

Highlands Battle Rages 12th Day

SAIGON (UPI)—North Vietnamese troops fiercely attacked a battalion of U.S. paratroopers Monday as the battle of the South Vietnamese central highlands moved into its twelfth day.

A U.S. commander called it one of the most important fights of the war.

Fighting raged in the thick bamboo jungle for more than three hours, from late afternoon until after nightfall. There were no immediate reports of the casualties.

Earlier the Communists overran and occupied a small village two miles from Dak To, mortared two U.S. command posts in the mountains, hit a reconnaissance patrol which had to be lifted out in a hurry, and shelled a helicopter 10 seconds after it landed.

Maj. Gen. William Peers, commander of the 4th Inf. Div., said he learned from Hanoi radio that Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, defense minister of North Vietnam, "is personally in charge of the battle."

"This may well be the most significant battle since Ia Drang," Peers said. Ia Drang was scene of one of America's most-heralded victories in 1965, the year of the big U.S. buildup here.

Lt. Gen. William Rossen predicted the Dak To fight—like Ia Drang—would end in a U.S. victory.

"The NVA (North Vietnamese army) have showed no signs of withdrawing," Rossen, commander of U.S. I field forces, said. "We have a slight edge on them in size and a hell of a lot more in firepower and mobility."

"We have a prospect of a really significant victory here," he said.

Six more Communists were killed in scattered fighting before

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)

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EDITION

Wednesday, Nov. 15, 1967

House Backs LBJ On Poverty Funds

WASHINGTON (AP)

—The House rallied to the support of the beleaguered antipoverty program Monday, rejecting a Republican-backed effort to cut it by \$660 million.

The 159-149 nonrecord vote left intact the \$2.08-billion request of President Johnson for carrying on activities of the Office of Economic Opportunity through fiscal 1968.

Another GOP amendment, to knock out a second-year authorization for the program, was approved, 130 to 130.

The key vote on the money was a smashing victory for the House leadership over the bloc

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)



U.S. PARATROOPS CARRY WOUNDED BUDDY TO EVACUATION HELICOPTER DURING DAK TO ACTION.

AP Radiophoto

Freed PWs Molten Steel Splatters 21 In U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — Three U.S. Army sergeants returned to American soil Monday after many months of Communist captivity in Vietnam. One had been a prisoner of war for more than four years.

The Viet Cong released the trio over the weekend and they were flown to Beirut, Rome and Paris before arriving at Kennedy Airport.

M. Sgt. Edward R. Johnson of Seaside, Calif., was carried from the plane, strapped in a wheelchair. He has been suffering from dysentery and mal-

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Tons of white-hot molten steel spewed over 21 men at a foundry Monday, killing two workers and setting off screams of anguish in what a survivor called a scene of hell.

The Jefferson County Coroner's Office said Jerry Copeland, 38, and John Jelton, 39, died of burns after they and six others were critically injured. Three others were seriously injured and 10 received first aid. The unexplained blast sent 17,000 pounds of liquid steel flying out the end of a large centrifugal molding machine.

Officials at American Cast Iron Pipe Co. said they do not know what caused a metal plate

to be blown.

"It was hell," said John Whatley, a worker who escaped injury.

"The new door just blew out of the machine and the molten metal was knocking down people everywhere."

"There was a blinding flash. I wanted to run," he said, "but I couldn't. I was frozen in my tracks."

"Then the screaming got to me and other workers, and I ran to the injured lying or struggling on the floor, burning, burning, burning. Almost at once everyone who was able started putting out fires on the other men."

Whatley said some employees

fought the fire, which had spread throughout half the building, while others loaded the victims onto stretchers.

"Some were burned so bad you couldn't recognize who they were," he said.

Ah, That's Mao's Boy

TOKYO (UPI) — From the "How-to-Succeed-in-China-Without-Lying-Department."

One of the features of the New China News Agency broadcast monitored here is "A Quotation from Chairman Mao."

It started more than a year ago and only one other person — Defense Minister Lin Biao —

Bunker is in Washington for what he described as regular consultation with the President and other government officials after serving in Saigon about six months.

Johnson, just back from a

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

No Red Peace Signs —Bunker

WASHINGTON (UPI)—U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker, home for a review of the Vietnam war, said after a 90-minute conference with President Johnson Monday that there has been no sign of "reciprocity" which might lead to a pause in U.S. bombing of North Vietnam.

Bunker is in Washington for what he described as regular consultation with the President and other government officials after serving in Saigon about six months.

Johnson, just back from a

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

has been quoted in it. A sample Lin quote:

"Chairman Mao is the most outstanding leader of the proletariat in the present era and the greatest genius in the present era."

Lin has been picked by Mao to be his successor.

Sato Arrives In D.C. for Talks On Viet, Okinawa

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Japanese Prime Minister Eisaku Sato said on arrival here Monday he expects to have a "frank exchange of views with the President on matters of mutual concern to our two countries."

Sato, describing Japan and the United States as "two partners facing each other across the Pacific," said he hoped his talks with Johnson would place U.S.-Japan relations "on an even firmer basis and become increasingly fruitful and mutually beneficial."

Poverty—

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)

that has forced deep cuts in other programs this session. About 20 Republicans broke with their party leaders to help supply the winning margin.

Rep. Ogden L. Reid, R-N.Y., speaking directly to his GOP colleagues just before the vote, said the party would be turning its back on the destitute, if it supported the heavy cut.

The amendment to reduce the spending level to \$1.4 billion was offered by Rep. Charles E. Goodell, R-N.Y., as part of a substitute GOP bill that would redirect the entire antipoverty program.

Speaker John W. McCormack, D-Mass., said the proposed cut would force drastic reductions in Head Start, Job Corps, Neighborhood Youth Corps and the other antipoverty programs.

The vote justified a decision reached by the House leadership last week to avoid any further compromises to get votes for the antipoverty program. The decision was based on the belief the Republicans are courting political disaster in urban areas by their opposition to the program.

Republican mayors and governors have been bombarding the House in recent days with appeals for continuation of the program without major changes or money cuts.

Dozens of amendments still remain to be acted on before the bill is put to a final vote, probably on Wednesday.

Weather

USAF Weather Central
TEMPERATURES
Nov. 13

	H	L		H	L
Tokyo	59	48	Seigon	91	73
China	40	29	Bangkok	89	76
Hankow	55	40	Hong Kong	75	64
Seoul	43	23	Yokohama	95	72
Ningbo	72	66	K. Lumpur	84	73
Tientsin	70	64	Beijing	95	87
Manila	86	73	Singapore	85	74
Guang	79	76	Sydney	79	63
Albany	58	42	Memphis	73	54
Albuquerque	70	51	Milwaukee	78	66
Anchorage	75	41	Moscow	49	39
Atlanta	74	45	N. Orleans	78	55
Birmingham	76	51	NYC	68	52
Boston	59	31	Phila.	69	52
Butte	57	46	Qingdao	74	47
Chicago	49	42	Perth	57	49
Cincinnati	60	52	Puerto	89	72
Cleveland	59	46	Phnom Penh	92	51
Denver	62	43	Phnom Penh	92	51
Des Moines	49	29	Port B.	80	67
Detroit	44	42	Rosita City	50	29
Dublin	32	22	Reno	62	30
Fort Worth	54	19	Richmond	76	47
Hankow	63	42	St. Louis	64	48
Honolulu	85	72	St. Paul	34	30
Houston	72	60	Salt Lake	75	58
Ind. polis	58	40	S. Antonio	78	54
Jackville	79	57	San Diego	72	61
Kansas City	65	42	San Fran.	62	47
Las Vegas	77	49	Seattle	56	48
London	55	48	Shanghai	79	48
L.A.	78	62	Tucson	87	47
Louisville	65	54	Wash.	76	52

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes
Wednesday, Nov. 15, 1967



Japanese Prime Minister and Mrs. Sato arrive to meet with President Johnson Tuesday morning at Blair House in Washington Monday. Sato will (AP Radiophoto)

Dak To Battle Rages

3 NCOs—

(Continued From Page 1)

(Continued From Page 1)
the heavy contact, pushing known North Vietnamese losses to 646.

The latest report from American headquarters here put U.S. losses at 92 killed and 500 wounded. Officials said 85 percent of the wounded recover enough to return to duty.

At 4:30 a.m. the Communists invaded the hamlet of Dak Binh, two miles from Dak To, inflicted "light" casualties on its local defenders, killed a civilian and left two hours later.

The hamlet's radio was not

working and a runner was sent two miles through thick jungle for help. But reinforcements arrived three hours after the Communists had gone.

The Communists later fired 40 rounds into U.S. command posts in the mountains, but only two G.I.s were injured. The shelling lasted an hour.

A long-range reconnaissance patrol, on the move in the jungles north of the battlefield, reported running into what was thought to be large elements of the North Vietnamese 17th Regt.—indicating the Communists were sending reinforcements.

Two Communist regiments were already committed to the battle and another two were believed standing in reserve. The battle site is only four miles east of Cambodia, sometimes used as a staging area for North Vietnamese forces, according to American intelligence. It is 280 miles north of Saigon.

Either a rocket or a mortar shell hit a U.S. helicopter seconds after it touched down in a landing zone carved out of the jungle. One crew member was killed.

Gales in Celebes Kill 6, Injure 10

JAKARTA (UPI)—Six persons were killed and ten others injured when strong gales hit three districts in South Celebes, it was reported.

The official news agency Antara said 302 homes were destroyed, affecting more than 2,000 people. Losses were estimated to total about \$300,000.

4 Sailors Desert in War Protest

TOKYO (UPI)—A Japanese anti-war group announced Monday four young American sailors have deserted their ship here in protest against the Vietnam war.

A joint statement signed by the four enlisted men who quit the USS Intrepid said they were seeking political asylum in Japan "for any other country not engaged in the war."

U.S. military spokesmen identified them as Airman Appron, Michael Alfred Lindner, 18; and Airman John M. Barilla, Richard D. Bailey, 19, and Craig W. Anderson, 20.

The Navy has listed the four as absent without official leave. The four young sailors listed themselves, in a sound film shown by the Japanese "Peace for Vietnam Committee," as being deserters.

Anderson said he was from San Jose, Calif., and Barilla said he was from Baltimore, in the film, shown at a news conference.

None of the four sailors appeared at the news conference,

and spokesmen of the Japanese committee refused to give any indication of their whereabouts.

They cannot be granted political asylum in Japan under terms of the U.S.-Japan defense treaty—which specifically provides that American military men attempting to defect or desert in Japan must be handed back to U.S. jurisdiction when arrested.

The film showed the four sailors, dressed in civilian clothes, seated in a semi-circle as they read their individual statements opposing American policy in Vietnam.

They failed to return to the Intrepid on Oct. 24 after having leave in Japan. The Intrepid sailed from Yokosuka Oct. 25. It had previously been on duty in the Tonkin Gulf.

A joint statement by the four sailors said, "We oppose the escalation of the Vietnam war because in our opinion the murder and needless slaughter of civilians through the systematic bombing of an agricultural, poverty-stricken country

Homemade Bomb In Oven Kills Boy

HASSFURT, Germany (UPI)—A 16-year-old schoolboy fashioned a homemade bomb, apparently threw it into the oven in his home at nearby Fuernbach-Spielhof, and was killed when the explosion destroyed the house, police said.

The boy, Heinz Krebs, died in the blast Sunday. Four of his 11 brothers and sisters were injured.

by a technological society is criminal."

In separate personal statements each of the four sailors admitted they "face certain military judicial action and imprisonment."

The Navy Monday night requested assistance of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police in apprehending the defectors, according to a Fleet Activities Yokosuka spokesman.

Slaying, Suicide In Justice Dept.

WASHINGTON (AP)—A 55-year-old man shot and killed his wife in a Justice Department office late Monday and then barricaded himself for about two hours before killing himself.

The victims were identified as Dorothy Turner, 55, a clerk in the Justice Department's anti-trust division, and Cornelius Turner, her husband.

The shooting occurred as thousands of government workers were leaving their offices for the day.

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EDITION

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Sato John Cont

WASHINGTON—Japan's P. Eisaku Sato Johnson con Vietnam and Tuesday and close cooper Japan and States was interest of boti

After Sato's rival at the W day morning, 70 minutes w world problem nature of Ok impressions cent tours of

Sato inter e restar of Sta a working lan Department, tary Robert Blair Hose, w ing.

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Johnson t pared text ing ceremon temporary titles are together by tional inter (Continued

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MANILA Ings shot mark Tues in senatori which spe campaign year histo Sen. Cu 58, killed Monday, v leaders, in Senate sec Antonine replaced by the electi votes for count for l Accordi News Ser violently Monday i push total