

# Viet Cong Denied Cover of Boi Loi Woods Foliage



FIRST IN VIETNAM

## The OBSERVER

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 and 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.



**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 fox hole 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.

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

Monthly increases sought for accepted personnel on overseas assignment are urged to submit their request on DA Form 1049 at least six months prior to the continental United States.

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 the continental United States.

Bond glances back at the green-eyed beauty with his usual interest, looking through his Spendo-Spree accelerator and jammed down hard on the Allo-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.

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## 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. (AFNB) — 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.

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.

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.

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.

The time was at hand. Bond shifted his right foot from the Spendo-Spree accelerator and jammed down hard on the Allo-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.

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## 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 automatic 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.

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."

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## Pilots Set Stage for Mission

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.

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 from which he immediately ran forward through intense enemy fire to administer first aid to the wounded.

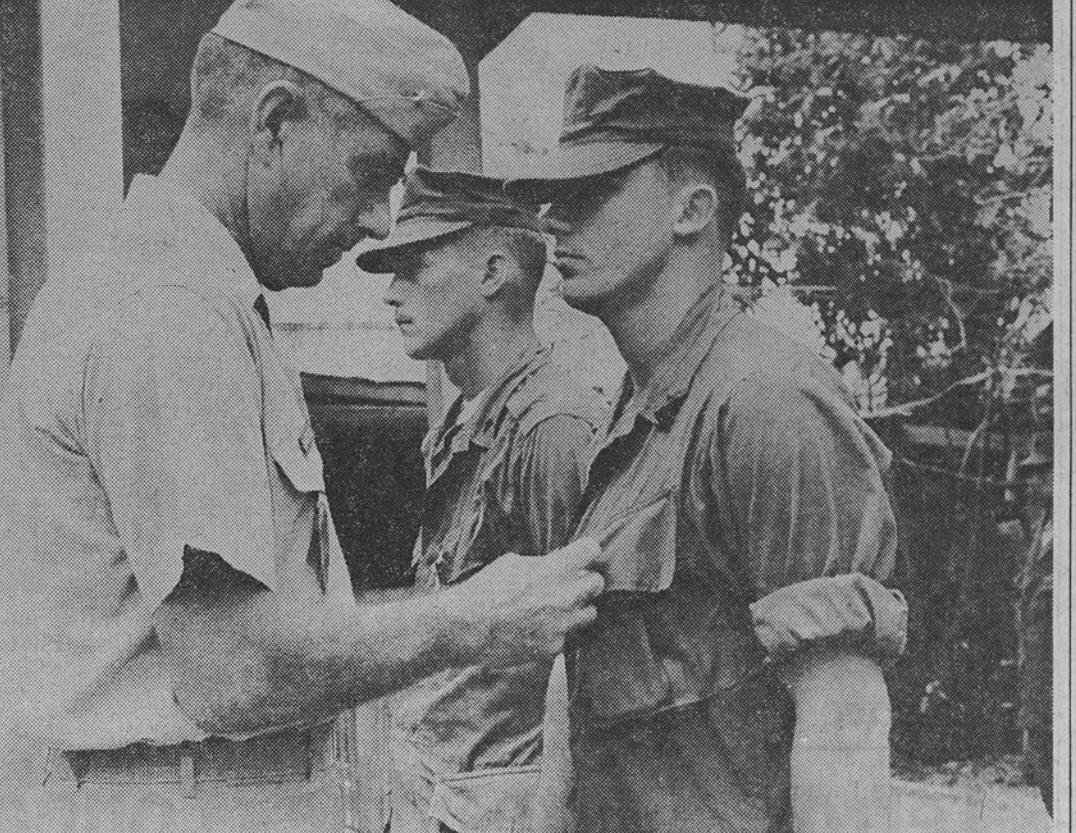
Finding a radio that had not been damaged, he requested medical evacuation helicopters to fly out the casualties.

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."

The two Marines, members of



GALLANTRY — Marine Sergeant Kenneth C. Campbell (right) and Corporal John P. Houghton (center), receive Silver Stars from Brigadier General John R. Chaisson, Director, Combat Operations Center, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

## 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.

Nguyen Van Ngo and Tran

Van Bay voluntarily turned themselves in under the Chieu Hoi program and have been aiding men from the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry, since the start of Operation Manhattan.

Colonel Francis S. Connatty, Annandale, Va., 1st Brigade commander, presented the two

Hoi Chanh (Chieu Hoi returnees) with cash awards.

"We have taken them out on operations with us," remarked Colonel Connatty, "and they have invaluable knowledge about the entire area. They told us they knew where certain depots were . . . and they did."

During a recent search and destroy mission with the "Tropic Lightning" soldiers, Tran Van Bay spotted a Viet Cong claymore mine in time to save the lives of two American officers. "This alone," said Colonel Connatty, "justifies our show of appreciation and respect for them."

Both Hoi Chanh have been volunteering to accompany the battalion on sweeping operations. Each says that he is convinced that more Viet Cong would defect if they knew what the Chieu Hoi program meant.

The two are playing active roles in the psychological warfare program of the 25th Infantry Division by appealing to other Viet Cong to join and aid the government meant.

Commented Ngo, "The Chieu Hoi program is more than promises. It offers more security and a better life. It means freedom. This is exactly what I'm trying to tell the Viet Cong."

## 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.

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.

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

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"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 Phu Bai 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 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 (USA) — 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.

## **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)

## **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.



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

## **Villagers Get New Home Life**

Phouc 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 our hospital."

### **Stem Gold Flow**

Help stem the gold flow. Buy American-made products.



### **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 Devel-

opment 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.

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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.

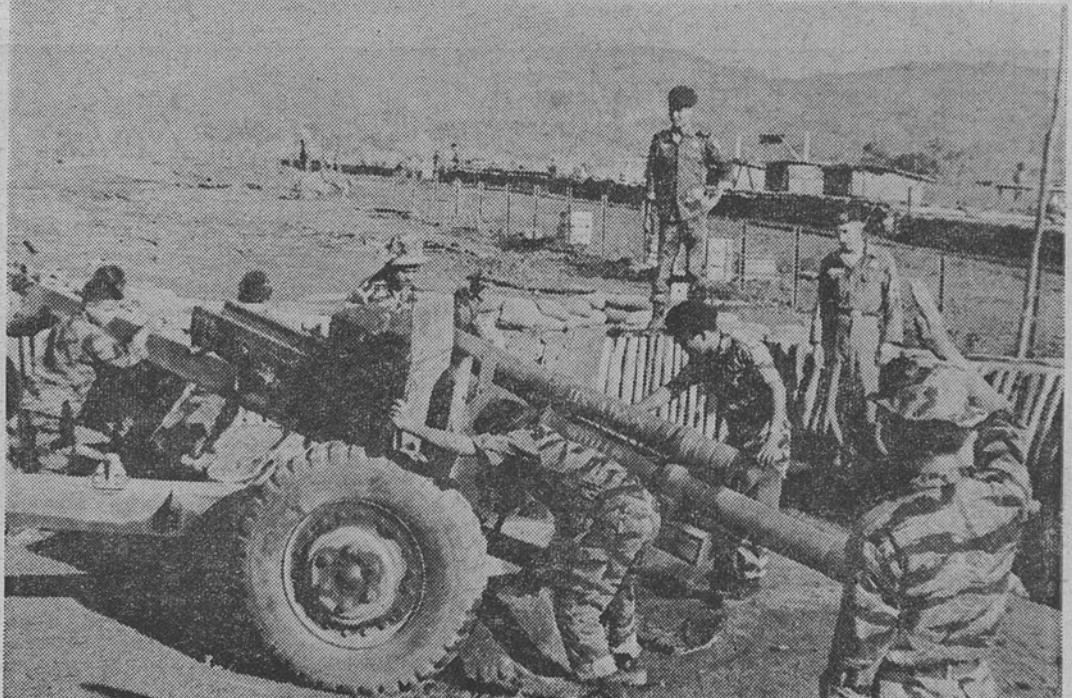
Seventeen new homes have been built in neighboring villages using local labor and locally procured materials. Toi-

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**  
M Sgt 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. As they grew in strength and power, the Viet Cong levied heavy taxes on the people, sometimes relying on acts of terror to impose their laws. Many of the people, not wanting to be bothered, moved from their village to 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 being 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.

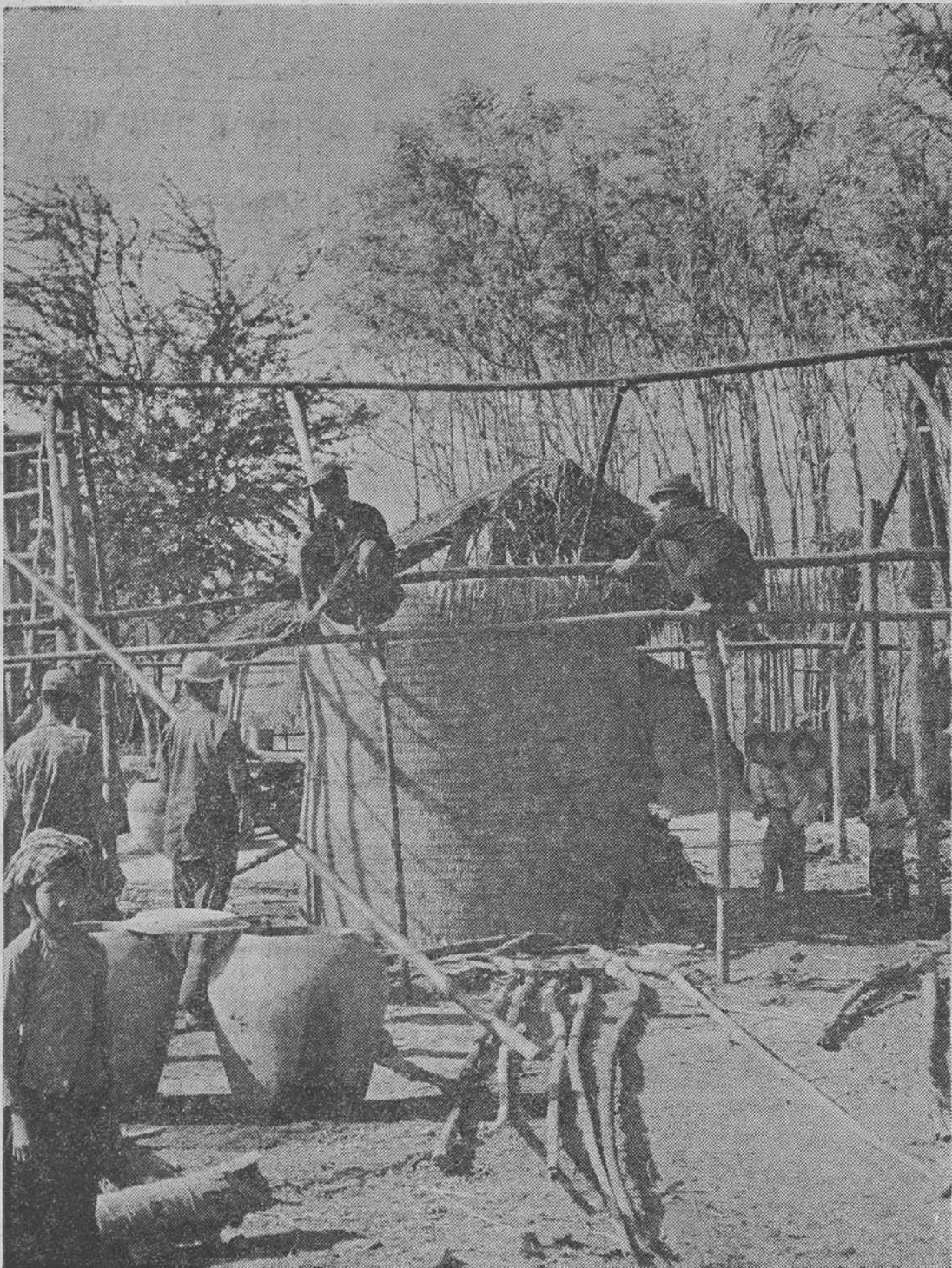
Revolutionary Development (RD) cadre teams have been working Vinh Binh province for nearly a year. The villagers heard of these teams and their work, but it wasn't until about two months ago that they finally met the district chief, Captain

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.



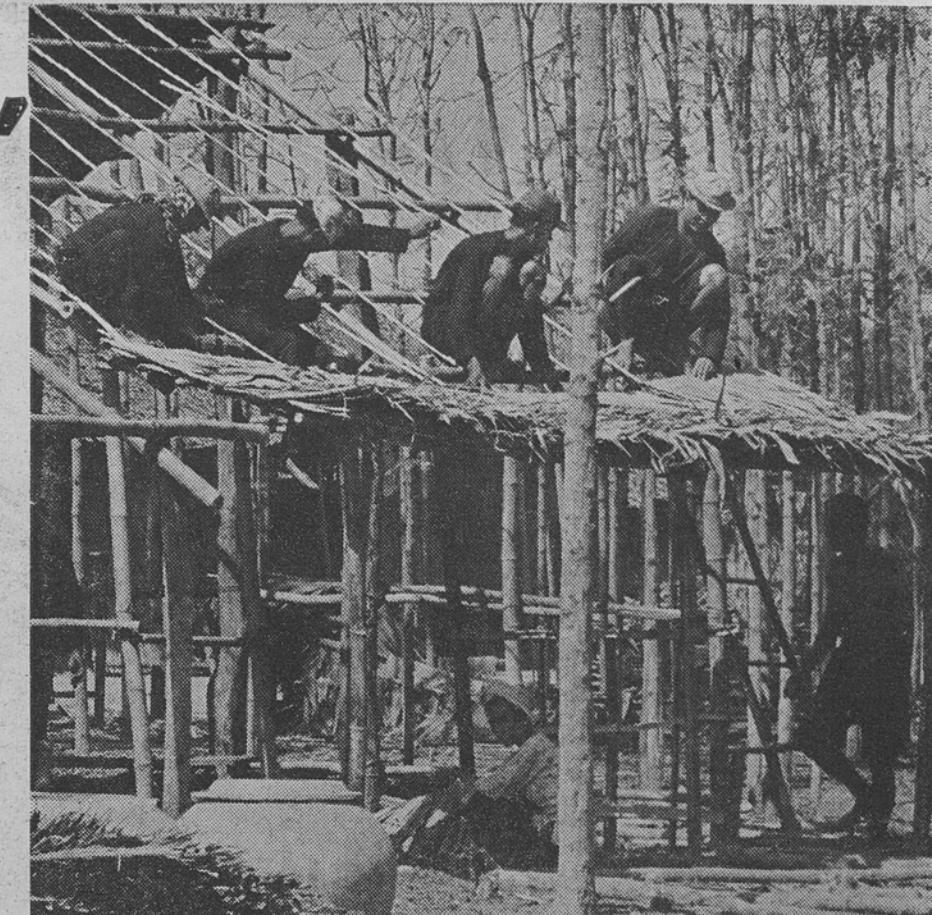
NO SLACK—People push a load sampan through mud during low tide.



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



MOVIN—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.

"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.

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.

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**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 his 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

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.

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 down 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."

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 reconvene their Malaysian dollars to greenbacks and are given an opportunity to contribute odd change to charity.

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**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.

Smith, 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 down and the rain shelters constructed for sleeping.

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**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

**Bon, 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...

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**

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.

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# 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.

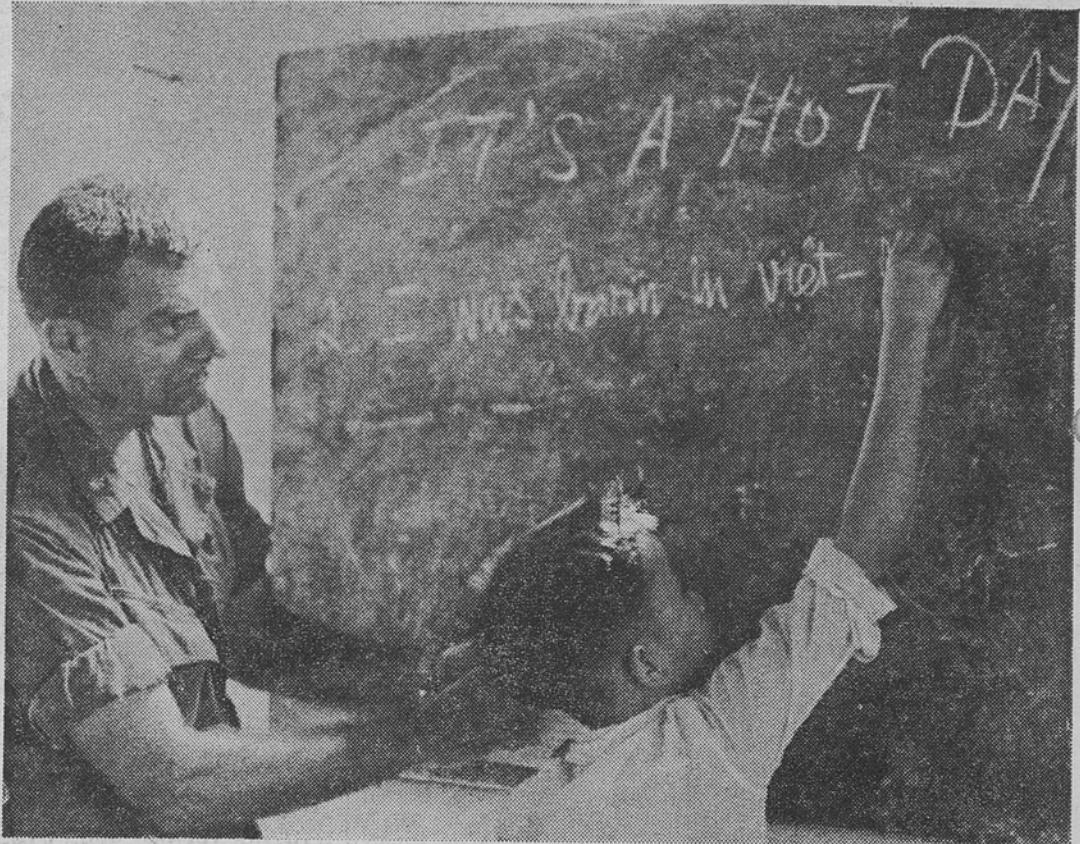
Battalion Chaplain Michael A. Ondo, Cleveland, with the help of Chaplain R. L. Hustin, Worcester, Mass., and the 12th Marine Regiment, teaches twice-weekly English classes at a local high school.

"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.

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



**"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

**Khanh 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 Sabath" 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. Sabalauski, 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 Sabalauski 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 Sabalauski 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 82d 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 32d Vietnamese Ranger Battalion in 1963. His return to the 82d 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.

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## 'Screaming Eagles' Have Fishy Story

**Khanh 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,

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

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

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

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

It's 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.

Retirees 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.

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## 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 Movie & Sports  
7:30 Perry Mason  
8:00 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 O'Toole High  
9:00 The Fugitive  
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

**Sunday (June 4)**

12:00 Religious Program  
12:30 Educational Special  
1:30 Sunday Movie  
3:00 Sports of the Week  
5:30 Movie Special  
7:30 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. Collage Bowl  
7:00 Animal Secrets  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Combat  
9:00 Bewitched  
9:30 Third Man  
10:00 Dear 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**

ACROSS  
1-Male sheep  
4-High cards  
8-Harvest  
12-Anglo-Saxon  
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-Novelty  
29-Baker's product  
30-Wander  
31-Symbol for silver  
32-Encountered  
33-Distress signal  
34-Type 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  
52-Century plant  
53-Short jacket  
54-Period of time  
55-Young salmon  
56-Communists  
57-Soak

3-Designated  
4-Genus of maples  
5-Container  
6-Motor  
7-Rundown  
8-Edits  
9-Before  
10-Ventilate  
11-Footlike part  
12-Compass point  
13-Cyprinid fish  
22-River island  
24-Teutonic deity  
25-Title  
26-Novice  
27-Renown  
28-Matured  
29-Swordsman's dummy  
30-Drunkard

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

DOWN  
1-Top of house  
2-Region  
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MENTAL RETORT  
OSSETAHRAS  
ITSETAPASA  
SECTERASEER  
TRAITERTTERS  
LACSLEND  
BEDROOMRAINS  
ONALOOGLOE  
ATTSTOOPEN  
SIRETRIOTDD  
TRUANTSPOLLS  
EERIESTERE  
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32-Operator  
33-Declare  
34-Title  
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36-Fairy  
37-Fairly  
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40-More certain  
41-Three-toed sloth  
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## QUIZ SPORTS

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 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's America's Cup Race?

ANSWERS

1. The game between the Montreal Maroons and Detroit

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# Miss R & R



## 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.

## Mail THE OBSERVER Home

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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
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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	

## 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."

# 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 rice lands.

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)



**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)

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.



# 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:

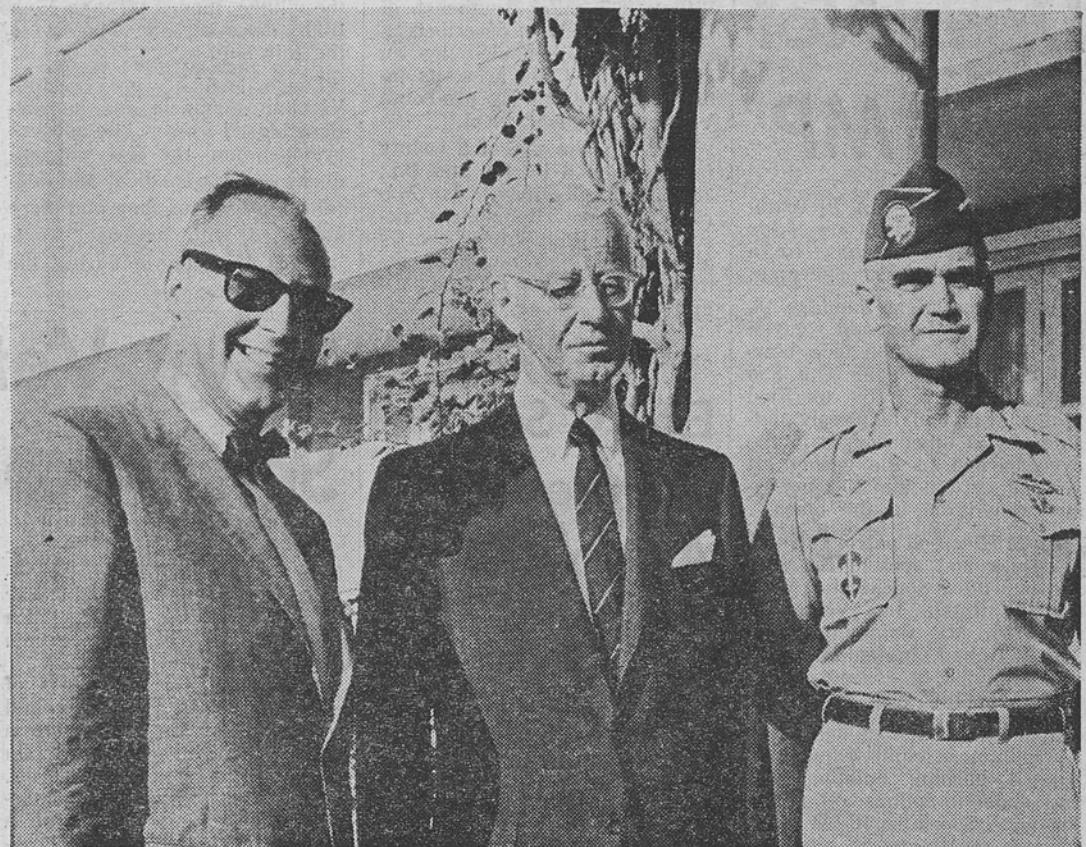
"Since being appointed U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam I have given a great deal of thought to how to organize most effectively the U.S. advisory role in support of the Vietnamese Government's Revolutionary Development effort. Like my predecessor, I regard Revolutionary Development—often termed pacification—as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

"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.

"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-



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 Vietnam. (JUSPAO Photo)

sition.

"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 Revolutionary Development Support Division of MACV will be integrated into OCO, and its chief will serve as Deputy to the Director of OCO.

"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

formed personally about all developments in this field, and I 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 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."

## US Mission Changes Announced

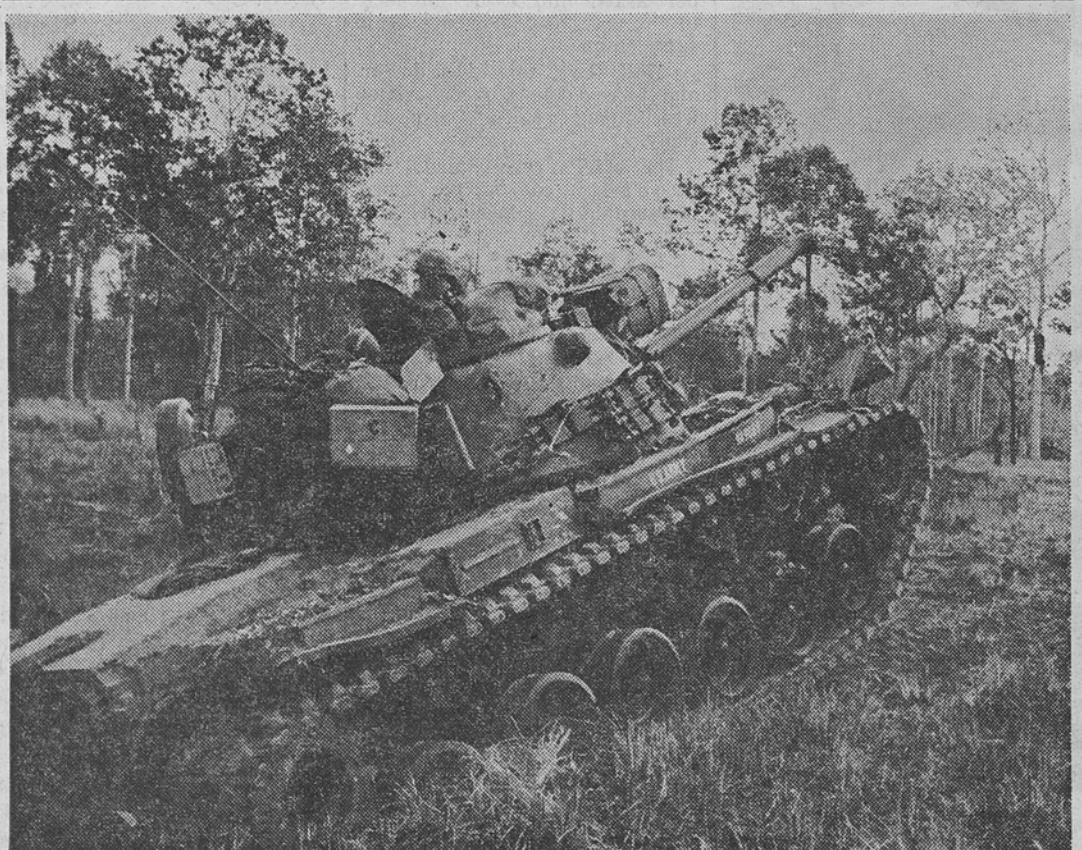
Saigon (MACV)—American Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker announced further reorganization of the American Mission concurrent with his appointment of General W.C. Westmoreland to head the pacification effort.

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 18<sup>th</sup>



REMEMBER DAD ON HIS DAY

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VC SUSPECT—ARVN trooper confers with a Vietnamese woman who was injured in a 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.



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.

## 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 un-daubed 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



Logistics Unit

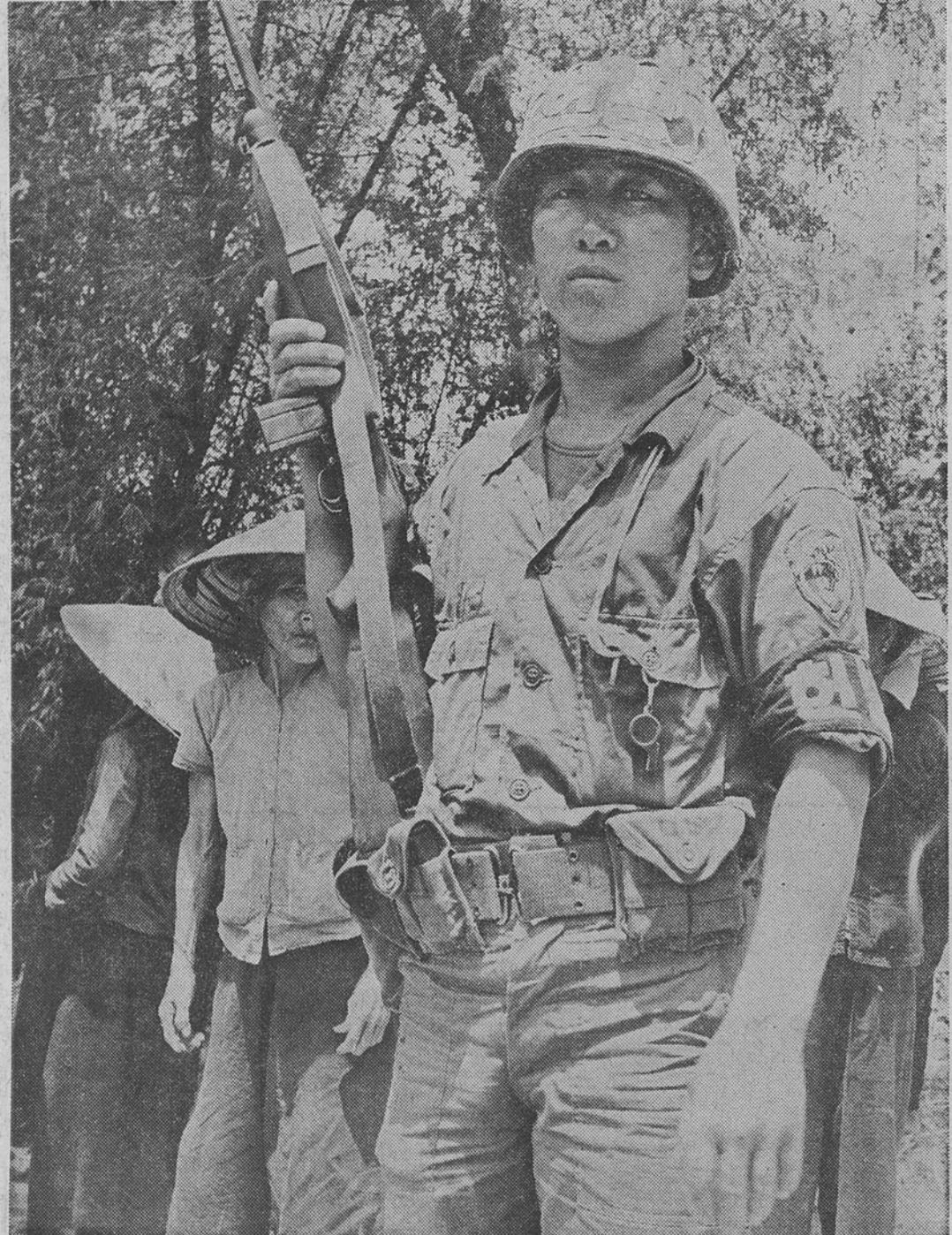


Dove Unit

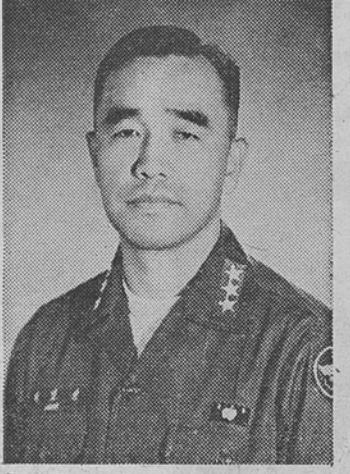


Hq ROKF-V  
Joint General Staff

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.



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.



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.



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.



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



White Horse Division



Sea Gull Unit

Salgon (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 Chorwon, 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

# ROKF-V

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 Ngai province.

Units of the ROK Capital Division, known

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 (ROKF-V) are 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, Bom-June and the Sea Gull unit by Navy Captain Lee, Kae-Ho.



Blue Dragon Regt.



Tiger Division



## 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 (USA)**—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 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 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.

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 reinforced.

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.

**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.

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."

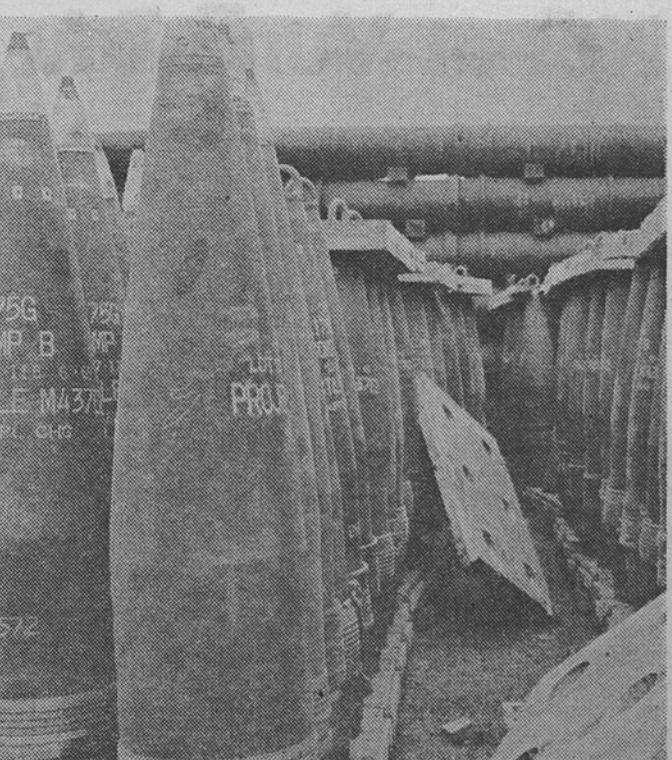
Besides direct support of infantrymen, the Army's Camp Carroll-based 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery fires its 175's across the Demilitarized Zone at bunkers, command posts, troop concentrations and antiaircraft sites in North Vietnam.

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)

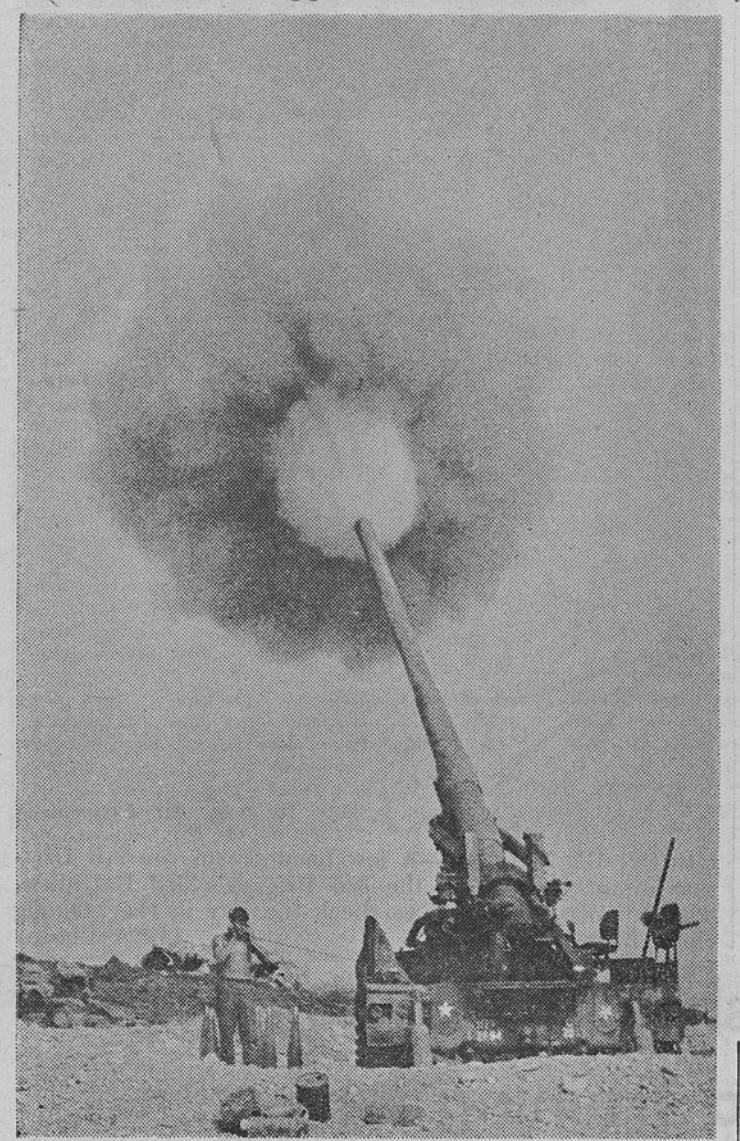
darn good at the job."

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.



**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 (USA)**—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.

In a brief, simple ceremony the new volumes were presented to Huynh Van Thien, Christian Missionary Alliance pastor of the Phu Guong 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.

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.

His job included telling the villagers when, where and what

## 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 Guong 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

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

**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.

## 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.

### 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.

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-

"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.

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)



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)

## Traps, Abuses 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.

"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

"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.

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.

### 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 frutti team is producing 350 gallons of ice cream a day on the only Army ice cream plant in Vietnam.

May 24, 1967

May 24, 1967

OBSERVER

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

Thursday (May 25)

6:30 News Headlines  
G.E. College Bowl  
7:00 Batman (Part II)  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 12 O'Clock High  
8:00 Joey Bishop Show  
9:20 Get Smart  
9:30 Red Skelton Show

Friday (May 26)

6:30 News Headlines  
Information Feature  
7:00 Adam-12  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Gunsmoke  
9:00 Danny Kaye  
10:00 The Tonight Show

Saturday (May 27)

12:30 Jim Bowie  
1:00 Daniel Boone  
2:00 Ray Auffrey  
3:00 French  
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  
3:00 Sports of the Week  
5:30 CBS Special  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Dick Van Dyke  
8:30 Candid Camera  
9:00 Bonanza  
10:00 Ed Sullivan Show

Monday (May 29)

6:30 News Headlines  
Secret  
7:00 The Flintstones  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Combat  
9:00 Bewitched  
9:30 Third Man  
10:00 Dean Martin Show

Tuesday (May 30)

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

(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	3-Devoided	4-Satiated	5-Puff up	6-Senior (abbr.)	7-French article	8-Negrito	9-Girl's name	10-Writer on pencil	11-Damp	13-Former Russian rulers	16-Male deer	19-Burn with hot water	21-Chemical compound	22-Chemical	23-Man's name	24-Religious group	25-Crown	27-Small stoves	30-Instruments	32-Roman official	34-Chimney carbon	36-Brag	37-All	38-Native of Morocco	39-Organ of hearing	40-Simpson	41-Dispatches	44-Inserts surreptitiously	47-Exact	49-Head of Catholic Church	52-Organ of	53-Religious	54-Rocky hill	55-Symbol for nickel	56-Symbol for tellurium	57-Exists																																																										
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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 command 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)

FIRST IN VIETNAM

**The OBSERVER**

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Assistant Editor

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Gy. Sgt. J.E. Huerta, USMC  
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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.

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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 (US-ARV), 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."



FIRST IN VIETNAM

The

# THE OBSERVER

Vol. 6, No. 2

Saigon, Vietnam

May 17, 1967

## 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 inroads 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".

## '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.

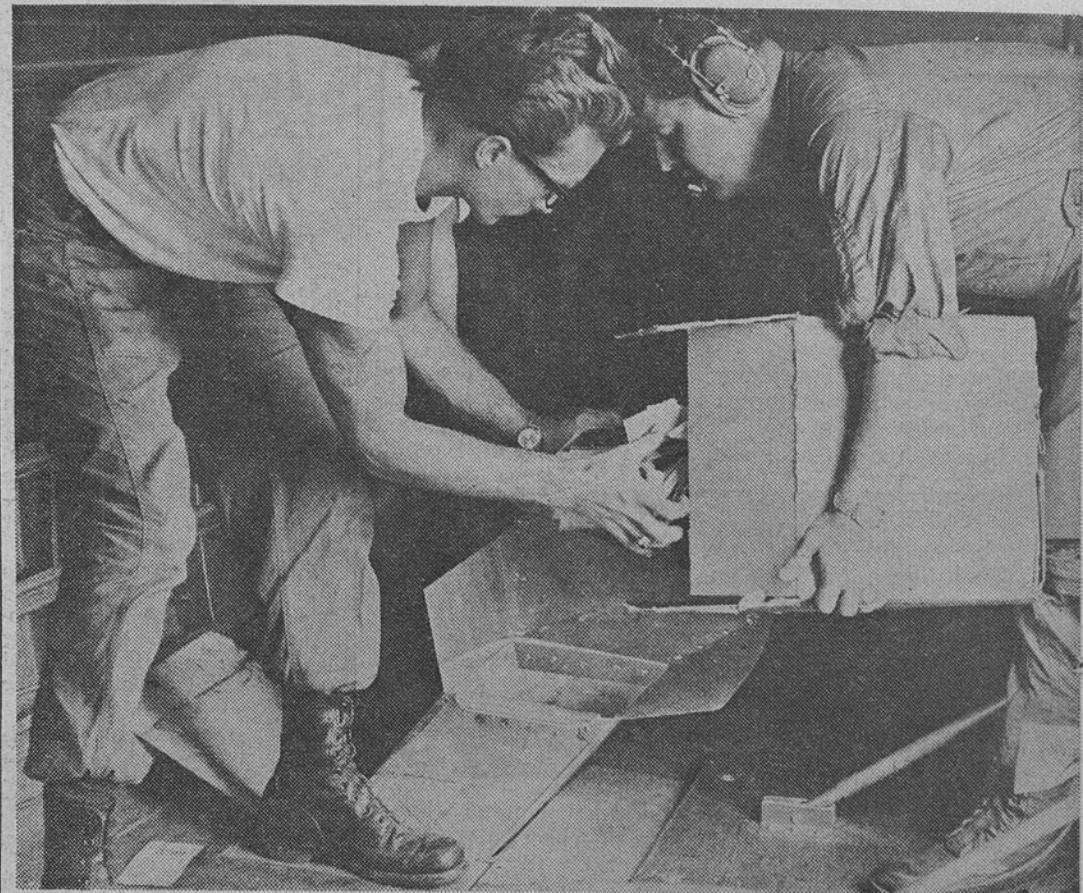
Because of his language proficiency, he worked as the civil affairs officer for the 2nd Battalion, Third Marines, 3rd Marine Division. He was instrumental in the effort that pacified Le My village.

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



**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.

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.

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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 trooper 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

## 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 Plei Ku 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.

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)

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.

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-

## Two Sailors Named 'Head' Advisors

Da Nang (USN)—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.

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.

This is a good battalion with good soldiers," said the Dai Uy.

"The figures are small, the rangers are on top of the problem. Viet Cong activity is at a standstill in their area and there have been no mining incidents on the road.

Like his unit, which was the first of the 20 Vietnamese Ranger Battalions to organize, Dai Uy is a veteran campaigner against the communists.

He pointed out that it took two battalions to replace the men of the 11th Rangers when it returned to Plei Ku.

Led by Dai Uy (Captain) Nguyen Kim Bien, a veteran of the French battles against the Viet Minh, the battalion came to the Plei Ku 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. "As he recounted the history of the unit he has commanded since June, 1966.

The program for installing the new facilities was started by the Public Health Department in cooperation with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the civic action section of the Support Activity.

Relocation of the "mountain people" will free them from Viet Cong domination. And at the new centralized location, the people will be better able to receive the various sorts of aid planned for them by the Republic of Vietnam.

The two sailors are doing some of the work but their main job is advising. Builder Downing is the technical specialist while Fireman Carey, an interpreter, provides liaison between the Vietnamese and the Americans.

States Army schools, including the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga., and also attended a counter-insurgency course in Okinawa. Later because of his good command of English, he stayed on at the U.S. Army School in Okinawa as an interpreter.

In 1965 he was the chief of the Unit Training Committee at the Ranger Training Camp operated by the Vietnamese Army at Vung Ro Bay. Like many other schools in Vietnam, the trainees very often get to practice their skills on live training aids—VC shooting at them during exercise operations.

Dai Uy Bien recalled the time when he took out two companies of ranger trainees and a Regional Force company attending the school. For experienced officers and non-commissioned officers, he used cadre from the training committees. The exercise turned out to be a very wet run.

"Those trainees killed 10 VC, captured five and brought in 84 communist-made weapons," the Dai Uy grinned.

During his service career he has attended a number of United

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## 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 gun.

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 Jeffrey Roberts and Walter Schneiter, 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

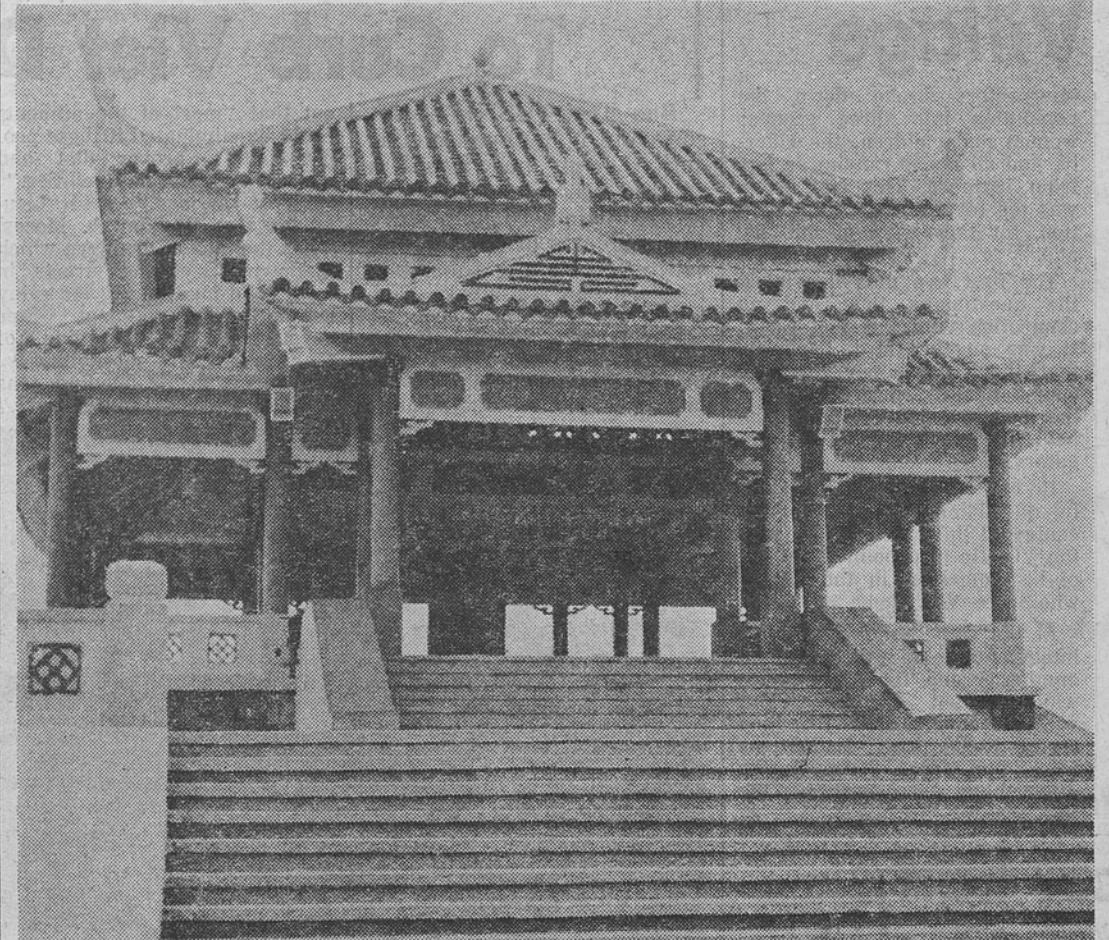
Nui Dat (USA) — The U.S. Navy destroyer "Caronade" lent a helping hand to the 9th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade during Operation Port Sea.

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)



Photo 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 Khan 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.

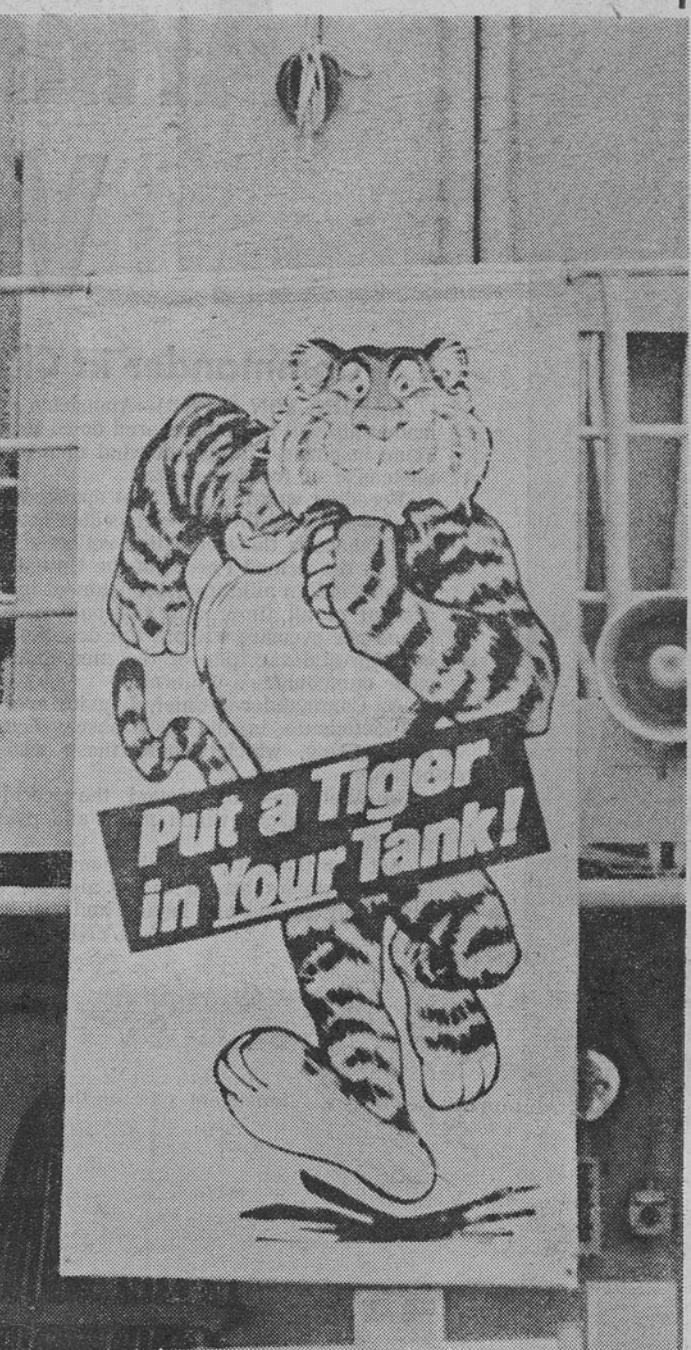
## 'Miss Sue' Heads New Facility

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.

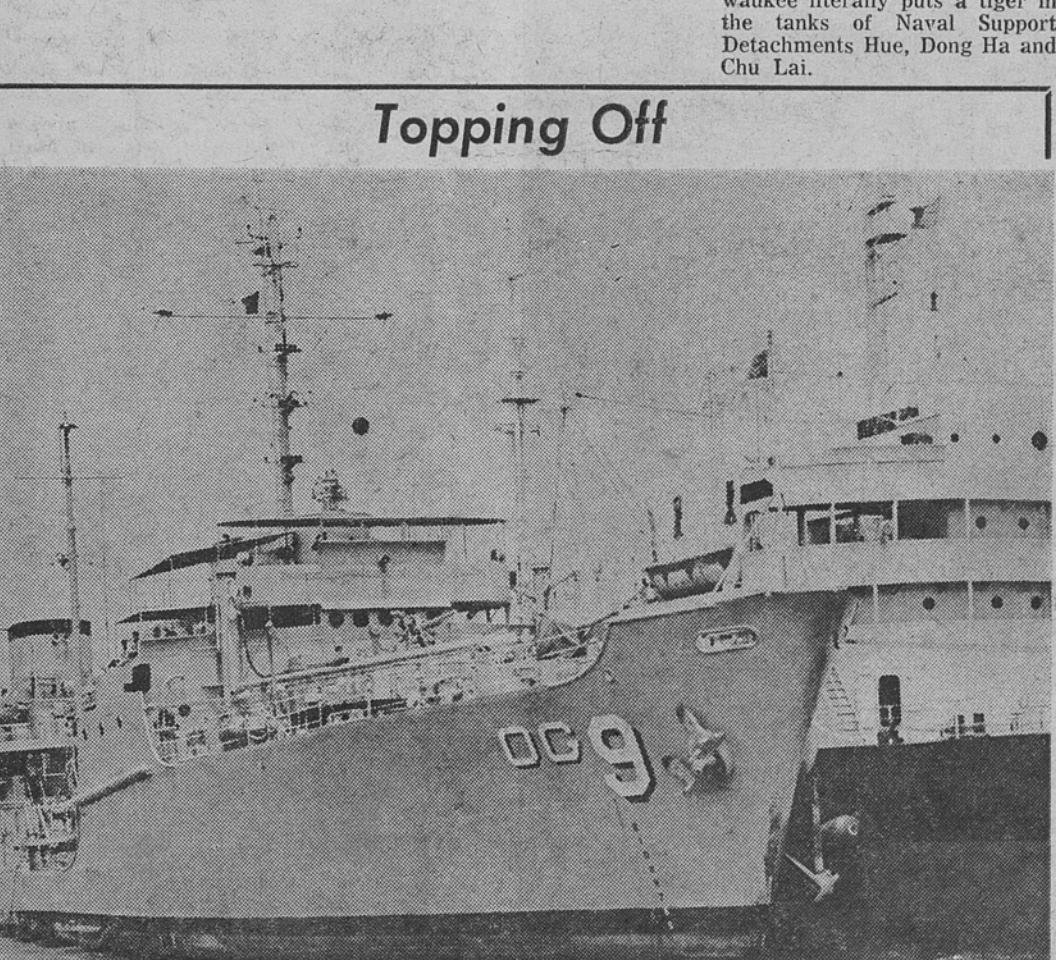
Le Thi Dung, who likes to be called "Miss Sue", will head the new aid station and administer medical aid to the villagers of Lang Vei and people in the surrounding hamlets.

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

## Our Motto

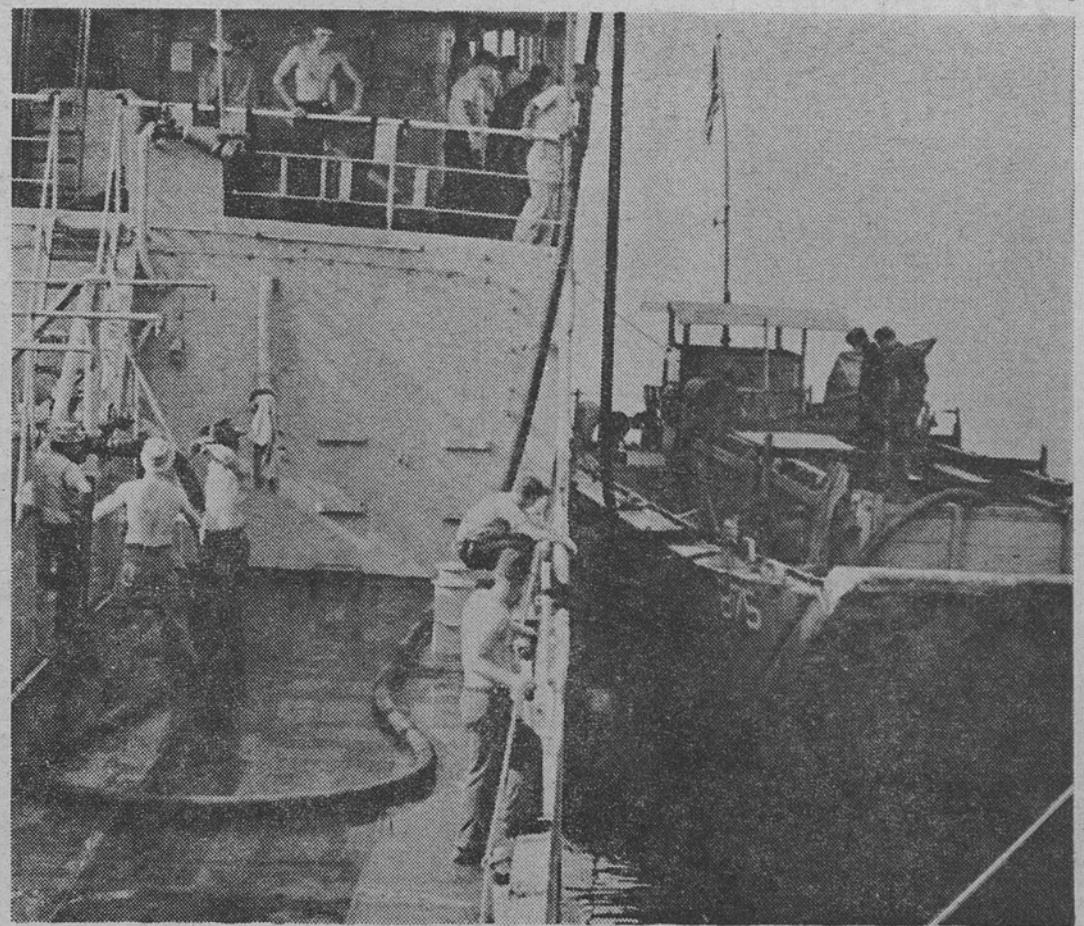


They use the sign when refueling operations at Long Ha, Hue, Chu Lai, and Da Nang. You'll get more sea miles.



The AOG-9 topping off her tanks in the Da Nang Harbor. The Kishwaukee usually fills every six or seven days.

## 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 Boatswains 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 outport 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 Wescaler, 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  
JOSEN Gary Riese, USN



**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

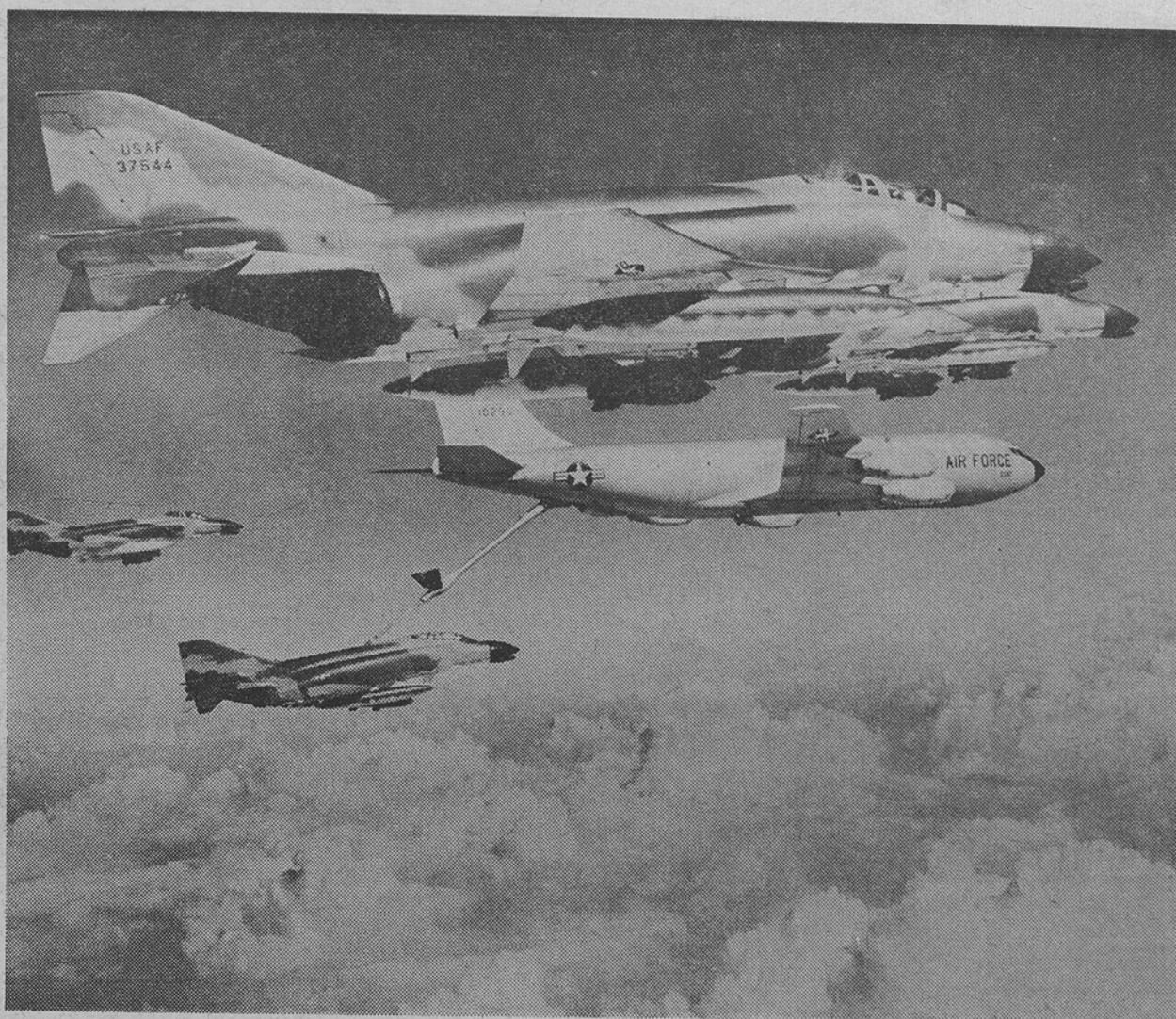
## COMUSMACV

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.

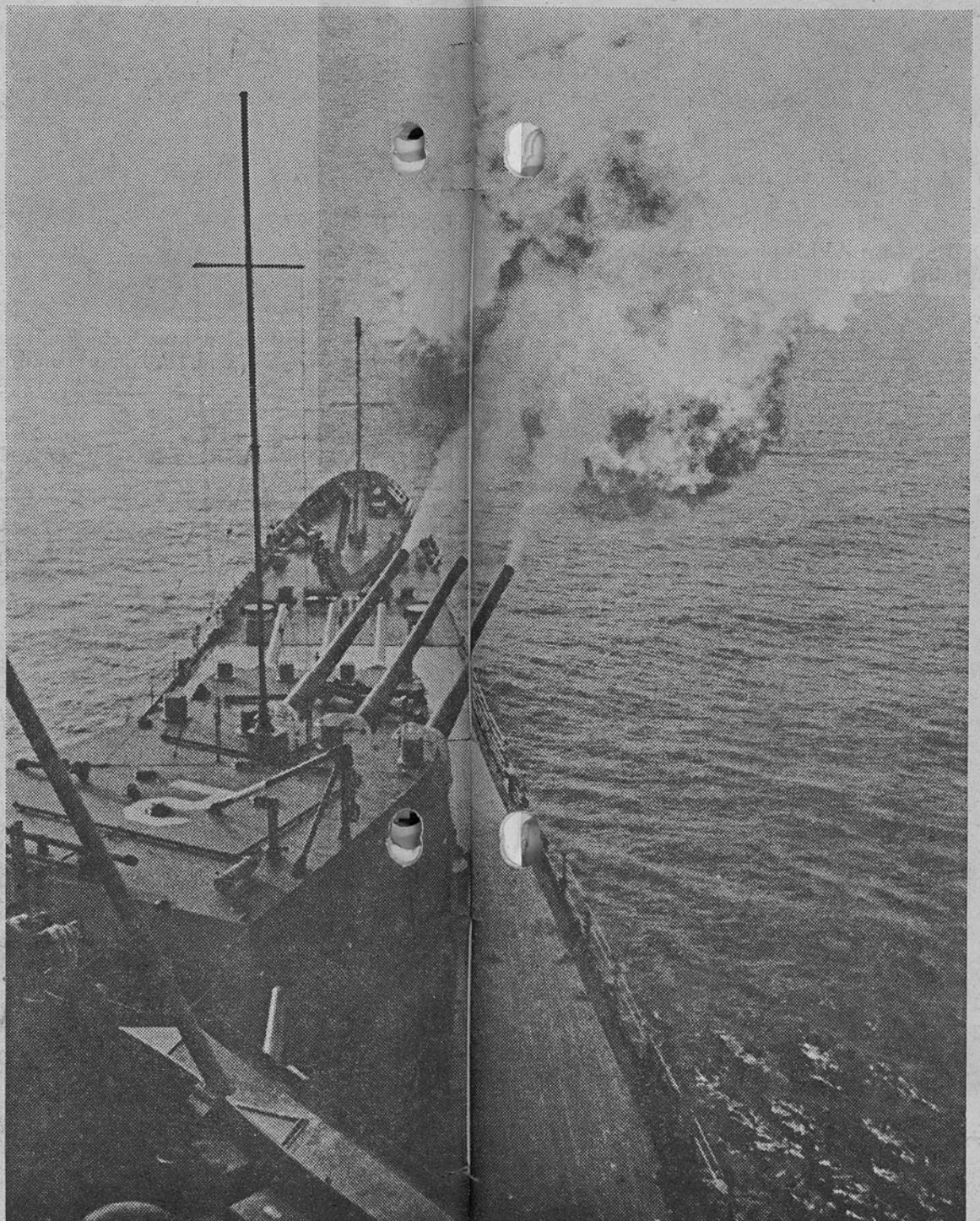
I take great pride in acknowledging your heroic actions on the battlefields and your deeds of compassion in the countryside. Your courage and your inspired, selfless devotion are an example to the people of the world as you help to usher in a new era of freedom here in Vietnam. The development and growth 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.

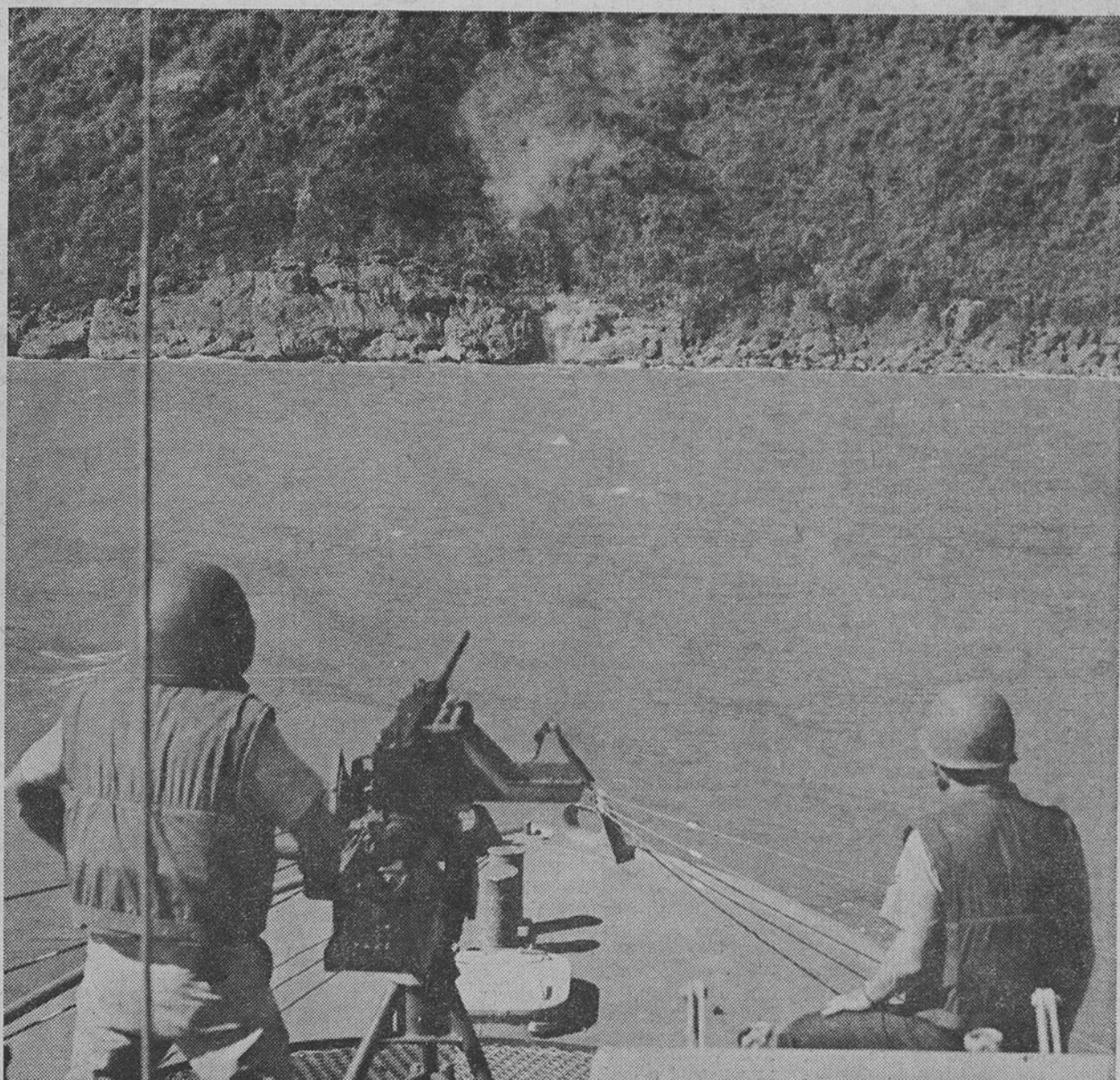
GEN. W. C. WESTMORELAND, USA



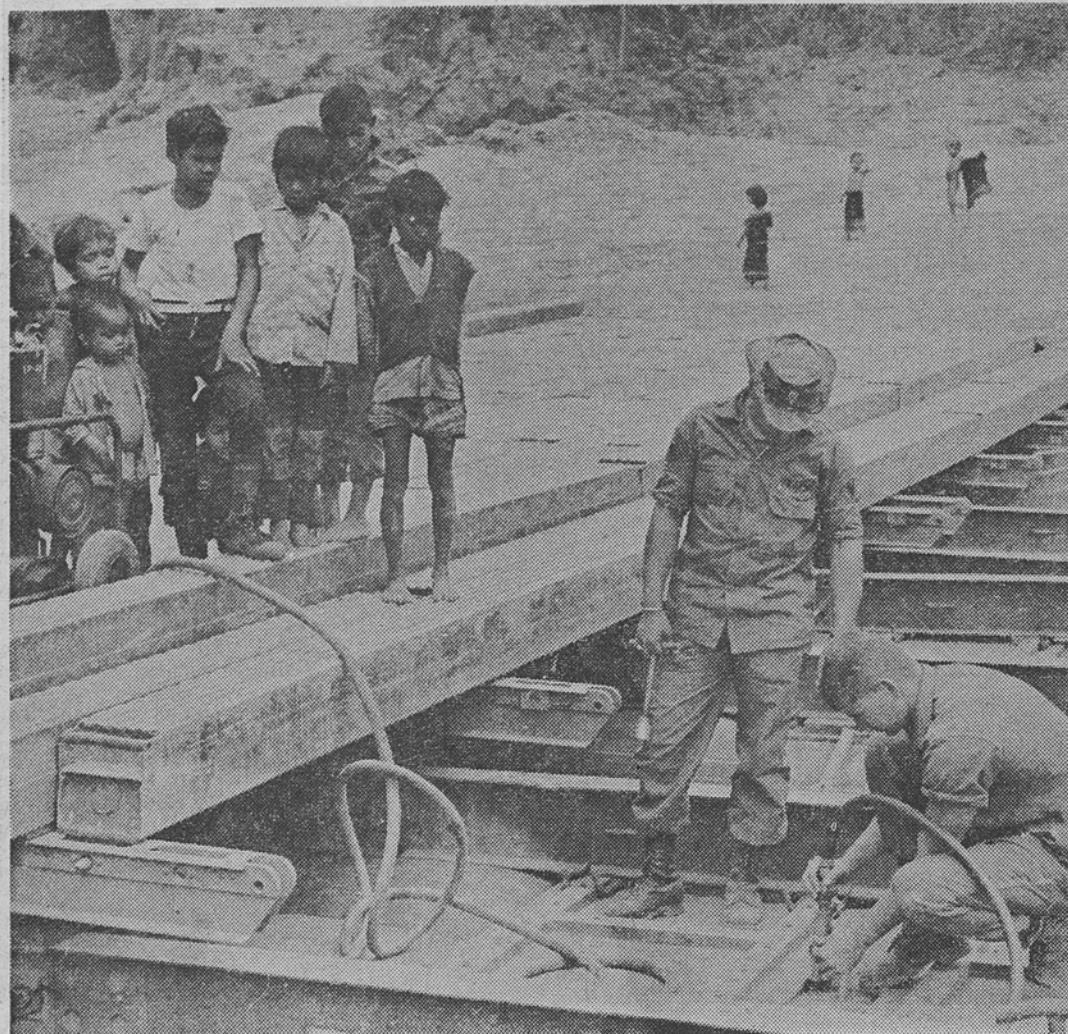
**U.S. Air Force**



**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 treads 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 Moun. 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 Engineering 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

EASY WORK—Before this bridge was installed, Montagnard villages had to use canoes. Result: Friendship Bridge.



"INSTANT BRIDGES"—An AVLB operated by E Company Engineer Battalion extends itself a 60-foot river.



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 (USA) — 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.

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



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)

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 their U.S. regimental advisor, 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 marketplace.

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.

Wiesner, assigned to the Post Engineers of U.S. Army Headquarters Area Command, directs the small but all-import-

ant 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."

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.

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 plumping 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, to the Army Headquarters Area Command, directs the small but all-import-

ant 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."

## Job Skills Easy For Former VC

**Bao Trai (USN)** — One of the most hard-working Vietnamese civilians employed by Navy Seabee Team 0406 is Raoul, who only a few months ago was a Viet Cong.

While working with the Seabees on a housing project, Raoul has learned to operate equipment, make wood forms for pouring concrete, weld, and many other phases of construction work. "Now I wish we had a hundred more like him," said Seabee John C. Clements, Chelsea, Okla.

Thirteen highly trained Seabees are conducting an all-out war on the poor living conditions that prevail in Bao Trai, the capital of Hau Nghia province, 30 miles northwest of Saigon.

To help accomplish the civic action mission, the Seabees train Vietnamese workers. They

## Prayers Travel In Delta

**Can The (IV CORPS 10)** — The two Chaplains assigned to Advisory Team 96 may be the busiest men in the Mekong Delta.

On Sundays the Chaplains have six services to perform. Transportation is limited and travel to these services is often difficult. Their chapels are varied. On a recent visit to My An subsector Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) R. Phillips held services in a mortar emplacement while Chaplain (Major) L. J. Lukaszewski held Mass on two foot lockers in the incomplete billets.

With the beginning of the monsoon season, the Chaplains face unpredictable downpours. Already this year, they have been caught by rain three times in one day.

The Chaplains commented that the need and the desire for religious services are greater in Vietnam than in the United States. Possibly the reason for this is because religion is a tie to home.

In addition to holding religious services for military personnel, they also work on civic action projects. One project in the Providence Orphanage in Can Tho. Through the Chaplains fund they obtain food, clothing, and medical supplies for the orphans.

The orphanage, headed by the Sisters of Divine Providence, has more than 1,000 children.

**CIVILIAN EVACUATION** — A Vietnamese family awaits helicopter transportation during a Kien Hoa province evacuation that moved 307 civilians, their belongings and 60 tons of rice away from their Viet Cong-harassed hamlet. The crying child does not express the feeling of the people, who were glad to make the move. (USA Photo)

## WAC's Celebrate 25th Anniversary

**Saigon (USA)** — A women's drill team doing a novel dance rare as a soft rain in the Mojave Desert in October.

It may be rare, but it has become a reality at Tan Son Nhut air base where the U. S. Army Vietnam (USARV) has its headquarters.

A youthful 27-member USARV Special Troops Women's Army Corps (WAC) Drill Team made its premiere performance Sunday, May 14, as part of the 25th anniversary celebration of the Women's Army Corps. The eight-routine performance was the featured attraction of an afternoon open house.

"Bia", a novel dance routine which takes about 10 minutes to complete, highlighted the first

## March Kill Totals Up

## 'Situation Well In Hand' Marines Begin 3rd Year

**Da Nang (USMC)** — U.S. Marines, beginning their third year in Vietnam, killed 2,159 enemy soldiers during March. This is the largest monthly kill count by Marines since they landed at Da Nang on March 8, 1965.

Heaviest action during the month came just south of the demilitarized zone between units of the 3rd Marine Division and North Vietnamese Army troops.

Determined NVA thrusts at Marine positions were repulsed throughout the period, and by the end of March, activity and contact tapered off as scattered remnants of the enemy units limped back across the demilitarized zone for "R&R" (reorganization and regrouping).

On March 3, 3rd Marine Division units killed 206 Viet Cong and NVA regulars near Cam Lo during Operation Prairie II. Elements of the Third and NINTH Marine Regiments were heavily engaged with enemy forces throughout most of the day, and artillery and air strikes accounted for a large portion of the total killed.

Prairie II terminated March 19, and the operation moved into its third phase. The second portion, which began Feb. 1, ended as 693 enemy were killed by the 3rd Division Marines.

Operation New Castle, a four-day search and destroy mission

landing just south of the DMZ near Con Thien involving elements of the Fourth Marine Regiment, accounted for 334 of the monthly total.

Throughout the month, the enemy used mortars, rockets and artillery in an unsuccessful effort to counter U.S. Army and Marine artillery firing into North Vietnam and the demilitarized zone from Camp Carroll artillery plateau and Gia Linh.

In the Da Nang area, elements of the 1st Marine Division conducted four major operations. Operation Lafayette, which began February 26, terminated March 7 with 77 enemy confirmed killed.

Operation Prairie II, a few weeks ago, Raoul's father died and he became head of the family. The financial burden of the situation might have forced him to leave the Seabee team and go home to support the family. But the team collected \$40 and sent Raoul home to settle family affairs.

"Since he's been back, he feels that Seabees can do no wrong," said Tony Schobes, the team's builder.

Beacon Hill, an amphibious

unit of the First and Fifth Marine Regiments, ended March 25 with 111 enemy killed. Deckhouse VI terminated March 3. Units of the Fourth Marine Regiment killed 280 enemy soldiers in the amphibious operation 60 miles south of Chu Lai.

Operation De Soto, involving elements of Task Force X-Ray, 1st Marine Division, continued 50 miles south of the Marine airstrip at Chu Lai. Enemy killed in this operation totaled 355 by the end of March.

In small unit actions, early in the morning on March 15, the Viet Cong attacked the Da Nang airbase with 140mm rockets for the second time, damaging two aircraft. Marine counter-battery fire was returned immediately.

That day, elements of the Fourth Marine Regiment found 12 enemy rocket positions south of Da Nang. Fresh craters in the area indicated that Marine counterartillery fire was "on target." Eleven rockets and 33 launchers were recovered.



## Jolly Giant Cited

**Thailand (PAFNS)** — "You men," said Air Force General Howell M. Estes Jr., commander of the Military Airlift Command (MAC), "represent one of the greatest team efforts that has come out of the war."

The General continued, "You are extremely professional and are well regarded. The fact that the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Gp. which you are a part of, was presented the Presidential Unit Citation, is more meaningful than anything I can say."

The men General Estes refers to are the Jolly Green Giants (Detachment 2, 37th ARRS). The General toured all MAC units at Udorn, Thailand, including the 10th Weather Squadron and Detachment 9, 60th Photo Flight during his visit.

After an awards ceremony, General Estes took time to speak with Search and Rescue (SAR) crews. He congratulated Lieutenant Colonel William Cunningham, Chicago, commander of the 602nd Fighter Squadron, on the role the A-1E Skyraider pilots play in the SAR missions.

The A-1E commander briefed the General on the armament configuration of the skyraider and described its combat capabilities. The pilots get to the rescue site first, locate the pilot and suppress ground fire to make it safe for the Jolly Green Giant crew. Meanwhile, the third member of the team, the CH-130 Hercules, is coordinating the entire rescue mission.

"As to a goal, we hope USARV Headquarters will show them off during some of the VIP visits in the future," She commented.

Highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the Silver Star and Distinguished Flying Cross to Captain Kenneth Murphy, Novato, Calif., for rescues of downed crew members in North Vietnam.

ing their lunch hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

"We had no trouble gaining interest. With each practice we gain more enthusiasm," Sergeant Crawford said.

When the girls rehearse there is usually an audience of other WACs who come to the dayroom to watch and encourage their efforts.

"As to a goal, we hope USARV Headquarters will show them off during some of the VIP visits in the future," She commented.

The WAC Team drill leader is trying to arrange a performance for the Women's Armed Forces of Vietnam unit in the near future.

May 17, 1967

OBSERVER

## Armed Forces Television Channel 11

Guide for week of—May 17-May 23, 1967  
(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)

Wednesday (May 17)

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

Thursday (May 18)

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

Friday (May 19)

6:30 News Headlines  
7:00 Adam 12  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Gummo  
9:00 Danny Kaye  
10:00 The Tonight Show

Saturday (May 20)

12:30 Jim Bowie  
1:00 Daniel Boone  
2:00 Roy Acuff  
2:30 Beverly Hillbillies  
3:00 Gomer Pyle  
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 21)

12:30 Educational Special  
1:30 Sunday Movie  
3:00 Sports of the Week  
5:30 G.I. Show  
7:00 Big Picture  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Dick Van Dyke  
8:30 Candid Camera  
9:00 Bonanza  
10:00 Ed Sullivan Show

Monday (May 22)

6:30 News Headlines  
7:00 Adam 12  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Combat  
9:00 Bewitched  
9:30 Third Man  
10:00 Dean Martin Show

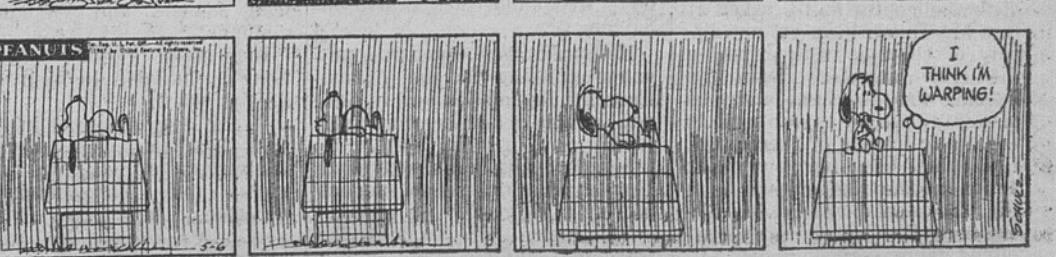
Tuesday (May 23)

6:30 News Headlines  
7:00 Great Acres  
7:30 Favorite Martian  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Rawhide  
9:00 Garry Moore Show  
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—August 9-15

## Beetle Bailey



## AFNB Sports Quiz

1. Who was the first player ever to hit 20 or more home runs in the major leagues?

2. What was the total of purses at Aquaduct and Saratoga in 1964?

3. How many walks did former pitching star Early Wynn give

up during his career with the Washington Senators, Cleveland Indians and Chicago White Sox?

4. Who was the only foreign driver to win the Indianapolis 500 since Dario Resta won it in 1916?

5. Murray Murdoch played hockey for the New York Rangers between 1926 and 1937. How many games did he play?

ANSWERS

5. 563 consecutive games.

4. Jim Clark, Cart of Seeland in

1965. He gave up 175 walks, a

major league record.

3. 2,153,882,280.

2. 1911.

1. Frank Schulte of the Chi-

cago Cubs hit 10 in 1910 and 11

in 1911.

4. Jim Clark of Seeland in

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## 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 your 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 Nghi, 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

## 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 Phakdeechitt, 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 Phakdeechitt, from Bangkok, help guide a flaming C-123 Provider

ately.

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 Phakdeechitt, 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 crews 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 Sangkachantra, Thai Armed Forces Attaché in Vietnam; and Thai Air Force Colonel Samran Yamsri, commander of the Thai Military Assistance Group, Vietnam.

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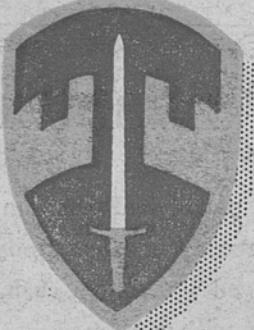
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# FIRST IN VIETNAM THE OBSERVER

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 RFs 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 piastres 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.

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.

for International Development (USAID). Seeds from the crop, for redistribution, will repay the loan.

RF platoon leaders have requested supplies to start similar gardens at their outposts.

Mr. Amado Yambo, a USAID-contracted Philippine agricultural technician, regularly visits a number of these pilot-project gardens to give guidance on how to cultivate for a high yield of prime produce.

An Giang Province has rich land, road and waterway trans-

portation, and is estimated to be more than 95 per cent pacified. To capitalize on the province's outstanding potential for economic development, the Vietnamese government has designated it a priority area for expanding agricultural and other programs.

Rice paddies — growing mainly the low-yielding "indigo" strain that produces only one crop a year — constitute 94 per cent of An Giang's 150,000 hectares of cultivated land. The paddyland lies idle half the year.

## 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 criticisms 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.

So, why not pass the word on!

## 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.

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)

## 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 Dependent's 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.

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.

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.



## '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.

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 guage 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 agriculturists 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 kilos, and one weighed in at 13.5 kilos.

The only home Sergeant Smith remembers is the Holy Family Institute in Pittsburgh, where he was accepted when he was eight months old. He found no difficulty recognizing the aims and problems of the Vietnamese orphanage, and became a familiar figure to the sisters and children.

Sergeant Smith arrived at

Binh Thuy (USA)—Air Force Staff Sergeant Gabriel J. Smith, Pittsburgh, a man with a special understanding of orphans, spends his time and effort aiding an orphanage in Can Tho run by the Sisters of Providence.

He soon had a full schedule of activity, helping doctors and corpsmen in the dispensary, joining medical field trips to help villagers, teaching English to Vietnamese in Can Tho, and lending a hand to the Air Force surgical team working in the Can Tho civilian hospital.

The sergeant was among the first enthusiastic volunteers who helped organize and conduct a program of medical visits to small communities in the Delta.

Sergeant Smith arrived at Binh Thuy Air Base a year ago,



SELF-TRAINED—Air Force Staff Sergeant Gabriel J. Smith, a clerk-turned-medical, issues medicine and friendly advice to a Vietnamese couple with a sick child.

(USAF Photo)

## Spotting Gives Two Lease On Life

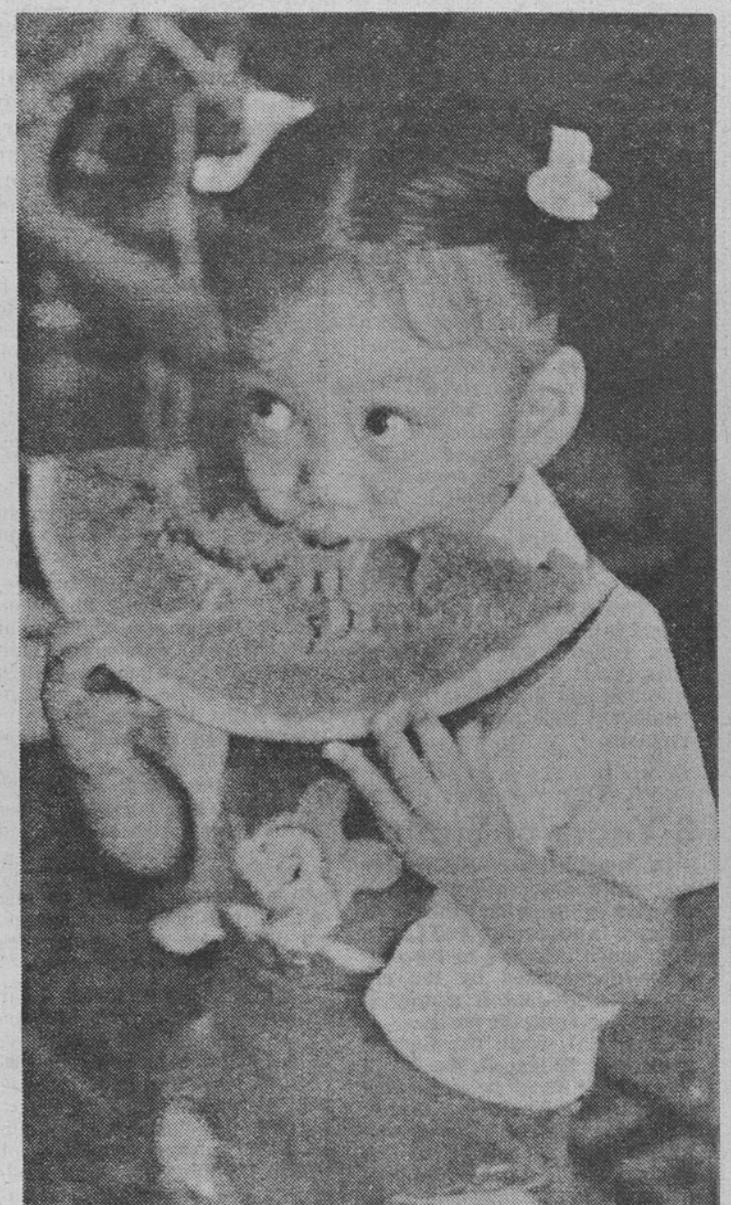
Bong Son (USA)—Colonel James G. Shanahan, commander of the 3rd Brigade Task Force, 25th Infantry Division and his aide Sergeant Frank C. Nordquest spotted two Vietnamese women moving through a rice paddy carrying a covered load, as they flew over an engineer platoon that had just engaged with the enemy.

"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."

Landing the chopper, Sergeant

Nordquest ran to investigate. He approached cautiously, ready to shoot, and lifted the blanket, 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. DeCrescenzo, 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.

# 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 stragagem called "war of national liberation." I can assure you here and now that militarily this stragagem 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.

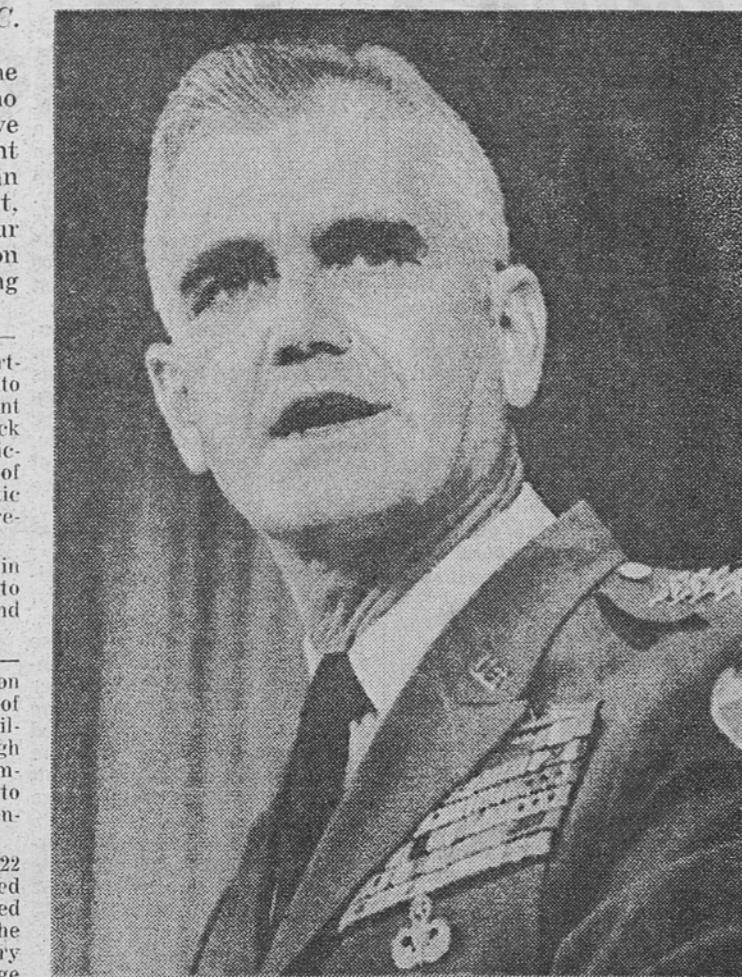
Enemy commanders are skilled professionals and provide good leadership. In general, their troops are thoroughly indoctrinated, well trained, aggressive and under tight control.

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



GEN. WILLIAM C. WESTMORELAND

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.

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 to come 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.

What I see now in Vietnam is a military force that performs with growing professional skill. During the last six months, Vietnamese troops have scored repeated successes against some of the best Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army units.

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.

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.

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 cover 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.

As the focal point of this struggle in Asia, the Republic of Vietnam armed forces merit special mention.

In 1954 South Vietnam had literally no armed forces in being. There was no tradition of leadership, nor was there any educational system to provide leaders. The requirement to build an Army, Navy and Air Force in the face of enemy attack and political subversion seems, in retrospect, an almost impossible task.

Yet, in their determination to resist the Communists, the Vietnamese have managed to do it.

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.

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.

In 1952 there were some who doubted that the Republic of Korea would ever have a first rate fighting force. I wish those doubters could see the Korean units in Vietnam today. They rank with the best fighters and the most effective civic action

## 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 said.

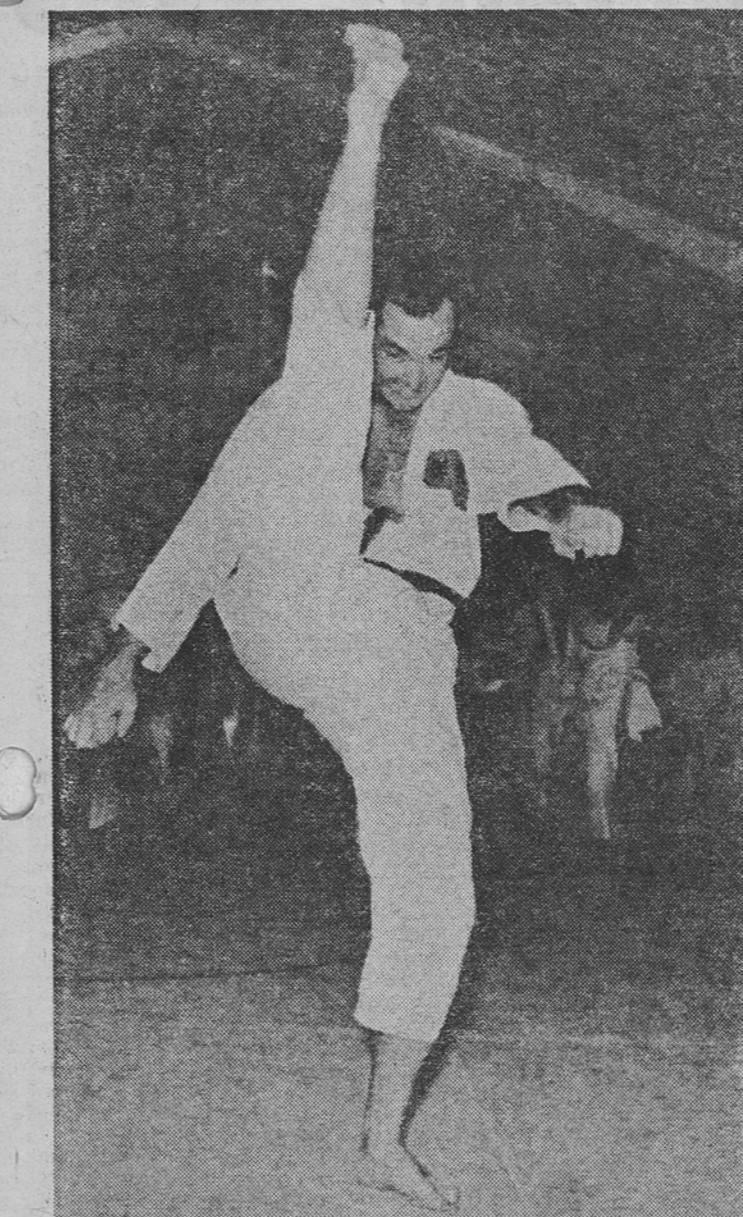
"Besides, most men who know Karate wouldn't fight with another, mainly because it gives you a lot of self confidence. It is mainly a defensive sport, and you feel that no matter how the attack is conducted, you can more than take care of yourself," he added.

"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.

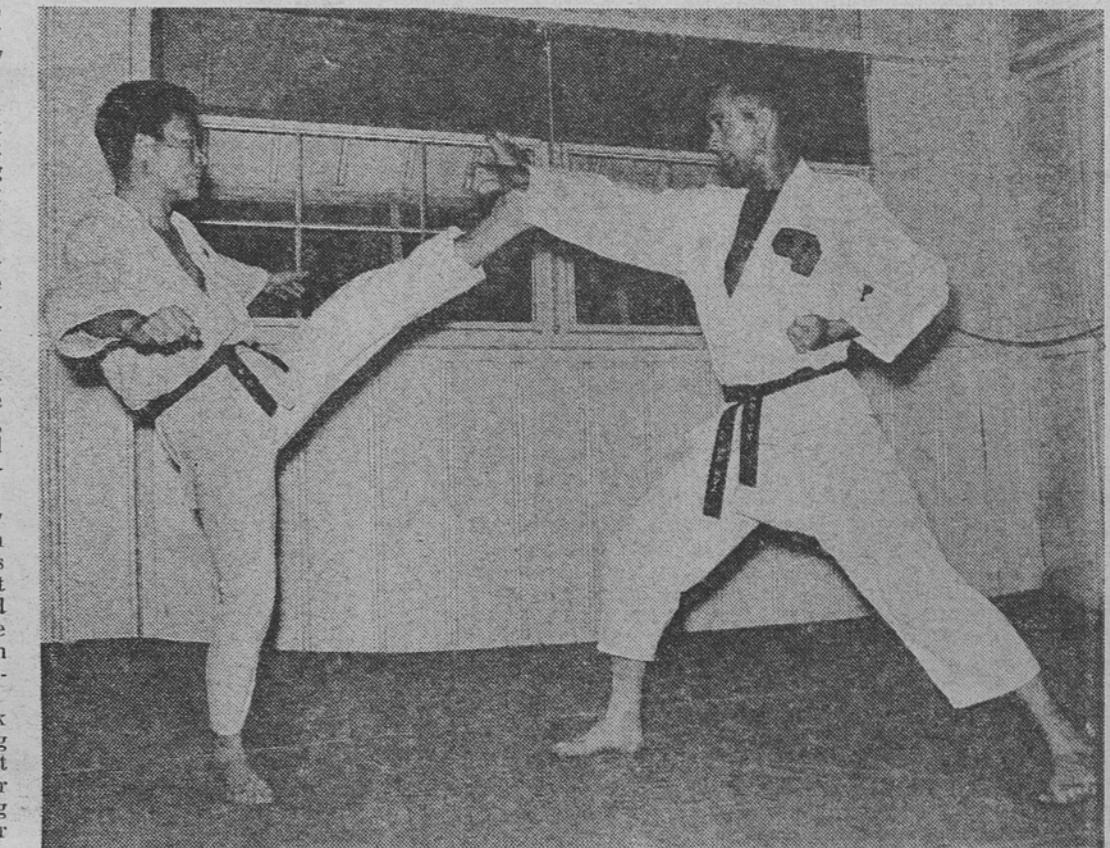
Five months later and a lot of hard work, Pearce was awarded the black belt, first degree, by the Koreans.

He became the first American

Story By  
JO1 Bob Young, USN  
Photos By  
SN Bob Howard, USN



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.



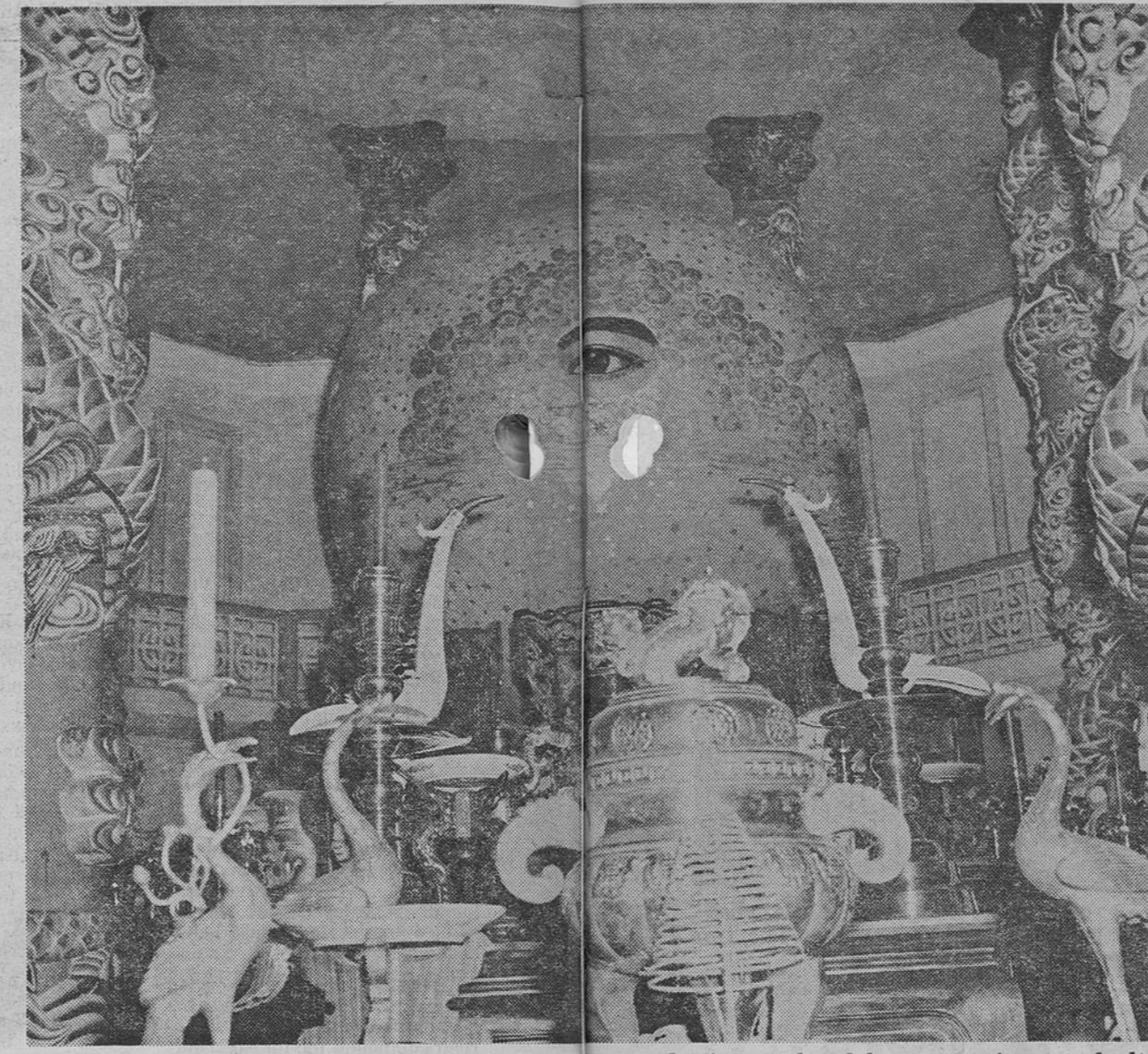
SPARRING—Kim Chur (left) and Storekeeper Second Class Jack Pearce, Jr., practice on techniques of Karate during a class session.



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.

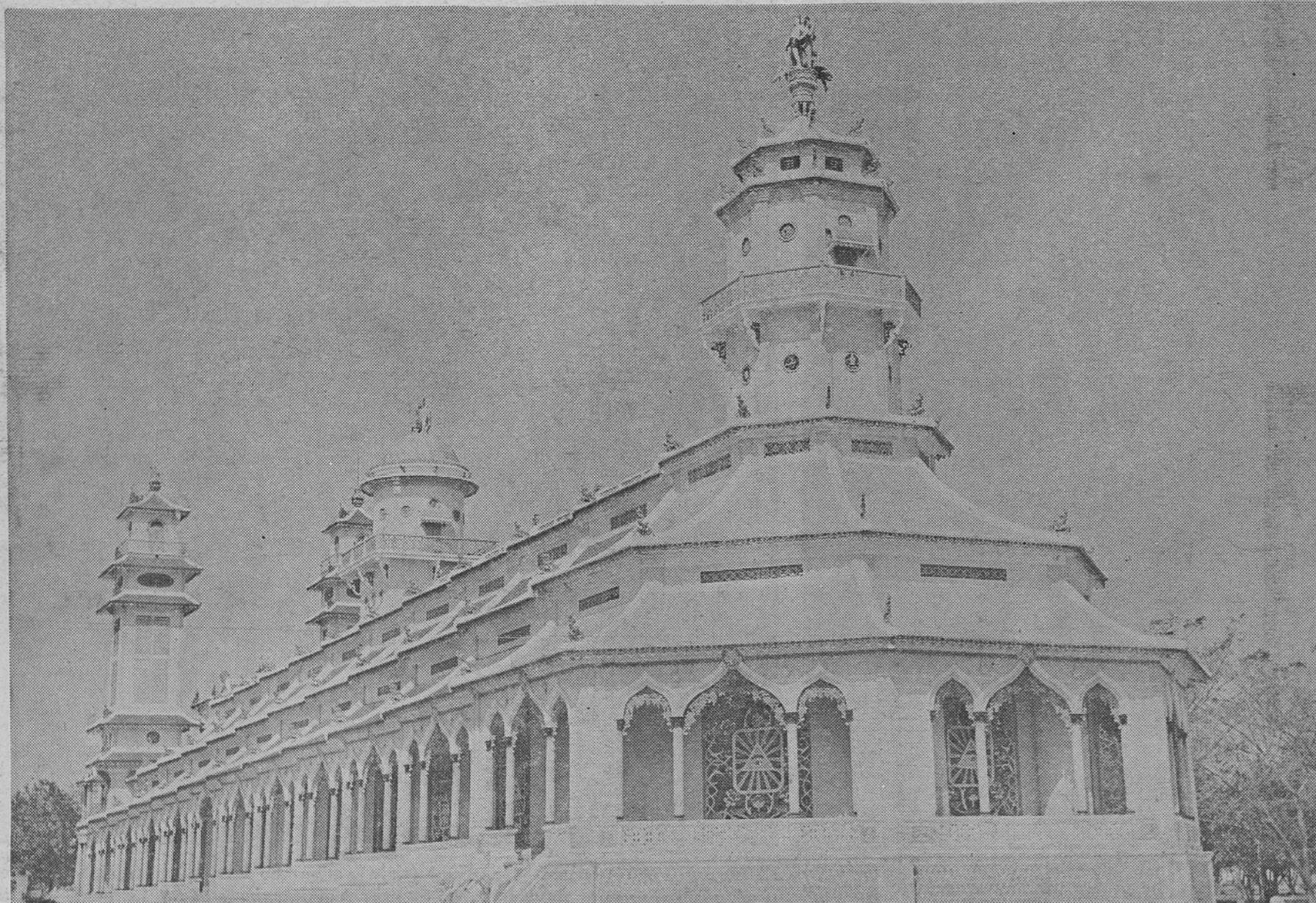


"The eye emanating light," symbol of the Cao Dai sect, dominates the elaborate exotic central altar of the Cao Dai cathedral. Bird figures are a Taoist symbol.



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.

Older 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.

Spiritual worship runs deep in Vietnam as a "popular religion" in 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 present 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 last. 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-

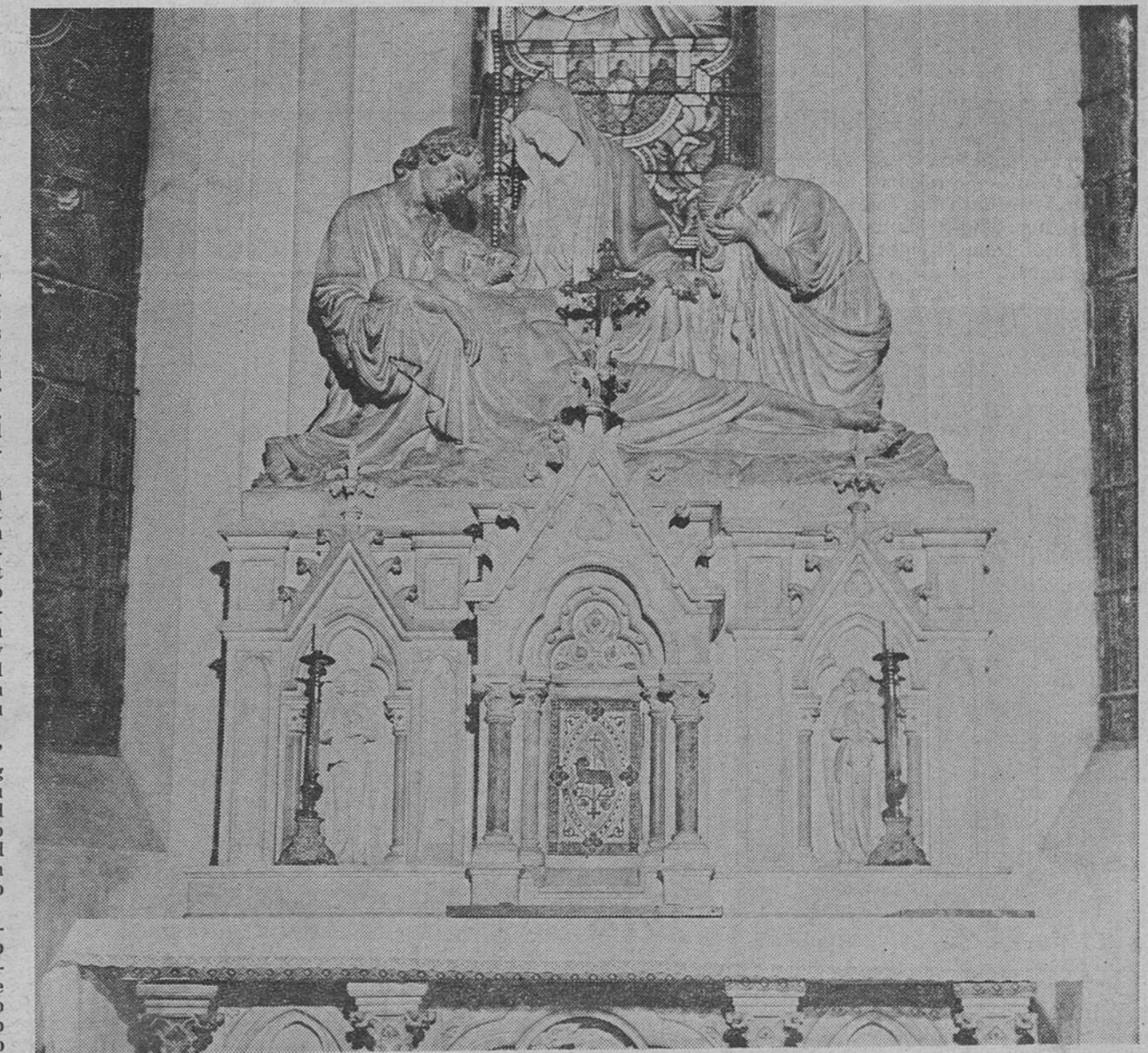
fers somewhat from that found in America. It is concentrated among the well educated who are French influenced and among very devout refugee communities. These peasant Catholics came en masse in many cases from villages in the north when the communists took over.

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 "disappear."



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 tracer 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

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, blocking actions, minesweeping and providing gunfire support.

A standard RAG unit consists of a command boat, 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."

RESUPPLY—Lieutenant (jg) Khanh Ngoc Phi (with carbine) watches the scales as a fisherman weighs a fish for pricing. The Assault Group 24 sailors buy their food and water from villages along the way or during sampan inspections.



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.

Story By  
Journalist Second Class  
Bill Rozier, USN  
Photos By  
PH1 Calvin Williams, USN

## Male Nurse Serves Can Tho

### Helps Train, Makes Cast

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 says do this way, next one does another way," smiles Tu.

(Photo by SP4 John Morgan, USA, Staff Writer)

## 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.

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, Asheville, N.C., had the idea for the "Mike Spike".

The sweeping unit, searching rice paddies and treelines 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.

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.

Care must be taken in positioning the drive element, the open ends toward the rear re-

viewing the antenna.

REFLECTIVE ELEMENT 29 IN.

DRIVE ELEMENT 29 IN.

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DIRECTOR ELEMENT 26 1/4 IN.

BOOM

TOWARD TV STATION

## PF's Take Point On Operation Big Horn

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.

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.)

REFLECTIVE ELEMENT 29 IN.

DRIVE ELEMENT 29 IN.

15 1/4 IN.

12 1/4 IN.

DIRECTOR ELEMENT 26 1/4 IN.

BOOM

TOWARD TV STATION

REFLECTIVE ELEMENT 29 IN.

DRIVE ELEMENT 29 IN.

15 1/4 IN.

12 1/4 IN.

DIRECTOR ELEMENT 26 1/4 IN.

BOOM

TOWARD TV STATION

BETTER RECEPTION—A coat hanger and ingenuity



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.

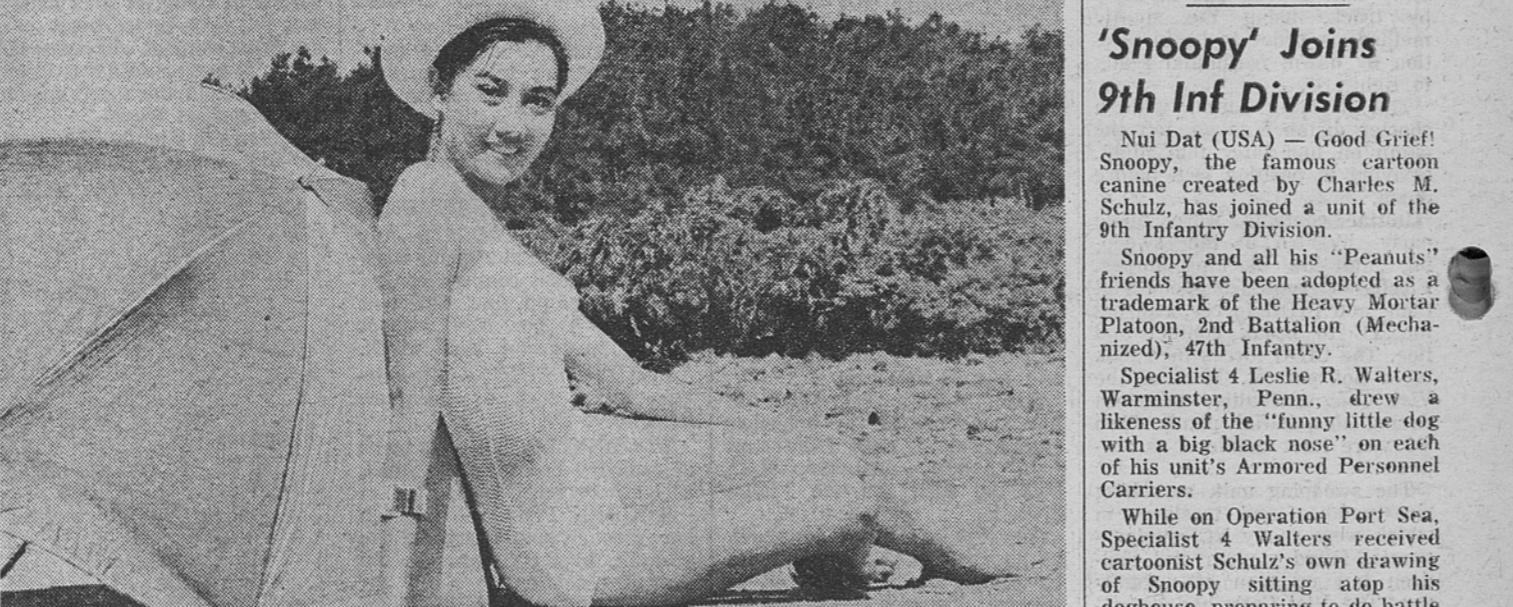
Keeping the road passable is also the responsibility of the mine-sweeping teams of the 35th Engineer Battalion (Combat), 43rd Engineer Group, 1st Air Cavalry Division.

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

## You'll Find Her In Hong Kong



Don't Forget, Mother's Day Is Coming, May 14

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.)

## 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.

The three instructors, Colonel Vincent P. Smith, Lieutenant Colonel Donald F. Powell and Lieutenant Colonel Virgil H.

investigations, and receiving complaints used by the U.S. IG Corps. Also given was a briefing on the IG Corps and its history of development in the U.S. Army.

Some of the students who attended this orientation course will teach other newly assigned Vietnamese Inspectors General at their own IG school.

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.

Many Montagnards are malnourished and carry jungle parasites to begin with.

The Minh Quy 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.

Evidence of this was found when placards were removed from a discovered VC basic training area. Translated, the placards read, "We beat the Americans last year during the monsoon season and we're going to do it again this year."

The training area was discovered while Staff Sergeant Creseniano Mayo, North Hollywood, Calif., and his men from Company A, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry were patrolling the area.

After destroying enemy bunkers, huts, classrooms, and bamboo bleachers, Mayo and his men returned to the company area with the signs for translation.

When the men of Company A heard the results of the translation they seemed not to agree: "Monsoon or no monsoon, Charlie doesn't have a chance."

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."

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## VC Should Employ A Rain Dancer

OASIS (USA) — The VC cadre perhaps should employ an optimistic rain dancer as captured training propaganda spells out a victorious monsoon season.

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## 'Snoopy' Joins 9th Inf Division

Nui Dat (USA) — Good Grief! Snoopy, the famous cartoon canine created by Charles M. Schulz, has joined a unit of the 9th Infantry Division.

Snoopy and all his "Peanuts" friends have been adopted as a trademark of the Heavy Mortar Platoon, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 47th Infantry.

Specialist 4 Leslie R. Walters, Warminster, Penn., drew a likeness of the "funny little dog with a big black nose" on each of his unit's Armored Personnel Carriers.

While on Operation Port Sea, Specialist 4 Walters received cartoonist Schulz's own drawing of Snoopy sitting atop his doghouse, preparing to do battle with the German ace, the Red Baron.

"To all of our friends in the 9th Infantry Division, best wishes," Schulz wrote.

Specialist 4 Walters said he thinks a friend of his, who knew about the "adoption" of Snoopy by the unit, must have asked Schulz to send the drawing.

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

### Thursday (May 11)

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

### Friday (May 12)

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 (May 13)

12:30 News Headlines  
1:00 Daniel Boone  
2:00 Roy Acuff  
2:30 Beverly Hillbillies  
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 14)

12:30 Educational Special  
1:00 Sunday Movie  
2:00 Sports of the Week  
5:30 CBS Sports Special  
7:00 Big Picture  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Van Dyke  
8:30 Candid Camera  
9:00 Bonanza  
10:00 Ed Sullivan Show

### Monday (May 15)

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

### Tuesday (May 16)

6:30 News Headlines  
Green Acres  
7:00 My Favorite Martian  
7:30 News & Sports  
8:00 Gunsmoke  
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  
1-Priest's vestment  
4-At that place  
9-Edible seed  
12-Sign of zodiac  
13-Girl's name  
14-Ordinance  
15-Parent  
17-Give  
19-Singing voice  
21-Offspring  
22-Festive  
24-Bow  
26-Direction  
29-Walks  
31-Emerge  
33-Pronoun  
34-Conjunction  
35-Carpenter's tool  
37-Soft food  
39-Exists  
40-Gratuity  
42-Long, slender fish  
44-Flash  
46-God of love  
48-Knock  
50-War god  
51-Recent  
53-Hurry  
55-Buy back  
58-Squanders  
61-Exist  
62-Experience  
64-Electrified particle  
65-Sailor (colloq.)  
66-Spirited horse  
67-Sob

3-Container  
5-Long-legged bird  
6-Spanish article  
7-Communist  
8-Man's name  
9-Carpenter's tools  
10-Consumer  
11-Revenger  
16-Cures  
18-At present  
20-Quarrel  
22-Irritate  
23-Norse gods  
25-Prize  
27-Glisten  
30-Sink in middle  
32-Sink  
36-Armed conflict  
38-Piece of dinnerware  
41-Meditate  
43-Cheer  
45-Scalpel  
47-Biophoric  
49-Adhesive substance  
52-Dampens

54-Hurried  
55-Relent  
56-Period of time  
57-Small rug  
59-Click beetle  
60-Vessel's curved planking  
63-Compass point

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 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65

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## 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.

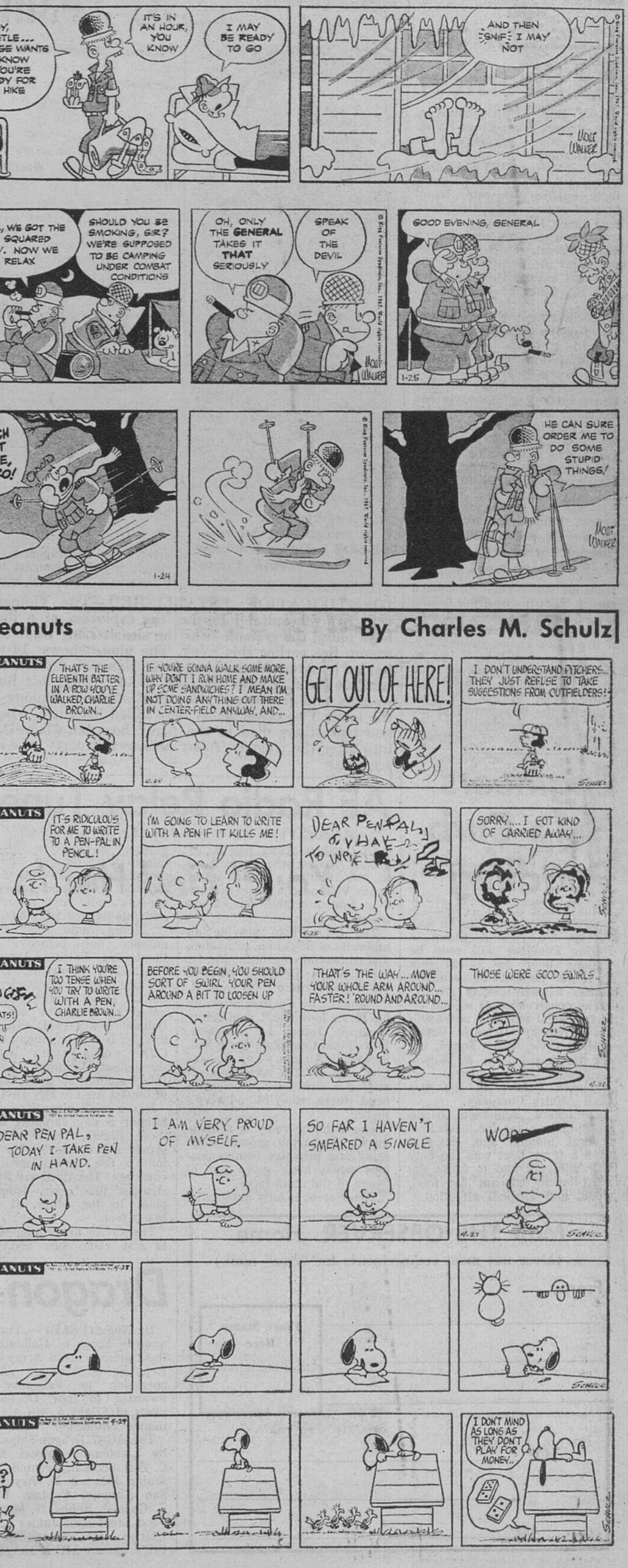
"I correspond frequently with Representative Bobby W. Johnson, a personal friend, and he told me about the resolution," Private First Class Jack S. Morris said, "but the letters from the governor and lieutenant governor were a complete surprise."

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 service 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."



## 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 Fulmar 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.

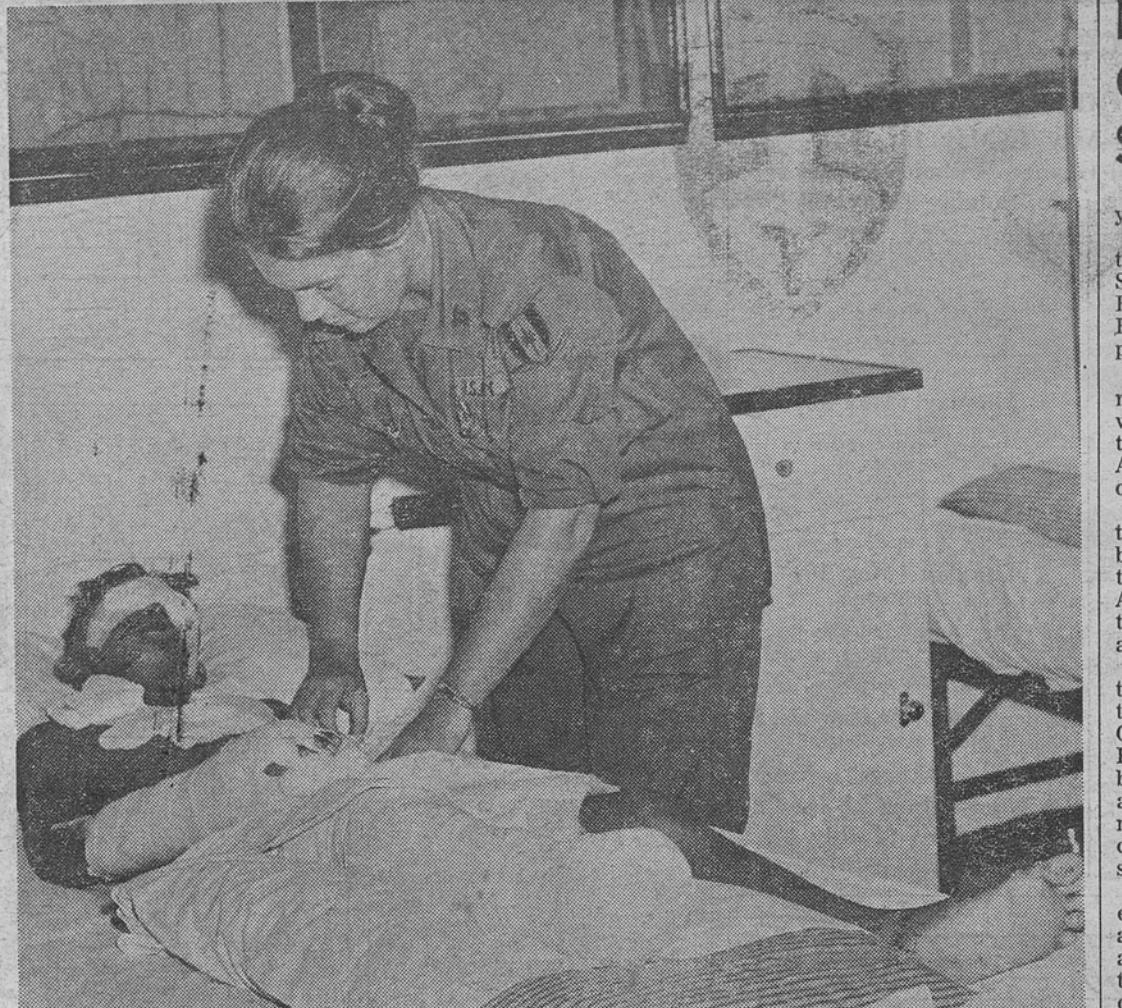
Another time, while returning from the water point he noticed smoke billowing up from behind one of the buildings on the compound. Driving closer he noticed a fire truck racing around trying to find out how to get to the fire. Being familiar with the area, he quickly moved his water truck to the fire 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)

## Mail THE OBSERVER Home

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

From:

Place Stamp Here  
(16 cents Airmail)  
(10 cents 1st class)

TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 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 minigun 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 (USA) — 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-

talion 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

