



FIRST IN VIETNAM

OBSERVER

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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's' 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 firefight.

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 per cent 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 have firsthand experiences and information upon which to draw. 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.

Are you 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 SP/5 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 Fredrick L. Starbuck.

Staff Sergeant Nguyen Thien Khang, an interpreter, sat to my right.

Tall, ice-packed glasses, filled with Vietnamese beer, were served.

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

Khang if the chicken was covered with grass and he laughed, replying, "No it's sliced lemon leaves."

Tasting the chicken and lemon leaves left no doubt. Grass was never that sour. In Vietnamese, Sergeant Khang repeated my remarks to amuse our host. After the chicken came three large plates of fried rice mixed with eggs, shrimp and pork.

Dessert consisted of Vietnamese fruits. The first, called thanh long, was served on a tray covered with ice and sugar. The fruit was cut in semi-circles, white in color and speckled with black seeds. The name "thanh long" means the "green dragon."

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.

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-qualify 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

Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

Airborne training is otherwise available only at Fort Benning, Ga. Non-airborne personnel may apply for the training after completion of their Vietnam tour by submitting a Request for Personnel Action (1049) through channels. Interested personnel should see their personnel officer for detailed information.

All requests for training in Vietnam have been returned, not favorably considered, to the eager troopers who want to go, "Airborne all the way!"

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.



"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 jobs.

"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 Thoai.

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

people need a chance for recreation, too; and for the children's enjoyment, sets of swings and climbing bars were donated to Vinh San Catholic Refugee Village and the Phu Chong Catholic and Protestant churches.

On July, some of the contributions to the community by the Civic Action Program included giving 250 pounds of food and 50 pounds of toys to the refugee center, a pump organ to the Protestant church in Phu Chong, and 300 pounds of assorted school supplies and personnel hygiene material to the Christian Missionary alliance.

Pacification
Brings Less
VC Activity

PHU BAI (USMC) — Success in the case of Combined Action Platoon (CAP) H-7 might be measured using mileage as a yardstick.

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

When the 25 Marines and a Navy corpsman moved into the area last December, the first priority was defense. The Marines have constructed their own sandbag city in the center of Thua Luu.

The CAP started an accelerated pacification program and have been rewarded with a positive response from the villagers.

In anticipation of the new school year, the CAP has renovated 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.



Colonel Roger R. Bankson, out-going 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. Holzhaber)

Yorkshire Hogs To Beef-Up
Vietnamese Pigs In Phu Bai

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 Hai to speak clearly.

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 easily.

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

Air Force Bomber Crews
Witness 'Fantastic' Artillery

CU CHI (USA) — A group of Air Force pilots and crewman, who pound enemy targets from the air, received a view of Army ground operations during a recent visit to the 25th Infantry Division.

Twelve officers and enlisted men from a B-52 Squadron witnessed a demonstration of artillery fire when they visited a fire support base. As part of an orientation program, Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 13th Artillery, fired several salvos to show the visitors the capabilities of the 155mm self-propelled howitzers.

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

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.

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

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

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 sties was provided by Seabees and the 2nd Battalion, Twenty-Sixth Marine Regiment.

better understanding of the problems encountered on the ground, these pilots and crewmen are touring Vietnam.

"The war seems remote to a lot of us on Guam. . . . We can't even see the ground most of the time," explained Technical Sergeant Francis DeSio.

The air conditioned billets and hot showers on Guam are a lot different than the tents and sand bagged bunkers in the battery area, Sergeant DeSio reflected as he toured the area.

"I thought morale was pretty low over here, but these guys are really great. They've got wonderful spirit," said the sergeant, as he watched the gunners in action.

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

Joint Effort Helps
Viet Orphanage

BA NGOI (USA) — Through the efforts of Company C, 14th Engineer Battalion, 35th Engineer Group (Construction), the Ba Ngoi 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.

Civic Action Work Gains In Duc Pho

DUK 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."

After several fruitless attempts by the interpreter to persuade the enemy to surrender, grenades were thrown in the bunker. Three VC were killed and two weapons were captured.

When questioned by the interpreter and RF's, the woman said that the Viet Cong had promised many things but had never fulfilled them. They came to the villages and took food and clothing, while the Americans came to the villages to help the people.

Learning from the villagers that the VC had been there to gain refuge, the interpreters began questioning a wounded VC who acknowledged that other Communists were hiding nearby. Leading the infantrymen, he pointed out two other bunkers containing VC.

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



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

Conq 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.

Barges Use Canal

The official opening of the canal brought eleven commercial barges, each capable of carrying 300 tons of rice, to Tra On for the first transit of the canal in four years. The barges were escorted through the canal by

gunboats of the River Assault Groups and River Transport Escorts based in Saigon.

Additional convoys will be utilizing the canal, cutting two and one-half days from the travel time formerly required in moving from the southern delta to Saigon.

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 round.

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. Vittoe 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.

Catch VC, Get 3 Day R&R Trip

CU CHI (USA)—Specialist 4 John Gidney and Specialist 4 Donald Brown spent three luxurious days at the in-country R&R center at Vung Tau recently because they each captured a Viet Cong.

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 Kolkole 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!"



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 problem 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, making it harder for the VC to move supplies.

At the present time, 33 of the planned towers have been completed. 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 different 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 helicopters, and the components lifted into place with a mobile crane.

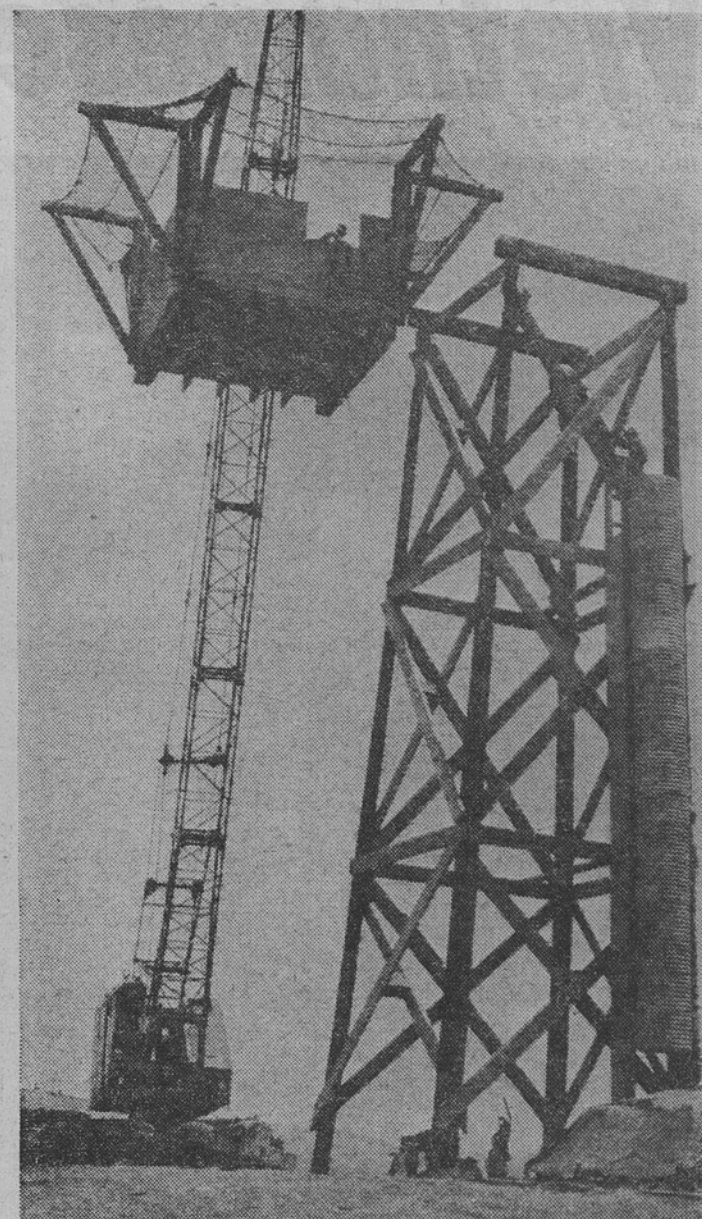
When the site is a remote outpost far from roads, another type of construction is called for. The tower is pre-fabricated at the seabee camp (except for the top) and transported to the site by Sea Stallion or Sky Crane helicopters.

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.

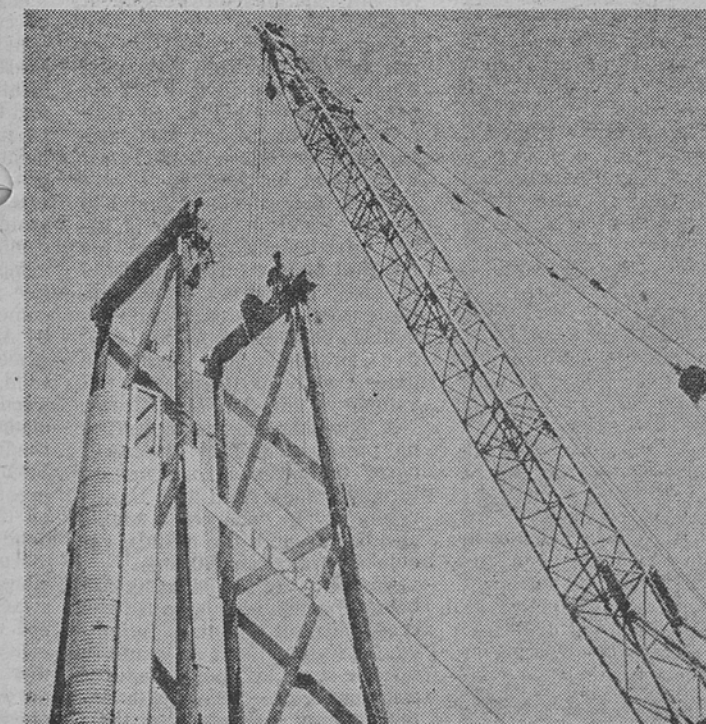
When the seabees began construction of the towers along the DMZ in late April, the VC

quickly indicated their disapproval by launching attacks against four of the first five towers erected.

"I guess Charlie just didn't like the idea of having someone looking at him all the time," said one Marine.



TOWER CONSTRUCTION MOVES INTO FINAL STAGES

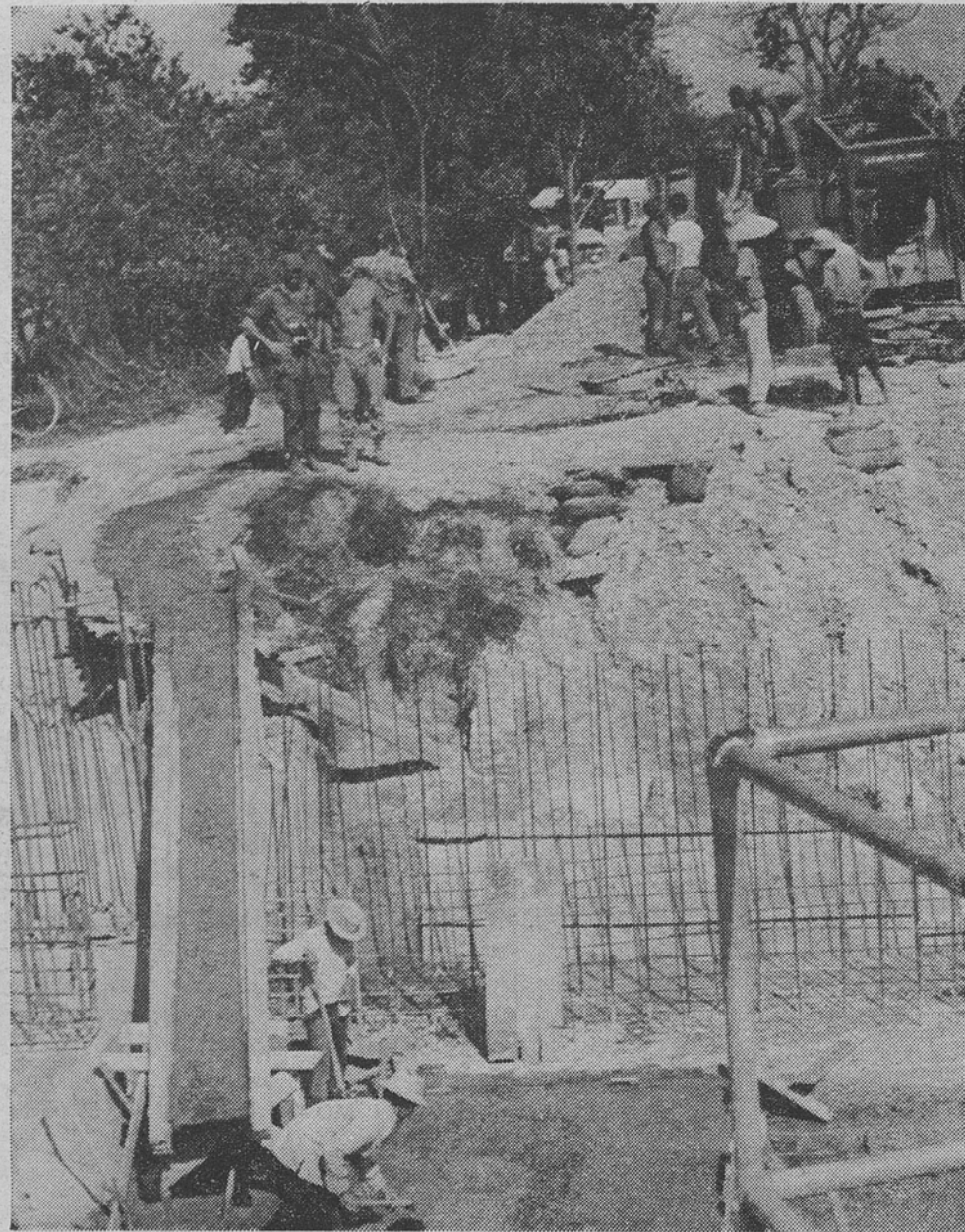


SEABEES LIFT PARTS OF A TOWER INTO PLACE



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

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.

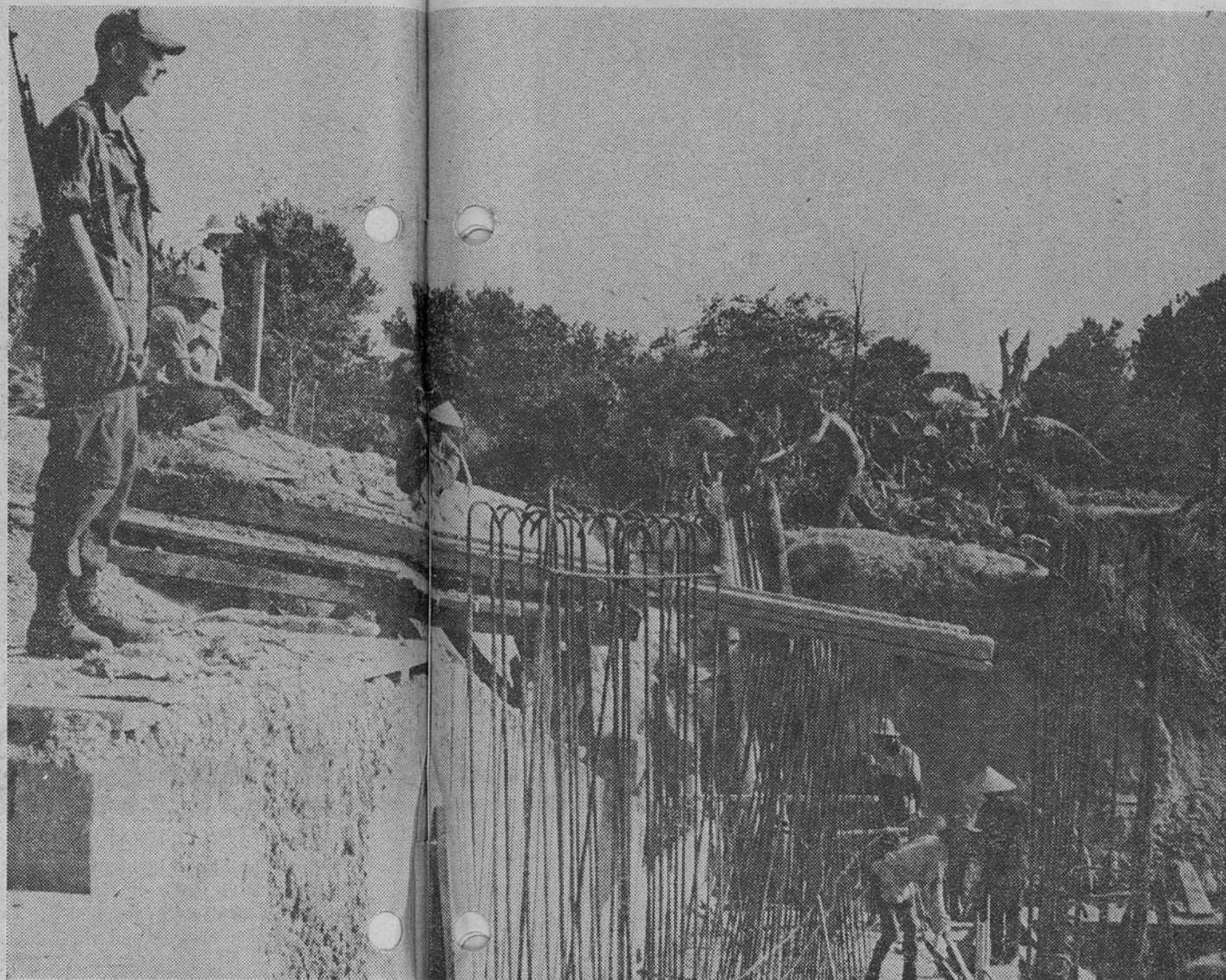
But on this Sunday morning in Tan Hiep, a village 33 kilometers north of Saigon, there was no holiday atmosphere. A band of mud-streaked, perspiring volunteers — farmers, students, officials, laborers, soldiers and advisors from four nations — worked with picks and shovels under scudding monsoon clouds.

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 Nation-



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. 1967, 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 hot sun.

Then necrops can be introduced. New land can be broken. The creek can be stocked with fish. The vegetable gardens can be divided into strips 50 meters wide, each strip served by a gravity irrigation ditch and each ditch flanked by farm road. The roads can produce 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 118 families 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 piasters (US\$4,665) allocated for dam construction and 900,000 piasters for the Ministry of Revolutionary Development's program of rural improvement. The cost estimate also includes many materials. The 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.

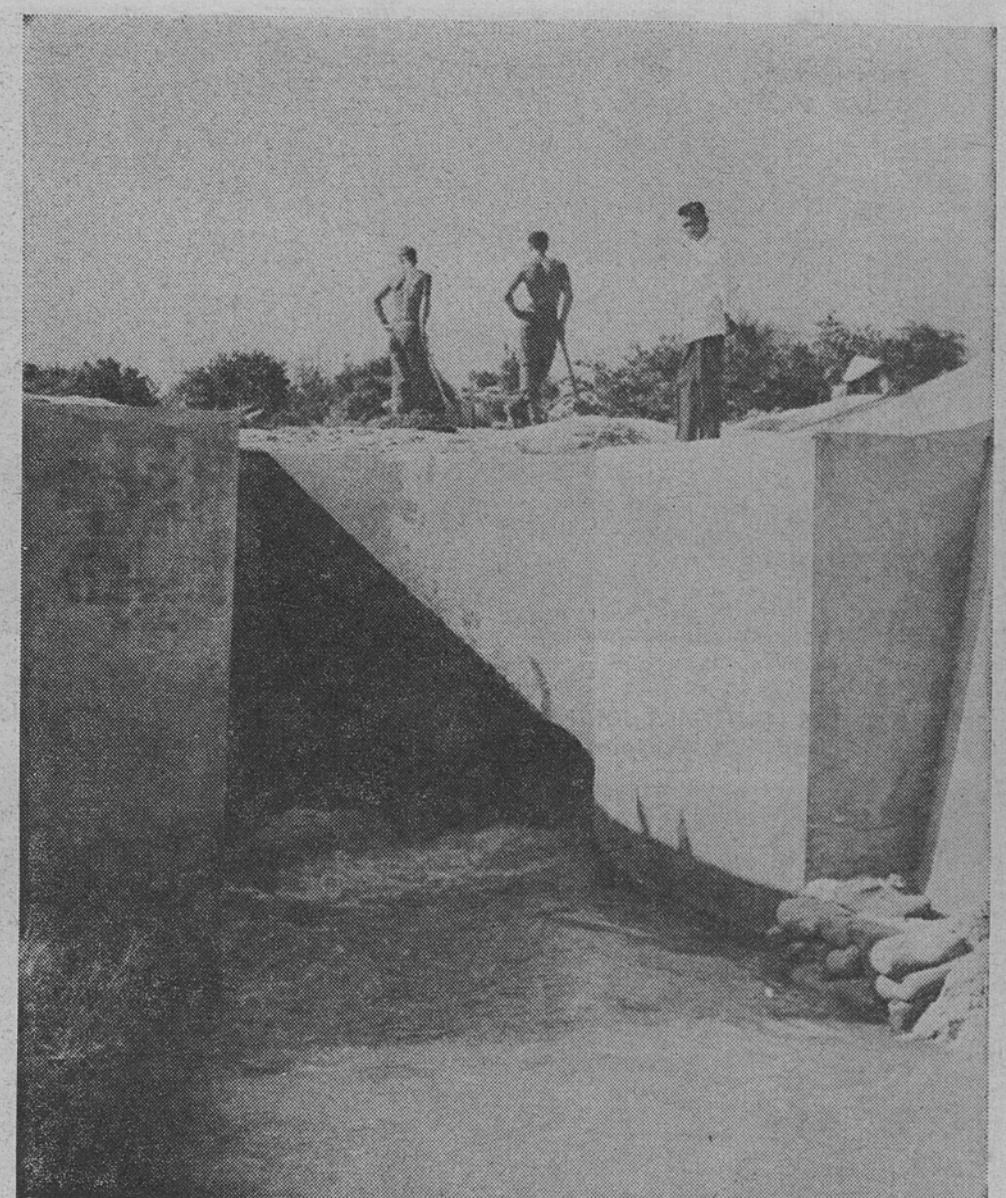
Foreign ambassadors and government officials and swarms of school children do not work at the Tan Hiep site every day. That type of volunteer labor can be enlisted only on weekends. But every day engineering troops of the Republic of Korea Construction Support Group in Vietnam, known

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)



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



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.



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



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



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



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

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 splashes 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 gray 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

mourful 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.

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."



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 (USAF)—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 Duc 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.

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. With-out 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.

Due to Sergeant Peters' pending reassignment, Lieutenant Henry, who recently arrived here, has taken over the special mission.

Pepperoni For The 25th

CU CHI (USA) — The folks back home support the troops in Vietnam in many different ways but never in quite as novel a form as that received recently by the Medical Platoon, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division.

The teachers and students of Meadow Moor Elementary School in Salt Lake City wanted to do more than just write letters showing their support. So, they established their own special project.

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

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

VC Doctor Rallies To Freedom

CU CHI (USA)—A doctor, who was a Viet Cong for almost a decade, is presently working in the Vietnamese ward at the 12th Evacuation Hospital in the 25th Infantry Division's base camp here.

The doctor rallied to the side of the government after he learned that the VC killed his brother and sister.

Working under the supervision of Captain Ellen Langston, head nurse, he 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."

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.

By Mort Walker



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High Praise Won By CIDG Troops

KONTUM (USA) — A recent search and destroy mission in the rugged mountains of Kontum Province saw Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) soldiers win high praise from their 1st Air Cavalry Division companions.

Two CIDG companies, composed of rugged Montagnard natives and their Special Forces advisors, had made contact with a reinforced company of the North Vietnamese Army (NVA). The activity was monitored on the radios of the Cav's 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry, elements operating nearby. The Cav unit offered artillery support which was readily accepted. Later a body count showed seven NVA dead.

Two days later, a squad from A Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry joined the CIDG companies in pursuit of the Communist unit. For the next five days the Cavalrymen travelled with the Montagnards to provide artillery support.

The CIDG companies each contain approximately 90 men. Their training and experience range from hardened veterans of jungle combat to novices. Their weapons include M-1 carbines, Browning automatic rifles, M-60 machine guns, M-79 grenade launchers, and 57mm recoilless rifles.

A CIDG unit may stay out on a mission for several days and even weeks at a time without resupply. Their ability to live off the land gives them an advantage over other allied units operating in the area, ac-

cording to 1st Lieutenant Michael E. McCaffery, forward observer for Alpha Company. "They're very skilled at moving without being seen or heard," he said, "much better than we are."

Many of the CIDG soldiers live with their families and operate on their home ground. Their time is divided between searching for the enemy and taking care of domestic matters. It's for this reason that McCaffery says "They really care about what they're doing."

One Montagnard soldier carried McCaffery's radio on the mission. "He couldn't speak any English," the American said, "but in one day he learned my call sign and could tell me who was calling."

Moving through the rain forests they know so well, the Montagnards are constantly looking for signs of the enemy. "And they're always trying to make contact," McCaffery said. "Sometimes a whole company will stay up all night on an ambush hoping to catch something."

"Their morale is definitely good," added PFC Robert R. Rasmussen, a radio-telephone operator.

The last two days of the mission were spent on a secured landing zone with two other U.S. companies. Rasmussen spent some of that time teaching the Montagnards some American songs, "like 'old MacDonald.'" "You sing it," he said, "and they copy you and have a good laugh. You can't help but like 'em."



HOMEWARD BOUND—An Air Force F-4 Phantom crew flies low over the South China Sea as they make their final approach to the runway at Camp Ranh Bay air base following a successful strike mission in South Vietnam.

How Does It Work

RC Emergency Leave Program

CU CHI (USA) — You are about to read a case history involving a 25th Infantry Division soldier.

The case illustrates, in detail, all the steps involved in obtaining, taking and returning for emergency leave under the Red Cross Emergency Leave Program. Save for those who have been through the process, the complete story of it is almost unknown.

At midnight on July 15, a car carrying the parents of Private First Class Mike O'Brien skidded on a rain-swept highway in Arizona and banged into a tree. Mike's father was unharmed, but his mother was critically injured and was taken to the county hospital.

The doctors informed Mike's father of the seriousness of the injury and suggested that all immediate members of the family be notified.

Mike's dad told the doctor that his son was in Vietnam. At one a.m. the doctor notified the local chapter of the Red Cross and verified the seriousness of the situation.

The local chapter representative obtained Mike's full name, rank, service number and unit designation, then he relayed the message via teletype to the American Red Cross National Headquarters in Washington, D.C. The message was logged and turned over to the Armed Forces Communication Service for overseas relay to Vietnam.

At five a.m., just four hours after the Red Cross was notified, the message, received by wire at the 25th Infantry Division Communication Center, was delivered to the Division Red Cross Field Office.

Usually the Red Cross Field Director would deliver the message in person, but in Mike's case he was in the field, so the message was transmitted to his unit commander, who informed Mike personally of the accident. Transportation was arranged immediately back to the base camp.

While Mike was making his way from the field, the Red Cross informed the division Adjutant General Personnel Action Branch, who—after verifying the fact that it was an im-

mediate family member injured seriously—cut travel orders for Mike.

As soon as they got clearance from AG, the Red Cross sent a message back to the states, informing Mike's family that he was on the way.

Mike reported to AG to receive 30 day emergency leave orders. If he needed money, he could draw a maximum partial pay from finance and/or receive an Emergency Leave Loan from the Red Cross.

He went by helicopter to Bien Hoa and the 90th Replacement Detachment. At seven a.m. Mike boarded the first available plane for the states. He traveled on a priority space-required basis.

At three a.m. the following morning, Mike arrived at Travis AFB in California. He checked in with the Army Transportation Coordinator in the terminal, at which time his 30 day leave officially began.

There were no military flights available so Mike used funds from the Red Cross loan to purchase a commercial airline ticket at 1/3 off.

Mike arrived home two hours later, just 30 hours after the accident. He stayed home while his mother was recuperating, but just as his leave was about over, her condition worsened. The doctor recommended that

Sgt Delivers Baby Boy: 'Good Lungs'

RACH KIEN (USA) — A 9th Infantry Division soldier who happened by just as a young woman collapsed with labor pains on a roadside near here, halted his jeep and found himself helping to deliver her baby boy.

Staff Sergeant Thomas Prince, a squad leader in C Company of the division's 15th Engineer Battalion, had just completed work supervising road repairs on Highway 18 two miles southwest of here when he spotted a small group gathered on the roadside.

Elderly passers-by were attempting to aid the young woman, but she was unable to stand up by the time Prince arrived.

After the uncomplicated delivery, the mother and child were driven into the village maternity clinic at Rach Kien for a check up, but Staff Sergeant Richard Riley, a 9th Division medic, who arrived on the scene moments after the delivery, reported that both the mother and child were in good condition.

The infant was endowed with an extraordinarily powerful pair of lungs, according to Riley.

Infantry . . .

(Continued From Page 1)
covers the rubble. And Xom Cau, with its life lines snipped, withered.

The two companies from the 5th Mechanized Battalion, 60th Infantry hope to breathe new life into Tan Phu Long.

Engineers will rebuild the bridges, roads will be repaired. The village marketplaces will be refurbished and reopened. A fresh-water well will be dug and the schools, most of which are now in complete ruin, will be erected again.

Hoi . . .

(Continued From Page 1)
making, and carpentry are among the fields taught, according to Mr. Vu Van Hoa, center manager.

The "Open Arms" held out to Le Van Vong and others like him are helping to build the nation of South Vietnam and to destroy the enemy organization. Each Hoi Chanh that comes through the Chieu Hoi program brings the Allies one step closer to victory and peace.



FARMING SKILLS—Pedro A. Guillermo (gesturing) instructs Hoi Chanh—former Viet Cong—in modern agricultural techniques at the Bien Hoa Chieu Hoi Center. (Photo By John R. Aubuchon, USA)

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

★ (Does not meet requirements for "free" mail.)

From:

Place Stamp
Here

(16 cents Airmail)

(10 cents 1st class)

To:

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 Rourke 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 Rourke, 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 mustached 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.

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 Meredice 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 (USAF) — 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

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.

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 (ANF) — 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 position on the staffs of various commanders. The CSGM occupies the one position in each battalion and higher organization which is designated by the position title of sergeant major.

Under the present system, there are approximately 1,500 sergeants major filling CSGM positions at various command levels, from battalion to Headquarters, Department of the Army.

After promotion to the grade of sergeant major and appointment as a CSGM, the individual cannot be identified as CSGM by military occupational specialty (MOS), since he holds the same MOS as an operations sergeant major or intelligence sergeant major.

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 as CSGMs.

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.

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.

Profile Of Binh Phuoc Dist. Chief

BINH PHUOC (USA)—American leaders must rely heavily on Vietnamese province and district chiefs 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 scared him.

The commander of a U.S. battalion in the 9th 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.

Raise Limit On Baggage Of PCS EM

SAIGON (MACV) — Enlisted men on permanent change of station orders to or from an overseas assignment — except for Vietnam — are now authorized to take 100 pounds of baggage, it was announced this month by Army News Features.

An excess baggage allowance of 135 pounds was already in effect for those traveling to and from Vietnam.

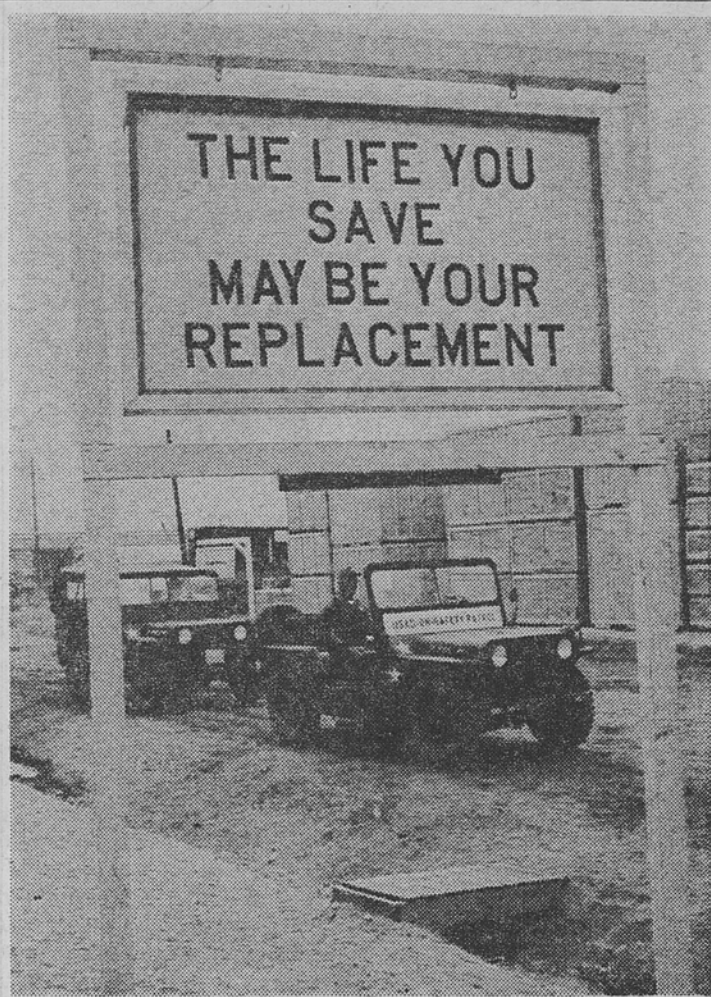
The new limit was okayed as the Army authorized a 34-pound excess allowance for enlisted soldiers, the article said. The extra allowance is in addition to the 66 pounds authorized by Military Airlift Command.

C-130 Fleet Lifts Record War Tonnage

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

The Lockheed Hercules hauled 240,592 tons of cargo, some 26 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.



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.

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 daily.

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 rightfully feels that if the

subject of safety can be made interesting rather than boring, the result will be enthusiastic participation by all members of the command.

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."

Tonkin Gulf Test

The future Navy leaders are being tested today under combat conditions. On board attack aircraft carriers, cruisers and destroyers in the Tonkin Gulf, midshipmen of the Class of 1968 are undergoing their first daily combat experience.



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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.

VC Lose Village Sanctuary

BEN HOA (III CORPS) — Prior to March, the village of Tan An Xa, 15 miles north of Saigon, was a rest haven for the Viet Cong.

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 Ngo Le 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. Dornay, senior U.S. advisor. "Initially, each dozer tipped 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.

Marines Save Man's Life By Massaging His Heart

DA NANG (USMC) — Fast thinking and quick reaction by the marines of Combined Action Platoon (CAP) D-6 and Hospital Corpsman Third Class Gary P. Evins saved the lives of two injured Vietnamese recently near here on Highway 1.

"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 a quarter of a mile down the road," said Corpsman Evins.

"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 several 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 Evins.

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

After the helicopter landed, the two Vietnamese were rushed to the Vietnamese hospital here for treatment.

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—but the team left six hours later with the gratitude and friendship of the villagers.

"It usually works that way in areas where Americans haven't had contact with the people before," said Staff Sergeant Dannie E. Bailey. "At first the Vietnamese are wary of your presence, but when they see you're there to help they accept you."

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.

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

might be hidden in nearby ambush positions."

But this was not the case, as interpreters with the American team soon had villagers seeking treatment. Mothers brought their babies and the elderly hobbled 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."

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 handled 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 left the village at twilight, leaving a warm glow of friendship in its wake.

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 this 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.

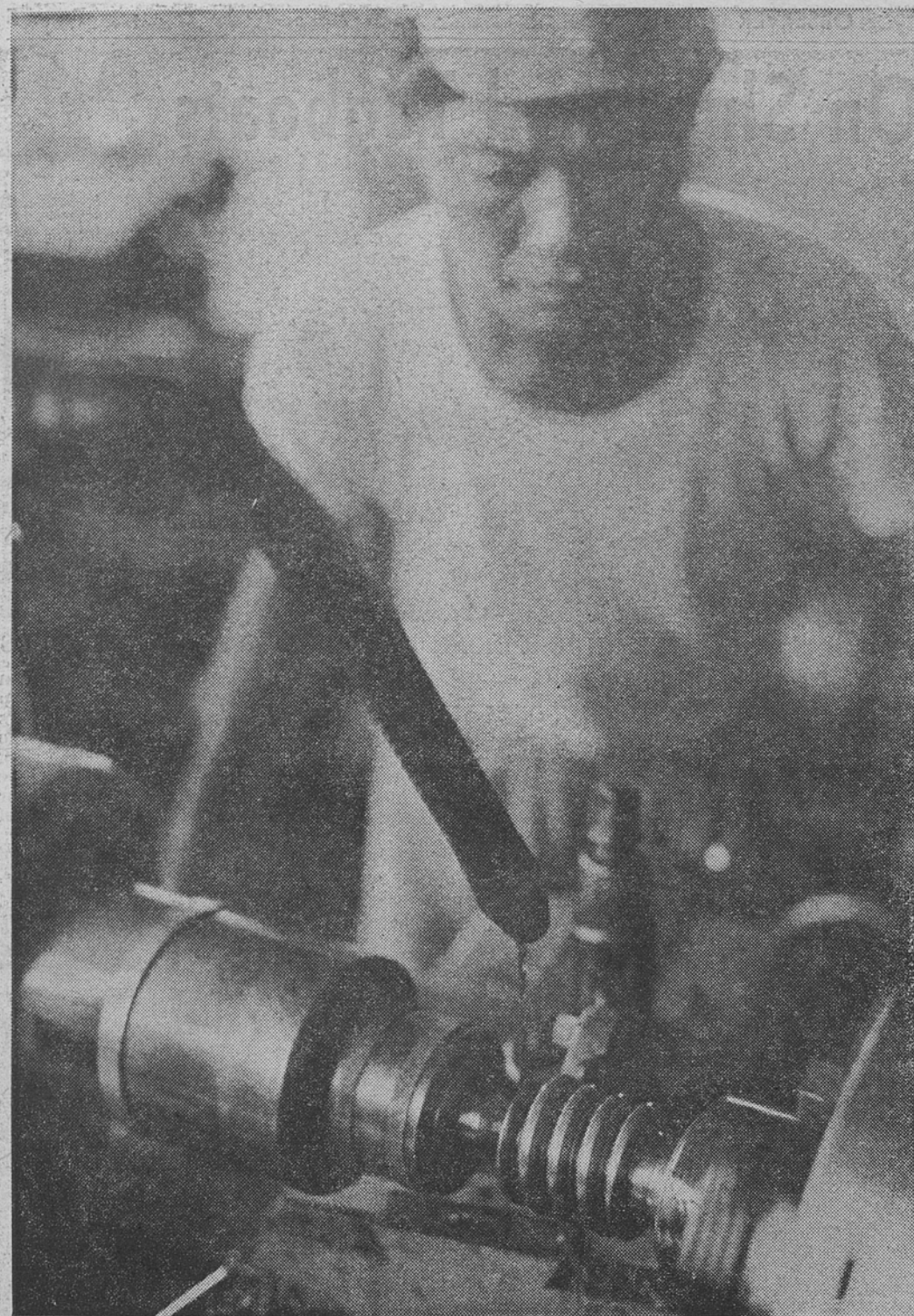
Slowly they came—old men and women, mothers carrying babies, and children. They came with all kinds of ailments, diseases, sores, cuts and bruises. They came to the straw-thatched hut that serves as the village dispensary. They came with apprehension, anxiety, and hope to see the new Bac-Si who was there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

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 "dau" (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.

Pain Severed By Twist Of The Wrist

LE THANH (USA)—With a quick twist of the wrist, Captain Henry Hammer pulls one of the molar of misery from the mouths of Montagnard villagers in the area of Jackson Hole.

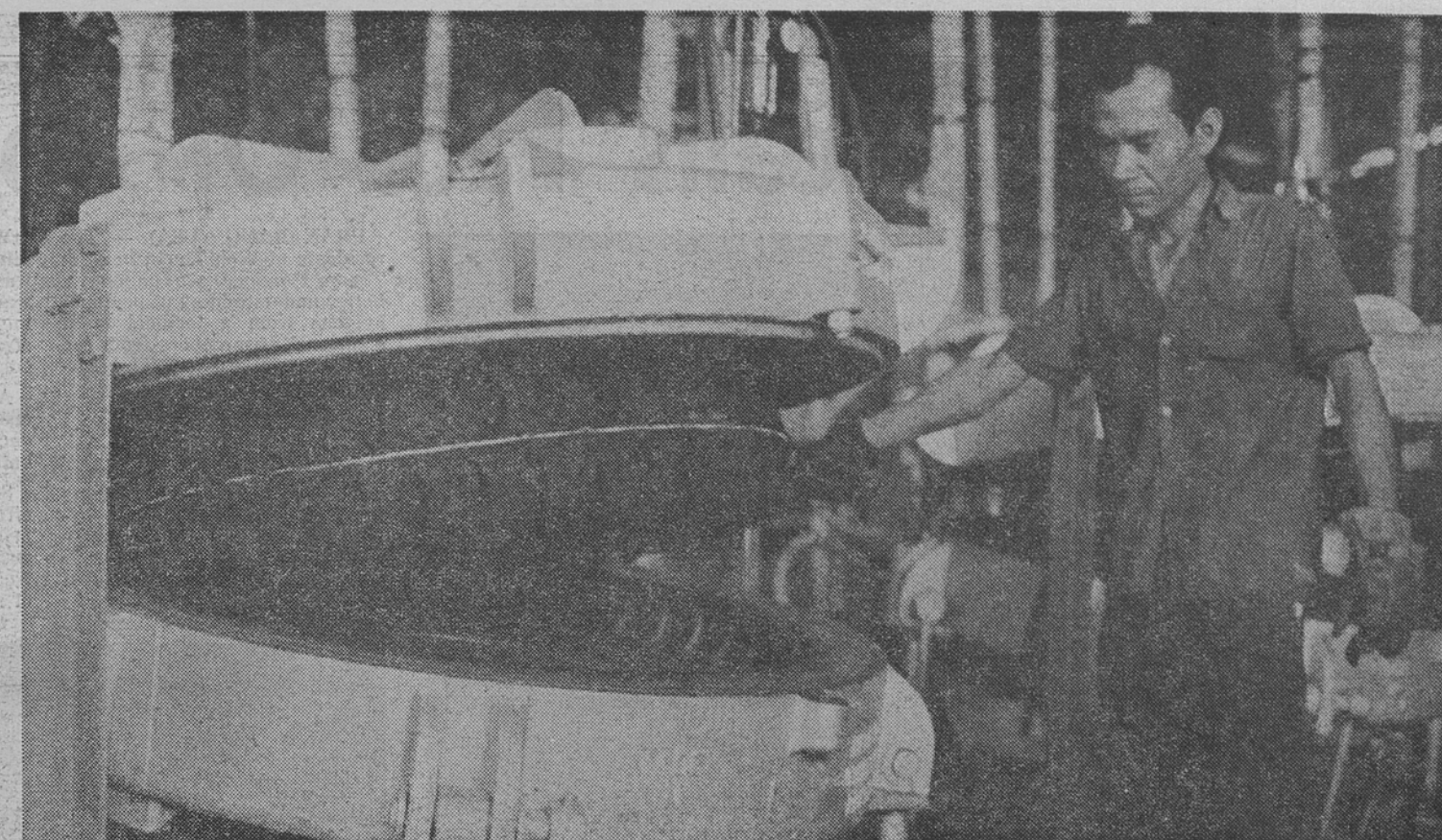
Using forceps, biceps, a tongue depressor and novocain injector, the captain recently plucked 65 teeth on a visit to the area. As the brigade dentist of the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Captain Hammer works in the health improvement phase of his unit's civic action program.



WITH MUCH SKILL, THIS WORKER REBUILDS ENGINE PART



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

There are many things inside this base that Charlie would not get his hands on," said Major John L. Palmer, senior U.S. advisor at the depot.

As from its rebuilding function, the depot also trains men in the skills required throughout the ARVN commands. Many special projects are added to this.

One of the special assignments received by the depot include building beds and wire bases for military hospitals. Most of the civilians at the depot have worked there for 10 or more years.

"I'll stack the ability of the Vietnamese working here with

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.

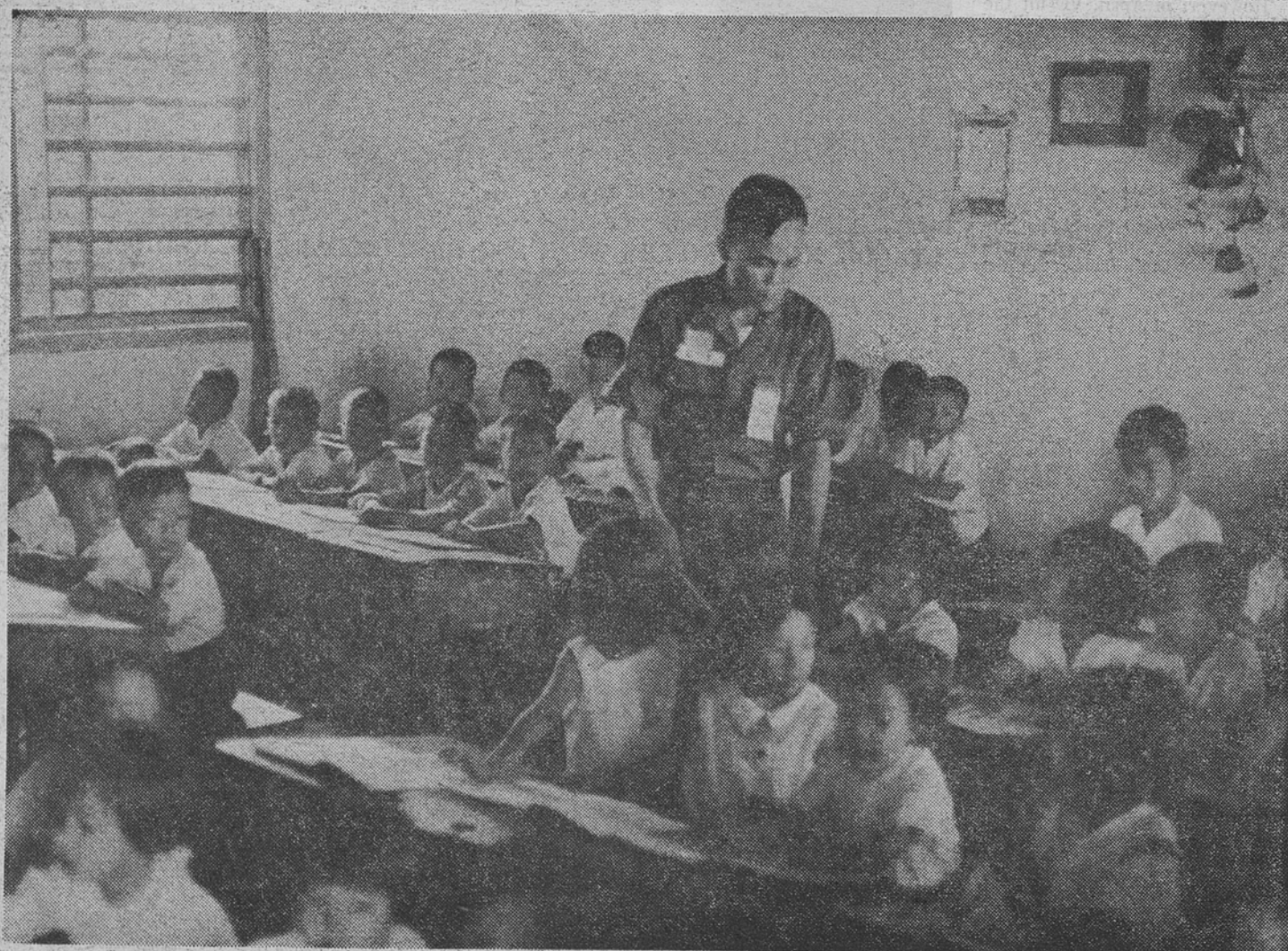
A chicken breeding project is soon to get underway with two of the pens already completed. The MACV agricultural advisor has promised baby chicks, which, when grown, will be given to the base personnel and their families.

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."

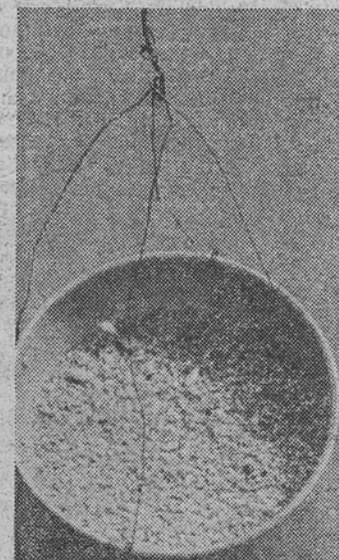
STORY AND PHOTOS
BY
SP5 BOB COLLINS, USA
STAFF WRITER
PHOTOGRAPHER



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



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



ADVISORS BUILT FISH HATCHERY AS CIVIC ACTION PROJECT

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.



WORKMEN EXAMINE GUN WHICH WAS DAMAGED



VIETNAMESE WORKER HEATS METAL IN THE DEPOT'S FOUNDRY

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



ANXIETY, 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 intergration 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.



PERPLEXITY SHOWS ON THE CHILD'S FACE
Vietnamese Mothers Were Urged To Use Tubs



A PART OF MEDCAP
An Airborne Officer Stresses Cleanliness To A Village Tike

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 wrestled 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.

VNAF Women Assist Vietnam's War Effort

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.

Their job is a vital one, for it involves boosting the morale of the field unit troops and keeping them supplied with the necessities of life.

The girls distribute money to needy soldiers; provide medical and educational assistance to the fighting man's family; assist in health and sanitation care; visit wounded troops in the hospital and find new jobs for people.

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 heliport, 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

by 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.

by 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.

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.

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

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.

The men from the 3rd platoon of Company C were searching and clearing a village, at the completion of which the last four men of the platoon were to make one quick final check. Going out of his way to check a hut, PFC Gilpin became separated from his three companions.

The 3rd platoon moved 300 meters south into another village and were setting up to search it. After a break for chow, a squad count was taken and one man was missing. A squad was immediately dispatched to search the area in which PFC Gilpin was last seen. Unable to find him, the entire 3rd platoon was committed to the search.

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 Birdog—within a few minutes a gunship was in picking up the wayward soldier.

CU CHI (USA) — Green Beret medics from the Dong Hou 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 Kolkole 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.

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Information Program Helps Fight Enemy

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.

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

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

a medical civic action program which is accompanied by a trio from Company C, 588th Engineers, and five Vietnamese girls who sing folk music. As the doctors and medics work, the Viet and Vietnamese girls entertain.

"The purpose of Operation Friendship," stated Captain Vinton 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."

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.

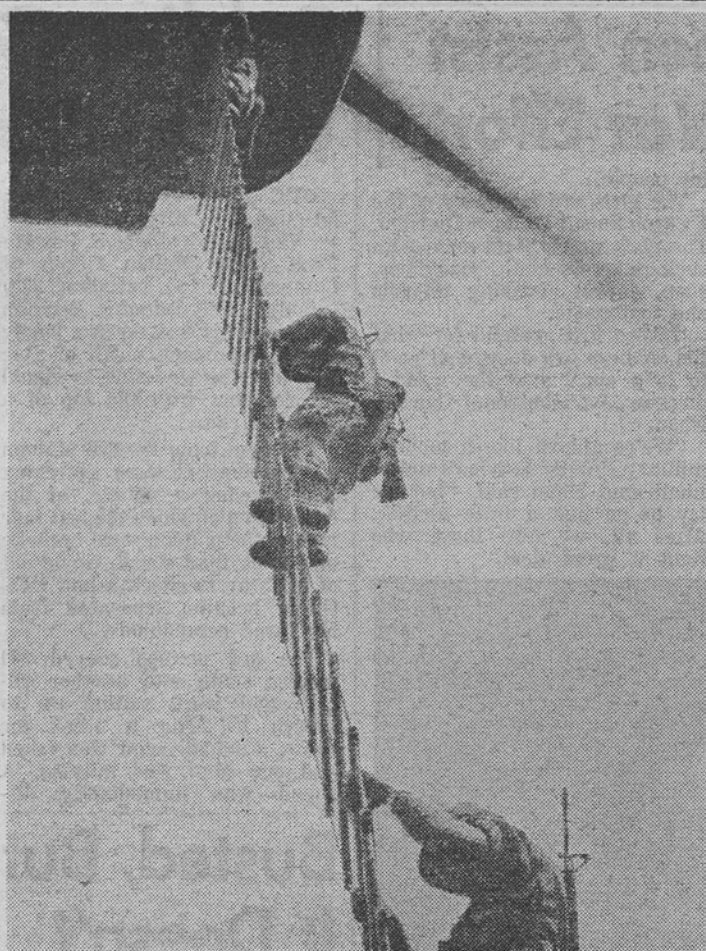
Viet Cong District Official Plucked From Fowl Hideout

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.

Upon arriving in the village, he pointed out a chicken coop under which was a hidden bunker. The well-concealed door was found, but the enemy held it closed when the troops tried to open it.

Suddenly it opened part way and two grenades were tossed out by the VC. A "Psyops" team was called to the scene but they



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 areas.

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.

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

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.

In I Corps

VNAF Choppers Support ARVNs

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

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."

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.

When the Army's potable water well at Task Force Oregon went dry during the latter weeks of June, MCB 71 received the mission of finding another producing well. They did, and it was the first successful well drilled here in more than a year.

Located near an abandoned pagoda on the beach, it brought in an astronomical 50,000 gallons per day.

With one success, the utilitymen moved their drilling rig to the Army's ice plant. The new location, which had produced numerous dry-wells, was in dense laterite atop Rose Mary Point.

The crew put down a 32-foot hole the first day, but it was dry. On returning the following morning, it appeared that "good fairies" had visited the well during the night: water was flowing. The team had struck an underground stream that ran on top of a stratum of shale 32-feet down.

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

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 toilet 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.

Evac Hospital's 10,000th Patient

QUI NHON (USA)—Private First Class Ray W. Utzig became the 10,000th patient admitted to the 44th Medical Brigade's 67th Evacuation Hospital here since the brigade arrived in Vietnam and became operational July 31, 1966.

Private Utzig, wounded while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division in Operation Pershing, was presented the Purple Heart by Lieutenant Colonel Henry C. Cesand, commanding officer of this 1st Logistical Command hospital.

Private Utzig was presented a special cake which he shared with the other patients in the ward.

American Forces Vietnam Network—Channel 11

(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)
Guide For Week Of Aug. 23-29, 1967

Wednesday (Aug. 23)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Information Feature
1930 News & Sports
2300 Perry Mason
2100 News Briefs
2330 Sunday Matinee
2130 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)
Sign-Off-News

Thursday (Aug. 24)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Third Man
1930 Andy Griffith
2300 News & Sports
2100 12 O'Clock High
2100 News Briefs
2300 The Fugitive
Sign-Off-News
VARIETY SPECIAL

Friday (Aug. 25)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Information Feature
1930 Addams Family
2300 News & Sports
2100 Gunsmoke
2100 News Briefs
2300 Coliseum
Sign-Off-News
Tonight Show

Saturday (Aug. 26)

1200 News Headlines
1900 Encyclopedia Britannica
1930 Social Security
2300 Assignment Underwater
2100 American Sportsman
1400 Daniel Boone
1500 Roy Acuff
1530 Sports Of The Week
1800 Lost In Space
1900 Official Detective
1930 News & Sports
2300 Wild, Wild West
2100 News Briefs
2300 Away We Go
2030 News Briefs

Saturday Night At The Movies

Sign-Off-News

Sunday (Aug. 27)

1200 News Headlines
1230 Religious Program
1230 Educational Special
1330 Window On Vietnam
1335 Sunday Matinee
1500 Sports Of The Week
1730 CBS Sports Spectacular
1900 IN COUNTRY
1930 News & Sports
2000 Window On Vietnam
2305 Dick Van Dyke
2020 Get Smart
2100 News Briefs
2300 Bonanza
2300 News Briefs
2300 Ed Sullivan
Sign-Off-News

Monday (Aug. 28)

1830 News Headlines
2130 21st Century
1900 Fractured Flickers
1930 News & Sports
2300 News Briefs
2300 Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea
2200 News Briefs
2300 Dean Martin Show
Sign-Off-News

Tuesday (Aug. 29)

1830 News Headlines
1900 G. E. College Bowl
1900 My Favorite Martian
1930 News & Sports
2300 Big Valley
2100 News Briefs
2300 Smothers Brothers
2200 News Briefs
ENTERTAINMENT SPECIAL
Sign-Off-News

Qui Nhon Aug. 23-29

Da Nang Sept. 20-22

Pleiku Oct. 11-17

Nha Trang Nov. 1-7

Tuy Hoa Nov. 29-Dec. 5

Hue Dec. 20-26

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

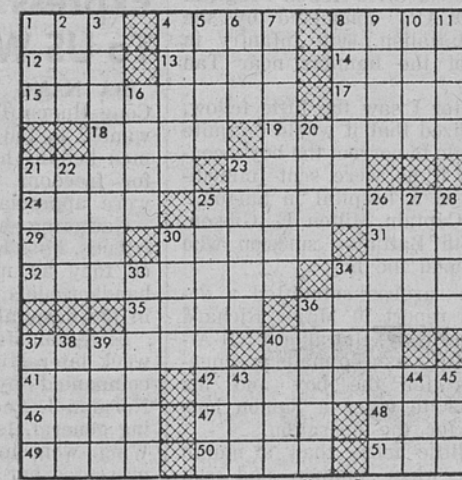
- 1-Little chatter
- 4-Large trucks
- 8-Mischievous children
- 12-Mohammedan noble
- 13-Son of Adam
- 14-By oneself
- 15-Determined
- 17-Weaving machine
- 18-Tense
- 19-Game at cards
- 21-Malice
- 23-Reach across
- 24-Is ill
- 25-Squanderers
- 29-Sick
- 30-Vital organ
- 31-Knock
- 32-In the direction of the lee side
- 34-Wife of Zeus
- 35-Toward shelter
- 36-Females
- 37-Unproductive
- 40-Persian fairy
- 41-Condescending look
- 42-Ocean
- 46-Wine measure (pl.)
- 47-Antlered animal
- 48-Girl's name
- 49-Blessing
- 50-Periods of time
- 51-Carpenter's tool

DOWN

- 1-Long, slender fish

2-Mature

- 3-French prison
- 4-Worth
- 5-Border on
- 6-Openwork
- 7-Railroad cars
- 8-Land surrounded by water
- 9-Moroccan fabric
- 10-Conspiracy
- 11-Indefinite amount
- 16-Grain (pl.)
- 20-Jargon
- 21-Go by water
- 22-Heap
- 23-Shovel
- 25-Musical instrument
- 26-Hermit
- 27-Unusual
- 28-Reach across
- 30-Healthy
- 33-Rabbit-breeding grounds
- 34-Musical instrument
- 36-Has on one's person
- 37-Small mass
- 38-Danish island
- 39-City in Nevada
- 40-Entreaty
- 43-Prefix: three
- 44-Yellow bugle
- 45-Cry of crow



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(AFNB Feature)

1. What three National League players hit grand-slam home runs during the 1966 season?
2. Who is the only player in All-Star baseball history to be voted into three positions?
3. What team holds the major league record for one-run victories?

ANSWERS

1. With 41 one-run victories.
2. The 1910 Cincinnati Reds in All-Star competition.
3. Harmon Killebrew of Minnesota, who has started at first base, third base and left field.

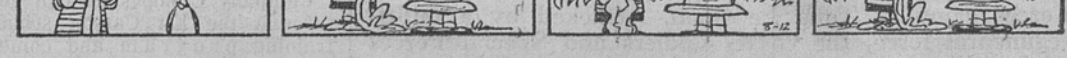
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



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.

Rice Paddy Turns Into 'Little City'

QUANG NGAI (USA) — It all began here a year ago with 4500 truck loads of sand and 100 loads of rock. Today, a year later, the raw materials have provided the foundation for a self-contained little city.

The 4600 loads of sand and rock filled in a large rice paddy, where there is now a new dependent's housing area with six barracks, a library, a school and a dispensary.

Plans are now underway to add a garden area, a market industry, an electric power facility and a livestock feeding area.

The transition began in July 1966 when members of the 1st Squadron, 4th Armored Regiment, ARVN, decided to start a massive self-help project.

Obtaining land from the province chief, the men set to work—between operations, training exercises and other tasks—to build the "little city".

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the housing area took place here a year later with Colonel Nguyen Van Toan, commander, 2nd ARVN Division, and members of the 4th Armored Regiment's 1st Squadron present.

"This project," said Captain Nguyen Huo Ly, "will help to guide our children toward being good citizens and toward loving their country."

The housing area, consisting of six barracks, will hold 11 families per barracks with a total of 66 rooms for the entire family housing area.

Three U.S. advisors, Captain Gary F. Koch, Sergeant First Class James E. Tyson and Ser-

geant Steve Ponce helped construct the dependent housing area.

"The unit really performed a miracle because one day they would fight the VC and the next they would work on the housing area," said Sergeant Tyson. "The job certainly proved one thing: where there's a will, there is always a way."

MP Saves AF Sergeant

SAIGON (USA) — A quick-thinking MP saved a sergeant's life recently by placing a loaded pistol magazine in the victim's mouth.

One evening, while lowering a U.S. flag at a MACV compound in Saigon, Private First Class Bernard M. Lucido heard a call for help.

An Air Force master sergeant nearby was suffering a stroke and was near death from strangulation—he had swallowed his tongue and his face was turning blue.

The young MP, assigned to Company A, 716th MP Battalion, reached into the victim's mouth and returned his tongue to its proper position. Desperately, he looked for something to hold it in place. "All of a sudden, I thought of my pistol magazine. I placed it in the sergeant's mouth and it worked perfectly," he said.

When the medics arrived, the sergeant was breathing steadily and normal color had almost returned to his face.



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.

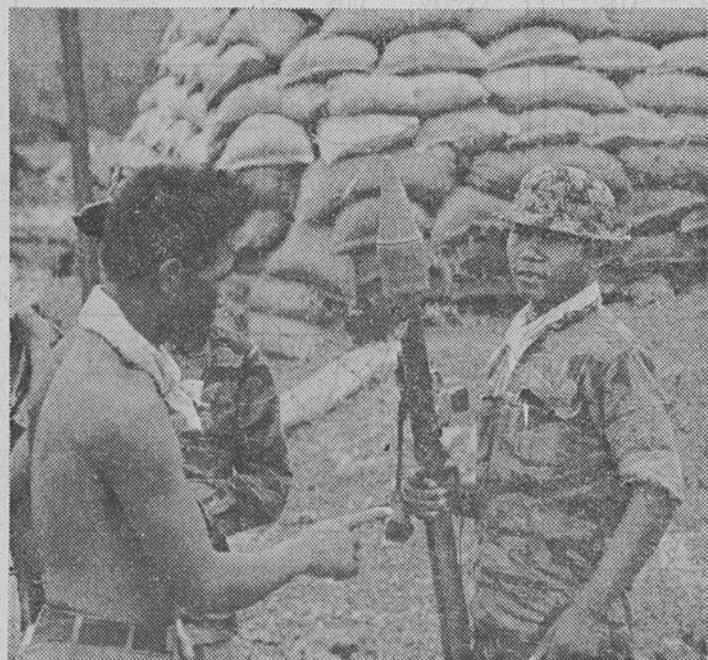
When asked, through an interpreter, about her son's condition, Huynh's mother replied: "My son walks now. I thank you and thank you."

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 pro-

(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

Swearington.

He uncovered two more death traps in the house and a total of 12 trip wires strung along nearby rice paddy dikes.

Later, as the soldiers continued their mission, he pointed out a 14-inch claymore mine concealed near their path.

"He has eyes like a fox," said the grateful sergeant afterward.

Captain Donald A. Price, company commander, feels that his men are keener soldiers because of Duc. "After all, he is a professional on enemy tactics," Captain Price said.

FIRST IN VIETNAM

The



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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

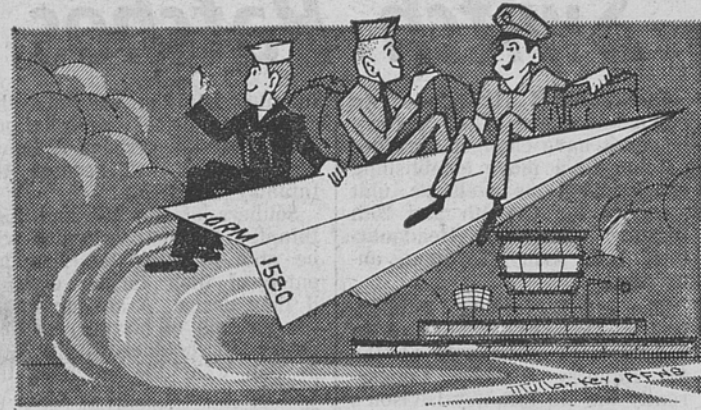
'Form' for Flying

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 make 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.

Resolution in support of VN policy signed by students and faculty of Crooked Oak Public Schools, Oklahoma City, Okla. From Lloyd Graham Supt. S.E. 15th at Eastern Ave., Okla. City.

Resolution in support of VN actions from Polish-American Congress, Central and Northern District of New York State. From Richard Rudnicki, president, 1079 Parkwood Blvd., Schenectady, N.Y.

Letter of appreciation and concern for efforts in VN, from Robert S. McCants, Governor, Palmetto Boy's State, Columbia, S.C.

Telegram supporting troops in Vietnam, signed by approximately 2,500 residents of Spokane and the Inland Empire, Wash. Sent by Mort Peir and Thomas O'Brien.

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

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 Loi 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.



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."

"Life can be miserable," said the one. "A guy can't have any self-respect these days. It's getting so that we ain't even worth the paper we're printed on."

"Ain't that the truth," said the other. "I remember the days when I could buy a round of drinks for three people. It made me feel good inside, like I was accomplishing something."

"Say, do you remember Big Jim Dong, the 500 piaster note who was always flexing his muscles in the marketplace?"

"Yeah," said the other. "I almost punched him out one night in a bar about three years ago. He said I was just one 'P' in his pod."

"Well, I saw him last week up in Cholon. He must weigh three times more than he did in the old days."

"Is that right?" said the one.

"Yeah, I started to laugh at him. I almost laughed right in his face. He was lying on a counter in a dress shop, so fat he couldn't roll over. He looks bad, dissipated — his face is all puffed up."

"Is that right?"

"He looked away when he saw me. I felt kind of sorry for him. I remember the days when he was one of the best-looking piasters on the beach at Vung Tau. He was a He-man, lean and hard as a rock, with that big '500' tattooed on his biceps."

"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 dignified and self-respect."

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



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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 refusal to join the Communist guerrillas.

Two of the liberated men were hamlet chiefs, another a school teacher. One had served in the Army of the Republic of Vietnam for four years and five others were members of Popular Forces.

Their stories were similar. Some had been held captive for more than two years.

One 62-year old hamlet chief was taken from his home on May 16, 1965. He had two sons serving with ARVN forces. When first captured he was strong, and worked at cutting wood for the VC. As he grew weak from malnutrition, he was bound hand and foot to prevent his escape to his hamlet.

Another 64-year old villager



PF Soldier Cheated Death

was abducted on the night of Sept. 30, 1966. He had been known to support ARVN units and when, he gave food to government troops passing through his village, the VC carried him away.

"I hoped they wouldn't kill me," he said. "I have six children. I hope they are safe."

Another liberated prisoner was a 25-year old Popular Forces soldier who killed six VC with a grenade during an attack on his village in 1965. His right arm had been amputated because of a wound suffered in the battle.

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

"The strongest men in the prison camp were forced to carry rice and dig tunnels and caves," he said. "Thirty-four were in the camp when I was captured. Twelve died from

starvation and beatings. At times I wished that the VC would kill me."

The VC told the PF soldier's wife he was a prisoner and she must provide clothes for him. "I never got the clothing," he said. "The VC always kept it after she gave it to them."

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.



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.

Eye bank physicians then coordinate the shipment so the Repose will be in port when the eye gets to Vietnam. "There is a 48 hour period from the time the eye is extracted until its cornea must be inserted in a patient's eye," the commander said. "After 48 hours, the donated eye starts to decompose."

Four cornea transplants have been performed aboard the Repose: three were successful and one was a failure.

Applications Accepted for AF Program

WASHINGTON (AFNB)—Opportunities to teach in rapidly expanding Air Force Junior ROTC program at high school level by 1970 are available to retired Air Force officers and noncommissioned officers, according to officials at Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala. Applications are now being accepted for positions presently open and those that will become available between 1968 and 1970.

Improve Health Of Mantagnard Children

LE THANH (USA) — A youth Health Improvement Program designed to improve the health and stamina of Mantagnard 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 Mantagnards through four MEDCAP missions

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.

Periodic dental checkups are

also being given to the children under the health improvement program.

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

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

build a sidewalk and a playground with swings, slides, teeter-boards and other equipment.

The project, completed in 10 weeks, was celebrated during International Aid Day ceremonies which attracted 1,500 residents of Phan Rang and United States and Free World Military Forces.

BUY
U.S.
SAVINGS
BONDS

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 supplant 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 Duc and the southern half of Darlac 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

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.



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

Kontom Provinces. 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.

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 (USAF) — 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 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.

Returning to Lackland, Nemo will be a symbol of the professional training sentry dogs receive and the job they are doing in war-torn Vietnam.

The event that altered Nemo's life began on Dec. 5, 1966. He and his handler, Airman First Class Robert A. Throneburg, 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.

The infiltrators were stopped and turned back by the 37th Security Police Squadron's main line of defense. But four VC

eluded discovery by earlier search parties and were hiding within the base's perimeter. It was the sentry dog's job to find them.

In the silence of darkness, the two sentries walked cautiously forward. Suddenly their search ended. Nemo had alerted the airman to a group of hidden VC. "Watch him," said Throneburg. The dog's muscles tensed for action. "Get Him!" was the next command and Nemo lunged savagely forward, into the enemy's nest. Throneburg followed close behind.

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

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

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

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 Kolkole 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 Tarrantola, 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 hedgerow 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.

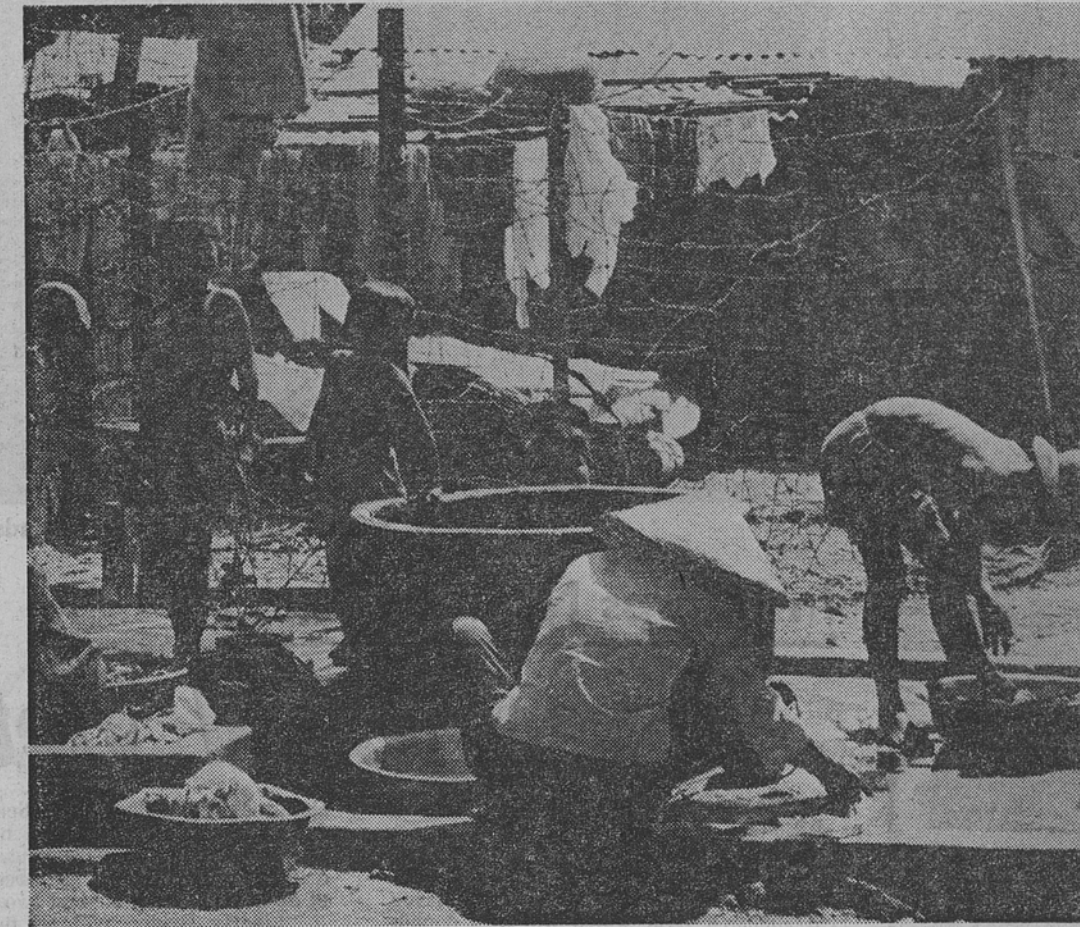
Also, the water system at Fatima was inadequate. The signalmen solved this by purchasing a pump and obtaining a water tank and pipe. A new system will soon provide the orphanage with fresh water.

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 Ghenh Rang



Before Self-Help Program, Refugees Had Primitive Surroundings

QUI NHON (USA) — "Civic action is a hand up, not a hand-out," emphasizes Colonel Earl S. Sleepers, civil affairs officer for the 1st Logistical Command's Qui Nhon Support Command.

"Civic action, the way we employ it, is giving a family the means and materials to raise its living standards through hard work," he said. "This fosters self-respect."

The tangible results of this approach can be seen daily at the Ghenh Rang Refugee Center, which opened recently near Qui Nhon.

"Initially we leveled the area with bulldozers and furnished some of the building materials like cement and lumber but from there on, it has been self-help and self-employment," added the colonel.

The improvement of the new refugee center over the crowded slum conditions of the original camp, located in the center of Qui Nhon, gives credence to Colonel Sleepers' statement.

At present, the camp has a population of approximately 400 families. The next few months could enable 6,000 more refugees to begin living at the camp.

The Ghenh Rang Refugee Center is the first move toward eventual elimination of the sub-

standard conditions at the original refugee camp.

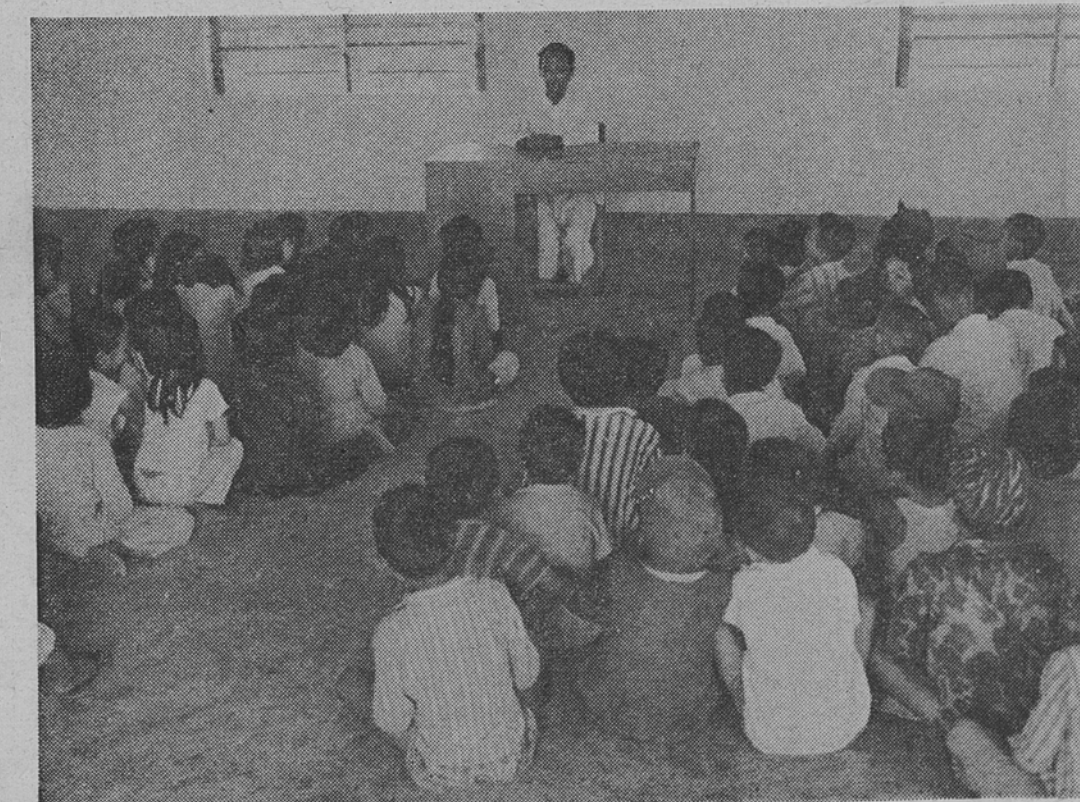
Born out of necessity and desperation, the camp rapidly became so overcrowded that it was virtually impossible to maintain minimum living conditions and health standards. But the inhabitants of the camp believed that even this was preferable to the terrorism and harassment of the VC back in their own village.

The Ghenh Rang Refugee Center will be the start of a new life for some 10,000 victims of this war-torn land. It is proof that self-respect and self-help will certainly accomplish much more than coercion.

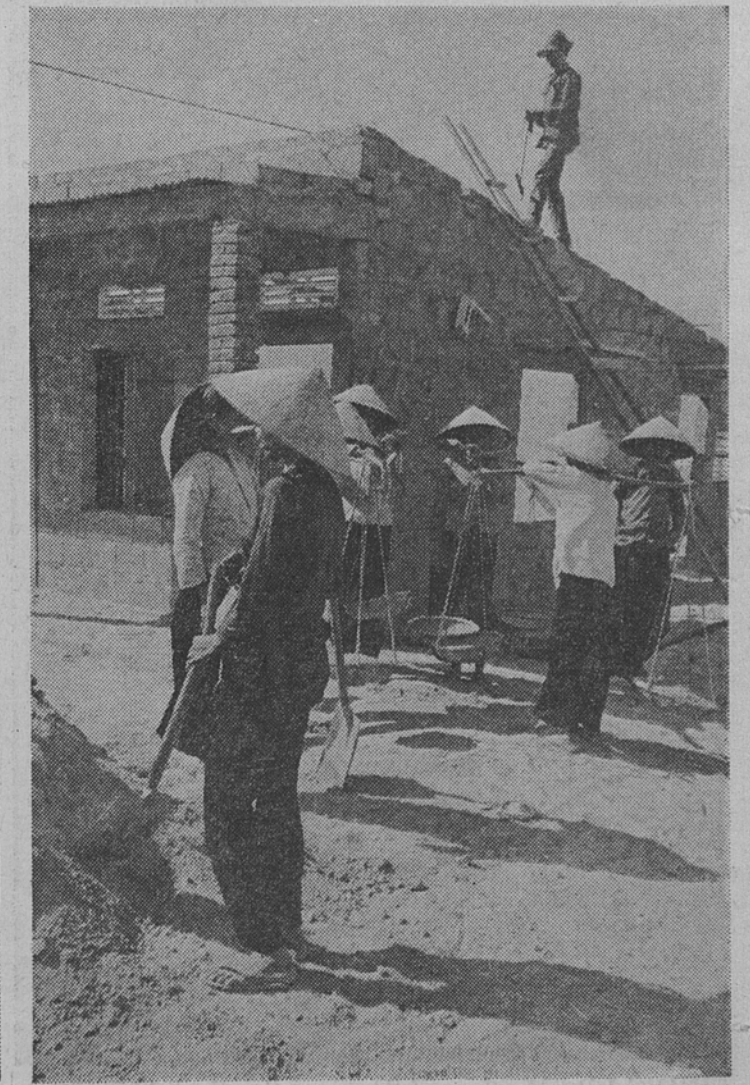
It is a step forward and a helping-hand upward.



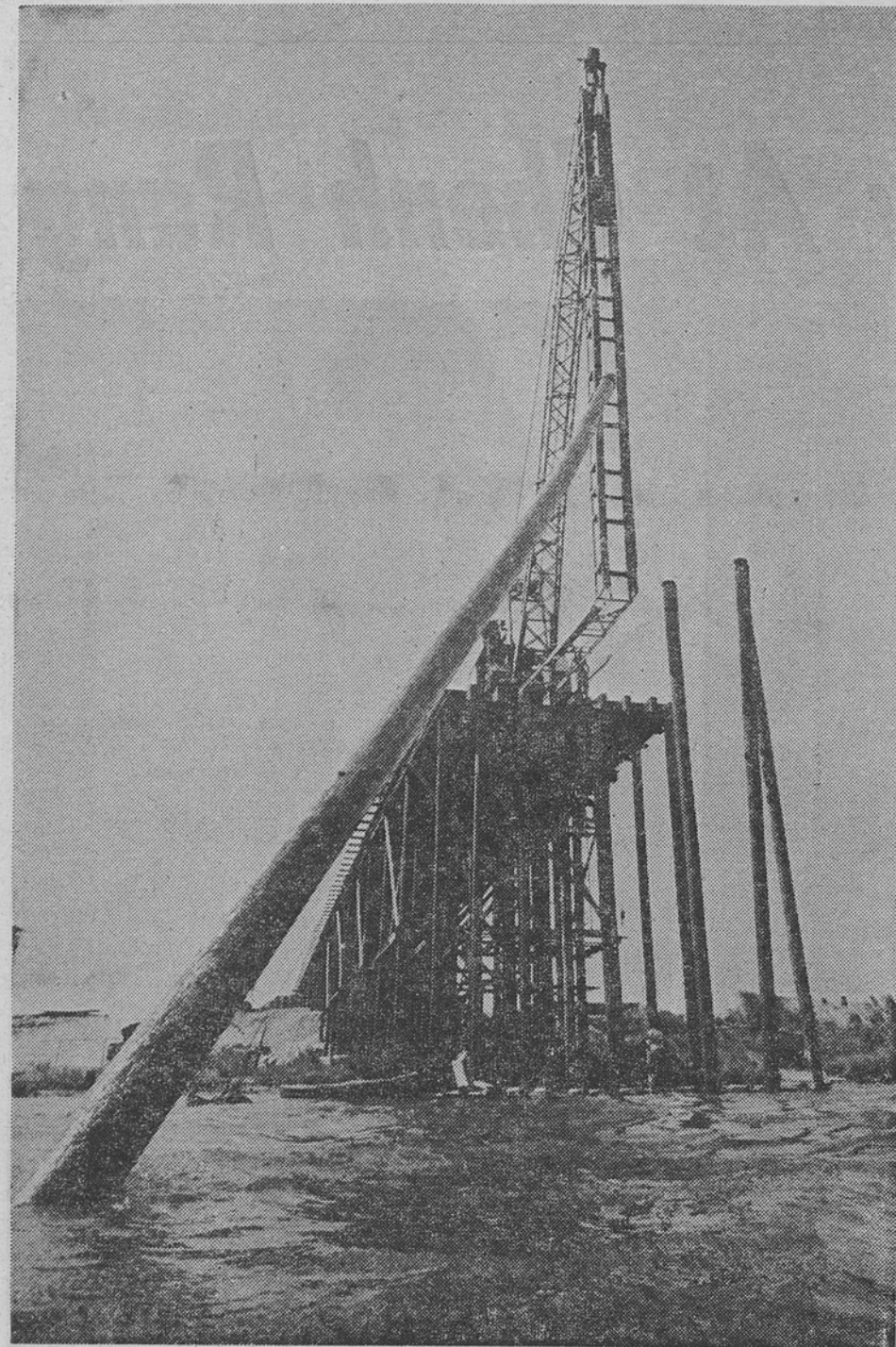
The People Do The Work, With Materials From U.S.



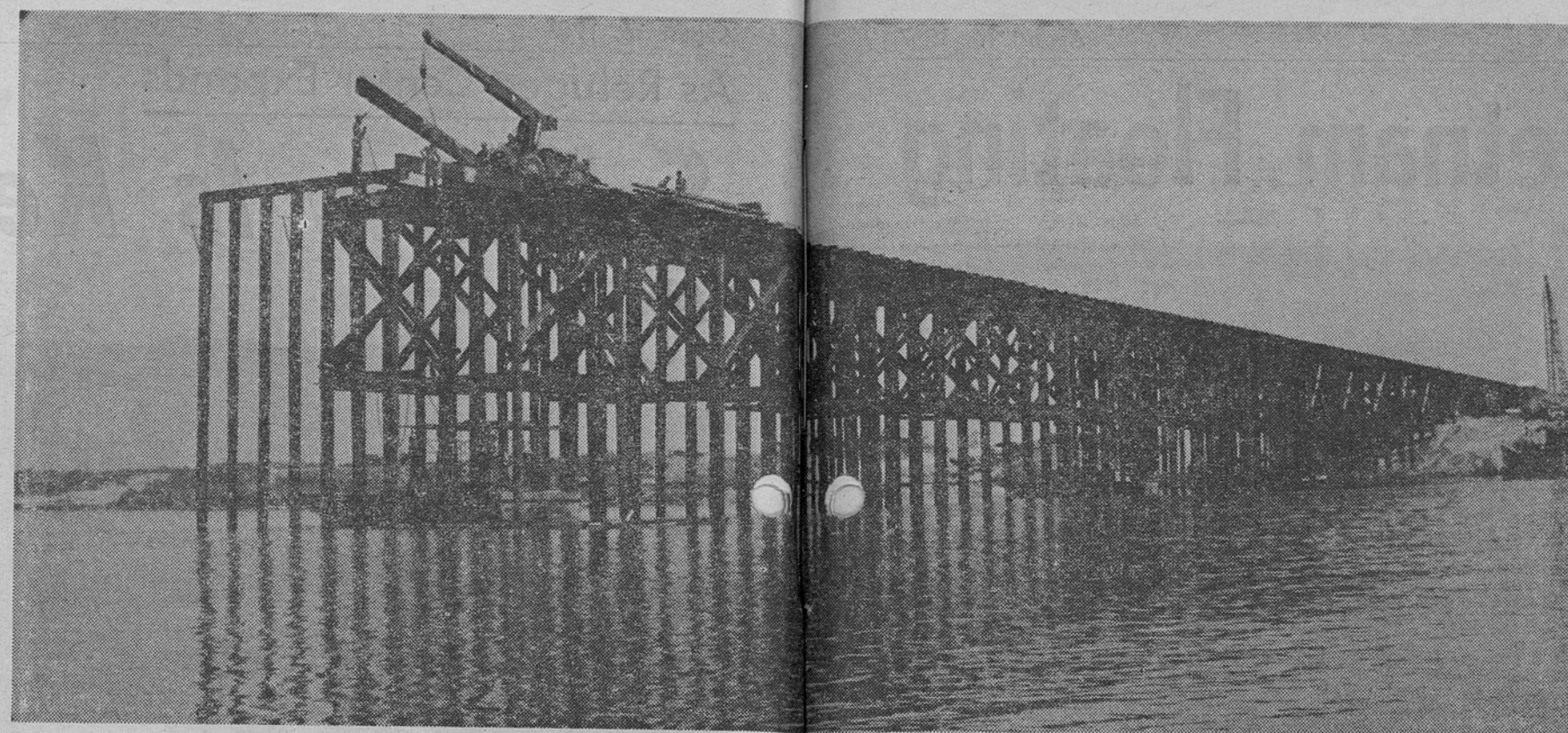
One Of New Schoolhouses Built By People Of Ghenh Rang, Improvements Will Come



Soon 6,000 More Refugees May Settle Here



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



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

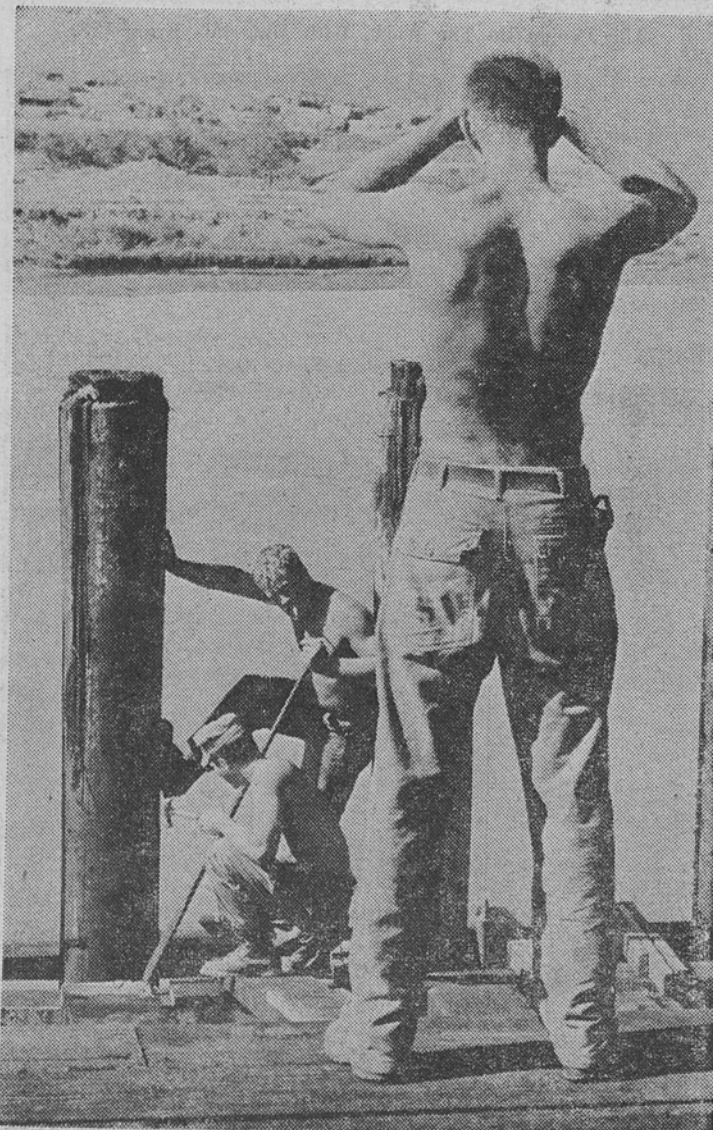
"Pappy," Chief Albright and his crew work a 14-or-15-hour day. "We are scheduled to advance about 100 feet a week," Chief Albright pointed out, "but this crew of mine is making 180 feet a week and getting better all the time."

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.

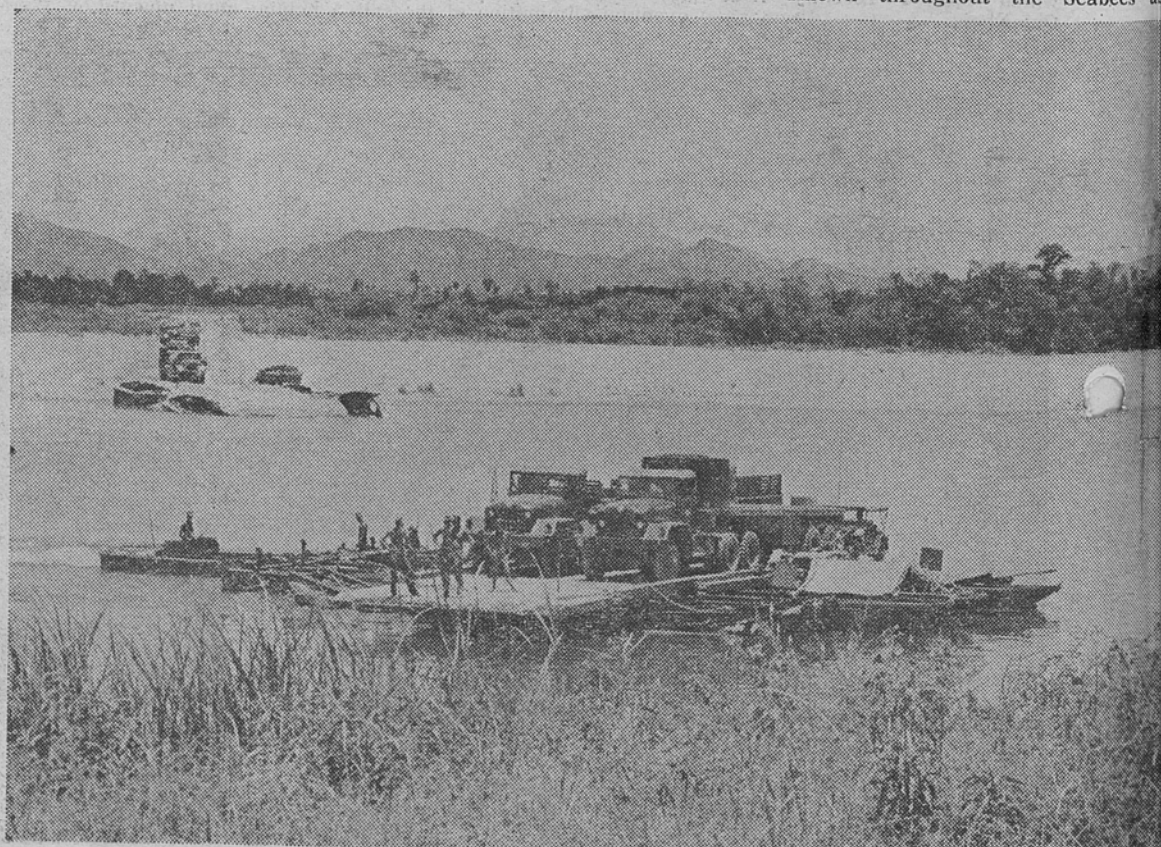
Story & Photos

By

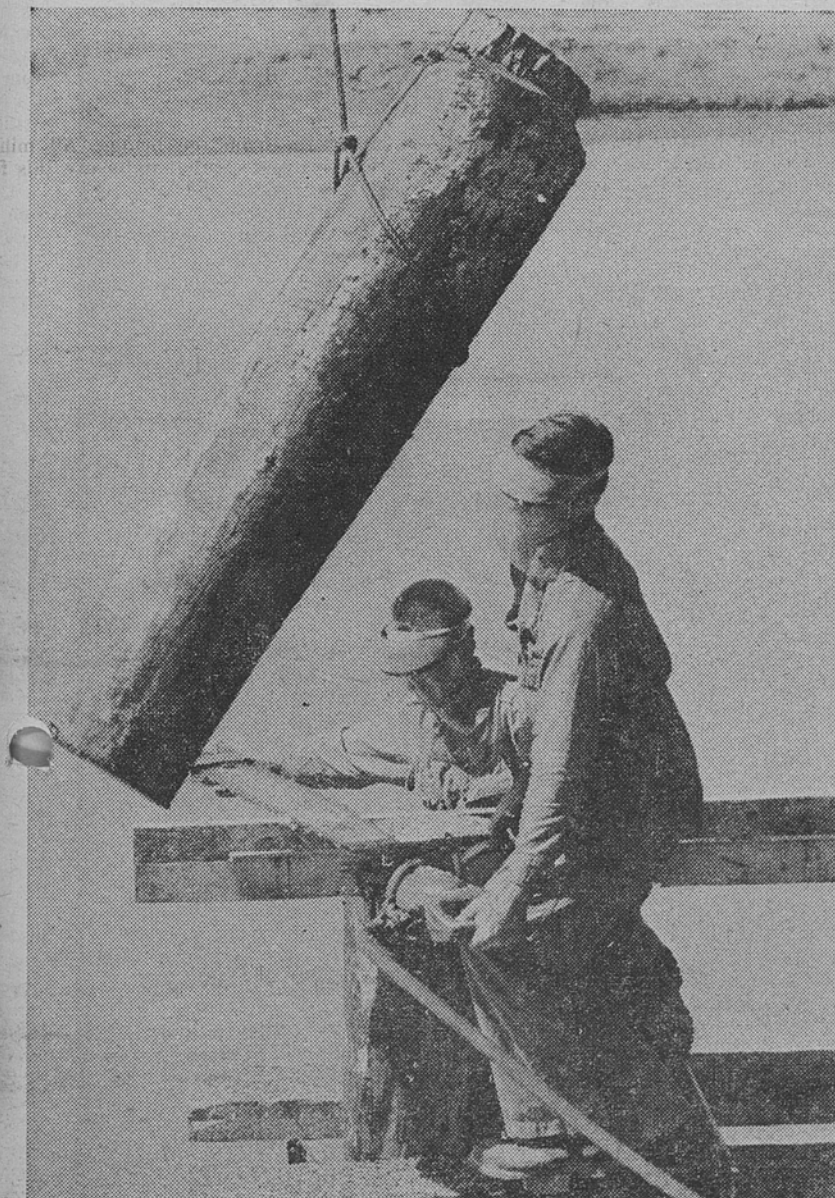
U.S. Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs Office



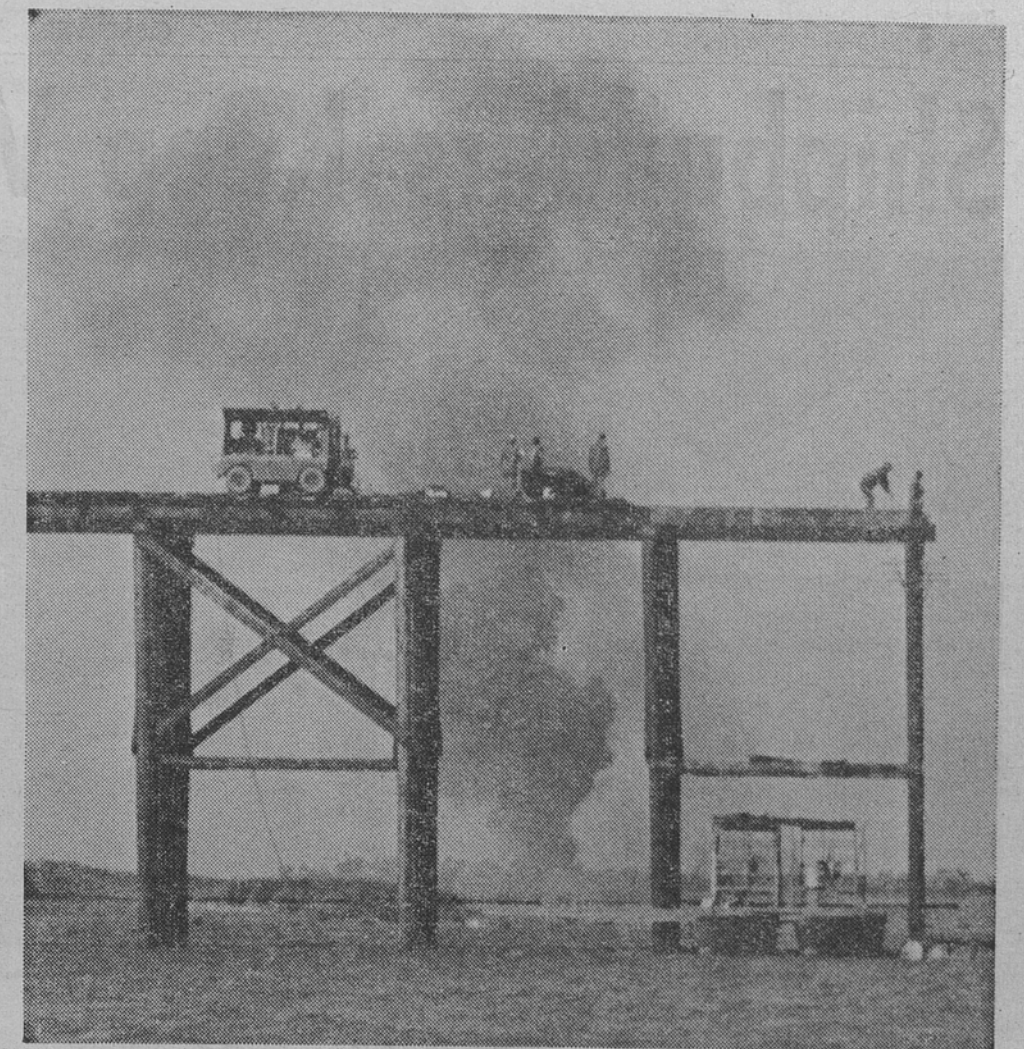
LINING UP—Members of the crew align the bridge pilings.



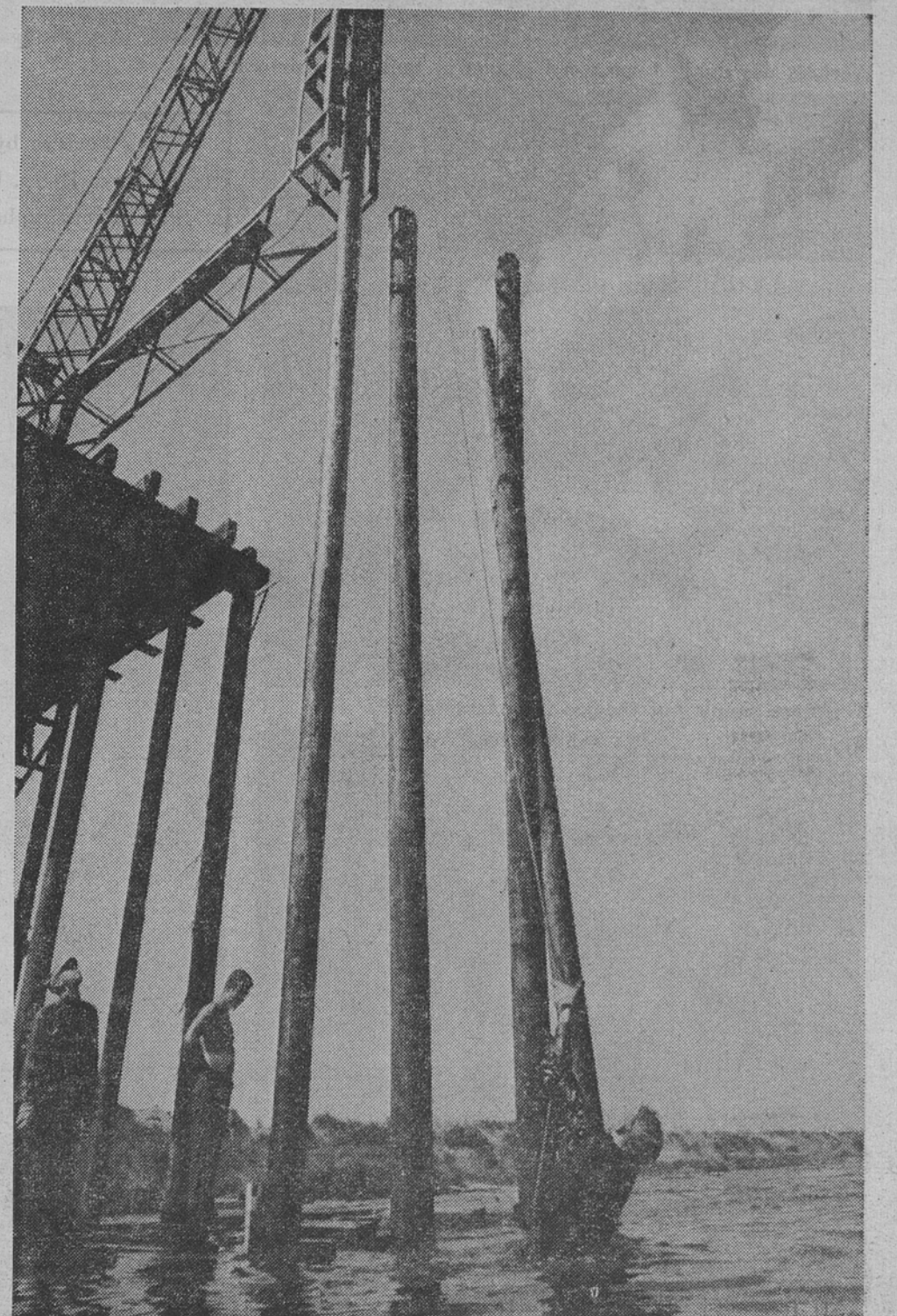
OBSOLETE—This ferry will soon be replaced by the 2,040 foot bridge.



TOPPING OFF—Cutting excess off one of the bridge piles.

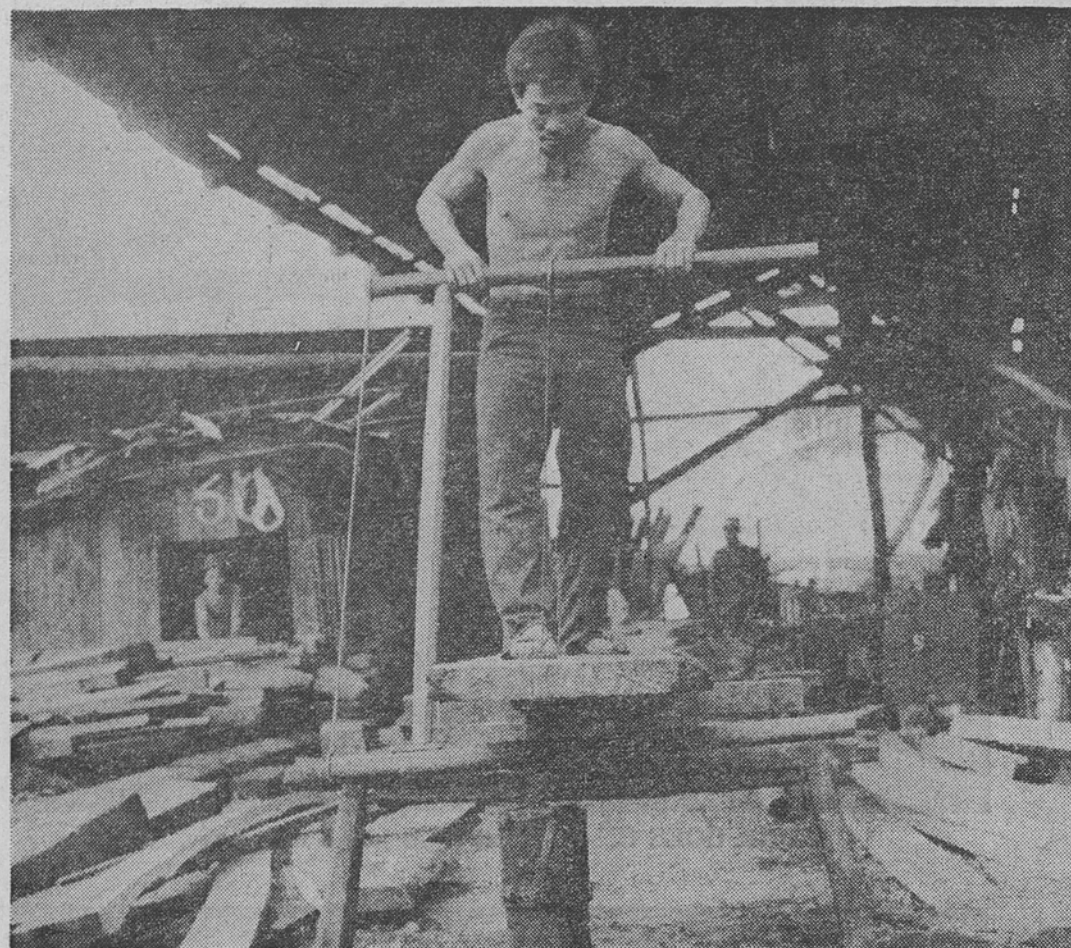


WORK GOES ON—Combat rages just a mile away.



WET JOB—Positioning piles for driving can be wet work.

Shipbuilders Keep Vietnam Floating



Workers use durable sao wood planks in building their craft.



Photo Feature by
SSgt George Hicks, USA
Staff Photographer

Tools are simple but the job is professional.



With over 200,000 fishermen in Vietnam, sampans are in big demand.



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 'Tafey' (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 marshal 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 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 Eisenhower. He stayed with the State Department for several years, serving for commissioners John J. McCloy, Walter J. Connelly and Dr. James B. 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."

School At Orphanage Opens With Million Piaster Assist

SAIGON (USA) — When 100 Vietnamese children began school August 1, they made the first use of a new three-story classroom and dormitory building built, in part, with money donated by the 69th Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade.

The final bank draft for 20,652 \$VN, which brought the total donation to more than one million piasters (\$8,500 US), was presented while final preparations for the school's opening were underway.

During a brief ceremony at

the orphanage, the school superintendent, Rev. Jonathan Kaan, received the final check from Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence O. Monahan Sr., battalion commander.

The 39th Signal Battalion started the project in May 1964 when the orphanage was founded. By the time the 69th Signal arrived to replace the 39th Signal, the 39th had donated almost one million piasters to the project.

In November 1965, the year the 69th arrived in Vietnam, the

Christian Missionary Alliance was providing the bulk of the orphanage's support.

The 69th Signal took an active part in the orphanage. They had parties with the children, providing toys purchased locally and toys sent from the U.S. One soldier noticed that the children had no linen on their beds, so he purchased the necessary sheets.

The orphanage, named The Children's Home of Blessing, is located in the Cholan section of Saigon. It began with five orphans in a small apartment—but, as their numbers grew, the church looked for other facilities.

After negotiations with the government, land in Phu Tho Hoa Hamlet was purchased and the ground breaking ceremonies were held in February 1966 for a new facility.

Using manpower and vehicles from the signal battalion, the orphans moved into their new home in the early part of this year.

To enable continuing support of the children of the orphanage, each man in the battalion is asked to contribute voluntarily a dollar a month. Beside this, the men wrote their families and received toys and other gifts for the children.

"There has been a constant supply of clothes, books and toys, thanks to the men who have written home," asserted First Lieutenant Ernest Gruber, custodian of the fund.

On the mid-summer day when LTC Monahan presented the check to Rev. Kaan, children could be seen studying in small group and consulting quietly with their teachers.

A little girl was practicing on the piano under the watchful eye of an instructor as others cleaned their dormitory.

All of this came to a halt when the U.S. visitors arrived. The children gathered for picture taking and a chance to coax the officer into a few minutes of lifting the smaller members of the group into the air.

With the orphanage well on its way to success, the 69th Signalmen are turning to another project; the Phuoc Son Catholic school which is just getting underway.



Miss Lam-Thi Bich-Ngoc
Recites And Animates Prayer
In Appreciation For Donation

Children In U.S. Help VN Orphans

NHA TRANG (USA) — The concern of children for other children knows no distances. Recently it reached from a child's Sunday School class in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley to the Evangelical Orphanage by the South China Sea.

The teacher of the Sunday School class, Mrs. G.E. Tullidge, Staunton, Va., reports that her pupils decided to put into practice what they had learned about helping others.

They discussed the matter and decided to help the orphan children in Vietnam.

They saved their money, put it all together, and sent it to Vietnam, where the group chaplain of the 5th Special Forces Group was able to see that it reached the children of Co Nhi Vien Evangelical Orphanage.

"And a little child shall lead them!" The tragedy of war is that it is fought by adults and suffered

by children. A war of this type, through the atrocities of the Viet Cong, brings the horror even closer to the children.

Today, the 14-year-old orphanage has 242 children ranging in ages from 4 to 16. Le Van Thai, the director of the orphanage, tries to be a father to all of the children. He knows them all by name; and, to understand their problems more fully, he has studied much of each child's personal history.

The orphanage has its own school (the Bethlehem School) and a church within the grounds.

It Will Be Missed By Orphanages

SAIGON (USA) — A Navy lieutenant who recently departed Vietnam used his off-duty hours throughout his tour to carry out his own civic action program.

Lieutenant James C. Russell became interested in providing help to various orphanages in the Saigon area shortly after his arrival a little over a year ago.

With the help of friends in Fairfax and Prince George Counties school systems in Virginia, where he taught before entering the Navy, Lieutenant Russell solicited gifts of clothing, personal items and money for the children.

A steady flow of the much-needed supplies began to arrive in Saigon and the lieutenant, with the cooperation of the Vietnamese-American Association, distributed the gifts to the orphanages.

He procured a portable electric generator, in part to entertain the children with movies and to enable him to make the rounds regularly to trim the children's hair.

Lieutenant Russell completed his tour of duty in Vietnam as a Naval Forces Historian July 7 and is now assigned to the Office of Naval Intelligence in the Pentagon.

Unit Builds Playground For Children

DONG TAM (USA) — Gaiety was king in Thanh Phu as more than 100 children romped merrily on their new orange playground equipment.

Swings, teeter-totters, a slide, and other attractions had become available to the youngsters through members of the 15th Engineer Battalion and 2nd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, Civil Affairs section stationed in Dong Tam.

Brigade soldiers, village school teachers and officials, and My Tho-based USAID (United States Agency for International Development) representatives were on hand to open the play area.



LEADS THE WAY—Staff Sergeant Romolo Oliva is not ascending through clouds—he is directing cargo helicopters into a 25th Infantry Division fire support base 25 miles from Saigon. The sergeant is a pathfinder in the 11th Aviation Battalion, and uses smoke, radio and hand signals to direct the aircraft. (Photo by 1st Lt Karel)

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.

Today there are two main beach areas, a causeway, several ship landing ramps and a De Long pier at Port Lane. Alpha beach is the habitat of the 119th Transportation Company (Terminal Service), which is responsible for the unloading of ships docked at the De Long pier.

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 hand 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 sea-going 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.

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 downed 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.

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.

Each day, the corpsman fills his jeep with medical supplies and drives to a nearby Vietnamese Junk Base where sick call is held.

Unlike most corpsmen, he tries to avoid treating the sick, instead showing his Vietnamese students how to treat them themselves.

Various MOS
Restrictions

WASHINGTON (AFNB)—Army has placed restrictions on temporary promotions for enlisted personnel in various MOS for July. Ten specialties are restricted in E-9 pay grade; 13 in E-8; 11 in E-7; 12 in E-6 and three in E-5. Promotions will also be frozen for all grades in MOS which are being phased out but are still being erroneously reported to The Adjutant General's Office.



"It's your mother again sir."

Well-Well-Well

Bring In More Good Water

BIEN HOA (USA)—More potable water at less cost is the outlook for 1968, according to the Army Engineer Command's utilities section here.

A deep well drilling program now provides more than 200 base camps in Vietnam with safe and economical means of acquiring potable water, with an additional 60 to 70 to be completed in the near future.

Before the program began September 1966, almost all water used by U.S. Forces had to be taken from surface sources such as lakes, streams, rivers and shallow wells.

Since many base camps are built away from such sources, water had to be brought in from outside the camps and many times across long distances.

The cleaning and purification process was slow, bulky, costly and risky, according to Chief Warrant Officer Richard Pool. "Of the 200 wells already drilled, the deepest is at Dong Tam, near My Tho in the Mekong Delta. It is 1,083 feet deep and was drilled by the Seabees," concluded Mr. Pool. "However, the average depth is about 200 feet."

Mr. Pool pointed out that the surface water sources are usually contaminated with the bacteria which cause typhoid fever, dysentery, cholera and various intestinal diseases. "When water sifts through the ground," said Mr. Pool, "the various rock or soil layers nearly complete the filtering and settling processes. Thus, by

Marine CAPs In Da Nang
Put On Their School Caps

DA NANG (USMC) — At a school in Da Nang, Marines are learning the language, customs and religions of the Vietnamese with whom they will live, work and fight as members of a Marine Combined Action Platoon (CAP).

Volunteer Marines from throughout the I Corps area are attending the two week course, which is geared to orientate students on all phases of civic action and counter-guerrilla warfare.

According to Lieutenant Colonel I.L. Carver, officer-in-charge of the school, the biggest problem confronting Marines while serving with the CAP's is "understanding the people and being understood."

In addition to civic action lectures, the Marines study intelligence security, immediate action drills, fire support, fire-arms familiarization, field sanitation, first aid, small unit tactics and ambush procedures.

Co Tuong, a Vietnamese game similar to chess, is taught to help the Marines and local Popular Forces troops, assigned to a CAP, pass time during moments of lull in the day.

"We attempt to confront them with situations that could arise within their unit," Gunnery Sergeant Dennis T. Dinola, training NCO, said.

"One moment they may be treating a sick child and seconds later be called on to defend a village from Viet Cong attacks. They must be able to adjust to any situation."

On graduation, the Marines are assigned to one of five combined action teams, and later to one of 38 combined action platoons in the Da Nang area.

The units consist of 14 Marines, 35 Popular Forces soldiers and a Navy Corpsman, and they provide local security for the Vietnamese in hamlets and villages.

American Forces Vietnam

Network—Channel 11

(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)
Guide For Week Of Aug. 16-22, 1967

Wednesday (Aug. 16)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Bewitched
1930 News & Sports
2000 Perry Mason
2100 News Briefs
2130 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)
Sign-Off-News

Thursday (Aug. 17)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Third Man
1930 Andy Griffith
1930 News & Sports
2030 12 O'Clock High
2100 News Briefs
2200 The Fugitive
Sign-Off-News

Friday (Aug. 18)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Addams Family
1930 News & Sports
2000 Gunsmoke
2100 News Briefs
2200 Coliseum
Sign-Off-News

Saturday (Aug. 19)

1200 News Headlines
1230 Encyclopedia Britannica
1300 Social Security
1400 American Sportsman
1430 Daniel Boone
1500 Roy Acuff
1530 Sports Of The Week
1800 Lost In Space
1900 Official Detective
1930 News & Sports
2000 Wild, Wild West
2100 News Briefs
2200 News Briefs

Saturday Night At The Movies

Sign-Off-News

Sunday (Aug. 20)

1200 News Headlines
1230 RELIGIOUS PROGRAM
1300 EDUCATIONAL SPECIAL
1330 Window On Vietnam
1355 Sunday Matinee
1500 Sports Of The Week
1730 CBS Sports Spectacular
1900 IN COUNTRY
1930 News & Sports
2000 Window On Vietnam
2030 Get Smart
2100 News Briefs
2200 News Briefs
Sign-Off-News

Monday (Aug. 21)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Fractured Flickers
1930 News & Sports
2000 Combat
2100 News Briefs
2200 Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea
Dean Martin Show
Sign-Off-News

Tuesday (Aug. 22)

1830 News Headlines
1900 G. E. College Bowl
1930 My Favorite Martini
1930 News & Sports
2000 Big Valley
2100 News Briefs
2200 Smothers Brothers
Sign-Off-News
Qui Nhon Aug. 16-22
Da Nang Sept. 13-19
Pleiku Oct. 4-10
Nha Trang Oct. 25-31
Tuy Hoa Nov. 22-28
Hue Dec. 13-19

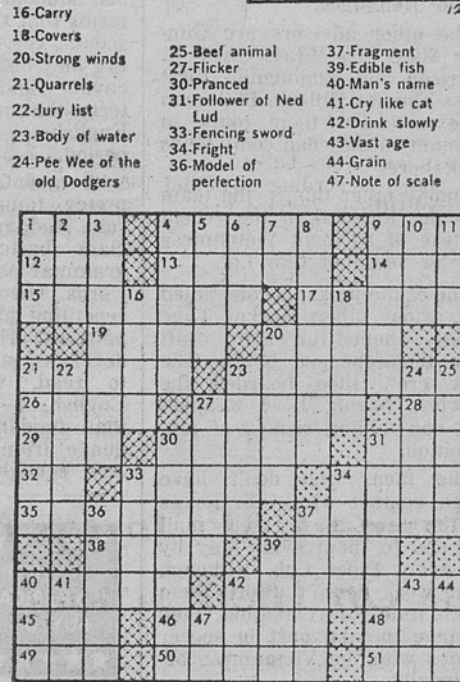
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACROSS

1-Meadow
4-Subject of discourse
9-In favor of
12-Goal
13-Term of endearment
14-Uncooked
15-Sham
17-Encomium
19-Flower
20-Fluent
21-Malice
23-Looters
26-A step
27-Unexplored land
28-Latin conjunction
29-Collection of facts
30-Caverns
31-Confederate general
32-Symbol for tellurium
33-Road edges
34-Join
35-Soft shoe
37-Hebrew festival
38-Antlered animal
39-Edible fish
40-Mohammedan noble
42-More dismal
45-Ocean
46-Roman official
48-Playing thing
49-Carpenter's tool
50-Affected with narcotics
51-Compass point
DOWN
1-Once around track
2-Goddess of healing

3-Land of the free
4-The ones here
5-Sharpener
6-Finish
7-Pronoun
8-Part of face (pl.)
9-Investigation
10-Tattered cloth
11-Be in debt
16-Carry
18-Covers
20-Strong winds
21-Quarrels
22-Jury list
23-Body of water
24-Pee Wee of the old Dodgers
25-Beef animal
27-Flicker
30-Pranced
31-Follower of Ned
33-Fencing sword
34-Fright
36-Model of perfection
37-Fragment
39-Edible fish
40-Man's name
41-Cry like cat
42-Drink slowly
43-Vast age
44-Grain
47-Note of scale



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(AFNB Feature)

1. What is the only major sport that originated and developed in the United States?
2. When was the first shutout in the All-Star baseball classic?
3. What do the five rings—or circles—which form the Olympic symbol mean?

Answers:
1. Baseball
2. 1891
3. 1. Basketball, established in 1891; 2. Hockey, established in 1877; 3. Soccer, established in 1863; 4. American Football, established in 1879; 5. Rugby, established in 1843.

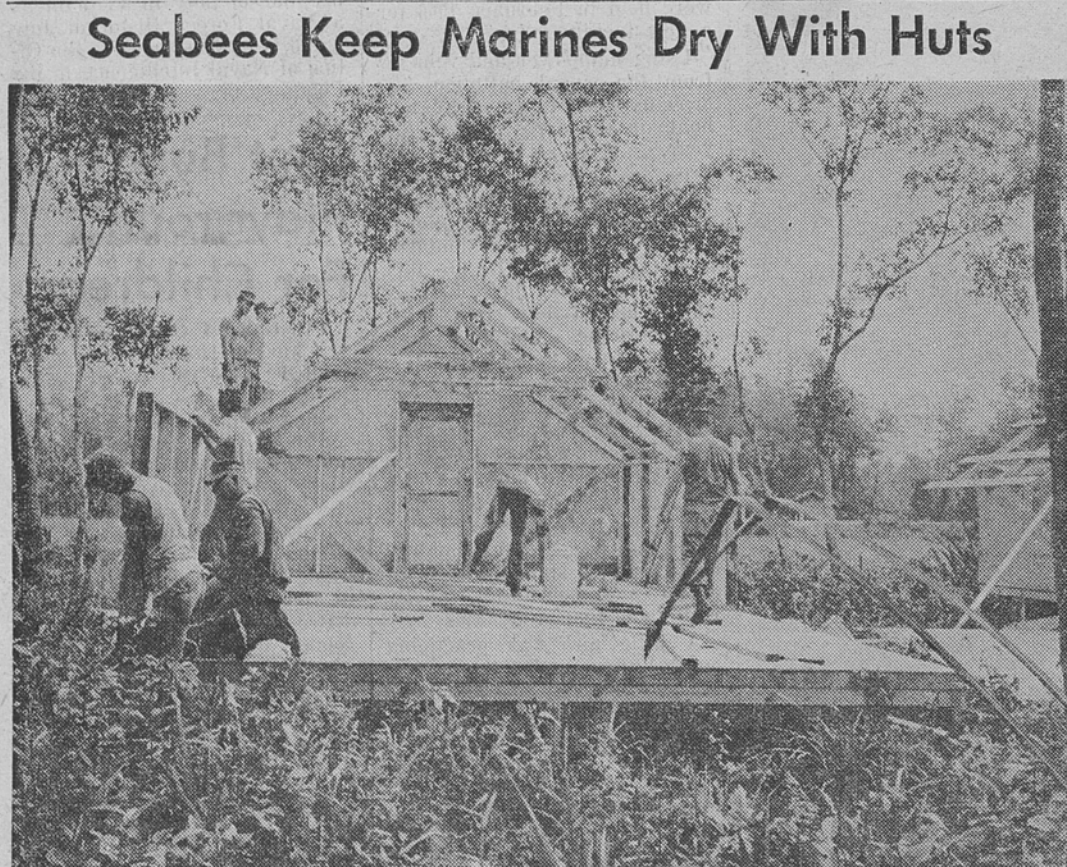
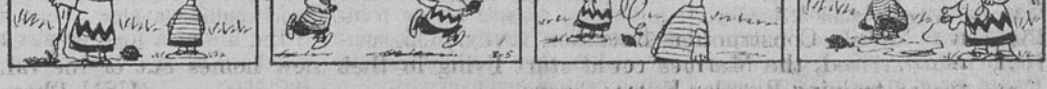
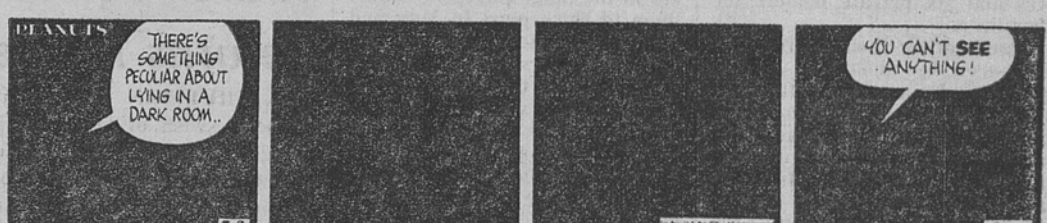
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



INSTANT HOUSING—With the foundation in place and leveled, Seabees install floor sections, screened walls, and rafters for Marines who recently needed buildings for their six Combined Action Companies (CAC) located near Phu Bai. The Marines called on the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NCB) 62, and within a few hours after the NCB team arrived, the Marines could start living in their new homes out of the rain. They started training Popular Forces troops. (USN Photo)

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.



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.

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 gaping 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 Hoi, 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."

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

Vietnamese sailors and officers who live here with their families. We go out on patrols and operations with them in their junks. We also provide blocking forces for joint U.S. and Vietnamese land operation," said Lieutenant (junior grade) Philip Heidinger.

The other advisors are Gunners Mate First Class Clyde R. Garrison and Engineman First Class Thomas Hilbish. Both men have extended their tours in Vietnam so they can continue to work here.

Among other things, the team was instrumental in the recent capture of a North Vietnamese trawler south of Chu Lai.

One of the junks, accompanied by various other Market Time vessels, shelled the enemy craft in a midnight gun battle. The junk crew then boarded the trawler, seizing 1,500 weapons and one million rounds of ammunition.

The men, who don't have much contact with U.S. forces in the area, have their mail dropped to them every day by an Army Piper Cub. Although their work doesn't afford them much time for relaxation, they manage to take part in soccer games with the Vietnamese occasionally.

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 sodden 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.

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-

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.

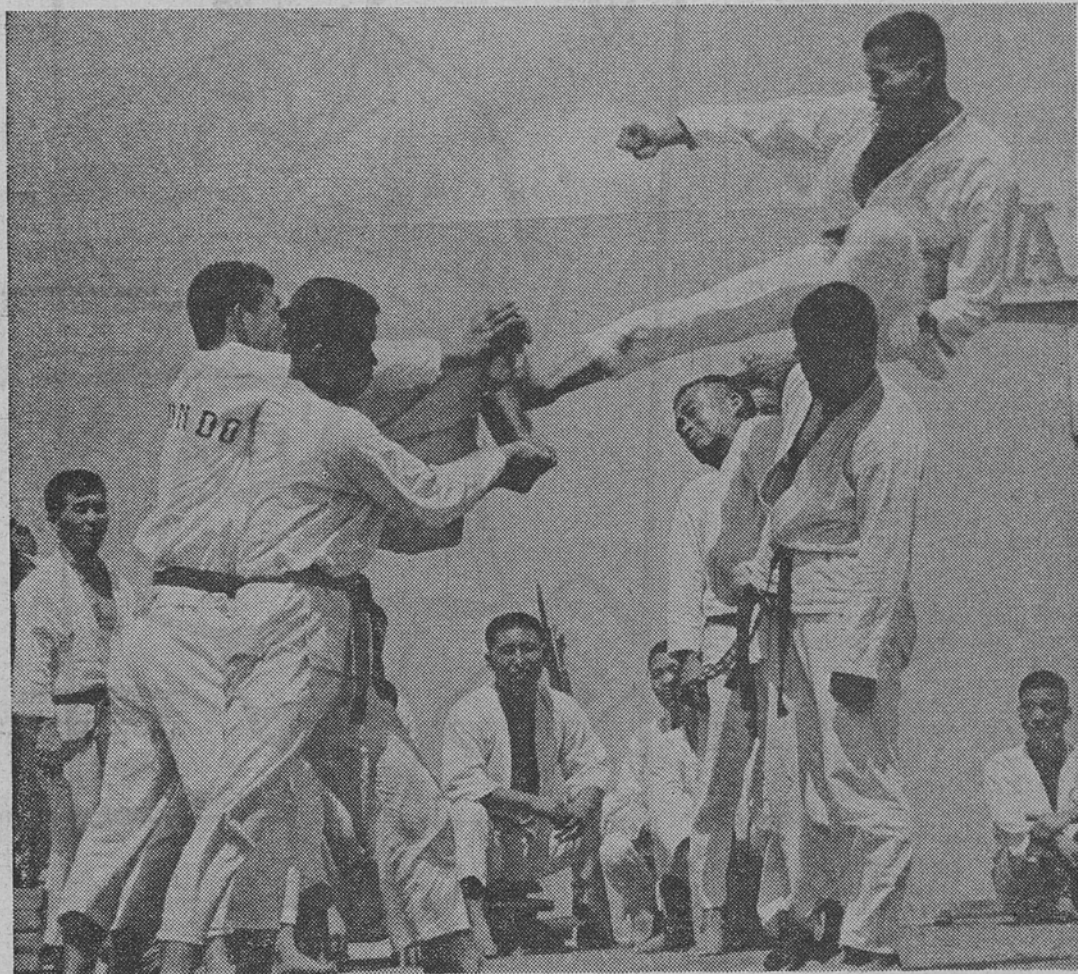
Supervised Credit Program. Set up in 1964 with capital from USAID and cooperation from NACO, this program gives loans to farmers who are improving their farms or growing secondary crops.

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.



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.

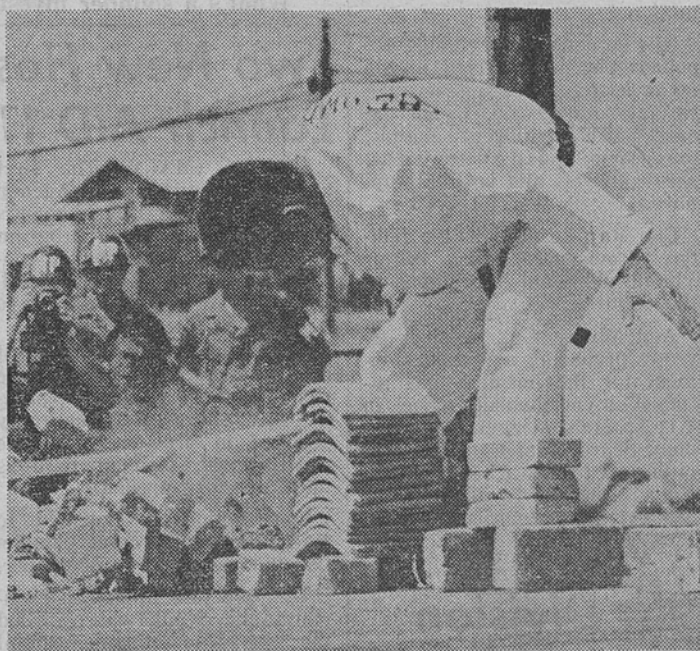
The blood team is divided into three parts. The job of supplying blood is handled by three men under the direction of Chief Hospital Corpsman J.W. Lynch.

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-

(Continued on Back Page)



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

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.

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.

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 nulled 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-

lem areas: vehicle operations, handling of weapons, equipment operations, carelessness in the wearing or the absence of footwear and clothing, and off-duty activities.

Agencies and major commands are encouraged to provide information and statistics for the series. One unit may experience a rash of accidents and come up with solutions to problems, the descriptions of which can be of help to other units. Such information should be mailed to the Editor, MACV OBSERVER MACOI-CID, APO 96222.

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 took place recently when construction contracts were 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-

struction for Vietnam. Contracts for the other seven hospitals are expected to be awarded by September; they will be located at Bong Son, Bao Loc, Son Be, Hau Bon, Ham Tan, Cao Lenh and Gia Nghia.

Col. J.C. Potter Named VRE CO

SAIGON (USA)—Colonel Jack C. Potter took over command of the Vietnam Regional Exchange (RVNR) recently with the departure of Colonel Jack C. Ice.

Under the colonel's control will be the 273 retail outlets, the 82 food facilities and the many supporting depots serving more than 519,000 Free World Forces with daily essentials—plus a few luxury items—throughout Vietnam.

Monthly sales of the exchanges in Vietnam is around \$30 million per month.

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 DEROS

CU CHI (USA)—There is a Staff Sergeant with the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry, who has a degree in engineering and no rotation date.

His name is Hai Lenam of Hue Province and he is typical of the twelve Vietnamese interpreters in the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

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 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.

Interpreters, who face all the hazards of the regular infantryman, are especially hated by the Viet Cong. The enemy shows no mercy when capturing one,

for 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 specialist 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."

Ordnance Safety Is Stressed

LONG BINH (USA)—Two young Vietnamese boys are killed while playing with a hand grenade . . .

A Vietnamese civilian loses both arms handling a "dud" grenade . . .

A soldier is killed trying to disassemble a 40mm projectile . . .

These tragedies could have been avoided had the people involved been aware of the potential danger of explosives, "duds" or otherwise.

The 3rd Ordnance Battalion's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Section (EOD), a 1st Logistical Command unit located in Long Binh 15 miles northwest of Saigon, is working hard to alert both military and civilian personnel to the hazards of explosives.

"Our team, when a unit requests it, will conduct classes on identifying explosives. We will also give examples of explosive devices that may be uncovered during combat operations," stressed Captain Robert C. Gruber, commanding officer, 3rd Ordnance Battalion's EOD Team.

"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 related.

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.

Special Team For Disaster Recovery Set

BIEN HOA (USAF)—The 3rd Civil Engineering Squadron here developed a quick reaction mobile force immediately available for airlift anywhere in the Seventh Air Force and able to support any base requiring quick recovery from disaster.

The team is comprised of 10 civil engineering craftsmen: two pavements maintenance personnel, two electricians, two carpenters, two plumbers, one liquid fuels specialist and one welder.

Based on disaster experience, these are the skills most in demand for urgent recovery action.

The team has alternates for each position and can be deployed within two hours.

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

TUY HOA (USA)—A 100-foot section of a bridge along highway QL-1 was recently raised intact from its piers and hoisted high enough for engineers of the 533rd Engineer Company to work beneath it while traffic continued to flow a few feet over their heads.

The bridge, located on a vital stretch of QL-1 between Cam Ranh Bay and Qui Nhon, was damaged by Viet Cong saboteurs who destroyed the center pier with explosives. The 2nd Platoon, 533rd Engineer Company, was called upon to undo the damage.

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 spans.

After each lift, the spans were set on more cribbing, the pressure on the jacks released, and the I-beams and balk-trestles raised to a new level. This process was repeated many times before the bridge was raised the necessary six-and-one-half feet.

Reaching a position of one foot above the normal bridge position allowed the engineers room to work on two spans, both of which were set on the I-beams. The cribbing was removed and work began on the center pier of the bridge.

As much of the old pier was salvaged as possible. Around this portion, the forms were placed and a new intermediate concrete cap was poured. A good deal of difficulty was experienced in getting concrete from the top of the bridge deck, where it was mixed, to 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.



You Must Have DD Form 1580

A number of military personnel traveling from three West Coast Air Terminals are not receiving standby travel status because they have not completed DD Form 1580.

A recent Army survey of military traffic at San Francisco International, Army Personnel Center, Oakland, and the Seattle-Tacoma Airport found more than 7,000 military members trying for space without the Military Standby Authorization for Commercial Air Travel.

Of this number nearly 1,500 were Vietnam returnees of all branches of the service.

"LET ME"—Soldier from 1st Bn., 35th Infantry, 3rd Brigade, 25th Division helps villagers near Duc Pho by cutting raw sugar. As can be seen, the villagers appreciated the helping hand. (Photo by PFC Eric Schmidt)

WHERE YOU BANK OR WORK

BUY U.S. SAVINGS BONDS



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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.

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.

"No one in the hospital at the time could speak Vietnamese and little Phu was crying because he thought they were just going to leave him there," said Captain Landram. "But Captain Mien went over and reassured him that he would be all right and ever since he has had a special interest in the boy and his recovery."

During the six-month convalescent period, both Captain Mien and Captain Landram visited the boy frequently, bringing him encouragement and whatever else was needed to speed Phu's recovery.

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."

"I think I have learned a lot about Vietnamese kids over the past six months," said Captain Landram, "and I also have learned a lot about Vietnamese soldiers."

"They have become very interested in Phu and in the hospital. And they've helped to make a lot of improvements in the living conditions around here, to say nothing of the crutches they made for Phu."

Phu's 10-year-old brother, Tu, has been his constant companion during the past six months and has also felt the generosity of the ARVN unit.

Because Tu was unable to attend one of the crowded public schools and not able to afford a private school, Captain Mien made it possible for him to attend classes at a special dependent's school which the captain had established.

As soon as his left leg is healed completely, young Phu will learn to walk again with his new crutches, but that will only be the beginning.

After his complete recovery, Phu will go to Saigon, where doctors will begin therapy that will prepare him for an artificial limb, all because some Vietnamese soldiers and a U.S. advisor were concerned.

ANG Helps Get Ohio Gifts Here

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 orphanages 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).

"We instructed the children in proper dental hygiene but they didn't have toothbrushes or toothpaste to keep their teeth clean," Lieutenant Butke said.

The two teachers, Patrick Herity of St. Hillary Grade School and William J. Butke of Hyre Junior High School, presented the problem to the students of their schools.

Color slides that the lieutenant took of the orphanages 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.

The dental supplies reached Tan Son Nhut with the assistance of the West Virginia Air National Guard.

'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

DI AN (USA) — Doctors and medics from the 1st Infantry Division made their first "water-borne assault" near here recently during a 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.

The success of the RD program in An Phu was made possible by the 2nd Battalion, 7th Regiment, 5th ARVN division. The battalion has virtually eliminated the Viet Cong terrorism in the An Son area, according to Captain E.D. Blaisden, U.S. advisor.

"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

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.



RD CHIEF—Colonel Phan Van Cach, ponders local RD problems.



FINISHED PRODUCT—A new market place is completed in the village of Duong Mong.

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



WEAK, SICK, BUT ALIVE
Nhi Is On Way To Recovery

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 Vien 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.

"Their feet were swelled out of proportion because of a protein deficiency; their bodies were covered with scabs and each lose about 40 pounds."

The 17-year-old Nhi also had hook and tape worms. While the two men received medical treatment, Major Wayne J. Prokup, brigade civil affairs officer, interviewed them to learn their hometowns. Then he searched for their parents.

Nhi's parents lived near Nghia Hanh. Major Prokup flew there by helicopter to bring the parents to see their missing son.

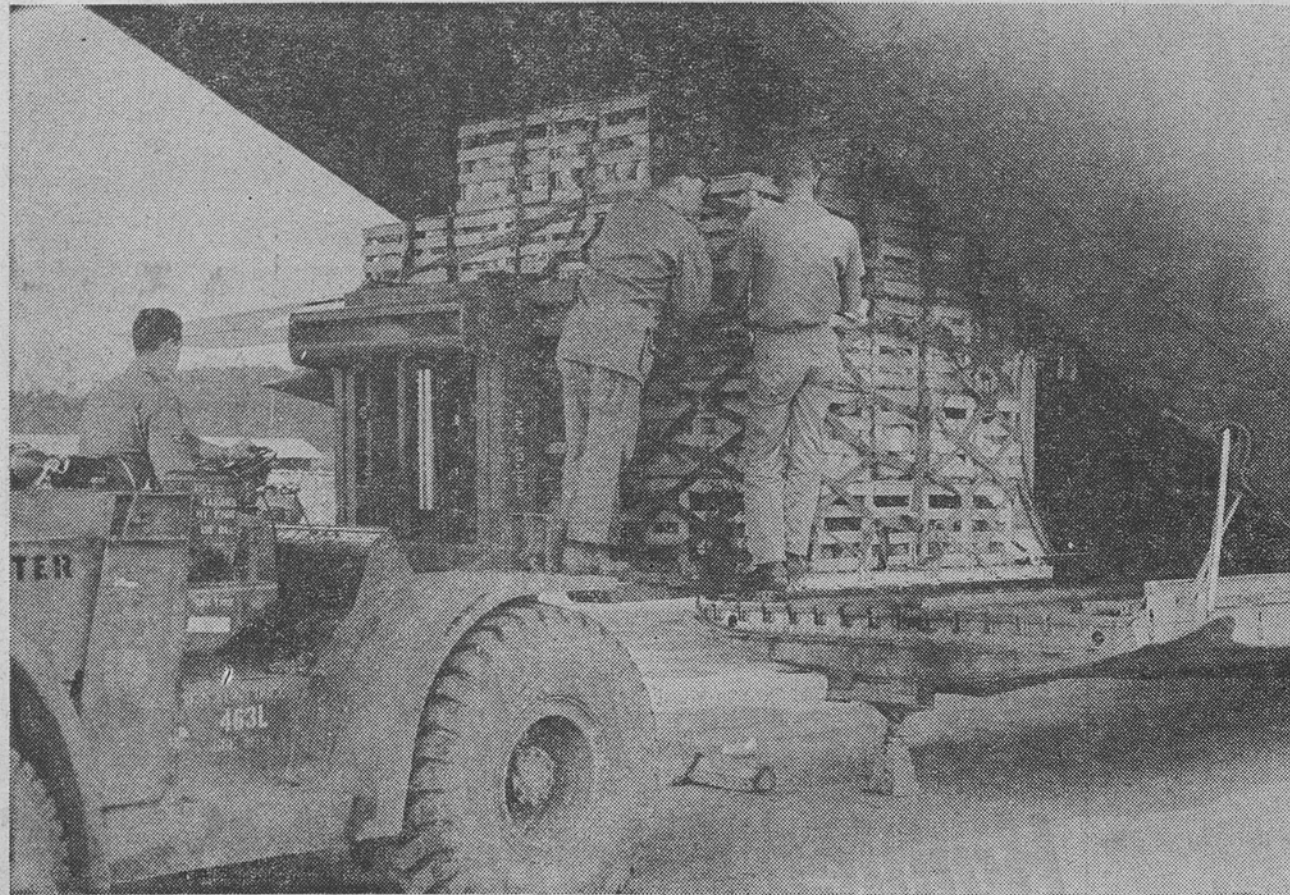
The ARVN soldier's parents lived near Phan Thiet, 100 miles northeast of Saigon. He was reunited with his family upon his release from the hospital.

Nhi's father said he had six children — five daughters and one son. As he looked at his son whom he gave up for dead, he grew thoughtful, saying, "I am so happy I want to cry. But I must not. My son will be strengthened if I am calm."

"We are so grateful to the Americans for giving our son back to us," he added.

To Major Prokup, the father said: "You are my son's second father because you have given him back to me."

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.

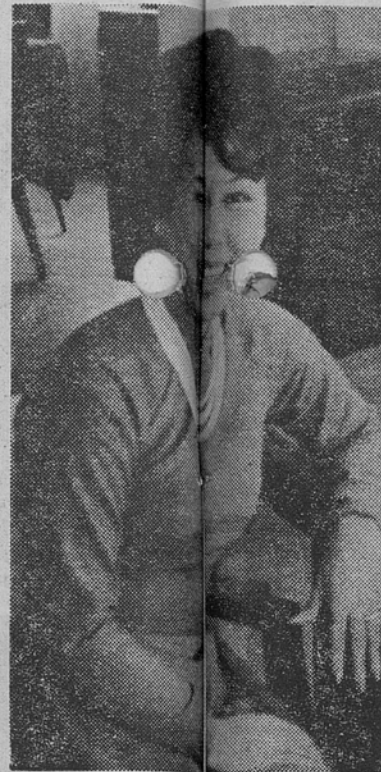
Specialist 4 Mark Mason waved aside another crate for inspection, this one golden sweet corn. He peeled back the leaves and felt the kernels.

"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 When Mayor

No barbed wire fortifications or troop movements spoil the idyllic beauty this former French resort. Minister Ky uses the town as a weekend retreat and, in its farmland valleys, grows crops, as a "place of Vietnam," demonstrating what the country could be in peacetime.

Rumor has it Viet Cong officers don't stay in Dalat, using it as an R&R center without a shot being fired. One resident

Story And Photos

by
SP4 John Morgan

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 20 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."

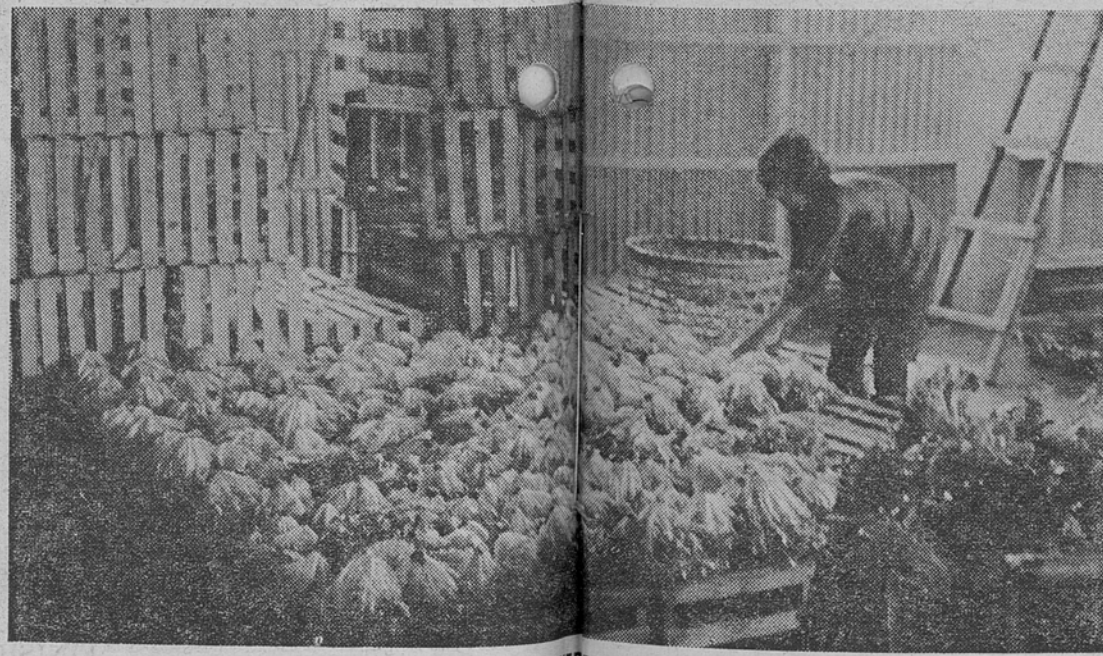
Sergeant Byers posts a daily list of vegetable items and quantities that the U.S. needs to buy five days in advance. Vendors each bid on what items they can deliver at what price. The 1st Log now spends about \$120,000 a week to keep the cabbage, pineapple, lettuce, cucumbers, bananas, peppers, tomatoes, carrots and watermelons on your daily menu.



DUE TO DAILY RAINS WORKERS MUST WEAR RAINCOATS WHILE WORKING IN DALAT



VENDORS PACK VEGETABLES FOR SHIPMENT, IN HOUSE BUILT BY U.S. SANITARY PERSONNEL



VEGETABLES ARE WASHED, TRIMMED AND PACKED BEFORE GOING TO PROCUREMENT AGENCY



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 untested district headquarters for the Viet Cong.

In just a year, the former VC stronghold was transformed into a model "New Life" hamlet.

The new hamlet was started just three months ago on land

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.

The population of this hamlet is expected to increase considerably as more families are relocated here. A popular forces unit is assigned to provide area security.

Construction of four canals within the province is underway to tap major rivers to irrigate the rice paddies. The canals will cover some 11 kilometers. There are nine kilometers of canal presently in operation.

A total of 125,000 piasters has been allotted to each of the 19 hamlets for animal husbandry.

The money will be utilized to purchase pig styes, chicken coops and for the training of farmers.

A fishing wharf, drying yard and landing stage are also under construction while facilities for the distribution of boats and motors are being organized.

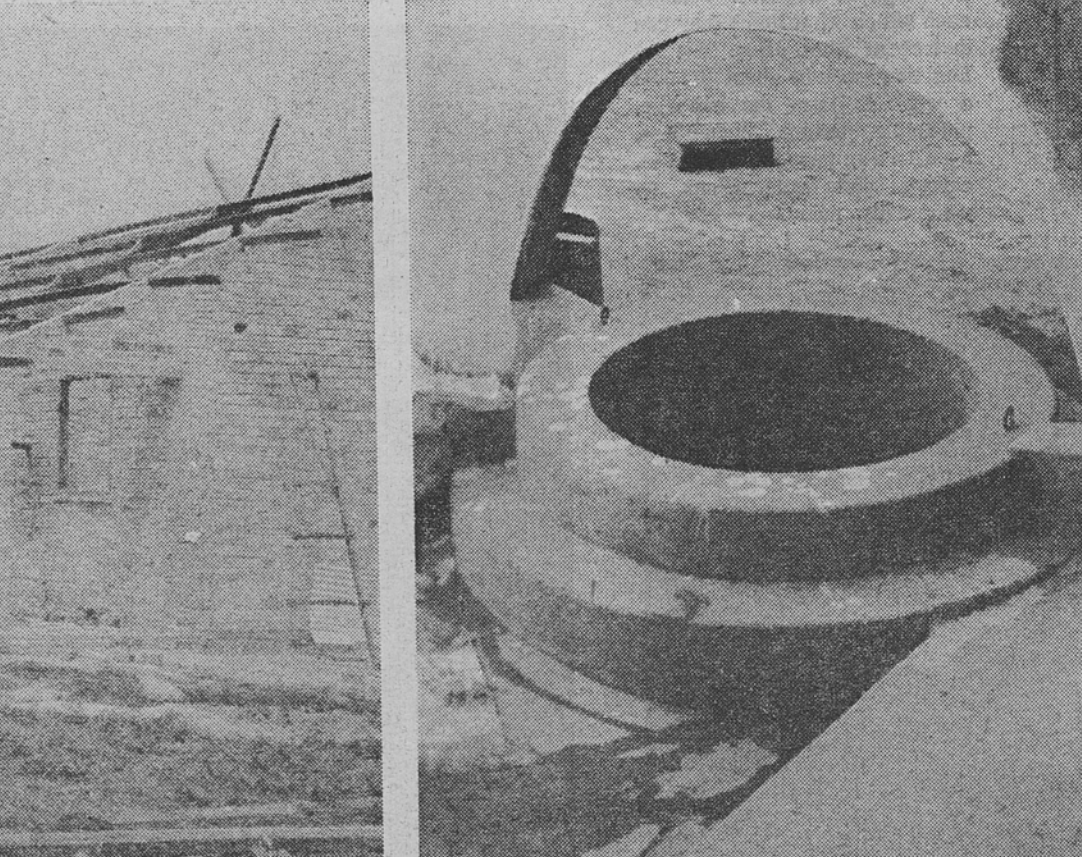
In the field of medicine, there are 10 maternity wards and dispensaries presently under construction. And the province will train its own health workers in an overall education program that will take approximately two years.

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.

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 is still undergoing development.



IMPROVE—Concrete wells represent an improvement in health and sanitation.



EDUCATION—School construction in Tay Ninh Province

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 medicines 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."

Ohio People Send Gifts To 4th Div Men

CAMP ENARI (USA) — Operation Helpmate swung into action here recently when the citizens of Cincinnati sent 25 packages—filled with magazines, phonograph records, games and many other gifts—to the 4th Infantry Division.

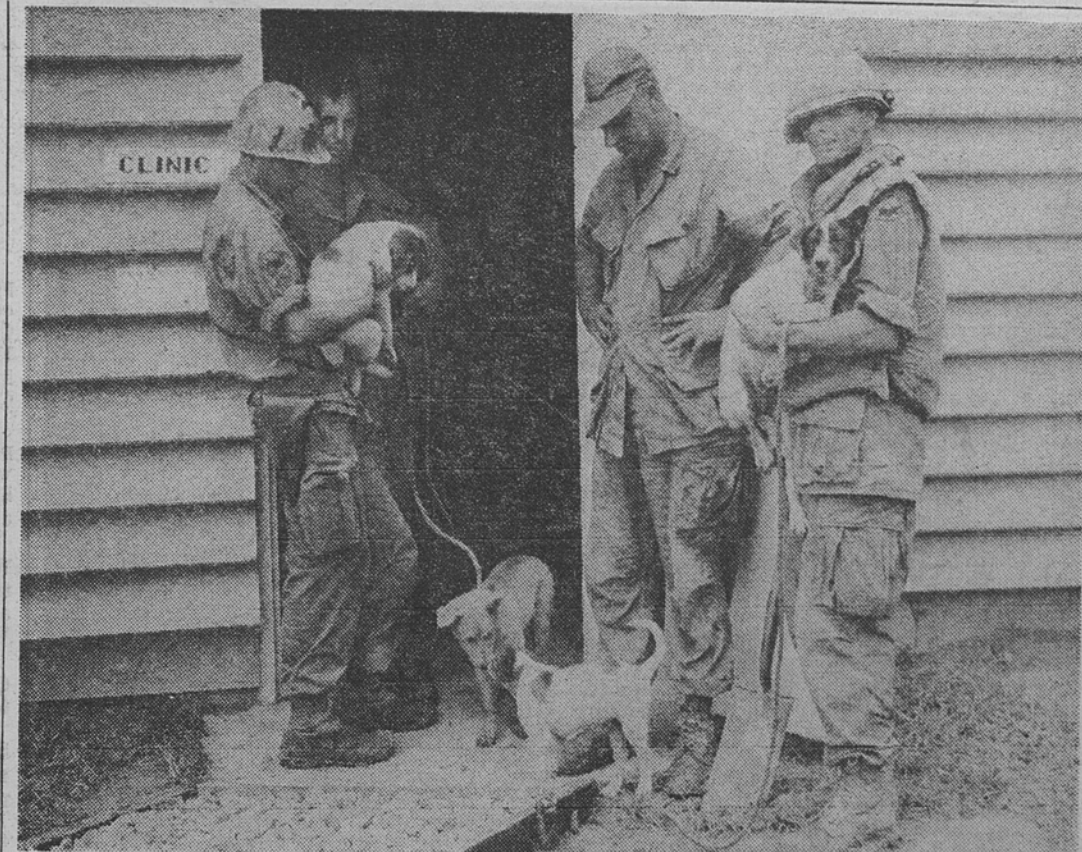
The project is supervised by the division's Red Cross Clubmobile. "We are excited about the prospects of the project," smiled Miss Sandra Fosselman, Harrisburg, Pa., "and the fellows' reaction to the idea is tremendous."

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.

The 4th Division's Clubmobile unit, made up of five young ladies, travels daily by helicopter, truck or any other transportation available to the Ivy units throughout Pleiku and Kontum Provinces.

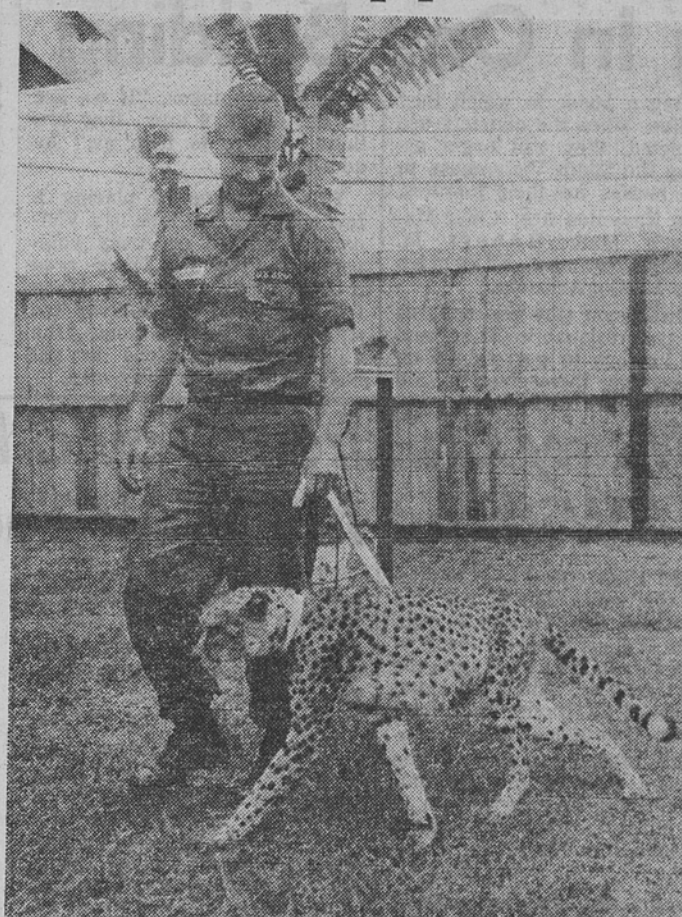
Future Operation Helpmate shipments will include musical instruments, cameras, tape recorders and phonographs, with other items aimed to please the men in the field.

"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.

TAN SON NHUT (USA) — American soldiers, wherever they are, cannot resist befriending animals and making pets of them. For the care of these pets in the Saigon area, the Army's 936th Veterinary Detachment maintains a special pet clinic.

The pet clinic is open in the afternoons on a time-available basis to treat pets of soldiers and others associated with the U.S. government.

The mission of the 936th is to provide facilities and treatment for all the Army's scout and sentry dogs in Vietnam, with the exception of the 1 Corps area.

Everything from puppies to pythons are taken to the 936th, which is part of the 1st Logistical Command's 44th Medical Brigade.

An authorized staff of two veterinary officers and 12 enlisted men maintain its kennels, pharmacy, laboratory, operating and treatment rooms.

Captain Wayne E. Cunningham, commanding officer of the 936th, noted that his staff is most often called upon to give rabies vaccinations to both military dogs and pets, sometimes as many as 500 a month.

Animal treatment includes surgery, vaccinations, and physicals for animals leaving Vietnam. In addition, all sentry dogs entering Vietnam are held at the hospital for a 10-day quarantine period.

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.

But on his day off, Sergeant Perez changes from Army-

green fatigues to a crisp, surgical white uniform and steps into the operating room at the 3rd Field Hospital near Tan Son Nhut.

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.



Now 57 children of 15 families live in 4-bedroom structure

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 Navy men 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.

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.

Classes Are Dry Again Now

SAIGON (USA)—Monsoon rains no longer hamper young scholars at Saigon's Cay Bang elementary school.

When the current rainy season began, water poured through the building's roof, making studies difficult for the school's 150 students.

Getting together, the children's parents approached District Chief Vu Huu Hung with this proposal: if construction materials could be provided, the parents would do the work. Within 10 days after the re-

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."

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

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.

RD Cadre Successful Despite VC

DI AN (USA)—First Infantry Division soldiers were on hand to help the villagers in the "New Life Hamlet" of An Phu celebrate the completion of a new school by Revolutionary Development (RD) cadre workers recently.

The division band played the United States and Vietnamese national anthems at a flag-raising ceremony while 2nd Brigade Civil Affairs Office and 1st Medical Battalion personnel conducted a MEDCAP mission.

During the MEDCAP Captain Kenneth B. Desser and Captain Robert A. Wynn, assisted by battalion medics, treated some 180 villagers.

An Phu is a model RD example, according to Captain E.D. Baisden of Advisory Team 70, which works with Vietnamese troops to keep the area secure. Although the village is located directly across the river from a suspected Viet Cong stronghold, soldiers and government-trained RD workers have virtually eliminated VC terrorism while building a new school and dispensary and strengthening the village defenses.

Occasional acts of harassment are still carried out. Sergeant First Class Roy V. Plair, 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 (USAF)—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.

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
1900 News & Sports
2000 Perry Mason
2100 News Briefs
2130 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)
Sign-Off-News

Thursday (Aug. 10)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Third Man
1930 Andy Griffith
1950 News & Sports
2000 12 O'Clock High
2100 News Briefs
2200 The Fugitive
Sign-Off-News
VARIETY SPECIAL
Friday (Aug. 11)

1830 News Headlines
1900 Addams Family
1930 News & Sports
2000 Gunsmoke
2100 News Briefs
2200 Coliseum
Sign-Off-News
Saturday (Aug. 12)

1200 News Headlines
1300 Encyclopedia Britannica
1400 Social Security
1500 Assignment Underwater
1600 American Spaceman
1700 Daniel Boone
1800 Sports Of The Week
1900 Lost In Space
2000 Official Detective
2100 News & Sports
2200 Wild, Wild, West
2300 News Briefs
2400 Away We Go
2500 News Briefs

Sunday (Aug. 13)

1200 News Headlines
1230 RELIGIOUS PROGRAM
1300 Window On Vietnam
1330 Sunday Matinee
1500 Sports Of The Week
1530 CBS Sports Spectacular
1600 IN COUNTRY
1630 News & Sports
1700 Window On Vietnam
2000 Dick Van Dyke
2030 Get Smart
2100 News Briefs
2200 Bonanza
2300 News Briefs
2400 Ed Sullivan
Sign-Off-News

Monday (Aug. 14)

1830 News Headlines
1900 21st Century
1930 Fractured Flickers
1950 News & Sports
2000 Combat
2100 News Briefs
2200 Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea
2300 News Briefs
2400 Dean Martin Show
Sign-Off-News

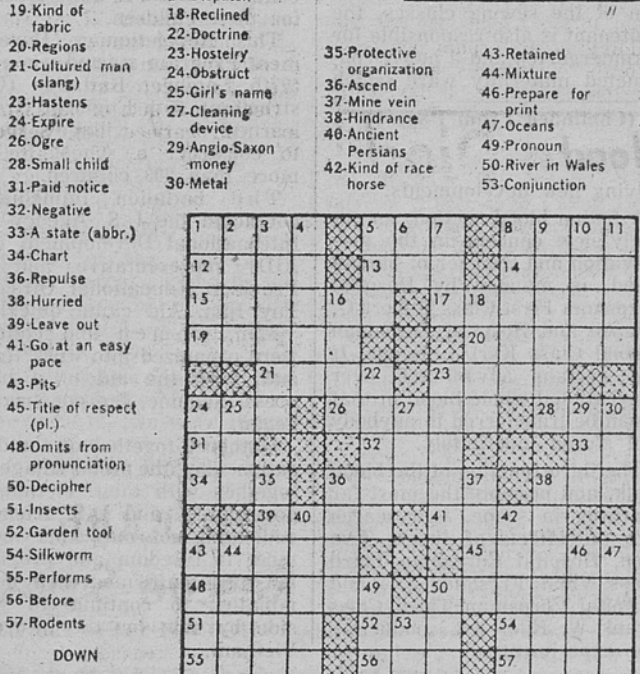
Tuesday (Aug. 15)

1830 News Headlines
1900 G. E. College Bowl
1930 My Favorite Martian
1950 News & Sports
2000 Big Valley
2100 News Briefs
2200 Mothers' Brothers
2300 News Briefs
2400 ENTERTAINMENT SPECIAL
Sign-Off-News

Qui Nhon Aug. 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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1-Turkish standard
5-River island
8-Bridge term
12-Citrus fruit
13-Also
14-Wan
15-Disinclined
17-Pieces of dinnerware
18-Reclined
19-Kind of fabric
20-Regions
21-Cultured man (slang)
23-Hastens
24-Expire
26-Ogre
28-Small child
31-Paid notice
32-Negative
33-A state (abbr.)
34-Chart
36-Repulse
38-Hurried
39-Leave out
41-Go at an easy pace
43-Pits
45-Time of respect (pl.)
48-Omits from pronunciation
50-Decipher
51-Insects
52-Garden tool
54-Silkworm
55-Performs
56-Before
57-Rodents
DOWN
1-Word of sorrow
2-Dwell
3-Come into view
4-Join
5-Devoided
6-Deamored loved by Zeus
7-Uppermost part
8-Extra
9-Newest
10-Appellation of Athena
11-Army meal
16-Dispatch
18-Reclined
22-Dictator
23-Hostelry
24-Obstruct
25-Girl's name
27-Cleaning device
29-Anglo-Saxon money
30-Metal
35-Protective organization
36-Ascend
37-Mine vein
38-Hindrance
40-Ancient
49-Pronoun
50-River in Wales
53-Conjunction



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(AFNB Feature)
1. What current baseball star won the American League batting title at the age of 20?
2. Who was the youngest player ever to win the Women's Open Golf Tournament?
3. How many plate appearances must a player have to qualify for a major league batting title?

ANSWERS

1. Al Kaline of Detroit won the title in 1955 with an average of .340.
2. Mickey Wright won it in 1958 at the age of 22.
3. He must have 502 plate appearances including walks, sacrifice hits and errors.

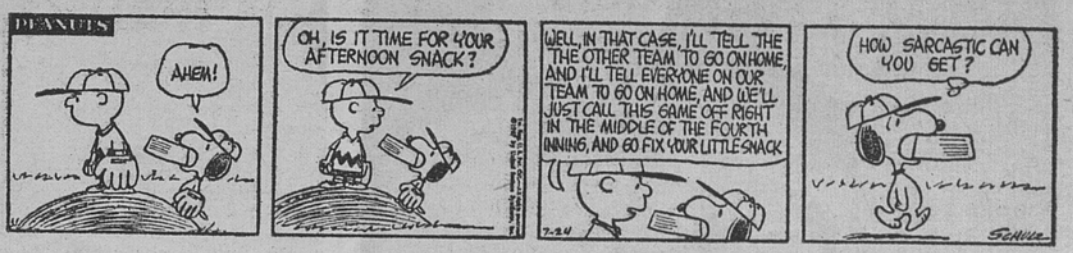
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



'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 Kolkole, 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 Potitital 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.

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

will accommodate 20 patients. 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.

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.

The Social Welfare Section's main objective is to bring the ARVN soldier and his family a happier, healthier and more wholesome life.

Small Village Builds School With U.S. Help

PHU HIEP (USA) — Four hundred inhabitants of this tiny fishing village fabricated 3,500 concrete blocks to build a school for their children.

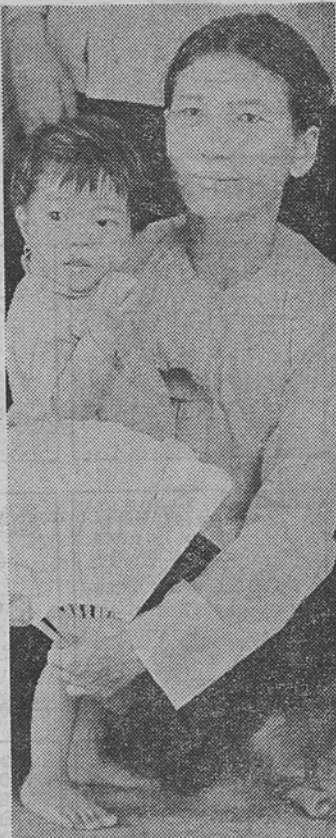
This Revolutionary Development Program started when the 577th Engineer Battalion (Construction), 35th Engineer Group, learned of the village's desire to construct a school for its more than 200 children.

The battalion immediately contacted the U.S. Agency For International Development (US-AID) 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.

The "Personal Touch" That Heals



GENTLE HANDS — A small boy hugs his brother as Army nurse First Lieutenant Sally Shannon, washes infected sores on his leg (left). Nurse Shannon, of the 3rd Surgical Hospital at the 9th Infantry Division base camp, treats a Vietnamese man (top left) during the sick call held at a village near Dong Tam in the Delta. A mother and daughter (above) smile as they wait patiently for their turn for treatment. A band concert and party for the children were sponsored by the 9th Administration Company in conjunction with the MEDCAP visit. (Photos by Sp5 Gene Tackett and Sp4 C. Sabatasso, 9th Sig Bn)



BUY
Freedom
Shares

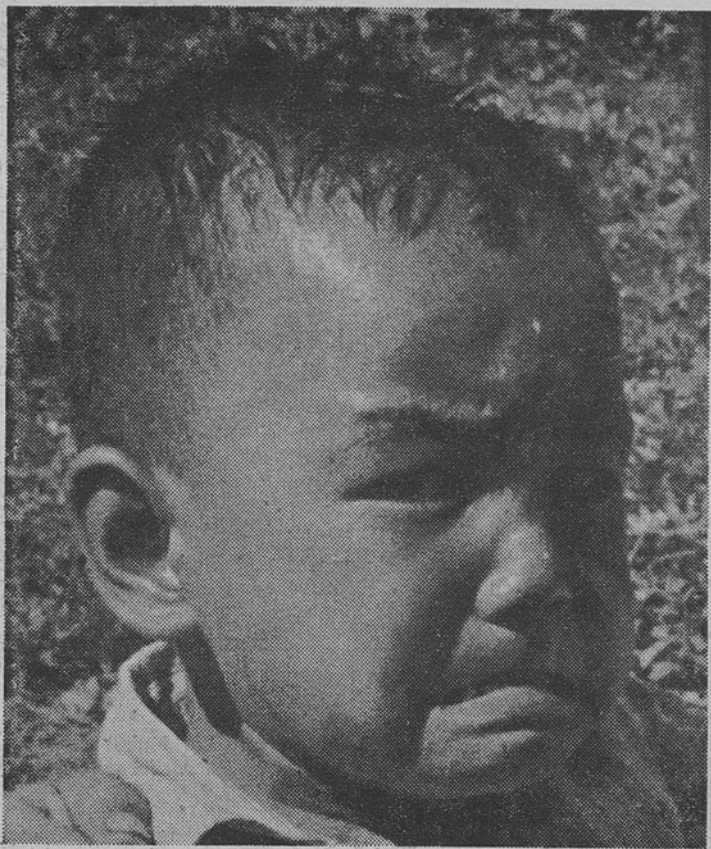
Mail THE OBSERVER Home

★ (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 Douglass, 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.

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

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 Pedagogy 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.

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.

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)

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 exempt 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 Scouts Association at the Boy Scouts World Jamboree 1 through 9 August at Faragut 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 Van 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.

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.



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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 ambush, and fought them hand-to-paw until one of the soldiers shot her.

Medic Private First Class Gerald K. Robinson, Adams, Mass., came forward to give the dog first aid. Although she had been shot through the nose, Krim sat calmly as PFC Robinson ministered to her wounds.

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.

It's A Fortune! Except It Isn't Worth Anything

Da Nang (USMC) — Members of B Co., 1st Battalion, First Marine Regiment hit the jackpot—they thought—when they discovered 150,000 piasters on a routine patrol 10 miles south of Da Nang July 1.

A Viet Cong fled from the Marine squad, and in his haste dropped a steel ammunition box containing the money.

The loot, in denominations of 1,000 piasters, was propaganda money which is only good on the black market.

Soldiers of the NVA try to exchange it for goods and services while they are in South Vietnam. The payees must accept it on the supposition that if North Vietnam wins the war the certificates can be redeemed.

Dogs Hound Orphanage Vet In Can Tho



Children of Can Tho line up with dogs, a chicken, a piglet, and???

MEDCAP Is Mechanized

Binh Phuoc (USA) — The 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, staged a mechanized MEDCAP (Medical Civic Action Program) in a tiny hamlet approximately three miles northeast of Binh Phuoc.

Armored Personnel Carriers from the Reconnaissance Platoon brought the medics to the hamlet, while tracks from B Company formed a defensive perimeter around the area.

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.

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.

Helicopter Uses Upped By Mid-Air Refueling

Da Nang (USAF) — Jolly Green Giant (HH-3E) helicopters can now fly constant rescue orbits over the gulf of Tonkin, awaiting distress calls, thanks to a new in-flight refueling method just tested.

Such missions have previously been flown by crews of the 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron at Da Nang air base, flying HU-16 "Albatross" fixed wing amphibian aircraft.

The test mission was flown by Colonel Albert P. Lovelady, Alexandria, Va., commander of the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, and lasted nearly six hours.

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.

Before returning to Da Nang air base, the ship was refueled twice in mid-air by HC-130P Hercules tankers of the 39th

ARRS from Tuy Hoa air base. "This . . . will greatly enhance our rescue capabilities," Colonel Lovelady said, "it will allow us to do a better job."

The new system was the suggestion of one of the pilots, Major John H. McLeash, Winter Park, Fla., who flew on the test mission.

Viet Choir Performs For Troops

Bong Son (USA) — Chaplain (Lt Col) Robert B. Webb Jr., 1st Air Cavalry Division's assistant division chaplain, surprised his congregation recently by presenting a Vietnamese youth choir which sang a selection of religious songs in English as well as hymns in Vietnamese.

Chaplain Webb started the choir by working through Protestant ministers in the area.

After weeks of practice, the youngsters performed before a congregation at Landing Zone Two Bits which included Major General John Tolson, division commander, and Brigadier General George Blanchard, assistant division commander.

The choir sang two songs in English: "I taught them 'Heavenly Sunshine' and 'Walking 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 Webb.

"In the beginning they had a twang, but now there is a soft quality which pleases both an English and Vietnamese audience. Their voices are beautiful, especially the girls."

"I hope that we can spend some time with the kids when we have an organ. These children are definitely capable of a cappella, but now they're ready for practice with accompaniment," he concluded.

Can Tho (IV Corps) — Once a week a jeep pulls into the front gate of the Daughters of Charity Orphanage in the Mekong Delta city of Can Tho and is greeted by the happy cries of children and the barking of their dogs.

The passengers, Captain Jerome C. Ahrendt, Maple Plain, Minn., and Specialist 4 Eddie W. Lindsey, Buffalo, Mo., both of the 4th Medical Detachment, assist in one of the many civic action programs being conducted in Vietnam.

But the medical help supplied by Captain Ahrendt and Specialist Lindsey is unique. They provide important veterinary medicine to the pets and livestock maintained at the orphanage.

Rabies among dogs is common in Vietnam and can be controlled only by strict vaccination procedures. Food animals are subject to many diseases in the area.

"We give rabies shots to the dogs for two reasons," explained the veterinarian as he set up his equipment. "In case pets are bitten by a rabid animal, the shots protect the pets—and this, in turn, protects the children."

As the children and their charges gathered, Specialist Lindsey held a dog for vaccination. His firm but gentle manner calmed the dog. After vaccinating 16 dogs, the two men moved to another part of the orphanage where a huge sow lay on her side. She was waiting patiently for her two-week-old litter of seven to finish feeding.

As each piglet was taken from the sow, the captain injected it with a small amount of iron. "These pigs live on a concrete floor and don't get to eat dirt," he said. "And pigs need dirt, which contains iron, or else they grow anemic."

Surgery is also an important part of the men's work. The captain has removed the infected eye of one dog and spayed two females "to cut down the population."

The team only recently began its visits to the orphanage, but hopes to continue, for the children appreciate the care given to their pets.

This service is provided in addition to the team's regular duties of inspecting U.S. military food supplies and caring for the many sentry and scout dogs in the area.

Hit 'Em Where It Hurts—in Their Wallets

Camp Evans (USMC) — A Marine patrol from the 2nd Battalion, Fourth Marine Regiment, ambushed five Viet Cong soldiers and netted four killed and captured 407,470 piasters (nearly \$3,500 U.S.).

The money, in 500 piaster bills, was found on the body of one of the slain enemy.

"He must have been a paymaster," said Colonel Roy H. Thompson, Fourth Marine Regiment commander. "If he was a collector, he wouldn't have so many large bills on his person."

Viet Cong collectors in the area travel to the village levying taxes.

The paymaster also carried documents that included supply requisitions for rice, sugar, salt, notebooks, pens and candy.

WAIF—Her parents were killed by VC, her home gone, and no one knew her name. She suffered from malnutrition and malaria. Now "Niki", six, is getting well at the 3rd Field Hospital, Tan Son Nhut. With the little Montagnard girl is First Lieutenant Diana M. Siefert, Fredericksburg, Tex., an Army nurse.

(Photo by PFC Wayne Moore)

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 guardsmen:

"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 editors luncheon, New York, Monday, April 24, 1967.)

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.



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)

VN Weather Watchers Give 24-Hour Service

Long Tan (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.

In 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.

"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.

Infantryman Gets A Big Boot Out Of Story In OBSERVER

Duc Pho (USA) — Specialist 4 Leslie Thomas will never doubt the power of the press.

In response to a story written by the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division's Information Office and printed in the July 5 edition of The Observer, Specialist Thomas received two pair of size 14 combat boots from the Navy!

The problem of big feet has plagued Thomas since entering the Army. During basic training he had to wait for combat boots. After arriving in Vietnam he was required to exchange

his stateside boots for jungle boots.

Enclosed with his gift from the Navy was a note which read: "Hope these fit, if not let us know inasmuch as our sizes go up to 15—believe it or not."

Specialist Thomas, from Chicago, has 99 days to wear out his new boots before returning home. He said, "I am surprised to get jungle boots from the Navy, but they sure feel good."

The service newspapers of Vietnam keep the troops well read, but in this case well-heeled also.

Sgt Puts Brake On Inflation

Long Thanh (USA) — If you spend more than 20 piasters for a soda in Long Thanh District — or more than six piasters for a coat hanger — you are hurting the Vietnamese economy.

That's the word from Staff Sergeant Levin U. Ashby, Augusta, Ga., the NCOIC of an eight-man civil affairs team attached to the 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division.

Sergeant Ashby and his team, II Field Force, 2nd Civil Affairs (CA) Company, are directly concerned with preventing inflation.

In connection with this mission, the CA team recently compiled a listing of prices as a guide to local retail buying.

The list is the result of conferences with the district officials and most Long Thanh merchants have agreed to follow it.

According to the guidelines, soldiers should not pay more than 20p for a soda, 40p for a haircut, between 130 and 250p for a footlocker (depending on size), between 60 and 150p for a meter of silk (depending on the quality) and 6p for a coat hanger.

The prices of common retail items can vary from district to district, Sergeant Ashby pointed out, but the team expects to establish standardized lists of prices for each district in which the 1st Brigade operates.

But if the price guidelines are to prevent effectively further inflation, soldiers themselves must refuse to pay higher prices.

The 2nd Civil Affairs Company formerly worked directly with the division Civil Affairs section before joining the 1st Brigade.

Dermatology Dept Treats 1,600 A Mo.

Da Nang (USN) — The Dermatology Department at the Naval Support Activity Hospital, Da Nang, treats more than 1600 cases a month. One recent patient was Floyd Patterson, who, while on a tour of Vietnam, stopped in for treatment to have a wart removed.

Staffed with one Physician and two corpsmen, the department treats all types of skin diseases from acne to leprosy.

According to the doctor, Lieutenant Commander Thomas Carson, Britt, Iowa, fungus and skin infections are the most common problems among American forces, especially among the troops in the field.

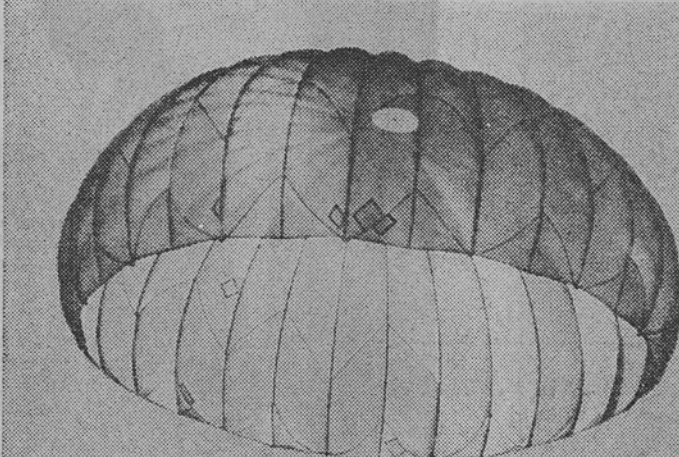
Heat rash during the hot season and emersion foot during the monsoons are also major problems.

But the three don't limit themselves to treatment of service-men. Every Monday, the staff goes out to a nearby orphanage to hold "sick call" for the Vietnamese. Four leprosy cases have been recorded as well as innumerable skin infections and heat rash cases.

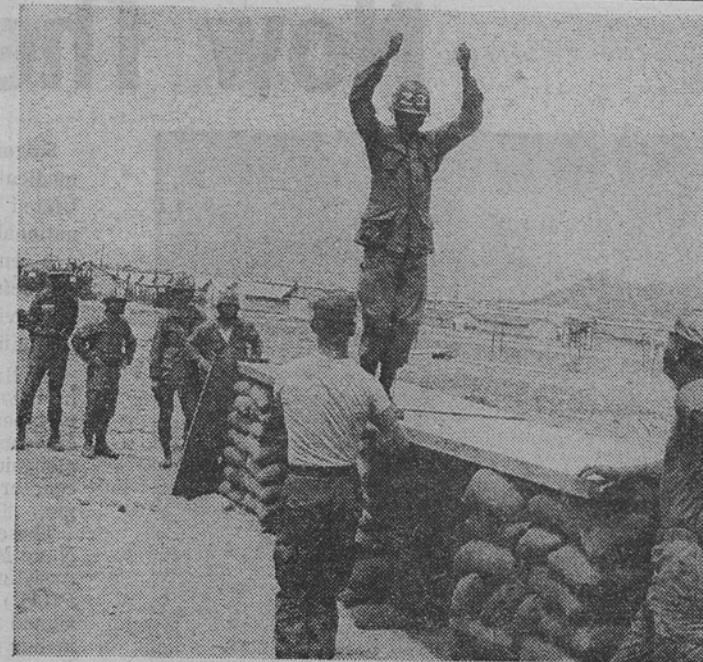
Limited plastic surgery is also performed by the department.



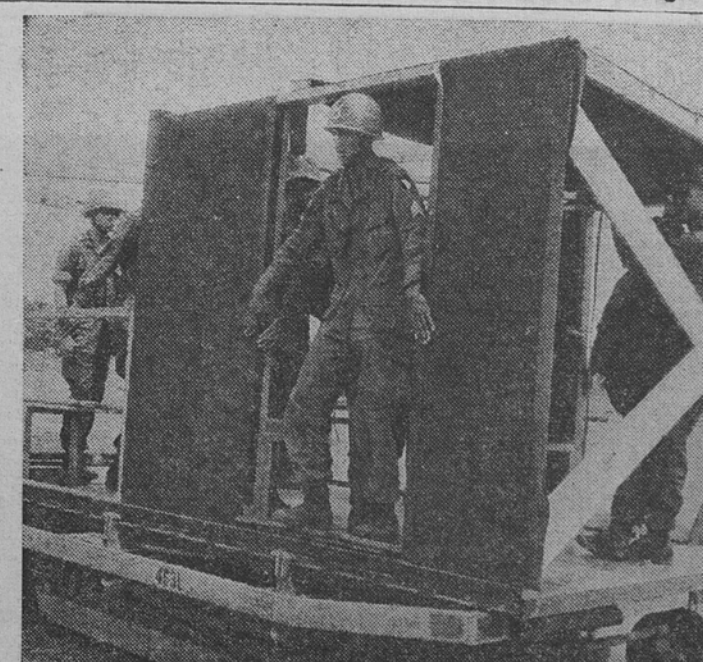
VITAL — Student checks equipment, Buddy system assures double check.



LAST JUMP — Paratrooper using perfect form nears ground on his fifth jump.



READY—Landing falls are practiced from four-foot platform.



SET—Mock door is used for some of the 50 daily practice jumps.

101st Conducts Vietnam Jump School

Phan Rang (USA) — Twenty five Army "leg" soldiers pinned on paratroop wings upon graduation from the first airborne training school for American troops in Vietnam, conducted by the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division at Phan Rang.

The students graduated on the dried rice paddy drop zone following six days of ground training and two days of jumping.

Training was comparable to the airborne classes at Ft. Benning, Ga., and Ft. Bragg, N.C., with emphasis on physical conditioning, use of equipment, aircraft exit, control during descent and emergency procedures.

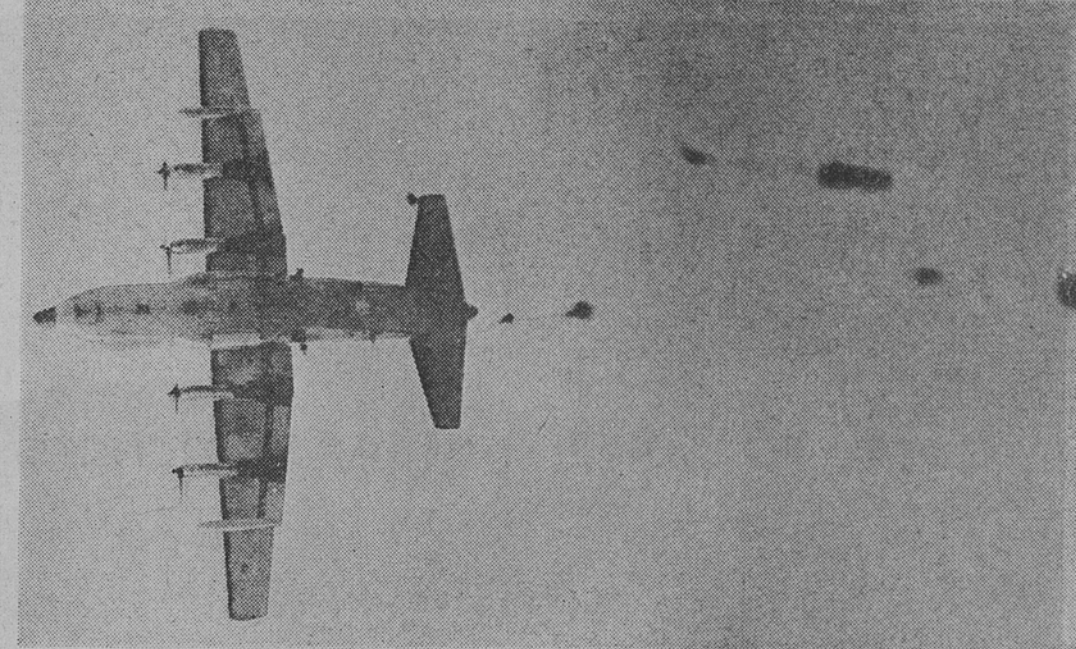
Members of the Aerial Equipment Supply Platoon, Support

Battalion, were instructors. Master Sergeant Walter Schwark, former instructor at Ft. Benning's jump school and veteran of more than 300 jumps served as NCOIC. All 25 students qualified without an injury during the course.

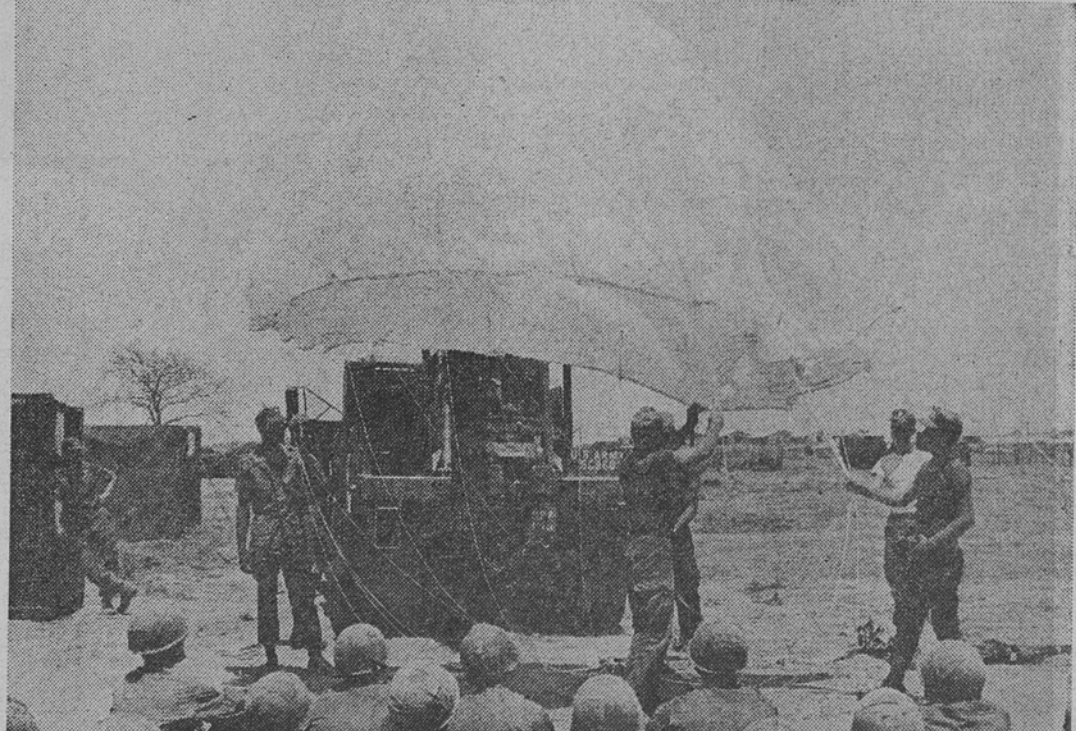
Lieutenant Colonel Quinton P.

Sunday, Support Battalion commander, presented each new paratrooper his wings following their fifth jump from a C-130 aircraft.

The new Screaming Eagles were then summoned to the pay table for their first jump pay.



"GERONIMO"—A string of paratroopers forms in the wake of an Air Force C-130 during one of the qualifying jumps.

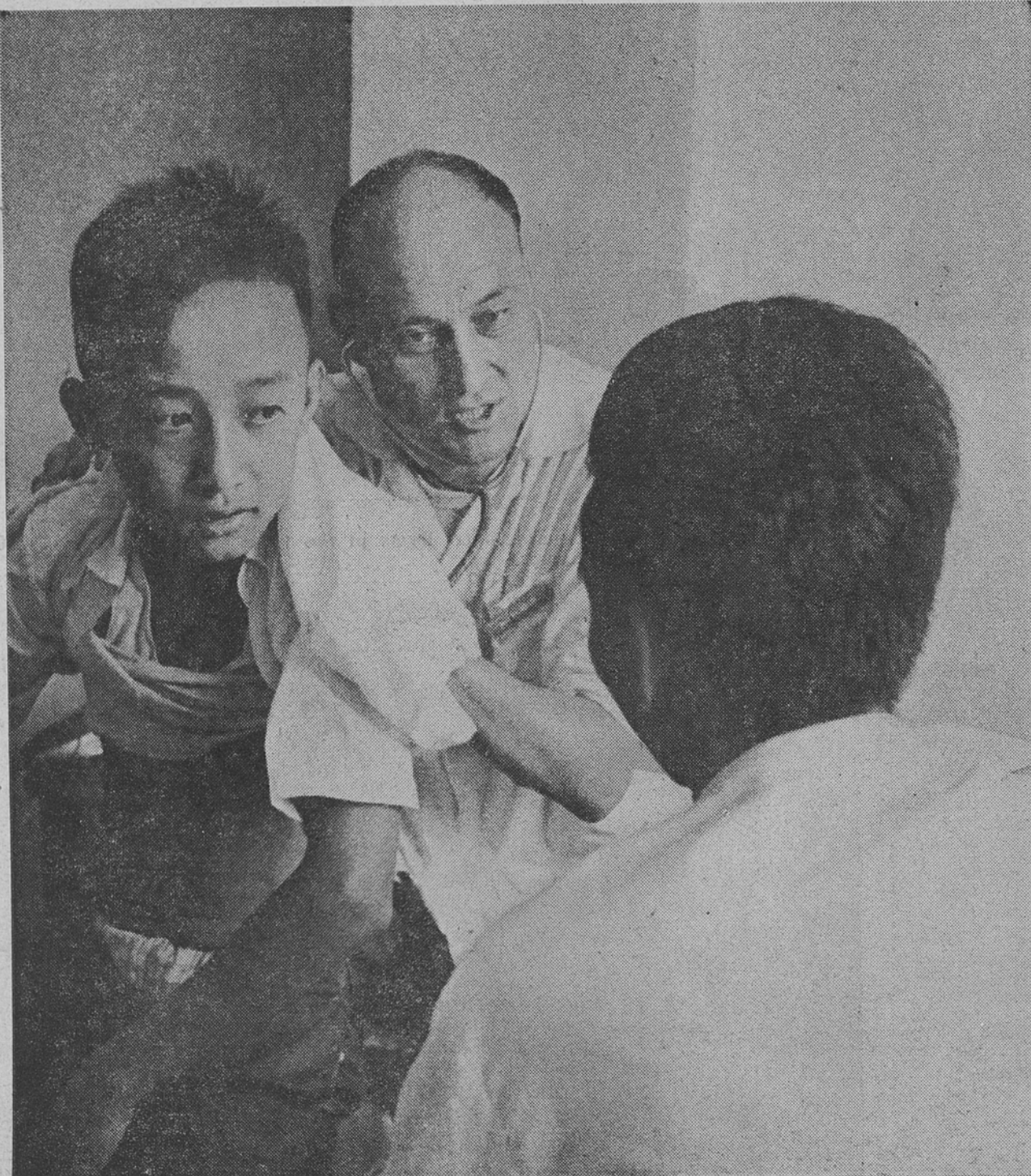


SPARE—Instructors explain inflation of the reserve parachute. All safety factors were stressed throughout the six day training.

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 Zuyen 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, Tex. 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 the sick, but renovating the wear-beaten buildings.

They repaired the roof of the building, built a large supply room and laid concrete walkways through the hospital complex.

Upon completion of the renovation, the team turned its full effort to advising 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 area 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 POLIO 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

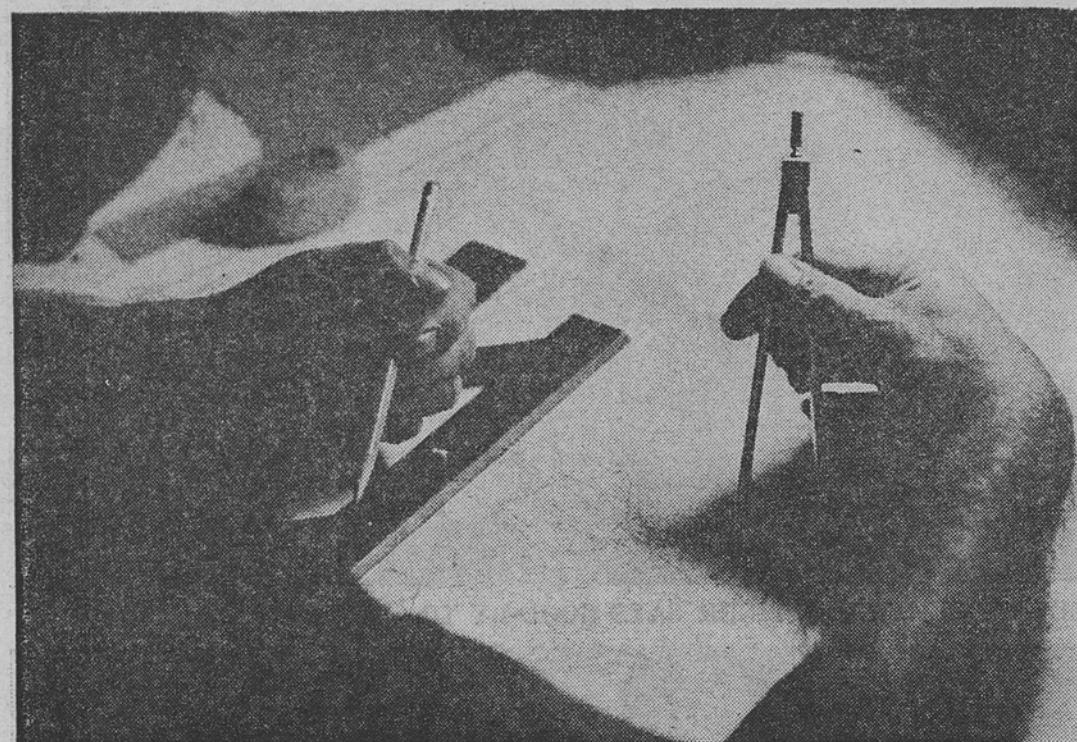


TWO U.S. ADVISORS EXAMINE A YOUNG POLIO PATIENT AT THE SOC TRANG HOSPITAL

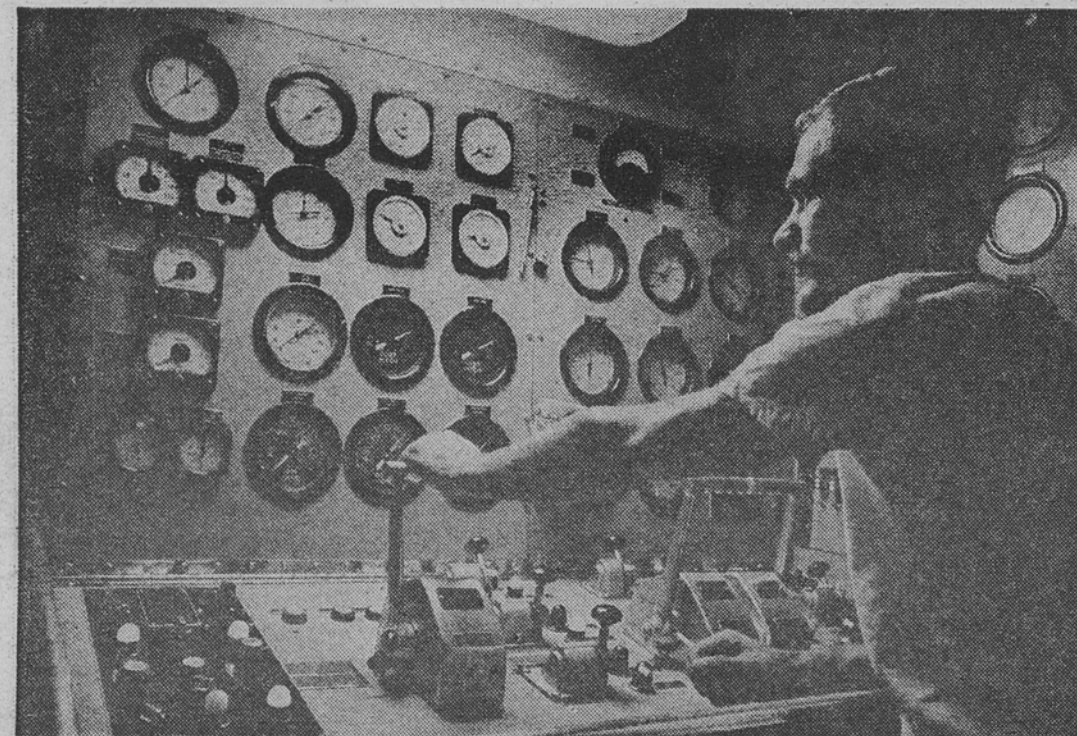
'Jet Ship' Operates On Market Time



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.

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.

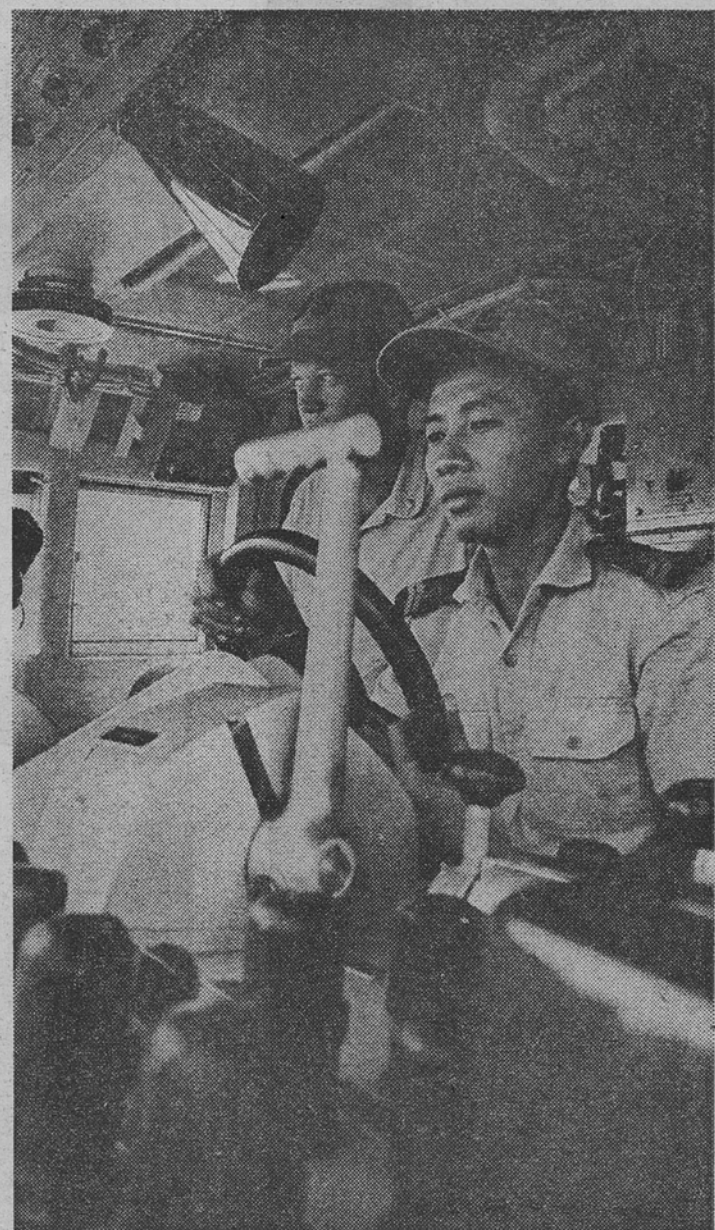
The Gallup operates with Operation Market Time patrols along the coast of South Vietnam.

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.

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.

PF Squad Leader Is Only 15 But He's Earned Two Medals

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 outgun 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

has impressed me. When you give him a job, he gets about twice as much out of the men as any other squad leader," he added.

Who'd expect less from the man who could probably outshoot Billy the Kid?

Marines Launch Plan To Promote Education

Phu Bai (USMC) — A scholarship fund to aid needy Vietnamese country children obtain an academic or technical education has been established by the 3rd Marine Division.

Initially, the pilot project will pay for the majority of expenses of sending 50 underprivileged children to the school of their choice when the new school year opens.

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

grades 1 through 5 in the U.S.) Captain J. K. Palmer, 3rd Marine Division civic action officer, said. "To proceed past this level, the student must pass a comprehensive exam to be eligible for secondary schools," he added.

However, public secondary schools are centrally located within the districts making it difficult for many outlying area students to attend.

And added problem, according to Captain Palmer, is that rural children past the age of 10 are vital to the family labor force.

"Because of these hurdles, many children from the 3rd Division's area do not continue the education necessary for national development," the captain said.

Funds provided by the division chapel fund will be used for selected students.

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.

Mail Takes Long Trip Minus Zip

Phuoc Vinh (USA) — It pays to use your Zip Code. If you don't believe it ask Specialist 4 William G. Terry of 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.

Upon arrival home, Mr. Gravely opened the packages and removed the cardboard filling which had been used to pack his gifts. Between two of the filling he found the certificate and orders for Specialist Terry's medal.

Although the package took a round about way it still made it to the specialist's wife. Strange things can happen if you forget your Zip Code.



Now The VC Know 9th Div 'No Sao'

Nui Dat (USA) — In April, shortly after the 9th Infantry Division and the 1st Australian Task Force wrapped up Operation Portsea, Viet Cong soldiers received warning by thousands of leaflets dropped from low-flying aircraft that the 9th Division would return.

On the second day of Operation Paddington, the enemy soldier picked up another leaflet and was shocked to learn that the prediction was true. The 9th had returned.

The most intensive psychological operation ever attempted by the 9th Division began. During the effort, helicopters, U-10 and C-47 aircraft dropped more than two million leaflets in the area of operation.

Before the start of Operation Paddington, the division's psychological section conducted intensive research on enemy units that might be encountered—the 5th Viet Cong Division and the 274th Viet Cong Regiment.

Leaflets specially designed to exploit their vulnerabilities were printed.

The leaflets stressed food shortages, separation from families, the hardships of running away and the superior fire power of allied forces.

New leaflets are printed and processed as the operation progresses. All of them point to allied successes of the previous day.

Captain Alex E. Williams, 9th Division psychological operations officer, explained the importance of timely leaflets.

"The ability to respond to the tactical situation by dropping the right message at the right time is the key to success," he said.

The leaflets, like other psychological operations, are designed to break down propaganda barriers and influence enemy soldiers to take advantage of amnesty guaranteed under the government's Chieu Hoi (Open Arms) program.

Psyps did not stop with leaflets.

Taped messages from a high-ranking officer, who rallied to

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 psyps 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 Reliabilities 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 Hue-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.

The company of 24 doctors has assigned Navy Lieutenant Jerry L. Shaw, Ogden, Utah, as its civil affairs officer.

Six days a week the lieutenant and his assistant visit local Combined Action Company headquarters and dispensaries. Lieutenant Shaw estimates that he sees 125 patients daily. Most of these require tooth extractions.

Company surgeons also perform cleft-lip operations. Many Vietnamese children suffer from this deformation from childhood.

The company is responsible

for 20 of the 90-minute operations which sews together the malformed lip.

The Vietnamese have a serious dental problem according to the lieutenant.

Although dental hygiene is practiced on a limited scale in the Vietnamese cities, it is virtually unknown in the country.

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 contact 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.

All 8,000—Tires

Round 'Em Up; Brand 'Em!

Saigon (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 varmints 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.



BRANDED—Captain Parsons burns U.S. into tire

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.

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 sistership 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

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.

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.