

Viet Cong Denied Cover of Boi Loi Woods Foliage



Vol. 6, No. 4

Saigon, Vietnam

May, 31, 1967

Seabees Build SF Camp; Ignore Reds

Con Thien (USN)—For 25 days a small detachment of U.S. Navy Seabees toiled from dawn to dusk, often under enemy harassment fire, to convert the abandoned French outpost here into one of the most strategically located Army Special Forces camps in South Vietnam.

Located atop a small hill less than two miles from the Demilitarized Zone, Con Thien is the western anchor point for the seven mile long "death strip" which was carved into the heavily wooded countryside by U.S. Marine engineers. At the strip's eastern end is the heavy artillery base at Gio Linh.

"Several problems faced us when we arrived here April 8," said Lieutenant (j.g.) A. T. Duncan, officer in charge of the 26 Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Four.

"But we were mostly concerned with getting into some kind of shelter for the night." Using a bulldozer, they scooped a hole in the ground, covered it with boards and dirt, and crawled in.

Next morning they started work on permanent sleeping

quarters and on the main priority job at the site—drilling a deep water well. At first, all water for the camp had to be flown in by helicopter from Dong Ha, 20 miles south.

Then they turned to the task of creating a modern Special Forces camp from the ruins of the French outpost.

A South Vietnamese soldier triggered a mine while retrieving part of a supply air drop. It was learned that the entire area which was to be the center of the Special Forces camp was heavily mined with "Bouncing Bettys."

While a mine clearing crew went to work, the Seabees started constructing an airstrip for the camp. Within two weeks the first Forward Air Controller (FAC) plane had landed, and in less than a month U.S. Army Caribous were landing with supplies and much needed water.

In addition to the obvious requirement for drinking-water, (Continued on Back Page)

Camera Snaps Familiar Shot—Its Own Cover

Dong Tam (USA) — A 9th Infantry Division photographer recently joined the ranks of bridegrooms who arrive at the altar without rings, and machine gunners who click off a few silent rounds before discovering that their ammo bearers, with the ammo, are bringing up the rear.

General W. C. Westmoreland, MACV commander, had just departed a briefing by the 2nd Brigade commander. As the general walked to his jeep, the part-time photographer went into action.

Click, click, click, snapped the shutter. Snap, click, snap, it went as the vehicle slowly pulled away.

Suddenly, the jeep stopped... General Westmoreland looked up at the nervous photographer said quietly, "You've got your lens cap on there, soldier."

The embarrassed shutter bug standing among generals, colonels and other high ranking officers, thanked the general and saluted.

Saving what was left of the young photographer's day, the general stopped his jeep and gave the surprised cameraman another chance.

He immediately went into action again. Snap, click, snap—this time having made certain the cap was removed from the lens.

Cu Chi (USA)—For more than 20 years the 72 square miles of dense tropical undergrowth of the Boi Loi Woods has provided the Viet Minh and now the Viet Cong with a sanctuary for guerrilla and terrorist operations as well as a major supply route between northern and southern provinces.

This forest area, 35 miles northwest of Saigon, is the focal point of II Field Force's multi-division Operation Manhattan.

The operation is designed to deny the enemy of one of his greatest weapons, concealment, by clearing portions of the Boi Loi Woods and giving U.S. ar-

mor access to the area.

It is being carried out by two U. S. Army Engineer Battalions under the watchful eyes of ARVN Rangers.

Denying the Viet Cong use of their stronghold is the military objective of the 25th Infantry Division's 65th Combat Engineer Battalion assisted by the 588th Engineer Battalion.

The 65th Engineer Battalion is initially clearing 2,500 acres of intertwined shrubs, vines, and trees. Secondly they are upgrading trails and primitive roads to single lane military standard roads for use by supply convoys (Continued on Back Page)



GOODWILL—Two Vietnamese girls representing the St. John High School of Saigon presented a gift to Private First Class Faasavilgia Veve Tafao, San Diego, a "Sky Soldier" with the 173rd Airborne Brigade, a patient at the 3rd Field Hospital, who was among many wounded soldiers to receive goodwill gifts from the 40 visiting students.

Navy Cross Won With Irish Luck

Da Nang (USN) — A citizen of Ireland, who leaped on an enemy hand grenade to save the lives of two fellow Marines, and lived to tell about it, was recently awarded the United States' second ranking medal for heroism, the Navy Cross.

The combination of raw courage and traditional "luck of the Irish" was too much for the odds-makers. Not only was no one killed, there were no injuries resulting from the Viet Cong grenade attack.

Corporal Patrick Gallagher, County Mayo, Ireland, was a member of H Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, taking part in Operation Hastings when the action occurred.

Early one morning, Gallagher's company was set in defensive positions near Can Lo. Corporal Gallagher, along with three other Marines, was in a foxhole near the company's perimeter.

Suddenly, one of several enemy soldiers who were attempting to infiltrate the position, threw a grenade into the hole. Corporal Gallagher kicked the grenade out of the area where

it exploded harmlessly.

Another grenade followed and this one landed between two of Gallagher's fellow Marines. Unhesitatingly, he threw his body on the grenade to absorb the expected explosion and save his comrades' lives. It failed to explode and the three Marines with him were ordered out of the hole.

While they were scrambling to safety, two more enemy grenades landed in the position and exploded—still no one was injured.

Corporal Gallagher then rolled off the grenade he was lying on, picked it up and threw it into a nearby river, where it exploded on contact with the water.

His courage and unhesitating self-sacrifice in the face of almost certain death saved three other Marines from probable injury and possible death.

General William C. Westmoreland, commander of U.S. Forces in Vietnam, presented the award to Corporal Gallagher in ceremonies at II Marine Amphibious Force headquarters.

Chief Offers Wine Toast For Redlegs After Village Help

Jackson's Hole (USA) — The village was ominously quiet as the American artillerymen approached. They made their way, single file, past craters where mortars had fallen and past lethal punji stakes along the path into the village.

Another search and destroy patrol? No, this time the Americans were a civic action section of the 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery who were planning to "adopt" the Montagnard village of Plei Chung Kiep in the central highlands.

Major William D. Johnson, Mesa, Ariz., battalion executive officer, brought an interpreter and several battalion members for the first visit with the chief and his villagers.

The artillerymen discussed with the chief how the Americans and Montagnards could work together on needed projects in the village.

As a token of their appreciation, the chief gave the Americans a stalk of bananas, and invited them to join in the traditional wine-drinking ceremony.

The Americans would provide technical assistance in helping the villagers construct a well, build a bridge, and establish a blacksmith shop. In addition, a Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) team would visit frequently to help reduce disease among the villagers.

This was the first civic action program initiated in the central highlands by Redlegs of the 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery, 4th Infantry Division. Previous activities had been concentrated in Phu Yen Province.

Editorial Commander's Praise

Millions of words have been written and spoken in praise of the thousands of American fighting men engaged in the bitter struggle to safeguard the cause of freedom against communist aggression in the republic of Vietnam.

The most eloquent praise a fighting man can receive is that which comes from his commander because there is a kinship that exists between them based upon mutual respect and confidence strengthened by the ordeals of combat.



General William C. Westmoreland, commander of the U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, had this to say about the American forces there:

"Who are these men? They are mostly youngsters representing every State of the Union—from the farms, the cities, the factories and the campuses. They are the sound product of America's democratic society. They are the sum of our educational system, our medical science and our communications. Their excellent morale results from knowledge of their jobs, sound military policies, professional unit leadership and unprecedented material support. Their medical care is superb, their food is excellent and their mail is carefully handled. Shortages have been few and of short duration.

"As an individual, the fighting man I command is a tough, determined professional in battle one day, and (the) next day, a sensitive, compassionate friend helping the Vietnamese people. He is a fighter, a thinker, and a doer. He has seen—at first hand—Communist subversion and aggression at work; he has acquired a deeper appreciation of the importance of freedom. And from his ranks in the years ahead will come the confident, alert, intelligent citizens and leaders who will make this nation's future greater than its past.

"With fighting forces like these, a commander cannot help but look forward with confidence as he views the military situation." (AFNB)

Pay Hike Proposal Submitted

Washington (AFNB) — The Defense Department has sent congress proposed legislation to implement President Johnson's recommendations for a military pay raise.

In a letter to House of Representatives Speaker John W. McCormack, Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus Vance noted

DOD's endorsement of the proposed 5.6 per cent monthly base pay increase.

The increase would be effective Oct. 1, the same date as proposed civilian employees 4.5 per cent pay raise.

Monthly increases sought for military personnel range from \$5.10 for recruits to \$112 for four-star officers.

Car Buyers Take Note: MACV PM

Saigon (MACV) — Universal Auto Sales and all its offices, branches and affiliates in Vietnam have been declared "off limits" to all U.S. forces personnel, the MACV Provost Marshal has announced.

The firm has been involved in "deceptive and highly questionable business practices pertaining to the sale of automobiles to U.S. forces personnel in Vietnam," according to the announcement.

The "off limits" restriction has been based on the recommendation of the Central Armed Forces Disciplinary Board.

Anyone having complaints against the firm should forward a letter stating the nature of the complaint along with copies of supporting documents to Headquarters MACV, ATTN: MACJ-15, APO 96243.

Persons who have already placed orders with Universal Auto Sales may enter their offices to discuss the order after consulting their legal assistance officer.

All personnel are urged to purchase automobiles through the authorized concessionaires operating in Vietnam Regional Exchange outlets.

Applicants Needed For Recruiting

Hampton, Va. (ANF) — The U.S. Army Recruiting Command is seeking enlisted personnel in grade E-5 or higher for recruiting duty.

Openings exist for both men and women in grades E-5 through E-7 in most areas of the Continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Details on prerequisites and qualifications for recruiting duty are in Section 111 of AR 601-275. Anyone interested should contact his unit personnel officer or career counselor.

Applicants must have these basic qualifications: grade E-5 or higher, at least six years service for men and three years for women, General Technical Aptitude Area test score of 110 or higher, high school graduate or General Education Development Test equivalent, and hold a valid civilian or Army driver's license.

For the best chance of being accepted, personnel on overseas assignment are urged to submit their request on DA Form 1049 at least six months prior to return to the Continental United States.

VC Road Mine Hits Lambrio

Thanh Giao (USA) — Seven out of the eight Vietnamese riding a three-wheeled Vietnamese "Lambrio" near Pleiku were killed by a Viet Cong anti-tank mine embedded in Route 19.

The one survivor was taken to a Pleiku hospital with a severe head injury. Six of the passengers were residents of Thanh Giao. Also riding from Pleiku to Thanh Giao was a soldier of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam's 11th Ranger Battalion.

Cutting Down Piastro



Piastro Thrashed; Goldfinger Bashed; Ample, Bond Cash

Saigon (USA) — Bond settled back into the luxurious cushion of his 4.15 per cent Series E Stalwart-Thrifty convertible. A few drops of rain blew off the Caribbean coast and Bond pressed lightly on the button which activated his Investomatic canvass cover for rainy days.

The events of the past few days still moved uneasily through Bond's thoughts as the Stalwart-Thrifty sped along the green vistas of the island of Security. Still troubled by Goldfinger's threat to subvert the local economy by reckless inflation-provoking expenditures, Bond glanced impatiently at his 18.75-jewel Conservo-Maturity timepiece.

What was it that Goldfinger had said? "Seven years is all it will take, Bond. Seven years, and you'll be repaid with interest for all your troubles!" Was it a threat or a promise? Bond wished he knew.

Suddenly, on the convertible's back seat, Bond's beautiful companion, Ample Windfall, stirred. "Don't you have an umbrella for a rainy day?" she purred.

Bond glanced back at the green-eyed beauty with his usual interest, looking through his Regulo-Deposit forward-looking rearview mirror. "Are you ready for the payoff, Ample?" Bond asked.

Her eyes widened as her interest grew. "The payoff? So soon?"

Bond nodded. "The terms were seven years, remember? Four for every three was what the Commander agreed. That's the system, Ample, and that's what we have to buck."

She knew. But seven years had been such little time. She and Bond had hardly had their full allotment of each other, she reflected.

The roar of a turbo-jet helicopter overhead cut into their

thoughts without warning. "That would be Piastro," Bond muttered aloud.

Ample heard him. "Piastro?" she said. "Who's he?"

Bond's lips tightened and his fingers whitened as they gripped hard on the Freedo-Republic power steering mechanism. He rolled the name across his tongue. "Piastro. One of Goldfinger's arch henchmen," Bond said. "He controls our future in this area. If we could cut down on Piastro, a lot of things would be different around here."

Ample understood. "You mean we may have to tighten our belts?"

Bond nodded in assent. "That's the forecast. It's the only way we can manage things. If Piastro isn't converted to our way of thinking, there's no telling what price we might have to pay."

Out of the corner of his eye, Bond glanced at the Rapid-Conversion lifesaving device built ingeniously into the Stalwart-Thrifty convertible. Piastro's chopper was in his gun-sights.

The time was at hand. Bond shifted his right foot from the Spendo-Spree accelerator and jammed down hard on the Al-loto-Monthly instant saving device. The powerful missile rose rapidly from its launcher, exploded against the unprotected belly of Piastro's helicopter, and dug deeper into the craft's vitals as it plunged into the green ocean surrounding Security.

Bond ran his fingers through his dark hair. "We had a close call, Ample. How about a swim?"

She looked startled. "But I'm not covered with anything!"

Bond grinned. "Nonsense," he said. "You're covered with the best protection in the world."

"What's that?" Ample asked. "By Bond," he said, and they let it go at that.

Pilots Set Stage for Mission

Da Nang (USAF) — Psychological warfare pilots of the 9th Air Commando Squadron completed a three-area experimental program, broadcasting taped messages and dropping leaflets in advance of spray flights which fight the Anopheles mosquito, carrier of malaria.

"Our role was to prepare the civilian population in the spray areas for the flights, and to convince them that it is to their common good to accept them as an attempt on our part to eliminate a dangerous enemy," said Captain Richard T. Missman, San Diego, assigned as a pilot of a U-10 Helio-Courier. "We broadcast many hours of tapes and dropped thousands of leaflets over three selected outlying areas, telling the people on the ground of the impending spray flights.

Then again, on the day of the spray operation, as the especially equipped C-123 Provider began its spraying passes, we flew over again, telling the people that this was the flight we had been advertising, and that we were only after mosquitos.

"Since the spray aircraft fly only about 150 feet above the ground, and are especially susceptible to ground fire, we felt our preparation of the areas had been successful, as shooting at the spray flights was nil.

"The insecticide used in these spray missions is the same as that used over our own base living and industrial areas, and has proven itself to be extremely effective. It is not harmful to people, animals or crops but it is deadly for mosquitos.

"We have used it several times over Da Nang, and the mosquito has virtually ceased to be a problem here."

Due to the encouraging results of the three area test program, plans are currently underway to expand the mosquito control program in other areas in the near future.

AF Drops Boards

Washington (AFNB)—The Air Force is eliminating E-3 promotion boards. Also, in many cases promotions to E-4 and E-5 are being made earlier in an individual's career than in the past.

Patience Is A Virtue

It's 'Bigger Game Ahead!'

Thu Duc (USA) — "Waiting for the big one" and using the element of surprise is not the exclusive property of the Viet Cong proved Sergeant First Class Daniel Oyama, B Company, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry Brigade.

Dropped off by a River Assault Group boat along a major stream east of Thu Duc, Sergeant Oyama's platoon moved under the cover of dusk to a new location downstream from the debarkation point. The men were just getting into position when a sampan appeared barely fifty meters from the forward edge of the platoon.

As Sergeant Oyama prepared to open fire, he spotted three

more sampans further up the stream, approaching in a tight group. The second group of sampans seemed to be a prize catch, as they were riding lower in the water apparently fully loaded. Allowing the single sampan to pass unmolested, he noticed the man on board signaling the rear three to come ahead, evidently assured the area was safe.

As the three VC sampans pulled alongside the platoon's position, Sergeant Oyama gave the order to open fire to the near machinegun. With the machinegun's tracers showing the way, the whole platoon opened up and in less than a minute it was all over. The VC were so

startled that their small volume of return fire was wholly ineffective.

Seven VC, all on board, were dead, and the three sampans drifted aimlessly, two of them running aground on the opposite bank, the third spinning further downstream.

The next morning, the platoon searched the two closer sampans and on board were found two claymore mines, a grenade and some clothing. Later in the day the third sampan was found and searched. It contained two boxes of rifle ammunition, a map of the area and some more clothing.

This is one story where the "big one" didn't get away.

ROK-Supporting Marines Commended

Story and Photo by
Sp4 John Morgan, USA
Staff Writer

Tan Son Nhut (MACV)—Silver Star Medals have been awarded to two U.S. Marines for gallantry in action while serving with Republic of Korea (ROK) Marines in Vietnam.

Sergeant Kenneth C. Campbell, Bellingham, Wash., and Corporal John P. Houghton, Philadelphia, were presented the awards by Brigadier General John R. Chaisson, Director, Combat Operations Center, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, in a ceremony at Tan Son Nhut.

The two Marines, members of

Fleet Marine Force's First Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, accompany ROK Marine Corps' 2nd Brigade as radio operators and forward air controllers.

After clearing a village in Quang Nai Province February 1, Sergeant Campbell's platoon became heavily engaged with an enemy force and immediately sustained several casualties. Sergeant Campbell radioed for a medical evacuation helicopter, but it was unable to land due to heavy enemy ground fire.

According to the citation, "When it appeared that the friendly position was going to be overrun by the enemy, Ser-

geant Campbell found a relatively secure ditch for himself and a wounded Korean Marine, and then directed an air strike of 1,000 pound bombs to within 50 yards of his own position."

Sergeant Campbell administered first aid to his companion, "then carried him several hundred yards in a series of precarious escape and evasion maneuvers to an area of relative safety. Sergeant Campbell... was largely responsible for the survival of 17 Korean Marines that were rescued."

Corporal Houghton was on patrol with the ROK 2nd Brigade near Chu Lai January 10 when the patrol came under in-

tense small arms and grenade attack from the enemy. He immediately ran forward through intense enemy fire to administer first aid to the wounded.

Finding a radio that had not been damaged, he requested medical evacuation helicopters to fly out the casualties.

After four helicopters had successfully extracted wounded ROKs, a fifth aircraft received heavy enemy fire, wounding the crew chief and forcing the chopper to crash land.

As his citation states, "Exposing himself to enemy fire, Corporal Houghton moved across an open rice paddy to the downed aircraft, administered to the wounded man and called for another helicopter to rescue the crew and remaining casualties. Refusing to be evacuated at this time, he remained throughout the night with a small contingent of Korean Marines left behind to guard the downed helicopter."

"His unit was relieved and subsequently evacuated the following day after having spent 22 hours under continuous threat of enemy attack."

Banana Leaf For Tobacco Pays For Aid

Phu Bai (USMC)—An unusual thank you given during a weekly sick call for the villagers of Phong Dien will be remembered for many years by the 4th Marine Regiment MEDCAP program, Navy Lieutenant Theodore D. Gross, Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Lieutenant Gross, during a 4th Marine Regiment MEDCAP program, treated a woman with a respiratory problem who had walked in from a Viet Cong-controlled village 10 miles away.

In a gesture of thanks to Lieutenant Gross, she presented him a tobacco pouch made from a banana leaf wrapped in gift paper.

Elections at Local Level Successful

Saigon (MACV) — An overall average of 77.6 per cent of the registered voters turned out to cast their ballots in the 984 villages in which elections were held during April.

The Vietnamese Special Commissariat for Administration in Saigon, publishing the consolidated returns, also announced that 8,964 village officials were elected to serve their villages in 43 provinces. Due to losses in natural leadership through VC murders, kidnappings and terrorism, there was an average of one and one-half candidates for each office on the village councils.

More than 2½ million villagers out of a registered 3 million turned out to vote. Although South Vietnam's population is estimated at 16.5 million, the average age is only 16, so considerably less than half the population can register to vote under ideal conditions. Registration for the April village elections — in areas relatively free from VC control — totaled 3,233,441.

In the election of hamlet chiefs, which began 14 May and will span several weeks, 80 per cent of the registered voters have participated.

Oil Rigger Helps Dry Well Flow

Pleiku (USAF) — Major Joe W. Ross, Ft. Worth, nicknamed "The Texas Roughneck", using his oil well experience, brought in a water well for the villagers of Plei Bong, located near the Pleiku air field.

Because of near drought conditions in the central highlands, the village's two springs began drying up, posing a serious water problem.

The village is being supported by Major Ross' unit, B Flight, 4th Air Commando Squadron, as a civic action project.

On visit to this Montagnard village, Major Ross spotted an old pump and through an interpreter learned that the well had not worked for more than two years.

Having worked on oil rigs around his hometown area, Major Ross gathered in a couple of assistants, Airman First Class Gregory Pallitto, Newark, and Airman Second Class Barrett A. Wilson, Sacramento, and took on the task of fixing the well.

Calling on assistance from the villagers, the pump and water pipe, some 60 feet in length, were hoisted out of the well. While the villagers cleaned and replaced the pump mechanism, a broken yoke was brought back to the air field and repaired.

With the entire village in audience, the Americans primed the repaired well pump and for the first time in more than two years, water again flowed.

When the monsoon rains come, the springs will no doubt run again, but until then the village will have water.

Villagers Get New Home Life

Phone Pho (USA) — Seventy-one Vietnamese have pulled up stakes in their hamlet located in a Viet Cong area and moved into a newly constructed village that was begun with the help of the 9th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade during Operation Port Sea.

The villagers built houses with lumber given to them by the 1st Brigade. The 1st Brigade also added a number of livestock and fowl to the village stock. Twenty-eight head of cattle were donated by the brigade to boost the hamlet's herd to 53, and chickens, captured from the enemy during a search and destroy mission, were given to the village.

"On the first day of the evacuation there was one nine-year-old boy who was alone, his parents were not in the village," explained Major James C. Adam, Civic Affairs Officer.

"The same night he vanished. We thought he was gone for good, but the next night he came back with his mother, father, and three sisters. They asked to be allowed to join the village and now are included in the roll."

"So far the villagers have been extremely cooperative," said Major Adam. "We make suggestions to improve housing conditions and they follow them."



SNIPER VICTIM—Le Sau, age 11, was shot twice by a VC sniper while riding on a Vietnamese Army vehicle. (USA Photo)

No Peace for Children

Terror Strikes the Young



BOOBY-TRAP VICTIM—This 17-year-old girl was seriously wounded by a VC booby-trap planted on her father's farmland. Her father left his crops to stay with her at a hospital. (USA Photo)

An Khe (USA) — Eleven-year-old Le Sau, a Vietnamese boy from the village of Nhuan An, was fascinated with the grown-up world of the military and its machines.

Near the 1st Cavalry Division's Landing Zone English he hitched a ride with some Vietnamese soldiers on their armored personnel carrier. The boy was riding atop the APC when a shot rang out. He slumped to the deck of the vehicle, his leg smashed by a Viet Cong bullet.

The Vietnamese soldiers tried to shield the boy with their own bodies, but again the enemy took careful aim, and a second bullet tore into him.

Today Le Sau lies in a hospital at Bong Son with a crippled leg that doctors say will be damaged for life. The bullets were removed from his leg, and his fever has lessened, but Le Sau expresses an adult hatred for the enemy that has ruined his life.

Across the aisle from Le Sau lies another victim of the Viet Cong, a 17-year-old girl whose legs are wrapped with bandages that cover wounds still oozing blood.

Beside her bed stands her father, his face reflecting the horror he first felt when he heard his daughter's screams and ran to find her broken and bleeding, the innocent victim of a VC booby-trap planted on a path in his field.

Stem Gold Flow
Help stem the gold flow. Buy American-made products.

25th Inf Free VN Civilians

CU CHI (USA) — Eight Vietnamese civilians held captive by the Viet Cong for five months were freed by elements of the 25th Infantry Division during a search mission in April.

The prisoners were being held as forced laborers in an area 15 miles west of Saigon.

Members of B Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, found three captives shortly after their helicopter assault landing. "My 1st Platoon radioed in," related Captain Thomas Mannix, company commander, Dayton, Ohio, "that three Vietnamese had been found bound and blindfolded. Their bonds were so tight that their skin was blanched white."

As the three were evacuated to the battalion rear, three more Vietnamese were found, two bound and blindfolded and a third sitting in a hedgerow. Soldiers searching the area found a rifle hidden in the nearby brush.

The Vietnamese, who was not bound, later admitted that he was a Viet Cong charged with guarding the prisoners. "It looked like he was trying to make us think he was a prisoner too," Captain Mannix commented.

Further searching found two more captives lying in a ditch, again bound and blindfolded.

Intelligence officers found that the eight men had been captured by the VC and pressed into forced labor for the past five months.

Sgt's Luck May Take Turn Yet

Duc Pho (USA) — Sergeant James A. Hull, five time recipient of the Purple Heart, has had his share of ups and downs. He had received four Purple Hearts during actions in Korea, and three weeks after he arrived in Vietnam he was in the hospital with malaria.

He returned to his unit, B Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry (the same battalion he was with in Korea) only to trip a Viet Cong booby-trap. Wounds from the shrapnel sent him back to the hospital where he was presented his fifth Purple Heart.

Resolved to give a little instead of take so much, Sergeant Hull went back to his unit for a third time. A week later, as he sat behind a growth of underbrush reading a letter, he was set upon by three North Vietnamese.

Sergeant Hull opened up and brought them to the ground with a burst from his M-16. His latest incident was with a 150-pound test fishing line found tied to a bridge.

"This isn't anything but a fishing cord," Sergeant Hull said as he yanked on the line. After tracing it, B Company came to the other end... and a hand grenade attached to a 500 pound bomb.

With a sigh of relief because he hadn't tripped the booby-trap, Sergeant Hull remarked "Maybe my luck is about to change!"



Training Continues



Advising



Easy Does It



Medical Treatment

Mission:

To Limit The Overt Viet Cong Activities

Dak Seang (USA) — The U. S. Army Special Forces A Camp Dak Seang is located in the western section of the II Corps Tactical Zone. The primary mission of this camp is to limit the overt Viet Cong activities in the area by the continuous use of combat, reconnaissance and ambush patrols, and search and destroy operations.

Aggressive operations of Camp Dak Seang have kept the Viet Cong so busy evading contact that they have had no chance to effectively organize an offensive operation against the camp during the past six months.

The team advised and trained Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) units from this camp have had successively fewer and fewer contacts with the VC in their operational area. An active Revolutionary Development

program is now being carried out in the villages surrounding the camp site.

In the past four months two new dispensaries have been built to care for the medical patients in the area. These dispensaries are staffed by U.S. medical advisors and their counterparts in the CIDG and Vietnamese Special Forces. An active program is currently in progress to train personnel from the local village to assist in the handling of the sick.

During the four-month period the dispensaries have been operating they have treated 1,157 patients, issued 300 health kits and 305 pounds of soap. Health classes have been conducted at intervals as needed.

Seventeen new homes have been built in neighboring villages using local labor and locally procured materials. Toilet

lets were constructed in the area as an aid to sanitary and hygiene efforts in the communities.

With an influx of 751 new refugees, 11,300 pounds of food and 2,000 pounds of clothing were issued to aid these individuals until they can care for themselves. This is a part of the governmental program of assisting refugees that have been freed from Viet Cong domination.

Additional fields are being cleared for cultivation and improvement in farm production to handle the current influx of refugees.

Story by
MSgt Don West, USA
Photos by
SSG O. Hacker, USA



Fire Mission

Team Work

9th ARVN, RF-PF, Plus RD Equals A 'New Life'

Story by

Sp4 Andy Barylski, USA, Staff Writer

Photos by

SP5 Cornelius Jones, USA,

Staff Photographer

Saigon (MACV)—We live in a world of fast communications systems, radio, telephone, television to name a few. In Vietnam, however, the surest way is by "word of mouth" and this form of communication is what prompted the people of Tieu Can, Vinh Binh province in the Mekong Delta, to ask government help.

Until four years ago, the rice farmers of Tieu Can lived along the rich, fertile, cool banks of the Ba Tieu canal. Here they lived comfortably and secure, able

to walk out to tend their rice crops in peace.

In 1964, Viet Cong started to move into their village hamlets. They grew in strength and power, the Viet Cong laying taxes on the people, sometimes relying on a lot of terror to impose their laws. Many of the people not wanting to be bothered, moved from the rice fields they had worked for years.

This move kept them safe from the Viet Cong taxation for a while but as the Viet Cong influence increased it enveloped nearly the whole province. The families were charged 1,000 piasters a month for taxes and were made to forfeit large amounts of their rice yield. They also were prevented from setting up a market to sell their products.

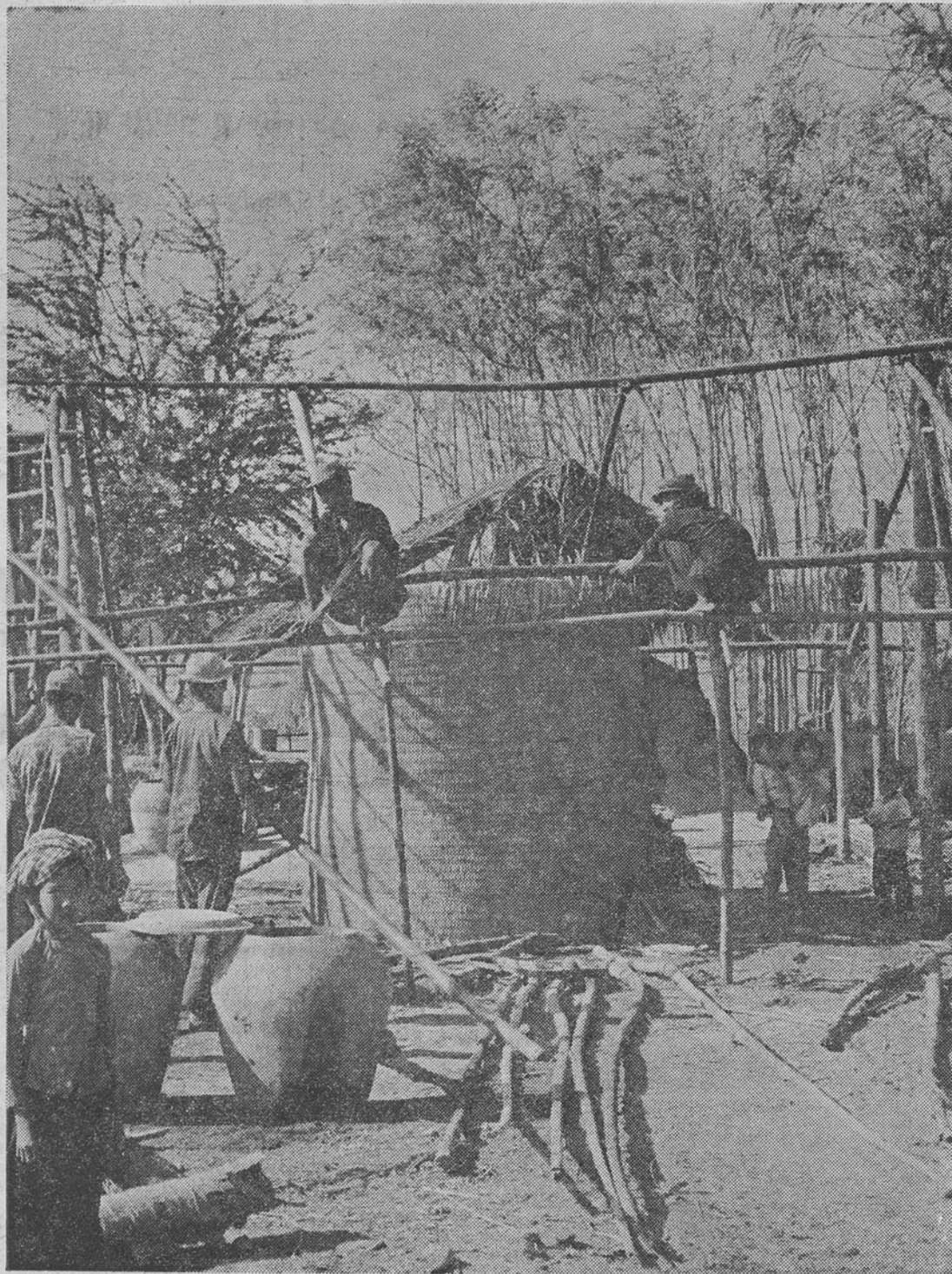
Revolutionary Development (RD) cadre teams have been working Vinh Binh province for nearly a year. The villagers heard of these teams and their work, but it wasn't until about two months ago that they finally asked the district chief, Captain

Lam Van Bien, to get an RD program started so they might escape the Viet Cong's taxation and brutality.

Captain Bien got elements of the 9th ARVN Infantry Division to conduct a search and clear operation to secure an area for the RD program. Regional and Popular forces were recruited from the area to provide permanent security for the RD cadre.

A massive evacuation took place early in April, utilizing choppers, trucks, carts, sampans and people's backs to move about 3,000 persons and 1,000 tons of rice to the new location, which ironically is the same area from which the people had previously moved.

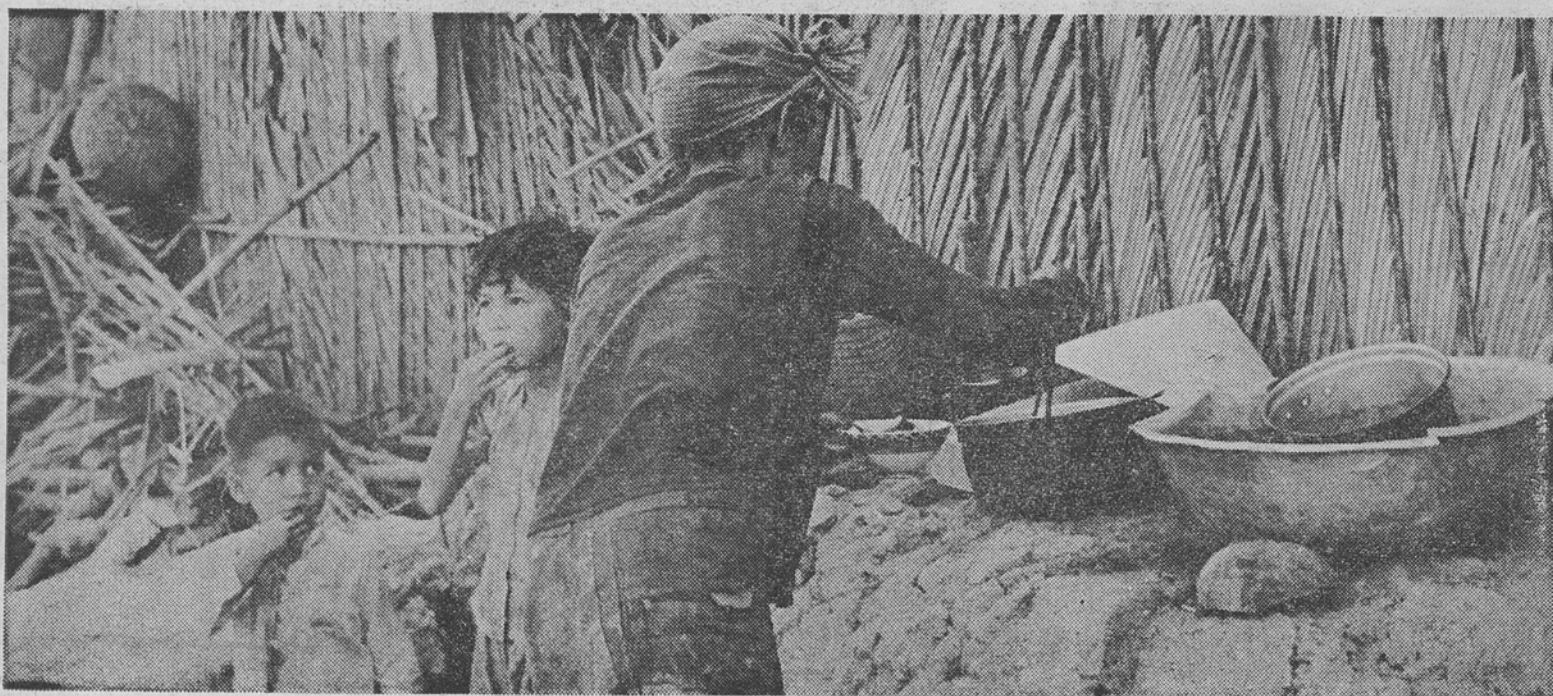
The people are left to decide where they want to set up their temporary home, instead of being placed in a refugee area, and receive a 10 piaster per person per day dislocation allowance until their new home is completed. To build their new permanent home they will receive 5,000 piasters, 10 bags of cement and 20 sheets of tin roofing.



SHELTER—RD cadre help construct a silo to protect rice.



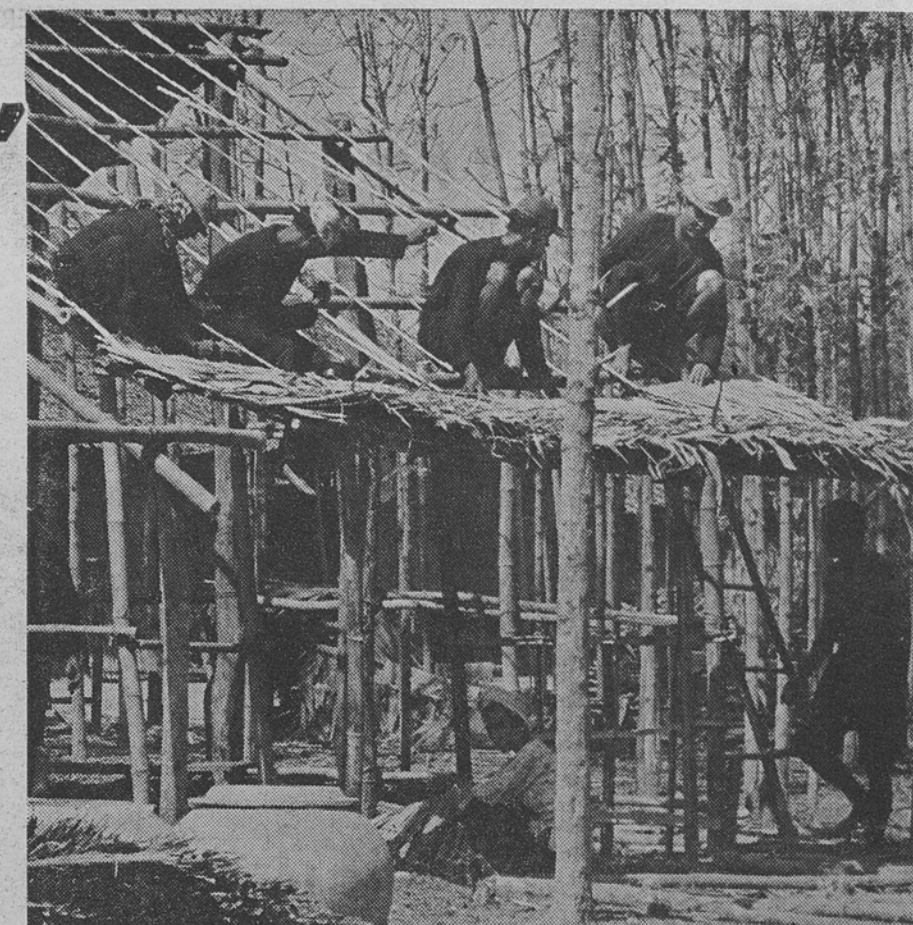
NO SLACK—People push a load sampan through mud during low tide.



LUNCH BREAK—Tieu Can villagers stop to eat during move.



MOVING—A family loads a sampan with personal belongings.



HELPING HAND—RD cadre help a farmer build a temporary home.



NEW HOMES—Villagers receive cement from RD cadre.



'BIRD DOG'—Clouds are forming in the distance as one of the two Bird Dog's from Dau Tieng starts back to camp.

'Running The Show On A Strike'

Dau Tieng (USA) — "Doesn't the lightning bother you?" I asked as I sat terrified in the back seat of a little gray O-1E (Bird Dog) as it circled a Viet Cong base camp buffeted by a violent tropical thunderstorm.

"I don't worry about it," was the reply from Captain James R. Gross, as he concentrated on adjusting 175mm artillery fire on the target below. "The lightning usually strikes in the back seat," he said as the artillery boomed into the camp.

Captain Gross is part of the 18-man Tactical Air Control Unit which is based with the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division at Dau Tieng. The two O-1E aircraft of the party are airborne most of the day, providing constant

visual reconnaissance of War Zone C. During the month of March, 120 airstrikes were directed by the six pilots in the group.

All the forward air controllers (FACs) are experienced jet fighter pilots. Flying at ten miles a minute, the fighter pilot cannot pinpoint his target with the accuracy needed in close support of friendly troops. The FAC fills this requirement in his slow flying Bird Dog.

Using white phosphorous rockets to mark a target, the FAC directs the fighters into their target by radio commands telling the "jet jockies" to put their bombs or cannon fire to the left, right, above or below the white smoke of the marking

rocket.

If fighters aren't available when a good target comes up, a call to the nearest artillery battery will give the FAC an additional means of supporting combat operations.

"Most of us would rather be flying the fighters, but this is an important job and gives you a different kind of satisfaction. You are running the show on a strike, and there is a lot of responsibility in it," concluded Captain Gross.

Story & Photos by
Lt. R. F. Campbell, USA



'RIGHT ON BABY'—Captain James R. Gross scans War Zone C from the cockpit of his Bird Dog. Direct hits were scored.



PHOSPHOROUS—Smoke billows from a suspected VC position as a jet fighter rolls out of its bomb run.

Army Engineers Upgrade Route 19

Qui Nhon (USA) — Route 19, a vital transportation artery running from Pleiku to the coastal city of Qui Nhon, has been upgraded by combat engineers of the 35th Engineer Battalion (Combat).

The job took almost three weeks of around-the-clock work under the burning sun and night floodlights. During that time they placed over 900 feet of culvert for drainage, 8,650 cubic yards of fill and 14,100 sandbags.

As a result, Route 19, formerly just a big dirt road, can now support approximately 78 tons in dry weather.

With dump trucks hauling fill from nearby laterite pits, the 35th Engineer Battalion's C Company constructed three major bypasses which will permit heavy vehicles to cross the streams in the area without damaging the existing bridges.

In combined operations with the 19th Engineer Battalion's 554th Float Bridge Company, they also reinforced two steel bridges and the approaches to five others.

The importance of the project was evident soon after its completion when four heavy tanks, badly damaged while operating in the Central Highlands, rolled over the

road's new surface on their way to repair facilities in Qui Nhon.

The road is still far from perfect. However, every day while troops of the Republic of Korea guard the bridges and patrol the hillsides, potholes and pockets of dust that were once common, are gradually being replaced with crushed rock and asphalt.

Odd Coins For Warm Welcome

Penang, Malaysia (USN) — American servicemen on R&R leave in Penang recently contributed M\$500 to this city's Spastic Children's Association.

The money was raised from donations made by the servicemen as they returned to Vietnam from their R&R. As part of the processing prior to leaving Penang, they reconvert their Malaysian dollars to greenbacks and are given an opportunity to contribute odd change to charity.

U.S. Navy Lieutenant (j.g.) M.M. MacMurray, officer in charge of the R&R Center, presented the check to the Association, saying that "this money was donated voluntarily by the American servicemen as a token of their appreciation for the warm welcome they have received from the people of Penang."

While this was the first major gift from the charity collection, there will be others in the future as the fund builds up again.

The story of the servicemen's gift to the handicapped children received wide publicity in Malaysia and was picked up by the Associated Press for wire service distribution in the United States.

Peaceful Sleeper is Harassed

Phu Bai (USMC)—Not being able to choose the company he sleeps with presented somewhat of a problem for Private First Class Virgil C. Smith, Los Angeles, 2nd Battalion, 26th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division.

A snake, who came in from the cold, gave Private Smith a fright by curling up inside the rain jacket he was wearing.

It had been raining all day and after struggling about seven miles through the jungle and mountain ranges 25 miles northwest of Phu Bai, camp was set up, chow downed and the rain shelters constructed for sleeping.

Private Smith slept peacefully. However, while sleeping on his side, he felt something at his shoulder. He turned onto his back, but it moved with him crawling across his chest and settled comfortably on his stomach.

"I could see how long it was and realized it must be a snake," Smith said. "I called my fireteam leader and he came running over with a corpsman."

By flashlight, they saw the culprit—a deadly bamboo viper. The corpsman zipped the jacket around Smith's neck to avoid the possibility of a facial bite, and began probing through the side of the jacket with a knife.

The snake, not appreciating this lack of hospitality, turned around a few times and then slithered out of the jacket and went indignantly on his way through the cold, wet foliage.

"I don't care how the snake felt about it," Private Smith reflected, "but I like to choose the company I sleep with."



ABORT RATE—The F105 Thunderbird-equipped 388th Tactical Fighter Wing, stationed at Korat, Thailand, set an unprecedented Abort Rate of .5 per cent, climaxing a four-month average of .7 per cent by the end of March. This means that just about every time an aircraft was scheduled for a mission, it was able to perform the job fully and without delay. (USAF Photo)

Sunburned Augmentees Do A Job That Must Be Done

Ubon, Thailand (USAF) — "I thought I came over here to fry eggs, but here I am frying in the hot sun carting bombs around."

So says Air Force cook working in the bomb dump operated here by the 408th Munitions Maintenance Squadron.

The bomb handler's job is a hot one in more ways than one. Safety is of paramount concern. Signs along the road read: "Bombs Are Made. . . Big And Small. . . Mishandling One. . ."

May Kill Us All." The last sign reminds. "Work Safely." Visitors surrender their lighter or matches. The men handle more than 600 items, more than half of which can explode and do—on intended targets.

The bomb dump is a sandy place with little shade. Roads are narrow and lined with ordnance. The working area is small, but a new annex will be built to provide more space for the 50 airmen who accomplish the bomb dump mission.

In addition to the tough work in the hot sun, the men are

plagued by heavy monsoon rains that churn dirt and sand into boot-sucking mud, hampering even four wheel vehicles.

Usually, the munitions maintenance man is a tough looking character, covered with sweat and dust, wearing a beret, a sunbaked brow, a mustache, and a sunburned nose.

The bomb dump men have a special kind of morale. Though most of them are augmentees, they are doing a job they know must be done. They're professional bomb handlers.

Both Their Actions Give The Message

Bien Hoa (USA) — The entry of a 173rd Airborne Brigade MEDCAP team into the tiny hamlet of Suoi Chan, Phuoc Tuy province, was in striking contrast to the visit two weeks earlier by a band of Viet Cong marauders.

On a quiet, balmy morning just before dawn in the hamlet of Suoi Chan, a band of Viet Cong struck from the darkness. They killed five villagers, four of them women and wounded eight others.

Two weeks later, another group of visitors made its way up the dusty road to Suoi Chan. This time it was a Medical Civic Action team from the U.S. 173rd Airborne Brigade.

As the medical convoy entered the 100-family hamlet, expressions of fear appeared on the faces of the adult inhabitants.

According to Captain Albert Noel, brigade civil affairs officer, "The uneasiness of the people is not uncommon when we first enter a village, since the Vietnamese fear retaliation from the Viet Cong. But by an American show of strength we hope the villagers will realize

that they can count on the government for support."

Interpreter Duong Van Vo, who works closely with the doctors to detect the ailments of the people, helped convey the intentions of the medical team.

R&R Authorized After 3 Months Of An Extension

SAIGON (MACV) — Individuals on six-month extensions are now authorized out-of-country R&R privileges, states MACV Directive 28-2.

If no R&R was taken during the initial tour, then the date the initial tour commenced determines the priority. If an R&R was taken during the initial tour, a second R&R may be taken after completion of three months of the extension and the date the extension commenced will determine priority of that R&R.

Always Stylish

United States Savings Bonds are never out of style.



It must be some kind of code comrade . . . the count is 3 to 2 on Raditz . . . the crowd is going wild . . . here's the pitch . . .

Language Lessons Given DMZ Youth

Dong Ha (USMC) — English language classes and a new village high school are among the several civil affairs projects keeping Marines of the 11th Engineer Battalion busy in Dong Ha near the Demilitarized Zone.

Battalion Chaplain Michael A. Ondo, Cleveland, with the help of Chaplain R. L. Hustin, Worcester, Mass., and the 12th Marine Regiment, teaches twice-weekly English classes at a local high school.

"We do not concentrate on grammar, but teach our students conversation they would use in everyday speech," said Chaplain Ondo.

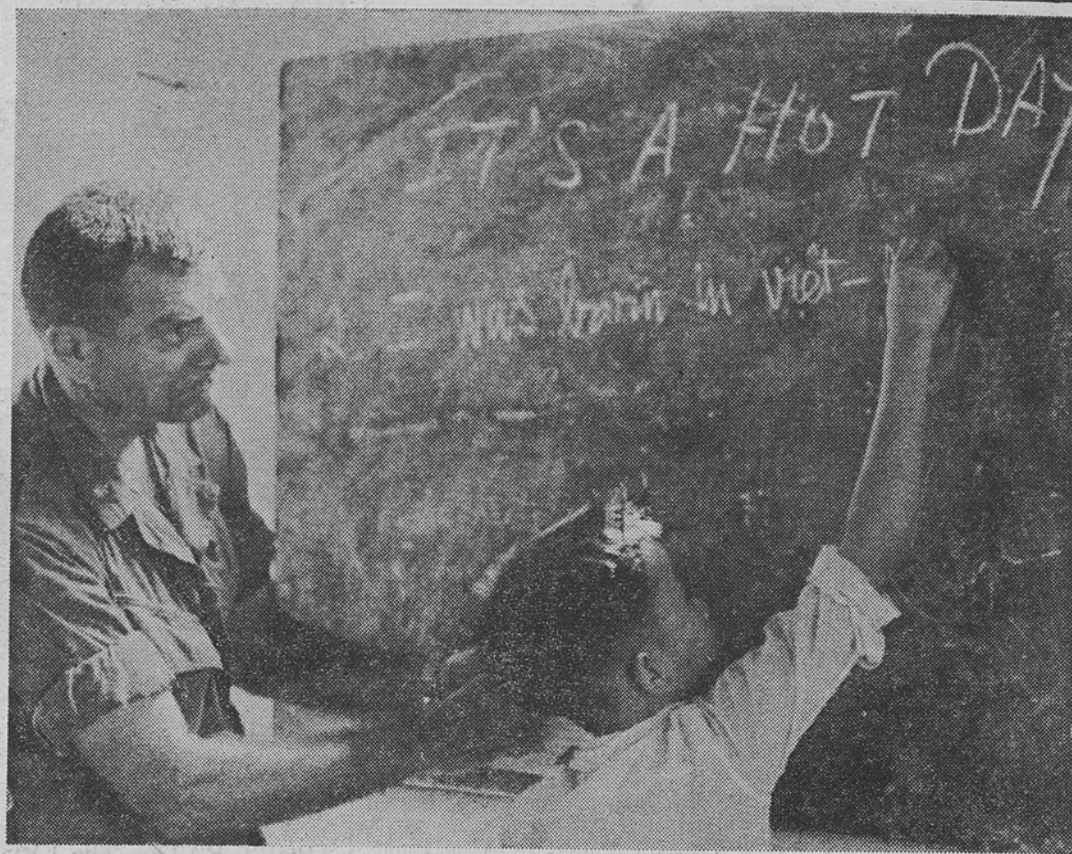
Chaplain Hustin added, "The Vietnamese children have difficulty pronouncing some of the letters. You have to give it to them very slowly."

The battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Ross L. Mulford, Camp Pendleton, Calif., is donating supplies for construction of a new village high school to accommodate 300 students.

"They especially appreciate the wood because it would be expensive for them to buy," said Colonel Mulford. "They've done marvels with it, making doors, chairs and desks from odd pieces."

At nearby Dong Ha orphanage, 20 children received the first of several shipments of clothing from Corporal Peter N. Dahlin, St. Paul, Minn.

"I wrote home and said the children around here didn't have many clothes, so my mother made a collection. She manages a cleaners, so it wasn't very difficult," said Corporal Dahlin.



"A HOT DAY"—Chaplain Michael A. Ondo, Cleveland teaches conversational English to a pupil at the Dong Ha high school. Members of the Marine 11th Engineer Battalion are providing material for a new school. (USMC Photo)

New 'Top' in 101st

Always With the Action— In the Ring or the Field

Khan Duong (USA)—In June, 1939, three months before Hitler invaded Poland, one of America's most promising young boxers exchanged his gloves and trunks for a U.S. Army uniform.

"Wally Sabbath" had a ring record of 58 wins and 2 losses. He had defeated some of the best in the lightweight and welterweight divisions.

Today, that fighter from Chicago is Sergeant Major Walter J. Sabalauskis, the newly-promoted sergeant major of the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

In his 23-year Army career, Sergeant Major Sabalauskis has compiled a remarkable record of military service. He was with 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, when the Japanese attacked. With E Company, 35th Regiment, he started island hopping toward the Land of the Rising Sun.

On Guadalcanal his platoon leader was Lt. Leland G. Cagwin, now a major general, and his battalion commander was Stanley R. Larson, the present commanding general of I Field

Force, Vietnam, now a lieutenant general.

"Fighting in the Philippines was like here. Jungle and rough terrain," says Sergeant Major Sabalauskis about combat on Luzon. The invasion of Japan was next for the 25th Division. V-J Day came while the men were at sea—"with nothing to celebrate with," recalls the Pacific veteran.

Before rejoining his old World War II company fighting in Korea he went through jump school at Fort Benning, Ga. He served twice in Korea, then moved to the 82nd Airborne at Ft. Bragg, N.C. In 1959 he went to Germany to serve with the 1st Airborne Battle Group, 504th Infantry, 8th Infantry Division.

Never content to be away from the action, the sergeant major volunteered to serve as an advisor to the 32nd Vietnamese

Ranger Battalion in 1963. His return to the 82nd Airborne was perfect timing; they went to the Dominican Republic.

From the Dominican Republic he was sent to Vietnam again, assigned as first sergeant of C Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. For his actions during battle with Viet Cong forces, the fighting first sergeant was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the U.S.'s second highest award for valor.

2,800 VC Rallies In April

Saigon (MACV) — A total of 2,805 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese of various categories turned themselves in to the South Vietnamese government during April under the Chieu Hoi (Open Arms) Program.

This figure brought the 1967 total to 13,551 since January 1. The number for the first four months of this year represents 66.9 per cent of the returnees for the entire year of 1966.

If present trends continue, as many as 40,000 may accept the offer of food, clothing, rewards for returned weapons, and a chance for a new start in life during 1967.

Since the program started in 1963, the South Vietnamese government has welcomed 61,582 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese back through the program.

Returnees are offered a choice after orientations at one of several Chieu Hoi centers. They may learn a trade, join a South Vietnamese military organization, work with Free World forces, or take part in programs designed to enable other VC and NVA personnel to take advantage of the program.

Education A Key

Education is the key that opens the golden door of opportunity. See your Education Officer.



RISKY ASSIGNMENT—Private First Class Richard Evans, Georgetown, Pa., climbs out of an enemy bunker after checking the underground fortress for weapons and rations. (USA Photo)

'Screaming Eagles' Have Fishy Story

Khan Duong (USA) — "Screaming Eagles" of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, have brought much needed fish and a fish pond to the Montagnard village of Khanh Duong and thereby started fish pond projects all through the area.

In Montagnard villages, sea food which reaches their markets is expensive and far beyond the means of the average Montagnard, who lives on the barter system.

When the 1st Brigade entered the valley during Operation Summerall, Major Thomas Bligh, Douglaston, N. Y., the brigade civil affairs officer, saw the need for fish in the villagers' diet. He and Captain Troy Collins, Little Rock, proposed a plan to build a fish pond and

stock it.

Captain Collins spent three days searching the valley for the best spot to build the pond. He found it between two of the many Montagnard villages in the area. A stream flowed nearby and the ground was high enough to withstand floods caused by the monsoon rains.

The work began with a bulldozer supplied by the 14th Engineer Battalion. All day the huge machine pushed back the dirt, biting deeper and deeper while the Montagnards cut a ditch from the stream to the pond.

When the digging was completed, a small mud dam was removed, allowing the water to trickle into the 10,000 cubic foot crater. The fish, tilapia, a fast-

breeding species from the Philippines, were added two days later.

In the meantime, the Montagnards were busy constructing a fence and a ditch to keep out wandering water buffalo. They also planted banana trees and pineapple plants all around.

Surgery Room

Phu Bai (USMC) — An underground surgery room is being constructed by corpsmen of Fourth Marine Regiment headquarters 26 miles north of Phu Bai.

Set in an 11x18 hole, the operating room will have a cement floor, and reinforced ceiling with all above-ground areas sandbagged.

creating a small oasis.

The fish were flown in from Nha Trang and the people of both villages witnessed the stocking ceremony.

"One good fish pond project here and the idea will spread through the valley like wildfire," predicted Captain Collins. These people love fish and other villages will create their own smaller ponds after they see how one is built and maintained.

The pond drew immediate response from other Montagnard villages in the valley. A second pond is being built by a joint Montagnard-American team.

"There was a definite need for the ponds in this area," said Captain Collins, "and the people wanted them."

Armed Forces Television Channel 11

Guide for week of—May 24-30, 1967

(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)

Wednesday (May 31)

6:30 News Headlines
Information Feature
7:00 Batman (Part I)
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Perry Mason
9:00 Green Acres
9:30 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)

Thursday (June 1)

6:30 Password
7:00 Batman (Part II)
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 12 O'Clock High
9:00 The Fugitive
10:00 Red Skelton

Friday (June 2)

6:30 News Headlines
Information Feature
7:00 Addams Family
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Gunsmoke
9:00 Danny Kaye
10:00 The Tonight Show

Saturday (June 3)

12:00 Encyclopedia Britannica
Social Security
12:30 Jim Bowie
1:00 Daniel Boone
2:00 Roy Acuff
2:30 Beverly Hillsbillies
3:00 Andy Griffith
3:30 Sports of the Week
6:00 Lost in Space
7:00 M-Squad
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Jackie Gleason
9:00 Hollywood Palace
10:00 Saturday Night at the Movies

Sunday (June 4)

12:00 Religious Program
12:30 Educational Special
1:30 Sunday Movie
3:00 Sports of the Week
5:30 CBS Sports Special
7:00 In-Country Special
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Dick Van Dyke
8:30 Get Smart
9:00 Bonanza
10:00 Ed Sullivan Show

Monday (June 5)

6:30 News Headlines
G.E. College Bowl
7:00 Animal Secrets
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Combat
9:00 Bewitched
9:30 Third Man
10:00 Dean Martin Show

Tuesday (June 6)

6:30 Survival
7:00 My Favorite Martian
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Big Valley
9:00 Smothers Brothers
10:00 Entertainment Special

(Note: These same shows can be seen in other areas as follows:)

Qui Nhon June 7-13
Da Nang June 28-July 4
Pleiku July 19-25
Nha Trang Aug. 9-17

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACROSS

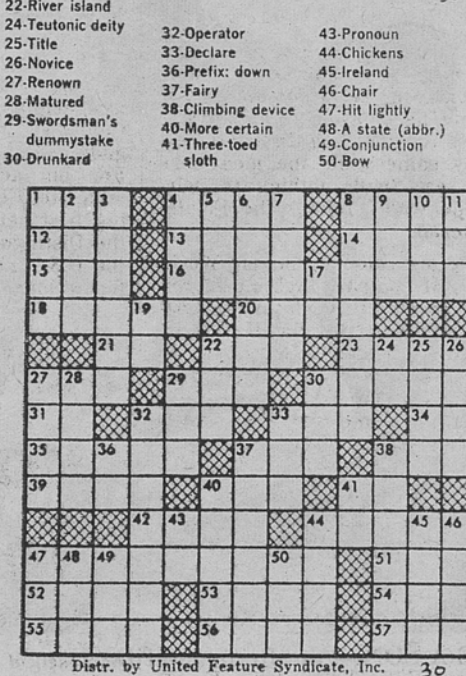
1-Male sheep
4-High cards
8-Harvest
12-Anglo-Saxon money
13-Walking stick
14-Great Lake
15-Above (poet.)
16-Propagates
18-Dervish
20-Mental image
21-Man's nickname
22-One, no matter which
23-Coin
27-Novely
29-Baker's product
30-Wander
31-Symbol for silver
32-Encountered
33-Distress signal
34-Title of respect (abbr.)
35-Commemorative disk
37-Posed for portrait
38-Man's name
39-Paradise
40-Secret agent
41-Cooled lava
42-River in Asia
44-Conceals
47-Citrus fruit
51-Espire
52-Century plant
53-Short jacket
54-Period of time
55-Young salmon
56-Communists
57-Snail

DOWN

1-Top of house
2-Region

3-Designated
4-Genus of maples
5-Container
6-Motor
7-Run-down
8-Edits
9-Before
10-Ventilate
11-Footlike part
17-Compass point
19-Cypriot fish
22-River in Asia
24-Teutonic deity
25-Title
26-Novice
27-Renown
28-Matured
29-Swordsmen's dummystake
30-Drunkard

32-Operator
33-Clare
36-Prefix: down
37-Fairy
38-Climbing device
40-More certain
41-Three-toed sloth
43-Pronoun
44-Chickens
45-Ireland
46-Chair
47-Hit lightly
48-A state (abbr.)
49-Conjunction
50-Bow



For Use In Authorized Service Newspapers Only.



1. What is the longest overtime game in the history of hockey's Stanley Cup?
2. What big change in college basketball rules is scheduled for next season?
3. What is the lifetime batting average for former Boston Red Sox star Ted Williams?
4. Who were the only three Ivy League players to win football's Heisman Trophy?
5. What is the origin of yacht-ing's America's Cup Race?

ANSWERS

1. The game between the Montreal Maroons and Detroit

in 1936. Detroit won after 116 minutes, 30 seconds of overtime.

2. Dunking, or stuffing the ball into the basket, has been banned.

3. His lifetime average is .344. 4. Larry Kelley and Clint Frank of Yale in 1936 and 1937 respectively, and Dick Kazmaier of Princeton in 1951.

5. It started as a feature of the London Exposition of 1851 and is known as the America's Cup because it first was won by the U.S. yacht "America."

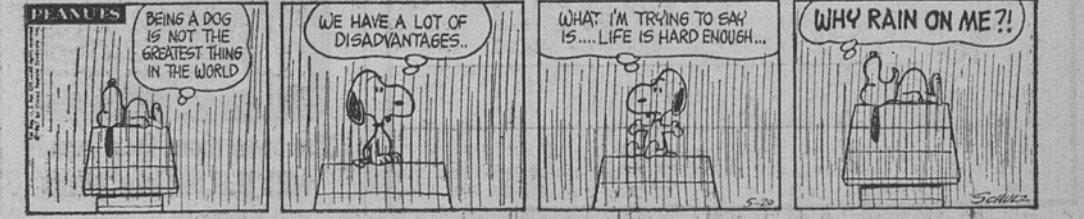
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



Miss R & R



I am Miss R & R

You say when,

I can be found in Hong Kong,

In Singapore and Kuala Lumpur,

In Manila, Bangkok and Taipei,

In Hawaii, Tokyo and Penang.

Tell me where.

June 1967

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

5th Special Forces Here Prefabricated

Bunard (USA)—A new 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) tactic called the "Fighting A Camp" was put to the test when the Special Forces made its first combat parachute jump on the "Bunard" Drop Zone, 65 miles northeast of Saigon.

The "Fighting A Camp" is a prefabricated camp that may be rapidly constructed and then de-

fended with a minimum of troops.

Following the surprise airborne assault during Operation Harvest Moon, heliborne troops were landed on the secured LZ. The assault had caught the Viet Cong defenders completely unaware, sending them fleeing from their positions and leaving hastily prepared booby traps and barbed wire.

Meeting little opposition, the U.S. forces moved quickly to secure the objective. Two advisors were injured during the parachute assault, and a Civilian Irregular Defense Group element ran into a VC squad-sized ambush, taking light casualties.

The Bunard area, once rich in bananas, pineapples, coconuts, rice and cinnamon fields, provided homes for more than 1,800 families. Under VC domination, food was levied and the youth of villages were pressed into the service of the VC. Many of the villagers fled the area.

Due to the security now provided by the Bunard Fighting Camp, some 25 families have returned to their homes.

Seabees ...

(Continued From Page 1)

was needed to make concrete for underground bunkers and for use as a coolant and lubricant for the well-drilling rig.

The problem of the bunkers was solved by burying large steel shipping boxes in the ground. To provide a cooling system for the drilling rig, the Seabees improvised a pump to blow air instead of water.

The wreckage of the old fort was torn down and the top of the hill leveled. The Seabees constructed two 100-foot long bunkers, a 60-foot bunker, six machine gun bunkers and cleared a 500-yard field-of-fire area.

Hey, Its 'Charlie Buddha' Still Here, Eh, Buddy?

Da Nang (USN)—Eleven-year-old Nguyen Van Ut really doesn't care where he is as long as he's with his big buddy, Navy Damage Controlman First Class Noel Terrell, Louisburg, N.C.

Everyone calls the Vietnamese boy "Charlie Buddha."

According to Petty Officer Terrell, "Everywhere I went, the kid was there. I didn't know his name yet, but I just couldn't get rid of him."

Petty Officer Terrell related that for several nights his sleep was interrupted by one of the Vietnamese boys calling, "Hey man, come out."

About nine o'clock one night, I came out of my quarters to see who it was. There was Charlie Buddha in a tree. Ever since then, we've been real good friends."

"The kid is brilliant," says Petty Officer Terrell. "Our relationship has grown so that I care for him as I would my own son, if I had a son."

Ut said, "I learned to speak English from other English-speaking Vietnamese and U.S. Sailors."

Ut's father is Nguyen Van Co, a Chief in the Vietnamese Navy. The boy has two sisters and four brothers.

"I try to get him all he wants to eat," the Navyman continued. "His favorite foods are grapes, apples, eggs and fish."

"I plan to do all I can to further his education. With the knowledge and drive that he has, I don't think it will be hard for him to do well."



LIKE A SON—An afternoon at Da Nang's Museum Park. (USN Photo)

VC Denied Cover ...

(Continued from Page 1)

and armor units.

By far the most difficult phase of the mission, according to Major Leslie Savage, battalion operations officer, is the "hacking away" of the impregnable undergrowth and cutting down of the trees.

At present, the unit is using 15 Caterpillar bulldozers equipped with knife-edge Rome plows, introduced in Vietnam last fall. These 24-ton tractors have been clearing 50 acres a day in undergrowth so dense that helicopters are used to direct ground operations by air to ground communications.

The upgrading of trails and roads has required extensive work because of the high water table, aggravated by the annual monsoon rains. Laterite fill, the red porous clay found in abun-

dance in Vietnam, is used as a surfacing material because of its natural tendency to harden when dry.

Major Savage stressed the point that both phases of the mission had to be accomplished with the minimum of delay to give security forces continual forward movement on their sweep and destroy operations.

Mines and booby-traps are daily hazards to the Engineers. According to Major Savage, the road between the city of Trang Bang and the Battalion's forward supply base has to be cleared every morning.

"It is a hazardous job," advised Major Savage, "but the 34th ARVN Ranger Battalion and the 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry, have provided us with good security, which reduced the problem of snipers."

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

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

From:

Place Stamp Here

(16 cents Airmail)
(10 cents 1st class)

TO:



You save more than money
with U.S. Savings Bonds



ALERT AT ALL TIMES—A patrol from A Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, Bronco Brigade, recon an area near an NVA rest camp. (USA Photo)

No Slack for Bronco Brigade

Duc Pho (USA)—The 3rd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division has completed its 365th consecutive day of combat operations. In 12 months the Bronco Brigade has never left the field of combat.

Since May 10, 1966 they have participated in 129 battalion-size and 16 brigade-size assaults. They have fought the North Vietnamese Army and the Viet Cong in seven different operations ranging from Kontum to Darlac on the Cambodian border and from Qui Nhon to Duc Pho on the South China Sea.

Before Operation Baker began on April 22, the Bronco Brigade had killed 2,196 North Vietnamese Army (NVA) regulars and

Viet Cong and captured 1,437 of their weapons. Since the beginning of Operation Baker they have added another 234 enemy killed.

In October, while still on Operation Paul Revere, the brigade went north to Plei Djereng where the NVA were reported to be massing in the mountains. Five times the brigade made contact with enemy battalions. Twice they overran NVA regimental base camps.

Without returning to base camp for a rest, the 3rd Brigade of the "Tropic Lightning" Division moved over 100 miles to Phu Cat leaving one battalion still fighting in Pleiku province. There the brigade joined the

1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) on Operation Thayer II to force the NVA out of the rich coastal ricelands.

The Bronco Brigade located the communist Binh Dinh provincial headquarters, seizing NVA weapons, ammunition, flags, hospital supplies and documents.

In February, the 3rd Brigade Task Force attacked north and Operation Pershing began in a vital, strongly VC-held area. The enemy fled into the mountains leaving 81 dead, numerous machine guns, anti-tank rocket launchers and rifles behind.

On April 19 the brigade massed an air and sea lift and (Continued on Page 12)



FIRST IN VIETNAM

THE OBSERVER

Vol. 6, No. 3

Saigon, Vietnam

May 24, 1967

National Defense Minister Honored at Tan Son Nhut

Tan Son Nhut (USA)—Vietnam's minister of national defense was made an honorary U. S. Army aviator in recent ceremonies at Tan Son Nhut air base.

The Army Aviator Badge was presented to General Cao Van Vien by General W. C. Westmoreland, commander of U. S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. General Vien is also

Chief of the Joint General Staff, Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces.

A certificate honoring General Vien's accomplishments and making him an honorary member of the U. S. Army's 1st Aviation Brigade was presented by Brigadier General G. P. Seneff, brigade commander.

General Vien has received a concentrated 50-hour course of

instruction in the UH-1B "Huey" helicopter. Chief Warrant Officers Martin P. Merz and Peter A. Young, of the 1st Aviation Brigade, were General Vien's instructors for the flight training.

Warrant Officer Merz characterized General Vien as "a very adept pilot, very willing to learn. He's a wonderful individual and he learned very rapidly."



SILVER WINGS—General Cao Van Vien, Minister of National Defense, RVN, was made an honorary U.S. Army Aviator by General W. C. Westmoreland. (USA Photo)

Hero's Widow Accepts Medal of Honor

Washington (AFNB)—A Marine platoon sergeant, who chose to sacrifice his life by covering a grenade in order to protect the lives of his men, became the fifth Marine to receive the Medal of Honor for action in Vietnam.

Mrs. Eleanor M. Connor, widow of Staff Sergeant Peter

S. Connor, accepted the nation's highest military award from President Johnson at ceremonies at the White House on May 2.

Sergeant Connor was platoon sergeant of the 3rd Platoon, F Company, 1st Marine Division, during a search and destroy operation in Quang Ngai province

on Feb. 25, 1966. While attempting to destroy an enemy spider hole emplacement, he discovered the grenade he was holding was defective.

According to the citation, Sergeant Connor, "upon pulling the pin... realized that the firing mechanism was faulty, and that even as he held the safety de-

vice firmly in place, the fuze charge was already activated."

Determining that he could not safely throw the grenade and "manifesting extraordinary gallantry... he chose to hold the grenade against his body in order to absorb the terrific explosion and spare his comrades."

I Corps Roads Now Open For 150-Mile Treks

Da Nang (USMC)—There are any number of ways to measure progress in Vietnam.

You can count Viet Cong guerrillas killed or captured, check the number of civilians living in pacified areas, or just consider that land travel is now possible over 150 miles of National Highway 1.

The trip from Chu Lai to Dong Ha still isn't made nonstop. The procedure is to split the trip into three legs; Chu Lai to Da Nang, Da Nang to Phu Bai, and Phu Bai to Dong Ha. Each one of these legs takes the better part of a day.

Even now, a 60-mile convoy run is no picnic. The Viet Cong try everything to stop travelers. Marine convoys are ready to see that they don't.

A pair of heavy dump trucks, loaded with dirt, run interference, watching for mines in the road. The dirt stops fragments in the event a mine is triggered, and is also ready to fill holes in the road caused by exploding mines.

Members of a bridge company also ride along, ready to throw up a span should a bridge be blown along the route.

Dozens of desolate spots along the road are tailor-made for ambush sites, and Marine infantrymen accompany the convoy to act as security.

Aerial observers buzz overhead in spotter planes, ready to bring air strikes on any

would-be attackers.

With each successful convoy run, Charlie has just another rude reminder that the I Corps highways are no longer under his jurisdiction.

Community Hit By VC Shells

Trang Sup (USA)—The Viet Cong shelled Trang Sup's civilian community with more than 50 rounds of high explosives and white phosphorous shells hitting the southern edge of this hamlet of some 400 people, located along Highway 22 northwest of Tay Ninh City.

The shelling took place in two volleys and killed three members of one family—mother, father and child. Of the 40 people that were wounded, 28 were taken to hospitals because of serious nature of their wounds. The portion of the village shelled housed many dependents of the cadre who are training CIDG volunteers at the Trang Sup training camp.

The shelling also destroyed part of the school as a shell blew out one corner of the building and devastated one of the two main classrooms.

9th Div Unit Busy

Tan Thanh (USA)—A total of 2,800 patients have been treated during Medical Civic Action Program missions in the last two months by the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division.

Editorial Civil Military Unity

The appointment of General Westmoreland as head of the United States pacification effort in Vietnam is a historical step which will affect the military's role here in a substantial manner.

It means that both the U.S. military effort to defeat the Viet Cong and the civilian effort to build a viable nation in Vietnam are being united under a single head.

Prior wars in which we have fought were generally limited to destroying the enemy or, as in the case of Korea, saving a small nation from aggression. Now for the first time during a war the military is being given a priority mission not only to defeat a battlefield enemy, but also to help build a free and stable nation.

This also gives new meaning to one of the primary tasks that, due to the nature of this struggle, falls to every American fighting man. From the moment he steps onto Vietnamese soil he is told of the crucial nature of America's mission to aid nation-building in a land that has known little but terrorism, oppression and war. His field commander now heads this effort.

The communist campaign to bring Vietnam into its sphere was based on the belief that no amount of military force could defeat a guerrilla "war of national liberation" in a country so beset with troubles as Vietnam.

The American and Free World response, therefore, was not only to join with the Vietnamese to engage "Charlie" on the battlefield, but also to destroy his "national liberation" political infrastructure.

This means weeding the communist apparatus out of the hamlets and villages so the people of Vietnam can choose their own public officials free of communist harassment. This is what "pacification" is all about.

Political pacification of the countryside is too important for it not to be related to overall military goals. As America's new Ambassador to Vietnam, Ellsworth Bunker, stated in his announcement of General Westmoreland's appointment, military security is essential for effective pacification and, as well, the logistical assets of the military available for support of pacification make him a logical choice to provide unified management for the overall American effort.

But General Westmoreland's appointment sets a further precedence. When General MacArthur was chosen as head of the postwar U.S. effort in Japan it marked the first time the military was given a commanding role in rebuilding a defeated enemy into a valued friend.

General Westmoreland's selection marks the first time a military man has been given a major responsibility for building a strong nation while a war is still going on. Vietnam is not a simple war by any means. Had the communists succeeded in winning their political "war of liberation" where a solely military venture would have failed, we could expect other "Vietnams" around the globe.

Meeting this military and political challenge by uniting our fighting and building efforts under a single head is but one more step to more effectively carry out our goals in Vietnam.

Americans Can Wear Vietnam MH

Washington (AT) — The Adjutant General is going to return the Vietnam Medal of Honor (1st and 2nd Class) to U.S. soldiers who turned them in to the Army.

Thanks to changes made by the South Vietnamese government the medal now may be worn by Americans.

The medal has been renamed the Armed Forces Honor Medal and is presented to Vietnamese military as well as foreigners

now. With award to Vietnamese troops the medal now meets requirements laid down by Congress for wear of foreign decorations by U.S. military.

Pentagon officials said that many U.S. soldiers have received the Vietnamese award.

The Army will return the Vietnamese awards to their owners as soon as possible and that it is not necessary to write TAG for them.

VRE Sells 277 Cars

Saigon (VRE)—Four U.S. automobile manufacturers sold 277 cars in April at exchanges in Vietnam, according to Colonel Jack C. Ice, commander, Vietnam Regional Exchange.

The sales brought in a total of \$896,327, which not only helped stem the gold flow but also represented an encouraging response to the Army and Air Force Exchange New Car Sales Plan.

Under the plan, overseas military personnel can select and purchase cars for U.S. delivery at the lowest possible cost and with the greatest possible assurance of satisfaction and protection.

Car manufacturers' representatives at the Cholon main store in Saigon and up-country main exchanges are stepping up their respective programs to provide information on prices, models, accessories, availability, transportation charges, sales tax and other data applicable to buying a car.

Vietnam Regional Exchange officials are optimistic that car purchases in the coming months will exceed the April sales.

Army Trains ROK Officers

Washington (ANF) — Fifteen Republic of Korea (ROK) officers who will organize their nation's first combined helicopter and fixed wing aviation company are undergoing rotary wing instruction at two U.S. Army posts.

The ROK element will be formed in Vietnam shortly after the men complete the training.

The officers, who range from first lieutenants to majors, began with a special rotary-wing qualification course at the U.S. Primary Helicopter School, Fort Wolters, Tex. They will complete their training with a special transition course in the UH-1D helicopter at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Each of the 15 had previously logged at least 300 hours flying time in fixed aircraft. Six of the men began training in the United States in February, the remainder in March.

Six other Korean officers trained last month at the U.S. Primary Helicopter School in preparation for establishing their nation's first primary helicopter school at Wonju.

It's Mandatory, New Green 44

Washington (ANF)—The new Army Green 44 overcoat will become a standard clothing item for active Army enlisted men entering the service on or after next July 1.

The current Olive Green 107 overcoat will be authorized as an organizational item, not a standard item, until July 1, 1970. At that time, the AG 44 becomes mandatory wear for all enlisted personnel.

Army enlisted men assigned to Vietnam will receive the AG 44 free of charge upon completion of their tours, provided they have more than six months remaining in the service.



You save more than money
with U.S. Savings Bonds

The Piaster Poet

"Freedom Shares is a new savings note,"

Said a troop as he boarded a boat.

"To my bonds series E,

I'll add 'notes', not 'P,'

And in water, not tea, I'll float."

A trooper whose DEROS was near,

Was set to return to Ft. Lear.

His buddies were broke,

But he'd been no bloke,

For he'd bought savings bonds all year.

A sailor who haggled near Hue,

Saw a porcelain statue of grey.

Quickly bartered a term,

For that sick Pachyderm,

Paid six thousand 'P'—that's not hay.

Said a sailor from Milwaukee, Wis.,

When he purchased a watch from a Miss.

"Only six million 'P,'

What a deal for me,"

As it rusted, this watch of the Swiss(?)

There was a young lad name of Doke,

Who swore he would never be broke.

On tea and three-three,

He spent all of his 'P,'

Now for him there's no COLA, just coke.

Think You Can Write? It's Worth A Thousand

Saigon (MACV)—A \$1,000 first prize award will be given to the serviceman who writes the best letter on the subject "Freedom—My Heritage, My Responsibility" for the 1967 Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge letter-writing contest.

Entries should be no less than 100 nor more than 500 words in length. Your entry need not be a "letter" as such but may be in essay or poetry form. If letter style is used the addressee may be any person or organization, real or imaginary.

Every person on active duty in any branch of the Armed Forces between November 1, 1966 and November 1, 1967 is eligible to submit as many entries as he desires. Reserves may submit entries while on active duty status.

Entries may be sent in any time before November 1, 1967, to Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa. 19481. Entrants should include name, rank, service number, branch of service, complete unit address and permanent home state address and zip code.

Personal experiences may be used to illustrate what the Freedoms Foundation states as "The American Way of Life": "To personally understand and maintain the American Way of Life, to honor it by his own exemplary conduct, and to pass it intact to succeeding generations is the responsibility of every true American."

First prize for letter-writing is \$1,000. There will also be 50 awards of \$100, 50 awards of \$50, additional Honor Medals and Honor Certificates.

In announcing the subject of the 1967 program as "Freedom—My Heritage, My Responsibility," the Freedoms Foundation hopes to stimulate thought on the subject of "freedom as we know it in the United States of America, and to call attention to the obligations which all citizens, particularly those serving in the Armed Forces, have in maintaining and protecting this freedom."

Fiery Hut Does Not Stop MP

Da Nang (USMC)—Ninh Binh Village, 37 miles southeast of Da Nang, has been described as an island. Surrounded by an infested Viet Cong area, its inhabitants are strictly pro-South Vietnamese government.

This was the site of a county fair conducted by the 2nd Bn., 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. Helicopters descended upon the village shortly after dawn one morning, delivering the fair's command group.

Vietnamese Popular and Regional Forces with Marines of

Ex-VC Says Morale Is At Low Ebb

Binh Phuoc (USA) — Successful operations by the U.S. 9th Division Mechanized Battalion and Regional and Popular Forces have demoralized enemy guerrillas in the Delta, according to Chieu Hoi returnee Doan Cong Chinh.

Thirty-year-old Chinh ended his three-year career as a resident Viet Cong guerrilla in the village of An Luc Long, 25 miles southwest of Saigon, April 21. He walked into the compound which houses both the Binh Phuoc district government headquarters and the 9th Infantry Division's 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry operations center.

In announcing his rejection of the Viet Cong, he joined more than 100 other former VC from the district who have become Chieu Hoi returnees since the 5th 60th began operations here in mid-March.



'Semper Fideles'

FRIEND IN NEED—A Marine carries his wounded buddy to a waiting medical evacuation helicopter after the latter had stepped on a Viet Cong punji trap. (USMC Photo)

Marines Conduct County Fair

Action Company N-1, based in the village, moved through Ninh Binh, directing all villagers to the fair site.

Large tents were erected, Vietnamese music and instructions blared from public address systems, and the fair was underway. Navy medical and dental teams set up shop and were swamped with patients, treating 750 Vietnamese during the two-day fair.

Importance of upcoming elections was stressed by the district chief, Major Nguyen Ham, who urged the people to support candidates of their choice for official positions.

The role of the Marines in the area also was explained by Ham, emphasizing that the American presence was the wish of the South Vietnamese government.

The general theme, empha-

sized throughout the fair by the movies and Vietnamese officials, urged the people to better their lives and take interest in the government of Vietnam.

Early the third day, gear was packed, helicopters arrived and the county fair was over.

The people of Ninh Binh settled back to their normal trend of life, except for perhaps a better understanding of their government and the Americans.

Navy Veteran of 4 Wars, 67, Sets Pace for Younger Men

Da Nang (USN)—Chief Shipfitter Stephen Koteles, a 67-year-old veteran of World War I, now serves in Vietnam with a vigor equal to that of men many years his junior.

With more than 40 years of experience as a welder and builder, Chief Koteles is now a construction inspector at Da Nang's Naval Support Activity. Briefcase under arm, the veteran of four wars moves at a rapid pace from project to project, giving advice on how things could be done better or built so that they will hold up longer.

Chief Koteles enlisted in the Army in 1917, and served as an assistant gunner during World War I. After the war he was released from active duty as a Corporal and entered the reserves.

In 1942, with the outbreak of World War II, Chief Koteles was called back to active duty. Because of his civilian experience in plumbing he entered the Navy as a Chief Shipfitter.

After the war, he went back to civilian life and became a full-time plumber. Then the Korean conflict started and he came back into the Navy.

Despite the chief's record of broken service since 1917, he recently celebrated his 30th year as a military man.

Prior to service in Vietnam, Chief Koteles was serving on the aircraft carrier Lake Champlain when his enlistment was about to expire. The Champlain's skipper asked him if he intended to "re-up" after 29 years as a serviceman.

"Well, I've seen the doctor and passed the physical exam with flying colors," was his reply.

The chief's reenlistment was probably one of the more memorable days in his life. The



Stephen Koteles

Champlain had just picked up astronauts James Conrad and Gordon Cooper after their mission into space.

That evening Chief Koteles was ordered to report to the skipper's stateroom, where Con-

rad and Cooper administered the oath of enlistment to the 29-year veteran.

Shortly after reenlisting, the chief was reassigned to the U.S. Naval Support Activity, Da Nang.

Lifeline Is One-Inch-Thick Wire

Bien Hoa (USAF) — The Air Force F-100 Supersabre pilot was returning to Bien Hoa after completing a successful combat mission over South Vietnam. He made a routine landing but when he popped his drag chute, it did not blossom fully and his brakes were not operating properly.

The pilot realized it was impossible to stop the plane using standard procedures. As quickly as the pilot flipped a switch in the cockpit, an arresting hook flopped down from the plane's tail section.

A thousand feet short of the end of the runway, the jet's tires flashed over a 150-foot-long, one-inch-thick wire cable suspended two inches off the ground.

The arresting hook engaged the wire and pulled the straining cable down the runway. The cable attached to reels installed on each side of the runway wound as the aircraft continued to skid. After travelling 500 feet, the aircraft came to a stop.

An apparatus to recover planes in flight which are spiraling earthward out of control has yet to be invented. But three airmen at Bien Hoa claim to be operating the next best thing, an aircraft-arresting barrier.

Heading the group is Airman First Class Michael D. Merrick, August, Mich., who says that they play catch for a living but instead of catching fast pitches, "we snag 35,000 pounds of air-

plane and pilot coming over the plate at 200 m.p.h."

Merrick's slick fielding airmen are credited with 96 saves since the beginning of the year. The maximum amount of energy the arrester can handle is 55,000 pounds at 190 knots.

Each time the barrier is used, the crew observes the equipment during arrestment and rewind to detect malfunctions. Daily inspections and preventative maintenance keep the crew busy.

"The barrier's purpose is to save pilot lives," Merrick remarked. "But the lives of those on the ground, the property adjacent to the runway, and a million dollar aircraft are not overlooked."

Text of Statement on New Military RD Role

Saigon (MACV)—The following is a statement by Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker appointing General W.C. Westmoreland as head of the American pacification effort:

"Since being appointed U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam I have given a great deal of thought to how to organize most effectively the U.S. advisory role in support of the Vietnamese Government's Revolutionary Development effort. Like my predecessor, I regard Revolutionary Development—often termed pacification—as close to the heart of the matter in Vietnam.

"Support of Revolutionary Development has seemed to me and my senior colleagues to be neither exclusively a civilian nor exclusively a military function, but to be essentially civil-military in character. It involves both the provision of continuous local security in the countryside—necessarily a primarily military task—and the constructive programs conducted by the Ministry of Revolutionary Development, largely through its 59-member RD teams. The Government of Vietnam has recognized the dual civil/military nature of the RD process by assigning responsibility for its execution to the Corps/Region commanders and by deciding to assign the bulk of the regular Army of the Republic of Vietnam, as well as the Regional and Popular Forces, to provide the indispensable security so that RD can proceed in the countryside.

"As senior American official in Vietnam, I have concluded that the U.S. advisory and supporting role in Revolutionary Development can be made more effective by unifying its civil and military aspects under a single management concept. Unified management, a single chain of command, and a more closely dovetailed advisory ef-

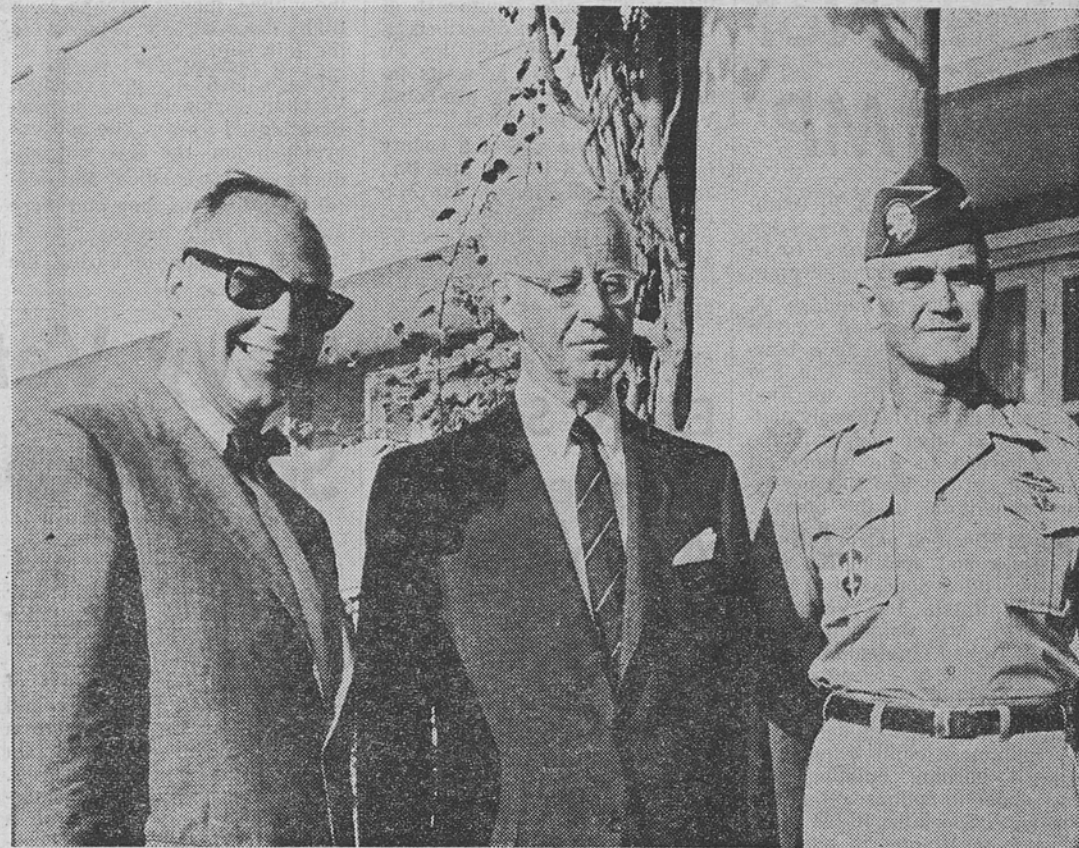
fort will in my opinion greatly improve U.S. support of the vital RD program.

"Therefore, I am giving General Westmoreland the responsibility for the performance of our U.S. Mission field programs in support of Revolutionary Development. To assist him in performing this function, I am assigning Mr. Robert Komer to his headquarters to be designated as Deputy for Revolutionary Development to COMUSMACV with personal rank of Ambassador.

"I have two basic reasons for giving this responsibility to General Westmoreland. In the first place, the indispensable first stage of pacification is providing continuous local security, a function primarily of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, in which the U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam performs a supporting advisory role. In the second place, the greater part of the U.S. advisory and logistic assets involved in support of Revolutionary Development belong to MACV. If unified management of U.S. Mission assets in support of the Vietnamese program is desirable, COMUSMACV is the logical choice.

"I have directed that a single chain of responsibility for advice and support of the Vietnamese Revolutionary Development program be instituted from Saigon down to district level. Just as Mr. Komer will supervise the U.S. advisory role at the Saigon level as Deputy to General Westmoreland, so will the present Office of Civil Operations regional directors serve as deputies to the U.S. senior advisors to the Vietnamese Corps/Region commanders.

"At the province level, a senior advisor will be designated, either civilian or military, following analysis of the local



NEW TEAM—America's new Ambassador to Vietnam, Ellsworth Bunker, flanks General W. C. Westmoreland and Assistant Ambassador Robert Komer following the announcement that General Westmoreland will head the American pacification effort in (JUSPAO Photo)

situation.

"While management will thus be unified, the integrity of the Office of Civil Operations will be preserved. It will continue to perform the same functions as before, and will continue to have direct communications on technical matters with its field echelons. The present Revolution Development Support Division of MACV will be integrated into OCO, and its chief will serve as Deputy to the Director of OCO.

"As senior U.S. official in Vietnam, I intend to keep a close eye on all U.S. activities, including our support of Revolutionary Development. I am simply having this advisory effort report to me through COMUSMACV rather than through two channels as in the past. I intend to keep fully in-

formed personally about all developments in this field, and to hold frequent meetings with General Westmoreland and Ambassador Komer for the purpose of formulating policy.

"Such a unified civil/military U.S. advisory effort in the vital field of Revolutionary Development is unprecedented. But so to is the situation which we confront. RD is in my view neither civil nor military but a unique merging of both to meet a unique wartime need. Thus my solution is to have U.S. civilian and military officials work together as one team in order to more effectively support our Vietnamese allies. Many further details will have to be worked out, and various difficulties will doubtless be encountered, but I am confident that this realignment of responsibilities is a

sound management step and I count on all U.S. officers and officials concerned to make it work effectively in practice."

Sly Aussie Leaves ID On AF One

Phan Rang (USAF) — The Royal Australian Air Force's insignia is identical to that of England's RAF with the exception that the Australian emblem has a red kangaroo in the center.

Every Australian vehicle, aircraft, tent, hootch, sign, latrine and many other objects carry this identification.

"Reliable sources" have stated that when any new or unpainted object arrives at Phan Rang air base, an Aussie airman is issued a stencil and a can of red spray paint. The airman is given no special instructions on what to do with the paint. But should he return with a full can of red paint, his fellow airmen like to josh him as being not worth to be a member of the Royal Australian Air Force.

Some the well-known United States aircraft that have borne the red kangaroo are Air Force One, President Johnson's airplane; Pacific Air Force Commander, General Ryan's C-135 and 7th Air Force Commander, Lieutenant General Momyer's White Whale.

In World War II it was "Kilroy was here," and at Phan Rang air base, it's the Red Kangaroo.

Lots of Leaflets

Air Force psychological warfare crews dropped more than 60 million leaflets while flying more than 400 sorties over enemy territory in the south this week.



PRE-CHECK—Captain Bernard Muller-Thym, New York, (left) senior advisor to the 9th Recon Company, checks an ARVN soldier's wound, before he is evacuated.



VC SUSPECT—ARVN trooper confers with a Vietnamese woman who was injured in an grenade attack by a recon squad. The squad attacked the bunker in which the woman was hiding after two male VC threw grenades at the company from the mouth of the cave.

Delta Recon Co Tracks Wily VC

Sa Dec MACV—Tracking and trapping VC in the Delta is strictly business to the 9th Recon Company, as the jack-in-the-box tactics of the guerrillas can hinder them in many ways.

Trying for a surprise of its own, the recon company landed in the operational area, near Sa Dec, in the early morning hours but found only traces of the elusive enemy. However, before an hour had passed, an ARVN soldier was injured by a grenade trap.

Settling on a mat of grass, a "Dustoff" ship removed the wounded soldier and the company pushed on. Nearing a bunker line, two figures popped up from the entrance of their lair and threw several grenades. Far off target, the grenades exploded harmlessly.

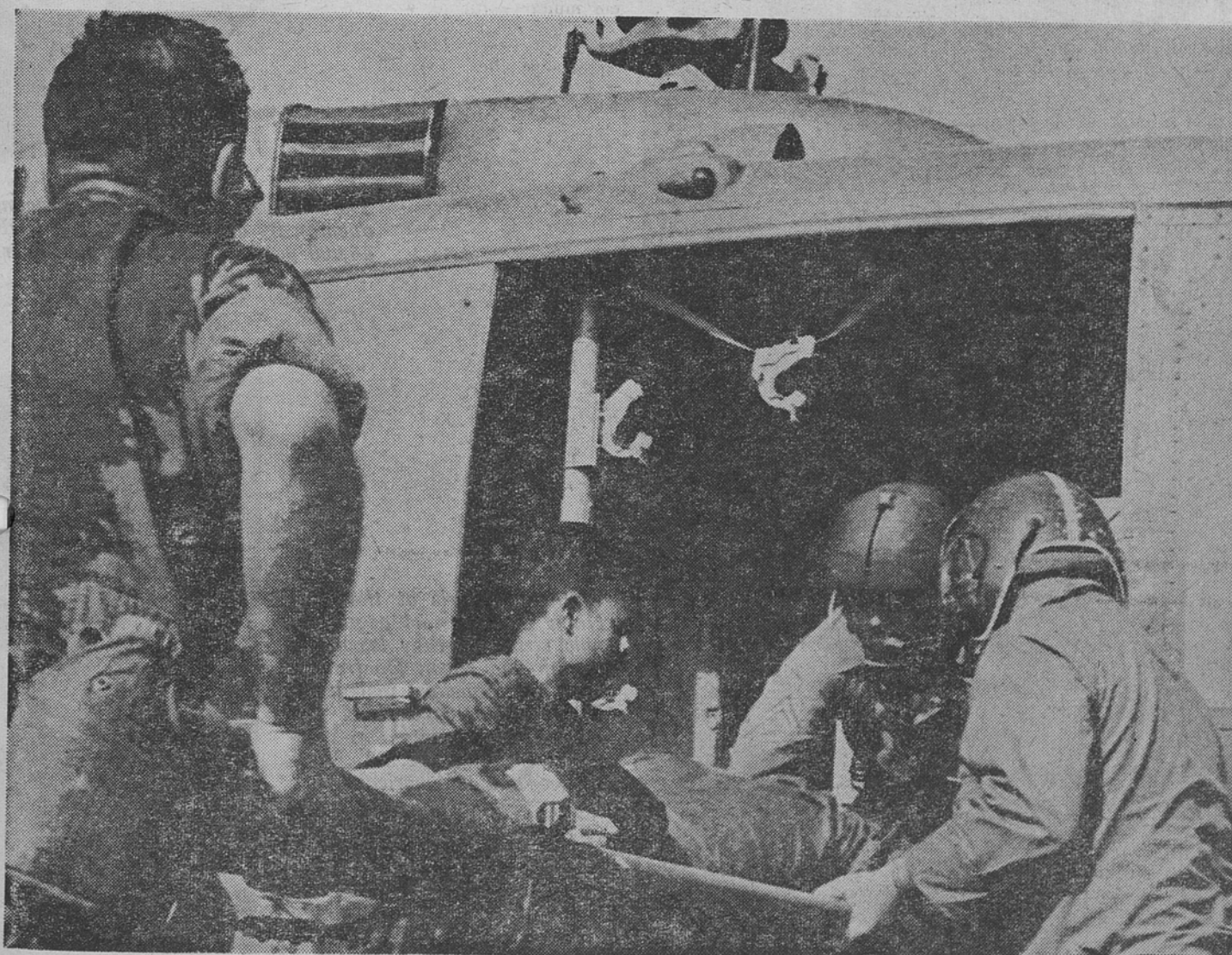
An ARVN squad blasted the bunker with M-1 carbine fire and grenades. A sobbing voice erupted from the bunker, firing stopped, and from its wake a young Vietnamese woman emerged.

Moving the injured woman from the fortification, the undaunted squad entered the bunker and found two dead male VC.

"I suspect that she's a VC, as casualty losses have forced them to use women," remarked Captain Bernard Muller-Thym, senior advisor, 9th Recon Company.

Flown out by helicopter, the woman was taken to a Can Tho hospital for treatment. When she recovers, she will be held for interrogation.

Story & Photos by
SSgt Geo. Hicks, USA
Staff Writer



MEDEVAC—Hoisted aboard "Dustoff" ship by crewman and light weapons advisor, Sergeant First Class James Fox, Louisville, Ky., (rear) wounded recon soldier, gets a quick removal from the field.

US Mission Changes Announced

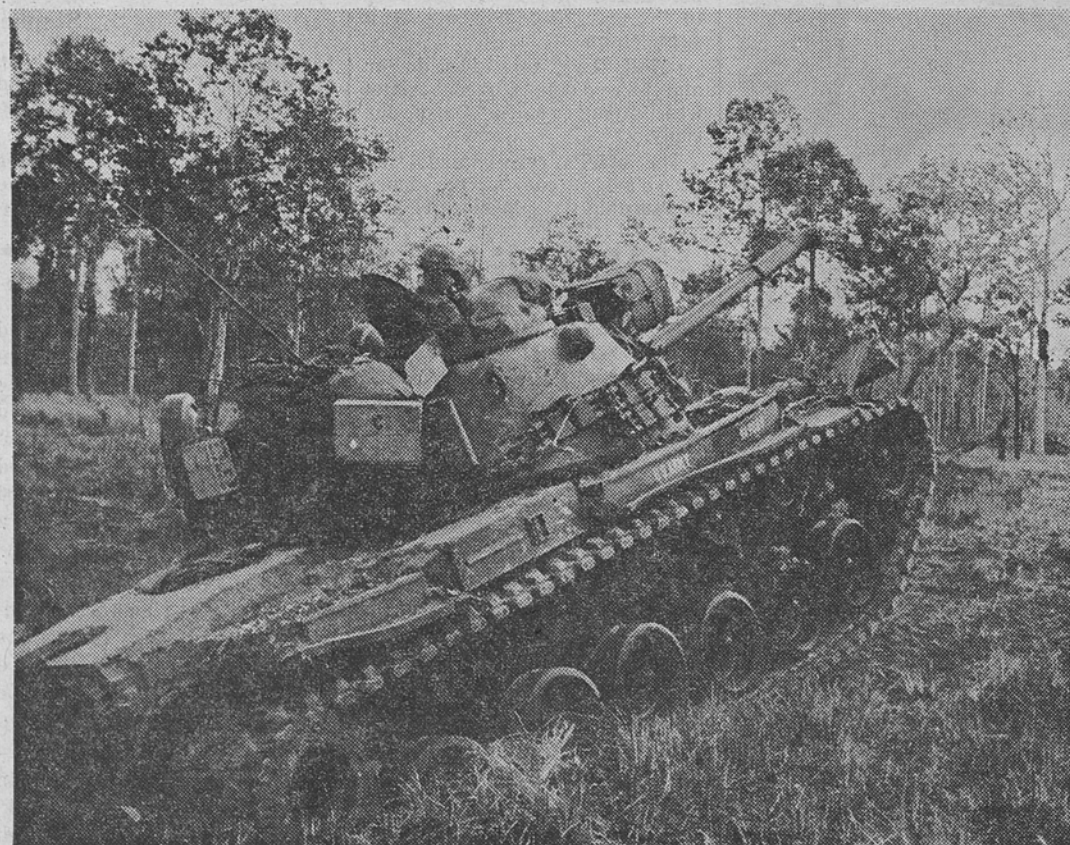
Saigon (MACV) — American Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker announced further reorganization of the American Mission concurrent with his appointment of General W.C. Westmoreland to head the pacification effort.

Deputy Ambassador Eugene Locke will serve the Mission as Mr. Bunker's alter ego, and will insure co-ordination of all Mission activities.

Two long time Mission leaders, Barry Zorthian and Major General Edward Lansdale, will remain at their posts as Minister-Counselor for Information and Mission Liaison Officer for Revolutionary Development.

Economist Charles Cooper will come to Vietnam in June to replace Leroy Wehrle as Counselor for Economic Affairs.

These four men under Ambassador Bunker, along with General Westmoreland and Ambassador Robert Komer in the pacification area, will make up the top team of the U.S. Mission in Vietnam.



MOBILITY AND FIREPOWER—An M-48 tank of the 11th Armored Cavalry "Blackhorse" Regiment races over a hilltop during an operation in support of infantrymen clearing the enemy out of his stronghold. (USA Photo)



FATHER'S DAY

JUNE 18TH

REMEMBER DAD ON HIS DAY



Logistics Unit



Dove Unit

Salon (MACV) — It was in June, 17 years ago that the North Korean communists, attacking across the 38th parallel, began a full-scale invasion of the Republic of South Korea. The South Korean Army, at that time, was much like the South Vietnamese Army of today. Now, many years later and many miles from the Pusan perimeter, the Bay of Inchon, the frozen waters of the Yalu and the hills of Chonwon, the ROK Armed Forces are again facing an enemy in combat.

The enemy today bears a striking resemblance to the one he fought 17 years ago. For this enemy, too, is a communist soldier. Only this time supplied, trained and led by the government of Hanoi in North Vietnam.

The North Vietnamese Army like the North Korean in 1950, has invaded the south, has crossed the Demilitarized Zone at the 17th parallel. Its goal is the domination of South Vietnam and its people.

Having shared a similar experience, the people of South Korea were sympathetic to

a request from the South Vietnamese government for help. They responded immediately in September, 1964.

The first contingent of ROK forces to arrive was 140-bed Mobile Army Surgical Hospital which is located at Vung Tau.

This unit was followed in February, 1965, by a Korean Construction Support Group, known as the Dove Unit. It is located at Di An near Bien Hoa. In October, 1965, the 2nd ROK Marine Brigade, known as the Blue Dragon Unit, 4,500 men strong, arrived. It is located near Chu Lai in Quang Nam province.

Units of the ROK Capital Division, known

ROKF-V

as the Tiger Division are located in Qui Nhon. In September, 1966, the White Horse Division, 9th ROK Infantry landed at Nha Trang and established base camp headquarters at Ninh Hoa.

Other ROK supporting units include the 100th Logistics Command in Nha Trang and Naval Transport Support Group, the Sea Gull unit in Saigon.

All Republic of Korea Forces in Vietnam are under the command of Lieutenant General Chae, Myung-Shin of Headquarters, ROKF-V, which is co-located with other Free World Military Assistance Forces in the

FWF compound in Saigon. Korean forces in Vietnam now number 45,000 men.

The primary job of the Tiger Division commanded by Major General Lew, Byong-Hion and the White Horse Division commanded by Major General Lee, So-Dong along with the Blue Dragon Brigade commanded by Brigadier General Kim, Yeun-Sang is to participate in combat action.

The ROK Construction Support Group commanded by Brigadier General Choi, Il-Yong is called the Dove unit because of the action programs and rural reconstruction peaceful aspects of its participation in civic projects, including the building of roads, schools, playgrounds, dispensaries and bridges.

The Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) serves both the Vietnamese and Korean forces as well as the Vietnamese civilian population in its area. The 100th Logistics Command is headed by Brigadier General Lee, Bomb-June and the Sea Gull unit by Navy Captain Lee, Kae-Ho.



Blue Dragon Regt.

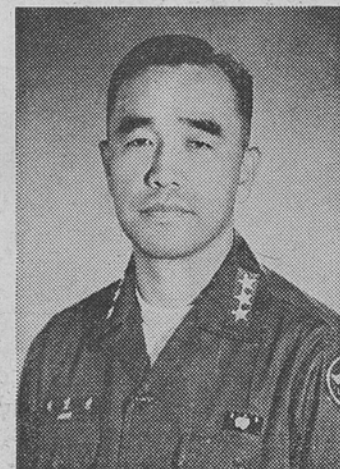


Tiger Division

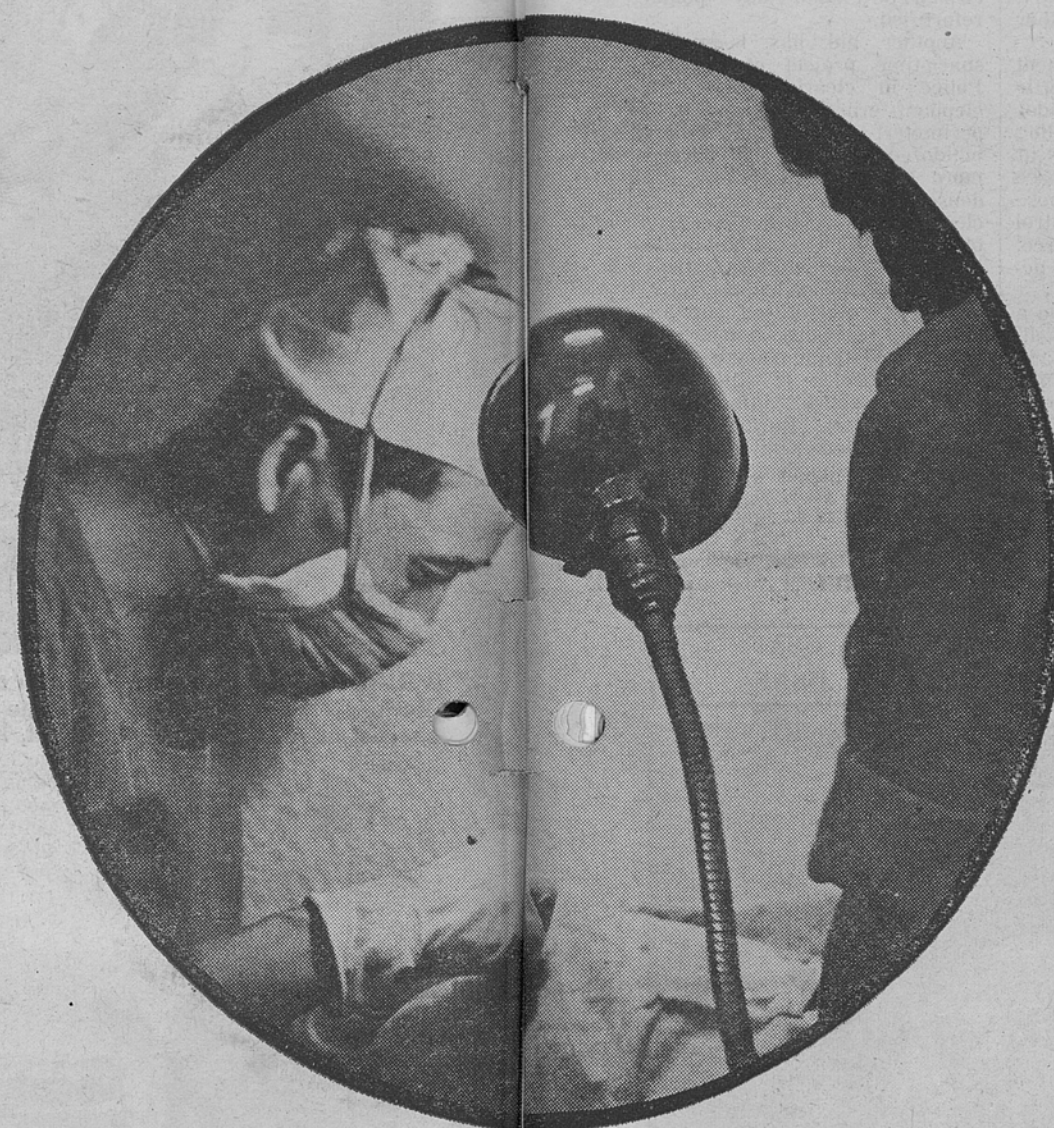


Hq ROKF-V
Joint General Staff

Pacification of the countryside is an important part of any operation designed to clear and hold the land. A trooper of the Tiger Division stands ready to assist and protect the 6,000 refugees who have gathered in less than 11 days at the Korean Refugee Center. Here they receive medical care, shelter and food.

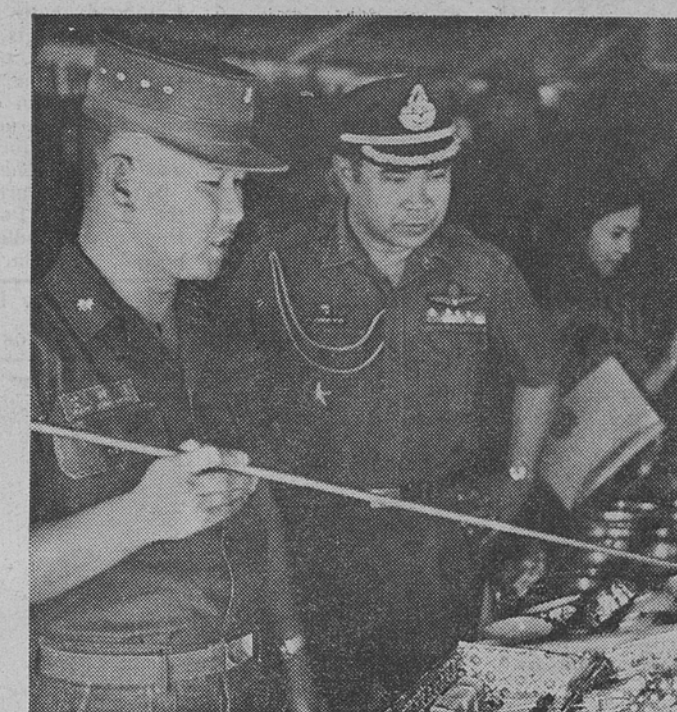


Lt. Gen. Chae, Myung-Shin
Commander, ROKF-V



The delicate touch of an eye surgeon brings hope for relief to a Vietnamese patient. Since opening its doors in 1964, the ROK hospital (MASH) at Vung Tau has treated more than 46,000 patients and performed over 2,100 major surgical operations.

Enemy supplies captured by the Tiger Division are displayed for Colonel Samran, CO of the Royal Thai MAG.



White Horse Division



Sea Gull Unit

Vietnamese girls at the Qui Nhon High School acquire a new virtue as they learn the art of Tae Kwon Do from a Tiger Division instructor. There are now 70 ROK Tae Kwon Do instructors in Vietnam training 11,408 Vietnamese and 40 Americans.



For the children of Loi Chen a new playground and a shelter from the sun and rain. One of 19 playgrounds built or repaired by the Dove Unit based at Di An since their arrival in Vietnam.



Day And Night Security

Green Fatigue With Blue Helmet



ROVING TEAMS—Air Police Security Alert Teams roam inter-perimeter areas at Tan Son Nhut 24 hours a day and are usually first to the scene when trouble arises.



COMMUNICATIONS NERVE CENTER—Staff Sergeant Orvil E. Willis, Des Arc, Ark., a communicator at the Air Police Central Security Control, handles all communications with guard posts.

Tan Son Nhut (USAF) — Air Police from the 377th Air Police Squadron at Tan Son Nhut Air Base are alert day and night keeping a vigilant eye for any form of trouble at Vietnam's huge air base.

The mission of the 377th is to meet and turn back any penetration of the base inter-perimeter and, in addition, to handle law enforcement, customs inspections and other Air Police activities.

Air Police law enforcement sections in Vietnam are a little different than Stateside. Besides issuing tickets and handling traffic control, the section is at least 75 per cent a security force in itself. Quan Canh, Vietnamese guards directly under the control of the Vietnamese Air Force, assist in law enforcement activities.

Air Police are trained to do a job . . . and they do it well. Equipped with portable and mobile radio sets, Air Policemen manning posts around the base can contact the control center instantly. When an emergency call comes in, trucks loaded with quick-reaction forces are on the way to the scene.

Sentry dogs are invaluable to the 377th Air Police Squadron. Dog and handler teams are posted from dark to daylight,

immediately inside the air base perimeter. These teams are the first line of detection.

Following the April, 1966 attack on Tan Son Nhut, the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, made a study of the base defense. Many improvements have been made since the study was completed. New perimeter lights have been installed and key points refortified.

Another aid has been the spare-time project of the Air Police in clearing waist-high elephant grass along the base perimeter. The Air Police bulldozed, mowed and burned more than 700 acres of the dense reed-like growth. This clearance has robbed the enemy of a place to hide and has made it easier for K-9 and post patrols to observe anyone approaching.

Pride . . . in himself and his unit . . . flourishes among Air Police in Vietnam. They work as a team. There is still some "spit and polish" attached to being an AP. During guard mounts, whether it be the daytime force garbed in normal green fatigue uniform with blue helmet or the night unit dressed in traditional combat camouflage fatigues, Air Policemen are proud of their appearance and their job.

Story by SSgt Gerald S. O'Hara, USAF
Photos by SSgt Andy Sarakoh, USAF

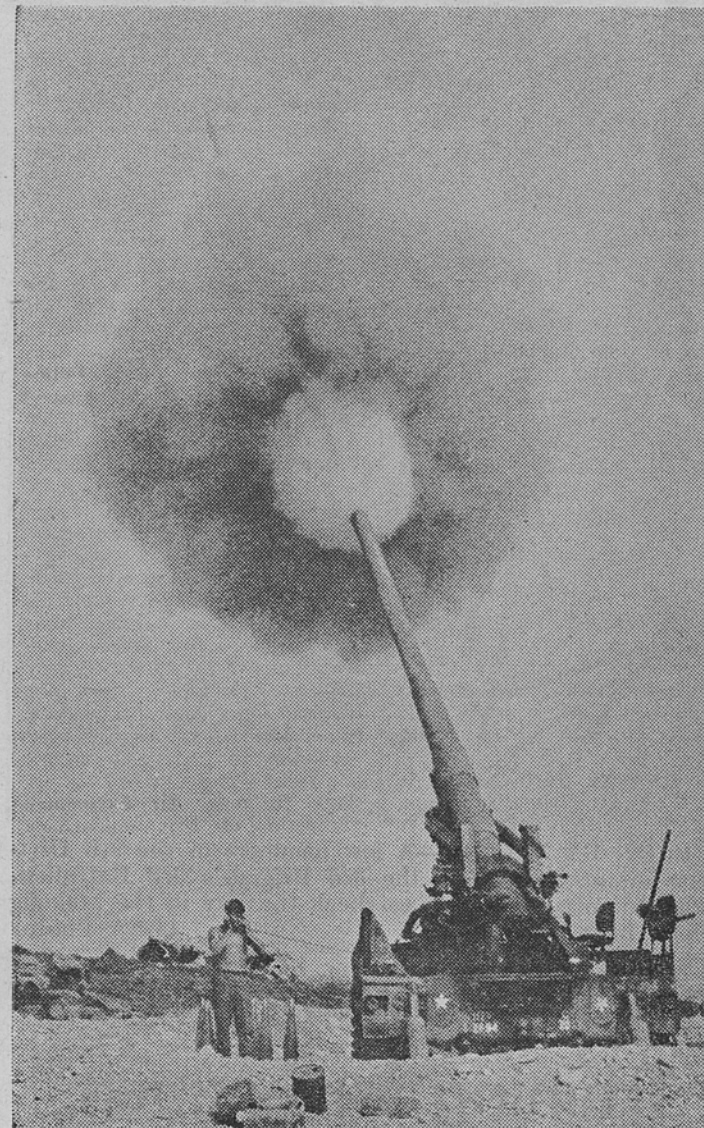


VITAL SENTRY DOG TEAM—Canine handler, Airman First Class Leon E. Senecal, Easthampton, Mass., and his sentry dog, Rex, patrol the perimeter.

Army Artillerymen at Beckon of Marines

Camp J. J. Carroll (USA)—Almost within "spitting" distance of the 17th parallel, three battalions of U. S. Army artillery now support U. S. Marines who slug it out with North Vietnamese soldiers in rugged

Quang Tri Province. In a unique arrangement, the artillery units, under administrative control of the Army's I Field Force, Vietnam Forward, provide big gun support to the 3rd Marine Division.



NEAR THE DMZ—A smoke ring blooms as another 175-mm projectile roars to a target from U.S. Army guns supporting Marine Corps Activities on the DMZ. (USA Photo)

150 Pounds of Pressure Fights the War on Fire

Da Nang (USN)—Water fights with a stream of water 250 feet long with enough force to knock a man down seem like a strange way to fight a war.

Actually this is part of the on-the-job training for the crew of the modified LCM-3 (Landing Craft Medium) fireboat. The fireboat is stationed at Naval Support Activity, Da Nang, and covers all craft in the Da Nang harbor. The five-man crew of the boat is on call 24 hours a day.

Hand-held hoses can put out a stream at a distance of 80 to 100 feet with 150 pounds of pressure. The craft is also equipped with 3,000 gallons of foam for smothering burning fuel.

Each man aboard is a qualified swimmer and first aid training is a necessary qualification for men serving on the boat. Every member of the crew is also cross-trained in handling every other job on the boat.

The fireboat has actually been called on only once. The boilers of a merchant ship in the Da Nang harbor exploded in February and the boat was called for assistance. They watered down the resulting fire for an hour before it was under control.

Second Class Quartermaster

Jimmy Cain, Dallas, petty officer in charge, said, "Our division officer told us we could do anything as long as it was in the line of training." This consists of water fights (good training for pump men), emergency runs on burning beach fires and practice runs into tight places.

Chaplains Receive Aid From Phu Loi Soldiers

Phu Loi (USA)—The Vietnamese Protestant Church in the village of Phu Cuong now has hundreds of new Bibles and Hymnals, thanks to contributions from U.S. soldiers stationed at Phu Loi.

In a brief, simple ceremony the new volumes were presented to Huynh Van Thien, Christian Missionary Alliance pastor of the Phu Cuong church by three Army chaplains.

Major David F. Tate, 23rd Artillery Group, Captain M.R. Standley, 1st Infantry Division Artillery, and Captain Jerry Woodberry, 11th Aviation Battalion, also plan to provide the church with a new organ.

Following the presentation, held on the pastor's porch, the chaplains were invited in for tea. The pastor then conducted

The big 175mm guns can fire a 146-pound projectile at ranges of up to 22 miles.

"We can cover nearly 99 per cent of Quang Tri Province, from the China Sea to the Laotian border if we have to," said Lieutenant Colonel Richard G. Treffry, commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery.

Because the big guns are self-propelled, they frequently move around when Marine commanders need to shift artillery support to another area.

"Whatever the Marines tell us to do, we do it gladly," said Colonel Treffry. "We also support Army Special Forces and ARVN (Army Republic of Vietnam) camps in the province."

Besides direct support of infantrymen, the Army's Camp Carroll-based 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery fires its 175's across the Demilitarized Zone at bunkers, command posts, troop concentrations and antiaircraft sites in North Vietnam.

B Battery of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery made a long move from Phuoc Vinh, 40 miles north of Saigon, to the DMZ to join the 2nd Battalion in October, 1966.

Forward observers, usually Marine reconnaissance teams on jungle patrol for three or four days at a time, radio back targets to the battalion's fire direction control center.

Small "Bird Dog" spotter planes flown by Army, Marine and Air Force pilots also radio targets to the big guns, including sites in North Vietnam within the guns' range.

"We never know who will be spotting for us out there, but it really doesn't matter," Colonel Treffry added. "They're all



TAILOR MADE FOR CHARLIE—Rows of heavy 175-mm projectiles, stand ready in their storage area for a firing mission near the DMZ. (USA Photo)

darn good at the job."

Both Camp Carroll and the Gio Linh site (less than a mile from the DMZ) have been heavily mortared by the enemy. "We sometimes live like moles in our deep bunkers, but we keep the guns firing," says one veteran of many heavy attacks at Gio Linh.

Captain J. J. Carroll, USMC, was mortally wounded on October 5, when hit by a shell fragment. After his death, his men

named the ridge on Hill 400 in his memory calling it "J.J." Ridge. Now an artillery park and military base in that area—Camp Carroll—is named in honor of the Captain.

Camp Carroll is also the home of a third artillery battalion, the 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery, which contains three highly mobile firing batteries of self-propelled 105mm howitzers, that supports and works closely with the Marines.

'Hoi Chanh' Records For Psyops 'Chieu Hoi Team

Dong Tam (USA)—A Hoi Chanh (returnee) who turned himself into 9th Infantry Division troops during a recent operation delivered a tape recorded message to his family and other members of his hamlet, Binh Thoi, only 45 minutes after he was evacuated from the area.

This mission was the first time that the psychological operations team stationed at the 2nd Brigade base camp had been able to take such swift advantage of a Hoi Chanh recorded message.

The former Viet Cong, who approached D Company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry waving a Chieu Hoi ("Open Arms" program) leaflet, was the agricultural committee chief of his hamlet.

His job included telling the villagers when, where and what

to plant, levying Viet Cong taxes, contacting the "middle man" to send rice to the market and making arrangements for fertilizer and water buffalo.

After he contacted the American troops, the Hoi Chanh was evacuated from his hamlet by helicopter to Dong Tam where he was interviewed by the 9th Military Intelligence Detachment to determine if he was, in fact, a reformed Viet Cong.

Following the interview, he was asked if he would like to give his family and friends a taped message and said he would. While the tape recording

was being made, a helicopter was outfitted with a loud speaker.

The tape was rushed to the helipad, and within 45 minutes after the man's evacuation, his tape recording was being broadcast to his hamlet.

The Hoi Chanh said he was glad to be back with the government, and that he had been treated well. He ended his tape by encouraging other Viet Cong to take advantage of the Chieu Hoi program.

Army Studies Use of SSAN

Leaving Vietnam?

You are not allowed to convert military payment certificates (MPC) to U.S. dollars in an amount greater than the total amount drawn during a one month period unless your conversion is supported by a certificate from your commander showing that the excess MPC was acquired legitimately.

Failure to obtain the required certificate will require that you make application to Hq USAF which is a time consuming process.

Washington (ANF) — The Army will conduct tests this month to evaluate problems involved in obtaining Social Security Account Numbers for all incoming service personnel.

The tests are in response to a Secretary of Defense directive that all individuals entering on active duty after June 30 have a Social Security Account Number (SSAN). The program will eventually substitute the SSAN for the military service number.

Times Tough in Vietnam— Not at Vung Tau Center

Vung Tau (USA)—Thousands of U.S. soldiers who have taken a three-day rest and recuperation leave at the 1st Logistical Command operated R&R center at Vung Tau might find it hard to believe, but the ultra modern rest center is getting better every day.

"Right now we're in the midst of a major renovation," said Sergeant First Class Thomas E. Curry, Delaware, Ohio, noncommissioned officer in charge of the center. "We're adding a bit of color to the rooms with a fresh paint job, new curtains and bedspreads, a new bar and

game room on the roof of the annex, and putting acoustical tile and indirect lighting in the bar and dining room."

A swimming pool and an 18-hole miniature golf course are scheduled in the near future. Four additional pool tables and two more ping pong tables are also on order.

The Vung Tau R&R Center, operated by soldiers of Saigon Support Command's 53rd General Support Group, accommodates 260 servicemen during each three-day R&R period.

"Our objective here at the R&R Center is to give servicemen a relaxing place where they can forget the war for three days," said Sergeant Curry.

Among the many attractions of the center is a fully air-conditioned dining room that offers a choice of three entrees for five choices for breakfast and lunch and dinner. "The dining room operates as a field mess, but you've never seen a field mess like it," said Sergeant Curry.

One of the biggest drawing cards to R&R vacationers is the beach, which fronts on the South China Sea. Special Services provide beach chairs without cost, and the Beachcomber Club is a popular gathering spot for the swimmers.

Vung Tau is the only in-country R&R Center.



RECON BY WATER—A few members of the 9th Division infantrymen from the 3rd Brigade's 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry plunge in to check the way in the Mekong Delta near Rach Kien. (USA Photo)

Army Unit Homesteads At Marine Corps' Base

Chu Lai (USA) — Task Force Burgess, located at the Marine base at Chu Lai, is one of the most unique organizations in Vietnam.

The 1st Logistical Command unit consists of 15 technicians from each of the Army's technical services. It provides third echelon maintenance and supply support to the Army units in the Chu Lai area.

The task force, which is named for its noncommissioned officer in charge, Staff Sergeant Earl R. Burgess, Oak Hill, W. Va., is probably one of the smallest in Vietnam.

Most of its efforts are directed to A Battery, 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery with emphasis on replacing the worn tubes of the battery's 175mm guns. The task force also transports ammunition to the gun site.

"Being a small Army unit on a Marine base has certainly been a challenge to us," commented Sergeant Burgess. "We really take a lot of friendly ribbing from these Marines. They say we're the Army's version of McHale's Navy."

"It's all in good fun. We ac-

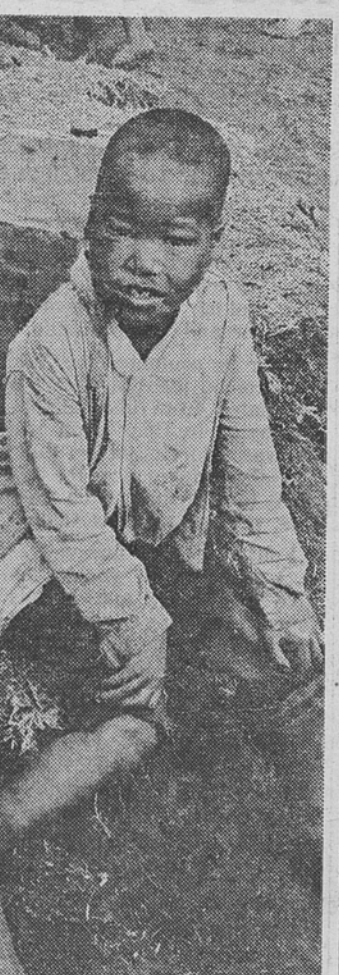
Ancient Maze Destroyed By 'Black Lions'

Phu Loi (USA)—Two and a half decades of local Viet Cong domination came to an abrupt end when sharp-eyed soldiers of B Company, 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry discovered and destroyed a labyrinth in an enemy underground headquarters north of Saigon.

Only nine miles from Saigon, the "Black Lion" unit came upon the tunnel complex during a jungle seal and search operation.

Although the VC made good their escape, the soldiers uncovered a cache of weapons, radio equipment and documents.

According to Captain John A. Turner, the 4,000 foot complex dated back to the days of the Viet Minh who operated in the area 25 years ago.



MONTAGNARD LEARNS OF MEDICARE—A U.S. Army medic treats a Montagnard boy in the village of Plei Bong Phun. In addition to providing medical care, work is beginning on an improved water system for the villagers. (USA Photo)

Traps, Abushes and Sweat Mark Battle-Tested Training for Ivymen

Dau Tieng (USA)—The men ran, sweat pouring down their faces. The cadence was fast, but the soldiers, many still with Stateside starch creases in their fatigues, kept up. They were the newest replacements for 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

The replacement center, commanded by Captain Samuel E. Negrea Jr., Sharon, Pa., can accommodate 115 men at one time.

"Since October," Captain Negrea said, "we've processed 1,300 new men." Each new replacement is given almost five days of extensive training before he is turned over to his assigned unit.

"Soui Tre Hall, a new classroom named after a recent battle in which the 3rd Brigade helped kill 647 Viet Cong, in four hours, can seat 75 students at one time. It's here that the men learn the finer points of Viet

Cong fortifications, patrolling techniques, ambushes and booby traps."

Outside the classroom is an area surrounded by barbed wire and filled with American-made Viet Cong traps.

"At first some of the men laugh at the crude ways the Viet Cong make their booby traps," the 31-year old Captain said, "but when they see the traps actually working the smiles disappear."

The enclosed area is strewn with lethal traps designed to kill, maim and inflict an assortment of agonizing wounds. A pit, four feet deep, contains deadly punji stakes embedded at the bottom. Normally such a pit would be camouflaged, but for obvious reasons the trap is clearly visible.

A wicked mace, complete with long bamboo barbs, plunges to the ground. The weight of the weapon alone could break a man's neck—the bamboo stakes just guarantee the effectiveness of killing a person. The replacement cadre stress the importance of watching for such weapons.

The area, complete with a 40-foot tunnel, is equipped with foot traps, swinging bamboo traps and minor obstacles designed mostly to inflict small wounds, but serious enough to put a man in great pain and definitely out of action.

The men, when they arrive from the 90th Replacement Battalion, are issued equipment and a weapon from the units to which they are destined.

Shovellers Fight Boredom, But Continue to Sandbag

Dau Tieng (USA)—In order to fight the boredom that inevitably comes to soldiers manning an artillery support base, the Army has devised an ingenious method of occupying otherwise idle hours: filling sandbags — thousands and thousands of them.

The necessary equipment is: two shovels, a thousand bags, and a crew of five. Sand bag filling is a job that requires teamwork.

The bags come from the manufacturer inside out and one man is required to reverse the bags to outside in. You can always see his badge of office—a rash along one arm from reaching inside the bag and dragging it out.

The second man's job is to hold the bag while the third man, using one of the shovels carefully places 3/4 shovels full of dirt into the bag.

The fourth man in the crew ties the tops of the bags shut. The fifth man takes the second

shovel and leans on it.

There are two men in the world who could win the everlasting gratitude of the troops. First is the man who can figure out a device to make the sandbags inside in. The second is the one who can invent a device similar to a hay baler that takes empty bags in one end and then drops a nicely tied sandbag from the other.

You Name It— We'll Have It

Vung Tau (USA)—One "ship" the troops in Vung Tau don't want to see leave is officially designated Refrigerated Barge 6668, the floating ice cream plant unofficially referred to as the "Yum-Yum Yacht."

A three-man tutti fruit team is producing 350 gallons of ice cream a day on the only Army ice cream plant in Vietnam.

Armed Forces Television Channel 11

Guide for week of—May 24-30, 1967

(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)

Wednesday (May 24)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 Information Feature
7:30 Batman (Part I)
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 Perry Mason
9:00 To Tell The Truth
9:30 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)

Thursday (May 25)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 G.E. College Bowl
7:30 Batman (Part II)
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 12 O'Clock High
9:00 Joey Bishop Show
9:30 Get Smart
10:00 Red Skelton Show

Friday (May 26)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 Information Feature
7:30 Addams Family
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 Gunsmoke
9:00 Danny Kaye
10:00 The Tonight Show

Saturday (May 27)

12:30 Jim Bowie
1:00 Daniel Boone
2:00 Roy Acuff
2:30 Beverly Hillsbillies
3:00 Andy Griffith
3:30 Sports of the Week
6:00 Lost in Space
7:00 M-Squad
7:30 News & Sports
8:00 Jackie Gleason
9:00 Hollywood Palace
10:00 Saturday Night at the Movies

Sunday (May 28)

12:30 Educational Special
1:30 Sunday Movie
2:00 Sports of the Week
2:30 CBS Sports Special
3:00 Big Picture
3:30 News & Sports
4:00 Dick Van Dyke
4:30 Candid Camera
5:00 Bonanza
5:30 Ed Sullivan Show

Monday (May 29)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 I've Got a Secret
7:30 The Flintstones
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 Combat
9:00 Bewitched
9:30 Third
10:00 Dean Martin Show

Tuesday (May 30)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 Green Acres
7:30 My Favorite Martian
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 Rawhide
9:00 Garry Moore Show
9:30 Entertainment Special
10:00

(Note: These same shows can be seen in other areas as follows:)

Qui Nhon—June 14-20

Da Nang—July 5-11

Pleiku—July 25-31

Nha Trang—August 16-22

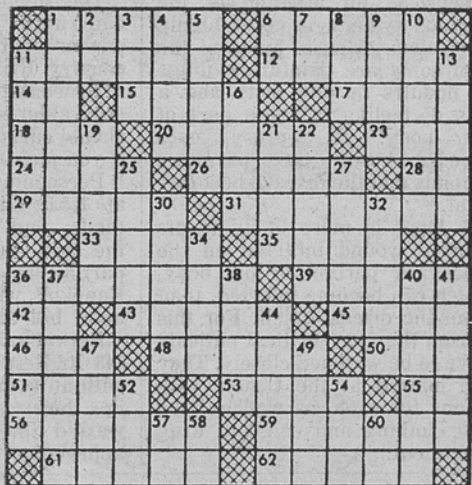
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Plague
6. Sled
11. Pertaining to the mind
12. Sharp reply
14. Bone
15. Greenland settlement
17. Macaws
18. Possessive pronoun
20. Russian stockade
23. Man's name
24. Religious group
26. Wipe out
28. Teutonic deity
29. Characteristic
31. Snickers
33. Country of Asia
35. Grant use of
36. Part of house
39. Showers
42. Preposition
43. Reserved
45. Plumlike fruit
46. Unit of Siamese currency
48. Bend
50. Vast age
51. Father
53. Disorderly behavior
55. Clerical degree (abbr.)
56. One who shirks his duty
59. Decays
61. Weird
62. Brief

DOWN
1. Canopy over bed
2. Printer's measure

3. Devoured
4. Sallied
5. Pull up
6. Senior (abbr.)
7. French article
8. Negro
9. Girl's name
10. Rubber on pencil
11. Damp
13. Former Russian ruler
16. Male deer
19. Burn with hot water
21. Buckets
22. Chemical compound
25. Crown
27. Small stove
30. Instruments
32. Roman official
34. Chimney carbon
36. Brag
37. All

38. Native of Morocco
40. Simpleton
41. Dispatches
44. Inserts surreptitiously
47. Exact
49. Head of Catholic Church
52. Organ of hearing
54. Rocky hill
57. Symbol for nickel
58. Symbol for tellurium
60. Exits



Distr. by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

For Use in Authorized Service Newspapers Only.

SPORTS

(AFNB Feature)

1. Which player holds the record for the most home runs by a rookie in the major leagues?
2. What are the odds against scoring a hole-in-one?
3. What National Hockey League team has won the most Stanley Cup playoffs?
4. Who was the NFL's leading scorer in the 1966 season?
5. Who pitched the only no-hitter in the major leagues last season?
6. In bowling, what do the terms "turkey" and "poodle"

mean?

1. The ball into the gutter.
2. "Turkey" is three strikes in a row and "poodle" is rolling the Washington Senators.
3. Sonny Siebert of Cleveland.
4. Bruce Gossett of the Los Angeles Rams scored 113 points.
5. Montreal is a 12-time winner.
6. The chances against an ace Indians hit 37 home runs in the 1956 season.
7. Al Rosen of the Cleveland Indians hit 37 home runs in the 1956 season.

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz

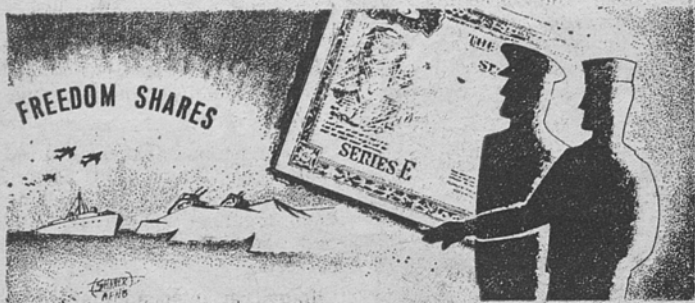


Editorial Future Savings

United States Savings Bonds help strengthen America and further the cause of freedom.

Members of the Armed Forces can see first hand how vital the Savings Bond program is to the cause of freedom, at home, in the Republic of Vietnam and throughout the world.

According to President Johnson, servicemen and women are excellent examples of participation in the Service Bond program. He said, "They who are investing their lives in freedom's cause are also investing in Savings



Bonds. Last year, American servicemen bought almost \$250 million worth of Savings Bonds—close to \$90 million in the last quarter alone."

During this year's "Share in Freedom" U.S. Savings Bond campaign, all Americans will be asked to buy bonds regularly.

Now, however, there is a new addition to the bond line-up. It is the "Freedom Share," a companion to the Series E bonds and sold only in combination with them and through a regular purchase plan such as payroll savings.

They're available in four denominations with the purchase price set at 81 per cent of the face value. You can buy a \$25 Freedom Share for \$20.25; a \$50 one for \$40.50; a \$75 share for \$60.75; and a \$100 Freedom Share for \$81.00.

The Freedom Shares pay 4.74 per cent interest and mature in four and a half years, as opposed to 4.15 per cent interest in seven years for the regular Series E bonds.

Savings Bonds and the new Freedom Shares not only help your country, but they help you save money. For a few dollars a month you can help guarantee the future for yourself, your family and your nation.

If you're already buying bonds, buy a Freedom Share too. If you're not signed up to get bonds on a regular basis, join the millions of Americans who are making a sound investment in their security through the Savings Bond program. (AFNB)

Armed Forces Day Prayer

Washington (ANF)—God of our fathers, who hast made us heirs of brave and faithful men and women, accept, we pray Thee, this Armed Forces Day, our humble gratitude for the boundless blessings which they have bequeathed to us. Grant that we may prove worthy of their heroism and sacrifice.

We commend to Thy keeping all who are serving in our Armed Forces on land, sea and in the air. May Thy gracious Providence watch over them and guide them to victory and honor in defense of our nation and principles. In all things may they know Thy power and presence.

We thank Thee for the innumerable spiritual and material resources of our servicemen in their struggle for a just and lasting peace. Make us mindful of our own responsibilities to mankind. Be our refuge and strength so that in all battles of life we may be valiant in our service to Thee and our beloved country. Amen (Armed Forces Chaplains Board)

IG Team Gives IG Pointers

Saigon (MACV)—Even while fighting a war, inspections are important, so 24 members of the Vietnamese Inspector General (IG) Staff, Joint General Staff, received an orientation from U. S. inspectors recently.

The U. S. team—three members of the Department of the Army IG instruction Team—came here from Washington for the one-week course.

Purpose of the course was to give the Vietnamese students a rundown on the techniques, procedures and policies in making inspections, investigations, and in receiving complaints in the U. S. IG Corps.

Some of the Vietnamese attending the course will teach other newly assigned Vietnamese inspectors general at their own IG school.

The instructors informed the students that the mission of the U. S. Army IG Corps is to assist the commanders in problems solving, and not merely to find fault.

The U. S. team gives orientation courses around the world, and conducts classes eight times annually for newly assigned inspectors general for all U. S. services and for students of foreign countries. This was the team's first trip to Vietnam.

At the present time there are only four U. S. Army IG advisors in Vietnam; it is expected that there eventually will be an IG advisor at the corps and division level of the Vietnamese Army.

Marriage, Divorce, Marriage

An Son (USA) — After nine months of divorce, the helicopters of the 232d Assault Helicopter Company have had a reconciliation and were "remarried" in a reorganization of the company.

Arriving in Vietnam in mid-1966, the 282d "Black Cats" were assigned a general support mission for both I and II Corps areas, with headquarters in Da Nang. Because of their mission the troop-carrying "slicks" and the gunships of the 282nd were normally employed in single-ship tasks from bases throughout both corps areas.

Flying unescorted over rugged terrain and VC-infested territory with only door gunners for protection became commonplace. Most members of the "Black Cats" felt divorce was permanent.

With reconciliation an accomplished fact, the unit is looking forward to providing bigger and better support.

Cloth Insignia: Save Them

Washington (AT) — Cloth insignia of enlisted grades isn't headed for the junk pile despite a recent report that the Army is considering adoption of miniature pin-on metal insignia. Pentagon officials say the miniatures, if adopted, would be used only on field and utility uniforms.

No decision will be made on the pin-on insignia until at least July when recommendations are due from USARV.

The Piaster Poet

"Money saved is earned," barked the Top,
As he buttoned his shirt in Dalat.

He got paid at nine,
And made a bee line,

To buy bonds and to save for Bangkok.

To haggle, first listen, then laugh,
At the first price; then offer them half.

With patience you'll get,
A good bargain, we'll bet,

And you'll save enough loot for a calf
(Good Grief!)

A well-known cartoonist named Tony,
Suspected some merchants were phony.

So he learned Vietnamese,
And now listens with ease,

As they plot to dispose of his "mony."

A troop from patrol named Shelleens,
Had a thought as he cleaned M-16's.

In my checking account,
Is an adequate amount,

For my R&R to the Philippines.

A T-girl said "How you know Joe,
This job that I throw you is snow?"

"I'm not, he replied,
"Brand new on this side.

"And this tea bit is stupid for sho."

Vietnam Added To WAC's History

Washington (AFN)—The Women's Army Corps is still a "young woman," compared to the date American men first donned an Army uniform. However, the WAC has established a colorful history and excellent record of service since its organization only 25 years ago.

The initial step to create an Army women's team was taken in 1941 by a woman, Representative Edith

Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts. A bill was introduced and signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on May 14, 1942.

Training began during mid-July at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. In July, 1943, President Roosevelt signed Public Law 110, establishing the Women's Army Corps as a component of the Army of the United States. It became a permanent part of the Army on June 12, 1948, with the signing of Public Law 625 by President Harry S. Truman.

A permanent Women's Army Corps Center was dedicated in 1954 at Fort McClellan, Ala. Since that time, the WAC has grown and matured, always

keeping an eye on the future.

During the past two years, some Army women have served as advisors and stenographers in the Republic of Vietnam. A WAC detachment of 80 women has been assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam (USARV), on the outskirts of Saigon.

Colonel Elizabeth P. Hoisington, Director, Women's Army Corps said, "It is with great pride on our 25th anniversary that I inventory the resources within our Women's Army Corps and the opportunities which lie ahead for their advancement as members of the Army Team."



The OBSERVER is an authorized newspaper published weekly by the Command Information Division, Office of Information, Military Assistance Command Vietnam for United States Forces in Vietnam. Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect policies or positions of the Department of Defense or any of the Armed Forces. The OBSERVER uses materials from the Armed Forces Press File, Armed Forces News Bureau and other Department of Defense agencies. Direct mail to: Editor, The OBSERVER, Hq MACV, APO 96223.

COMUSMACV Gen. W.C. Westmoreland, USA
Information Officer Col. R.R. Bankson, USA
Chief, Command Info Lt. Col. R.M. Bussjaeger, USAF

Officer in Charge 1st Lt. T.A. Quinn, USA
Editor Gy. Sgt. J.E. Huerta, USMC
Assistant Editor SP4 T.P. Rhoades, USA

Peace Not War Allows Progress

By Sp4 John Morgan,
USA Staff Writer

Tan My (MACV) — The stone-paved road from Long Xuyen to Tan My hamlet winds for 20 km past broad fields where peasants till rich land, along a wide canal where numerous sampans laden with produce chug to market, and over a dozen bridges spanning small rivers. Residents busy themselves with farming and commerce, not with war.

Is this Vietnam? Yes, but An Giang province is a land apart. The most thoroughly pacified province in Vietnam, An Giang is the scene of a bundle of priority agricultural, economic, social and educational programs that are fast turning the province into a showcase of the progress and prosperity possible in Vietnam in time of peace.

In Tan My, a quiet fishing and farming hamlet of Cho Moi district, a 54-man Revolutionary Development team has just dug a new canal from the river into the field for irrigation and sam-

pan access. They are also laying a road through the hamlet on a level high enough to remain above water level during the coming monsoons.

RD teams are armed and trained at the Vung Tau RD center to establish security in a hamlet and root out the Viet Cong infrastructure. But in Tan My, where there is no Viet Cong activity, the RD cadres are able to devote their major effort to local projects to improve agriculture, health, education, and so on.

Tan My residents are nearly all Catholics, which partly explains the failure of the Viet Cong to make in-roads here. About 20 per cent of An Giang province is Catholic. The other 80 per cent is Hoa Hao, a Buddhist offshoot founded by Huynh Phu So in 1939. When Prophet So refused to join ranks with the communist Viet Minh in 1947, the Viet Minh killed him. Ever since, the Hoa Hao have been united in opposition to communists.

VC Lose Their Grip On GVN Returnees

Cu Chi (USA) — The Viet Cong have apparently lost their grip among their own people as a result of Operation Makalapa.

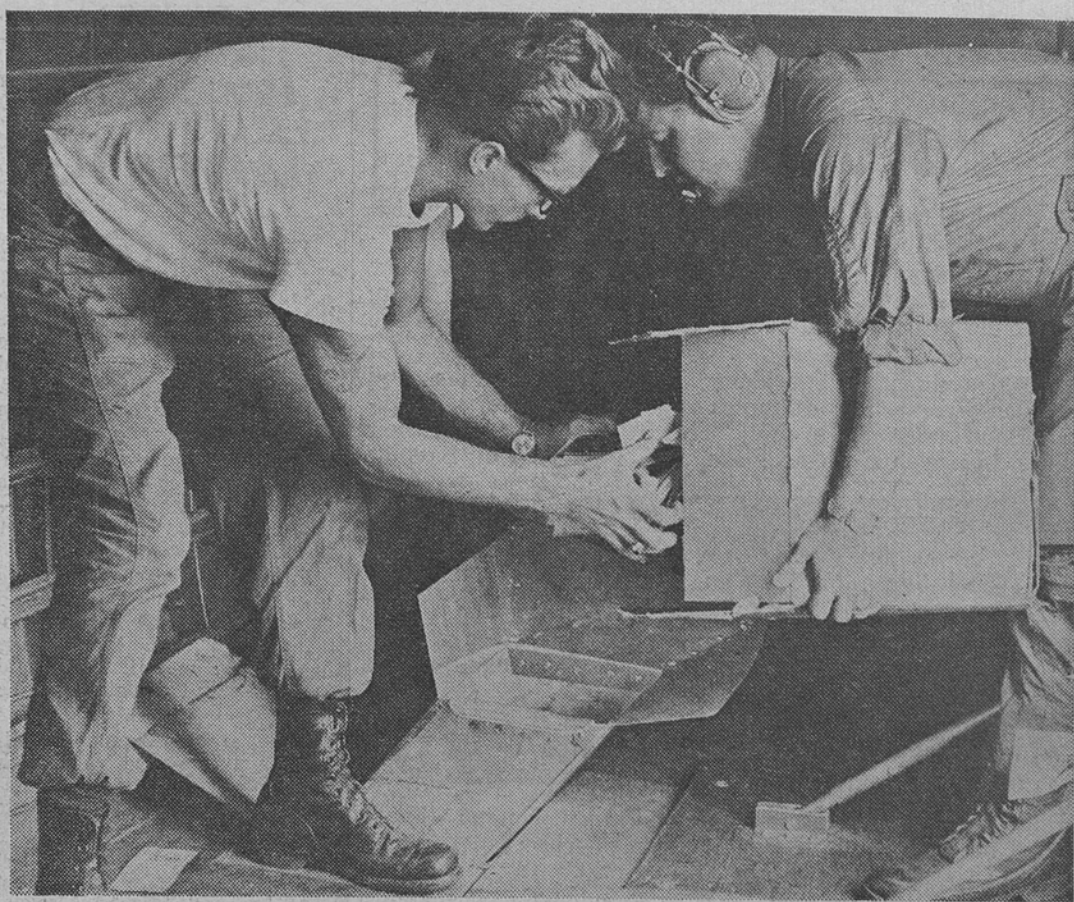
A spokesman for the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, stated that the number of Viet Cong who have come back under the control of the Vietnamese government under the "Chieu Hoi" program has risen 200 per cent in the past 30 days.

The increase was credited, by Brigade officers, to the heavy pressure placed on the Viet Cong by Allied combat operations and the increased security offered ralliers.

Leaflet drops carried out by the Brigade's psychological operations personnel explained the program thoroughly to prospective ralliers.

Specially equipped helicopters carrying high-powered public address systems blared the "Chieu Hoi" message throughout the combat area, especially after contact had been made with the Viet Cong.

"These methods were effective," said Captain Meador, "but the greatest single reason for the increase in the number of ralliers was the intensity and size of Allied operations in the area".



DYNAMITE—Specialist 5 Dave Caron, Butte, Mont., and Airman First Class Charles Wingate, Charlotte, N.C., drop thousands of leaflets, designed to undermine enemy forces, over suspected VC positions.

(Photo by SFC A. E. Wakefield, USA, Staff Photographer)

Paper War Dynamite To Viet Cong Forces

Bien Hoa (III CORPS IO) — Waging a war with dynamite-on-paper is a serious business to the 246th Psychological Operations Company as their words create explosive havoc in the ranks of the VC.

The leaflets composed, printed and dropped by the 246th have resulted in more than 3,700 Viet Cong rallying to the government of South Vietnam.

Work done in the "Chieu Hoi (Open Arms) program by all psychological warfare units throughout the RVN is dealing the VC and the communist north a harsh blow. Since the origination of the program in 1963 more than 60,000 VC and communist have voluntarily returned to the side of the government.

The 246th carries its messages to the VC almost daily, riding with pilots of the 5th Air Commando Squadron located at Bien Hoa air base. The leaflets are carried aloft in the small two-seat, single-engine U-10 for small drops, and in the ancient C-47 for larger jobs.

Normally a flight commits a visible and audible form of warfare battle. First, leaflets are dropped, then a message is broadcast from the sky. Drops are made throughout the III Corps area, which is comprised of 11 provinces and the Rung Sat Special Zone in the south central sectors.

It's no accident that certain messages are dropped in specific areas or that a particular message directed to a particular VC unit will be dropped in its suspected location.

Information obtained from suspects and captured detainees, documents and Chieu Hoi returnees are carefully studied, sifted and recorded.

The majority of the data comes from field teams which serve with all major U. S. units in the III Corps area. The psywarriors also have a field team attached to the 1st Australian Task Force.

Responsibility for selecting target areas for leaflet drops is the job of the Air Operations team. In addition to target selection, the operation section chooses the appropriate leaflet and coordinates the upcoming flight.

Messages are rewritten, translated and supplied with art work before being dropped.

According to one psywarrior, the leaflets are like thousands of butterflies that flutter to earth and, somewhere down there, are VC who'd rather switch than fight.

Marines & Army Have 175 Punch

By SSgt. Geo. Hicks, USA
Staff Writer

Gio Linh (MACV) — Face to face with communism, Army and Marine artillery batteries at Gio Linh share one common bond in being the nearest stationed American units to the Demilitarized Zone.

Delivering tons of artillery rounds on the DMZ and targets inside North Vietnam, the Marine Composite Artillery Battalion of the 12th Marine Regiment pounds signal and supply installations and troop buildups as primary missions.

According to Marine Sergeant Major Robert Joiner, the batteries are located about 2000 meters from Freedom Bridge, a link between North and South Vietnam.

The gun crews operate on the save-a-plane system which involves the use of a letter and a number for target designation to avoid hitting low flying aircraft which make frequent strikes over the area.

"There is a certain amount of uneasiness about being here because of enemy mortar and artillery fire. One night we were hit with over 1,000 rounds," said Sergeant Joiner.

To suppress mortar fire and infiltration, the Marines have erected watch towers which are equipped with powerful telescopes. In manning the 60 ft towers, the Marines can scan the area for miles.

'Mr. Flynn Sergeant Stays Again'

Da Nang (USMC) — The ability to speak Vietnamese has enabled Marine Sergeant Michael F. Flynn to have a definite effect in pacifying villages in I Corps.

Since arriving in Vietnam in November, 1964, Sergeant Flynn has used his constant contact with Vietnamese people to learn their language fluently.

Because of his language proficiency, he worked as the civil affairs officer for the 2nd Battalion, Third Marines, 3rd Marine Division. He was instrumental in the effort that pacified Le My village.

A Combined Action Company

(CAC) was organized at An Me, a small hamlet near Dai Loc, 20 miles south of Da Nang. A different squad was sent to the CAC each week. Sergeant Flynn's turn came and he stayed.

He was so useful to the CAC program — working with Vietnamese Popular Forces to keep the hamlet secure — that he was assigned to the An Me post for as long as his battalion remained in the area.

When his unit received orders to move, the sergeant requested to stay with the CAC, which had relocated to Loc An, deeper into

VC territory. His request was denied.

The people of An Loc sent a letter to his battalion commander, reading:

"We are respectfully to submit this letter to you. Will you please give permission Mr. Flynn Sergeant inhabit at our hamlet because in lapse of time he remain here he win all the hearts of the whole people and he can to speak Vietnamese very much."

Sergeant Flynn's next request was stamped "approved," and he was put in charge of the CAC unit.

His first move was to re-locate

the CAC. He re-located again and again until now it is further in VC infiltrated area than any other CAC unit in the Da Nang area.

"I've become so involved with the people here, it's become a personal war for me," says Sergeant Flynn. "I've come to rely on them as much or more than they rely on me."

If he doesn't extend his Vietnam tour again he will return to Texas and attend college.

"I plan to major in linguistics, and return to Vietnam to help rebuild this war-torn country," he says.

Editorial Future Savings

United States Savings Bonds help strengthen America and further the cause of freedom.

Members of the Armed Forces can see first hand how vital the Savings Bond program is to the cause of freedom, at home, in the Republic of Vietnam and throughout the world.

According to President Johnson, servicemen and women are excellent examples of participation in the Service Bond program. He said, "They who are investing their lives in freedom's cause are also investing in Savings



Bonds. Last year, American servicemen bought almost \$250 million worth of Savings Bonds—close to \$90 million in the last quarter alone."

During this year's "Share in Freedom" U.S. Savings Bond campaign, all Americans will be asked to buy bonds regularly.

Now, however, there is a new addition to the bond line-up. It is the "Freedom Share," a companion to the Series E bonds and sold only in combination with them and through a regular purchase plan such as payroll savings.

They're available in four denominations with the purchase price set at 81 per cent of the face value. You can buy a \$25 Freedom Share for \$20.25; a \$50 one for \$40.50; a \$75 share for \$60.75; and a \$100 Freedom Share for \$81.00.

The Freedom Shares pay 4.74 per cent interest and mature in four and a half years, as opposed to 4.15 per cent interest in seven years for the regular Series E bonds.

Savings Bonds and the new Freedom Shares not only help your country, but they help you save money. For a few dollars a month you can help guarantee the future for yourself, your family and your nation.

If you're already buying bonds, buy a Freedom Share too. If you're not signed up to get bonds on a regular basis, join the millions of Americans who are making a sound investment in their security through the Savings Bond program. (AFNB)

Armed Forces Day Prayer

Washington (ANF)—God of our fathers, who hast made us heirs of brave and faithful men and women, accept, we pray Thee, this Armed Forces Day, our humble gratitude for the boundless blessings which they have bequeathed to us. Grant that we may prove worthy of their heroism and sacrifice.

We commend to Thy keeping all who are serving in our Armed Forces on land, sea and in the air. May Thy gracious Providence watch over them and guide them to victory and honor in defense of our nation and principles. In all things may they know Thy power and presence.

We thank Thee for the innumerable spiritual and material resources of our servicemen in their struggle for a just and lasting peace. Make us mindful of our own responsibilities to mankind. Be our refuge and strength so that in all battles of life we may be valiant in our service to Thee and our beloved country. Amen (Armed Forces Chaplains Board)



The OBSERVER is an authorized newspaper published weekly by the Command Information Division, Office of Information, Military Assistance Command Vietnam for United States Forces in Vietnam. Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect policies or positions of the Department of Defense or any of the Armed Forces. The OBSERVER uses materials from the Armed Forces Press File, Armed Forces News Bureau and other Department of Defense agencies. Direct mail to: Editor, The OBSERVER, Hq. MACV, APO 96222.

COMUSMACV Gen. W.C. Westmoreland, USA
Information Officer Col. R.R. Bankson, USA
Chief, Command Info Lt. Col. R.M. Bussjaeger, USAF
Officer in Charge 1st Lt. T.A. Quinn, USA
Editor Gy. Sgt. J.E. Huerta, USMC
Assistant Editor SP4 T.P. Rhoades, USA

IG Team Gives IG Pointers

Saigon (MACV)—Even while fighting a war, inspections are important, so 24 members of the Vietnamese Inspector General (IG) Staff, Joint General Staff, received an orientation from U. S. inspectors recently.

The U. S. team—three members of the Department of the Army IG instruction Team—came here from Washington for the one-week course.

Purpose of the course was to give the Vietnamese students a rundown on the techniques, procedures and policies in making inspections, investigations, and in receiving complaints in the U. S. IG Corps.

Some of the Vietnamese attending the course will teach other newly assigned Vietnamese inspectors general at their own IG school.

The instructors informed the students that the mission of the U. S. Army IG Corps is to assist the commanders in problems solving, and not merely to find fault.

The U. S. team gives orientation courses around the world, and conducts classes eight times annually for newly assigned inspectors general for all U. S. services and for students of foreign countries. This was the team's first trip to Vietnam.

At the present time there are only four U. S. Army IG advisors in Vietnam; it is expected that there eventually will be an IG advisor at the corps and division level of the Vietnamese Army.

Marriage, Divorce, Marriage

An Son (USA) — After nine months of divorce, the helicopters of the 232d Assault Helicopter Company have had a reconciliation and were "re-married" in a reorganization of the company.

Arriving in Vietnam in mid-1966, the 282d "Black Cats" were assigned a general support mission for both I and II Corps areas, with headquarters in Da Nang. Because of their mission the troop-carrying "slicks" and the gunships of the 282nd were normally employed in single-task tasks from bases throughout both corps areas.

Flying unescorted over rugged terrain and VC-infested territory with only door gunners for protection became commonplace. Most members of the "Black Cats" felt divorce was permanent.

With reconciliation an accomplished fact, the unit is looking forward to providing bigger and better support.

Cloth Insignia: Save Them

Washington (AT) — Cloth insignia of enlisted grades isn't headed for the junk pile despite a recent report that the Army is considering adoption of miniature pin-on metal insignia. Pentagon officials say the miniatures, if adopted, would be used only on field and utility uniforms.

No decision will be made on the pin-on insignia until at least July when recommendations are due from USARV.

The Piaster Poet

"Money saved is earned," barked the Top,
As he buttoned his shirt in Dalat.

He got paid at nine,
And made a bee line,

To buy bonds and to save for Bangkok.

To haggle, first listen, then laugh,
At the first price; then offer them half.

With patience you'll get,
A good bargain, we'll bet,
And you'll save enough loot for a calf
(Good Grief!)

A well-known cartoonist named Tony,
Suspected some merchants were phony.

So he learned Vietnamese,
And now listens with ease,
As they plot to dispose of his "mony."

A troop from patrol named Shelleens,
Had a thought as he cleaned M-16's,
In my checking account,
Is an adequate amount,
For my R&R to the Philippines.

A T-girl said "How you know Joe,
This job that I throw you is snow?"
"I'm not, he replied,
"Brand new on this side.
"And this tea bit is stupid for sho."

Vietnam Added To WAC's History

Washington (AFN)—The Women's Army Corps is still a "young woman," compared to the date American men first donned an Army uniform. However, the WAC has established a colorful history and excellent record of service since its organization only 25 years ago.

The initial step to create an Army women's team was taken in 1941 by a woman, Representative Edith

Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts. A bill was introduced and signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on May 14, 1942.

Training began during mid-July at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. In July, 1943, President Roosevelt signed Public Law 110, establishing the Women's Army Corps as a component of the Army of the United States. It became a permanent part of the Army on June 12, 1948, with the signing of Public Law 625 by President Harry S. Truman.

A permanent Women's Army Corps Center was dedicated in 1954 at Fort McClellan, Ala. Since that time, the WAC has grown and matured, always keeping an eye on the future.

During the past two years, some Army women have served as advisors and stenographers in the Republic of Vietnam. A WAC detachment of 80 women has been assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam (USARV), on the outskirts of Saigon.

Colonel Elizabeth P. Hoisington, Director, Women's Army Corps said, "It is with great pride on our 25th anniversary that I inventory the resources within our Women's Army Corps and the opportunities which lie ahead for their advancement as members of the Army Team."

Choice Words Sweep Village

Oasis (USA) — Men of the 2nd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division are finding that they're talking more, listening more and shooting less.

This talking is interrogation, a weapon that they've been using since the brigade's area of operations moved closer to Pleiku and away from the Cambodian border.

In this new area, the members of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, are conducting many more village sweeps. While few villages were found across the Se San River, the new area is dotted with Vietnamese and Montagnard villages.

Members of A Company conducted a typically profitable sweep of Plei Ko Bo village. In the early morning hours, Captain Raymond Crawford wrapped his company around the settlement.

At the same time, Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) soldiers and interpreters attached to the company moved the villagers out of the homes and into a central location.

Moving quickly, the CIDG and

interpreters broke down the population into three groups; women and children, the elderly, and all males ranging in age from 18 to 35. This last group was the target of the interrogation, for they were of military age.

The first two men convinced the questioners they had no connection with the Viet Cong. It was on the third, however, that they struck pay dirt. He was a healthy, husky lad, and the look in his eyes showed he held little love for his interrogators.

He broke down under the skillful questioning of the men and confessed his association with the VC. He also pointed out six of his comrades in the village who were Viet Cong.

At the same time, a military intelligence team was searching another group for evidence which might connect them with the enemy. Here too, they were successful. Indications were that five of the group might have done work for the VC.

ARVN Officer Earns US Silver Star Medal

Soc Trang (IV CORPS IO) — Major Le Van Hung, commanding officer of the 31st Regiment, 21st ARVN Infantry Division, received the United States' third highest award for valor, the Silver Star, in recognition of his actions as a battalion commander, during a IV Corps operation in Chuong Thien province September, 1966.

At the beginning of the operation, Major Hung's unit was lifted by helicopters to reinforce another battalion which was under attack by a large Viet Cong unit.

The landing zone was under heavy fire and Major Hung quickly organized his forces, deployed them in attack formation and led an assault against strongly fortified enemy positions.

As the battalion's forward ele-

ments neared their objective, they began to receive heavy automatic weapons fire which threatened to halt the advance. Reacting at once, Major Hung exposed himself to the hostile fire as he moved to a vantage point, obtained a grenade launcher and destroyed one of the enemy's gun positions. Firing from a completely exposed location, he destroyed a second emplacement.

Redeploying his forces, he led them through enemy fire into the remaining hostile positions. In vicious hand-to-hand fighting, the major's unit inflicted numerous casualties on the Viet Cong and captured a large amount of enemy equipment.

Key Role

Battle-Tested Viet Rangers Work In Highland Relocation Program

Plei Rongol (USA) — A Montagnard city is expanding near the Viet Cong mining of the portion of Route 19B that runs through their area.

Led by Dai Uy (Captain) Nguyen Kim Bien, a veteran of the French battles against the Viet Minh, the battalion came to the Pleiku area from Lam Dong sector where it was successful in breaking up a ring of VC tax collectors.

"This is a good battalion with good soldiers," said the Dai Uy proudly as he recounted the history of the unit he has commanded since June, 1966.

Before the Lam Dong operation, the rangers had spent nine months in the II Corps area. Moving just outside of the corps sector, the unit set up on Route 20 to lay in wait for the tax collectors.

"We killed 10 VC and captured five more in the short time we were there," Dai Uy Bien explained, "In addition to destroying the Viet Cong tax collection points, we also captured four weapons — one Chinese Communist rifle and three carbines."

Ammo Canisters Used To Curb Viet Disease

Bao Trai (USN)—A resourceful Navy Seabee civic action team has found a way to use discarded artillery canisters to help solve the problems of disease and sanitation among the 2,000 people of Bao Trai village, capital of Hau Nghia province.

The team's Hospital Corpsman First Class, Les Lagda, found "diseases here that are unheard of in the U.S.," pointing

out that "most of the ailments could be eliminated if these people had a proper diet and adequate sanitation facilities."

"Most serious," said Lieutenant (jg) William A. Moros, "was the lack of drainage which made most of the streets in town solid mud during the rainy season." The stagnant water encouraged the breeding of malaria-carrying mosquitoes.

"We began by hauling tons of fill to raise the street level,"

continued the lieutenant. "We had the equipment for this but most of the drainage ditches had to be dug by hand. We mentioned the need for laborers to the province chief, Colonel Trung Ta Nguyen. The next day, Colonel Nguyen had Vietnamese excavating the ditches, and soon the job was completed.

"We did run into difficulty," he admitted. "There was no pipe available for culverts that we wanted to put at the entrance of each house."

The ingenious Seabees utilized discarded 155mm and 105mm howitzer canisters by welding them together end to end, and soon had the pipe for their culverts.

Bao Trai is located about 30 miles northwest of Saigon, along a dirt road called Route 8. During the monsoons, sections of this road disappear under water, virtually isolating the community from the outside world. Making the road passable throughout the year was of primary concern to the village officials.

The Seabees trained one of the Vietnamese to operate a dump truck and began hauling fill dirt from a nearby quarry to the swampy road. Progress was halted occasionally by sniper fire and land mines, but thousands of cubic yards of dirt have raised the road about three feet.

The 13-man Seabee Team 0406, along with seven other such teams from Navy construction battalions, is sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The teams teach rural Vietnamese methods of construction, sanitation and health care.

Garbage disposal presented another problem that Team 0406 is solving. For years the villagers have thrown refuse in any convenient corner, which contributed to the rat population and the spread of disease.



HATS OFF—A Vietnamese child of Bao Trai village ventures forward to say hello to Navy civic action men of Seabee Team 0406. (USN Photo)

VC Run From 25th Inf Cav

Cu Chi (USA) — Armored vehicles of the 25th Infantry Division rushed to rescue an Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) outpost at Phuoc Hiep village, four km north of Cu Chi, that came under recent night attack.

Just 37 minutes after the "Tropic Lightning" Division's operations center received the 2 a.m. distress call, B Troop of the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry was rolling on its way.

The first platoon, led by Lieutenant George Rogers, Williamsport, Pa., encountered an estimated battalion size enemy force at the perimeter of the besieged outpost. The VC broke contact immediately at the sound of the American machine-guns.

Staff Sergeant Glen Pike, Denver, Colo., and his second platoon soon engaged elements of the enemy. Sergeant Pike's "track" was hit by an anti-tank round and destroyed. All the men were rescued from the burning personnel carriers. No Americans were killed.

In the morning four VC, apparently the ones who had destroyed the lead "track", were found dead.

Sand Traps No Problem After Tips

Tuy Hoa (USA) — Two Army PFCs here are spending their free moments getting out of sand traps, thanks to Arnold Palmer.

Headquarters Company, 39th Engineer Battalion, 45th Engineer Group, U.S. Army Engineer Command is located on what might be described as one big sand trap in Tuy Hoa.

With this excellent practice area, Privates First Class Jeffery Roberts and Walter Schneider, both of Chicago, wrote Arnold Palmer for advice on how to handle sand trap shots.

Both soldiers received a personal letter from Palmer expressing his gratitude for the job the men were doing here and asking to meet them when they return home.

To help them with their sand trap problems, two Palmer sand wedges and 24 golf balls arrived in the mail two days later.

Since then, a loud "Fore!" can be heard every evening behind the golfers' tent.

Navy Helps 9th Inf Div At Port Sea

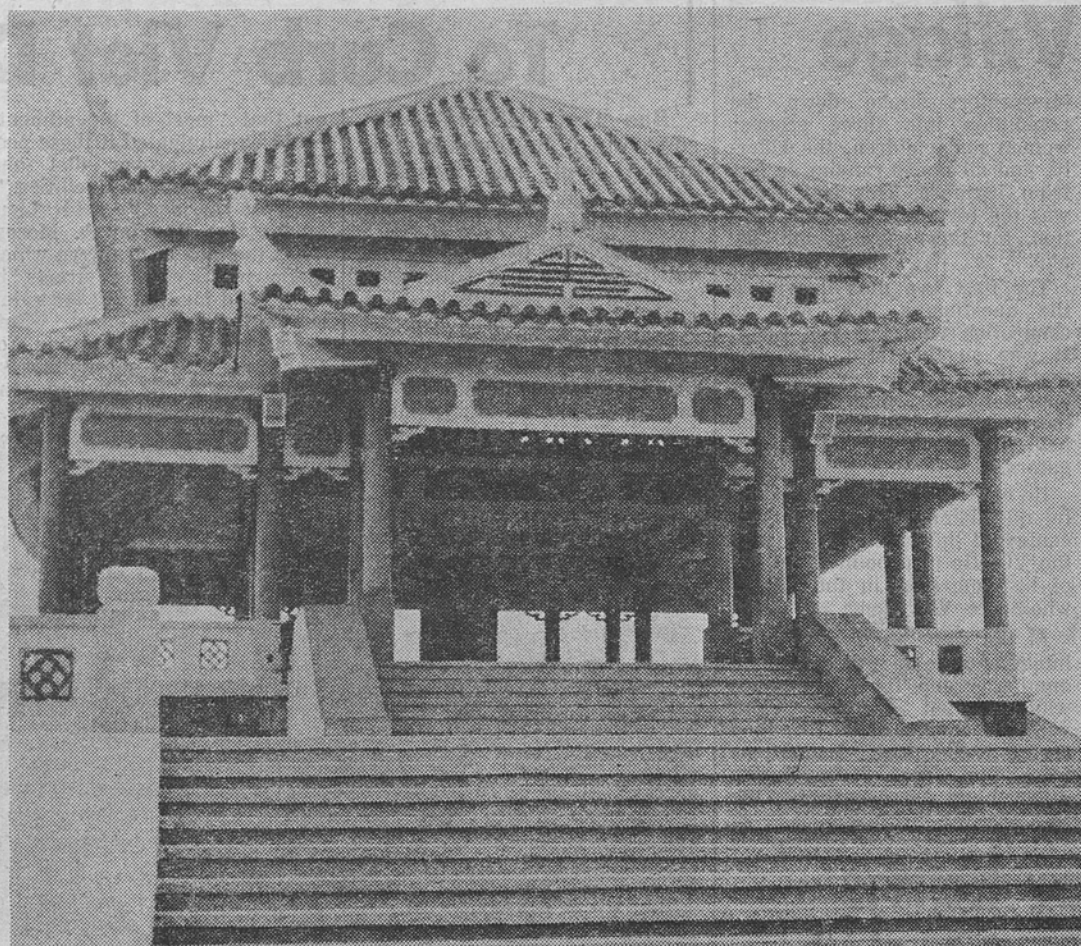
Nui Dat (USA) — The U.S. Navy destroyer "Caronade" lent a helping hand to the 9th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade during Operation Port Sea.

A long range reconnaissance patrol spotted an enemy base camp, battalion size, in the dense jungle northeast of Vung Tau. The camp was believed to be part of a large headquarters and support complex.

The patrol passed the fire mission to the 9th Infantry Division's fire support element who relayed it to the Navy gunfire team at Baria.

The "Caronade" quickly swung its 5-inch guns into action and responded with a 100-round barrage of high explosive shells into the target area.

A Memorial—Thuong Tiec



THUONG TIEC—We regret — We are sorry . . . These Vietnamese words can be found at the base of the statue honoring all Vietnamese fighting men who have given their lives for their country. The statue, familiar to many Americans, is located along the Bien Hoa highway, at the entrance to the Vietnamese National Memorial Cemetery area. A Memorial Temple to these fighting men below stands on a hill in the area and is visible for miles around. (Photos by SP5 Ray Gardner, USA Staff Photographer)



Choppers Kill Crop Hoppers

Nha Trang (USA) — Quick reaction by a U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and an Army aviation team averted a threatened rice shortage in Khanh Hoa province.

Rice plant destroying "leafhoppers" were found on 4,200 acres of growing rice. Fearing a wide-spread food shortage which could affect as many as 320,000 people in the province, Vietnamese officials asked USAID provincial representative, James R. Smith, for assistance.

Although Smith had DDT to destroy the leafhoppers, he needed some means to spread it quickly. Problem in hand, he went to Colonel John W. Marr, commander of the 17th Combat Aviation Group for assistance.

Colonel Marr had the helicopters, but naturally had no DDT spraying equipment. With typical "GI ingenuity" men of the 17th modified dispensers to spray the DDT.

Mounted on UH-1D "Huey" helicopters, the DDT was applied to the area and the leafhopper threat was wiped out before it could affect the crops.

'Tilapia' Makes Its Debut

Phu Bai (USMC) — Fish, an important part of the Vietnamese diet, just are not available to many villagers. The 3rd Marine Division's civil affairs section has initiated a new program where "Tilapia", an excellent eating fish, brought from a hatchery in Hue, will be given to villages desiring to raise this new breed of food fish.

"Tilapia" grows to ten inches in only four months and breeds faster than any other available eating fish. One pair of this large and firm fish can multiply into as many as 10,000 young fish.

They thrive on algae and fungus as well as garbage. The more ugly the water, the better the fish.

Since "tilapia" are not a fighting variety, all other fish in the pond have to be destroyed. A special poison has been developed which will kill all species but the "tilapia".

Example villages for farming of the "tilapia" will be selected in the Phu Bai area to show the Vietnamese what is available from the Hue fish hatchery.

'Miss Sue' Heads New Facility

Phu Bai (USMC) — "Miss Sue", a 15 year-old Vietnamese student nurse, will see a dream come true when the Marines of the 11th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, finish building a medical facility and school for the residents of Lang Vei.

Le Thi Dung, who likes to be called "Miss Sue", will head the new aid station and administer medical aid to the villagers of Lang Vei and people in the surrounding hamlets.

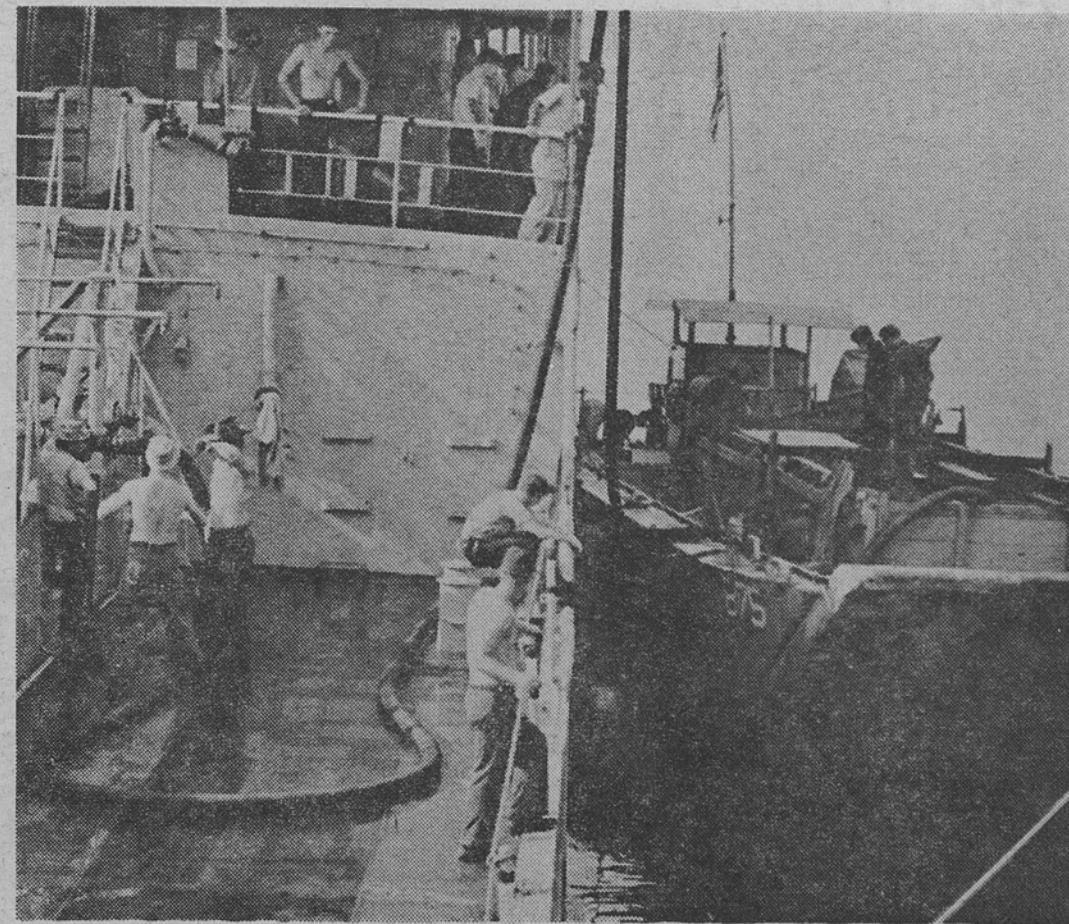
Construction work for the dispensary and 40-desk school is under the supervision of Second Lieutenant Richard V. DeGryse, Jacksonville, N.C.

Our Motto



They use the sign when refueling operations at Long Ha, Hue, Chu Lai, and Da Nang. You'll get more sea miles.

Sorry, No Hi Test



The bladder boats can take up to 10,000 gallons of diesel, aviation gas, regular gas or jet fuel.

USS Kishwaukee A Floating Pump

Da Nang (USN) — USS Kishwaukee literally puts a tiger in the tanks of Naval Support Detachments Hue, Dong Ha and Chu Lai.

The Kishwaukee (AOG-9) has been on station in South Vietnam since December 1966. The ship is temporarily attached to Naval Support Activity, Da Nang, where she picks up fuel for the coastal runs.

Commanded by Lieutenant Jean Yarber, Honolulu, the 310-foot class tanker holds several records. The first is her proficiency in keeping Da Nang's detachments topped off to full capacity at all times. Lieutenant Yarber said, "We have never had to be called to give fuel. At every time a call has come in we were there waiting."

Even though the Kishwaukee is a seagoing tanker, the monsoons were pretty rough. Lieutenant Raymond Parker, executive officer, said, "The ship would take on a full load of fuel and make its way to the mouth of the Cau Viet river, 85 miles North of Da Nang. Then it would sit there for a couple of days waiting for the bladder boats, because they couldn't get through the mouth of the river."

The bladder boats are Mike-8 boats with 10,000 gallon rubber bladders sitting in their cargo space. "After coming along side the Kishwaukee and stating their preference of fuel it takes about 13 minutes to pump them full," stated Chief Boatswain Mate Maurice Newman, Silver Springs, Md.

Then the Kishwaukee deck department would hook up the type fuel desired, either JP4, Diesel, Aviation gas or Mo-Gas.

The fastest way of refueling the stations is the new floating hose method. This bottom lay type hose runs out to sea from

the outpost fuel tanks. Then approximately 15,000 yards out a four-inch rubber hose is attached to a buoy. When the tanker gets into the area she sets her anchors and hooks up to the hose. It only takes a matter of minutes from the time the hose is picked up until fuel is on its way to shore. Refueling operations by the lay pipe method can put ashore as much as 150,000 gallons of fuel a day.

Shortly after the arrival in Vietnam, the Kishwaukee was ordered to refuel at Chu Lai south of Da Nang. After getting down there the swells at sea were 10 to 12 feet and refueling operations were impossible. By the time the weather calmed down enough to let the tanker hook up Chu Lai was almost out of fuel. This was the first time since coming to Da Nang that the Kishwaukee full load was almost taken.

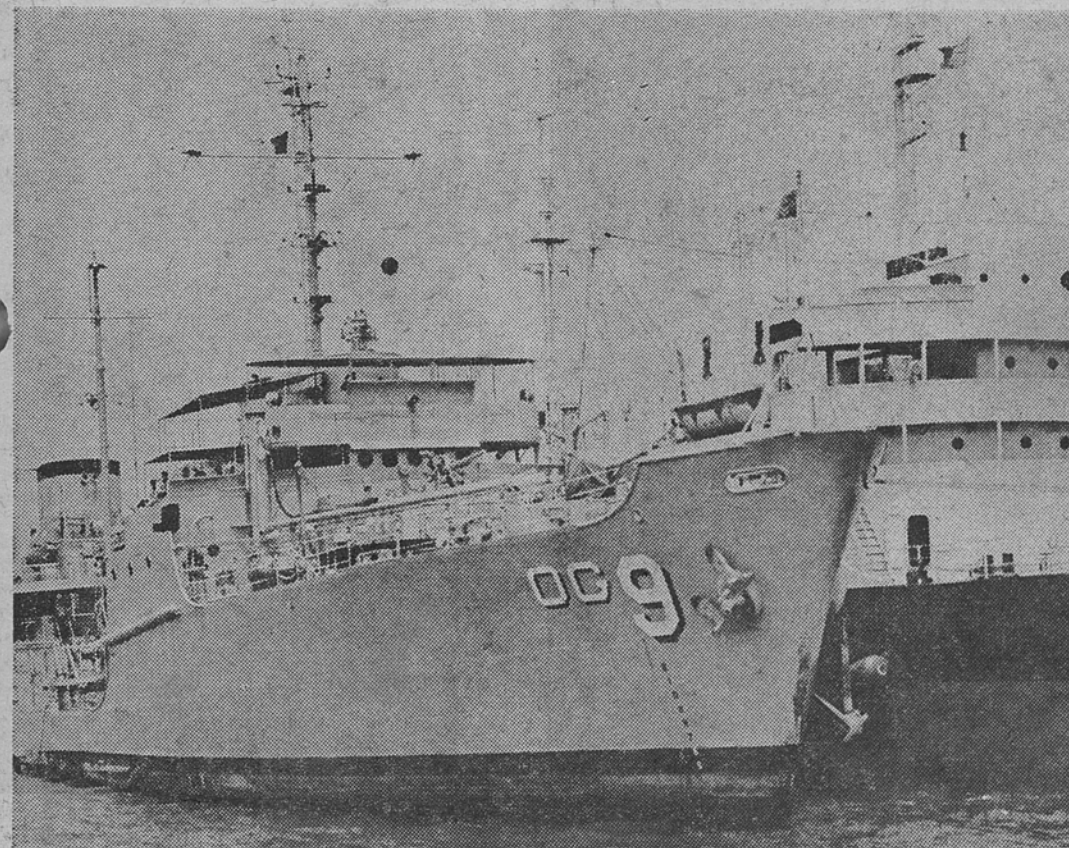
The average run takes from five to six days and then two days back to Da Nang to top-off.

The Kishwaukee hit some good ports on her way to Vietnam. They also loaded 13 tons of books and clothes for Operation Hand-clasp. These were off-loaded at the island of Taiwan.

A message from Admiral Weschler, former NSA, Da Nang, commander said, "The ship USS Kishwaukee and her crew have a 'can do attitude'. They took every job with vigor and never fell back."

Story and Photos By JOSH GARY RIESE, USN

Topping Off



The AOG-9 topping off her tanks in the Da Nang Harbor. The Kishwaukee usually fills every six or seven days.



U.S. Army



U.S. Marine Corps

In the Cause of Freedom

Armed Forces Vietnam

Commander in Chief

WASHINGTON (AFNB)—America's rise to world leadership will be remembered down through history as an inspiring example of what men can achieve in the cause of freedom.

Freedom was the goal that sparked our independence—and only the love of freedom has sustained it.

Nowhere is this dedication reflected more vividly than in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Our modern military establishment is the mightiest arsenal of all time. But it would give us neither peace nor security without the devotion to duty, the courage and sacrifice of the men and women who wear our country's uniform.

As Commander-in-Chief, I invite every American to participate in the 1967 observance of Armed Forces Day, which honors those who guard our heritage.

In Vietnam—and around the world—they perpetuate the ideals which made and preserve us as a nation.

Let our thoughts be with them on this day. And let our prayers attend them, always, as they unflinchingly defend our legacy and our lives.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

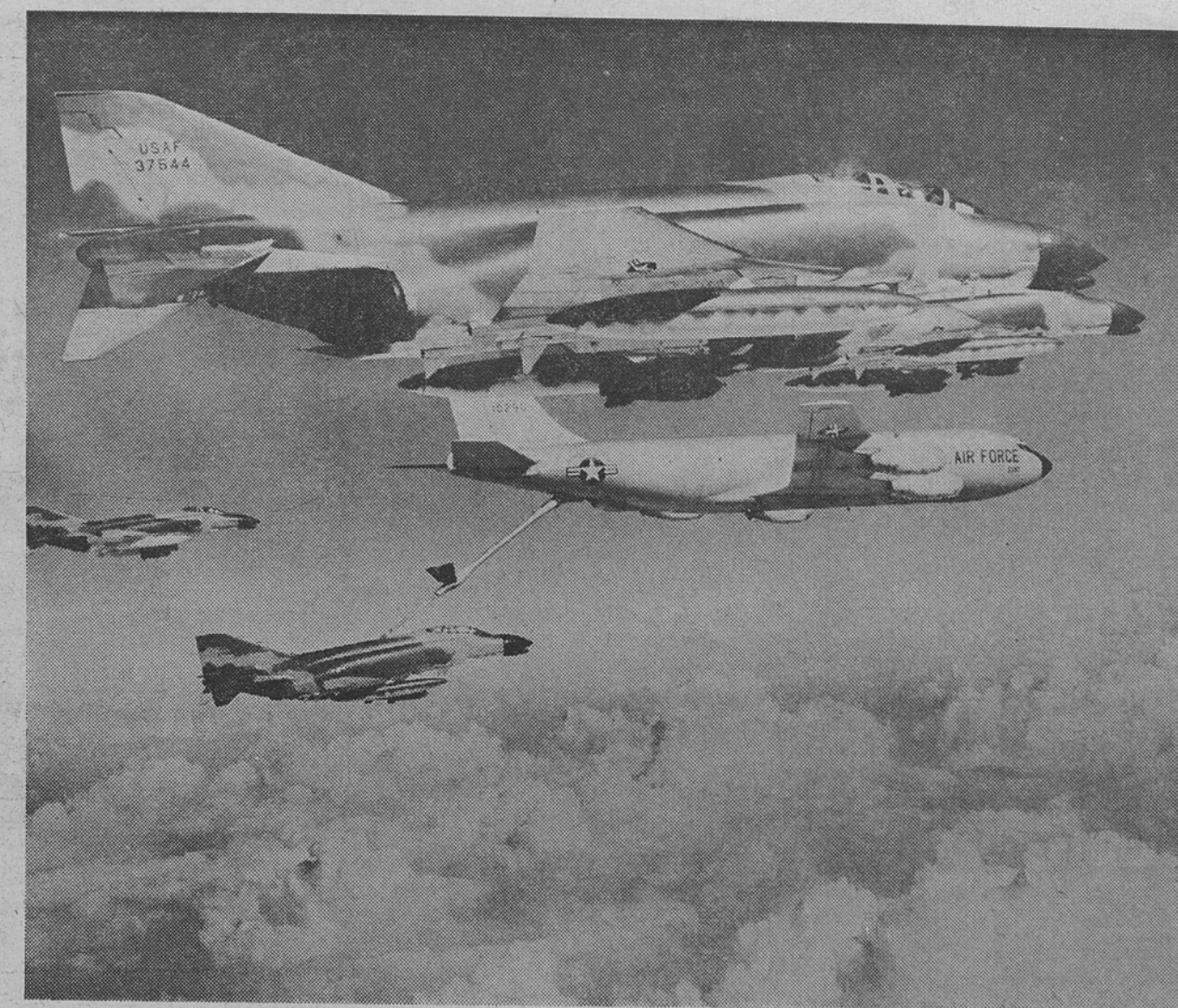
COMUSMACV

On this Armed Forces Day 1967 it is good for all of us here in Vietnam to pause and consider the significance of our efforts to assist the brave and dedicated people of this country. Their fight is our fight. Our job is to defeat the enemy, protect the people, and help them to build their nation. Each of us, whatever our job on land, sea, or in the air, stands ready to meet any challenge, accept any task and endure any struggle to insure the success of our commitment here.

I take great pride in acknowledging your heroic actions on the battlefields and your deeds of compassion in the countryside. Your courage and your inspired, selfless devotion are an example to the people of the world as you help to usher in a new era of freedom here in Vietnam. The development and growth of democratic processes and institutions within this country are clear indications of the progress being made.

Your achievements mark you as the finest fighting men our nation has ever sent into battle; you deserve the honor, the respect and the support of all the American people—for you are America's best.

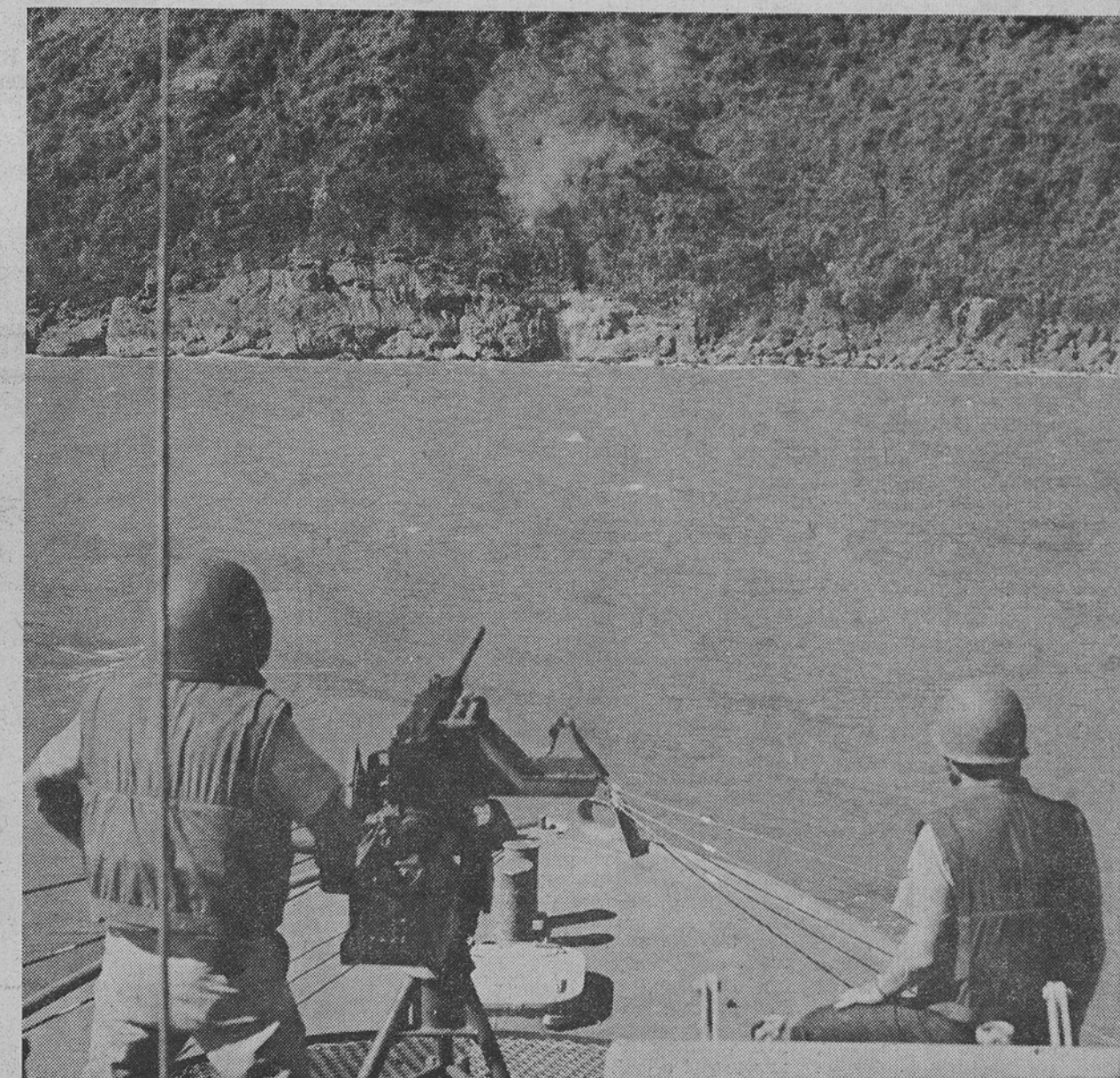
GEN. W. C. WESTMORELAND, USA



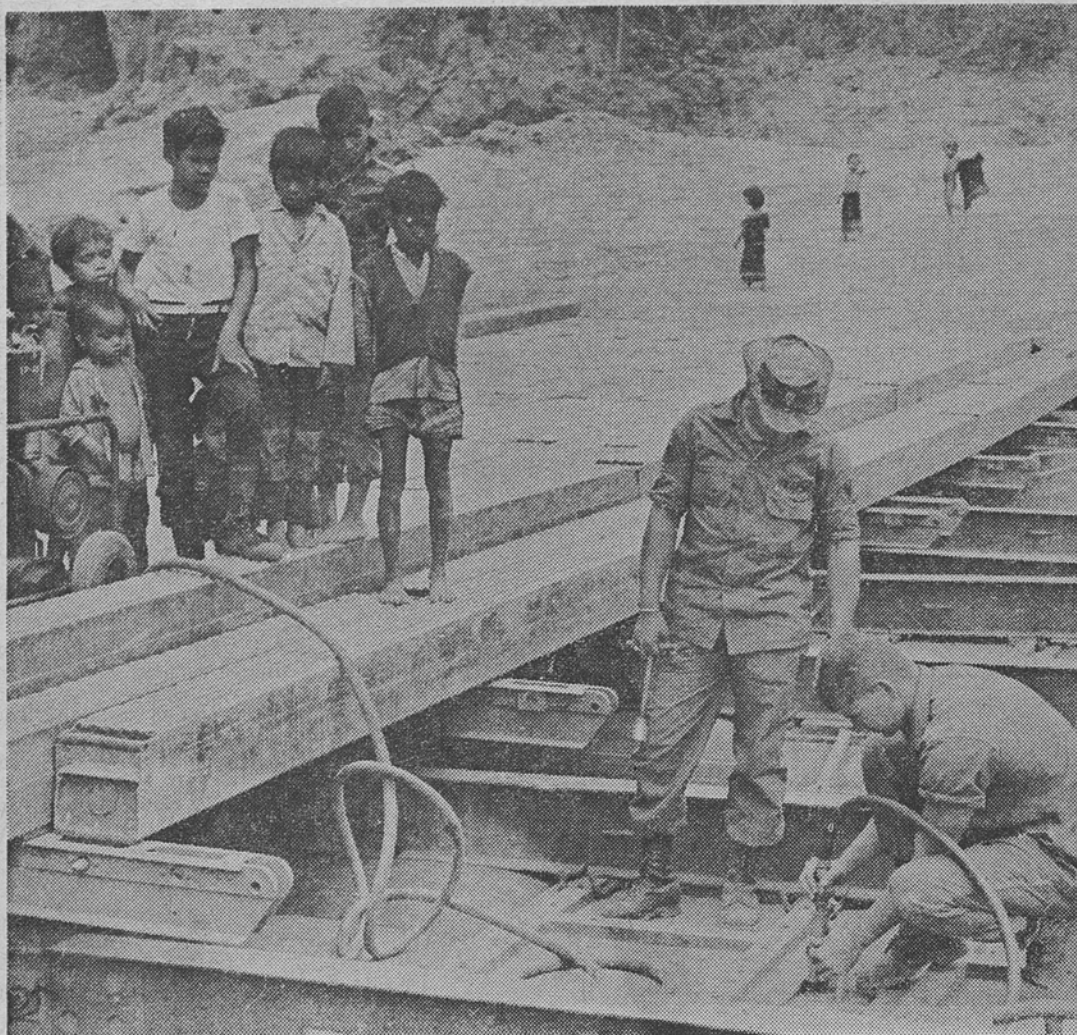
U.S. Air Force



U.S. Navy



U.S. Coast Guard



MAINTENANCE—Army engineers have a full time job keeping pneumatic floats inflated with air.

Engineers Bridge Friendship Gap

Story & Photos By USA

Polei Krong (USA) — With prefabricated components like the parts of an erector set, U.S. Army engineers can bridge almost any situation.

The 509th Engineer Company (Panel Bridge) has constructed a 406-foot long float bridge at Polei Krong that may well be called a "bridge of friendship."

Originally erected across the Krong Poko River in the Central Highlands to support the 101st Airborne Division's Operation Pickett, the bridge was dismantled and carted back to Pleiku.

The same bridge has been used to support supply operations of the 4th Infantry Division.

This time without planning on it, the engineers performed a dual mission. In addition to its military use, local Montagnard workers could get to their jobs across the river simply by walking across the bridge, instead of having to rely on a few old canoes to ferry them across.

Elements of the 509th stay with the bridge to keep air in the floats, keep the treadways bolted tight and control traffic. It is these "bridge-sitters" who are making it a friendship bridge.

The Montagnard children of the nearby village soon gathered around the new change of scenery. The soldiers took the kids swimming, and before long, soap was tactfully introduced. They loved it. Without infringing on anyone's privacy, the engineers helped get a hygiene and sanitation program underway.

Whenever the villagers have

a feast or celebration, the Americans are invited and treated as honored guests. When villagers get an accidental cut or scratch, they now go to one of the men at the bridge site for a band-aid or iodine.

The engineers recall Christmas Eve, when they sat around a camp fire singing carols. Approximately 300 Montagnards joined them, and were later present at a midnight religious service held in the village.

The 100th Engineer Company recently whipped together another float bridge in less than a day at Cau Mung. When the Viet Cong blew up two Eiffel bridges across the Rach Cay and Rach Muong Chuoi rivers, military and civilian traffic was delayed.

These emergency bridges enabled traffic to save two hours travelling time, while the 86th Engineer Battalion began repairing the blown bridges. The units are part of the 79th Engineer Group, U.S. Army Engineer Command Vietnam.

An engineer company in the Delta, with the 9th Infantry Division on Operation Port Sea performed almost like Plastic Man using an Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB) whenever they came to a canal or river.

E Company, 15th Engineer Battalion operates an "instant bridge" that can span any 60-foot waterway or ravine in a minute and a half, and support all wheeled or tracked vehicles in the 9th Division's inventory. The 63-ton monster called Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB), simply pulls up to the river bank and hydraulically



"INSTANT BRIDGES"—An AVLB operated by E Company Engineer Battalion extends itself a 60-foot river,

unfolds the hinged bridge halves out and across the obstacle.



EASY WORK—Before this bridge was installed, Montagnard villages had to use canoes. Result: Friendship Bridge.

Combined Units Gives Aid To Sisters Of Orphanage

Binh Thuy (USAF) — Next to the war itself, the most important thing in South Vietnam today is the battle against disease, poverty and despair. American servicemen wage this battle through volunteer work and financial aid projects.

Members of three Air Force units in the Can Tho and Binh Thuy areas recently help build and finance the new Sisters of Providence orphanage at Can Tho.

The orphanage of 150 children ranging in age from newborn to three years old, was built at a cost of \$45,000 (about 4 million piasters).

Air Force men from the 619th Tactical Control Squadron, Detachment 3, at Can Tho, and Binh Thuy's 632nd Supply Squadron and 632nd Civil Engineering Squadron, contributed more than half the money for the orphanage. The remainder of the money was donated by members of the Army, Navy and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Airman aid to the orphanage, originally built in 1947, began in 1956 when medical teams, working with the first units that began construction of Binh Thuy air base, provided medical treatments for the children.

Medical men and chaplains from the Binh Thuy air base make regular visits to the center. Several military units have arranged with groups in the United States to continue sending medical supplies. The units act as agents for the stateside charities.



A LITTLE HELP—Airman First Class Laurel C. Irving, (right), Columbia, S.C., tries to show an orphan child how to work a pull toy while Technical Sergeant Thomas P. Jones, W. Seneca, N.Y., looks doubtful of his know how. (USAF Photo)

The orphanage's latest addition includes a convent and school for girls who wish to become nuns. A new water system, which supplies the first pure water for babies, screens for doors and windows, washing machines, increased medical supplies, and incubators for premature babies have been added.

ARVN Units Watch Over Village While RD Task Force Works

Di An (USA) — Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) soldiers pulled off their most successful seal and search mission in Bien Hoa Province in the hamlet of Khanh Van, 18 miles north of Saigon.

The big change in this mission, as contrasted with previous seal and search missions, is that one ARVN battalion will remain in the village, to keep it under government control.

Khanh Van was chosen as it has been a Viet Cong stronghold and, in the midst of a fertile rice area, controls an important approach route into Saigon as well as being on a main route between War Zones C and D.

Under the watchful eyes of Major Clyde Moore, Colorado Springs, Col., two battalions of the ARVN 48th Regiment surrounded the village at night. At dawn, they swept through the village, assembling the inhabitants in the central market place.

They then checked the villagers for identification, detaining those suspected of being Viet Cong sympathizers. Suspects were interrogated.

The pace of the day's actions changed as the Revolutionary Development Task Force of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division, headed by Lieutenant Colonel Robert Schweitzer, Chicago, began providing medical and dental treatment to the villagers. The people were fed and given newspapers and magazines.

The ARVN unit will now conduct operations and sweeps from

the village and eventually widen their sphere of control. The battalion recently completed two weeks of Revolutionary Development training at its base camp in Tan Uyen.

Philippine Highest Award



ORDER OF SIKATUNA MEDAL—Major General James Humphreys Jr., Assistant Director for Public Health, U.S. Agency for International Development, (USAID) was presented the Order of Sikatuna Medal (degree of Lakan) by Philippine Ambassador Luis Moreno Salcedo (right), assisted by Brigadier General Gaudencio V. Tobias, Commanding General of Philippine Civic Action Group Vietnam. The award was presented for exceptionally outstanding services extended to Philippine Contingents Units and Civic Action Group which contributed to the successful accomplishments of civic action missions. (Photo by PHILCAGV)

'No Sweat' Says VNAF Controller

Bien Hoa (PAFNS) — Vietnamese Staff Sergeant Luong Thoai Nhi, an air traffic controller at Bien Hoa received a certificate of meritorious achievement for his "continued excellence" in directing the flow of traffic on the busiest runway in the world.

Sergeant Nhi, a graduate of the USAF Traffic Control School at Keesler AFB, Miss., has been at Bien Hoa with the 23rd Tactical Fighter Wing, Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF) since June, 1965. Personnel work in the capacity of advisors to the VNAF in the base control tower.

"When I first arrived here, after graduating from school at Keesler, I was assigned to the ground control approach section of flight facilities," Nhi explained. "But, due to a manpower shortage I was reassigned to the control tower."

When the sergeant went to work in the tower, he quickly discovered he was working on the busiest runway in the world. "An aircraft takes off or lands here every 38 seconds, so we're quite busy."

"In our busiest month to date, January, we had a traffic count of 70,774 breaking down to a daily count of 2,283. For 1966, we had a total of 586,000 air

operations in and out of Bien Hoa."

A veteran of eight years military service, Nhi was stationed at Nha Trang before being sent to Keesler.

Married and the father of two children, the 29-year-old serviceman said that before being sent to Keesler, "I was sent to English school at Lackland AFB, Tex."

"How well I grasped English determined the length of my stay there. Having studied it in high school in Saigon, I only spent two and one-half months at Lackland."

"At the four-month air traffic control school some of the courses we covered were air traffic procedures, weather and navigation."

"I also got to see quite a bit of the country while in the U.S. During weekend breaks we visited much of the Southland. After graduation I took a bus instead of a plane from Keesler to San Francisco, to be able to see more of the U.S. countryside and take pictures."

"There won't be another trip like that one because we now have our own Vietnamese Air Force training schools set up," he said.

Plumbing Specialist Keeps Water Flowing

Saigon (USA) — The Army's senior plumber in Saigon has been promoted to Specialist 4. Twenty-five year old William Wiesner, Downeyville, Calif., who heads a five man team of Vietnamese plumbing specialists, helps keep the water moving in more than 150 U.S. and Free World Forces installations in the Saigon-Cholon area.

Wiesner, assigned to the Post Engineers of U.S. Army Headquarters Area Command, directs the small but all-important Pump Section. "Most of the buildings which we lease and occupy in Saigon get their water through gravity feed system," he explains. "That is, the water is pumped from underground pipes to tanks up on the roof of the building. Once it's there, it flows down by means of gravity to provide water for showers, laundry, sewage disposal, etc."

The key link in the process, as Specialist Wiesner explains, is the pump that brings water to the roof tanks. "These buildings use every imaginable kind of pump," he says, "and no two of them are exactly alike. Fortunately, my crew is gaining experience and we're doing everything possible to provide better service for our tenants. Of course, if there's a break in the city system and no water to be pumped up, there's not much we can do."

A 1959 graduate of Red Bluff Union High School in Red Bluff, Calif., Specialist Wiesner worked for his father in the construction business before entering the Army in December 1965. At 6 feet, 4 inches and 200 pounds, he figures to be one of the biggest plumbers in captivity.

"Pumps are an important part of our job," he points out, "but they're not the whole story. When necessary, we'll unclog drains, repair serious leaks, fix flush tanks and anything else you can think of."

"All in all, I've got a good job here, and an interesting one. Nobody likes to come back to their billet after a tough day and find themselves without water. So we do the best we can do to keep the water flowing."

When Specialist Wiesner leaves the Army next December, he plans to become an apprentice plumber in Calif. "If I can solve plumbing problems in Saigon, I'm sure I can fix things back home."

By Mort Walker

A cartoon by Simeon. A small, round figure with a large head and a single hair curl stands on top of a tall, narrow, tiered structure that resembles a stack of books or a very narrow staircase. The figure is looking upwards with a concerned expression. A speech bubble above the figure says, "I THINK I'M WARPING!". The background is filled with vertical lines, suggesting a deep well or a narrow shaft. The signature "Simeon" is in the bottom right corner.

Chicago Cubs hit 10 in 1910 and 11 in 1911.



RC's Birthday Cake Brings Happiness

Vung Tau (ARC) — Wounded soldiers brought from the field to the 36th Evacuation Hospital in Vung Tau get medical treatment from a staff of medical specialists, and the "cheer-up" treatment from what patients call "our Red Cross ladies."

Elanor Koops, a Red Cross hospital field director, is an expert at easing worry and anxiety. She delivers emergency messages, provides financial assistance, and discusses problems. Troops enjoy her soft New Orleans drawl. She provides toilet and comfort articles to patients who arrived from the field with no personal belongings.

Vivian Ollila is a Red Cross recreation specialist, and also a specialist at surprising people. Vivian somehow finds out about birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions. She delivers greeting cards, birthday presents, and other little gifts that boost a man's morale.

Said one young soldier, "I was just laying here thinking what a miserable way to spend my 21st birthday. The Red Cross lady walked up to me with her hands behind her back, and told me to close my eyes. Then she put something on the cast on my chest. When I opened my eyes, there was a little birthday cake. . . it even had candles!"

Vietnamese Rescues 4 Americans

Ban Me Thuot (USA) — A Vietnamese civilian helped save the lives of four Americans from the burning wreckage of an Army helicopter at Ban Me Thuot City Air Field.

The helicopter mishap occurred when a UH-1C gunship was attempting a takeoff from the air field, lost power and crashed in a sparsely populated area. Luckily, there were no civilian injuries.

Mr. Phan Van Ngong, an employee of Pacific Architects and Engineers, was the first to arrive at the crash scene. A few moments later the crash rescue unit from nearby Camp Coryell arrived and started to put out the fire.

Ignoring the flames from the burning chopper, two members of the crash rescue team, Specialists 4 Douglas Ellis, Seattle, and Leonard Jones, Lemmon, S.D., started to pull the crew members to safety. Mr. Ngong joined them and rescued the gunner just as the intense heat of the fire detonated the chopper's ammunition.

Major Charlie P. Fleming, company commander of the 155th Assault Helicopter Company, 1st Aviation Brigade, forwarded a letter of appreciation to Mr. Ngong through the Pacific Architects and Engineer's manager at Ban Me Thuot. It read in part:

"I would like to take this opportunity to extend to you my deepest gratitude for four heroic efforts in behalf of the crew of the helicopter that crashed at Ban Me Thuot. Your valiant display of courage while rescuing the crew members from the burning wreckage was a source of admiration to myself and to the many friends of these men. Had it not been for your quick action at the risk of your own life, the men on board the aircraft would certainly have sustained more serious injury.



HEAVY PASSENGER TRAFFIC—Combat equipped Marines wait for a helicopter lift into Operation Shawnee, a Marine Corps action in the hills west of the city of Hue. (USMC Photo)

380 Villagers Of Truong Mit Are Treated

Dau Tieng (USA) — "I was amazed at the amount and variety of diseases. It is going to take a lot of hard and continued work to put these people in good health," said Captain William Moats, 3rd Brigade Surgeon, 4th Infantry Division, after holding a MEDCAP at Truong Mit village.

The captain had been in Vietnam only two weeks when the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry, 3rd Brigade sponsored a MEDCAP in Truong Mit, 7 miles southwest of Dau Tieng.

Captain Richard A. Osten, Battalion Civic Affairs Officer, had arranged the first of two MEDCAPS for the village with Doan Van Ngoi, village chief.

In two days, over 380 people were treated. A small number were referred to the Vietnamese hospital in the area for further treatment.

Viet Interpreters Have Parallel Lives

Dong Tam (USA) — Two Vietnamese soldiers who fled the North Vietnamese Communist regime in 1954 are serving as interpreters with the 9th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade Civil Affairs section here.

Both Staff Sergeants Tran Dinh Kha, and Le Dinh, fled after the Geneva accords divided the North and the South 13 years ago.

Both are married, and both have five children who live in Saigon.

Both underwent intensive language training at the Armed Forces Language School in Saigon before qualifying for their jobs.

Sergeant Kha had also studied English as a high school student in North Vietnam.

"We came here to look for freedom," he said. "My family

and I left North Vietnam with a million others who didn't like the Communist regime."

Before joining the Army of the Republic of Vietnam last year, Sergeant Kha worked as a construction superintendent. Sergeant Dinh was employed as a head waiter, bartender and housekeeper before he became a 9th Division interpreter.

Both enjoy their job and view it as important in bridging the language barrier between American soldiers and Vietnamese civilians.

Both assist other brigade sections in addition to their Civil Affairs work.

"They are so good in their field that they also serve as translators of captured documents and interrogators of detainees," said Major Richard F. Munsell, brigade civil affairs officer.

First American Award Presented To Thai Pilot

Saigon (USAF)—The first American award ever given to a member of the Royal Thai Air Force for heroism in Vietnam was presented to First Lieutenant Anavil Phakdechitt, during colorful flightline ceremonies at Tan Son Nhut air base.

The Distinguished Flying Cross, the U.S. Air Force's fourth highest award, was presented to the lieutenant by Lieutenant General William W. Momyer, Seventh Air Force commander.

Lieutenant Phakdechitt, from Bangkok, help guide a flaming C-123 Provider transport to a successful crash landing Nov. 26. The 32 passengers and all five crew members survived the crash. Only one passenger suffered serious injuries.

The lieutenant's aircraft was hit by intense .50 caliber ground fire shortly after takeoff from the jungle airstrip at Dau Tieng, 45 miles northwest of Saigon. The left flap and part of the left engine fuel tank was shot away and the wing hydraulic lines were out. Fire erupted in the cargo compartment immediately.

Despite intense heat, blinding smoke and fumes, the lieutenant stayed at the controls. He closed the side window to prevent fire from entering the cockpit and helped quiet panic-stricken passengers.

Captain Richard A. Nagel Jr., Buffalo, N. Y., the U. S. Air Force instructor pilot sitting in the co-pilot seat, had taken control of the aircraft. Aided by Lieutenant Phakdechitt, he maneuvered the airplane back toward the runway. The aircraft dragged through the tree tops, landed in a rice paddy and skidded 200 feet along the runway.

The flight lasted only a couple of minutes. During this time,

flaming liquid poured from the ceiling, completely burning a 10-foot section. The flight control cables were almost eaten away and the aircraft became difficult to control.

Thai pilots and crewmen have been serving alongside and doing the same job as U.S. Air Force C-123 aircrews since July, 1966.

Among the dignitaries attending the ceremony were: Brigadier General W. G. Moore, 834th Air Division commander; Brigadier General D. F. Smith, Air Force Advisory Group commander; Royal Thai Army Colonel Sanit Sangkanchatra, Thai Armed Forces Attache in Vietnam; and Thai Air Force Colonel Samran Yamsribra, commander of the Thai Military Assistance Group, Vietnam.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

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

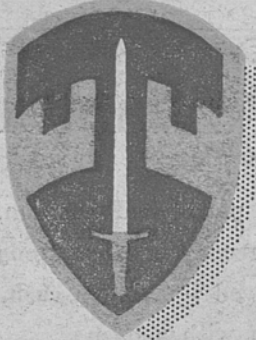
From:

Place Stamp Here

(16 cents Airmail)
(10 cents 1st class)

TO:

The



FIRST IN VIETNAM

OBSERVER

Vol. 6, No. 1

Saigon, Vietnam

May 10, 1967



FIRE SITE—Looking over the burned out area and discussing rebuilding project are: (left to right) Col. Catline, chief, AFAT-1; Lt. Col. Hung, commander, Bien Hoa Air Base and 23rd Tactical Wing, VNAF; Lt. Col. Cuong, commander, Tan Son Nhut Air Base and 33rd Wing, VNAF; and Lt. Col. Tu Van Be, commander, Air Logistics Wing, VNAF, Bien Hoa Air Base. (USA Photo)

Dragon-Ship Loadmaster Is Jack Of All Trades

Pleiku (USAF)—“When we’re on a target, I sort of become a ‘jack of all trades,’” relates Air Force Staff Sergeant Don G. Harrison, Raleigh, N.C., describing his job as loadmaster on an AC-47 “Dragon-ship.”

After logging more than 150 combat hours and 35 missions, he can speak as a master of them all. Staff Sergeant Harrison flies combat missions over the central highlands of Vietnam with Flight B, 4th Air Commando Squadron.

He continued, “I have the general duties of any loadmaster, tying down equipment, getting ammunition and flares loaded and stored, and more or less making sure that there’s equal distribution of weight throughout the aircraft.”

“Most important, once airborne,” remarked the 12-year Air Force veteran, “is the task of dropping the flares.” This is the unique twist to his loadmaster’s job on the Dragon-ship.

“During combat engagements, I’m the one that sets and tosses the flares out,” commented the sergeant, recalling one of his first flights when a flare ignited inside the plane.

“I was on my second mission

with the unit and was receiving a checkout. We got a target, so the instructor was handing flares to me, and I was pulling the safety pin and dropping them. I pulled the pin on one and immediately the flare lit up indicating it was starting to eject from the cannister.

“The flare ejected while I was still holding the cannister. I quickly tossed the cannister out the door, and turned to search for the flare, knowing that in less than 30 seconds it would ignite.

“These flares give out two billion candle power of light,” remarked Sergeant Harrison, “and the heat can ignite other flares on board, creating a fire that’s almost impossible to put out. This is one of the serious hazards we guard against.

“Immediately, the plane began filling with smoke from the ejection. I could hardly see, and after what seemed like minutes instead of seconds I found the flare and kicked it out the door.

“It hardly cleared the door before it lit up; the chute caught in the door preventing it from falling free. I pulled the chute free, and it was one pretty sight falling away from the aircraft!

“It was an experience that I won’t forget, nor really want to happen again. Makes you sort

of old before your time.”

Sergeant Harrison’s knowledge of the Dragon-ship and its mission doesn’t end where most loadmasters’ do. On occasion he’s doubled as gunner as well as flight mechanic.

He can and has unjammed the rapid-firing mini-guns, and can pull some in-flight mechanical trouble - shooting on them. “Whenever ‘Puff the Magic Dragon’ gets called in, the aerial gunner, flight mechanic, and I can help each other in almost

(Continued on Back Page)

Rich Harvest

Idle Delta Land Produces

Thot Not (MACV) — Soldiers of the 801st Regional Forces (RF) Company at Thot Not in An Giang Province have a “fruitful” pastime.

They spend every afternoon tending their vegetable garden, raising sweet corn, green beans, onions, watermelons, cucumbers and tomatoes. The RF’s will have additional food for their families this year.

First Lieutenant Doan Phat Thanh, company commander, borrowed seeds and garden equipment from the U.S. Agency

VNAF Find

Airmen Care For Their Own

By SFC A. E. Wakefield, USA
Bien Hoa (MACV) — Good service traditions can be contagious according to the American habit. The action of the Vietnamese services to aid the victims of a recent fire at Bien Hoa Air Base demonstrated that

they too have adopted this policy.

The fire, which struck early the morning of April 15, destroyed the homes and belongings of 30 Vietnamese Air Force enlisted men and their families. Although there were no deaths or injuries due to the fire, the families lost almost all their belongings.

Lieutenant Colonel Duong Thieu Hung, commander, Bien Hoa Air Base and the 23rd Tactical Wing, Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF), moved the burned out families into temporary housing on the air base.

Immediate aid was made available by the Army of Vietnam (ARVN) III Corps Social Welfare Section. Food items donated by the Catholic Relief Services were distributed to the fire victims.

The U.S. 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing provided cots and the U.S. 173rd Airborne Infantry Brigade donated rice and blankets.

Funds to aid in rebuilding the destroyed homes and replacing belongings were donated. Air Vice Marshal Prime Minister Nguyen Cao Ky was personally on hand to present 200,000 piasters from VNAF.

VNAF Basic Trainees at Bien Hoa Air Base were there at the fire site to help the families clean up their few undamaged belongings.

Lieutenant Colonel Luu Kim Cuong, commander of Tan Son Nhut Air Base and the 33rd Wing, VNAF, convoyed to Bien Hoa with truck loads of lumber and roofing tile to aid in the rebuilding of the damaged homes.

Lieutenant Colonel Cuong was on hand with Lieutenant Colonel Hung to present a family toiletry kit, assembled by U.S. Air Force Advisory Team-1, commanded by Colonel Ben S. Catlin, to the families.

Innocent Bus Finds VC Mine

Phu Bai (USMC) — A small, blue Vietnamese bus, heading north from Da Nang on Highway One, struck a Viet Cong landmine one mile north of Than Bach Thach.

The explosion ripped a four-foot hole in the highway and threw the small vehicle 15 feet off the road into a rice paddy. The driver and five of the passengers were injured and the sixth passenger, a young girl, was killed.

The injured walked and carried one another towards Than Bach Thach for aid.

A Marine helicopter, summoned from the Phu Bai Marine combat base, had been notified by a Combined Action Company that the injured were on the highway. After spotting them, the chopper landed and evacuated the injured to A Company, 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Division.

Traffic for two miles on either side of the bridge was at a standstill for two hours until 3rd Marine Division Engineers cleared the road. They found and destroyed another mine only 50 yards from the first.

Minesweeps by patrols and engineers are held daily because of the Viet Cong. Nightly the VC set the mines, and daily Marines discover them.

Sometimes, in between sweeps, they’re discovered by someone else — like a small, blue bus load of innocent civilians.

Editorial Lawmakers In Action

Legislation now before Congress proposes a 5.6 per cent basic pay increase for members of the armed forces.

In this pay bill the Department of Defense sent a request simultaneously to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate as part of the Defense legislative program. The measure has been referred by both houses to their Armed Services Committees.

The chairman of each committee has introduced identical bills on the proposal.

In a bill of this nature, hearings are normally held and Defense Department officials asked to testify.

Once in a committee, the bill may be amended. Assuming a favorable report is made by the committee, the bill is then sent to the floor of the House or Senate to be debated.

At the end of the debate, a voice or roll-call vote is taken and if the bill passes by a majority, it is sent to the Senate (assuming the House acted first) where the House bill is considered. If the Senate has not yet held hearings on its bill, it will consider the House proposal, but may amend it and report out a new bill.

If the House and Senate debate their own bills and pass them with any differences between the two or if an amended version of the House bill is passed by the Senate, a conference committee is appointed by each House to resolve the differences.

Once approved by both House and Senate, the bill is sent to the President. The bill becomes law after it is signed by the President or when passed a second time by a two-thirds vote of Congress over a Presidential veto.

If the President holds the bill 10 calendar days (excepting Sundays) without signing it, the bill automatically becomes law. However, if Congress adjourns during the 10 days, the bill is automatically killed. (AFNB)

VC Propaganda

A captured Viet Cong document has laid bare the involved and extensive propaganda effort undertaken by the Viet Cong's political arm to whip up world wide anti-Americanism.

For propaganda purposes, the Viet Cong split the world into three groups: the communist block, presumed in favor of the Viet Cong already; the neutralist countries, whose people are said to favor the communist cause; and the "imperialist countries," meaning the West.

Even Western nations are said to lean toward the Viet Cong: "it is just their 'reactionary governments' that back the American fascists and their lackeys in South Vietnam."

The Viet Cong document contains a great deal of old-fashioned communist rabble rousing, under the "National Liberation Front" tag of course. But there is a dangerous element.

The paper was written as a critique of communist efforts. Though the report emphasizes that "the bulk of the propaganda and diplomatic activities is assumed by North Vietnam," it calls for added efforts by the Viet Cong in arousing anti-Americanism. Self critiques are considered an effective method for improving communist tactics.

Success of the propaganda effort is based on two contingencies, which are essential. First, the Viet Cong soldiers must show battlefield victories to maintain momentum, particularly against South Vietnamese units. This is no longer possible.

Second, the Viet Cong are the "sole genuine representatives of the South Vietnamese people." Elections and the establishment of a stable Saigon government have put the torch to this line.

Nevertheless, despite the severe trouncing they have suffered in battle against Vietnamese and American soldiers, and the obvious ability of the Saigon government to organize and conduct free and fair elections, the Viet Cong's propaganda machine remains nagging enemy of both truth and the Vietnamese people.

March Totals

Record 5,557 Viet Cong Return To Government

Saigon (MACV)—An all-time record of 5,557 enemy soldiers returned to the Government of Vietnam during the month of March.

This almost doubles the previous record set in February, when 2,917 chose to turn themselves in under the Chieu Hoi (open arms) program. This program, directed at enemy strongholds, offers any Viet Cong or North Vietnamese soldier his own peaceful solution to the Vietnam war.

Graphically illustrating the accelerating tempo of the program's effectiveness, the new figures show that 368 more men returned in March than in January and February combined, (with 5,189 of the enemy returning in those two months.)

During the week ending April 1, 1,000 enemy took advantage of the program. The Chieu Hoi camps in Region IV were kept busiest throughout the week, opening their arms to 365 returnees. Region III welcomed 349 of the former enemy into its camps. Region II and Region I took in 253 and 33 enemy soldiers respectively.

The record number for March, brings the 1967 total of returnees to 10,746. For the same three-month period in 1966, there were 5,521 returnees.

Since launching the Chieu Hoi program in 1963, the government has welcomed 58,970 returnees.

Beware When Purchasing Your Wheels

Saigon (MACV) — Unethical and illegal business practices by automobile sales representatives in Southeast Asia have been reported by U.S. servicemen. Complaints include the practice of accepting payments for automobiles and failing to make delivery or refund.

Servicemen in Vietnam who are in the market for purchasing an automobile are strongly urged to follow established guidelines.

First, make sure overseas automobile purchases are through approved concessionaires in PX outlets;

Second, if desiring to make automobile purchases through brokers/dealers not operating in PX channels, consult a legal officer or the Staff Judge Advocate;

And third, servicemen having complaints against broker/dealers are advised to submit them to the appropriate legal officer or to the Staff Judge Advocate.

To assure reliability, a dealer must have a fixed United States address; be approved by a United States automobile manufacturer; and be able to furnish proof of a performance bond from a United States bonding company that will insure fulfillment of the contracted obligation.

Dependents' I.D. Needed In Hawaii

Saigon (MACV) — Planning to meet your dependents while on R&R in Hawaii?

In several instances in recent months, dependents visiting service personnel on R&R in Hawaii have had difficulty in utilizing Naval facilities and obtaining dependent medical care.

Reason for the difficulty: the dependents failed to have their Dependents' I. D. Cards (DD Form 1173) in their possession.

The commander of U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam, has urged all personnel planning to meet dependents on R&R to assure that the dependents arrive in Hawaii with proper identification.

So, why not pass the word on!

DD Form 1580 Can Help You As A Standby

Saigon (MACV)—All servicemen arriving in the United States who wish to use commercial aircraft on a military standby basis must now possess a new form—DD Form 1580.

The form will be issued at the request of servicemen departing Vietnam. It may be used for leave, delay enroute to a new assignment, pass or discharge.

Besides authorizing standby travel, the form identifies servicemen who are on official absence.



You save more than money
with U.S. Savings Bonds

The Piaster Poet

A troop on patrol in Bong Son,

Desired to recoup in Hong Kong.

So he saved up all his cash,

And went with a dash,

To wait for a plane near Cholon.

With his R&R plan all approved,

A load from his back was removed.

"What a break," said he

"I'll buy no more tea,

Just tapes, stereo and . . . a few other things."

A strappy young trooper named Lee,

Dashed off at midday to buy 'P'.

Located the cage,

Went into a rage,

Found the line led back to Phuoc Ly.



The OBSERVER is an authorized newspaper published weekly by the Command Information Division, Office of Information, Military Assistance Command Vietnam for United States Forces in Vietnam. Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect policies or positions of the Department of Defense or any of the Armed Forces. The OBSERVER uses materials from the Armed Forces Press File, Armed Forces News Bureau and other Department of Defense agencies. Direct mail to: Editor, The OBSERVER, Hq MACV, APO 96222.

COMUSMACV Gen. W.C. Westmoreland, USA
Information Officer Col. R.R. Bankson, USA
Chief, Command Info Lt. Col. R.M. Bussjaeger, USAF

Officer In Charge 1st Lt. T.A. Quinn, USMC
Editor Gy. Sgt. J.E. Huerta, USMC
Assistant Editor SP4 T.P. Rhoades, USA

'Sugar Babies' Talk Of The Town

By Sp4 John Morgan, USA

Long Xuyen (MACV) — A "Watermelon Rush" is on in An Giang Province, where Delta rice farmers have found a dry-season "gold mine" in growing big U.S. variety Sugar Baby watermelons.

Fruits of the first year's harvest were put on show at a country-fair-like contest held in Long Xuyen, April 20-21. Five hundred farmers in three districts entered. Each had planted a 1/10-hectare watermelon patch 75 days ago, and tended it through the dry season.

The pavilion buzzed with excitement as farmers and wide-eyed visitors viewed the dark green bounty. Never before has Vietnam produced such melons! A 10-man Chinese agricultural

team brought the seeds to Vietnam. Originally, the Sugar Babies were brought from the U.S. to Taiwan, where cultivation under tropical conditions proved successful.

Under an agreement between the Taipei and Saigon governments, underwritten by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Chinese experts are teaching Vietnamese farmers how to get richer harvests by raising soybeans, transplanted rice, "yard-long" Chinese beans, and now Sugar Baby watermelons.

An Giang Province, the most thoroughly pacified province in Vietnam, is a priority area for rural development programs ranging from land reform and rural credit to fisheries and silk-

making.

The display of highly-profitable watermelons in Long Xuyen last week demonstrated that An Giang's countryside stands on the threshold of prosperity. One tenth of a hectare yields an average 300 melons that the farmer sells for about 20,000 piasters (and double that just prior to Tet).

First-place winner in the contest was Mr. Le Van Tam of Thot Not district. His prize was a four horse-power water pump for irrigation. Entries were judged on size, appearance, sweetness and preparation of land during planting. A gauge was used to measure sugar content; many registered 12%—"excellent."

USAID and An Giang's agriculture service provided seeds, insecticide and pump-sprayers. The university-trained Chinese agriculturalists showed the farmers how to plant, fertilize, water and prune the plants. (Some peasants had to be persuaded that pruning three shoots from a five-shoot plant would result in greater profit from two large melons).

Vietnamese variety watermelons average only 5 kilos; the new Sugar Babies average 12.5 kilos, and one weighed in at 13.5 kilos.

MPs Avert Epidemic In Vung Tau

Vung Tau (USA) — Military policemen in Vung Tau acted quickly to help avert a threatened epidemic of Bubonic Plague in the coastal city.

Members of the 2nd Platoon, 560th MP Company were first notified of the plague threat at 1730 hours, March 14. Within an hour, the town had been placed off limits and cleared of all American personnel.

Working with the 36th Evacuation Hospital, the MPs helped organize the crowds of civilians waiting for immunization shots. In four days, 28,000 Vietnamese received plague immunizations, and the possible epidemic was averted.

Lieutenant Colonel Paul E. Siebert, hospital commander, praised the MPs for their effective action. Military police support was directed by Staff Sergeant Thomas W. Cosper.

USO Executive Cited By Army

Washington (AFNB) — USO Executive, Vietnam, Sam Anderson, has been presented Department of the Army Certificate of Appreciation for Patriotic Civilian Service.

The Award was presented by Brigadier General Donald H. McGovern, USA.

Spotting Gives Two Lease On Life

Bong Son (USA) — Colonel James G. Shanahan, commander of the 3rd Brigade Task Force, 25th Infantry Division and his aide Sergeant Frank C. Nordquest spotted two Vietnamese women moving through a rice paddy carrying a covered load, as they flew over an engineer platoon that had just engaged with the enemy.

Landing the chopper, Sergeant Nordquest ran to investigate. He approached cautiously, ready to shoot, and lifted the blanket to find a middle-aged woman, in pain and bleeding profusely from wounds which the Viet Cong had inflicted. Her hand was badly mangled and she was scared.

"Apparently they thought I was going to shoot them," said Sergeant Nordquest, "but when I took out my first aid kit and tied a tourniquet to her bleeding hand, they were amazed."

As the colonel and sergeant helped the wounded women aboard the chopper, one of the other women pulled at the colonel's sleeve. She wouldn't let the wounded woman leave without her. So, both women were flown to the brigade medical aid station and, later, to Qui Nhon for further medical care.

When it was all over Colonel Shanahan reflected, "It is more gratifying to save lives than to take them."



CHOMP—Little Miss Tran Chi Dung takes a man-sized bite into one of the juiciest, sweetest watermelons ever grown in Vietnam.

(Photo by Sp 5 A. Gardner, USA, Staff Photographer)

'Flying Dragon' Spark Little League Club

Pleiku (USA) — Who said it couldn't be done—organize a Montagnard Little League baseball team, that is?

Lieutenant Colonel Paul C. Smith, Treasure Island, Fla., commanding officer of the U.S. Army 52nd Combat Aviation Battalion, "Flying Dragons", said, "Why not?"

Receipt of little league uni-

Grenade Drops—Then Silence!

Chu Lai (USMC)—A grenade hurled by a Viet Cong bounced off Corporal Millard O. Weber, Milroy, Pa., and landed between him and Corporal Paul M. De-Crescenzo, East Boston, when they were camped for the night on a Golden Fleece operation.

The grenade didn't go off. "We were sleeping a few feet apart when something hit me in the chest," said Corporal Weber. "I got up and woke up Paul," he continued. "Then we heard two explosions and a few rounds of small arms fire. Then it was quiet again except for our illumination rounds."

Due to return to the U.S. in May, Corporal Weber said, "I'm too short for this to happen to me." The men are with the 5th Marine Regiment, Task Force X-Ray, 1st Marine Division.

forms and equipment, through the generosity of Lockheed of Burbank, Calif., and Bell Helicopter Avionics of Fort Worth, Texas, has given the 52nd the capability of organizing the first Montagnard baseball team in Vietnam.

Major John Melby, former adjutant of the 52nd and now aide-de-camp to General Creighton W. Abrams, was responsible for coordinating the donations of the baseball equipment.

The boys of the Montagnard Boarding School in Pleiku are the first children in the area to be introduced to the game and they have taken to it like average American kids on the corner sand lot.

The children are first being taught the fundamentals of the game and have displayed a spirit that would shame some American major league teams.

Eventually, Lieutenant Colonel Smith plans to organize additional teams from the surrounding villages. Hopefully, many people, who live within a relatively short distance of one another, will be brought together for the first time.

With the introduction of the great American pastime, it is the hope of the "Flying Dragons" that another step in cementing the relationship of two nations will be attained.

Text of Westmoreland's Speech to Congress

WASHINGTON — Text of Gen. William C. Westmoreland's speech to Congress Friday:

I am deeply honored to address the Congress of the United States. I stand in the shadow of military men who have been here before me, but none of them could have had more pride than is mine in representing the gallant men fighting in Vietnam today. Without reservation, I can only say that I command the most professional, competent, dedicated and courageous servicemen and women in our military experience. They are sensitive to their mission and, as the record shows, they are unbeatable in carrying out that mission.

As their commander in the field I have seen many of you during the last three years. Without exception you have shown interesting responsibility and concern for the commitment which we have undertaken.

The Republic of Vietnam is fighting to build a strong nation while aggression—organized, directed and supported from without—attempts to engulf it. This is an unprecedented challenge for a small nation such as the Republic of Vietnam. But it is a challenge which will confront any nation that is marked as a target for the Communist stratagem called "war of national liberation." I can assure you here and now that militarily this stratagem will not succeed in Vietnam.

3 Years of Study

In three years of close study and daily observation, I have seen no evidence that this is an internal insurrection. And I have seen much evidence to the contrary—documented by the enemy himself—that it simply is aggression from the north.

Since 1954, when the Geneva accords were signed, the North Vietnamese have been sending leaders, political organizers, technicians and experts on terrorism and sabotage into the south. Clandestinely directed from the north, they and their Hanoi-trained southern counterparts have controlled the entire course of the attack against the Republic of South Vietnam.

More than two years ago, North Vietnamese divisions began to arrive, and the control no longer was as clandestine. Since then, the buildup of enemy forces has been formidable. During the last 22 months, the number of enemy combat battalions in the south has increased significantly, and nearly half of them are North Vietnamese. In the same period, overall enemy strength has nearly doubled in spite of large battle losses.

Enemy commanders are skilled professionals and provide good leadership. In general, their troops are thoroughly indoctrinated, well trained, aggressive and under tight control.

The enemy's logistic system is primitive in many ways. Forced to transport most of his supplies down through southeastern Laos, he uses combinations of trucks, bicycles, men and animals. But he does this with surprising effectiveness. In South Vietnam, the system is well organized. Many of the caches we have found and destroyed have been stocked with enough supplies and equipment to support months of future operations.

Mobile Enemy

The enemy emphasizes what he calls strategic mobility although his tactics are based on foot mobility, relatively modest firepower, and often primitive means of communication. However, his operational planning is meticulous. He gathers intelligence, makes careful plans, assigns specific tasks in detail and then rehearses the plan of attack until he believes it cannot fail. When all is ready he moves his

large military formations covertly from concealed bases into the operational area. His intent is to launch a surprise attack designed to achieve quick victory by the sudden application of overwhelming power. This tactic has failed because of our firepower and spoiling attacks.

But success against his main forces alone is not enough to insure a swift and decisive end to the conflict.

This enemy also uses terror—murder, mutilation, abduction and the deliberate shelling of innocent men, women and children—to exercise control through fear. This tactic, which he employs daily, is much harder to counter than his best conventional moves.

During the week ending 22 April, Viet Cong terrorists killed 126 innocent civilians, wounded 86 and abducted 100 others. The victims included 27 revolutionary development workers, 11 village or hamlet officials or candidates, six policemen, and 13 refugees or defectors from VC control.

Last Sunday, terrorists near Saigon assassinated a 39-year-old village chief. The same day, in the delta, they kidnapped 26 civilians assisting in arranging for local elections. The next day the Viet Cong attacked a group of revolutionary development workers, killing one and wounding 12 with grenades and machine-gun fire in one area, and in another they opened fire on a small civilian bus and killed three and wounded four of its passengers. These are cases of calculated enemy attacks on civilians which they cannot gain by persuasion.

One hears little of this brutality here at home. What we do hear about is our own aerial bombing against North Vietnam, and I would like to address this for a moment.

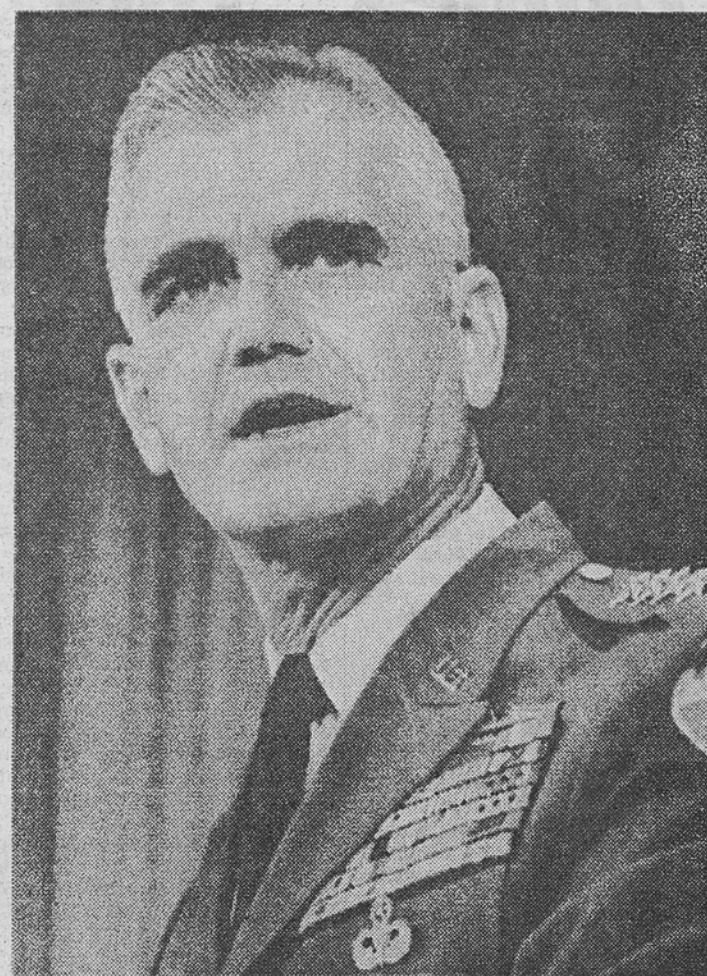
Bombing North

For years the enemy has been blowing bridges, interrupting traffic, cutting roads, sabotaging power stations, blocking canals and attacking airfields in the south, and he continues to do so. Bombing in the north has been centered on precisely these same kinds of targets and for the same military purposes—to reduce the supply, interdict the movement and impair the effectiveness of enemy military forces.

Within his capabilities the enemy in Vietnam is waging total war all day—every day—everywhere. He believes in force, and his intensification of violence is limited only by his resources and not by any moral inhibitions.

To our forces, a cease-fire means just that. Our observance of past truces has been open and subject to public scrutiny. The enemy permits no such observation. He traditionally has exploited cease fire periods when the bombing has been suspended to increase his resupply and infiltration activity.

This is the enemy—this has been the challenge. The only strategy which can defeat such an organization is one of un-



GEN. WILLIAM C. WESTMORELAND

relenting military, political and psychological pressure on his whole structure—at all levels.

From his capabilities and his recent activities, I believe the enemy's probable course in the months ahead can be forecast.

In order to carry out his battlefield doctrine I foresee that he will continue his buildup across the Demilitarized Zone and through Laos, and he will attack us when he believes he has a chance for a dramatic blow. He will not return exclusively to guerrilla warfare, although he certainly will continue to intensify his guerrilla activities.

Expect the enemy to continue to increase his mortar, artillery, rocket and recoilless rifle attacks on our installations. At the same time he will step up his attacks on hamlet, village and district organizations to intimidate the people, and to thwart the democratic processes now underway in South Vietnam.

Given the nature of the enemy, it seems to me that the strategy we are following at this time is the proper one, and that it is producing results. While he obviously is far from quitting there are signs that his morale and his military structure are beginning to deteriorate. Their rate of decline will be in proportion to the pressure directed against him.

Faced with this prospect, it is gratifying to others that our forces and those of the other Free World allies have grown in strength and profited from experience. In this connection it is well to remember that Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and the Philippines all have military forces fighting and working with the Vietnamese and Americans in Vietnam.

Allied Support

It also is worthy of note that 30 other nations are providing non-combat support, and that all of these Free World forces are doing well, whether in com-

workers in Vietnam. And so today when I hear doubts about the Vietnamese armed force, I am reminded of that example.

As you know we are fighting a war with no front lines since the enemy hides among the people, in the jungles and mountains, and uses covertly border areas of neutral countries. Therefore one cannot measure the progress of battle by lines on a map. We therefore have to use other means to chart progress. Several indices clearly point to steady and encouraging success:

Two years ago the Republic of Vietnam had fewer than 30 combat ready battalions. Today it has 154.

Then there were three jet-capable runways in South Vietnam. Today there are 14. In April, 1965, there were 15 airfields that could take C-130 transport aircraft. Now there are 89. Then there was one deep water port for seagoing ships. Now there are seven. In 1965 ships had to unload. Now we turn them around in as little as one week.

Then there was no long-haul highway transport. Last month alone 161,000 tons of supplies were moved over the highways. During the last year the mileage of essential highways open for our use has risen from about 52 per cent to 80 per cent.

Much Progress

During 1965, the Republic of Vietnam armed forces and its allies killed 36,000 of the enemy and lost approximately 12,000 in return. During recent months this three to one ratio in favor of the allies has risen significantly and in some weeks has been as high as 10 or 12 to one.

In 1965, 11,000 Viet Cong rallied to the side of the government. In 1966 there were 20,000. In the first three months of 1967, there have been nearly 11,000 ralliers, a figure that equals all of 1965 and more than half of all of 1966.

Our President and the representatives of the people of the United States, the Congress, have seen to it that our troops in the field have been well supplied and equipped. And when a field commander does not have to look over his shoulder to see whether he is being supported, he can concentrate on the battlefield with much greater assurance of success. I speak for my troops, when I say—we are thankful for this unprecedented material support.

As I have said before, in evaluating the enemy strategy it is evident to me that he believes our Achilles' heel is our resolve. Your continued strong support is vital to the success of our mission.

Our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen in Vietnam are the finest ever fielded by our nation. And in this assessment I include Americans of all races, creeds and colors. Your servicemen in Vietnam are intelligent, skilled, dedicated and courageous. In these qualities no unit, no service, no ethnic group and no national origin can claim priority.

These men understand the conflict and their complex roles as fighters and builders. They believe in what they are doing. They are determined to provide the shield of security behind which the Republic of Vietnam can develop and prosper for its own sake and for the future and freedom of all Southeast Asia.

Backed at home by resolve, confidence, patience, determination and continued support, we will prevail in Vietnam over Communist aggression.

BLACK BELT

Training, Coordination and Speed

Da Nang (USN) — Winning a black belt in Karate is somewhat of an everyday occurrence throughout most of the world, but for an American in Vietnam it becomes a rare happening.

Storekeeper Second Class Jack Pearce, Jr., Silver City, N.M., had tried his hand at the sport while stationed in Oakland, Calif., and had made his way through 10 months of instruction at the International Judo, Aikido and Karate School in Oakland. Then his orders came for duty at the U.S. Naval Support Activity, Da Nang.

"I didn't think I would be able to resume my training while in Vietnam, but an odd experience proved me wrong," Pearce stated.

"I was showing a bunch of guys at the support activity a few of the moves I had learned, when a Korean happened to see me. Kim Chur, a Korean stevedore, asked me about my past experience. This is when I found out I just might have a chance to get my black belt," he added.

After two weeks of working out with Kim Chur and his friends at Camp Arirang, a Korean compound for the stevedoring company, he was accepted by them as a student.

Five months later and a lot of hard work, Pearce was awarded the black belt, first degree, by the Koreans.

He became the first American

to have a black belt awarded to him by the Korean university that Kim Chur and his fellow experts represented.

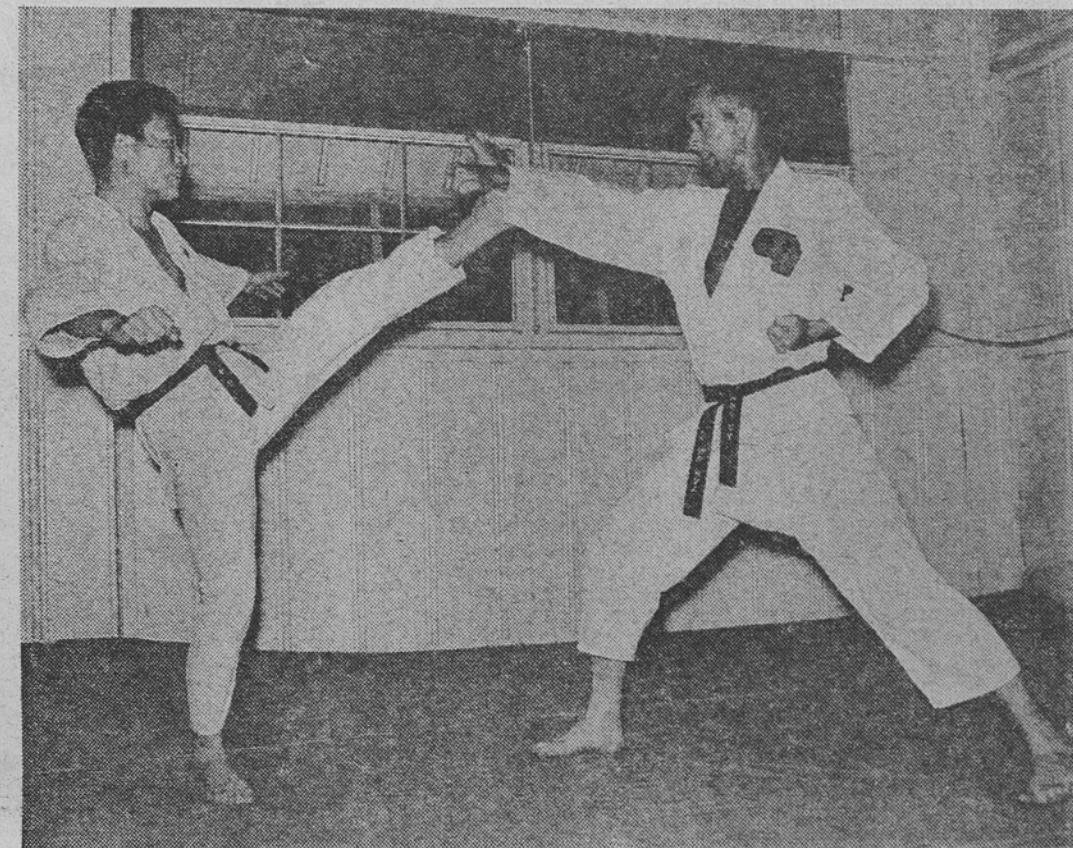
After Pearce earned his black belt he approached the Special Services officer at the support activity with a plan for starting Judo and Karate classes during his off-duty hours. The plan was adopted, but Storekeeper Pearce soon found that the support activity was making it a full-time job for him when he was transferred to the special services department.

"Although Karate is not a recognized sport like Judo, the training, coordination, speed, accuracy and desire involved keeps you in good physical condition," Pearce said.

"Besides, most men who know Karate wouldn't fight with another, mainly because it gives you a lot of self confidence. It is mainly a defensive sport, and you feel that no matter how the attack is conducted, you can more than take care of yourself," he added.

"Most people, when they think of Karate, think of breaking bricks and wooden boards, but this is not the real meaning or reason for Karate . . . breaking bricks and boards is just for show," Pearce stated.

Story By
JO1 Bob Young, USN
Photos By
SN Bob Howard, USN

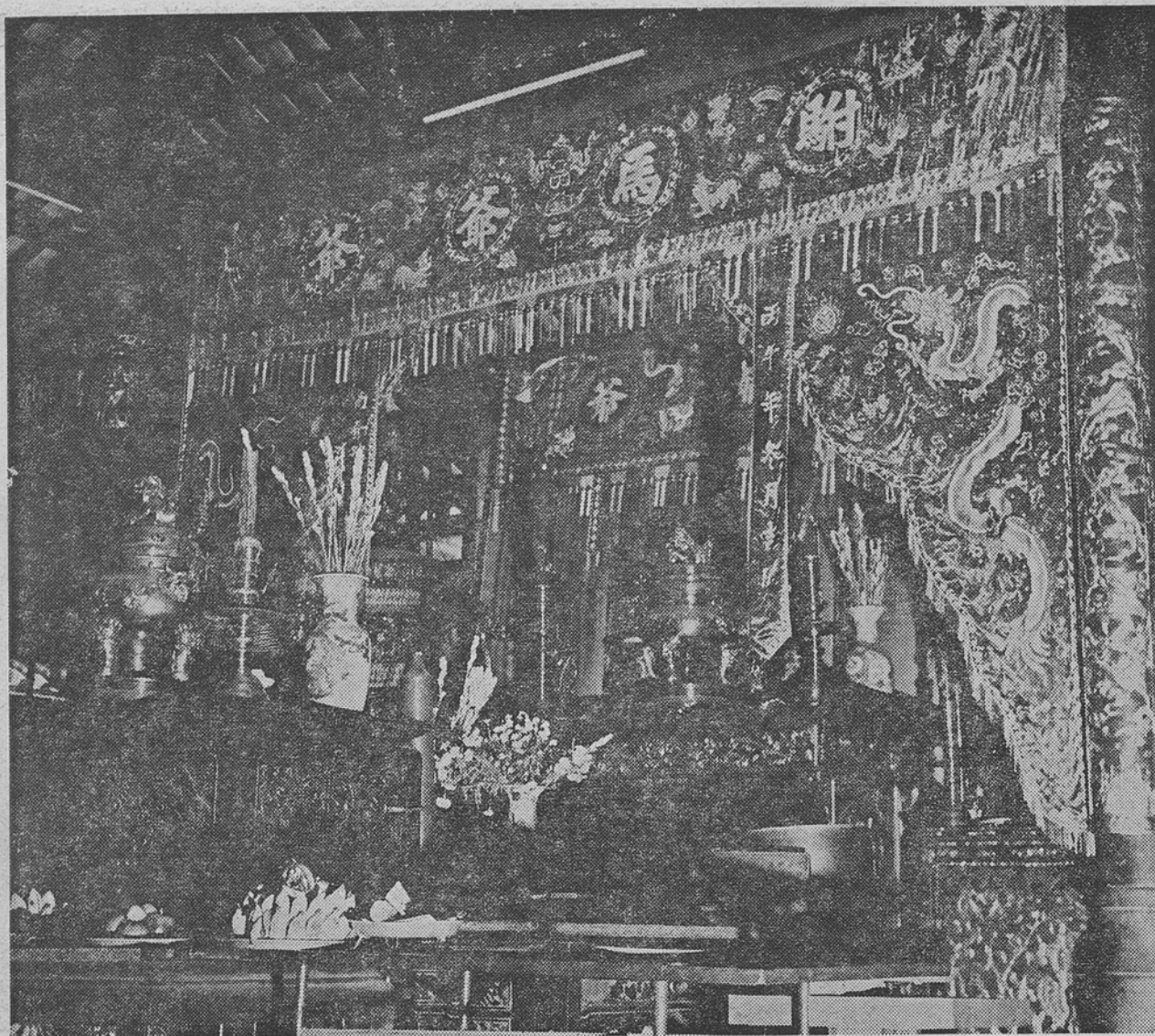


SPARRING—Kim Chur (left) and Storekeeper Second Class Jack Pearce, Jr., practice on techniques of Karate during a class session.



SHOWING THE CLASS—Petty Officer Jack Pearce, Jr., shows the class the proper techniques of kicking in the sport of Karate. Pearce is teaching Karate and Judo classes.

HERE'S HOW TO DO IT—Kim Chur (right), a Korean Karate expert and volunteer teacher of the sport at the U.S. Naval Support Activity, shows one of his pupils how to execute a hip throw during a class session.



Ornate is the word for this altar stacked high with food and incense at the tomb of Vietnamese patriot Le Van Duyet in Gia Dinh. Confucian influence is evident here.

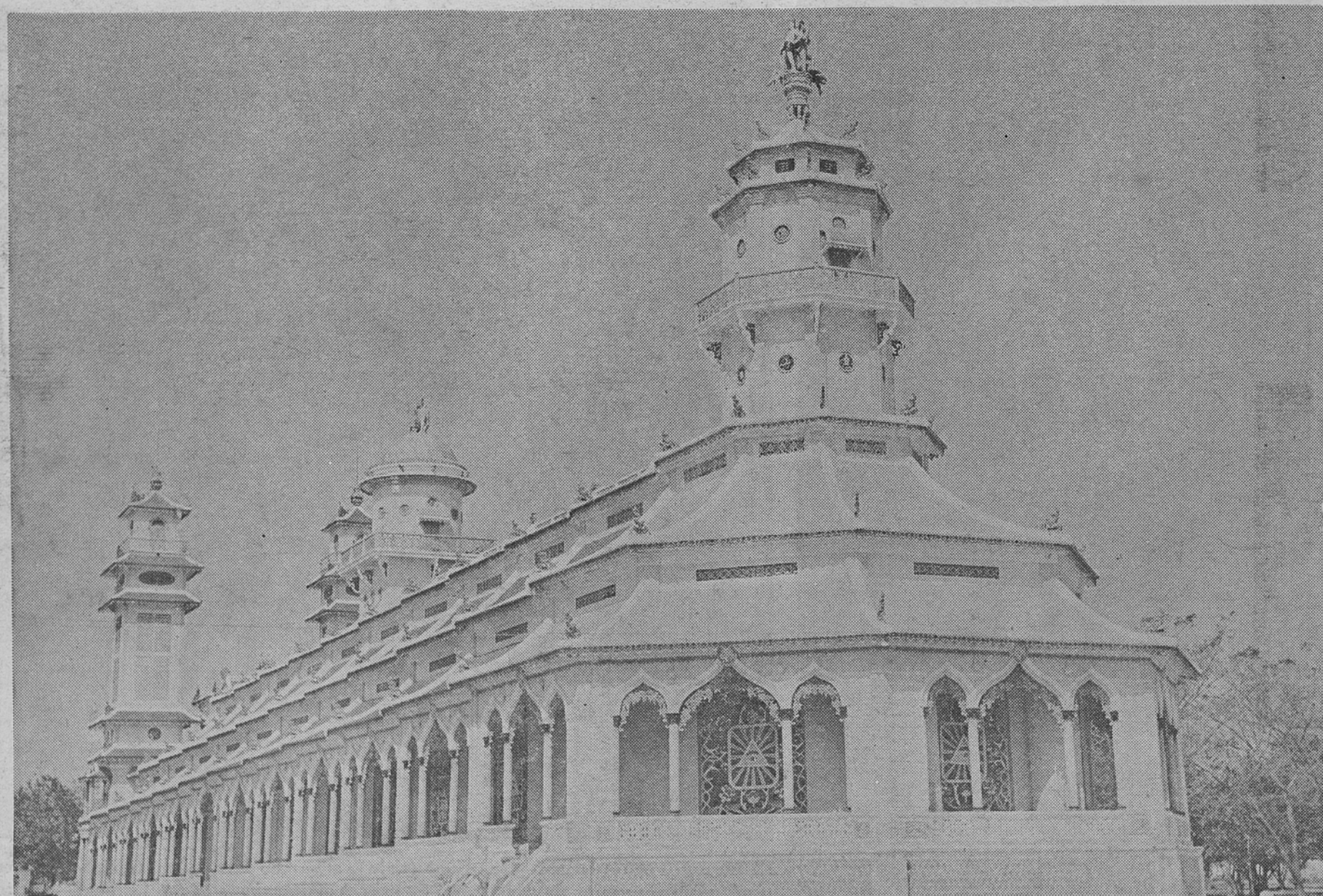


"The eye emanating light," symbol of the Cao Dai sect, dominates the elaborate exotic central altar of the Cao Dai cathedral. Bird figures are a Taoist symbol.



Veneration of Huynh Phu So, founder of the Hoa Hao sect who was kidnapped and presumed killed by the communists, is a prime characteristic of the altars and worship places of the Hoa Hao.

Mixture of East and West Colors Religion in Vietnam



Splendor of its tiers and towers is evident from the rear of the huge cathedral at the "Holy See" of the Cao Dai sect in Tay Ninh.

"The Third Alliance Between God and Mankind," "The Mad Bonze," Chinese temples, swastika symbols and Klan-like robes mark the varied and diverse religions of Vietnam. Religious beliefs richly color almost every Vietnamese thought and act. Many differ greatly from what we are used to in the United States.

Oldest major foreign religious influence in Vietnam is Taoism. The numerous Chinese style temples show the Taoist influence in Vietnam. Also of Chinese origin is Confucianism. This is not strictly a religion, but a moral and ethical code of life.

Spirit worship runs deep in Vietnam as a "popular religion," an element akin to this is ancestor veneration. It is also expressed in the Confucian moral code which demands certain rites for the ancestors.

The traditional belief, as Confucianism is called, exists in its purest form around Hue, the ancient capital of imperial Vietnam from which the Confucian empire ruled the nation.

Probably the best known of the Oriental religions in Vietnam is Buddhism, considered by many the greatest religion in the East. A Buddhist pagoda can be differentiated from others by a five colored flag over the entrance, a large spoked wheel prominently displayed and swastikas resembling those of the Nazis. These are a religious symbol of Buddhism which have nothing to do with Nazism.

Among Asian nations only the Philippines has a larger percentage of Christians than Vietnam. The Catholic Church became established here about 400 years ago, about the time Spanish missionaries brought it to the New World.

Vietnamese Catholicism dif-

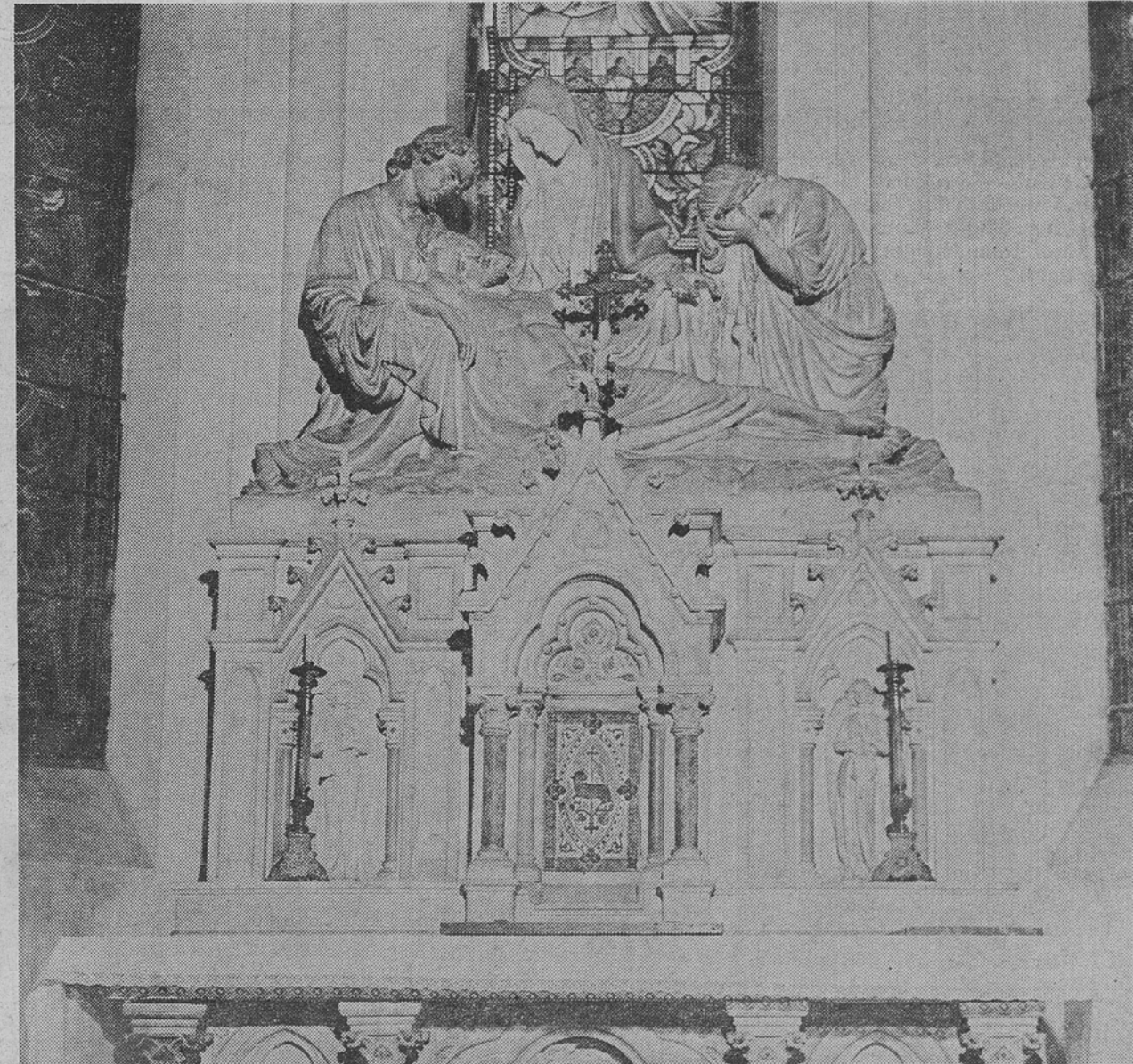
fers somewhat from that found in America. It is concentrated among the well educated who are French influenced and among very devout refugee communities. These peasant Catholics came en masse in many cases from villages in the north when the communists took over.

Two religious sects are native to Vietnam. In the 1920s a group of mystics revealed contacts with various spirits who instructed them to found a religion combining all the religions of the world. "Cao Dai" was the result. This religion believes a covenant was signed between God and Sun Yat Sen, Victor Hugo, and Nguyen Binh Khiem, a poet, which it calls the "Third Alliance Between God and Mankind."

Cao Dai is headquartered in Tay Ninh where a magnificent cathedral was constructed in the 1930s. Cao Dai, whose symbol is a huge eye giving out light, has borrowed worship practices from Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism; and a pope, cardinals and hierarchy from Catholics. Cao Dai faithful dress in white robes, often with pointed hats resembling Klux Klansmen.

The second sect, "Hoa Hao," was founded in the Mekong Delta in 1939 by Huynh Phu So, a prophet the French called the "Mad Bonze." Prophet So was kidnapped and presumed killed by the communists in 1947, though his followers do not acknowledge his death.

His religion, based on Buddhism, has great appeal to peasants as it advocates simplified practices. Hoa Hao are militantly anti-communist, to the point that Viet Cong who have had the misfortune to enter Hoa Hao villages have been known simply to "dis-



Imported Italian marble and French stained glass windows bring a touch of European culture to a Saigon Catholic church built at the height of the colonial period.



LIKE THIS—Lieutenant McCormick, advisor to Vietnamese Navy and his counterpart, Dai Uy (Lieutenant) Gia, coordinate their activities for a joint operation.



WHEN IN ROME?—Chief Petty Officer Gill and Lieutenant McCormick use chopsticks to eat the Chinese Noodle Soup served by Dai Uy (Lieutenant) Gia. The two advisors sleep, live, eat, and work as the Vietnamese do.

Vietnamese RAG Sailors Chase VC Through Mud

Saigon (USN) — The big "ironclad" boat on night patrol pushed slowly through the brackish waters of the Mekong Delta stream. Machine gun fire suddenly erupted from the riverbank.

As tracers flew low over the heads of the sailors, Vietnamese Navy Dai Uy (Lieutenant)

Huynh Kim Gia ordered his men to their guns and into two smaller, heavily-armed boats tied along side.

"I'll radio and check for friendly troops in the area," his U.S. Navy counterpart, Lieutenant Stuart McCormick, yelled above the noise.

Another burst of fire came

over the command boat's main deck. "That was a 'Czech' machine gun," shouted the Dai Uy.

The two boats, armed with .30 and .50 caliber machine guns, approached the riverbank and poured a torrent of fire into the enemy position. Aboard the command boat, Vietnamese sailors fired their big 81mm mortar.

The enemy fire ceased.

This typical action, during Operation Overlord II, is a frequent occurrence for Vietnamese Navy River Assault Group (RAG) sailors and their U.S. advisors.

Lieutenant McCormick, Jacksonville Beach, and Chief Petty Officer Alvin A. Gill, Corpus Christi, are advisors to RAG-24, operating mainly in Long An Province south of Saigon.

"I provide liaison, advise Lieutenant Gia operationally and assist him with logistics problems," said Lieutenant McCormick. "I'm supposed to advise him tactically too, but he knows more of that than I do," he smiled.

Based at six strategic locations in the Delta, RAG units' main job is transporting troops and equipment. Secondary missions are patrol, blockading actions, minesweeping and providing gunfire support.

A standard RAG unit consists of a command boat, a large escort boat, five large troop carriers, six small troop carriers and six small French-designed escort-patrol craft, called Poms.

When necessary, RAG sailors beach their boats and charge into the brush to battle the enemy face-to-face.

"These fellows are go-getters," says Chief Gill.

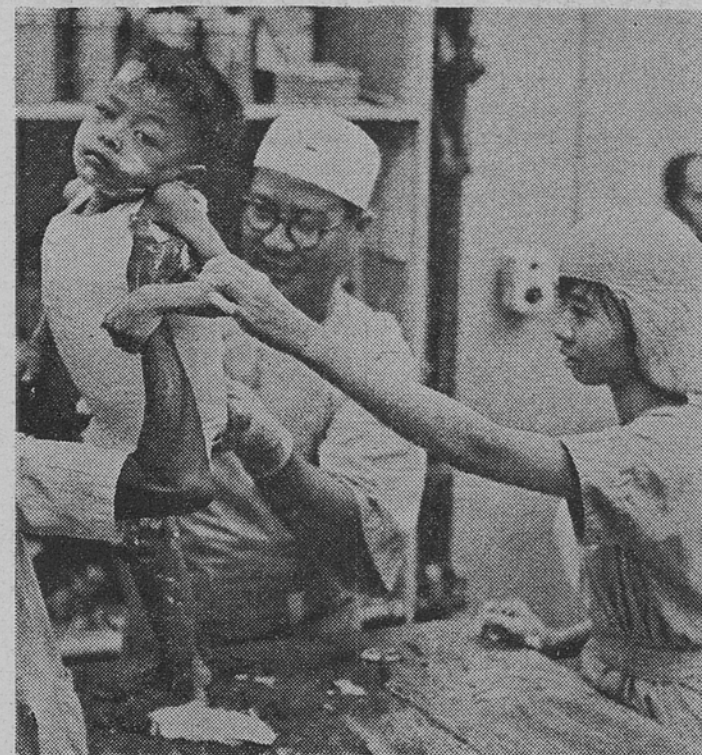
The Vietnamese and their advisors often enter hostile villages to buy supplies from the local market.

"When we go into a place like that, we try to make friends with the people," said Chief Gill. "We talk with them, play with their kids and do what we can to help them if they need it."



MEKONG MUD—U. S. and Vietnamese Army troops help each other through the mud to make the initial assault landings on Hoc Than La Island, Long An province.

Male Nurse Serves Can Tho Helps Train, Makes Cast



CAST EXPERT—Male nurse Pham Van Tu makes a cast on a 7-year-old "chicken-breasted" boy suffering from Potts disease (tuberculosis of the spine), prior to corrective surgery. A young student nurse holds the patient steady.

(Photo by SP4 John Morgan, USA, Staff Writer)

Can Tho (MACV)—With three patients on the emergency room tables and four more in a waiting ambulance at Can Tho Provincial Hospital, Nurse Pham Van Tu worked quickly, giving directions for preparing each for treatment. Tu, male head nurse and chief cast-maker, has served in this same hospital for the past 23 years. With French, and now American doctors, he has been "through the wars."

The 450-bed civilian hospital, largest in the Delta, handles cases of all kinds.

Whenever a patient requires a cast Tu does the job. He has made hundreds. He also helps train the Vietnamese student nurses here.

Since 1963, American medical people have provided assistance. A 15-member surgical team, including two Air Force surgeons and four civilian Volunteer Physicians for Vietnam, currently works in the hospital.

Nurse Tu has learned new techniques from various doctors as they come and go. "One doctor say do this way, next one does another way," smiles Tu.

Civilian Irregular Defense Group Makes SF Fighting Camp A Success

My Phuoc Tay (USA) — The newly completed Special Forces fighting camp at My Phuoc Tay, 35 miles southwest of Saigon, has, it is said, an almost unparalleled success story.

Since March, Special Forces trained and advised Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) units from this camp have accounted for 56 Viet Cong killed in action, with 62 detained as VC suspects, and over 100 enemy weapons captured. They have overrun an enemy battalion headquarters, a weapons factory, and a training and propaganda center.

Recently, the CIDG units were launched in a search and destroy operation through enemy territory. One unit from the camp was employed as a blocking force; another as the search and destroy unit.

To conserve energy and facilitate surprise, the search and destroy unit moved out at night by truck, using the shuttle method, in order to be in position by dawn, fresh and ready to fight.

The blocking force, with a shorter distance to go, left the camp on foot later that night, arriving in position well before dawn.

Initial contacts were made early by both the sweeping and the blocking forces. Firefights erupted between Viet Cong and CIDG forces, causing the VC to break contact and flee. The CIDG forces then took up a hot pursuit. Most of the Viet Cong casualties occurred during this initial phase. Two VC were later detained as suspects.

The sweeping unit, searching rice paddies and tree lines in which were many VC emplacements, found women and children but no men of military age. The Viet Cong had deserted their fighting positions, homes and families.

Later, both CIDG units became sweep units and cleared areas on both sides of a canal which led back to the camp location.

During the operation many communist documents, grenades of Chinese manufacture, auto-

matic-rifle ammunition, and an American medical kit were captured. Two more Viet Cong suspects were gathered in, one of whom was admittedly a hardcore communist. He was discovered lying face-down in the rice paddy near his home. Further investigation showed him to be a communist cell leader, with 6 to 8 VC under his command. A girl turned herself in willingly, claiming that she was tired of the "communist way of life."

During this operation 15 Viet Cong were killed in action and 4 detained as VC suspects. There were no friendly casualties.

'Mike Spike' New Weapon

Dong Ha (USMC) — Marines of M Company, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, have come up with a new weapon in their hunt for the Viet Cong, called the M Company spike or "Mike Spike."

Involved in search and destroy operations along the Cua Viet River, M Company uncovered signs of recent VC activity and knew the enemy was hidden nearby.

Using broken tree limbs and bayonets, they probed every haystack, rice paddy dike, bush and hut in the area.

Soon, sturdy lengths of bamboo replaced the branches and bayonets, until Lieutenant G.L. Ashville, Ashville, N.C., had the idea for the "Mike Spike."

The "Mike Spike" is made, at no cost to the government, by taking metal rods used to support shipments of 105mm howitzer rounds. Marines grind one end to a point and attach a bamboo or wooden handle to the other.

In 45 days, two platoons of M Company, using the spike method, have uncovered 93 enemy mortar rounds, 115 hand grenades, 681 punji pits and 50 spider holes.

PF's Take Point On Operation Big Horn

Phu Bai (USMC) — Smaller than the average Marine, their helmets too large, their rifles too long, but they gladly take the point position, even knowing that the Viet Cong probably are out there and the area is usually heavily mined.

"They" are Popular Force

Air Force Cited For Hope Trip

Tachikawa, Japan (USAF) — Bob Hope and the bevy of beauties in his 1966 U.S.O. Show were shuttled around Vietnam in an Air Force C-130 Hercules ship. The 315th Air Division's 314th Troop Carrier Wing flew the Hope troupe from Bangkok, Thailand, where the entertainers were quartered, for performances at five bases in Vietnam and four in Thailand.

Praise for the unusual combat-zone mission came in the form of a certificate of appreciation signed by General W. C. Westmoreland, commander of the U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

Directing the mission, which covered more than 8,000 miles during 12 days, was the 315th's Headquarters Operating Location "AA" based at Bangkok International Airport. Every flight was completed on schedule.

The award was made to the 315th for "outstanding contributions to the morale and welfare of the United States and other Free World Military Assistance Forces in the Republic of Vietnam . . . This show would not have been possible without the notable support provided by the 315th Air Division."

soldiers (PF's) working with 3rd Division Marines on Operation Big Horn, north of Hue. A dozen PF's are operating with Marines as scouts.

Headed by a Vietnamese Army interpreter, they are assigned to the Marine platoons for duty on the point, a position that is called the most dangerous in the patrol. They precede the Marines, pointing out mines and punji traps. They question villagers on the whereabouts of the VC—and they question the captured VC themselves.

"Most of the PF's are from nearby districts," said Staff Sergeant Mai Dang Doanh, who is in charge of the group. "They know the area well and they hate the VC. They are excellent soldiers and since this operation began they have killed three VC and detained a dozen more," he adds.

The scouts have lived in the area most of their lives and all have combat experience with Vietnamese government forces.

Before each day's operation, Staff Sergeant Doanh is briefed by the Marine company commander and he in turn briefs his Vietnamese scouts.

After asking the PF's if they know the area, and if so, where mines, booby traps, or punji pits may be expected, he reports his findings to the company commander and assigns scouts to platoons.

"Most of my men speak very little English," Sergeant Doanh said, "but they make good sign language and the Marines understand them all right. If they spot a mine, or a place they suspect there may be one, they motion to the Marines behind to stay clear of that area," he added.

Since the PF's have been on the point with the company, it has not tripped a single mine or booby-trap.

Staff Sergeant Doanh has been with the Vietnamese Army for the past two years. His father, an ARVN ranger major, is serving in the Saigon area where Doanh was born.

A Do-It-Yourself TV Antenna

A COAT HANGER TV ANTENNA? — Not only does it work, but people who have constructed it, say that it works well.

With a couple of wire coat-hangers, some telephone field wire, a piece of wood and a long wooden pole, all material that should be easy to scrounge, you have your own do-it-yourself TV antenna.

MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

WIRE FOR ELEMENTS—Any copper, steel or aluminum wire, including metal coathangers, of adequate length and sufficient rigidity to support itself without bending in normal, local winds.

LEAD-IN WIRE — Indoor-type lamp cord or telephone field wire.

WOODEN BOOM — A piece of ordinary box or crate wood, at least 30 inches long.

WOODEN POLE — Select a long wooden board or pole. The greater height improves the overall reception.

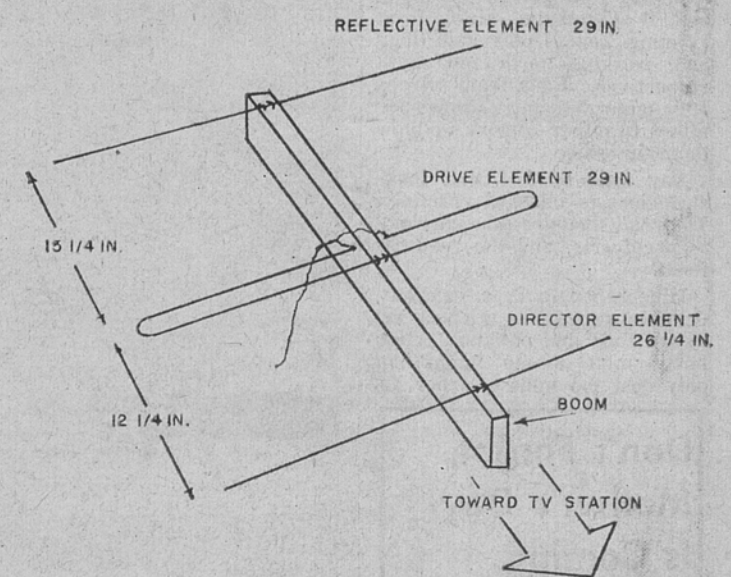
CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURE — Fasten the pre-cut and formed elements to one edge of the boom in the manner indicated in the drawing, making certain that they are properly centered and positioned the correct distance.

Care must be taken in positioning the drive element, the open ends toward the rear re-

flective element (see drawing). Solder the lead-in wire firmly to the open ends and tie the wire with string in such fashion that the open ended portions of the drive element will not spring apart. It must retain its rigidity and maintain the same spacing throughout its length.

Fasten the completed antenna to the wooden mast. When

erecting, maintain all the height possible and be sure that the antenna is free of tree limbs or other obstructions. Slowly rotate the antenna until a clear, ghost-free picture is obtained. (Sometimes the best reception is obtained by having the antenna directed toward a reflection, rather than the transmitting station.)



BETTER RECEPTION—A coat hanger and ingenuity.

IG Team Briefs RVN Inspectors

Saigon (MACV)—24 members of the Vietnamese Inspectors General (IG) Staff, Joint General Staff, received a one week IG orientation course recently from three instructors of the Department of the Army IG Instruction Team, Washington, D.C.

The orientation course, given at the JGS Inspectors General building, was designed to acquaint the students with the techniques, procedures and policies in making inspections.

Some of the students who attended this orientation course will teach other newly assigned Vietnamese Inspectors General at their own IG school.

The three instructors, Colonel Vincent P. Smith, Lieutenant Colonel Donald F. Powell and Lieutenant Colonel Virgil H. Williams, tried to impress the students with the thought that the mission of the U.S. Army IG Corps is to help the commands to solve their problems and not just to find fault.

Lieutenant Colonel Williams said, "Class interest and participation was outstanding. It was a pleasure to have the opportunity to instruct them and learn from them some of their ideas and policies on inspections."

This Department of the Army IG instruction team gives orientation courses around the world. In Washington D.C., classes are given eight times a year to newly assigned Inspectors General for all the services as well as students from some foreign countries. It is given once a year in Heidelberg, Germany, and in Korea.

Although at the present time there are only four U.S. Army IG advisors in Vietnam, plans are to have an IG advisor at each corps and division level.

Doctor-Missionaries In Montagnard Country

Kontum (MACV) — Like an oasis or health spa, the Ming Qui hospital stands amid the hardships of Montagnard tribal life around Kontum. Four American civilian women and one Vietnamese assistant nurse staff the hospital, which is supported by contributions from countries all over the world.

The scientific medical care given the Montagnards here stands in stark contrast to the tribesmen's traditional methods of healing according to custom and superstition.

Hospital Director Dr. Patricia M. Smith, Seattle, may have set some kind of record for length of service in Vietnam: she arrived in Kontum nearly eight years ago to help treat lepers among the Montagnards.

She was joined in 1960 by nurse Joan Blomien, and in 1961 by nurse Jean Platz, both of Milwaukee. The three have worked as a dedicated team ever since.

An average 30 to 40 ailing persons appear at the clinic daily seeking help. Patients have "everything in the book, and

some diseases we can't find in any medical book," said Dr. Smith. Leprosy, tuberculosis, pneumonia, malaria, fungus, cirrhosis of the liver, typhoid and war-inflicted injuries are common ills.

Many Montagnards are malnourished and carry jungle parasites to begin with.

The Minh Qui Hospital was built by the German Bishop Relief in 1963. There are 40 beds, but room is somehow found for more than 100 patients at a time.

Currently assisting Dr. Smith are Volunteer Physician for Vietnam Louis E. Brail, and a nurse from the International Volunteer Service.

In the ward, one patient was caring for another — two beds were pulled together so a young woman with one leg amputated could reach a 5-month-old child whose parents are dead.

"One thing we never see is a Montagnard orphan," said Dr. Smith. "If a child loses its parents, some neighbor or relative always takes the child in."

PLADS SUCCESSFUL—Air Force personnel recently demonstrated the effectiveness of the Precision Low Altitude Drop System (PLADS) in resupplying an Army Special Forces camp. All pallets landed within a few yards of the aiming point. (USAF Photo)

Mine Sweeping Job Not For The Hasty

Qui Nhon (USA) — Dense foliage, spreading out on both sides and small village houses appearing periodically are all one sees when flying over Highway One before reaching the narrow Phu Ky Pass, three miles south of Bong Son.

But traveling the road itself, much more meets the eyes. This dusty, pot-holed road is a constant headache for drivers of vehicles having to travel it. One never knows when or where a Viet Cong may detonate a mine, set up an ambush or leave a pressure mine.

Elements of the 41st ARVN Regiment continually patrol the highway in an attempt to cut down on the number of enemy ambushes and mine emplacements. But they can't be everywhere at the same time.

Keeping the road passable is also the responsibility of the mine-sweeping teams of the 35th Engineer Battalion (Combat), 45th Engineer Group, 1st Air Cavalry Division.

Each morning two mine-sweeping teams, A Company and B Company, start from Landing Zone Uplift and Bong Son, working north and south respectively. Each team sweeps with mine detectors, probes for mines to either remove or blow them in place.

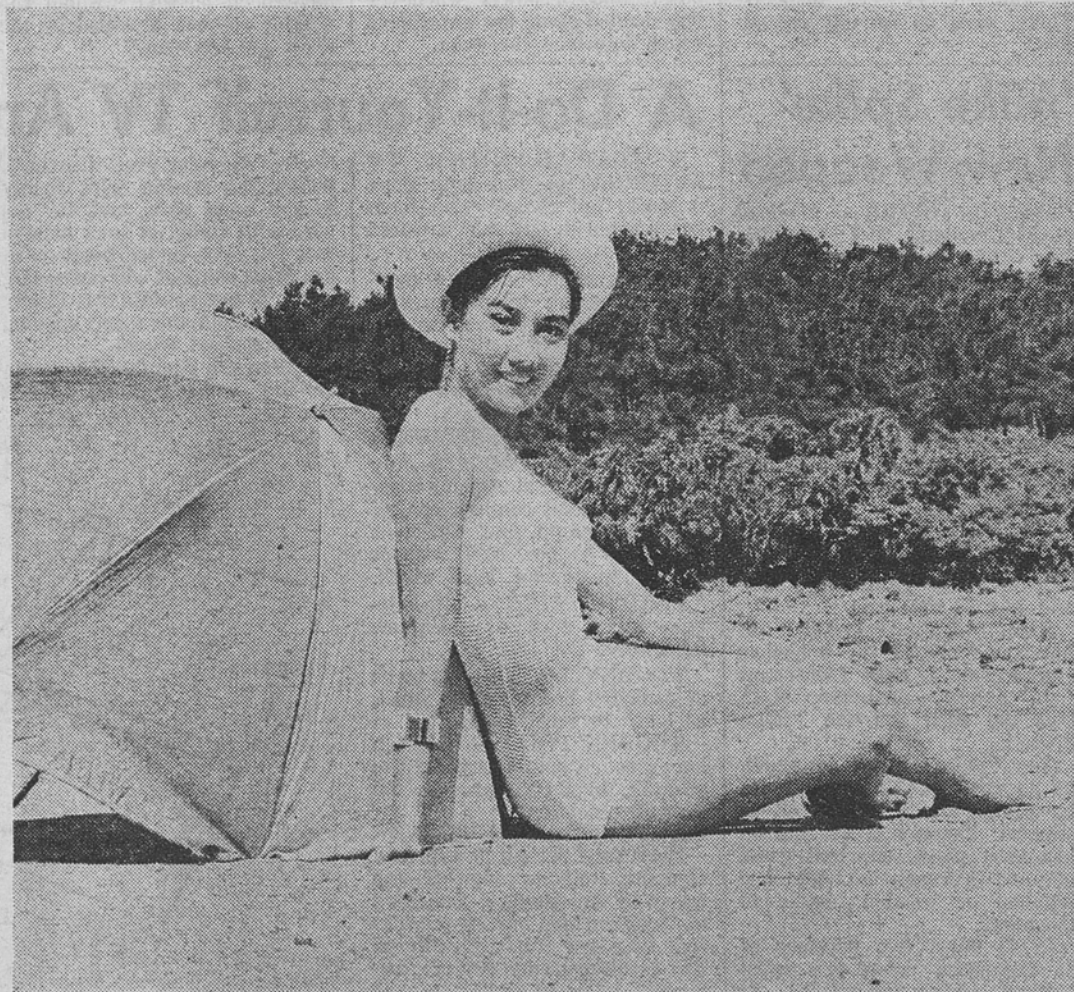
Any spot of dirt that looks suspicious is checked carefully. The road shoulders are checked, then culverts, and the roadway itself.

Mine-sweeping is a cautious, delicate operation which requires time and patience. A too hasty mine sweep might not only cost the mine sweeper his

life, but it could cost the life of a driver and many more, especially if his truck is carrying ammunition or petroleum.

Mine-sweeping is an important task, for these men make it possible for their field units to receive the badly needed supplies hauled over the road each day.

You'll Find Her In Hong Kong



Movie star Essie Lin Chia provides a glimpse of the scenery available at that popular R&R site. She is Chinese-Portuguese and is one good reason to go to the movies in Asia. (Photo by Shaw Bros.)

**Don't Forget,
Mother's Day
Is Coming,
May 14**

Armed Forces Television Channel 11

Guide for week of—May 10-May 16, 1967

(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)

Wednesday (May 10)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 Information Feature
7:30 Batman (Part I)
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 Perry Mason
9:00 To Tell The Truth
9:30 Channel 11 Theater (Movie)

Thursday (May 11)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 G.E. College Bowl
7:30 Batman (Part II)
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 12 O'Clock High
9:00 Joey Bishop Show
9:30 Get Smart
10:00 Red Skelton Show

Friday (May 12)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 Information Feature
7:30 Addams Family
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 Gunsmoke
9:00 Danny Kaye
10:00 The Tonight Show

Saturday (May 13)

12:30 Jim Bowie
1:00 Daniel Boone
2:00 Roy Acuff
2:30 Beverly Hillsbillies
3:00 Andy Griffith
3:30 Sports of the Week
4:00 Lost in Space
4:30 M-Squad
5:00 News & Sports
5:30 Jackie Gleason
6:00 Hollywood Palace
10:00 Saturday Night at the Movies

Sunday (May 14)

12:30 Educational Special
1:30 Sunday Movie
2:00 Sports of the Week
2:30 CBS Sports Special
3:00 Big Picture
3:30 News & Sports
4:00 Dick Van Dyke
4:30 Candid Camera
5:00 Bonanza
10:00 Ed Sullivan Show

Monday (May 15)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 I've Got a Secret
7:30 The Flintstones
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 Combat
9:00 Bewitched
9:30 Third Man
10:00 Dean Martin Show

Tuesday (May 16)

6:30 News Headlines
7:00 Green Acres
7:30 My Favorite Martian
8:00 News & Sports
8:30 Rawhide
9:00 Garry Moore Show
10:00 Entertainment Special

(Note: These same shows can be seen in other areas as follows:)

Qui Nhon—May 31-June 6

Da Nang—June 21-June 27

Pleiku—July 12-July 18

Nha Trang—Aug. 2-Aug. 8

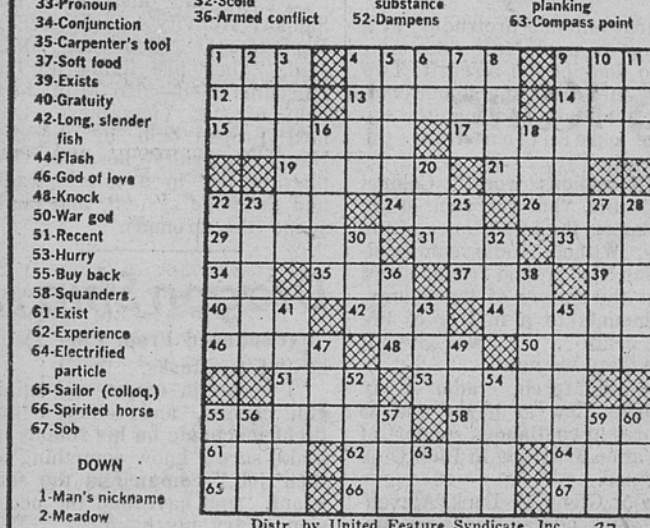
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Priest's vestment
- At that place
- Edible seed
- Sign of zodiac
- Girl's name
- Ordinance
- Parent
- Give
- Singing voice
- Offspring
- Festive
- Bow
- Direction
- Walks
- unsteadily
- Emerges
- victorious
- Pronoun
- Conjunction
- Carpenter's tool
- Soft food
- Exists
- Gratuity
- Long, slender fish
- Flash
- God of love
- Knock
- War god
- Recent
- Hurry
- Buy back
- Squanders
- Exist
- Experience
- Electrified particle
- Sailor (colloq.)
- Spirited horse
- Sob

DOWN

- Man's nickname
- Meadow
- Container
- At that time
- Long-legged bird
- Spanish article
- Communist
- Man's name
- Carpenter's tools
- Consume
- Reverence
- Cures
- At present
- Quarrel
- Irritate
- Horse gods
- Plunge
- Glisten
- Trials
- Sink in middle
- Scold
- Armed conflict
- Piece of dinnerware
- Mediate
- Cheer
- Peaceful
- Bishopric
- Adjective substance
- Dampens
- Hurried
- Redent
- Period of time
- Small rug
- Click beetle
- Vegetable's curved planking
- Compass point



Distr. by United Feature Syndicate, Inc. 27

For Use In Authorized Service Newspapers Only.

Governor Praises Georgian

Chu Lai (USMC) — An 18-year-old Marine from Augusta, Ga., wounded on Operation De Soto, received personal letters from Georgia Governor Lester Maddox and Lieutenant Governor George W. Smith, and a House Resolution was adopted on his behalf.

"I correspond frequently with Representative Bobby W. Johnson, a personal friend, and he told me about the resolution," Private First Class Jack S. Morris said, "but the letters from the governor and lieutenant governor were a complete surprise."

In his letter, the governor commended the young Marine for his bravery under fire. He said, "We Georgians are proud of you and appreciate the serv-

ice you are rendering to your country in Vietnam."

The resolution adopted in his behalf was introduced by Representative Johnson of the 40th District and was adopted March 13th. It expressed "sincere appreciation to Private First Class Jack S. Morris for his courageous service to his country in Vietnam."

Now with the Fifth Marine Regiment, Task Force X-Ray, Morris served as assistant doorkeeper for the House of Representatives during the 1966 general assembly.

"It was a great honor to receive a personal letter from the governor," Morris said, "and it's nice to know that he takes a personal interest in the men of his state serving over here."

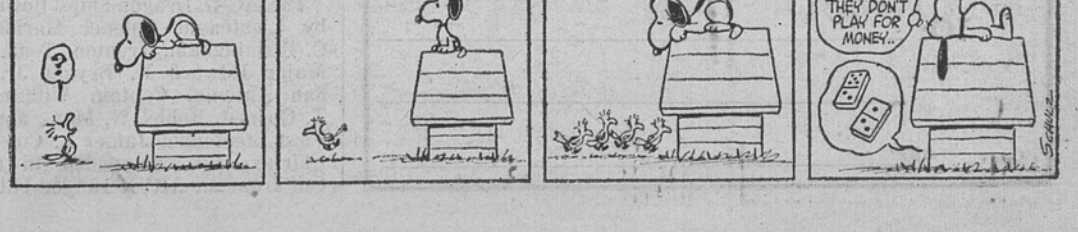
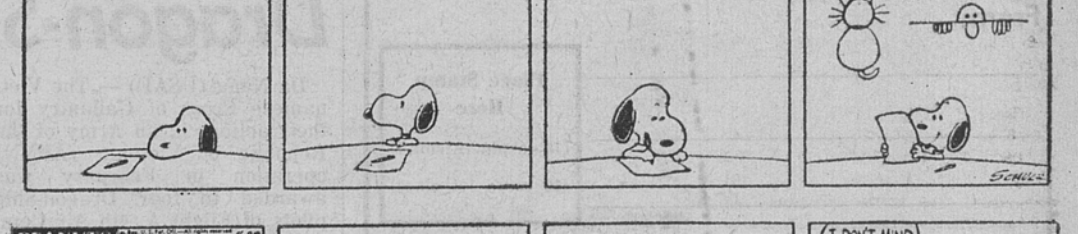
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



Cannoneer Free Lances As Fireman

Long Binh (USA)—Artilleryman Private First Class Bobby Fulmar, whose job is to keep the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, and adjacent units supplied with water, found himself a new job acting as a free lance fireman.

Twice within the period of a week, Private First Class Fulmar beat the fire trucks to the fire and extinguished the fires with the water he hauls on his truck.

The first time, he was returning from a water point, and noticed a brush fire rapidly spreading towards a farmer's crop. Seeing that the farmers were unable to bring the fire under control with shovels and blankets, he quickly altered his route and made a beeline for the fire. "Numbah wohn" the farmers shouted as Private First Class Fulmer cranked up his pump and began to unload the water on the fire. Soon the fire was out, the farmers were happy, Fulmar was dirty, the tanks were empty, but he had saved the crops from going up in smoke.

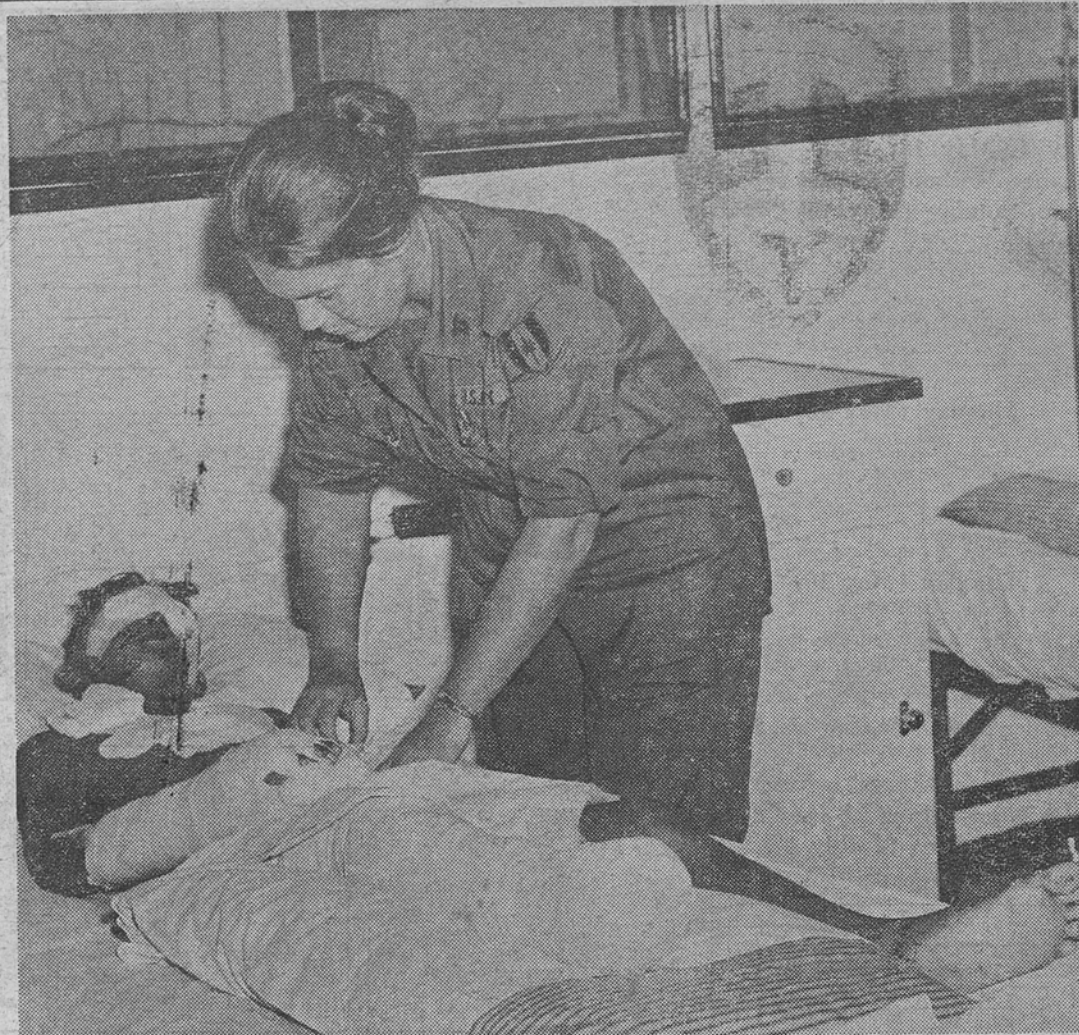
Another time, while returning from the water point he noticed smoke billowing up from behind one of the buildings on the compound. Moving closer he noticed a fire truck racing around trying to find out how to get to the fire. Being familiar with the area, he quickly moved his water truck to the fire and, much to the disapproval of the local troops, extinguished the smoldering bales of sandbags.

Engineers Help Curb Paddling

Nha Trang (USA) — Montagnard villagers near the An Lac Special Forces A Camp in Darlac Province will soon be walking over on a 420 foot bridge instead of paddling across a swift-flowing river.

The construction is a joint effort of local villagers and Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) Civic Action Squad, under the supervision of Second Lieutenant Jack Anderson, an Engineer Officer of the 41st Civil Affairs Company.

Lieutenant Anderson began working on plans for the bridge several months ago. At that time a ferry boat was the only way villagers had to cross the swift-flowing stream for food, wood, and medical attention.



IDENTIFICATION ESTABLISHED—Two Vietnamese teenagers remain alive in a U.S. Army hospital following the explosion of a dud Russian antitank grenade. Six boys found the grenade near the site at Long Binh where an American unit was hit by enemy fire earlier this week. The photo shows 14-year-old Trung Ngo Khac being tended by Army Nurse Lieutenant Nancy J. Eckert, Allentown, Pa., in the intensive care ward at the 93d Evac Hospital. Young Khac lost his right foot and suffered multiple wounds and fractures. The other survivor, Phuong Ngo Van, 15, lost his left leg below the knee. Two companions were killed instantly when the Russian grenade exploded and two others died in the Army hospital, where U.S. troops rushed them within minutes after the tragedy. Army ordnance experts have established the identification of the grenade. (U.S.A. Photo)

AF Radio Relay Tunes In Army

Saigon (USAF) — Air Force C-7A Caribou crews and Army ground forces have teamed up in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam to make it more than uncomfortable for enemy troops.

The C-7As help provide an umbrella of detection, protection and command control for the 1st Air Cavalry Division, through the use of a radio relay system.

"Support by Caribou aircrews has been fantastic," said Army Sergeant James L. Summers, 13th Signal Company, Bong Son. Sergeant Summers, Kansas City, added, "The crews haven't missed a turn yet . . . when we need them, they're always there."

The airborne relay is a backup for the Army ground radio relay and provides communications when units move out of range of the main force.

The system is fully automatic.

Ground forces can tune in on various frequencies to send information through the FM network on the aircraft to their different command levels and support units, such as artillery and intelligence positions.

"Flying radio relay is our number one priority," said Lieutenant Colonel James L. Pentz Jr., Americus, Ga., a Caribou flight commander with the 537 Troop Carrier Squadron, based at Phu Cat Air Base. Colonel Pentz said, "Our unit mission is unique among the six C-7A squadrons working throughout Vietnam. We are solely committed to the support of the 1st Air Cavalry Division."

Radio relay aircraft are on a 24-hour a day standby. During these flights, the 1st Cavalry provides two coordinates which mark the area needing coverage. The Caribous fly in a straight line orbit, from one point to the other, at about 10,000 feet.

The C-7As are equipped with 12 FM radio sets and a 12-

element antenna protruding at a 45 degree angle from the rear cargo door of the aircraft. Two Army men from the signal company maintain and monitor the radio operation from the aircraft.

"It's tedious work," Colonel Pentz said, "but everyone in the unit knows the importance of the relay. Without radio communications, the ground troops could be at the mercy of the enemy. It amounts to a matter of life and death . . . we give it everything we got."

In mid-March, radio relay Caribous flew 92 hours and 35 minutes in continuous support of Operation Pershing in Binh Dinh Province.

Major Glenn M. Luck, Alexandria, La., piloted the first aircraft out on the mission. "The communications net was never broken, said Major Luck." We flew six straight hours. Then another Caribou was launched and entered the radio relay orbit before we turned and headed for home."

Navy Drops Clouds For Shovels

Da Nang (USN) — "Why do you work, honcho?"

This question is asked daily to Lieutenant Jack Mills of Spencer, Iowa and Aerographer First Hugh Agee, Pensacola, Fla., attached to the Naval Support Activity, Da Nang.

The query comes from the mouths of Vietnamese children who work side-by-side with Lieutenant Mills and Petty Officer Agee, renovating the grounds of Museum Park in Da Nang.

The park, located alongside the Da Nang Museum, has long been an eyesore to visitors in the area. Lieutenant Mills and Aerographer Agee took it upon themselves to do something about it.

Lieutenant Mills volunteered to serve as the Support Activity's Operations Department Civic Action Liaison Officer and Petty Officer Agee offered to be his assistant. This job is in addition to their regular assignment as "weatherman" for the command's Meteorology Division.

Armed with rakes and shovels, the men can be seen each afternoon laboring in the park alongside the children. "We are training the kids to take care of the park by themselves when we leave," Mills said. "They do most of the work by themselves now, we just show them how."

"The first day, only four kids helped us," added Petty Officer Agee. "Now that they've spread the word, we get 25-30 a day to pitch-in."

Aerographer Agee also stated, "What really amazes them is to see us working. They can't understand why the honcho's work so hard."

After the grounds are cleaned, the group will plant flowerbeds and rebuild an encircling fence.

"We got the idea from the Support Activity's Civic Action Department," Lieutenant Mills said. "They are fixing up the museum itself—also with the help of the Vietnamese. Our next project will be the Da Nang Maternity hospital. We plan to put in a new sewage and drainage system, and landscape the grounds."

Dragon Ship . .

(Continued From Page 1)

any of our tasks.

"I've sat in on several mini-gun classes, and followed the flight mechanic on his rounds to make sure I know something of their job," commented the sergeant, "and have had the occasion to try my hand."

"What do I think of the AC-47? She's the best for the job. You can't really realize just how effective she is, until you've had the opportunity to observe this old ship in action. When those guns roar and spit fire, 'Charlie's' getting the message."

Dragon-Ship Pilots Decorated

Da Nang (USAF) — The Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry for their actions in an Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) operation in February was awarded to four Dragon-Ship pilots of Flight A, 4th Air Commando Squadron.

The AC-47 Dragon-Ships flown by Lieutenant Colonel Marion C. Birmingham, Trenton, Tenn., Major Edward H. Bryant Jr., San Antonio, Captain William T. Gosnell, Hobbs, N. Mex., and First Lieutenant James L. Cole, Fairfax, Va., responded to a call from an ARVN ranger bat-

alion located west of Quang Ngai. The rangers had repeatedly been taking mortar fire from the insurgents during the day, and an attack by two enemy battalions was expected in the early morning hours.

Colonel Birmingham and Captain Gosnell were the first on target, arriving shortly before 10 p.m., and fired mini-guns into the Viet Cong until the ammunition was gone. A second Dragon-Ship, flown by Major Bryant and Lieutenant Cole, relieved them.

"When we got there," said

Lieutenant Cole, "there were several .50 caliber positions firing at us. We wiped them out in about 15 minutes, but continued to get small arms fire for some time."

The two aircraft fired 123,000 rounds of ammo that night. At least three burning enemy fortifications were sighted by the pilots. Before they left the target for the night, Allied forces asked them to fire on enemy sampans on a nearby river and they destroyed 16 of the enemy water craft.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

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

From:

Place Stamp
Here

(16 cents Airmail)

(10 cents 1st class)

TO:

