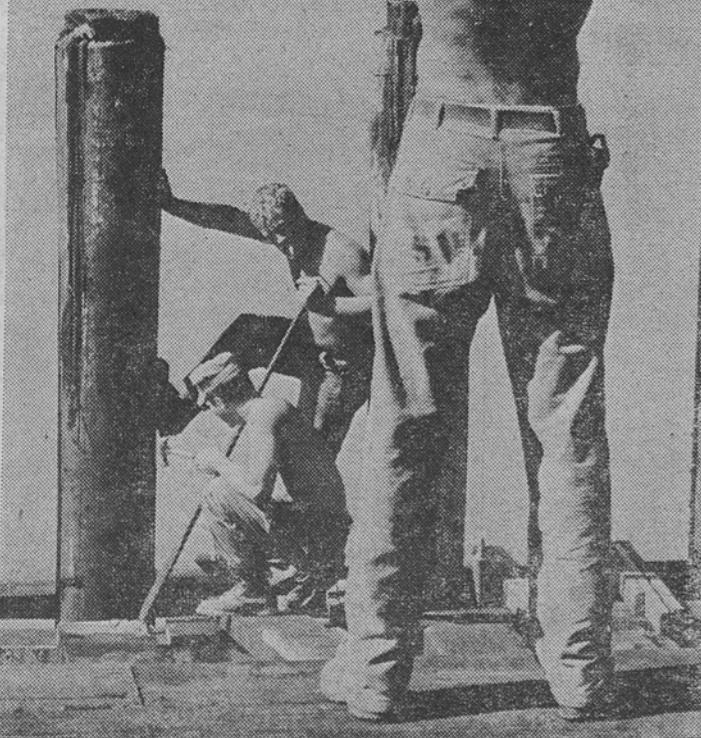
In order to beautify the school at An Khe, the cavalrymen, with the assistance of the local villagers, erected a flag pole in front of the school and built a picket fence around the school's yard.



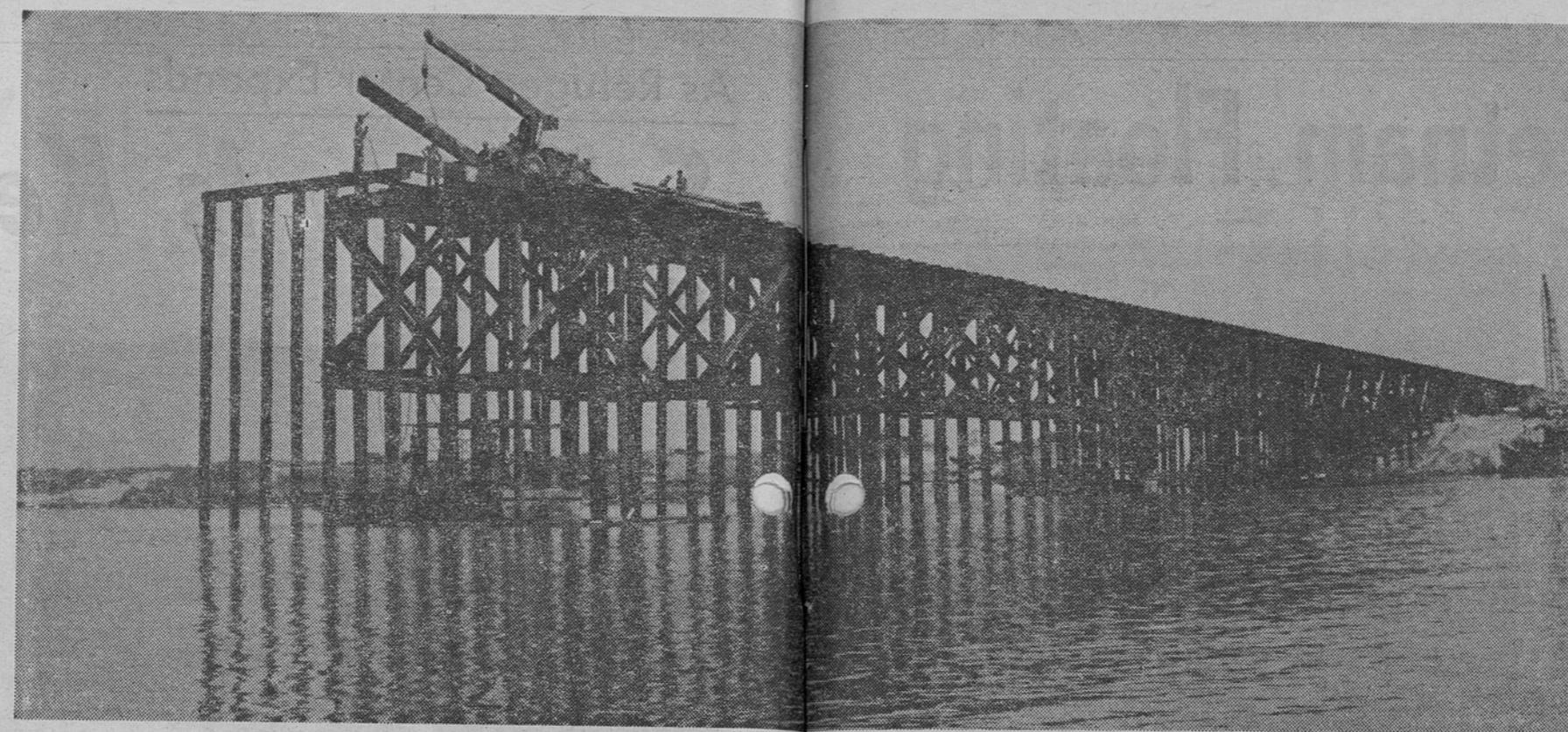
LONG HAUL—An 85-foot piling is lifted into position.



LINING UP—Members of the crew align the bridge pilings.



OBSOLETE—This ferry will soon be replaced by the 2,040 foot bridge.



FAST WORK—Another 20 feet is added as girders are put into place over new pilings.

In I Corps Near Da Nang

Seabees Build Vietnam's 'Longest Bridge'

PEARL HARBOR (USN)—"Build a 2,040-foot long timber bridge to carry vehicles weighing more than 60 tons. Build it strong enough to withstand a 25-foot monsoon season rise in the river it spans, a river which will also double its width when the rains come."

"Do all of this in a remote area of Vietnam known to contain strong enemy forces."

An imposing order, but it was the one given to a detachment of Seabees from Mobile Construction Battalion Four, presently deployed at Da Nang.

Chief Petty Officer John P. Albright is in charge of the working force of enlisted Seabees which varies from 25 to 50 men.

The structure, christened "Liberty Bridge," will span the Thu Bon River, 20 miles southwest of Da Nang. It stands on nearly 800 piles, each one more than 80-feet long and driven 40 feet into the river's bottom. And it will be capable of bearing the weight of the heaviest of military vehicles.

Statistically, "Liberty Bridge" is impressive. It will rise 32 feet above the river's low-water level. Two lanes of traffic will be able to pass over its

eight-inch thick deck. The Seabees will drive more than five tons of nails, each one more than 10-inches long, and will drill holes for 5,000 bolts three-quarters of an inch in diameter and two feet long.

"Liberty Bridge will be the longest timber bridge built by Seabees and will be the longest bridge in Vietnam," says Chief Albright.

"We started the bridge on April 3 and hope to finish it by Labor Day."

The bridge will allow military forces to move rapidly from Da Nang into the An Hoa valley. It will also connect the industrial complex at An Hoa with "Freedom Road," leading to Da Nang and seaborne shipping to the south.

Coal and other materials from the industrial complex now move to Da Nang over a small military ferry positioned upstream from the bridge. All military convoys and combat units use this ferry when crossing the river.

"There are people who live on this side who have never been across the river to An Hoa, and there are people over there who have never been down the road toward Da Nang," the chief explained.

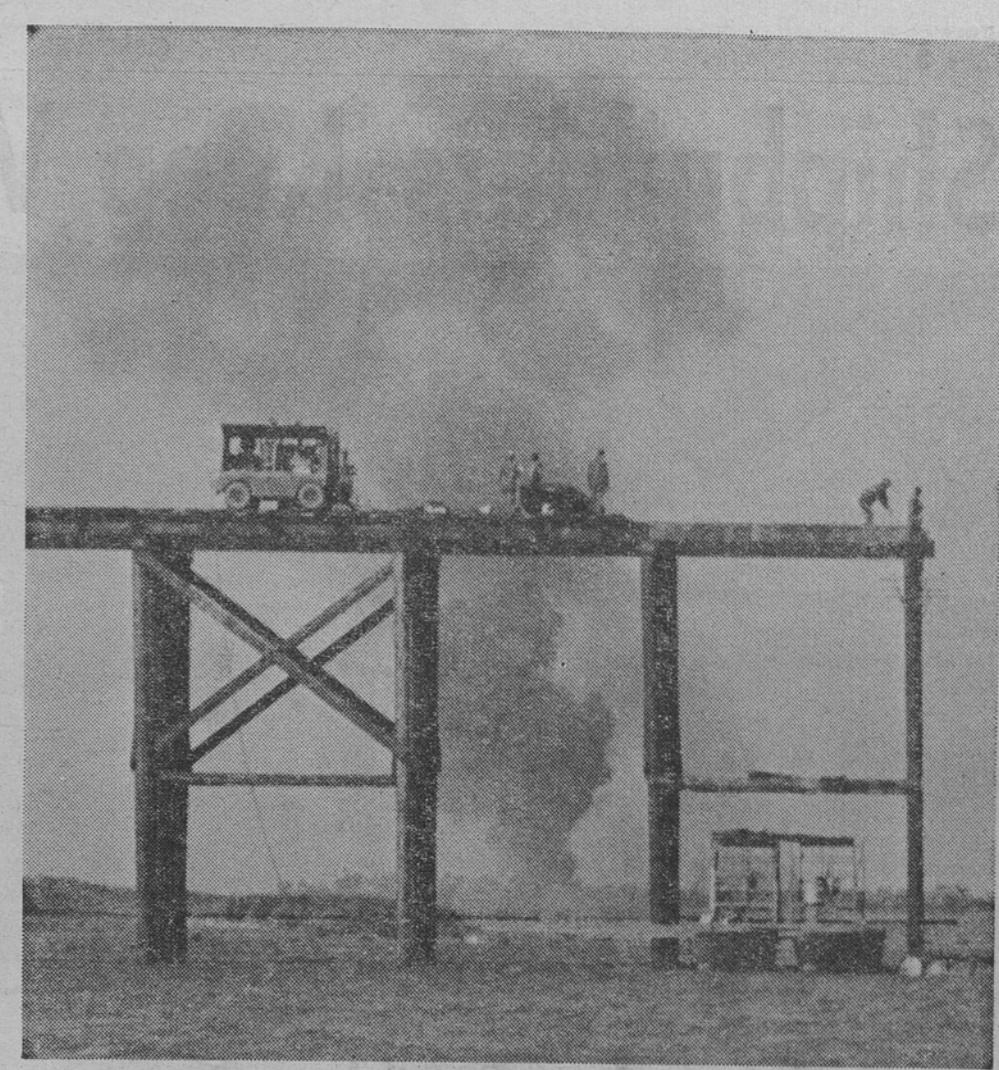
Known throughout the Seabees as

"Pappy," Chief Albright and his crew work a 14-or-15-hour day. "We are scheduled to advance about 100 feet a week," Chief Albright pointed out, "but this crew of mine is making 180 feet a week and getting better all the time."

Moreover, combat action around the bridge is frequent, with fire fights, air strikes and artillery fire occurring within a mile of the bridge. The structure is guarded by a company of marines on the south bank and a platoon which provides perimeter security around the construction site.

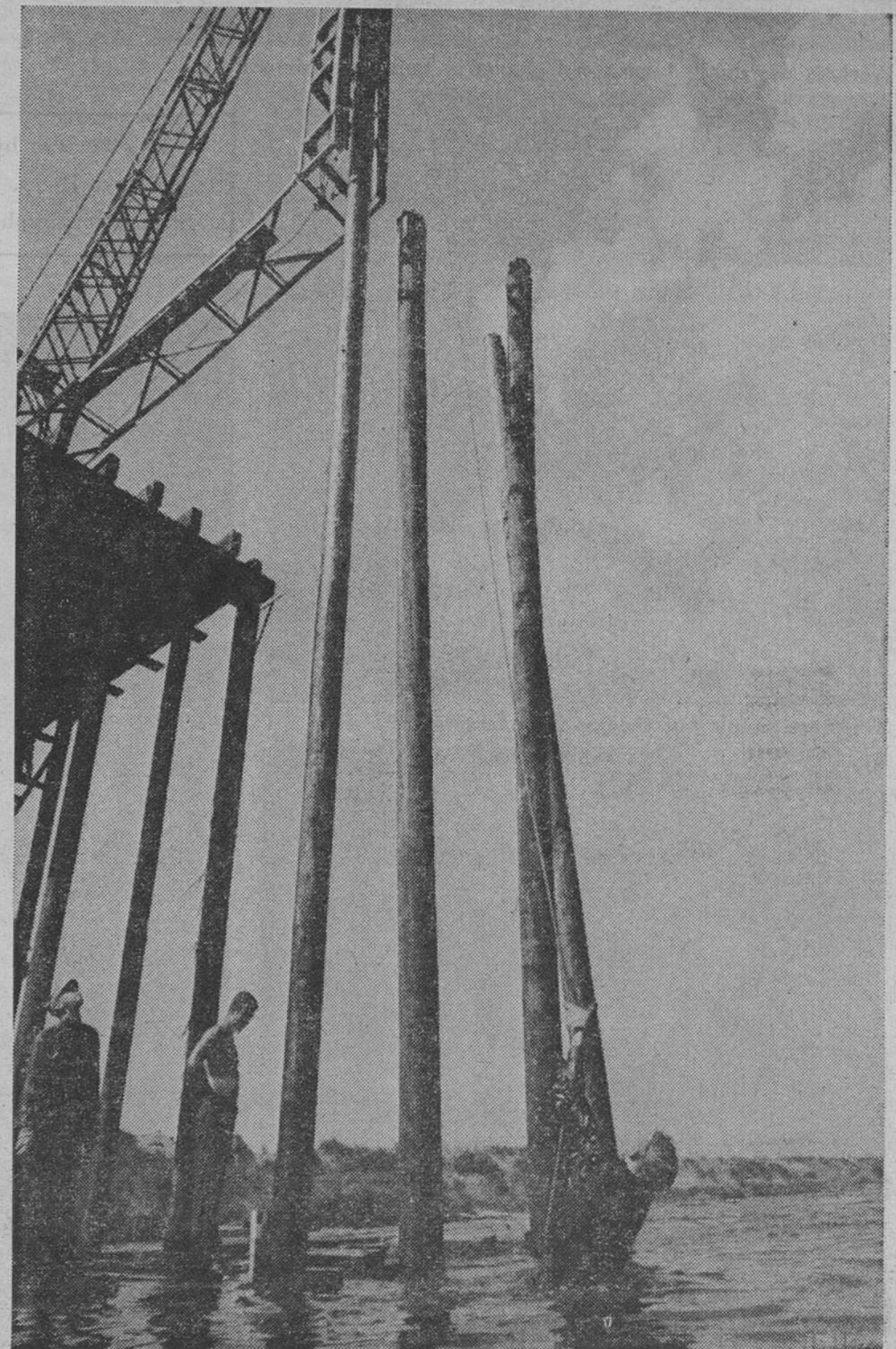


TOPPING OFF—Cutting excess off one of the bridge piles.



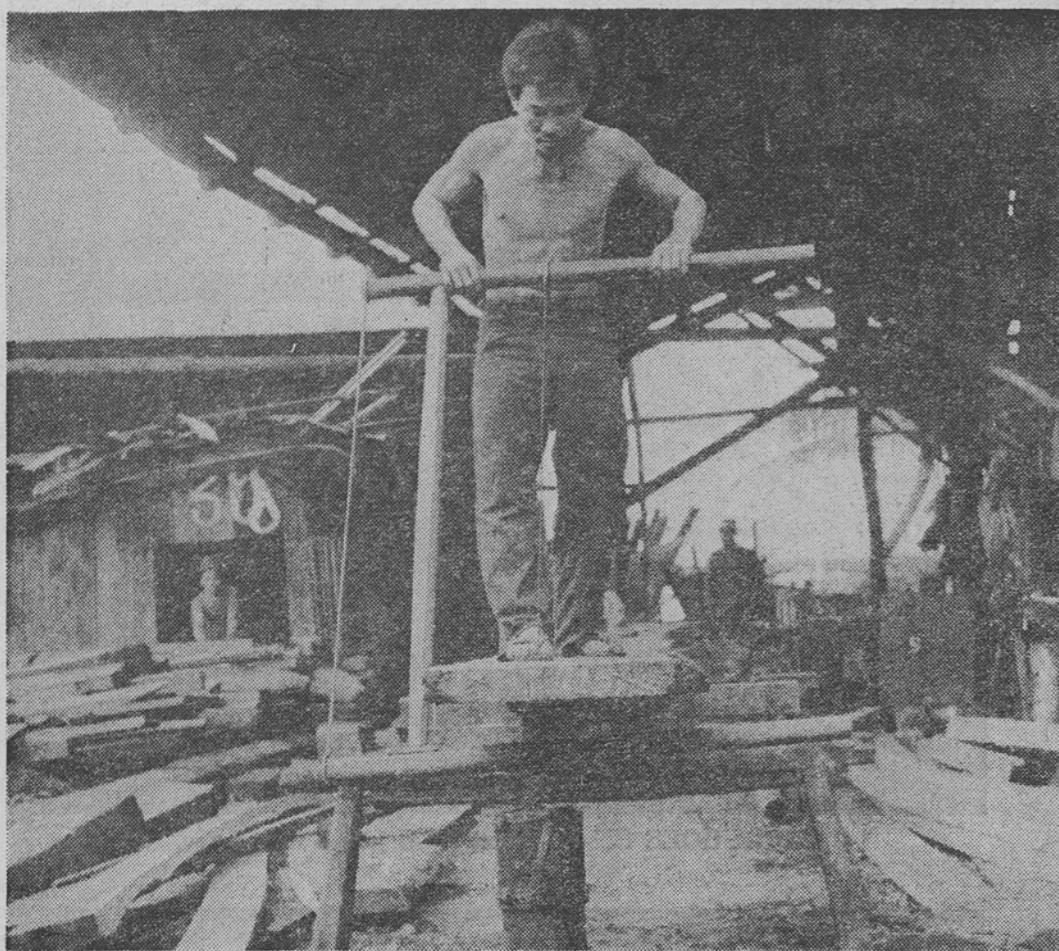
WORK GOES ON—Combat rages just a mile away.

Story & Photos
By
U.S. Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs Office



WET JOB—Positioning piles for driving can be wet work.

Shipbuilders Keep Vietnam Floating



Workers use durable sao wood planks in building their craft.



Tools are simple but the job is professional.

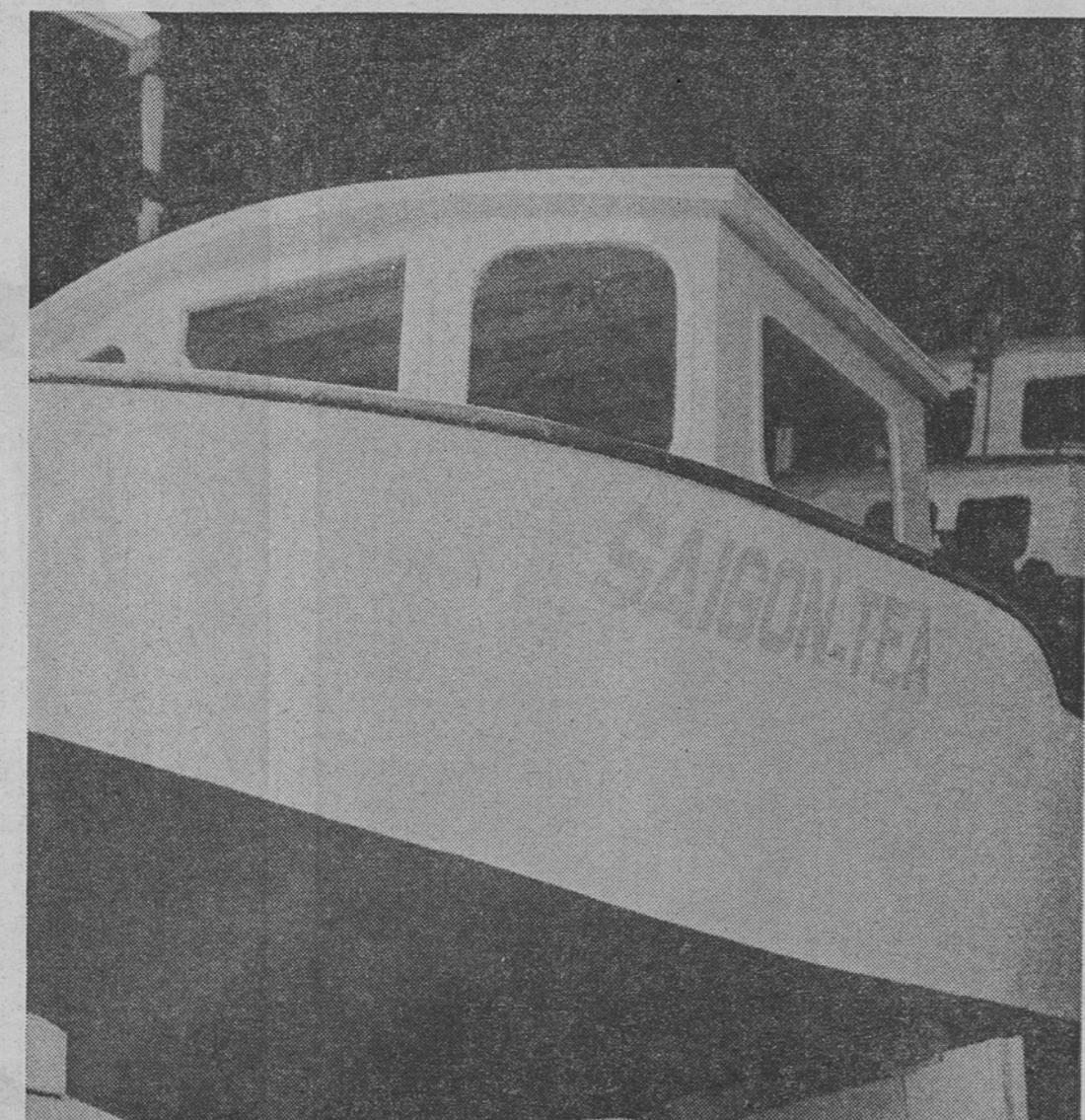


With over 200,000 fishermen in Vietnam, sampans are in big demand.

Photo Feature by
SSgt George Hicks, USA
Staff Photographer



A Vietnamese shipbuilder attacks a repair problem.



Designed for the sportsman, other craft are made to haul cargo and range up to 380 tons.

Royal Palace To VN

Ex VIP Chauffeur Now 1st Sergeant

QUI NHON (USA) — It's a long way from Qui Nhon to Buckingham Palace in England, and driving a jeep over the bumpy roads of Vietnam is a far cry from chauffeuring such VIP's as the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, former President Dwight Eisenhower and U.S. High Commissioners to Germany.

But to First Sergeant Francis Norgrove, of the 58th Field Depot, it's part of performing his duties "when and where needed."

Sergeant Norgrove was born in England and served as a member of the British Armed Forces from 1939 to 1947. While in the Brigade of Guards and the Household Cavalry, he carried out assignments at Buckingham Palace. He later trained British troops who were to become guards for the Royal Family.

When Field Marshall Lord Maitland Wilson went to the U.S. in 1945 to serve as the British representative on the combined chiefs of staff in Washington, Sergeant Norgrove accompanied him as his aide and chauffeur.

"One of my first assignments in the states was to chauffeur Lord Wilson to a dinner party in Georgetown," he recalls. "I thought I overheard one of the guests being addressed as 'Taffey' (a slang term for a Welshman) so I decided to find out from what part of Wales he came. You can imagine the surprise I got when the gentleman turned out to be the late Senator Robert Taft from Ohio."

In 1947 the field marshall retired and the sergeant left the British Army to take a job as personal bodyguard and head chauffeur for the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. The military urge was too strong though and in 1948 he joined the U.S. Army.

With his background of driving for royalty, Sergeant Norgrove's assignment took him to Germany as chauffeur to General Lucius B. Clay.

"At the termination of the Berlin Blockade in 1949, I was assigned to drive for the Chief of Transportation, who was visiting from Washington," stated the Log sergeant. "We were the first U.S. military personnel to pass through the Russian checkpoint on the Frankfurt and Berlin autobahn. I was never sure of what would happen."

The Case Of The Sinking Cooking Pot

CAN THO (USA) — Three Vietnamese Army soldiers, stopping to cook lunch during an operation in the Delta, unwittingly sat down on one of the VC strongholds.

Setting down to their rice and meat, they set up their cooking pot on stones and dry palmleaf leaves. They lit the fire and placed the pot of water, rice and meat on the stones to cook. The food simmered for a few minutes.

All at once, the whole thing—cooking pot, stones and fire—disappeared into what appeared to be solid earth. It turned out to be an entrance to a Viet Cong tunnel complex.

The ARVN soldiers tossed a grenade into the hole and pulled out three dead VC.

pen during the 110-mile trip, but we made it."

His next assignment was with the State Department as driver and enlisted aide to the U.S. High Commissioner to Germany. It was while serving in this capacity that the sergeant chauffeured former President Dwight Eisenhower and U.S. High Commissioners to Germany.

Conant.

The British born sergeant came to Vietnam in October 1966 and, although his assignment as first sergeant with Headquarters Company of the Depot isn't as fascinating as driving for royalty, he doesn't complain. As the well-liked 'Top' explains it: "I'll serve when and where needed."

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In Vung Ro Bay

Important Free World Port Was VC Infiltration Harbor

VUNG RO BAY (USA)—Thirteen years ago, Vung Ro Bay was used as a gun-running port for the Viet Cong.

But U.S. Army Engineers have turned the bay, now called Port Lane, into one of the most effective harbor areas in the 1st Logistical Command's network.

Overlooking Port Lane is an old French fort, on highway 1, and a narrow-gauge railroad which runs high along the mountain ledge and jagged coastline. The port is 80 miles north of Cam Ranh Bay.

In July 1966, elements of the 101st Airborne Division pushed and fought their way through the surrounding jungle in an effort to flush out the Viet Cong.

After the "Screaming Eagles" established a security screen, the 45th Engineer Group began hacking out a beachhead.

Construction was started on Port Lane in November 1966 by Company B, 577th Engineer Battalion. Initial work was directed toward clearing the jungle for a causeway approach and toward finding a quarry site. Also completed was the building of a road from highway 1 to the beach.

The storage area is made up of three terraces, all having a layer of asphalt.

The platoon is also in the process of constructing drainage

Corpsman Gives Viet Sailors First Aid Class

DA NANG (USN)—In Chu Lai, Vietnamese Medics have their own school—and their teacher is an American.

Hospital Corpsman first class Jake Inverso, assigned to the Naval Support Activity Detachment in Chu Lai, trains Vietnamese sailors in basic first aid techniques.

Bravo beach is a cargo area and is used for storage. "One of our biggest problems at Port Lane was the construction of a half-mile-long road connecting Alpha and Bravo beaches," said Captain Kenneth D. Jobe, commander of Company B.

Before the road was built, the only way to get from one beach to the other was by boat. The

road was carved out of a hard granite cliff which drops straight into the South China Sea.

"Now that we have this road, we are able to transport supplies by truck from one beach to the other," said Captain Jobe.

A temporary De Long floating pier was completed in December 1966, permitting two seagoing vessels to unload at the same time. The pier was moved from its original location to one allowing better access to the causeway; it was completed in March.

The earthmoving platoon of Company B carved an additional 34,000 square meters of in-transit storage area out of the mountain side and dense jungle below the road leading to the causeway; it was completed in March.

The storage area is made up of three terraces, all having a layer of asphalt.

The platoon is also in the process of constructing drainage

facilities in the area. The enlarged storage facilities now enable the 119th Transportation Company to off-load more than 1,000 tons of cargo per day.

The road which leads from the causeway to highway 1 is named Bryant Road and was dedicated to Private First Class David C. Bryant, who was killed accidentally while working on the project.

Port Lane has two PXs, two barber shops, a laundry and a swimming area.

"Within the next year, we plan to build another PX and renovate the EM club," said Captain Jobe. "We also plan to lay asphalt on Alpha road, improve drainage facilities and build a new BOQ. There is also a possibility of building another ship landing ramp."

Port Lane was named for Lieutenant Colonel Ernest E. Lane, who was down and fatally wounded while flying an aerial reconnaissance flight over the bay area.

Port Lane is now completed. In future, troops in the field will be supplied with greater speed and efficiency because of the efforts of the troops at this vital bay.

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New O-2 Aircraft Introduced By AF

DA NANG (USAF) — The O-2 Super Skymaster flew its first combat mission in Vietnam with pilots of the 9th Air Commando Squadron, C Flight, psychological air warfare unit at Da Nang air base.

The first crew to log the initial mission included captains Stephen H. Spivey and David B. Englund.

"It's a more versatile plane than the U-10," according to Captain Spivey.

The O-2 is replacing the U-10B Courier as the primary psywar speaker aircraft in I Corps.

"The speakers on the O-2 are twice as powerful as on the U-10," said Captain Englund. "We're going to get better results from them."

"The O-2 is going to work extremely well for the mission," Captain Spivey explained. "We can get from point to point faster, cover a wider area and stay longer over a target."

More than 25,000 leaflets were dropped on the first mission, with two-and-a-half hours spent broadcasting over the speakers. The target areas were near Da Nang, Dong Ha, Khe Sanh and the Demilitarized Zone.

Arriving at Da Nang on June 13, the O-2s were used to acquaint the newly assigned pilots with the surrounding terrain.

Open . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

grams administered by this division are:

Fertilizer Import Program. Financed by a billion piasters from USAID, this program is intended to increase importation of fertilizer and improve its distribution. It is hoped thereby to raise Vietnam's rice production by some 335,000 metric tons annually. Vietnam is potentially one of Asia's best rice growing countries. In the last two weeks of June, ADB loaned a total of 106.9 million piasters to 90 farmers and six private dealers for fertilizer.

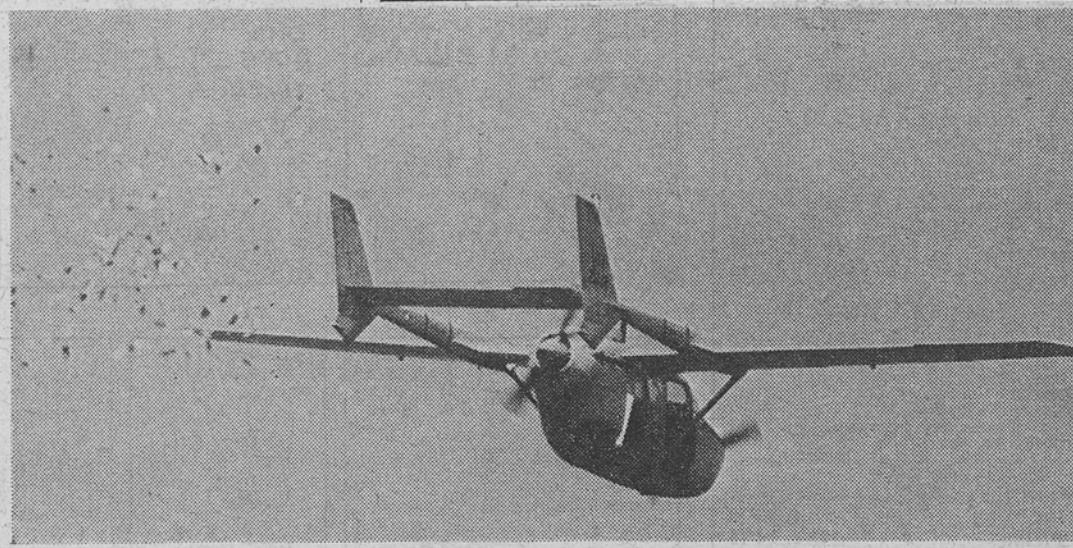
Pacification Loan Program. Financed by about 250 million piasters from the Vietnamese government, this program makes loans to farmers in areas of the country wrested from the Viet Cong. In May and June, ADB loaned a total of 3.8 million piasters to 1,090 farmers in such areas.

New Life Hamlet Loan Program. Financed by 200 million piasters from the Vietnamese government, this program makes loans to families living in the 600 or more New Life Hamlets set up throughout Vietnam for landless settlers, the funds are used in agricultural and handicraft production. In May and June, ADB loaned a total of 25.4 million piasters to 5,483 hamlet dwellers.

Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program. Financed by 175 million piasters from the Vietnamese government, this program makes loans to farmers whose houses have been damaged by Mekong Delta flood waters.

Seed Loan Program. Financed by 100 million piasters from the Vietnamese government, this program makes loans to farmers in flood-stricken Delta areas so they can buy seeds. In May and June, 11,646 farmers—victims of last year's disastrous floods—borrowed 24.5 million piasters for that purpose.

Water Pump Loan Program. Financed by 50 million piasters from USAID, this program makes loans to farmers in flood-



Leaflets Stream From O-2 On Its First Mission In Vietnam

Four days later, the first mission dropped psywar leaflets over the enemy, and the squadron became fully operational on June 19.

menaced areas of the Delta so they can buy water pumps. Such pumps will enable them to drain, level and irrigate their farms so they can raise secondary crops between rice-growing seasons. In May and June, 549 farmers borrowed a total of eight million piasters to buy pumps.

Swine Development Program. Financed by 100 million piasters from the Vietnamese government, this program makes loans to commercial pork farmers in the Saigon area to enable them to raise pigs. In May and June, 136 farmers borrowed 24.6 million piasters.

Supervised Credit Program. Set up in 1964 with capital from USAID and cooperation from NACO, this program gives loans to farmers who are improving their farms or growing secondary crops.

Its best feature is the supervision given the farmer who joins such a credit scheme. Vietnamese personnel from the agricultural services and the Ministry of Agriculture, often assisted by Chinese and U.S. farm experts, guide the farmer through every step from soil preparation to marketing.

In experimental projects, loans have been made in the form of tools and supplies instead of cash. This kind of loan has proved costly but very successful in spurring agricultural production. In May and June, ADB loaned all of the 14.4 million piasters earmarked for this program, to 957 farmers.

For the future, Dr. Hao would like to see ADB become Vietnam's largest bank and become affiliated with the World Bank. And he would like to see ADB play a major role in the renewed land reform program getting underway in Vietnam.

The programs of ADB are aimed at transforming the average Vietnamese farmer from a subsistence farmer barely feeding his own family to a commercial farmer sending food to urban centers and overseas.

How To Come Out Ahead In Fight Or: Last Straw For A Viet Cong

CU CHI (USA) — In a two man battle that might set the record for close combat, Private First Class Lloyd Collier came out on top in a rice paddy twenty miles northwest of Saigon.

Collier, a fire team leader for the 25th Division's 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry "Wolfhounds" stepped on the head of a submerged Viet Cong who was breathing

through a strawlike reed.

"He came bursting up between my legs," said Collier. In the next three seconds the enemy soldier was killed by four bullets from Collier's M-16 rifle.

"After I jumped away and caught my breath," he said. "I noticed the hole in my pants leg." His own bullets had ripped a gapping hole in the fatigue uniform.

Teaching Ex-VCs English

BONG SON (USA) — "The only teaching experience I have had was one year of teaching French," said Specialist 4 William Haddaway, "I also taught Arabic to a student once."

Haddaway, a Georgetown University graduate with a degree in history of art, is an interrogator for the 191st Military Intelligence (MI), and currently is teaching English to some special Vietnamese.

All 16 of his students are Viet Cong Chieu Hois, or returnees to the South Vietnamese government.

"Many of the students were VC cadre," remarked Haddaway, "but they became disenchanted with the Viet Cong and turned themselves over to government forces. They were carefully interviewed and screened at the Qui Nhon and Binh Dinh Chieu Hoi camps before being selected for participation in the Kit Carson Scout program."

The program is designed to provide volunteer scouts and interpreters for infantry units. The scouts also aid in locating VC food and arms caches and pointing out VC positions.

"The scouts will have to speak English in order to communicate with the infantry," said Haddaway. "Our classes will last approximately eight weeks. It is a real crash program."

The students range in age from 16 to 31. While all of them are literate, none knew any English before attending the 1st Cav school.

The 24-year-old Texan drills his students in phrases and terms that they will be using as scouts. The class chants "where are they hiding? Are they in the cave?" and many other patterns that will help them learn English in the allotted time period.

"Sergeant Xuan, an interpreter, taught the first week," said Haddaway. "He gave the class basic fundamentals of grammar and a few vocabulary words. There is a great deal of repetition and recitation of the patterns. Though several have developed a remarkable ability to read, write and speak English, I don't expect more than fundamentals of the language from this short course. Just enough to communicate."

Vietnamese Junk Force Advised By Navy Team

DA NANG (USN) — "We eat, sleep and work with the Vietnamese," said Lieutenant Wayne R. Farris.

Lieutenant Farris heads up a four-man advisory team at a Vietnamese junk base near Chu Lai. The team, attached to Coastal Group Twelve, patrols the coast with the Vietnamese junk force.

"There are more than 100

A Belligerent Water Buffalo Returns Home

AN NHUT TAN (USA) — With a docile swish of her tail, the belligerent water buffalo, which had stubbornly spurned the opportunity to ensure a fat rice crop here this year, returned last month.

Soldiers of the 9th Infantry Division's 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry purchased the buffalo for the villagers of newly reopened An Nhut Tan, as reported last month in THE OBSERVER.

But when she was airlifted into the village for presentation to the village chief, she lowered her head and charged everyone in sight.

Managing to break her tether three times, she finally took off at a healthy clip into the sudden paddy lands north of the village, eluding pursuers for three weeks.

Villagers combed the area, but failed to turn up the errant animal.

Apparently weary of fending the village outskirts recently for a second chance.

A resident approached and discovered that her personality had undergone a change.

She was led into the village where she reportedly began work pulling a plow.

The life of a fugitive was not for herself, she showed up at for her.

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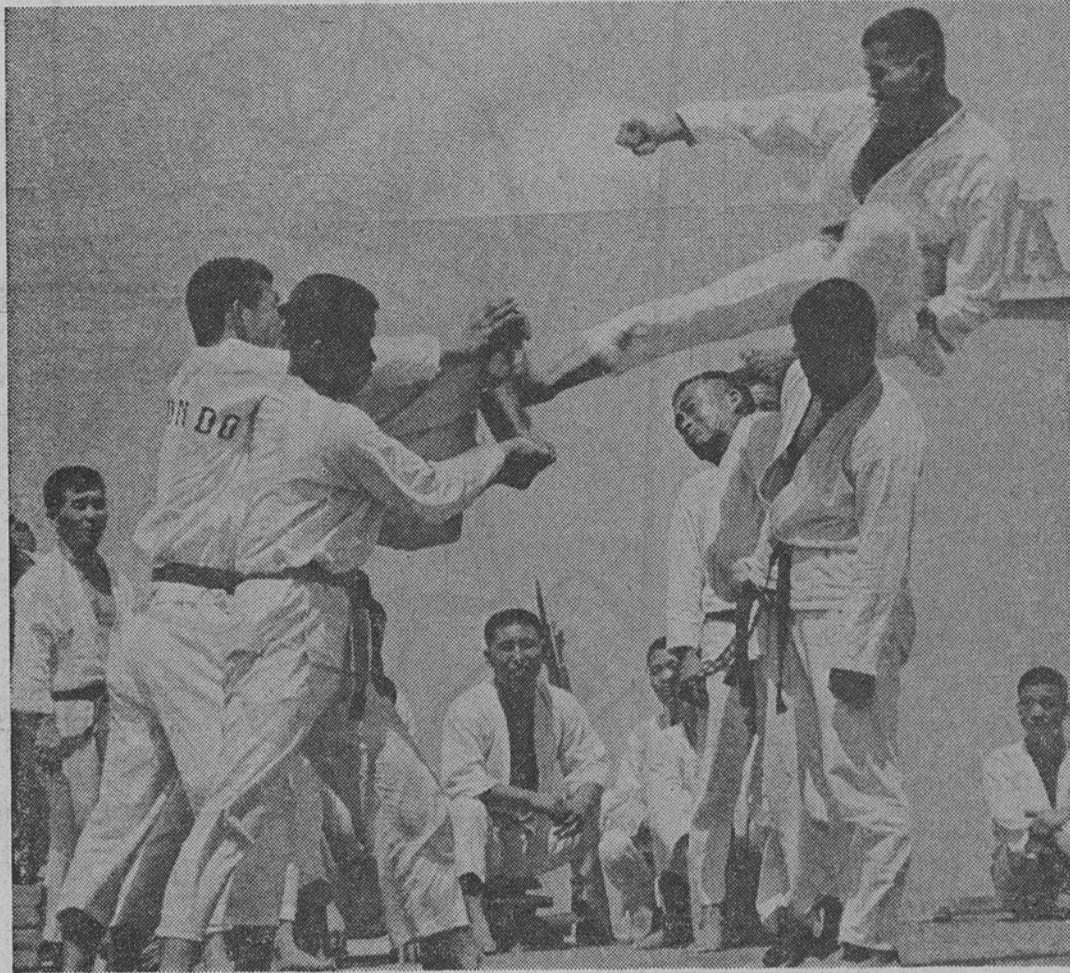
FIRST IN VIETNAM

THE OBSERVER

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August 9, 1967



JUMP KICK—A two-inch thick board splinters under the impact of this Tae-Kwon-Do expert's foot, as he simultaneously "takes out" two other demonstration team members. The team, from the 9th ROK Division's Karate Team, put on a show for the U.S. 4th Infantry Division.

(Photo by Major Richard Dyer)

Blood Bank Is First In Fight Zone

DA NANG (USN)—Many new ideas have combined to make the hospital at the Naval Support Activity at Da Nang a modern and effective combat hospital.

An interesting aspect of the hospital is its blood bank. According to Lieutenant (junior grade) Erich E. Stafford, officer-in-charge of the bank: "Never before in the history of war has a blood bank been located in a combat zone. This single factor saves more lives in Vietnam than any other."

The quantity of blood handled at this bank is impressive. In one month, more than 1,000 units of blood are delivered to patients.

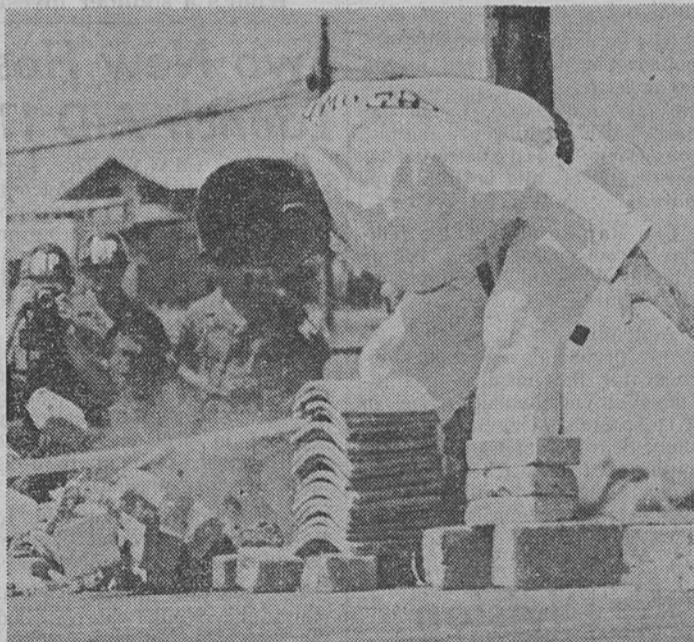
Although supplying life-saving blood to those in need is a most important job, there are also many other facets to the work.

The blood team is divided into three parts. The job of supplying blood is handled by three men under the direction of Chief Hospital Corpsman J.W. Lynch.

Working also on this team are: Hospital Corpsmen Second Class T.M. Cooper, W.T. Badcock and Phil McDonald.

These men cross-match blood samples of arriving casualties, then rush the required blood type to them. This requires quick and precise laboratory work.

There are two other jobs performed by the bank, both in-



SKULL SKILL—Tae-Kwon-Do black belt expert from the Korean "Whitehorse" Division sends broken bricks and dust flying with a single blow of his head in this extraordinary demonstration for the 4th Infantry Division.

(Photo by Sp4 Norman Johnson)

Clerk Wanders Right Into Action

CU CHI (USA)— "Sir, I'm not supposed to be here," shouted a nervous soldier to Captain Roger Taylor during a heavy firefight with a Viet Cong battalion.

The 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry company commander's amazement grew as he crouched behind a rice paddy to hear the soldier's story.

While bullets snapped overhead, Specialist 4 Lyle Roush explained that he was a clerk sent from the 25th Infantry Di-

vision Finance Office to make an annual check of leave records.

When he arrived at the battalion's forward base, everyone was loading up on helicopters. "So I figured the unit must be returning to the division's base camp, and hopped on," he said.

Instead of going to the Cu Chi base camp, the ships headed for a combat assault 25 miles northwest of Saigon, along the Oriental River.

With nothing but a .45 caliber

1st Div Gives RF Basic Tng

DI AN (USA)—A detachment of 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division soldiers is now giving Basic Combat Training to a South Vietnamese Regional Forces (RF) company.

The 13-man training detachment, headed by Captain Sherwood D. Goldberg, is operating at the 5th ARVN Division training center at Phu Cuong. The training began

with the arrival of the 969th Regional Force Company from Binh Long province.

A formal dedication ceremony was held on the training center's parade ground, with Major General John H. Hay, Jr., commanding general, 1st Infantry Division and Sub-Brigadier General Phan Quoc Thuan, commanding general, 5th ARVN Division, addressing the trainees.

This first RF company to be trained by the 2nd Brigade personnel will help determine the effectiveness of the program. "This is a pilot program, and naturally we expect some difficulties," Captain Goldberg explained.

"Our instructors will have to lecture through interpreters, which is time-consuming," added Captain Goldberg. "But our instructors are top-notch; each of them has experience with line units in Vietnam and can speak with authority on the subject."

The training will be tough and thorough, said Master Sergeant Richard M. Stineman, the senior training NCO. Subjects covered will include: small arms and hand-to-hand combat, physical training, drill and ceremonies, military intelligence, sanitation and discipline—a full Basic and Advanced Individual Training curriculum. The final five-week phase of the 17-week cycle will include field testing exercises in small unit tactics.

Lieutenant Howard L. Rogers explained that, under the RF concept, each company will be sent back to its home province to perform militia-type duties, provide security for Revolutionary Development, and conduct patrols when enemy activity warrants it.

"This type of unit is very effective for province security," he said. "Working in their home territory, they really have their 'ears to the ground' intelligence-wise; and a man will naturally work and fight harder to defend his own home town than anywhere else. In fact, some advisors think the RF companies have a proportionately higher VC kill-rate than regular Army units."

Members of the 2nd Brigade cadre are confident that the training program will be a success.

"These RF troops are having a good example set for them by the 5th ARVN Division companies that are training here," explained Private First Class

pistol, a flak jacket and leave records, Specialist Roush loaded his weapon, wrapped the records in the jacket and began his crawl toward Captain Taylor.

"There was nothing we could do," declared the captain, "but issue him more ammo and some grenades." For the next four hours the finance clerk fought alongside the infantrymen. He finally got on an ammunition resupply chopper that was leaving the action.

Thomas Donich. "Those people train hard! But maybe the most important thing is their sense of responsibility. They know we'll always be ready to cooperate with them, but most of the actual fighting will be up to them."

Settlement Prompt For War Claims

DA NANG (USN)—The mountain shook with the dynamite blast and in the wake lay a dead cow.

The following day a formal complaint was lodged against the U.S. government.

Two foreign claims investigators, Second Class Fire Controlman Allan R. March and First Class Boatswain's Mate William T. Benton, immediately went to the scene of the incident.

"We found the claim justified and recommended re-imbursement to the claimant," reported Boatswain's Mate Benton.

"The majority of the incidents investigated by foreign claims involve traffic accidents. We cover the entire I Corps area dealing only with Vietnamese claims," explained Chief Gunner's Mate Willard J. Knudsen.

During a six-month period, 288 accidents with liability potentialities toward the U.S. government were reported, with 116 of these resulting in actual claims for re-imbursement.

Lieutenant Commander Gerald Bunn, claims officer, has seven investigators working for him.

"Our biggest monetary claims involve real estate and sometimes there are as many as a dozen claimants in one case," Commander Bunn said. "We try to determine who is at fault and to do this we occasionally are required to re-construct the incident."

Hue Advisors Have Earned Top Awards

HUE (MACV)—U.S. advisors to Vietnamese fighting units in Thua Thien sector around Hue have accumulated an impressive roster of awards for valor in action in the first half of 1967.

The Vietnamese Armed Forces have awarded 16 Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry, with palm, to advisors of U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) Advisory Team 3. Cross of Gallantry, with palm, to advisors of U.S. U.S. Distinguished Service Cross. Team 3 sector advisors accompany Vietnamese Regional and Popular Force units in field operations around Hue, the country's ancient imperial city.

Team 3 advisors have also been decorated with one Distinguished Service Cross, one Legion of Merit award, three Silver Stars, four Bronze Stars with V, and four Army Commendation Medals with V.

(Continued on Back Page)

Editorial

VC Problems Increase

Careful reading of newspapers available in Vietnam impresses upon readers the information that the Viet Cong are being beaten, and that they are on the run. Most of the news releases telling us of this fact are specific, dealing with incidents, while comprehensive reports covering extended periods—six months or a year—are not as widely circulated and are couched in comparatively dry and uninteresting language.

Without quoting statistics, certain trends are obvious and important. There are clear signs that do not show through each spot news story. These signs deserve review.

First in general importance, perhaps, throughout South Vietnam, is the loss to the VC of rest and training areas he has considered to be his alone for years. These sanctuaries have been wrested from the enemy in all four corps tactical zones; in the Delta, the Iron Triangle, the Central Highlands, the coastal plains and the rugged terrain near the DMZ.

Loss of these safe havens has hurt Charlie. To dig new staging areas he must recruit people to dig deep and dig long and then dig some more. Then, he knows, he may soon be run out again.

Recent official reports state that the VC find the cost of the war has tripled in two years—indicating that he finds it more difficult to obtain food and equipment. Rich rice and produce growing areas are not such easy prey as they were a year or more ago. Taxes are still being collected, and extortion is still feeding the VC coffers, but collection is not as easy as it was and the results are not as great. He has also lost several paymasters and tax collectors in recent months—along with their cash.

Another slow but certain strangulation Charlie has suffered has been in the reduction of safe waterways on which to move weapons and equipment. He has been denied several excellent spots at which to unload and hide cargos of war materials that had moved by sea from the north. Some of them are now massive Free World ports. He has been finding it increasingly difficult and dangerous to move any sizable cargos by sea or inland waterways. The new and sophisticated naval craft and joint air-sea or air-river operations have been effective and they are here to stay.

Lastly, Charlie has been hit where it hurts him most, in a loss of leaders and trained personnel. He has begun recruiting and kidnapping women and boys as young as 12. He has pulled engineers and other skilled men from important jobs in Hanoi and other parts of North Vietnam and assigned them to South Vietnam because of a desperate shortage of officers. In a growing desperation, he has impelled the old, the very young and the infirm to perform labor.

This is not to say that Charlie is on his last leg—but he is finding life harder and less promising.

If Nothing Else Can Get You Carelessness Certainly Can

Readers of the OBSERVER editorial page can expect to be surprised soon when a series appears on a subject familiar to everyone in uniform: safety. The surprise will be in the very high accident figures in the U.S. services in Vietnam.

Wars breed a degree of carelessness that would be out of place in peaceful military pursuits. This carelessness is resulting in deaths and disabling injuries—sometimes days or hours before the victims were to pack and return to their homes and loved ones.

The OBSERVER series will deal with the most critical prob-

Hospital's Needs Are Met By AL

SAIGON (USA) — The crowded children's ward at Cho Ray hospital here was renamed recently in honor of the Albany, Ga., American Legion post which came to its assistance.

Early this year, Major Dave Vining, directorate of services, Headquarters Area Command, took a tour of the children's ward with a fellow officer.

The 41-year-old Albany native was unprepared for what he saw. Many of the children were victims; one nine-year-old girl had lost both her legs to a Viet Cong grenade.

"I was really moved by conditions there," recalled Major Vining. "The ward needed all kinds of supplies and sanitary facilities. The children were in crowded rooms and they were badly in need of clothes, shoes, soap and things like that."

In succeeding visits, the former tank unit commander took candy and chewing gum to the children.

"One week, making my regular trip to Children's Ward 30, I suddenly thought of my Legion Post back home, which also is numbered 30," explained the major.

So he wrote his parents, asking them to enlist the Legion's assistance in obtaining clothes and supplies for the children.

"The response was tremendous," he declared, "At first I received small shipments of items through the mail and at the same time I received a letter telling me that the Legion was preparing a large shipment of items donated for the hospital."

Fifteen packages weighing 479 pounds recently arrived in the major's mail, bearing postage stamps totaling \$55. Inside the parcels were children's clothes, toys, soap and detergents, sheets, towels and hospital supplies.

Cho Ray hospital had a holiday atmosphere when Major Vining delivered the items to the children.

And Albany, Ga., which is already preparing a second shipment for the hospital, has attained a permanent place in Vietnam's struggle for freedom: Ward 30 at Cho Ray hospital now boasts a brass plaque bearing the ward's new name—Albany, Ga., American Legion Post 30 Children's Ward.

9th Division Sets Medical Aid Record

LONG THANH (USA) — Medical Civic Action Programs (MEDCAP) teams of the 9th Infantry Division set a one day division record by treating 1,881 Vietnamese patients on 6 July.

Captain Lloyd Young, division civic action officer, reported that the record was set when the division and its attached units conducted 17 village sick calls in one day.

The 9th Division's Civil Affairs section is responsible for the treatment of more than 94,000 patients since January.



I checked on investments today, In my usual, canny, Scot's way. I found, when all's said and done, Savings Bonds are still number one; What's a sounder investment than the U.S. of A.?

Two New Hospital Contracts Launch AID Health Program

SAIGON (MACV) — The first step of the United States Agency for International Development's new health expansion program will take place recently when construction contracts are awarded for the first two hospitals to be built in Vietnam.

The hospitals will be the first of nine to be constructed in the Republic's more remote provinces. The sites were carefully selected to provide immediate relief where medical care is most urgently needed.

Construction is expected to start immediately and completion is scheduled for December.

The Dae Lim Industrial Company Ltd., Seoul, was awarded the contract to build one hospital at Vi Thanh, Chuong Thien Province. The five building complex will have an operating room, maternity unit, emergency treatment unit, kitchen and laundry, administration offices and two wards of 70 beds each.

The other hospital, located at Chau Phu, Chau Doc Province, was awarded to a Vietnamese contractor in Saigon, Nguyen Van Chinh. It will be a core unit built around existing wards, and will contain an operating room, emergency treatment unit, kitchen and laundry, and administration offices.

In addition to the medical facilities, each hospital will be equipped with its own water and power source provided by a well and two 110 kilowatt generators.

Overall supervision of the \$4 million projects will be provided by the Office-In-Charge of Con-

Army Board Evaluation

WASHINGTON (AFNB) — Army Infantry Board is evaluating a 40mm smoke-marking round to identify targets in inaccessible areas. Round is fired from M-79 grenade launcher and can mark positions at ranges of 200 and 400 meters. Smoke is emitted for about one and one-half minutes allowing enough time for marking of potential target, strike area or landing zone.

A Personnel Officer's Dream—No DROS

CU CHI (USA) — There is a Staff Sergeant with the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry, who has a degree in engineering and no interpretation, he learned English as a second language in school.

A veteran of 32 months in the Vietnamese Army—nine of these with the 1st Battalion—Sergeant Lenam takes part in all major battalion operations, often working extra hours to make up for the shortage of interpreters.

His primary mission is to bridge the gap of understanding between the men of his battalion and the Vietnamese people. Like most of the other in-

terpreters, he realizes how effective the interpreter is.

The information an interpreter receives from villagers—often the most fresh and dependable a unit can get—is responsible for the destruction of VC units, supplies and positions.

Men like Sergeant Lenam are not only specialists in language, but are also well-trained soldiers. During a recent combat assault, the Vietnamese sergeant saved the life of a wounded helicopter pilot by reacting

promptly with the proper first aid.

In a furious firefight with the Viet Cong 269th Battalion, Sergeant Lenam was wounded by machinegun fire as the helicopter on which he was riding touched down.

But in less than a week after receiving the wound, he was back with his unit, working as usual, on combat assault.

What about the future? Much depends on the war, but the sergeant hopes to continue his

schooling in the U.S. or France upon discharge from military service.

But until that time comes, he will continue to provide the all-valuable link between two languages and two people.

"The work of the interpreter," explained Major Jack Helms, battalion executive officer, "is extremely demanding. Soldiers like Sergeant Lenam often give us an advantage that means combat success."

Province Chief Calls Rebuilding Job 'Finest AF Civic Action Effort In VN'



Part of wreckage remains near new houses built by Air Force after crash.

Bridge Section Raised For Repair While Traffic Continues To Cross

The EOD team trains men at platoon level to identify Viet Cong explosive devices, as well as our own. As a result, soldiers will know what they have found and how to report it," he said.

Many incidents on the EOD team's records involve Vietnamese civilians, primarily children, who have been seriously injured or killed by hand grenades they have found and not recognized as deadly weapons.

The South Vietnamese government is strongly concerned and is conducting a program similar to the U.S. Army's to alert the Vietnamese populace to the dangers of "dud" explosives.

Salvaging the main body of the bridge, the engineers raised the span six-and-one-half feet, enabling them to repair the damaged center support. Using Class 60 trestles, M4T6 balk and two 5-foot by 36-inch I-beams, the platoon constructed two pier platforms on both sides of the bridge. The I-beams were placed under each span, with their ends resting upon the balk-trestle platforms.

Two 50-ton hydraulic jacks, positioned on the I-beams underneath the stringers of the bridge, were used to lift the concrete structure. As the bridge went up, three inches at a time, cribbing was placed under the bridge underneath and then into the forms.

The problem was solved by construction of a chute which carried the concrete over the side of the bridge half way down, made a right angle turn

and dumped the concrete into the forms.

After allowing two weeks for the concrete to cure, the bridge was lowered onto its new pier.

A company size popular force secured an area of one-mile in diameter around the site during reconstruction.

Patient Has Sick Feeling In His Pouch

BONG SON (USA) — Captain Asa Talbot, a 1st Air Cavalry Division physician who conducts sick calls for Vietnamese villagers, is used to requests for bandages and cough syrup.

He was understandably taken aback when he received a request for ammunition for an M-16 rifle.

The requestor, it was later learned, was a Civilian Irregular Defense Group soldier who had found one of the "black rifles" after it fell out of a helicopter.

Captain Talbot, of the 2nd Battalion, 20th Artillery, persuaded the soldier to return the rifle, which was still in working order.



"LET ME"—Soldier from 1st Bn., 35th Infantry, 3rd Brigade, 25th Division helps villagers near Due Pho by cutting raw sugar. As can be seen, the villagers appreciated the helping hand.

(Photo by PFC Eric Schmidt)



OBSEVER

FIRST IN VIETNAM

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Editor Ass. Editor

Pig Coop Formed In Long Binh

LONG BINH (USA) — Through its civic action program, the U.S. Army's 71st Transportation Battalion of the 1st Logistical Command donated 10 sows and one boar to the An Hoa Hung village cooperative near Long Binh.

This part of the program, designed to help stabilize the villagers' diet with more protein, was dubbed "Operation Pork Chop" by members of the battalion.

Chaplain (Captain) Richard A. Johnson laid the ground work and helped select, pick up and deliver the hogs.

According to the contract signed by each farmer receiving a sow, he promises to give two female piglets from the first litter back to the cooperative. Later, when the supply of pigs increases, more farmers in the community will be able to join the program.

Every farmer joining the cooperative must provide his own sties, and land suitable for producing feed.

ARVN Soldiers Back With Families After Release From VC Captivity



SORROW ABOUT PHYSICAL CONDITION OF SON SHOWS ON PARENTS' FACES
Nguyen Nhi Was Captured By VC In March And Given Up For Dead By PF Unit

DUC PHO (USA) — Tears flowed down the face of a 44-year-old Vietnamese mother as she embraced her son. The father's brown eyes glistened as he stood, hands clasped, staring at the weak-looking form resting on a hospital cot.

In this moment, Mr. and Mrs. Nguyen Van Tinh were reunited with their only son who had been held captive by Viet Cong since March.

Seventeen-year-old Nguyen Nhi was a member of a popular forces unit operating in Quang Nghia Province when he was captured. He said he was beaten, subjected to Communist indoctrination classes and forced to dig tunnels during his imprisonment.

He and a 22-year-old ARVN soldier, Quang Nguyen Xuan, both were freed by a company of paratroopers of the 101st Airborne during Operation Malheur II.

The paratroopers evacuated the former prisoners to the 563rd Medical Company at their base camp.

Captain Don W. Meinders gave them a thorough medical examination.

"Both men suffered from severe malnutrition," he said.

WEAK, SICK, BUT ALIVE
Nhi Is On Way To Recovery

To Walk Again Soon

Young VC Victim Gets Help From ARVN Ordnance Unit

PLEIKU (USA) — A 12-year-old Vietnamese boy, who lost his right leg six months ago as the result of a terrorist explosion while riding on a motor scooter, will soon walk again—thanks to a group of Vietnamese soldiers and their American advisor.

Pham Phu, who is still recovering from his injuries at the Pleiku Province Hospital, smiled when he was presented recently with a pair of hand-made crutches by the men of the ARVN 821st Ordnance Direct Support Company.

The ARVN unit became concerned with the boy because their company commander, Captain Pham Ngoc Mien, and their U.S. advisor, Captain David M. Landram, were at the hospital when Phu was first brought in.

For a time the doctors at the hospital were afraid that Phu would also lose the use of his left leg, but he was able to pass the critical stage with the help of his "benefactors."

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'Irish' Give \$750 For Education

CHU LAI (USA) — A check for \$750 was received by the chaplain of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade's 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry from his Alma Mater, Notre Dame University.

The money, received by Chaplain (Captain) Bernard H. Christel, is to be used for the schools in and around the battalion's area south of here.

"The contribution came from students as a result of a project conducted by the university radio station, WSND, as part of its 20th anniversary," explained the chaplain.

"There are so many areas where the money can be put to good use," he said.

"The students suggested that perhaps the contribution could erect two classrooms for the Vietnamese children. But, because of pressing problems, the money will purchase educational supplies, provide more teachers and better classroom facilities," said the chaplain.

Distribution of the money will be handled in cooperation with the battalion civil affairs officer.

Chaplain Christel is delighted and proud that the students of Notre Dame made the contribution. He told the students that their thoughtfulness and generosity will do much to further the education of the Vietnamese children in the area.

A New Lease On Life In Viet Village

TAN SON NHUT (USA) — Hundreds of toothbrushes, tubes of toothpaste and bars of soap have found their way to needy children near Saigon with the aid of members of the 137th Medical Detachment.

The children of St. Elizabeth's and Santa Maria's orphans and a refugee camp received dental care articles donated by students of two Akron, Ohio schools.

The project started when First Lieutenant Kenneth P. Butke, administrative officer of the 137th, wrote a longtime friend and his brother, both teachers. He described the prevailing tooth decay problems among Vietnamese children which the dental unit observed during its medical civic action program (MEDCAP) mission.

The MEDCAP team of Company A, 1st Medical Battalion, loaded trailers and crated supplies onto three Vietnamese Navy rivercraft at Lai Thieu ARVN compound and headed upstream to An Phu Village, 12 miles north of Saigon.

Three months ago the villagers of An Phu lived in terror of the Viet Cong—their village was separated from VC jungle strongholds by only the sluggish waters of the river.

But today, An Phu is practically a monument to the effectiveness of a Revolutionary Development (RD) team. Two schools have been built, barbed wire fences surround the village, production of the town's sugar mill has increased and loading docks are under construction at the riverside.

Color slides that the lieutenant took of the orphans were shown to acquaint the students with Vietnam. The students responded by donating 2,400 articles weighing 350 pounds.

The 137th Medical Detachment is part of the 1st Logistical Command's 44th Medical Brigade, which supports most Free World Forces in Vietnam.

"Government-trained Vietnamese RD workers are a powerful influence in the village," asserted the captain. "Hard working and always heavily armed, they enhance the atmosphere of security and RD flourishes."



PART OF THE RECONSTRUCTION—Villagers and members of the Revolutionary Development team erect a new meeting house.



DESTRUCTION—VC rockets did this to the market.

Teamwork

RD Team Helps Rebuild Hamlet Destroyed By VC

THUA THIEN PROVINCE (I CORPS) — In mid-April, a battalion of black-pajamaed Viet Cong struck the hamlet of Duong Mong just as the sun began to light the settlement.

Punching through a thin line of defenders, they leveled the hamlet's market place with rocket fire. Bullets whined through the old streets.

Retaliation from government troops was swift.

Two battalions of ARVN soldiers hurried out from nearby Hue and, with the help of armored personnel carriers and hamlet troops, ejected the invaders.

They drove the attackers into the open and called in artillery and aircraft to shatter them.

Retaliation wouldn't repair the hamlet's damage. But now another team of people in black pajamas, members of a 59-man Revolutionary Development Team (RD), came to help



RD CHIEF—Colonel Phan Van Cach, ponders local RD problems.

the people rebuild their hamlet. In Duong Mong and its twin hamlet of An Luu, a kilometer away, the people are building new meeting places and new markets with the help of RD teams.

The 59-man team, including a leader, a 34-man militia, a 10-man civic action team and a seven-man New Life Development team, has 11 objectives.

They are: Eliminating the Viet Cong infrastructure; eliminating corrupt practices; developing a new spirit; establishing a popular government; organizing self-defense forces; improving literacy; implementing land reforms; developing agricultural and handicraft industries; improving communications; and rewarding deserving citizens.

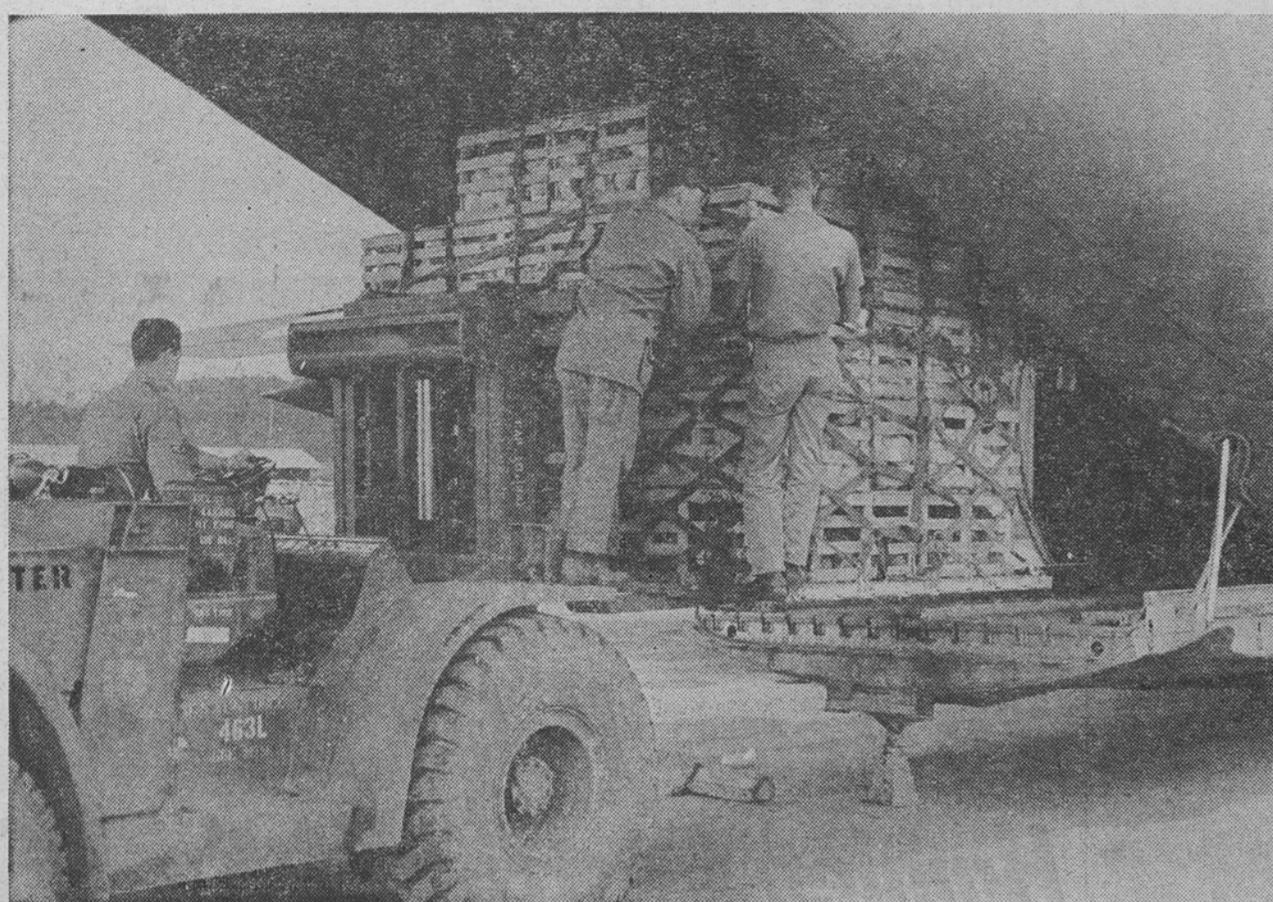
Meanwhile at least one Vietnamese battalion remains just outside of the hamlet to allow the work to proceed in safety.

The RD program in the I Corps Tactical Zone is in the process of helping 118 hamlets.



FINISHED PRODUCT—A new market place is completed in the village of Duong Mong.

Dalat 'Salad Bowl' Produces Tons Of Vegetables Daily For Free World Forces



AIR FORCE C-130 PREPARES TO TRANSPORT PINEAPPLES AND LETTUCE TO U.S. TROOPS



U.S. ARMY FOOD INSPECTORS EXAMINE CUCUMBERS DELIVERED BY VENDOR HUYNH-TAI



THE FARMERS AND COMMON PEOPLE ARE PROSPERING AS THEY HAVE NEVER BEFORE PROSPERED

DALAT (MACV)—A crew of Montagnard and Vietnamese workers scurried like beavers, toting crates of fresh vegetables from trucks to clearing shed, and back out onto pallets for shipment to mess halls all over Vietnam.

"Come here, let's open that one," said Staff Sergeant Dewey Johnson, veterinary-inspector NCO, gesturing one workman over to a scale and display table. A bunch of big cucumbers rolled out. "All right, these are excellent," he said to Huynh-Tai, the vendor (dealer) who brought in the load.

Huynh-Tai is one of 12 vendors who buy vegetables from farmers, trim and crate them and sell them to the Dalat Field Office of the U.S. Army Procurement Agency, part of the 1st Logistical Command.

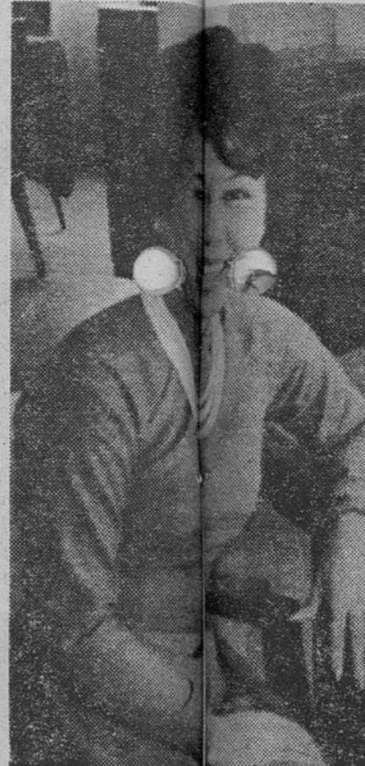
Specialist 4 Mark Mason waved aside another crate for inspection, this one golden sweet corn. He peeled back the leaves and felt the kernels.

"Oh, no, that's too hard, it's way overripe," he said. "Take that back and feed it to the hogs."

Sergeant Johnson, with 11 years' experience of food inspecting, and Specialist Mason, with a bachelor's degree in food technology, spend every morning of the week spot-checking the daily average of 51 tons of vegetables shipped from Dalat, making sure that U.S. and allied troops in Vietnam receive only prime-grade produce.

While the Mekong Delta is Vietnam's "rice bowl," Dalat is Vietnam's "salad bowl." Situated at 5,000 feet altitude in the evergreen-studded mountains of Tuyen Duc province, Dalat's cool, rainy climate is ideal for year-round production of vegetables.

The war is curiously absent from Dalat. Regional and Popular Force soldiers make occasional contact with Viet Cong in the surrounding hills, but there are no ARVN or U.S. combat units in the province. Some say the VC simply can't survive the area's cold nights and lack of local rice.



MAYOR HAU IS FIRST
And Only Woman Mayor

calls Dalat "a meeting-ground of the Vietnamese, the Americans and the enemy."

The establishment of the U.S. Army Procurement Agency branch in Dalat in July, 1966 and its demand for vegetables triggered a surge of prosperity that is still on the rise.

"Our farm production is doubled in the last year," said Mayor Hau, the vivacious, live-wire woman lawyer who is Vietnam's first and only woman mayor. "It is now 405 tons per day. Before, we had only 10,000 population. Now we are 80,000, and still a labor shortage... prosperity, yes. But I am concerned. Farmers around the city now demand water supply and electricity."

The U.S. military purchase of 51 tons of vegetables daily still leaves about 75 per cent of Dalat's total food product that goes into the Vietnamese market.

"Commercial truckers drive on Route 29 all the way to Saigon, and then there's the railroad from here to Cam Ranh and Nha Trang," said Captain Charles K. Smith, officer in charge of the Dalat Field Office. "We've been shipping by train since last September."

The majority of vegetable shipments are flown out by Air Force C-123s and C-130s to a dozen distribution points from as far north as Dong Ha to as far south as Phan Thiet.

"I've seen a lot of improvements in the last year," said Sergeant First Class Earl E. Byers, the ordering officer at Dalat. "The vendors have built sanitary packing houses to our specifications, and they put everything up in wooden crates now so it doesn't get crushed."

Sergeant Byers posts a daily list of vegetable items and quantities that the U.S. needs to buy five days in advance. Vendors each bid on what items they can deliver at what price. The 1st Log now spends about \$120,000 a week to keep the cabbage, pineapple, lettuce, cucumbers, bananas, peppers, tomatoes, carrots and watermelons on your daily menu.



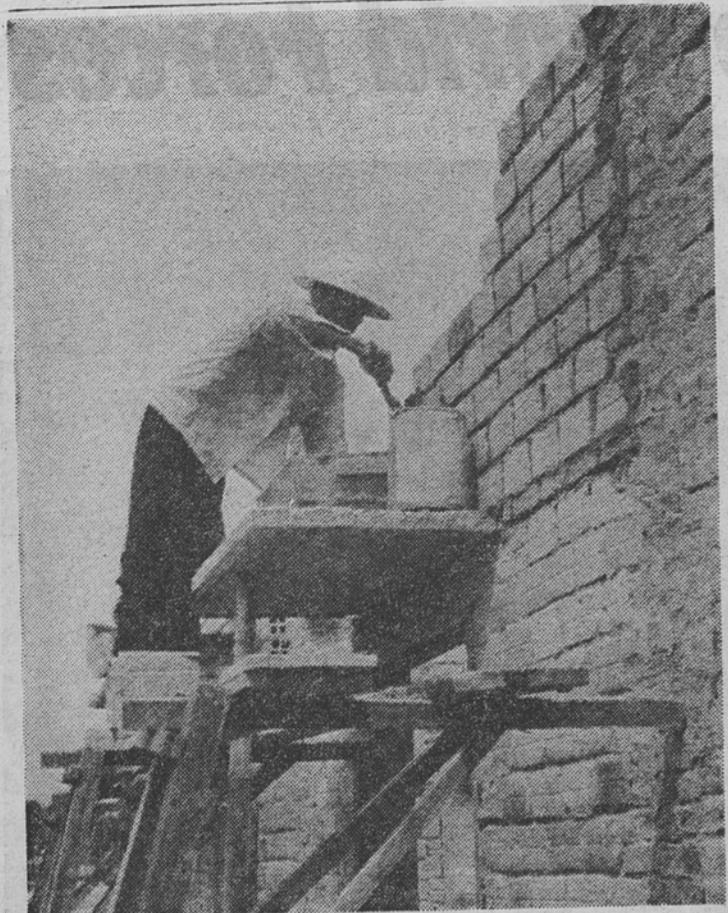
DUE TO DAILY RAINS WORKERS MUST WEAR RAINCOATS WHILE WORKING IN DALAT



VEGETABLES ARE WASHED, TRIMMED AND PACED BEFORE GOING TO PROCUREMENT AGENCY



VENDORS PACK VEGETABLES FOR SHIPMENT, IN HOUSE BUILT BY U.S. SANITARY PERSONNEL



TOP PRIORITY—Bricklayer works diligently to complete home building projects.



YEAR ROUND—This newly constructed canal serves as a means for irrigation.

Pacification: Top Priority Tay Ninh

BIEN HOA (USA)—The pacification program in Tay Ninh Province has top priority.

Since January, in fact, 11 teams totaling 674 members have been trained in the Revolutionary Program, and still another team will be formed soon in the province.

Nineteen "New Life" hamlets are under construction throughout the province. Self-help projects include the building of houses, religious centers, schools and hospitals as well as the digging of wells.

Sixty-nine teachers are being trained for 69 classrooms under construction. As of 1 June, 23 of these rooms have been completed.

Twenty-three kilometers of

roads are being improved, of which nine kilometers have already been completed. There is a rock crushing plant near Tay Ninh City, where rock is provided free of charge for construction purposes to anyone who has transportation to haul it.

The hamlet of Trung Luu, located seven kilometers southeast of Tay Ninh City, has an unusual history. For the six-year period ending June 1966, this hamlet had been an uncontested district headquarters for the Viet Cong.

In just a year, the former VC stronghold was transformed into a model "New Life" hamlet.

A total of 125,000 piasters has been allotted to each of the 19 hamlets for animal husbandry.

Twenty-three kilometers of

donated by the Cao Dai religious order. It is a community effort built for and by the people who live there. A labor pool was formed to include bricklayers, carpenters, electricians and other skilled and unskilled workers.

A fishing wharf, drying yard and landing stage are also under construction while facilities for the distribution of boats and livestock to market. Two gigantic warehouses have been started in the province.

In the field of medicine, there are 10 maternity wards and dispensaries presently under construction. And the province will train its own health workers in an overall education program that will take approximately two years.

Tay Ninh Province has a 130-mile long common border with Cambodia. The total population of 285,000 is divided into four districts, which includes 28 villages and 150 recognized hamlets. Currently 240,000 people of the province live in pacified areas, with the remaining area still undergoing development.

Four rural electrical power plants are being built at a total cost of six million piasters. A motor pool has been established

and funds have been allotted to buy vehicles and to provide a maintenance shop with tools, tires and a petroleum storage area. Laborers are provided to maintain the operation.

The people will use the transportation throughout the hamlets to carry their crops and livestock to market. Two gigantic warehouses have been started in the province.

The one and a quarter hour chase across paddies and through hedge rows began when First Lieutenant Jon K. Piper spotted the VC fleeing from an area that earlier was the target for an air strike.

The 25-year-old pilot was flying a routine visual reconnaissance (VR) mission when the "most unusual experience" of his 11 months in Vietnam occurred, six miles southeast of Chu Lai.

Spotted the VC, Lieutenant Piper informed two ground units who started immediately in pursuit in their armored personnel carriers (APCs). As the infantrymen tried to follow the enemy, Lieutenant Piper circled overhead giving direction to the ground units as to which way to go.

The project is supervised by the division's Red Cross Clubmobile. "We are excited about the prospects of the project," smiled Miss Sandra Fosselman, Harrisburg, Pa., "and the fellows' reaction to the idea is tremendous."

Some of the packages contained toys, which the infantrymen gave to the children of the Montagnard villages that "pepper" the surrounding hills in the Central Highland.

"For this reason," said the lieutenant, "I didn't take my eyes off them for a minute, not even to check my map. I just told the ground commander to follow my circling plane."

During the chase, the VC would stop to rest and take unsuccessful shots at the lieutenant and his aircraft.

With the APCs closing in, the VC made a last desperate stand among a cluster of hedge rows around a rice paddy in dense jungle. The APCs stopped within a few feet of the enemy, but were unable to spot their position.

His mission almost completed, Lieutenant Piper informed the ground units of the enemy position and within 30 minutes the battle was over.



EDUCATION—School construction in Tay Ninh Province



IMPROVE—Concrete wells represent an improvement in health and sanitation.

Freedom Fighter Heals Vietnamese

QUANG NGAI (USA)—A one-time Hungarian freedom fighter is now fighting human misery at Quang Ngai City.

Captain Janos I. Voros is struggling as hard as he did eleven years ago when Russian tanks rumbled through his homeland. This time, however, his enemies are several age-old diseases.

Plague, tuberculosis, cholera, malnutrition and pneumonia. There are almost too many to name. But the doctor has treated more than 2,000 sick Vietnamese for these and other diseases since September 1966.

An average of 600 people are treated during each of his visits to villages and hamlets within a twenty-five radius of his home base of Quang Ngai.

And it's all part of the Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP).

The 2nd Medical Company, 2nd ARVN Division is taking an

active role in MEDCAP, according to the 31-year-old doctor. It sends medics to refugee camps near the city to provide further medical assistance to the people.

"The Vietnamese medics are doing a fine job in this area," Captain Voros said. "There are many people who need help and the Vietnamese themselves are seeing that they get it."

The captain is accompanied by two U.S. and four ARVN medics when he makes his trips to surrounding areas.

"Sometimes we have to push the people back because there are so many of them," said Captain Voros. There are a lot of kids, especially, but they all need medical care.

He also said that, besides antibiotics, APC's and vitamin pills, the team has a minor surgical capability.

The medics screen those who come to the sick call so that the doctor can see the more serious cases. The rest are handled by the medics.

Security for the MEDCAP team is provided by Regional and Popular Forces.

"We can't help the people enough and we are really just scratching the surface," the captain said. "We want to do more for the villagers, but it is still satisfying to know that we are able to help in some way."

FAC Runs Viet Cong To Ground

CHU LAI (USA)—An Air Force Forward Air Controller (FAC) attached to the 196th Light Infantry Brigade chased nine Viet Cong more than 4,500 meters before seven of them were killed and two others detained by ground troops from the brigade.

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The 25-year-old pilot was flying a routine visual reconnaissance (VR) mission when the "most unusual experience" of his 11 months in Vietnam occurred, six miles southeast of Chu Lai.

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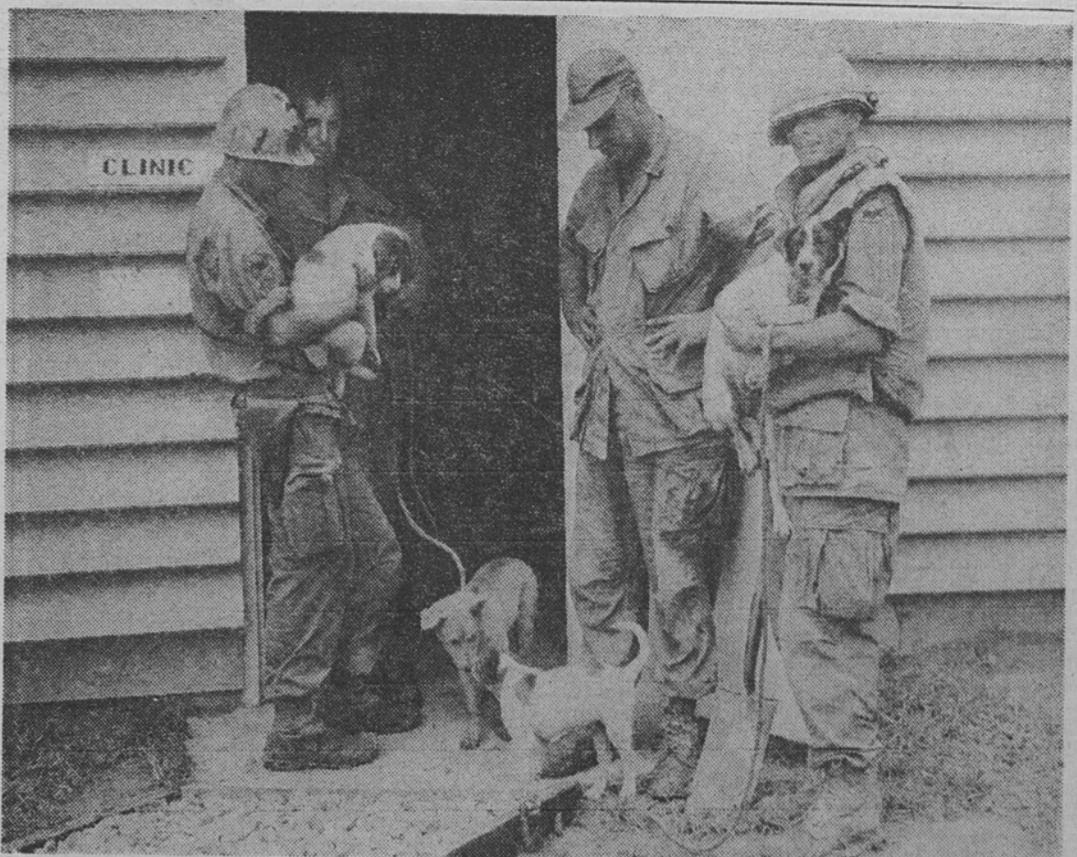
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During the chase, the VC would stop to rest and take unsuccessful shots at the lieutenant and his aircraft.

Future Operation Helpmate shipments will include musical instruments, cameras, tape recorders and phonographs, with other items aimed to please the men in the field.

"We are encouraging the troops to write back to the folks in Cincinnati," added Miss Fosselman, "A short note from a few of the men would mean a lot to them."



DOG'S BEST FRIEND—Dogs galore, brought in for rabies shots at the pet clinic.

Veterinary Det In 1st Log Treats Puppies to Pythons



WALKING TIME—"Muchi", a cheetah, is one of the more unusual pets.

Dial Surgery

Billeting Sergeant Finds Haven While Wearing Crisp Whites

SAIGON (USA)—Staff Sergeant Leonard Perez Jr., is a double operator.

Six days a week, the 35-year-old sergeant works in the operations section of Headquarters Area Command's housing management division, helping to billet some 11,000 U.S. and Free World personnel throughout the greater Saigon area.

The sergeant doesn't wield a scalpel himself. But as an experienced surgical technician, he hands operating instruments to the surgeon when and where they're needed.

Having worked in operating rooms in Army hospitals in

Japan and France, Sergeant Perez asked for and received permission from the hospital's chief nurse to help out.

"I thought that they could use some help in treating wounded servicemen who are rushed there for surgery," he said.

Whenever the sergeant's superiors in housing management division need to hunt him up on weekends, they know how and where to find him: by calling surgery.



Sailors To Help 15 Families Now Living In One Building

DA NANG (USN)—Two Navy men in Da Nang are assigned to help 15 Vietnamese families, including 57 children, who are living in structure about the size of an average U.S. four-bedroom house.

The families are those of members of a South Vietnamese training unit and the sailors are from the Naval Support Activity's Civic Action Division.

The two seamen are now

building a house in which they will live. When the quarters are completed, they will begin assisting the South Vietnamese to build houses for their families.

The Navymen are: Chief Machinist's Mate Robert M. Schoonmaker and Fireman Clyde G. Quattlebaum.

"These men (the Vietnamese) are tremendous workers and very anxious to get started on houses for themselves," said

Chief Schoonmaker. "If we are on the job at 6 a.m., they are there waiting to help us," he added.

This technique of placing a few highly skilled men in a Vietnamese village or Army compound in the Da Nang area proved highly successful. When the people see how quickly the sailors can build a house, the villagers are anxious to get

busy on homes of their own.

SSgt Argo Doing Well In The Zoo

TACOMA, WASH. (USA)—One year after his discharge from the Army, "Staff Sergeant" Black Jack Argo is reportedly doing fine in his cage at Seattle's Woodland Zoo.

The 150-pound black panther and former mascot of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, Fourth Infantry Division, was donated to the Woodland Zoo prior to the unit's coming to Vietnam.

The only black panther known to be in the Army at that time, Black Jack had been an enlisted cat for nine years. Now, according to Woodland Park officials, Black Jack is doing well as a civilian.

His arrival at the zoo was marked by a tedious adjustment to civilian life. Black Jack kicked up a fuss before entering his new glass cage at the zoo, and would not even be enticed inside by a female leopard.

Upon his departure from Fort Lewis, friends at 8th Infantry headquarters made a final entry in his personnel file when he was given an "honorable discharge."

His personnel file discloses that he holds the Expert Jungle Certificate, Good Behavior Medal, and one reduction—he was once busted for a vicious snarl aimed at his battalion commander.

'Many Children Would Have Died' Without MEDCAP Team Visit

DUC PHO (USA)—Continuing the quiet battle for the welfare of the Vietnamese people, a Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) team from the 101st Airborne visited the small village of Sa Huynh near here during Operation Malheur II.

With advance notice of the intended visit of the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry's team, a few natives traveled two days to reach the village for treatment.

As the paratroopers arrived, the villagers swarmed over them with requests for aid.

Unit To Help Village Build Health Clinic

BINH PHUOC (USA)—A battalion of the 3d Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, joined Vietnamese civilians at Binh Phuoc for a joint project to build a new maternity clinic.

The 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry, will obtain building materials and provide plans, according to Major Richard W. Townsley, civil affairs officer.

Local citizens have been at work moving earth for the clinic's foundation for more than two months, Major Townsley added.

Within 10 days after the re-

quest was made, Headquarters Area Command's civic action office delivered cement, lumber and fiberboard to the school site.

The school now has a new roof, as well as a reinforced concrete floor. As a bonus, each of the 150 youngsters also received a supply kit to help them with their studies.

Getting together, the children's parents approached District Chief Vu Hua Hung with this proposal: if construction materials could be provided, the parents would do the work.

An eight-foot sign hanging over the school's door proclaims: "Welcome the social spirit of the civic affairs service of USAHAC."

Foresight By Unit Benefits Children

QUI NHON (USA)—Neither poor roads nor narrow bridges could keep a small convoy from the 19th Engineer Battalion, 45th Engineer Group from embarking on their "Mission of Good Cheer."

When the 137th Engineer Company, 19th Engineer Battalion, was still at Fort Riley, Kansas, hundreds of toys of all shapes and sizes were collected there.

Under the supervision of Chief Warrant Officer Harry O. Woods, the toys were packed and they accompanied the Engineers to Vietnam.

When the company arrived in Qui Nhon, the only question was to whom to distribute the gifts.

This proved to be no problem, however, since for almost six months the 19th Battalion has provided assistance to the Go Thi Orphanage near Go Boi, in the form of medical and dental assistance, construction and installation of beds, and the distribution of clothing.

After setting the date for delivery of the presents, CWO Woods, Lieutenant Lawrence Wilworth and Lieutenant Fred Wiel set out for the orphanage in two jeeps and a 2½-ton truck.

Traveling north from Qui Nhon, the small convoy reached Tuy Phoc, where it was advised that the trip would be extremely difficult due to poor road conditions and narrow bridges. But they continued on their mission, arriving at the orphanage a short time later.

Once a headquarters for the Viet Cong, the building was bombed quite heavily by U.S. aircraft when they were clearing the area of VC.

But this is all history for the building is an orphanage now, with its classrooms and living quarters serving as a haven for

occasional acts of harassment are still carried out. Sergeant First Class Roy V. Plain, Advisory Team 70, told about one act of sabotage which ranks as a tribute to the success of RD in the area.

"Charlie knew we were planning a festivity here today," the sergeant said, "so last night he blew up our bridge to keep the people from coming. It didn't work—the people came anyway."

AF Records Its 1,000th Rescue Save

SAIGON (USA)—The 1,000th rescue save recorded by the Air Force since the start of the Vietnam war was turned in by a four-man crew from Detachment 7, 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group following the Communist rocket attack July 15 at Da Nang Air Base.

Number 1,000—one of the 21 wounded men airlifted by the Da Nang-based helicopter to medical facilities—passed from the rescue crew to the medics without fanfare.

A rescue save is credited when an individual might have died from injuries or probably been captured if he had not been recovered.

For two and one half hours, the HH-43 crew located and evacuated wounded from scattered areas of the base. Other detachment personnel worked on the ground, searching bunkers and burning buildings for the injured.

The school now has a new

some 150 children of all ages. "The mission of good cheer" made it all the way from Fort Riley, Kansas to the Go Thi Orphanage. And the wonderful thing about it is that there is another truckload of gifts sitting at the 137th Company Headquarters.

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"Charlie knew we were planning a festivity here today," the sergeant said, "so last night he blew up our bridge to keep the people from coming. It didn't work—the people came anyway."

The Vietnamese villagers, reluctant to visit the dentist, sought his aid when they discovered the treatment was painless.

At the end of the day, the team had treated 78 dental and 505 medical patients, 341 of whom were children.

The grateful villagers also helped the soldiers. They showed their appreciation by pointing out a Viet Cong suspect and an enemy mine.

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American Forces Vietnam Network—Channel 11

Guide For Week Of Aug. 9-15, 1967
(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)
Wednesday (Aug. 9)

1830 News Headlines
INFORMATION FEATURE
Bawitched
1930 News & Sports
2000 Perry Mason
2100 News Briefs
Green Acres
2130 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)
Sign-Off-News

Thursday (Aug. 10)

1830 News Headlines
Third Man
1900 Andy Griffith
1930 Perry Mason
1930 News & Sports
2000 12 O'Clock High
2100 News Briefs
The Fugitive
2200 News Briefs
Bonanza
El Surveon
Sign-Off-News

Friday (Aug. 11)

1830 News Headlines
21st Century
Fractured Flickers
1930 News & Sports
2000 Combat
2100 News Briefs
Coliseum
2200 News Briefs
Tonight Show
Sign-Off-News

Saturday (Aug. 12)

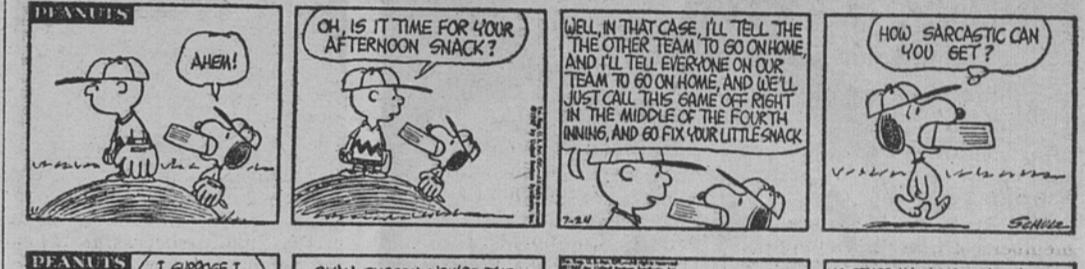
1830 News Headlines
Encyclopedia Britannica
Social Security
Assault Underwater
American Sportsman
Daniel Boone
Roy Acuff
Sports Of The Week
Da Nang
Sept. 9-15
Da Nang
Sept. 6-12
Pleiku
Sept. 27-Oct. 3
Nha Trang
Oct. 18-24
Tuy Hoa
Nov. 15-21
Hue
Dec. 6-12

Beetle Bailey



By Charles M. Schulz

Peanuts



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS									
1-Turkish standard	2-Dwell	3-Come into view	4-Join	5-Devoided	6-Scared to death by Zeus	7-Uppermost part	8-Extra	9-Newest	10-Appellation of Athens
5-River island	12-Citra fruit	13-Also	14-Wan	15-Disinclined	17-Pieces of dinnerware	19-Kind of fabric	20-Regions	21-Cultured man (slang)	23-Hastens
8-Bridge term	11-Awan	16-Also	18-Recined	19-Disinclined	22-Doctrine	24-Hostile	25-Obstruct	26-Girl's name	28-Exhilaration
12-Citra fruit	12-Citra fruit	17-Also	19-Also	18-Also	23-Obstruct	24-Obstruct	25-Obstruct	26-Girl's name	29-Anglo-Saxon money
13-Also	13-Also	18-Also	19-Also	19-Also	20-Obstruct	21-Obstruct	22-Obstruct	23-Obstruct	30-Metal
14-Wan	14-Wan	19-Also	20-Obstruct	20-Obstruct	21-Obstruct	22-Obstruct	23-Obstruct	24-Obstruct	31-Metal
15-Disinclined	15-Disinclined	16-Also	17-Also	17-Also	18-Also	19-Also	20-Obstruct	21-Obstruct	32-Negative
16-Also	16-Also	17-Also	18-Also	18-Also	19-Also	20-Obstruct	21-Obstruct	22-Obstruct	33-A state (abbr.)
17-Also	17-Also	18-Also	19-Also	19-Also	20-Obstruct	21-Obstruct	22-Obstruct	23-Obstruct	34-Chart
18-Also	18-Also	19-Also	20-Obstruct	20-Obstruct	21-Obstruct	22-Obstruct	23-Obstruct	24-Obstruct	35-Protective organization
19-Also	19-Also	20-Obstruct	21-Obstruct	21-Obstruct	22-Obstruct	23-Obstruct	24-Obstruct	25-Obstruct	3

'Bobcat Bomb Blower' Blows VC Boobytraps

CU CHI (USA) — It looks like a machine for the exploration of the moon, but men of the 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry will assure you it serves a down-to-earth purpose . . . keeping them alive.

The "Bobcat Bomb Blower" is a twenty-wheeled device built to reduce the mine hazard to tracked vehicles by detonating explosives before they can destroy a manned carrier.

Soon after the beginning of Operation Kolekole, Lieutenant Colonel Chandler Goodnow, battalion commander, decided that something had to be done to protect the men from road mines between Cu Chi and Bao Trai.

The first attempted mine sweeper was rejected because of maneuvering problems, but a

new design quickly solved the problem and, within two weeks, the new unit was completed.

The unit was put together with the scrap parts of other personnel carriers and from railroad ties obtained from the 65th Engineer Battalion.

Each wheel on the sweeper is individually suspended to insure good maneuverability off the road as well as on it. When one of the wheels strike a mine, the weight detonates it. Although the wheel is disabled, it can be easily replaced.

"Mine sweepers were used successfully in World War II and in Korea," said Captain Charles Watkins, who supervised construction, "but we believe this is the first one used in Vietnam."

At \$9 Each Per Year

Chaplain Lines Up U.S. Help For Educating Viet Children

DAU TIENG (USA) — Twelve high school children in the village of Dau Tieng don't have to worry about the tuition for their schooling this year, because of a letterwriting chaplain in the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

On his arrival in Vietnam in May, Chaplain (Captain) James A. Tobin, Camden, N.J., found that there were more than 150 children in Dau Tieng who didn't have the money to pay their tuition to high school.

The cost of schooling in Dau Tieng varies according to grade level, but an average of \$9 per student covers the cost for a year.

Knowing that many people in the U.S. would be more than willing to give \$9 to educate a child, the chaplain began writing letters to his former par-

ishes, telling them of the children, the country and the need for education in Vietnam.

"I felt that I needed to help," said the chaplain. "It isn't much money for us, but for a Vietnamese family which has trouble keeping the children fed and clothed, \$9 is a small fortune."

Recently, Chaplain Tobin re-

ceived his first reply to his many letters in the form of a \$100 check from the members of St. Bartholomew's Catholic Church of East Brunswick, N.J. Coordinating through the 3rd Brigade Civil Affairs Office, Chaplain Tobin arranged to give the money to the 12 neediest students in the high school.

Social Welfare Duties Fill ARVN WAC's Day

BIEN HOA (III CORPS) — First Lieutenant Huynh Thi Anh, III Corps Headquarters, is a busy lady: She is chief of the Corps' Social Welfare Section, an arm of the Political Warfare office.

Her section is composed of Vietnamese WACs who serve the III Corps area performing many services for the ARVN soldier and his dependents in the corps area.

When a soldier is killed, the lieutenant and her section visit the family, explain what benefits they are entitled to and give them whatever assistance is needed.

Lieutenant Anh is responsible for not only the Social Welfare Section, but also for the social services provided to the ARVN soldier and his dependents in the corps area.

The Social Welfare Section's main objective is to bring the ARVN soldier and his family a happier, healthier and more wholesome life.

Recently Lieutenant Anh inaugurated a sewing class for the dependents living at the headquarters camp here. Three manual-type sewing machines were donated by CARE, while used clothing and material for use in instruction were donated by the Social Welfare Directorate Service in Saigon, the Catholic Relief Service (CRS) and CARE.

A room, a chair, a blackboard, and a full-time teacher, Sergeant Thai Cung, will soon be furnished by III Corps Headquarters Company. The sergeant will teach two classes daily for two month sessions.

Besides overseeing the operation of the sewing classes, the lieutenant is also responsible for a kindergarten and a newly-constructed maternity ward which

(Continued From Page 1)

Blood . . .

volving new developments.

A frozen blood section, an entirely new concept in the preservation and transfer of human blood, is manned by Hospital Corpsman First Class Robert G. Deppen and Hospital Corpsman Second Class Karl J. Keene. It has certain advantages over conventional whole blood in that it can be transferred to anybody and stored indefinitely.

The third function of the blood bank, and possibly the most far reaching in scope, is research into the effects of shock. Two men, Hospital Corpsman Third Class Vidal Fresquez Jr., and Hospital Corpsman Third Class Frank W. Eiler are conducting the experiments.

PHU HIEP (USA) — Four hundred inhabitants of this tiny fishing village fabricated 3,500 concrete blocks to build a school for their children.

This Revolutionary Development Program started when the 577th Engineer Battalion (Construction), 35th Engineer Group, learned of the village's desire to construct a school for its more than 200 children.

The battalion immediately contacted the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) representative and the Province Educational Office in Tuy Hoa. Aid came quickly.

Men, women and children were organized into work teams and, with the aid of a block press machine, the construction began.

Gathered together on the dedication day, the proud villagers—together with their Vietnamese government and U.S. friends—dedicated not only this monument to freedom and progress, but also reaffirmed their determination to continue to work side by side for the future of Vietnam.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

★ (Does not meet requirements for "free" mail.)

From:

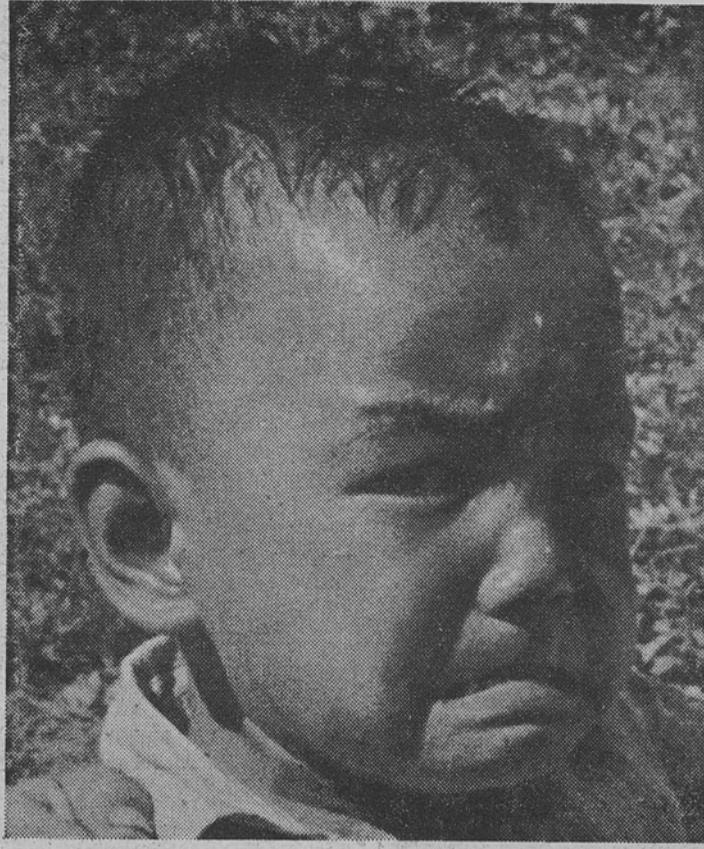
Place Stamp
Here

(16 cents Airmail)

(10 cents 1st class)

TO: _____





NUMBER 10—Inoculations, cameras, MEDCAPS and photographers all fit into one category according to this youngster of Dong Tam—Number 10! He was waiting (ugh!) his turn at the needle during a medical civic action visit by the 4th Bn., 47th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division. (Photo by Sp4 Don Cordi, 9th Sig Bn)

For Fighting Units

VC Now Recruit Untrained Boys

Giai Xuan (IV Corps) — A recent attack by the Viet Cong in the Mekong Delta reveals that the enemy is forced to recruit boys as young as 12 to replenish their thinning ranks.

Last month, elements of the Viet Cong "Tay Do" Battalion infiltrated the outer defenses of the prime Revolutionary Development village of Giai Xuan in Phong Dinh Province.

For the next seven hours nine companies of the Vietnamese Regional Forces engaged the VC in a fierce battle near the hamlet of Thoi An, 11 kilometers west of Can Tho.

Ten "teenagers" were detained during the engagement. Three were 12, two were 15 and the other five were 17 years old. One of the 12 year olds said that he was drafted from the village of Giai Xuan just three days before the attack.

As night came, the Viet Cong, dazed from repeated counterattacks from the Vietnamese

forces and air strikes from a AC-47 "Dragon Ship" firing thousands of rounds of machine gun fire at them from the air, fell back from the village of Giai Xuan. As they retreated, units of the Vietnamese Air Force strafed and bombed them.

According to Lieutenant Colonel William E. Mundy, U.S. advisor attached to Phong Dinh Province, the attack, designed to destroy the efforts of the Revolutionary Development Cadre working in the area, was a total failure.

He also said that the strength and determination with which the enemy hit the village is an indicator of the effectiveness of the Revolutionary Development Teams.

The battle resulted in 69 VC killed and 10 young boys detained. The enemy also lost 10 carbines, nine rifles, two pistols, one sub-machine gun, one Browning Automatic Rifle and other miscellaneous materials.

Experimental Language Class Held By 1st Cav

Saigon (USA) — Six 1st Air Cavalrymen recently completed a six-week experimental Vietnamese language class, taught by 1st Brigade interpreter Staff Sergeant Van Tinh.

Colonel Donald V. Rattan, 1st Brigade commander, presented graduation certificates to Private First Class Carl Hanel, B Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry; Private First Class Joseph Archuleta, A Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry; Private First Class Ronald Dougrie, C Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry; Private First Class Paul Harter, D Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry; Private

First Class David Nichols, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry; and Specialist 4 Peter Schwartz, D Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry.

The goal of the classes was to enable the cavalrymen to become proficient enough in both spoken and written Vietnamese to act as interpreters for their companies when they return to the field.

Sergeant Tinh, 1st Brigade civil affairs section, learned English at the Vietnamese Armed Forces Language School in Saigon.



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Saigon, Vietnam

August 2, 1967

ARVN Officer Heads Civic Action Teams

Edap Enang (USA) — Prospects of a better life for the Montagnards living west of Pleiku, in this massive resettlement, are looking better every day. And a great part of that optimistic outlook is due to the work of a Vietnamese lieutenant and his civic action teams.

Second Lieutenant Vo Van Khoa, 21st Civil Action Company, 20th ARVN Psychological Warfare Battalion, leads a combined Montagnard-Vietnamese civic action group at the resettlement area. They make daily MEDCAP and goodwill visits to several of the 46 villages making up Edap Enang.

There are 18 Vietnamese and 10 Montagnards in the Lieutenant's group, which is divided into seven teams of four men each. Two of the teams are headed by Montagnard warrant officers. The Montagnard members of the teams are from the Djarai tribe to which the people of Edap Enang also belong.

According to Lieutenant Khoa, the Montagnards of Edap Enang are pleased to see members of their tribe in responsible positions in the armed forces.

The teams rise early in the morning to visit surrounding villages. Vietnamese and Montagnard medics conduct a sick call at these villages, while others set up a barber shop for the youngsters. The object of the haircuts is to cut down on the lice.

Powdered milk is distributed among the families, including any clothing which may have been given to the Edap Enang staff. On each team there is an

"education" man who offers advice on many subjects: health, house building, security, the latest developments in the Edap Enang project.

The civic action teams also show films at night and distribute anti-Viet Cong literature.

Lieutenant Khoa has received high praise from the U.S. advisors of Thanh An District who are working on the Edap Enang project.

"He's a real go-getter, one of

ARVN Kill 200 VC In Brief Fight

Saigon (MACV) — Two airborne battalions and an APC group of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, engaged in I Corps on Operation Lam Son 87, killed 200 enemy soldiers during a five-hour firefight in late July.

The fighting, which took place six miles north of Phong Dien District and 20 miles northwest of Hue City between 1100 and 1600 hours, saw the capture of nine enemy soldiers. Six crew-served and 35 individual weapons were seized in the action.

By 0600 of the following day, enemy losses had climbed to 245 killed and 15 captured, while nine crew-served and 71 individual weapons had also been seized.

The ARVN forces suffered 25 men killed in the battle.

the finest Vietnamese lieutenants I've seen," said Captain Grineley Curren, Atlanta, assistant district advisor at Thanh An. "He has really kept the Vietnamese portion of the civic action program going full speed at the resettlement area."

The 29-year-old lieutenant is a former physics and mathematics teacher at Ban Me Thuot High School. He began teaching there after his own high school years at Dalat and a year at Pedogogy School.

Lieutenant Khoa entered the service three years ago and was commissioned after nine months of officer candidate training. He also attended the Vietnamese Psychological Warfare School in Saigon, where he graduated first in his class.

For the past two years, he has been with the Pleiku-based psy-war battalion, which has responsibility for the entire II Corps area. During that time the lieutenant has worked on civic action projects with the 25th Infantry Division, the 1st Cavalry Division, and the 4th Infantry Division.

Promotion Quotas

Washington (AFNB) — Army enlisted promotion quotas for July include 56,436 for temporary up-grade. Bulk is reflected in grades E-5 and E-4 while lesser amount is earmarked for E-8 and E-9. List of MOS which are not authorized for promotion was forwarded to major Army commanders along with promotion quota. Appointments in some frozen MOS have been authorized in monthly appointment quota letters.



IN LIMBO—Marine Lance Corporal H. L. Washington, 19, Baton Rouge, La., rests on a tree branch during break on an operation near Da Nang. Washington, a radio operator with Company I, 3rd Battalion, Fifth Regiment, 1st Marine Division, keeps tuned in while he rests. (Photo by Lance Cpl M. J. Smedley)

Editorial

Civic Responsibility

WHAT part do you play in the life of your military or civilian community? Are you an active participant in its affairs or do you "let George do it?"

Whether you are an unmarried serviceman or woman living in a barracks or a service family living in government quarters or civilian housing, you should take an active interest and make a positive contribution to your community.

The numerous civic, service, youth and church groups found in every town and on military bases offer excellent opportunities for you to serve your community, make new friends, broaden your knowledge and help maintain good relations between civilian and military population.



Service people have a wealth of talent and information to offer, based upon their varied backgrounds, experiences and familiarity with many areas in the United States and in foreign countries. You can provide new ideas, outlooks and energy to the groups and organizations which are vitally concerned with the well-being, growth and progress of the communities they serve.

Civic responsibility involves more than a neutral or negative approach to community affairs. Contributing your time and talents to the activities and projects of your military or civilian community is the positive approach to civic responsibility.

It will not only make your particular community a better place in which to live, but will make your tour of duty more enjoyable and personally rewarding. (AFNB)



The Cabbie said, as I stepped out the door,
"Hey GI, need 50 'P' more?"
I replied, "If you please,
Is that what you charge Vietnamese?
Or do you think that I don't know the score?"

Quote Of Note

(An AFNS Feature)

"What kind of a force has our nation fielded in Vietnam? It is the finest and best equipped fighting force ever deployed against an enemy. Today your soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coast guardmen:

"Are better educated than before.

"Are better informed.

"Have traditional American ingenuity and initiative.

"Are better physical specimens.

"Have high morale.

"And understand what the war is all about."

(Gen. William C. Westmoreland, commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, at Associated Press managing editor's luncheon, New York, Monday, April 24, 1967.)

Reserve Drill Setup Eased For Viet Vets

The Pentagon announced recently that military reservists who have served two years' active duty generally will be exempt from weekly drills in the Ready Reserve.

"In no event," announced the Pentagon, "shall a man who has served in Vietnam be involuntarily assigned to a Ready Reserve unit for purposes of weekly drills."

The new policy may mean the release of thousands of men currently required to attend weekly meetings of the Active Reserve or National Guard units.

The Army estimated that there are 25,000 men mandatorily attached to Ready Reserve units who will be eligible for release, if they so desire, by Dec. 1. Unspecified numbers of Navy and Air Force reservists are also involved.

Normally, after a man completes his two or three years' active duty, he spends three years in the Active Reserve or National Guard, then sits out one year of Stand-by Reserve.

This announced policy is not a blanket exemption; the Pentagon said that some reservists may be held in Ready Reserve units, if "after diligent recruiting it is determined that a vacancy cannot be otherwise filled."

At the same time, the Pentagon said, the new policy does not mean that men except from making weekly drills will not be required to attend the usual two-week summer active duty camps.

The policy was laid down in a memorandum to the services by Deputy Secretary of Defense Cyrus Vance.

3 Viet Boys In Utah For Scout Meet

Saigon (MACV)—A five man contingent, two leaders and three boys, are representing the Vietnam Boy Scout Association at the Boy Scouts World Jamboree 1 through 9 August at Farragut State Park, Idaho.

More than 18,000 scouts and leaders have assembled to exchange scouting techniques, enjoy a varied program and strengthen the worldwide scouting fellowship.

The Jamboree program includes giant arena shows and subcamp campfires, and a Skill-O-Rama in which scouts from the participating nations will demonstrate the scouting skills that are specialties of the individual scout movements.

Do Ninh, National Branch Commissioner for the Boy Scout Branch, is the contingent's scoutmaster and one of the Vietnamese delegates to the World Conference following the Jamboree. Truong Trong Trac, a group scoutmaster from Saigon, assists Ninh and the scouts in Jamboree activities.

Le Dai Duong and Vo Van Trung, both of Saigon, and Ton That Dong Hai from Pleiku, boy members of the contingent, were selected by competitions in their respective areas.

The Boy Scouts of America troop in Saigon, led by Major Burdette A. Bacon, Air Force Advisory Group, assisted the contingent in Jamboree-style cooking and Jamboree procedures.

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Sentiments At Fort Benning By A Viet Student Officer

(One night of meditation in Southeastern United States)

Training here—completed.

And we prepare to part.

What holds you now my friend?

What have you when you've reached the end of Summer days in wind-hushed Georgia pines.

And bundled nights in Winter's buckling cold.

Now only memory can hold.

Like a faded photograph, the dim defines

Of gay Columbus, the airport where I came,

The curling Chattahoochee; and a girl whose name

Was Franky—she sang for us that night—

A smoke-dim room and cornered glasses.

Memories now, it is a pity,

Are all my ties.

To America and our allies,

Iranians, Koreans, Africans, Europeans and Thais,

With whom I hurried back and forth from billets

To classes. Those many months now seem so short

As I recall Working, Watching Fort Benning, Georgia.

It seems I had just begun to explore

This great post and its "Building Four"

Now they almost seem like home

Fort Benning!

Where soldiers of many nations meet beneath its blanket sky.

The ground resounds with marching feet as Airborne troopers

pass by.

Green berets and ranger black.

And OCS blue and combat pack.

Fort Benning!

The Spirit of the Infantry—it the bridge that joins and cements

All of freedom's continents.

To span the gulf of tyranny.

Now it is the end.

What do you still recall, my friend?

Academic subject, all there was to learn,

And so much more to make me turn my thoughts to here in later

years.

My comrades, we're ready to leave.

You and I tensely wait the moment of goodbye.

I always shall recall the courage and the dedication

Of the United States, a noble nation,

To give its sons, and let its blood

To help our people stem the flood

Of Red oppression.

May the Spirit of America ever give us strength

To bulwark freedom's battlement.

The heart of America is as large as the oceans

And as broad as its immense plains.

Tonight the stars are merry, but I am sad.

A deep nostalgic loss . . . I jot some lines . . .

In silent conversation with the land around me hoping

To seal in lasting bond the friendship

Of the United States and Vietnam.

With clutching, but determined hands

And head bowed low I pray for

Victory

Freedom

Peace

—Captain Vu-Van-Quy
Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces
Associate Career Infantry Course No. 3, 1967

—English translation by Lt. A. Makaitis

(Reprinted with permission from the *Bayonet*, Fort Benning, Ga., civilian enterprise newspaper published by the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer)

Overseas Deposit Program Reaches \$113 Million Mark

Active duty U.S. military personnel overseas have deposited more than \$113 million in the Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program.

The figure includes deposits through May. The average account per subscriber was \$806.

Personnel in the Southeast Asia area accounted for approximately 40 percent, or \$45 million, of the total deposits.

Fourteen percent of all eligible personnel now subscribe in the savings program. This is compared to only 2.1 percent at the end of last September.

The program was established under authority of P.L. 89-538, approved Aug. 14, 1966. It is aimed primarily at reducing the U.S. deficit in the international balance of payments.

President Johnson has prescribed that amounts deposited under the program shall earn interest at the rate of 10 percent per annum, compounded quarterly. The rate is applicable to accounts of \$10,000 or less.

Men of the company improvised a stretcher for Krim and gave her water out of their canteens. Later, the men of the company drafted a letter to Mrs. Betty Rowe, Midland, Mich., who donated Krim to fight in Vietnam. The letter thanked Mrs. Rowe for sending the dog.

Specialist Lister was put in for bronze star, with "V" device, for valor in combat.

Handler Beaten By Krim

Bong Son (USA)—"I'd rather have been shot than that dog," said Staff Sergeant Harry W. Coit, of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry. "She saved my life twice in one day."

Sergeant Coit, of Long Beach, Miss., had entertained doubts about Krim, the scout dog which was working with his platoon during Operation Pershing. The dog, he thought, lacked drive and alertness—she had not noticed several booby traps set up along the jungle trails. Coit thought seriously of sending the dog back for further training.

But Krim soon displayed her savvy of close-in jungle fighting. A Company, pursuing an elusive enemy, was moving along a trail when Krim gave her first alert. The troops, walking cautiously, came upon a fresh enemy position. In the next 30 minutes, the dog gave eight more alerts. Then Krim gave two strong alerts and Specialist 4 Michael Lister, the dog's handler, pointed to where she was signalling danger.

Suddenly the enemy opened fire from one position and lobbed a grenade from another. Specialist Lister saw the grenade coming through the air. He took the enemy under fire, killing him, while the rest of the enemy began to withdraw.

After evacuating a wounded squad leader, A Company took off in pursuit.

The company chased the enemy for an hour—then Krim gave another alert. But this time she did not wait for her handler to alert in turn the infantrymen. She jumped into a bush, where three enemy soldiers were waiting in ambush, and fought them hand-to-paw until one of the soldiers shot her.

Medical specialists set up tables as more than 200 candy bars was passed to a crowd of happy children.

Forming a line, the citizens

described their ailments to Staff Sergeant Nguyen Huu Ngoc, a Vietnamese interpreter, who translated for the officer in charge.

During the flight, the helicopter

flew what is called a "wide orbit" in position to respond to a call from a pilot in trouble north of the 17th Parallel.

According to the final reports, 118 patients were treated during the MEDCAP. Most of the 118 suffered from ear and eye infections and various skin diseases.

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vice, for valor in combat.

The choir sang two songs in

English: "I taught them

"Heavenly Sunshine" and "Walk-

ing With Jesus."

"They picked up the songs

easily, but the youngsters have

a way of saying the words in

English that sounds rather funny," he continued.

"Their timing is way off, but

. . . I hope they will . . . sound

like a chorus," said Chaplain

Lieutenant Starts Own Civic Action

Long Thanh (USA) — First Lieutenant Doug Dangerfield, Los Angeles, a platoon leader with the 9th Infantry Division, leads men into combat.

Much of his own time, however, is devoted to fighting Vietnam's "other war" — the war against poverty, hunger and disease.

The lieutenant, like many other soldiers, believes one of the keys to peace lies with the Civic Action Program.

For a personal Civic Action Program, Lieutenant Dangerfield organized a continuing project which channels food, medicine and clothing from the U.S. to Vietnamese villagers in need.

"I read a lot about this civic action business before I came over here," related the 24-year-old lieutenant. "It has to be right."

"For instance, there is a lot of skin disease here due to dirty water and to a lack of soap. The kids are probably hardest hit. If we visit a village with ointments, soap and maybe fresh cloths, when 'Charlie' comes home and finds his child isn't crying anymore, he should think twice before sniping at allied troops again," explained the lieutenant.

"It costs so little but helps the people so much," added Lieutenant Dangerfield.

The idea of starting his own civic action program started when he found that he was coming to Vietnam.

After discussing his plans with the assistant minister of the Brentwood Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles, Reverend Leo McDaniel, who was also enthusiastic, a program was outlined and named "Project Help".

When the lieutenant arrived in Vietnam in mid-December, he studied the civic action program and sent detailed information regarding what was needed most in Vietnam.

"At first the packages were sent to me," he said, "Then I told the committee to send them directly to the battalion S-5 (Civic Affairs Section).

Four hundred pounds of clothing have arrived so far, along with 50 cartons of medication, antibiotic and medicated soap.

Tournament Set

The eighth annual Armed Forces Chess Championship Tournament will be held Oct. 21-28 in Washington, D. C.

Teams from all services within the Armed Forces and the Coast Guard will participate. Defending champion in the individual and team categories is the Army.

Navy, AF Team Up to Offer 1,000 Children Recreation

Da Nang (USN) — The Navy and Air Force are combining their talents to help provide badly needed recreation for 1,000 children in Da Nang.

A three-man Navy Village Assistance Team (VAT) is permanently assigned to the village of Binh Thuan near downtown Da Nang. This team, attached to the Naval Support Activity, began to clear an area to be used as a playground.

The area previously was a refuse collection area and a bulldozer was needed to move away tons of dirt and trash. Several sources were checked, but all Navy "dozers" were being used on high priority jobs — then the Air Force came to

"A lot of people are in on this," Lieutenant Dangerfield explained. "It's pretty big. Some companies are donating medicines, while doctors donate sample drugs that they get. I think everybody in the congregation (of 1200) is glad to be doing something, glad to show that they are supporting us in Vietnam."

Now half way through his tour, Lieutenant Dangerfield has requested an extension and hopes to be a civic action officer after completion of his present assignment.

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"For instance, there is a lot of skin disease here due to dirty water and to a lack of soap. The kids are probably hardest hit. If we visit a village with ointments, soap and maybe fresh cloths, when 'Charlie' comes home and finds his child isn't crying anymore, he should think twice before sniping at allied troops again," explained the lieutenant.

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VN Weather Watchers Give 24-Hour Service

Long Thanh (USA) — Drastic changes in Vietnam's day to day weather are rare. The monsoon brings predictable sheets of driving, drenching rain almost daily from May to November.

The dry season takes over with its own kind of misery for soldiers — parched throats from a relentless, brilliant sun and soaring temperatures.

There isn't much more to say about it.

Or is there?

A dozen Air Force weather experts have much more to say about the weather.

One month alone, Air Force Lieutenant Robert Bron, Colchester, Conn., who heads the Detachment 32, 5th Weather Squadron, attached to the 9th Infantry Division, answered more than 200 pilot requests for particulars on the weather.

Pilots need information of various kinds about atmospheric conditions, according to Lieutenant Bron. "We give it to them on a fixed radio frequency," he said. The weather information service is on the air 24 hours a day.

For a full day, Staff Sergeant James M. Davis, USAF, Tellico Plains, Tenn., chugged back and forth with his "dozer" clearing the area.

The number of calls is more than I ever received in the states during a comparable period," he explained.

Aerial intelligence officers of the 9th Infantry also call on the three teams — located in division base camps at Long Thanh, Dong Tam and Tan An — for weather outlooks twice daily.

The briefings include information on tide schedules, sunrises, sunsets and even moon phases.

"Most typhoons bypass this area and head into the Asian mainland and China," the lieutenant said.

In the last 20 years, only a small number of typhoons have affected local weather.

Another class is now starting with 35 students in accounting and typing.

Limited plastic surgery is also performed by the department.



FILL 'ER UP — Helicopter from the 9th Infantry Division is about to land on specially outfitted Armored Troop Carrier (ATC) of Naval Task Force 117 for refueling. The floating gas station follows the Army-Navy Mobile Riverine Force throughout the Delta. (Photo by Sp4 John Millaire)

27 Graduate Course Held By Exchange

Saigon (VRE) — Twenty-seven Vietnamese, including five Hoi Chanh (Open Arms Returnees) and 17 veterans, recently graduated from the Long Binh Exchange School in Long Binh, 20 miles from Saigon.

The one month alone, Air Force Lieutenant Robert Bron, Colchester, Conn., who heads the Detachment 32, 5th Weather Squadron, attached to the 9th Infantry Division, answered more than 200 pilot requests for particulars on the weather.

Nineteen went through a rigorous five-week accounting course. They learned merchandising, bookkeeping, handling of concession reports and cash, preparing of payrolls and the methods of taking an inventory.

Eight took typing lessons for six weeks. All learned job-related English.

Honor students of this month's class were: Nguyen Van Minh, Nguyen Huu and Tho Ngo Duc in accounting; and Ho Thi Tri in typing.

The students decorated the school for the graduation ceremonies with streamers of green, yellow, pink and red foil and gladiola flowers. They expressed their appreciation to their teachers with gifts.

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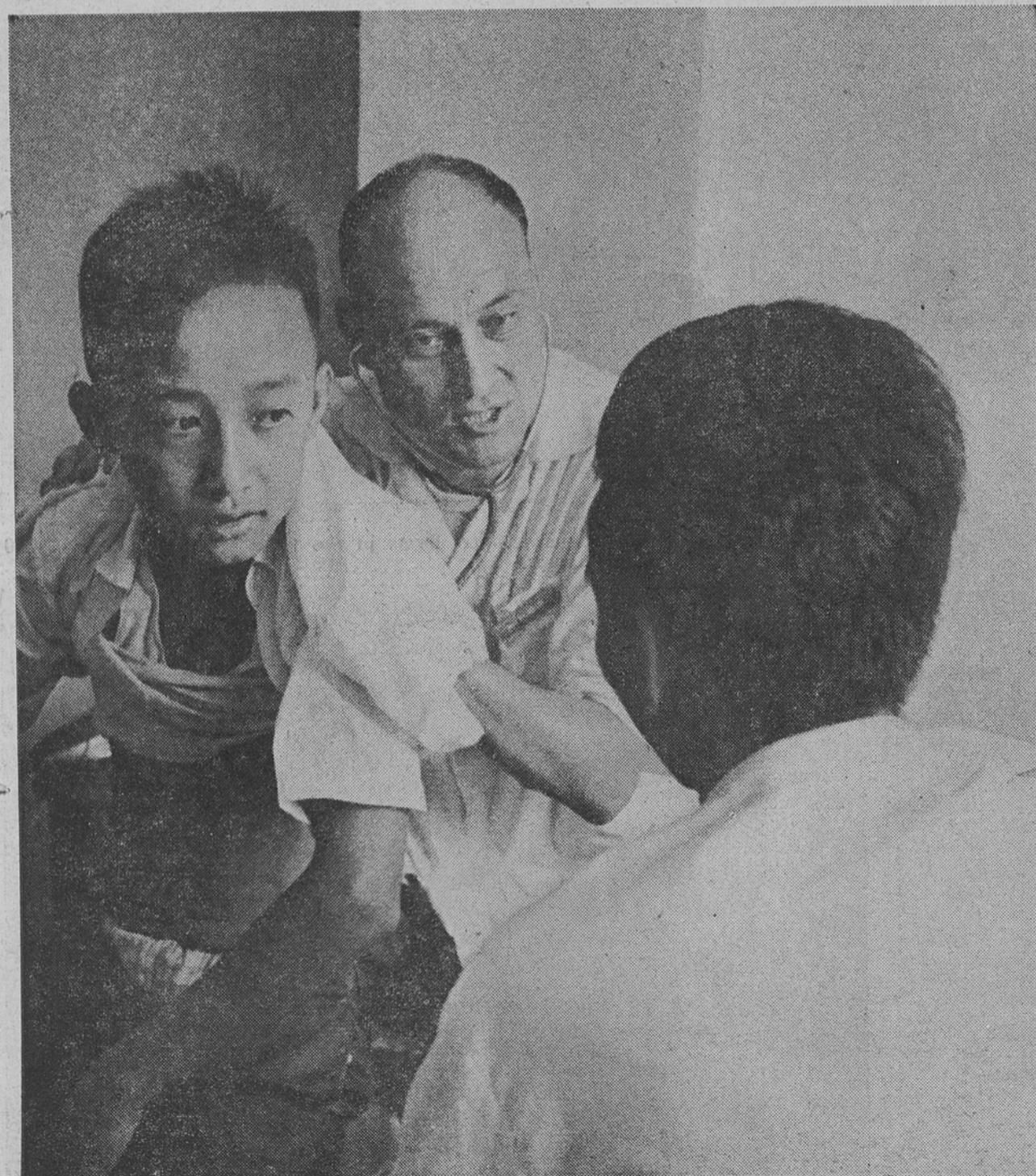
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Now There's Sunshine In The Future



LT CDR VERNON L. GOLLER EXAMINES YOUNG BOY DURING MILPHAP OPERATION



MILPHAP DOCTOR ASKS INTERPRETER TO EXPLAIN TREATMENT

Saigon (USN) — Six Navy medical teams, directed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), are engaged quietly but resourcefully in the mission of improving the health of the Vietnamese people.

In Ba Xuyen Province, deep in the rice-rich Mekong Delta, members of a small medical advisory team are working alongside their Vietnamese counterparts to win this struggle.

These men, members of a Navy Military Provincial Health Assistance Program (MILPHAP) team, are advisors assigned to the provincial hospital in Soc Trang, the capital of Ba Xuyen Province.

The volunteer team, composed of three doctors, one Medical Service Corps officer and 12 hospital corpsmen, arrived in-country during July 1966, after completing a one-

month training course at Fort Sam Houston, X.

The Navy team was the first MILPHAP team assigned to duty in Ba Xuyen Province.

When it arrived, the team found a challenge awaiting it. The members spent their time during the first few months not only treating sick, but renovating the worn-beaten buildings.

They were inferior of the buildings, but a supply room and laid concrete walkways throughout the hospital complex.

Upon completion of the renovation, the team turned its full effort to advise the Vietnamese medical staff and to treating the sick.

At first the Vietnamese doctors were hesitant. Gradually, however, they learned that the modern methods had advantages over some of their traditional practices.

People of Soc Trang and the surrounding areas began to flock

daily to sick calls at the hospital.

At first they came out of curiosity, but before long the staff was seeing an average of 200 patients a day.

As the MILPHAP team gained the confidence of the Vietnamese, it decided to expand operations. In February, five Navy hospital corpsmen were assigned to outlying villages throughout Ba Xuyen. Since then, they have lived with the villagers and conducted a daily sick call.

Their only contact with the team headquarters has been through the supply helicopter which visits all the villages once every two weeks.

Serious medical cases are transported to the provincial hospital at Soc Trang; all others are treated at the village level.

Health standards in rural Vietnam are gradually improving—due to the increasing number of MILPHAP-trained Vietnamese medical specialists.



HOSPITAL CORPSMAN WATCHES YOUNG VICTIM USE NEW CRUTCHES
The Young Girl Was Unable To Walk When She Came To The Hospital



MEDICAL SERVICE OFFICER SAYS GOOD-BY TO COUNTERPART

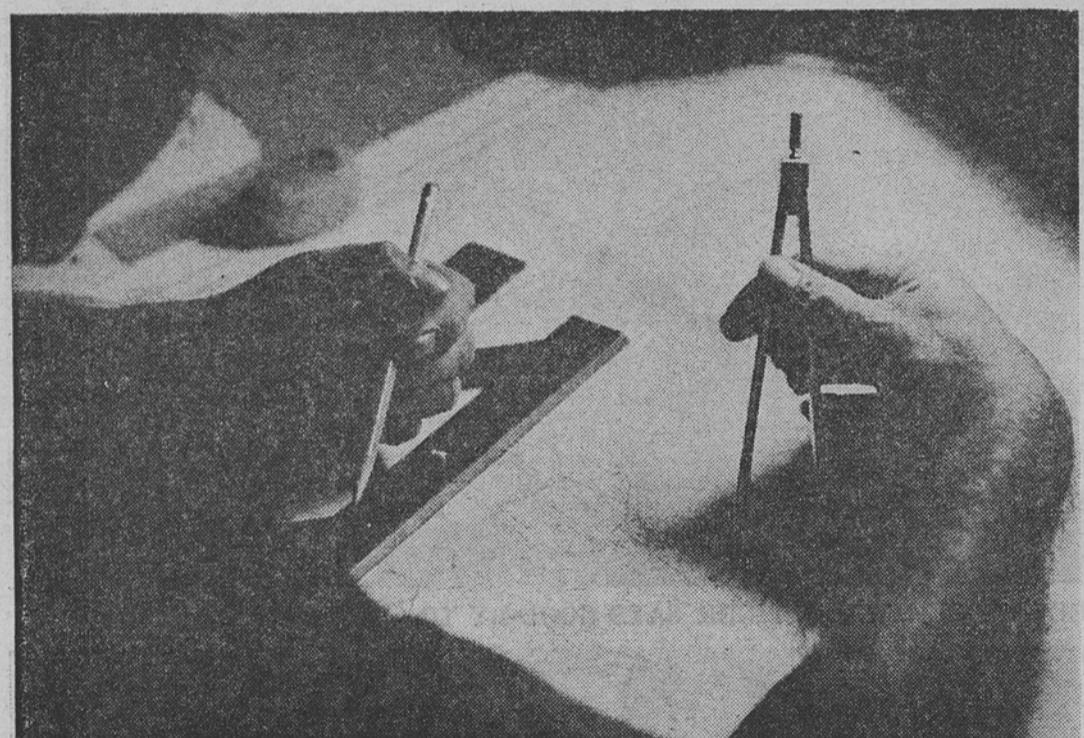


TWO U.S. ADVISORS EXAMINE A YOUNG POLIO PATIENT AT THE SOC TRANG HOSPITAL

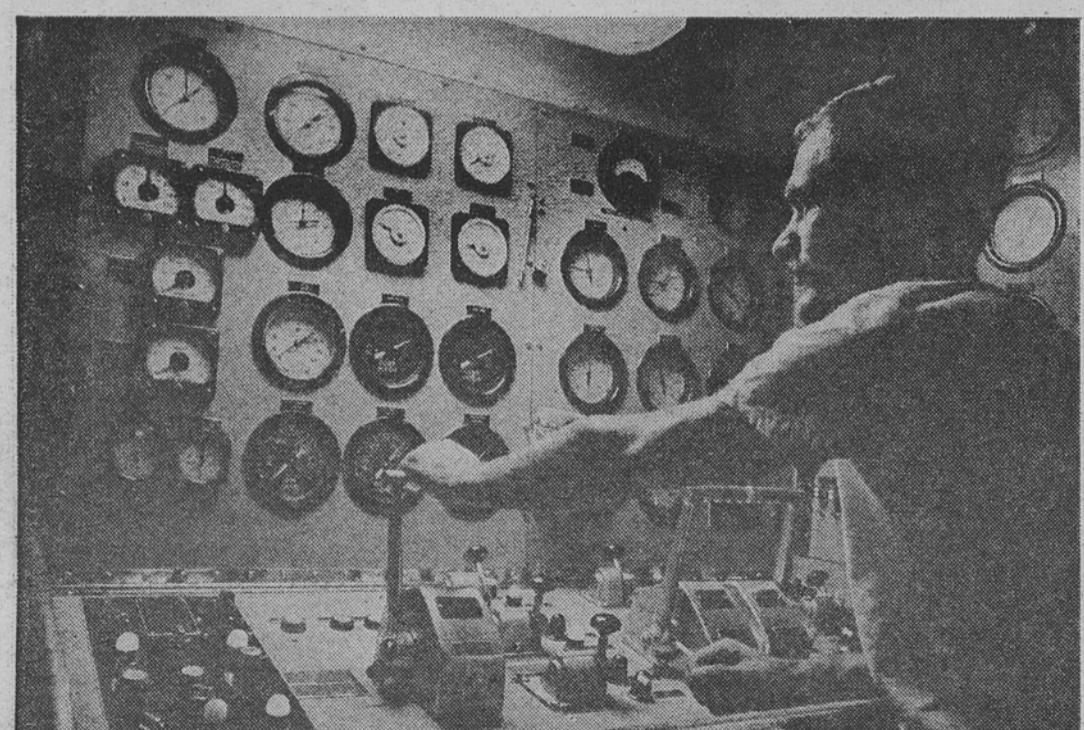
'Jet Ship' Operates On Market Time



SEARCH—Gallup crewmembers search a Vietnamese junk while on an Operation Market Time Patrol.



PLOTS—A crewmember plots the course to intercept a Vietnamese junk.



CONTROL PANEL—Petty Officer First Class Forrest R. Bain shifts the Gallup into high speed.

Story and Photos
by
PHC. R. C. VEEDER
USN



STEER—A Vietnamese Navy Petty Officer tries his hand at piloting the Gallup, while Lieutenant Commander William T. Spane, commander of the craft, keeps a watchful eye.

Saigon (USN)—The deafening scream of a Phantom jet aircraft engine rises above the rhythmic lapping of the South China Sea.

With a forward jolt and a blast of wind, clothing of men on deck is plastered tight against their bodies.

This is not the deck of an aircraft carrier. The Navy's newest high-speed gunboat, the USS Gallup (PG 85), has just shifted from her conventional twin diesel engines to the 13,500-horsepower jet engine which propels the craft from 0 to 40 knots in less than 60 seconds.

The Gallup operates with Operation Market Time patrols along the coast of South Vietnam.

The 28 officers and enlisted men aboard the Gallup are especially trained to operate this new craft—only two of these 164-foot ships have been built. Every man aboard has a working knowledge of all the diverse skills needed to run the "jet ship" so that each is able to replace any other crewmember should the need arise.

Although capable of high speed, the craft is powered by twin diesels providing 1,750-horse power for normal cruising at 17 to 18 knots.

Armed with a rapid-fire, three-inch gun, a 40mm cannon and 50 caliber machine guns, the Gallup has the facilities to remain on station for eight days.

Da Nang (USA)—Young Dinh Ep, a Montagnard who's only a little bigger than a military rifle, has never heard of Billy the Kid, but he could probably outrun him.

According to the legend, Billy killed 21 men by the time he was 21. Dinh is 15 and he has killed at least six men.

And, unlike Billy, Dinh did his killing while working on the side of law and order. His victims were all Viet Cong.

He also killed all six in one fight. Billy never did that.

The 15-year-old Montagnard is a Popular Forces (PF) soldier, one of 35 who protect a tiny jungle hamlet in Minh Long District, a mountainous section of western Quang Ngai Province.

He joined the PF two years ago because the VC stole the family's precious water buffalo, the animal that served his people as a farm tractor.

His revenge came recently when he and nine other PF laid an ambush on a jungle trail for the VC who had been preying on their homes. The others eventually tired of waiting and pulled out, leaving Dinh alone.

When the VC came up the trail, he dropped all six of them, scooped up their weapons and returned to his hamlet as a tiny man with a big triumph.

The Vietnamese Government rewarded him twice.

First it gave him the Gallantry Cross, a medal equal to the U.S. Silver Star. Then it made him a squad leader in spite of his youth.

Now he is learning more about the VC fighting trade at the Hoa Cam Training Center for PF near Da Nang.

According to Captain William Lawrence, Cadiz, Ky., the center's U.S. advisor: "We'll be hearing more from him.

"He's hard at work; and he



Little Man Plus Big Rifle Equals Six Dead VC

Mail Takes Long Trip Minus Zip

Phu Bai (USA)—It pays to use your Zip Code. If you don't believe it ask Specialist 4 William G. Terry of Headquarters and Headquarters Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry Division.

Specialist Terry was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Meritorious Achievement. To protect the certificate and orders, he placed them between two pieces of cardboard and sent them to his wife in St. Louis.

His wife kept writing that she had not received the package. Two weeks later he received a letter containing the following information: it seems that a Joseph J. Gravely, an attorney in St. Louis, took a vacation to Nassau. While there he purchased several gifts and sent them to his home.

And added problem, according to Captain Palmer, is that rural schools are centrally located within the districts making it difficult for many outlying area students to attend.

If the project is successful it is expected that it will be expanded.

"Education in rural areas is virtually confined to elementary school," (the equivalent of

Defense Dept. Modifies RVN Special Leave

Washington (AFNB)—Policy for RVN special leave has been modified by DOD to permit leave to begin up to 60 days after normal rotation date under circumstances where individuals were unable to take leave due to operational commitments.

Previous policy stated leave had to be taken within 30 days after normal rotation date. Leave may still begin not more than 90 days before normal rotation date.

Current plans do not provide for any 60-day leaves for those serving extended tours in RVN.

These scholarships will cover tuition to a private school if a public school is unavailable, boarding costs if the distance from home to school is too great to permit daily travel, and a payment to the family to compensate for the loss of a working child at home.

Marine officials estimate it will cost approximately 2,000 piasters (about \$17.00) per month per student.

Scholarship students will be nominated from village level by a local committee and the Marine unit's civic action officer and chaplain.

Company surgeons also perform cleft-lip operations. Many Vietnamese children suffer from this deformation from birth.

The company is responsible

August 2, 1967

PF Squad Leader Is Only 15 But He's Earned Two Medals

Now The VC Know 9th Div 'No Sao'

the side of the RVN government from the 5th VC Division, were broadcast from low-flying aircraft over areas of suspected enemy troop concentrations.

But, according to Captain Williams, few enemy soldiers make snap decisions to return to the government.

"The success of the psyops during Operation Paddington will become evident in the near future," he said.

It will take time for the VC to weigh the advantages of returning to the government side.

The Old Reliabes left little to chance, however.

To tip the scales in favor of the allies, they dropped 400,000 additional leaflets in the area after Operation Paddington finished.

The last leaflets warned: "The 9th Division will return."

Retired Col. Watches Unit With Interest

San Francisco (USA)—Colonel (Ret.) J. A. Blankenship, sitting in his home in San Francisco, follows the action of the First Team with particular interest, for it was his hand that signed the order officially creating the 1st Cavalry Division in 1922.

At the time the 1st, 5th, 7th and 8th Cavalry Regiments were joined to form the 1st Cavalry Division at Ft. Bliss, Tex., and Colonel Blankenship was acting adjutant.

Soldiers traveled 20 miles a day by horse then; now it may be hundreds of miles a day by turbo-jet powered helicopters.

The spirit of the Cavalry remains the same, though, and Colonel Blankenship, now in his mid-80's, is one of the few horsemen around who saw the creation of the division that was to become the world's first air-mobile unit.

20,000 Vietnamese Treated By Dental Unit In One Year

Phu Bai (USMC)—The 3rd Dental Company, Third Marine Division, is conducting an extensive dental and oral hygiene program in the Hu-Phu Bai area and in the past year, 20,000 Vietnamese were treated.

The company established a dental clinic in a children's hospital in Da Nang; trained Vietnamese girls as dental assistants and regularly send doctors to local hamlets, villages, schools and orphanages.

Many Vietnamese aggravate the situation by chewing betel nut, staining the teeth and gums or coating their teeth with a black powder as a form of makeup.

The one saving factor is that the Vietnamese do not have much sugar in their diet," the doctor said. "Consequently there is not as much tooth decay as in the U.S. and the average Vietnamese have strong teeth."

When a Vietnamese does contract dental trouble, local prices for treatment are expensive.

Lieutenant Shaw who studied at the Vietnamese language school, said that it is a great help to be able to converse with the people without an interpreter.

The company is responsible

BUY U.S.
SAVINGS
BONDS
WHERE YOU BANK OR WORK

CAC Leader Says

Work With People Not Around Them

Phu Bai (USMC) — Sergeant Bobby Redden, Miami, decided before coming to Vietnam that the conflict must be won by "working with the people rather than around them."

Shortly after arriving in Vietnam in July 1966, the sergeant joined a Combined Action Company (CAC) and became so engaged that he has now extended his tour for six months.

Sergeant Redden is NCOIC of CAC M-4 in which 15 Marines

provide security, promote friendship and give guidance for Vietnamese in Bach Thach hamlet, 10 miles south of Phu Bai.

"Before coming to Vietnam I read many books about the country and its war and decided that pacification was going to be a winning program here," said the 21-year-old sergeant.

"I did have the idea that if I got my own infantry squad, I was going to get as many of the enemy as possible. My civic action work comes first now, though," he added.

As an infantryman with the 2nd Battalion, Twenty-Sixth Marine Regiment, the sergeant first was active in civil affairs. He asked people at home to send seeds which he distributed to villagers and he instructed them on the care of the plants.

"After putting all the pieces of this war together, working with the people rather than around them as you have to do so many times in the purely military war, civic action seems to be the most important work to be done," he continued.

The sergeant rates the biggest problem with the Vietnamese as "our understanding them".

"They understand us pretty well, but we often fail to understand them," he explained. "There is a lot lost in the translation."

Assigned to the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing's hospital, Captain Richter, a physician, had led a medical Civic Action team to an isolated Vietnamese village half way between Phan Rang and Cam Ranh Bay on the coast of the South China



CAUGHT—Vietnamese National Police question a VC suspect near Bong Son during joint operations by the police and military police of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's 545th MP Company. The forces are working together to rid hamlets of the area of VC. (Photo by Sp4 David Frank)

Doctor Gives His Reasons For Visiting Rural Viets

Phan Rang (USAF) — The gleaming cleanliness and anti-septic odor typical of hospitals was absent as patient after patient filed past Captain Jaroslav K. Richter to present their ailments and receive medical treatment.

The 28-year-old captain, who now makes his home in Chicago, knows what it is like to live under Communist oppression. He escaped from Czechoslovakia in 1951, eventually immigrating to the United States. "I'll do anything to stop the Viet Cong," he added.

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building where they will begin the medical treatment, people pour out of the grass and mud huts to seek treatment for their ailments.

After entering the makeshift treatment room, the medical personnel begin opening boxes of medical supplies while Captain Richter examines his first patient.

As the afternoon passes, sweat rolls down the faces of the medical personnel as they treat case after case, minor and major illnesses, curable and incurable ailments.

The presence of the Viet Cong is known. The point is made by the Vietnamese Popular Forces guards near the medical personnel to insure their safety.

With the medical work finished, Captain Richter picks up several packages of the candy-like throat lozenges and passes them out as the kids gather around. It was a full days work for the Air Force physician.

Captain Richter is thought to be the first American to enter the village and has made three trips there already.

As they trudge to the small

CIDG Begins Practice Familiar To U.S. Fans

Bong Son (USA) — The center broke from the huddle and positioned himself over the football. Across the scrimmage line, the "hulking" defensive linemen, averaging more than 160 pounds each, got set to rush the quarterback.

The ball slapped the quarterback's hands and he fell back to pass. Downfield, a "rangy" 5'8" end reached up and nimbly grabbed the football, gave a head fake to his defender, and sped toward the goal line.

He taught them the rules of the game and conducted controlled scrimmages. The huskier soldiers were chosen for linemen, the tallest for ends and so forth. Those who didn't play cheered along the sidelines.

The players are members of the Vietnamese Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) stationed at Landing Zone Pony, west of Bong Son. They are coached by two 1st Air Cavalrymen of A Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry.

Whether or not the CIDG players ever crack the big time is unknown, but already there are several quarterbacks who show promise of becoming a Y.A. Tinh or a Otto Nguyen.



TO GOOD USE—For this Mekong Delta woman, happiness is an arm load of surplus food which the 9th Infantry Division distributed near Rach Kien recently. (Photo by Sp4 Gary Bipes)

Corrective Surgery Is Beating VC

Tan An (USA) — The Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) of the 3rd Brigade's Civil Affairs section, 9th Infantry Division, has been using corrective surgery to defeat the Viet Cong in Long An Province.

Out of more than 21,000 villagers treated since Operation Enterprise started in mid-February, many of the patients have had birth defects such as cleft palates and club feet; according to Captain Julian Josey, Spartanburg, S.C., brigade surgeon.

The doctor said that arrangements are made for those in need to undergo corrective surgery at hospitals in Long Binh or Saigon.

The brigade civil affairs officer, Major G. Robert Akam, explained that the greatest impact of the MEDCAP is displayed by the patients who undergo corrective surgery.

He summed it up by these remarks. "The patient returns from the hospital as a life-long example of what qualified Vietnamese and allied surgeons can do—a feat the Viet Cong practitioners never match."

Engineer Unit Paves Routes In Most Use

Qui Nhon (USA) — Men of the 73rd Engineer Company, 84th Engineer Battalion, 45th Engineer Group, recently completed paving two of South Vietnam's most traveled routes in the Qui Nhon area.

The engineers paved the mile-long Red Beach Road with a three-inch thick layer of hot asphalt. In addition, they paved one and one-quarter miles of road from the port's unloading facilities to the Qui Nhon harbor.

The company, located in Phu Tai Valley, operates one of the largest construction support complexes in Vietnam. It consists of an asphalt plant, rock quarry, three rock crushing plants and a washing and drying plant.

During the past four months, the unit has paved 1,000 feet of the Qui Nhon airfield and more than 18 miles of highway.

am exhibited in the big leagues. Specialist 4 Gary L. Dodson, a former halfback for East Valley High of Spokane, Washington, noticed the Vietnamese toying with the football one evening and decided to organize two teams. The players are members of the Vietnamese Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) stationed at Landing Zone Pony, west of Bong Son. They are coached by two 1st Air Cavalrymen of A Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry.

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American Forces Vietnam Network—Channel 11

Guide For Week Of Aug. 2-8, 1967
(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)

Wednesday (Aug. 2) Sunday (Aug. 6)

6:30 News Headlines
Information Feature
7:00 Bewitched
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Perry Mason
9:00 Green Acres
9:30 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)

Thursday (Aug. 3)

6:30 Password
7:00 Beverly Hillbillies
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 12 O'Clock High
9:00 The Fugitive
10:00 Red Skelton

Friday (Aug. 4)

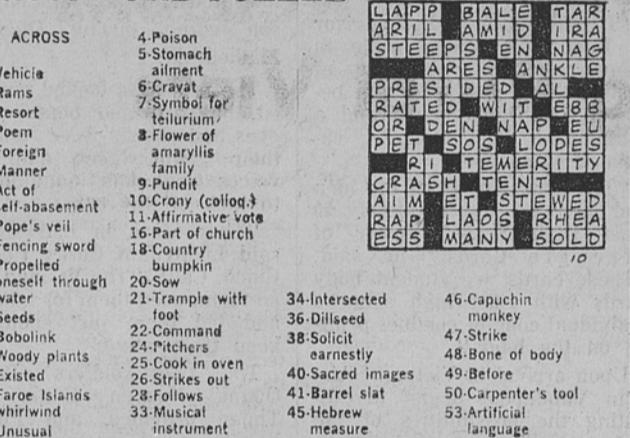
6:30 News Headlines
Information Feature
7:00 Addams Family
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Gunsmoke
9:00 Coliseum
10:00 The Tonight Show

Saturday (Aug. 5)

12:00 Encyclopedia Britannica
Social Security
1:00 GE College Bowl
2:00 Roy Acuff
2:30 Andy Griffith
3:00 Third Man
3:30 Sports of the Week
5:00 Wonderful World of Golf
6:00 Lost in Space
7:00 Official Detective
7:30 Wild Wild West
9:00 Away We Go
10:00 Saturday Night at the Movies

Da Nang Aug. 2-8
Aug. 30-Sept. 5
Pleiku Sept. 20-26
Nha Trang Oct. 11-17
Tuy Hoa Nov. 8-14
Hue Nov. 29-Dec. 5

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



All 8,000—Tires

Round 'Em Up; Brand 'Em!

Salgon (HAC)—A Headquarters Area Command motor officer in Saigon, with more than 8,000 tires on his vehicles and shelves, has solved the tire-stealing problem in his corral.

He brands 'em.

Confronted by periodic disappearances of his tires, motor supply officer Captain James F. Parsons sought to outfox the rustlers.

Using his native Tennessee shrewdness, Parsons realized that tracing the varmits was all but impossible, since his tires looked like any others in the teeming South Vietnamese capital.

One day, he realized that the answer lay in placing a distinctive marking on his tires. Paint didn't work, because it could be removed too easily.

So Parsons decided to brand the tires. One of his motor pool hands fashioned a homemade branding iron in the repair shop, with the two letters "U.S." on the facing.

In the near future, all of the tires in the Headquarters Area Command's 1700-vehicle motor pool will carry the brand.

Meanwhile, Parsons, having pocketed a \$50 check for his original suggestion, looks forward to the day when there will be no more rustlers in the valley.

A Business For A 10P Investment

Saigon (MACV) — For only ten piasters the Vietnamese farmer can put himself into the profit-making business of growing mushrooms.

The Vietnamese have raised and eaten mushrooms for a long time. But before 1964 it was never more than marginally profitable.

This year, however, the government began to make bottled mushroom spawn available to farmers at a nominal cost through a re-seeding technique developed by the government Research Directorate. The result has been more money for the farmer.

The farmer can buy spawn directly from the Research Directorate or can request it from his province agriculture chief.

The mushrooms are grown in beds of rice-straw that run 60 centimeters deep by 60 wide. The length of the bed depends upon the number of bottles of spawn available to the farmer; one bottle seeds about two meters of bed.

Mushrooms have no diseases and require protection only from rats and ants. No care is required for the plants beyond a daily application of water. In two weeks, harvesting begins.

The usual yield is around one kilo per meter of bed. The spawn costs 10 piasters per bottle, the straw is free, and the mushrooms sell for three to four hundred piasters a kilo.

Mushrooms grow best in the Saigon area in the hot period following the rice harvest.



BRANDED—Captain Parsons burns U.S. into tire

Villagers Do The Work On School Facelifting

Long Thanh (USA) — Quan Tri hamlet school was like countless other dilapidated rural schools in Vietnam until four months ago.

The walls had moldered. The doors and window frames had rotted. The water of numerous rainy seasons had etched gullies into hard-packed clay floor.

Last month, as children returned to classes after a two-month vacation, the dirt floor was replaced by a concrete floor. Concrete block walls with large, airy windows stood where the old walls had been. And new dutch doors replaced the decayed doors which had hung on rusted hinges.

Residents of Quan Tri labored for months with materials provided by artillerymen of the 9th Infantry Division to finish the face-lifting project.

In a brief ceremony to mark completion of the job, Lieutenant Colonel Carlisle R. Petty, Louisville, commander, 1st Battalion, 84th Artillery, which provided the building materials and plans, presented a brass bell to the hamlet chief for installation at the school.

The project was enthusiastically undertaken by the villagers according to First Lieutenant Gary L. Sokness, Grand Forks, N.D.

"The mason and carpenters even worked Sundays to finish in time for opening day," remarked the lieutenant.

While the adults attended the ceremonies, the children munched fruit and sipped chocolate milk provided by the battalion mess hall.

Other self-help projects for the village are proposed.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

★ (Does not meet requirements for "free" mail.)

From:

Place Stamp
Here
(16 cents Airmail)
(10 cents 1st class)

TO:

Bien Hoa And U.S. School Girls Talk

Bien Hoa (USAF) — High Schools in this city and Denver advanced their "sister school" relationship several weeks ago during a three minute trans-Pacific telephone conversation.

Representatives of Ngo Quyen high school in Bien Hoa, Truong Thi Le Sinh and Nguyen Thi Nhut, spoke with Sally Wade and Juli Krill of East High School in Denver. All four girls are seniors.

The call was placed by the 1877th Communications Squadron's Military Affiliate Radio Station through the MARS network to a Hawaii station. Then the call went through commercial lines to the home of Sally Wade.

During the call, the four girls discussed several topics ranging from school to their letters.

The sister-school concept originated with Airman First Class James M. Vandapool, Denver, a graduate of East High School, while he was on leave enroute to Vietnam.

"I contacted a student advisor at East high school while in Denver about the possibility of a sisterhood school program between East high school and a Vietnamese high school," explained Vandapool.

"The counselor liked the idea and gave me approximately 50 East High School Tower of Strength Cards," he said. "These cards are student body cards with East high school's individual code of conduct printed on the back."

Upon arrival in Vietnam, Airman Vandapool began investigating the possibilities of the sister-school plan. His search ended when he heard of Bien Hoa's Civic Action program, which includes Conversational

Contents Of Mail Bag Unexplained

Duc Pho (USA) — While rearranging packages in mail bags at Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, Private First Class Dennis A. Pierce, Kalamazoo, Mich., noticed something prevented one of the packages from settling to the bottom of the bag.

Private First Class Pierce removed the parcels and found issues of the Fort Bragg Post. At first, he paid little attention to the newspapers until he saw the datelines: March through September 1944.

"I had no idea how they got there," said PFC Pierce "so I took them to the first sergeant."

Looking at the carefully-folded yellowed papers, First Sergeant William E. Kelly, Fayetteville, N.C., was also surprised.

"The issue of Aug. 16, 1944 contained a story about the Medal Of Honor awarded to a Sergeant Huff," declared Sergeant Kelly.

How the newspapers arrived in Vietnam 23 years later and how they got into the mailbag remains a mystery.

Adding to the intrigue — four days later — was the arrival of the new sergeant major for the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne: Sergeant Major Paul B. Huff, Medal of Honor recipient, August 1944.

English classes at the Ngo Quyen School in Bien Hoa City.

"After contacting the base Civic Action Officer, I became an instructor at the school during my off-duty time," related Vandapool.

Soon, Airman Vandapool had two girls from each school corresponding with each other. Two weeks before graduation, the 1877th Communications Squadron heard of the sister-school plan and agreed to place the call between the four girls.

Prisoners' Condition Shocking

Duc Pho (USA) — The 101st Airborne paratroopers were shocked at the physical condition of two Vietnamese soldiers liberated from a Viet Cong prison camp during Operation Malheur II.

The prisoners looked emaciated, haggard and beaten. Both eyes and cheeks were sunk into their gaunt faces and their voices weak and inaudible due to lack of strength.

"They were in bad shape," said Lieutenant Corky Boswell, Chico, Calif. "The VC had beaten them, used them for laborers, and fed them just enough to keep them alive."

The two soldiers, Private Quang Nguyen Xuan, Binh Thuan province, and Popular Forces trooper Nguyen Nhi, Xuan Binh Hamlet in Quang Nghia province, were liberated by the 1st Platoon, B Company, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry.

The paratroopers destroyed the prison-bunker complex, killing three Viet Cong and two NVA. They also captured four NVA soldiers.

After two days of rest and balanced meals to build their strength, the two former prisoners were reunited with their families prior to being sent to the district ARVN hospital at Quang Nghia City.

By Any Name It's All Fun For Children

Long Thanh (USA) — The Americans who built it call it "Disneyland East," "Panther Playground," and "Kiddie Korner."

But children, from several villages along route 15 south of Long Thanh, don't care what the troops from the U.S. Army's 9th Infantry Division call it—they're just out to enjoy it.

The 2nd Battalion (mechanized) 47th Infantry "Panthers" built for the children a playground with swings, see-saws, a sliding board, rocking boards and even a sandbox.

All are brightly painted and only a practiced eye can see that they were once artillery casings, triangular metal poles, tin culvert covers and scrap lumber.

A first aid tent, a refreshment stand and illustrated signs add a polished touch to the recreational area.