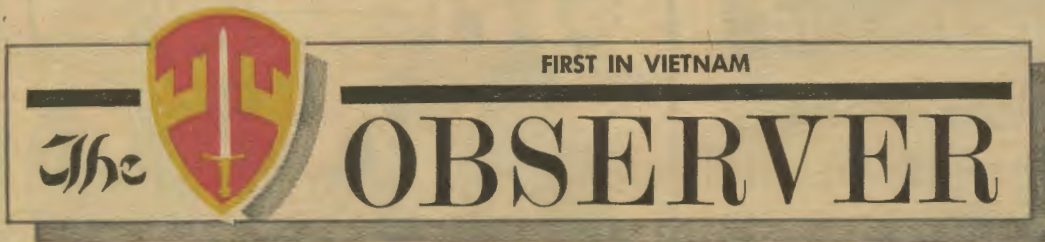


Marines Win 'Impossible' Battle

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TEAMWORK — Troopers of the 101st Airborne Division firing in support of Operation San Angelo.

(USA PHOTO By Sp 4 James Parker)

CAM LO (USMC)—It was an impossible battle—an understrength Marine rifle platoon against a reinforced North Vietnamese Army battalion—but the Leathernecks won.

They not only bettered the enemy at Cam Lo, but severely mauled the battalion while killing 111 NVA regulars and detaining 31.

The NVA abandoned more than 100 weapons on the battlefield together with quantities of explosives and other equipment.

The fighting erupted at 2:15 a.m. with an NVA mortar and recoilless rifle assault on the Cam Lo district headquarters.

Just one day before, two squads of the Fourth Marine Regiment had taken over defenses of the small outpost. Intelligence reports had indicated that the headquarters might be attacked by an enemy unit of unknown strength.

"We took about 100-120 rounds of 82mm mortars right off," said Captain Raymond E. McMaken the deputy senior U.S. Army advisor to Cam Lo district. "Then the communications bunker took a direct hit."

The round that pierced the communications bunker killed the senior Army advisor. Captain McMaken made his way to the bunker to adjust the artillery fire around the compound.

"I worked the artillery right up to our lines," the captain stated. "We ringed the compound completely with fire."

"Between those tremendous Marines and the artillery, the compound was saved," he said.

Two Army quad-50 caliber machine guns on the southern perimeter were destroyed in the initial outburst of NVA fire. Then the Marine lines to the northwest were hit hard by rockets, recoilless rifle fire, heavy machine guns and small arms followed by NVA human wave assaults.

"The Marines just stacked them up on the wires," the captain said. "They were magnificent. They held the line and piled up the NVA dead."

When one sector of the compound seemed certain of being overrun, five Marines rushed

(Continued on Back Page)

Pilots Kill 150 Enemy At Kontum

PLEIKU (USAF) — The combined firepower of Air Force A-37 and A-1 Skyraider pilots based at Pleiku air base has been credited with killing 150 enemy soldiers during a recent attack on the MACV compound at Kontum.

Ground forces sweeping the area confirmed the number of enemy killed by the Air Force pilots.

Two A-37s of the 604th Air Commando Squadron and two A-1s of the 14th Air Commando Wing were called in to help break up the attack on the MACV compound, which had come under heavy mortar and automatic weapons fire.

After knocking out the enemy mortar positions, the Skyraider pilots went to work on the machinegun positions which were within 25 yards of the compound's perimeter fence.

In addition to revealing the enemy dead, the ground sweep of the area also revealed that the pilots had destroyed two mortar positions, two automatic weapons, and caused two secondary explosions.

The Chieu Hoi Program

Offers Enemy A New Life

DAK TO (USA) — Vu Hong was a North Vietnamese Army squad leader. Like many of his fellow soldiers he fought in the hills around Dak To. And, like many of his fellow comrades, he became discontented with Communist indoctrination, maltreatment, and the way the war was going.

Today Hong is a free and productive citizen of South Vietnam. He responded to the Chieu Hoi broadcasts of Specialist 6 Arthur F. Pagel Jr., who is assigned to the Company B, 8th PSYOPS Battalion, 4th Psychological Warfare Group.

Working under the operational control of the 4th Division's 1st Brigade, Specialist Pagel has been spreading the good word to "Charlie" since early November.

With his command of the North Vietnamese language and speaker system ranging up to 1,000 watts, he reminds the enemy of their hopeless position and encourages them to take advantage of the Open Arms program.

"We usually go to a village and collect psywar information," he explained. "We find out

where the enemy is and then travel to that location, set up the loudspeaker system and start talking."

The broadcasts also are made at battalion firebases, company positions and by air from O2-B aircraft which also drop Chieu Hoi leaflets.

In a 32-week course at the Defense Language Institute at Fort Bliss, Tex., Specialist Pagel was taught the entire Vietnamese language, including conversational Vietnamese, military terminology, names, ranks and units.

When broadcasting to the enemy he tells them how they are losing the war; that they have no chance against our bombs, artillery and overwhelming infantry; that there is no hope of defeating the Allies. Also, he tells them we know where they are, that they are surrounded and can not get back to a sanctuary without being killed.

"The ones that defect will usually give up later to an ARVN unit or at a Montagnard village," revealed the specialist. "Occasionally they will give up to a U.S. unit — sometimes dur-

ing or directly after a broadcast."

The enemy soldier that "comes over" in the Chieu Hoi program is then referred to as a Hoi Chanh. Specialist Pagel talks to the Hoi Chanh as a buddy, addressing him by his name and rank, and asks him about his family.

"My main concern," added the specialist, "is whether or not they've seen our leaflets or

heard our broadcasts; what the pamphlets mean to them, and whether or not they came over because of them."

In one instance, an enemy soldier needed medical treatment desperately. He threw down his weapon, came into a clearing repeating the words "chieu hoi" and gave up to a U.S. unit, said the specialist.

After receiving excellent me-

(Continued on Back Page)

Civilian Wounded Treated

CAMP FRENZELL-JONES (USA) — Immediately after infantrymen of the 199th Light Infantry Brigade's 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry killed more than 150 enemy soldiers in house-to-house fighting in Saigon last month, battalion Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) and civil affairs teams moved into the heavily populated areas to treat wounded victims of the Viet Cong attack.

Between February 12 and 16, more than 1,300 Vietnamese civilians were treated by MEDCAP personnel of the battalion.

Headed by Captain Paul L. Jones, the team set up operations just inside the Phu Tho race track in southwestern Saigon. Medics from the brigade's 7th Combat Support Battalion Aid Station also assisted.

Many of the civilians were wounded during fighting in the section of the city near the race track.

During the combat operations, the brigade's Psywar teams recorded nine hours of ground loudspeaker time and distributed more than 2,700 leaflets in the capital city.

Editorial

Art Of Griping

All of us know how to gripe. In fact, there is evidence to support the belief that some of us enjoy it and have gone so far as to make it a hobby. However, the degree of proficiency that we have attained in the art of griping is open to question. The following article gives some interesting tips on griping effectively.

HOW TO COMPLAIN EFFECTIVELY

Are your gripes effective? All of us have our pet gripes. Some of us air them frequently and vigorously, but often nothing seems to be done about them. Why? Is it because there is a sacred and not-to-be challenged military way of doing things, or is it just possible because we have not learned to gripe effectively? Here are four suggestions for a serviceman with a problem.

1. Before blowing off steam, get the facts. They may convince you that you haven't a leg to stand on.
2. If you still think you are right, present your argument clearly and honestly. State exactly what it is that you want changed and, what is more important, carry it through the chain of command up to the person who can do something about it.
3. Next, come up with some sound logical reasons for the change you want made. The fact that your blood pressure is reaching the bursting point may be important to you, but it isn't vital to the man with the power to change things around. He will ask—why?

Be certain that you can answer and that you can back your answer with facts. Incidentally, if you can show him how he or his work will benefit directly by the change, you will greatly increase the chances for ready acceptance.

4. Finally, suggest a solution to the problem. Don't expect him to do all the thinking and work out all the answers. You are the one who wants things changed.

Follow these suggestions and you may be surprised. It may be that you haven't a gripe after all. It could be that you have a "Beneficial Suggestion." (SO)

Wanted

US Military Units Up For 'Adoption'

Headquarters MACV receives many requests from various groups in the U.S. to "adopt" a military unit serving in Vietnam. The patriotic groups may be an elementary school class, ladies club, Cub Scout Pack or college sorority. Many are small groups of teen-agers, unmarried working girls and private citizens.

Frequently an individual wants to assist a small unit of two or three men. A larger group may be seeking to assist a company of men. Each group wants to show the servicemen that they are appreciated and supported. Their appreciation is demonstrated through letters, gift packages, newspaper subscriptions, pen-pal relationships and other acts of friendship.

If you would like to have your unit "Adopted" encourage your commander to submit the following information to Hq, MACV, MACOI-C APO 96222:

- Complete mailing address of unit:
- Number of men in unit:
- Branch of service.

Only company size units and below should be submitted. Small units with ten men or less have the best chance for adoption. Every effort will be made to insure units operating in the "boondocks" are adopted first. (MACV)

Just In Case You Have Not Heard

More Money For Interment

WASHINGTON — The allowances for burial expenses for deceased active duty military personnel has been increased in certain categories effective Feb. 1.

Changes in the burial allowances are as follows:

1. A maximum of \$250 (it was \$150) when remains are consigned to a funeral home for services prior to interment in a national or post cemetery.

The allowance remains at \$75 when remains are consigned directly to a national cemetery for interment.

In addition, for servicemen who die in the United States or any other area where the next-of-kin desire to assume the initial responsibility for care and disposition of remains, next-of-kin will be reimbursed in the amount the same services and supplies would have cost the government in the particular area, up to a maximum of \$500 (it was \$400).

This care and disposition allowance would not be applicable to those military personnel who died outside the United States where there is no opportunity for the next-of-kin to assume initial responsibility, nor would it apply in any case where the next-of-kin desire that initial care and disposition of remains be handled by a service contract mortician.

Vietnam Gets 15 New PXs

SAIGON (VRE)—Fifteen new post exchange facilities have been opened in the Vietnam Regional Exchange's areas in the past few weeks.

Typical of the new facilities is the Qui Nhon Main Exchange. It is an 8,000-square-foot, prefabricated building which replaces two quonset huts.

On the Army side of Cam Ranh Bay, a new full-fledged cafeteria with a 50-table snack bar and pizza parlor is open and serving ice-cold drinks and hot food to thousands of troops in the area.

Other exchange outlets recently established are located at the following: Saigon-Advisory Team 90; Bien Hoa-Long Binh-Hqs. Advisory Team 94, HHQ 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, 610th Maintenance Bn., 520th Transportation Bn. and 8th Bn., 6th Arty; Delta-V. Coy, New Zealand Army; Det. 1, 610th TCS; Chuong Thien Advisory Team 58, Xuyen Sector Advisory Team 59 and First Korean (ROK) Surgical Hospital; Cam Ranh-Advisory Team 32; and Da Nang-Mobile PBR Support Base One.

NSGLI Covers Vets For 6 Mos

WASHINGTON — Servicemen now being discharged from active duty have the protection of their National Servicemen's Group Life Insurance policies extended for 180 days at no cost to them.

During that period, they are entitled to apply for and receive their private life insurance at regular rates, regardless of any disabilities they may have incurred in the service.



"Say, didn't you win the Liars Club award last year?"

DOD Study Evaluates Effects Of Defoliation

WASHINGTON — A Department of Defense-sponsored study of the effects of defoliation agent used in Vietnam indicates there is no lasting harm to animals, water supplies or the soil.

Scientists of the Midwest Research Institute who carried out the research based their assessment on information from universities, chemical firms, scientific articles and some findings from controlled tests in Thailand and Puerto Rico.

The researcher reported: —Partially killed or defoliated trees exhibit a rapid recovery and there is no evidence of irrevocable modification to soil.

—Direct toxicity hazard to humans and animals is "nearly non-existent."

—No firm conclusions on the effects of herbicides on water, but direct toxic effects would be "highly unlikely."

Concern over the large amounts

of herbicides being used in Vietnam led DOD's Advance Research Agency to request the evaluation. Spraying operations, at the request of the Vietnamese government, have been carried out since early 1962.

Three defoliation agents, designated simply as Orange, White and Blue, have been used primarily around jungle-covered Viet Cong strongholds and along rivers, canals and roads to eliminate possible ambush sites.

Other targets have been infiltration routes and supply trails in upland forests, the Demilitarized Zone and croplands in remote areas long occupied by the VC.

In the first defoliation operation, 5,000 acres were sprayed and 750 acres of cropland were covered. Since then the pace has picked up significantly, and in 1967 enough herbicide was used in Vietnam to treat nearly one million acres. (CD)

Airmen Get Good News

HAWAII — A recent all-command message from Pacific Air Forces' (PACAF) directorate of career management contained good news for airmen eligible for promotion.

Quoting a message from General John P. McConnell, U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff, the following has been passed to personnel offices within PACAF.

"The Office of Secretary of Defense has announced approval of our FY 1969 top six grade request for 26,744 additional NCO

grades. This program will raise the number of airmen in the top six enlisted grades from 481,200 in FY 1968 to 507,944 by June 1969.

"We are currently planning to make approximately 215,000 NCO promotions in FY 1969."

It is emphasized the promotion figures are based on currently programmed gains and losses through FY 1969. If actions are taken which cause these gains and losses to change, the promotions will be changed accordingly. (PACAF NS)



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Marines' Factory Produces Bricks

DA NANG (USMC) — A Marine civic action project has produced over one-half million bricks for the construction of schools, orphanages, hospitals, and homes for the Vietnamese people.

The 7th Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, is justifiably proud of its "brick factory." The structures, made with bricks produced there, are already enough to form a small city.

The 36 workers in the factory are Vietnamese from the refugee village of Hos Khanh. They work six days a week and receive no money. Instead, the village receives an allotment of rice, grain, and other food commodities provided by the Third Marine Amphibious Force near Da Nang.

Utilizing an efficient, inexpensive process, which was developed originally by the Peace Corps for use in Bogota, Columbia, the factory produces 1,600 bricks per day — almost enough to build a house needing only the addition of inexpensive framing and roofing materials.

The process is simple and takes only a few seconds. First, the soil is screened and dampened. Then it is packed into the brick machines and a pressure of 9,000 pounds is exerted upon the block. Before shipment to a building site, the bricks are baked in the sun for two days.

"We think that the brick factory is a highly successful civic action program," said Gunnery Sergeant R. E. Maddox, NCOIC of the battalion's civic affairs office, "because we are not giv-

US Marines Supporting Refugees

DA NANG (USMC) — Force Logistic Command is helping support about 18,000 refugees near its Camp Books headquarters north of Da Nang. It is aiding Hoa Khan villagers, who have fled Viet Cong-controlled areas, with supplies not available to them elsewhere.

"The refugees in this area have been here for some time—some as long as three years," stated Major T.J. Smythe, command civil affairs officer. "We are just providing what we can, but it is not on a handout basis."

In some instances, the command is using food as wages for the work done by the Vietnamese. This method of dispensing food eliminates the impression of it being a handout, explained the major.

Some of the foods used to pay the refugees are: cooking oil, rice wheat, rolled oats and corn meal.

In turn, most of the workers supplement their diet by exchanging some of the food-payments for meat, fruit and vegetables with other villagers. Also, they receive supplies from CARE and the Catholic Relief Fund.

In emergency situations—such as when a home, school or church is destroyed by fire or VC terrorists — the command steps in and helps to rebuild the structure.

ing these people anything for free."

"By working in the brick factory," he continued, "the Vietnamese are benefiting themselves as well as their country. Their fellow Vietnamese build homes and hospitals with the bricks that are produced."

The factory began operations in June 1966 with three machines and a tent. It has grown in two years to eight machines, a building and 36 Vietnamese workers.

When the factory began, the battalion's soil lab tested every type of soil available in the immediate area. Finally they discovered that laterite soil, when mixed with cement, produced a building brick that was both durable and inexpensive. As time passed, the process was refined to become faster and superior to the local procedure of brick-making.

"These are high quality bricks," Sergeant Maddox commented. "The Vietnamese may obtain them for any worthwhile project by merely submitting a request to their District Chief."

"The best part of the whole program," he concluded, "is that every worker understands the brick-making process we have developed and is capable of starting a brick factory of his own some day."



PLEASE GIVE ME SOME—Eager, small hands reach for the fresh milk Staff Sergeant Richard M. Burt, 101st Airborne Division, is distributing to the children of Bo Mua village near Phuoc Vinh. He is a civil affairs sergeant for the 3rd Brigade's 2nd Battalion. (USA PHOTO By Sp 4 Michael Sugarl)

Barriers Being Broken

Vietnamese Learn English

DUC PHO (USA)—New ideas are among the most valuable products created through the meeting of two peoples. When the United States soldier comes in contact with a Vietnamese citizen, each represents an interesting but completely dif-

ferent world. Until they learn to communicate effectively, there is little value in their meeting.

Communications barriers are being broken at Duc Pho by a cooperative program between the U.S. Army and South Vietnamese educators.

Two hundred and seventy selected Vietnamese students of various ages are receiving English instruction from members of the Civil Affairs Offices of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division and the 11th Light Infantry Brigade, Americal Division.

Last August, the Duc Pho orphanage requested that English classes be given to their students. A few weeks later, Duc Pho Public High School asked that the classes be extended to their school. So the Civil Affairs Office began an English class program that now covers the orphanage and selected students from each of the four high schools in the Duc Pho area.

A local schoolmaster, Duong Ngoc Dong, states that the students are eager to learn English: "They want the classes and look forward to them." The more advanced students are now able to understand English well enough to take English-language classes in history, world banking systems and other subjects he said.



AIDING A VILLAGER—Corporal Larry Robinson, a Fifth Marine Regiment Leatherneck, helps a Vietnamese woman move to safety while his unit, M Company, 3rd Battalion, made a sweep of the area south of Da Nang. (USMC PHOTO By Sgt F.A. Barrett Jr)

RF/PFs Train In III CTZ

LONG BINH (II FF) — Regional and Popular Forces (RF/PF) within the III Corps Tactical Zone (CTZ), whose units serve as defenders for a series of outposts throughout the area, receive intensive training at one of the ten Provincial Basic Training centers in the zone.

Buu Long Training Center, seven miles west of Bien Hoa, was established in 1959 and trains around 2,500 RF/PF platoon and squad leaders each year.

Master Sergeant Thomas B. Connery serves as chief advisor for the training center. "The instructors, highly qualified and motivated, keep the students keenly interested in the seven-week course and the three-week refresher course," said the sergeant. "I consider Buu Long—which is run by the RF/PF—a success story."

The squad and platoon leaders' course trains the RF/PF in the proper techniques of handling prisoners, radio and telephone procedures, offensive and defensive warfare, and basic sanitation. The latest cycle of trainees graduated in January, with 2,002 students completing the course.

In an attempt to centralize and streamline RF/PF training in III CTZ, all province centers will be consolidated into three basic centers—one per each Divisional Tactical Area (DTA). Buu Long, which will become one of the three basic centers in June, is now preparing for this changeover. An estimated 1,500 students, instead of the present 220, will pass through Buu Long during each seven week cycle then.

Korean Troops Study Radar

LONG BINH (USA)—Fifteen Korean soldiers are learning radar maintenance at Saigon Support Command's 79th Maintenance Battalion at Long Binh.

The six officers and nine enlisted men are from Korea's White Horse, Tiger, Blue Dragon and 100th Logistical Divisions. After they learn to repair and operate various types of U.S. Army radar equipment, they will return to their units to pass on their skills.

The instruction is given by two members of the Army Electronics Command and a technical representative of the General Electric Company.

ARVN, US Army Engineers Solve Village Road Problem

LAI KHE (USA) — The traffic problem that has troubled the village of Phu Cuong for years, and resulted in frequent accidents, no longer exists. It was corrected by the engineering talents of the 1st Infantry Division and the 5th ARVN Division.

The problem was caused by heavy traffic on Highway 13 — the most vital resupply route of the "Big Red One" — and the main street of Phu Cuong. U.S. military convoys created a

nearly continual traffic tie-up along the twisting stretch of roadway running through the village.

Some 250 yards of roadway around the northeast side of Phu Cuong was built by the 1st Engineer Battalion, providing a bypass for convoy traffic.

U.S. Army engineers worked with the 5th ARVN Engineer Battalion, which provided a bucket loader and dump trucks with operators. The joint effort resulted in 1,000 loads of laterite fill for the road foundation.



Nam-O villagers receive medical treatment from Marines.

Nam-O Is Rebuilding

Young Vietnamese Girl Learning Dental Skill

PHUOC VINH (USA)—An 18-year-old Vietnamese girl took the lowest paying job in the 101st Airborne Division's 3rd Brigade here because she wants to serve her community with a very important skill.

"When she came into our civil affairs office and looked over the list of available jobs and the pay scales," said Private First Class Gene A. Wilhelm, "she selected a position in our dental clinic. I noted it was the lowest starting pay of all the vacancies we were trying to fill."

Why did she want a job in a dentist's office?

"Because I like," she explained.

Why did she like it?

"I want to learn a job I can do the rest of my life," she continued.

Her identification card says that her name is Bui Thi Thao, but the dental clinic staff call her Sally.

Teaching her a skill she can use the rest of her life is Captain James Buchanan, assigned to the 326th Medical Detachment here. "When she finishes training, she will be paid more," said the captain. "More important is that we are training a dentist for Phuoc Vinh—a village that doesn't have one."

Sally, who was employed by the 1st Infantry Division when it was stationed at Phuoc Vinh, speaks good English. "That's why we were surprised when she ask for the dental clinic job," said Pfc Wilhelm. "She could have taken a better paying position."

In addition to aiding in dental treatment of paratroopers here, Sally also assists in caring for villagers who come to the clinic three mornings each week.

She explains the benefits of good dental care to her fellow citizens.

Marines Help Villagers

DA NANG (USMC)—With the help of Force Logistic Command Marines, the townspeople of Nam-O are getting on their feet.

VC terrorists crept into Nam-O northwest of Da Nang and tried to make an example of those in the village who worked for Americans. A reign of terror followed.

By mid-morning, Vietnamese Rangers—with U.S. Marines acting as a blocking force—were in position outside the village. Air strikes used to force the enemy out damaged some of the homes in the little hamlet.

Promptly, the command's Headquarters and Service Battalion civil affairs team came

to the relief of the stricken villagers.

Setting up two aid stations, Navy corpsmen—together with Vietnamese doctors and medics—treated the wounded and evacuated the seriously injured. Children needing further care were taken to nearby Hoa Khanh Children's hospital, which is also supported by the command.

Marines provided 13 truckloads of lumber, masonry and carpenter kits, and several water trailers to aid the villagers in rebuilding their homes.

Sixty boxes of clothing and four sewing machines were provided through the CARE organization.

Within 48 hours, 720 villagers were treated under the medical civil affairs program, and preventive medicine personnel sprayed the soil to prevent an outbreak of disease.

Meanwhile, Hoa Vang district officials had evaluated the loss and filed claims for damages. The Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS) office is furthering plans for the general rebuilding program.

Major Thomas J. Smythe, civil affairs coordinator, said that the villagers pooled their resources to buy 192 bags of rice in Da Nang, but that they had no means of transporting it. The Marines solved the problem for them.

Rome Plows Clear Jungle For Montagnard Farmlands

EDAP ENANG (USA) — One of the biggest sustained civic action offensives that Army engineers have undertaken in Vietnam was recently brought to a close by Rome plows and bulldozers of the 20th Engineer Battalion (Combat).

Directed by First Lieutenant's James Bell and John W. Sneed, a land clearing team from Companies A and D cleared two square miles of jungle to provide farmland for Montagnards living in Edap Enang, the

largest resettlement village between Pleiku and the Cambodian border.

The engineers carried out the project in two phases, during the first of which Lieutenant Bell supervised the team in clearing 615 acres on the hillsides near the village.

Two months later, after the team had returned from an essential combat support mission near Kontum, work was resumed. For almost the entire month of January, the dozers

and plows worked to push the jungle back.

The second and last phase was completed late in January. Eight-hundred and sixty-five more acres lay bare.

The project required intelligent, careful supervision. Drivers were careful to keep the large tractors out of the small fields which had been planted last summer by the Montagnards.

The concept of a large resettlement village for Montagnards, normally a semi-nomadic people, was not guaranteed to be a valid one according to George Shepard, U.S. Agency for International Development Refugee Advisor for Pleiku Province.

"If the project succeeds," he explained, "it will be because of the way the land is handled". He went on to explain that even if the majority of the 8,000 Montagnards who have populated Edap Enang decided to leave, "a good portion of the land will be used by those who stay, and by others near the village."

The cleared land is a dramatic invitation to the Montagnards to stay. It takes 15 minutes for a bulldozer to clear a 100 by 100 foot field "it might take a Montagnard two weeks," said Lieutenant Sneed. "All he has to do is come in and plow. It's really good soil too; 90 per cent of it has never been farmed before."

In the meantime, civic action teams and advisors from Pleiku Province and Sector Headquarters, and the 4th Infantry Division, are planning to teach farming techniques and animal husbandry to the new settlers.

VN Navy Psywar Team Captures 6 Terrorists

SAIGON (USN)—A word, hunger, a wound and two identical ID cards all helped to contribute to the recent capture of six Viet Cong by a Vietnamese Navy psychological warfare team during the enemy's Tet offensive.

The sailors made the captures in three separate incidents during the early part of the month while giving medical aid to more than 1,200 refugees in the hard-hit Cholon District.

At 10:30 a.m., the sailors chased — and took prisoner — three enemy who tried to mount

motorcycles and flee. One of them had been wounded by shrapnel during earlier fighting at the Phu Tho race track.

All three were weak from hunger and made little attempt to resist. Residents of the city, on whom they were ordered to depend for food, had refused to help them.

"The people shut their doors in our faces," said the captives.

The second capture occurred when a man, carrying a Long An ID card, answered questions put to him by the team. The suspect slipped in the use of a pronoun which marked him as a northern (Quang Ngai Province) native.

In the early afternoon, the team spotted two young men hiding in a building and investigated. Two VC, a 22-year-old squad leader, the other 16, carried separate ID cards. Both cards, including photographs, were identical. The two VC were not.

Sgt Makes Unusual Delivery

DAK TO (USA) — The odds against multiple births are so great that it is practically unheard of in most of the small isolated Montagnard villages. When such a phenomena occurred recently in the village of Dak Kie Joi near Dak To, the skilled hands and calm manners of Staff Sergeant James McCoy were invaluable assets.

The sergeant was on one of his frequent visits to the village where he has been chosen as honorary chief. While making the rounds, one of the villagers ran up to him crying, "mamasan bad sick."

"I grabbed my forceps and followed the boy," said Sergeant McCoy. "When we got to the woman I noticed she was in labor. I prepped her, and 12 hours later she delivered twin girls."

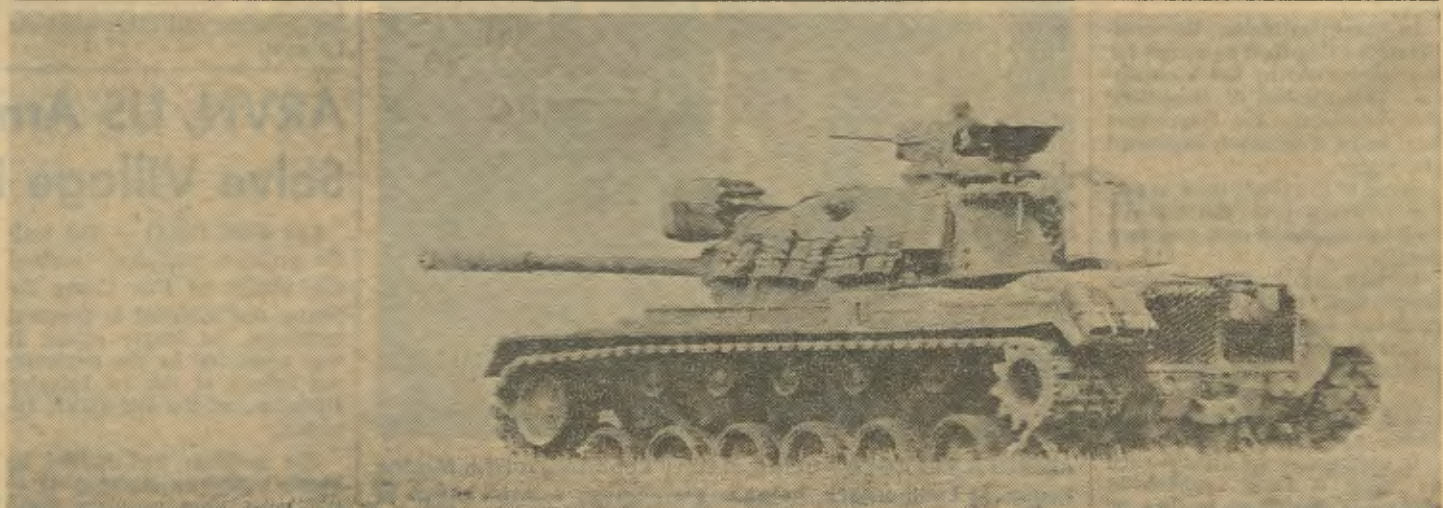
A 1st Brigade, 4th Division "Hawkeye" whose second love (after fighting Charlie) lies with treating the Montagnard people, he is quite capable of delivering babies. In the 10 months he has served in Vietnam, he has delivered 18 babies. The only thing novel about this occasion is that there were two.

"I was a surprised as they were," quipped the sergeant. "They villagers had never seen twins before and I had never delivered twins before."

This, of course, called for an all-out Montagnard celebration. Traditionally when a boy is born the villagers dance and sing and

pray to God that he lives a long, happy life with good health and good hunting.

Female births, however, do not rate this much, except in the twins' case, which prompted the villagers to break out the rice wine and sing and dance throughout the night.



FIRE POWER—A Marine tank of the 3rd Tank Battalion, supporting the Fourth Marines, blasts enemy positions with its 90mm cannon on a search and destroy mission south of the demilitarized zone. (USMC PHOTO By Cpl. L. Preston Brown)

Three Saigon Soldiers Start Small Aid Program

SAIGON (MACV)—Enemy action during the NVA and VC Tet offensive created thousands of refugees in the Saigon-Cholon area, however, many agencies are working to help relieve their suffering.

One such organization is the Traffic Management Agency Headquarters in Saigon. Three soldiers assigned to that unit have staged their own small counteroffensive which is helping some of the war victims.

Sergeant John Giertz, Specialist 5 Charles Ronayne and Specialist 4 David Frazier have received items of clothing and soap from their respective churches back home for distribution to the needy Vietnamese in Saigon.

Prior to the Communist attack, the men had been giving the donated items to the children in the neighborhood of their living quarters, but they now have diverted some of the goods to a refugee center located in a nearby school where almost 1,000 refugees are being housed.

When the soldiers visit the center, the children run to greet them with salutes and wide smiles.

"Some of the children seem confused and scared," said one of the specialists, "but most of them looked as if they were

enjoying the change in the daily routine of living in the same area. I doubt if many of them realize it was a deadly war which brought them together in a crowded school courtyard to live."

One of the traffic management soldiers said it was "mass con-

fusion" when they began distributing the clothing and soap, but as they were leaving the center some of the children surprised them by speaking in perfect English—"Thank you."

The three men said they were sure the children meant what little English they could speak.



Children wash with soap donated by American friends.

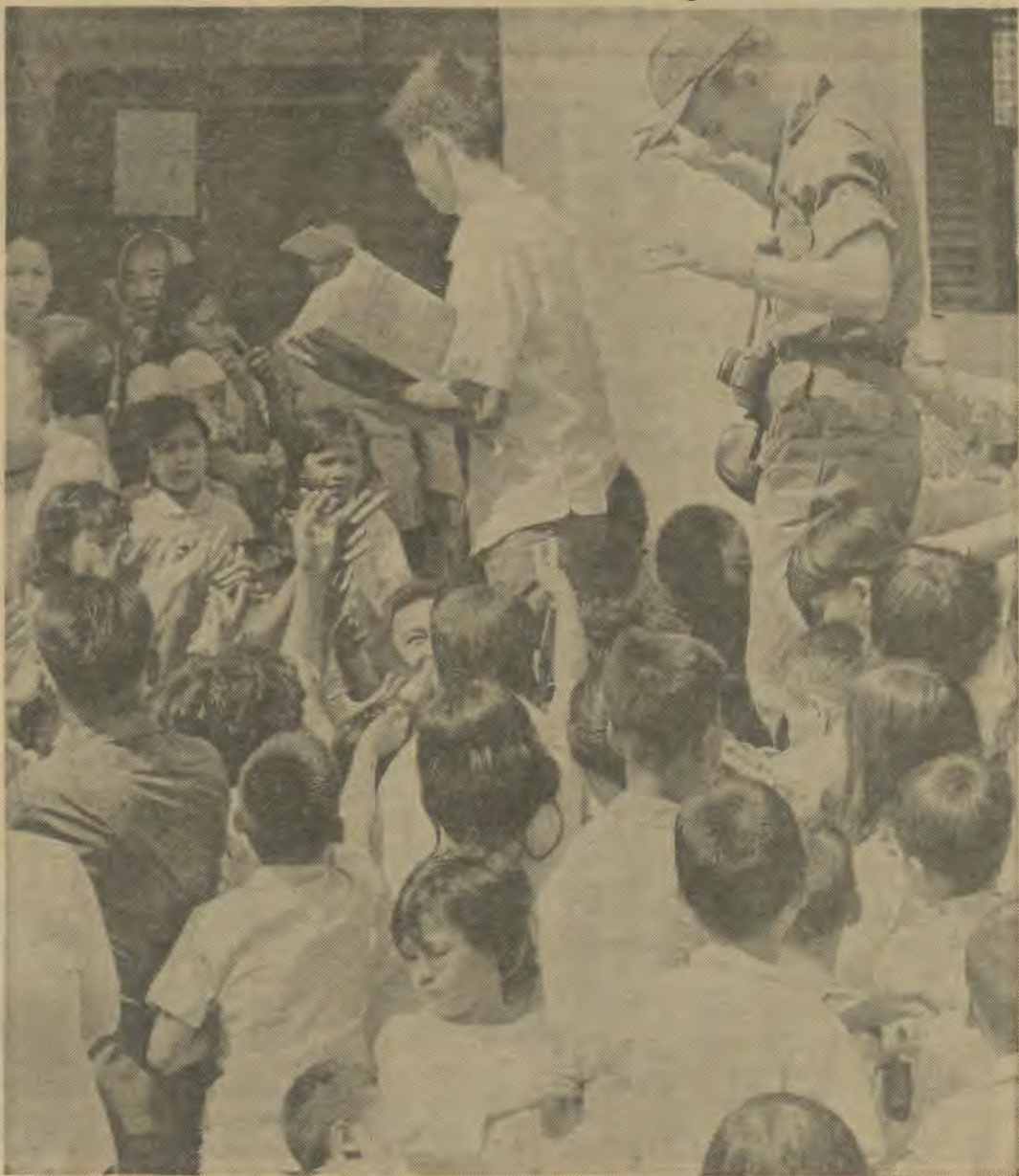


After getting a bar of soap, this boy heads for the wash.



Just three of over 1,000 refugees at Phan Van Tri Center

Photos
By
Sp 4 David R. Frazier



Children surround Sp 5 Ronayne as clothing and soap are passed out.

U.S. Marines Batt



Patients are evacuated during heavy fighting near Hue Hospital.

USMC PHOTOS By Sgt W.F. Dickman



Already wounded, this Marine continues to fight in the ancient city.



Firing from a window in t



Corpsman with the Fifth Marines works quickly to bandage the shrapnel wounds of a Marine injured during the fighting in Hue.

A wounded Leatherneck is car

Battling House-to-House In Hue



g from a window in the University of Hue, this Marine silences an enemy sniper.



Two Leathernecks keep a sharp watch for snipers near the University of Hue.



ded Leatherneck is carefully lowered from a rooftop during Operation Hue City.



This Marine finds cover in a bathroom during house-to-house fighting in Hue.

Khe Sanh Refugees Get U.S. Help



Food service specialists at Da Nang worked through the night to feed the refugees.



Khe Sanh refugees were housed and fed at Da Nang.

DA NANG (USAF) — Four hundred tired, hungry refugees from the embattled Khe Sanh City area landed at Da Nang air base recently after being driven from their homes by an enemy force.

On hand to meet the refugees

and provide them with food and clothes were civil affairs teams from the Army and Air Force. Also desiring to help the refugees, the Air Force bakery at Da Nang baked 100 large loafs of bread and made 50 gallons of soup to go with 200 pounds

of rice which was provided by the Army's 29th Civil Affairs Company.

Blankets to keep the people warm were furnished by the III Marine Amphibious Force.

"Getting the chance to help these people," observed one airman, "is one of the best things that has happened to me since I arrived in Vietnam."



This small refugee seems pleased with his Air Force meal.



A Marine comforts a small boy whose parents were killed by the enemy.



Ba points out area of the latest movement of Viet Cong.

Ex-VC Leads Marines Against His Old Unit

CHU LAI (USMC)—Tieu Viet Ba, a Kit Carson scout with the Combined Action Platoon (CAP) L-5, once again led the men of his unit into VC territory where they killed 10 enemy.

The ex-Viet Cong lead the 26-man CAP force from Phouc Thien to his old Viet Cong rest and retraining center at An Cuong village, where 12 Marines and 14 Popular Force troops set

up an ambush for the unsuspecting enemy.

Marine Sergeant Donald E. Williams tells the story this way:

"During our journey to An Cuong, we passed within 20 meters of two different enemy hootches. We know from past experience that guerrillas were in them, but our primary mission would be tipped off if we engaged them.

"Ba, our Kit Carson scout, led us, undetected, right past these hootches and on to his old vacation village.

"When we arrived at An Cuong, we set up in two and four-man teams on the village's perimeter and waited until dawn.

"Then we opened fire on the village. Five VC tried to escape and we captured them. Two others were not so lucky and were killed.

"After we overran the village and all firing had stopped, my platoon searched the caves and tunnels found within the village. We located several places of concealment and set off explosive charges to remove possible booby traps.

"One of my men went down into one of the caves and found eight dead VC. There also was three secondary explosions in other tunnels which indicated more ammo explosives.

Draft Dodger Found Serving In Vietnam

CAMP ENARI (USA)—Draft dodgers and eligible draftees are not only found stateside but also here in the Army—that is, if a draft board in Yonkers, N.Y. is correct.

Assuming that the board's records are in order, Specialist 5 Conrad Clark of Yonkers, and currently serving with the 4th Infantry Division, is a draft dodger.

On active duty for the past 16 years, the specialist recently received a local board inquiry as to why he has not registered with them.

The inquiry addressed to his Yonkers residence stated:

"According to your date of birth shown in the records of the local board, you should be registered with the Selective Service System. This local board has jurisdiction over the address in the records referred to but you are not recorded as a registrant.

"If you have not been registered on or after Aug. 30, 1948, you are required to register by reporting in person at the nearest Selective Service Local Board unless you can establish that you are a person not required to register." Also it requested him to notify the board when he intends to register.

A veteran of World War II with more than 18 months service in the Southwest Pacific, Specialist Clark came to Vietnam with the Ivy Division in September 1966 and is now serving on a six-month extension here.

"What a way to run a draft board," chuckled the spry veteran. "I guess maybe I'll have to visit them on my next six-month extension leave."

Support Command Assists RF/PF

Boost Units' Effectiveness

QUI NHON (USA)—Binh Dinh Province's Regular Forces and Popular Forces (RF/PF) received a boost recently toward greater effectiveness from the Army's Support Command in Qui Nhon.

To facilitate the growth of the new training centers and dependent housing projects, Colonel Joseph B. Comstock, civil affairs officer, has initiated a new plan to increase hamlet and village security.

Beginning with a vigorous visitation schedule to familiarize RF/PF trainees with U.S. and Free World efforts on their behalf, the colonel speaks regularly at basic training graduation ceremonies.

So that the Vietnamese soldiers help themselves, individual units within the Qui Nhon Support Command have been appointed sponsors of individual training and permanent party RF/PF camps.

To further solidify Vietnamese-US relations, a pilot English instruction course is planned for introduction into the basic training cycle. Materials and books will be provided by the command's civil affairs fund.

"Primary emphasis of the assistance program will be on construction support and the Medical Civic Action Program (MED-CAP)," explained Colonel Comstock.

Dunnage is being made available to RF/PF units and their dependents by the truckload. Sanitary fills, latrines and maintenance structures head the list of priority projects. Grease racks and wash racks are being built to eliminate some of the vehicle maintenance deficiencies encountered by Vietnamese units in rural areas.

"I hope to see the Binh Dinh Province RF/PFs equipped and supplied with everything necessary to making them even more efficient fighters and defenders of freedom," concluded the colonel.

Small Project Grows; Airmen Donate Supplies

SAIGON (USAF) — Two orphanages near Tan Son Nhut air base recently became the recipients of a civic action project started by Captain Charles E. Rousenberg of Woodsfield, Ohio.

The orphanages — the Dom Bosco orphanage for boys and the Go Vap for girls—received bars of soaps, wash cloths, towels, tooth brushes and 11,000 tubes of tooth paste donated by the men of the 377th Civil Engineering Squadron's real estate branch. Also donated were 15 cases of soft drinks, eight cases

of canned milk and 75 pounds of candy and cookies.

Captain Rousenberg started the project by writing home and asking for toys and other items for the children of Vietnam. After receiving many contributions, the captain visited the orphanages and distributed the gifts.

"After going out once and seeing that there were so many children, I didn't feel it was fair to give some of the children these toys, so I asked for help from the men of the branch," said the captain.

Engineers Aid Orphanages; Build Needed Equipment

DAK TO (USA)—Army engineers working near here have recently started two civic action programs to aid two orphanages.

Platoon Sergeant Clinton Z. Edge and Specialist 4 Philip Alley, both of Company A, 299th Engineer Battalion, built eight tables, 24 chairs, four wheelbarrows and a wagon for the orphanage at Kontum.

Captain Robert Faxon, Company A commander, presented the furniture to Reverend Stan Smith, director of the orphanage and school for Montagnard children.

In another effort, engineers from the battalion's 15th Engineer Company built double-decker bunks for the children at St. Paul of Chartres Orphanage at Dien Binh.

Montagnards Receive Shots

PLEIKU (USA) — Some 50 Montagnards of Ploi Khoi Jet village, near Pleiku, were immunized against the plague recently by a U.S. Army Civic Action team.

Headed up by Captain Roberto Gonzales, members of the 20th Engineer Battalion (Combat) administered the vaccine which prevents the spread of this deadly disease.



TOE TREATMENT—A 10th Cavalry medic treats this young Montagnard boy's foot during a recent MEDCAP visit to a village near Vung Dat Am. (USA PHOTO By 1st Lt L.E. Migneault)

Tablets Send Him Home

Lt Gets His Sham

LZ BALDY (USA) — During World War II and the Korean War, it was known as the "million dollar wound." It was a wound or an illness sufficiently serious to remove a man from a hazardous position, but not really painful or disabling.

Probably, the soldiers of every country in every war had a term for this stroke of good fortune. The U.S. troop in Vietnam is no different. To him, the million dollar wound is known as the "Sham," and many anecdotes relate Private or Sergeant X's sham injury.

One of the more amusing stories of this nature concerns Second Lieutenant William E. Dra-

ffun of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

It seems that Lieutenant Draffun very faithfully took his daily and weekly malaria tablets. Then, to everyone's surprise, he began to exhibit the symptoms of malaria, and was rushed to the hospital.

A few weeks later, his old unit, A Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, received a letter from their malaria-stricken leader. The postmark confused them, though, because the letter was mailed from the states — and a malaria victim is rarely evacuated that far.

Their questions were answered when the letter was read.

Lieutenant Draffun, it seems, was allergic to the anti-malaria pill and could not stay in Vietnam.

Army Acts Gets Food To Village

CAM RANH BAY (USA)—Army authorities at Cam Ranh Bay reacted swiftly to avert a serious food shortage recently among local Vietnamese villagers.

Due to the continuing wave of Viet Cong terrorist activities throughout the country the last few weeks, the Vietnamese of Cam Ranh Bay city and the Republic of Vietnam's Naval Recruit Training Center were left very low on food supplies.

Soldiers of the Army Support Command, working under the guidance of civil affairs personnel, rushed food supplies to those in need. Food for 9,000 meals was distributed to the village.

In addition 3,300 meals were provided for 600 cadre and dependents of the training center and 500 recruits.

The village and center are located on the Cam Ranh Bay peninsula.

PF Soldier Spots Cord; Finds TNT

TAM KY (I CORPS) — A Popular Force platoon leader, who spotted a red cord on the water of a stream here, recently prevented a big bang.

The cord turned out to be a primer for 528 pounds of TNT which the Viet Cong had hidden by submerging it near a highway bridge south of the city.

Le Trap, the platoon leader whose curiosity caused him to check out the red cord, believes the TNT was scheduled for use against the bridge during the Tet offensive — a move which was foiled by a successful defense of Tam Ky.

The VC didn't get the big bang they were after, but Trap did. He got to explode the TNT harmlessly after his discovery.



TARP—Launching the Tet Aggression Relief Project (TARP), General Westmoreland, Commander of the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, presents a personal check to Sergeant First Class Julio Gutierrez. TARP is designed to receive voluntary donations from military personnel in Vietnam and to distribute them to Vietnamese who suffered in the brutal Viet Cong and North Vietnamese attacks over the Lunar New Year. Sergeant Gutierrez is assigned to Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS), the coordinating agency for these funds. TARP donations will be utilized in the areas of the contributing U.S. military organizations. (USA PHOTO)

4th Infantry Division Medics Making A Home For 'G.G.'

DUC PHO (USA)—One of the strongest and most lasting ties that American servicemen make in the many countries where they are stationed is their friendship with the native children.

The men of Company D, 4th Medical Battalion are no different. In addition to their regular duties as medics for the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, the medics have assumed

the role of parents for an orphaned Montagnard girl.

G.G., the name given her by the men of D Company, was found by the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry during a sweep of an area in which a Viet Cong force was reported to be located. Due to her physical condition and the confirmation that her family was either dead or captured by the VC, she was flown to the 4th Medical Battalion at Duc Pho.

G.G. was suffering from malaria, malnutrition and anemia when she was brought in. To complicate matters, her Montagnard dialect was a rare one spoken by very few people. Due to this inability to communicate and her severe sicknesses, it was decided that she should remain with the medics.

During her stay with them, G.G. has become a happy, smiling young lady. Her favorite friend was Staff Sergeant Roger Millard, the company mess sergeant. Working closely with G.G. Sergeant Millard taught her English, personal hygiene and supervised her activities to assure that she took her medication.

After Sergeant Millard rotated home, his role of foster father was assumed by the new mess sergeant, Specialist 5 George McClellan. "I guess that she just wants to be near the food," the specialist quipped.

First Sergeant Raymond Kirk praises G.G., noticing that, "She has a very bright mind and catches on quickly." The friends and relatives of the medics, after learning of G.G., have sent toys and clothing. "With her good manners and all her new clothes, she is really getting to be quite a lady. Having a little lady in the area keeps us on our toes watching our manners, language and dress," said Captain Stewart Davis, battalion medical officer.



WE'RE SPEECHLESS—Though it has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words, this particular one leaves us somewhat speechless. It would take more than a thousand words to describe Angela Darien, a lovely and leggy lass who sends her "Warmest Regards" to the U.S. troops in Vietnam. (PHOTO By PLAYBOY)

American Forces Vietnam

Network—Channel 11

(Programs Subject To Change Without Notice)
(Guide For Week Of March 6-12, 1968)

Wednesday Mar. 6

- 1830 News Headlines
- 1930 Last in Space
- 2000 News and Sports
- 2000 Insight
- 2005 Information Feature
- 2100 Addams Family
- 2100 Carol Burnett
- 2200 Sports (Re-Run)
- 2300 Late News
- 2315 Sports (Continued)

Thursday Mar. 7

- 1830 News Headlines
- Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea
- 1930 Flying Fisherman
- 1930 News and Sports
- 2000 Insight
- 2005 Information Feature
- 2030 Dick Van Dyke
- 2100 Kraft Music Hall
- 2200 Perry Mason
- 2300 Late News
- 2315 Jerry Lewis

Friday Mar. 8

- 1830 News Headlines
- Wild Wild West
- 1930 News and Sports
- 2000 Insight
- 2005 Information Feature
- 2030 Bewitched
- 2100 Big Valley
- 2200 Star Trek
- 2300 Late News
- 2315 Joey Bishop Show

Saturday Mar. 9

- 1230 News Headlines
- Mike Douglas Show
- 1345 Greatest Dramas
- 1400 CBS Golf Classic
- 1500 Sports of the Week
- 1730 American Profile
- 1830 Lawrence Welk
- 1930 News and Sports
- 2000 21st Century

- 2030 My Favorite Martian
- 2100 Jackie Gleason
- 2200 Gunsmoke
- 2300 Late News
- 2315 Feature Movie

Sunday Mar. 10

- 1230 News Headlines
- Christophers/Sacred Heart
- 1300 The Answer
- 1330 Feature Movie
- 1500 Sports of the Week
- 1730 Flying Fisherman
- 1800 GE College Bowl
- 1830 Danny Thomas Hour
- 1930 News and Sports
- 2000 Window on Vietnam
- 2005 Bob Hope Show
- 2030 Fractured Flickers
- 2100 Ed Sullivan
- 2200 Bonanza
- 2300 Late News
- 2315 Dean Martin Summer Show

Monday Mar. 11

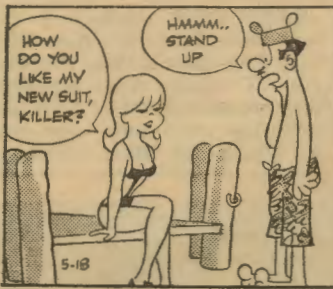
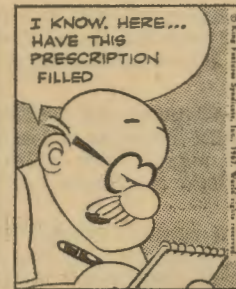
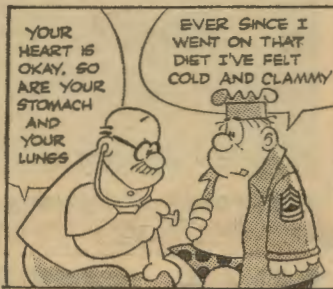
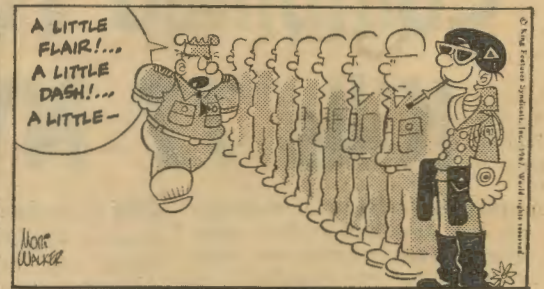
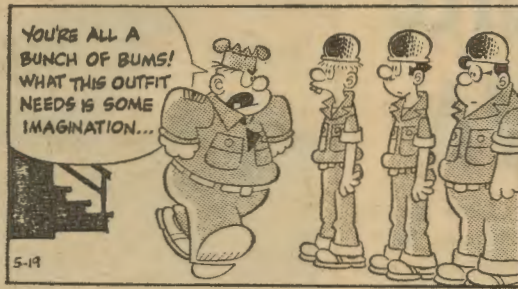
- 1830 News Headlines
- Daniel Boone
- 1930 News & Sports
- 2000 Insight
- 2005 Magic Room
- 2030 My Three Sons
- 2100 Hollywood Palace
- 2200 Mission Impossible
- 2300 Late News
- 2315 Tonight Show

Tuesday Mar. 12

- 1830 News Headlines
- Official Defective
- 1900 Roy Acuff
- 1930 News and Sports
- 2000 Insight
- 2005 Biography
- 2030 Green Acres
- 2100 Red Skelton
- 2200 Combat
- 2300 Late News
- 2315 Feature Movie

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

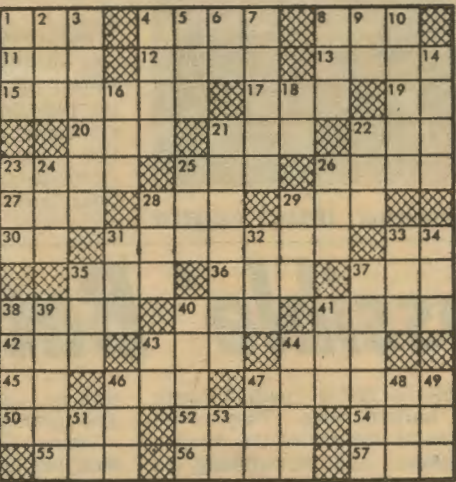
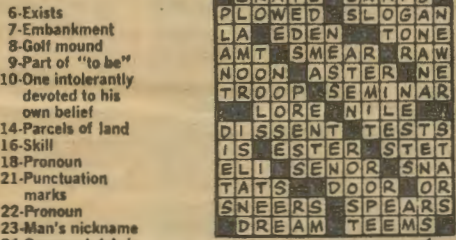
Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1-Church bench
- 4-Call
- 8-Flap
- 11-Macaw
- 12-River in France
- 13-Man's name
- 15-Waterways
- 17-Contend
- 19-Proceed
- 20-Attempt
- 21-Fondle
- 22-Torrid
- 23-Dillseed
- 25-Toll
- 26-Strikes
- 27-Article of furniture
- 28-Ventilate
- 29-Existed
- 30-Latin conjunction
- 31-Bands of color
- 33-River in Italy
- 35-Southwestern Indian
- 36-Grain
- 37-Uncouth person
- 38-Endorsement on a passport
- 40-Total
- 41-Section of hospital
- 42-Peer Gynt's mother
- 43-Cyprinoid fish (pl.)
- 44-Ethiopian title
- 45-Saint (abbr.)
- 46-Bushy clump
- 47-Nimrod
- 50-Lamb's pen name
- 52-Ireland
- 54-Falsehood
- 55-Finish
- 56-Soaks
- 57-Bitter vetch

DOWN

- 1-Moccasin
- 2-Period of time
- 3-Needed
- 4-Sacred
- 5-Three-toed sloths

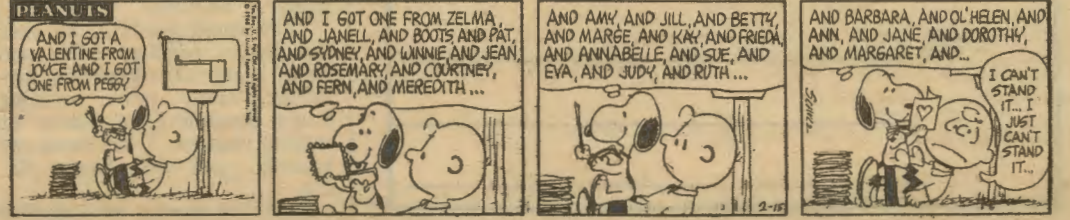
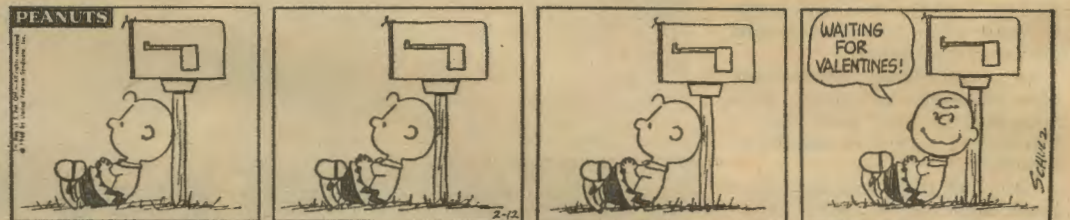
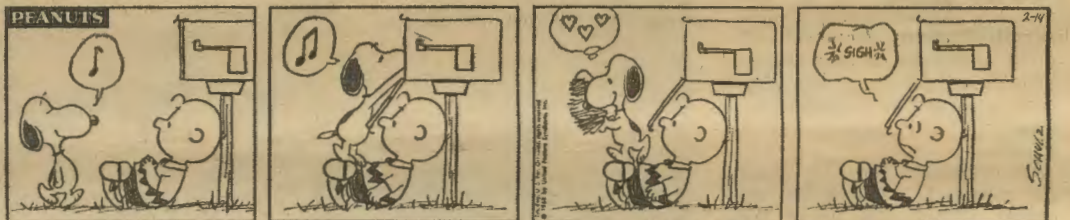


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Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



QUICK SPORTS

1. Who holds the NCAA all-time high in single season scoring averages?
2. What pitcher holds the American League record for the most victories in a season?
3. Who was the first left-handed golfer ever to win a PGA championship?
4. Who is the top all-time Notre Dame pass receiver?
5. Who holds the all-time World Series hitting record?

Answers

1. Frank Selvy of Furman University with a 41.7 average in 1954.
2. Jack Chesbro of the 1904 New York Yankees with 41 games.
3. Bob Charles of New Zealand who won the Houston Classic in 1963.
4. Jim Seymour with 74 receptions during the 1966-67 playing seasons.
5. Babe Ruth with .625 in the 1928 Series.

Combined Force Kills 77 NVA

PHU MY (USA) — Vietnamese and American soldiers combined forces recently to maul an estimated two companies of NVA regulars near the Central Lowland district capital of Phu My, 300 miles northeast of Saigon.

In an example of close Vietnamese-U.S. cooperation, elements of the 22nd ARVN Infantry Division and the U.S. 1st Air Cavalry Division killed 77 enemy while suffering only light casualties during the day-long battle.

The fierce fight began early in the morning as an element of the 22nd's 41st Regiment was conducting a search and clear mission some four miles southeast of Phu My in Binh Dinh Province.

The ARVN soldiers and their U.S. advisors uncovered the enemy force which, after a brief firefight, attempted to retreat to the north. The ARVN unit's advisor, Lieutenant Thomas R. Morris, called for and directed an artillery barrage that slammed the door on the enemy's escape.

An armored personnel carrier

(APC) company from the 1st Cavalry also responded to the ARVN call for assistance and arrived on the scene shortly before noon. Cavalry troopers halted an enemy attempt to escape to the west and forced the NVA back into the Vietnamese unit's fire.

By mid-afternoon, the ARVN and U.S. units linked up and assaulted the enemy force which had fallen back to prepared positions.

"It was a classic example of ARVN-U.S. cooperation and coordination of firepower," said Staff Sergeant Max G. Boone, an advisor to the Vietnamese.

While artillery pinned the NVA in their holes, the ARVN infantrymen and the APCs supported each other in the final assault. As contact broke at dusk, 37 enemy bodies were counted.



ALERT FORCE — A USAF alert team responds to a VC attack on Tan Son Nhut air base. (USAF PHOTO)

NVA, VC Promised 'Victory'

LONG BINH (II FF)—A victory more important than Dien Bien Phu—that is what the NVA and VC troops were promised they would achieve in their Tet offensive when they were told to attack the Bien Hoa-Long

Binh military complex.

This fact was revealed in a Viet Cong document captured by elements of the 199th Infantry Brigade. It stated that the victory would be more important to the final triumph of their

cause "than the entire preceding 20 years of fighting."

The enemy troops also were promised a hero's welcome by the people of the Bien Hoa area.

Infiltrating elements of the 274th and 275th NVA Regiments fully expected a popular uprising to aid them in overwhelming the US positions at Bien Hoa-Long Binh the document revealed.

Instead, they found themselves forced to shoot several of their own countrymen who attempted to warn ARVN and US troops of the impending attack, and in Bui Tieng hamlet they were attacked by knife-wielding civilians who banded together to try to protect their homes.

Bleak morning light on the first day of battle found the Viet Cong and NVA huddled in "Widows Village" across from II Field Force Headquarters — their attacks beaten back from the perimeter, their rocket positions wiped out before they could fire a second salvo, their positions pounded by helicopter gunships with rockets and miniguns.

Their offensive was over; the rest of the day and week belonged to elements of the 199th, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, and the 552d Military Police Company, all of whom swept through the enemy positions and wiped out nests of resistance.



SIGHTING IN — Two Marines prepare to fire their 3.5-inch rocket launcher. (USMC PHOTO)

Offers . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

dical treatment at the division base camp, the young Hoi Chanh later returned to the brigade to broadcast live appeals to his friends.

"Ho Chanhs are not treated as prisoners," stated the specialist. "They give up of their own free will and continue to be free." At a Hoi Chanh center they are given new clothes, food, and spending money.

The Vietnamese government also attempts to reunite them with their families while they go through a period of reindoctrination.

"Most of them say they don't know why they're down here," added Specialist Pagel. "They label Communism as 'all talk and no action' and are quite thankful for the opportunity the Chieu Hoi program lets them come over."

Marine Platoon Wins 'Impossible' Battle...

(Continued From Page 1) across the compound and took over a machine gun bunker. They got a .30 caliber machine gun into action and killed 15 NVA soldiers on the lines in

front of them. An RPG round struck their bunker, wounding all five, but they held their positions.

A Marine in the observation tower along the northwestern

perimeter was firing an M-79 grenade launcher into the massed NVA when an enemy bullet tore through the barrel of his weapon. Another bullet pierced his flak jacket, but failed to harm him.

Lance Corporal Lawrence M. Eades is ordinarily a company clerk with Combined Action Company Papa at Cam Lo, but that morning he demonstrated that he was an excellent machine gunner as well.

When the district headquarters was attacked, Corporal Eades left 24 NVA dead in front of his gun position.

"When we were hit, I grabbed my M-16 and an M-60 machine gun and ran to my position on the northwest side of the perimeter," he said.

"You could see NVA all over the place, running back and forth along our defensive perimeter. Many were carrying crude Bangalore torpedoes or satchel charges. I set down the machine gun and began firing. . . ."

Then the enemy managed to

breach a 20-foot path through the barbed wire. They were within 15 meters of the Marine positions, and threatening to overrun the perimeter.

According to Captain Peter D. Haines, the CAP company commander, Corporal Eades leaped up on the parapet and began firing into the enemy who had crept up to the Marine lines.

"I thought sure he'd be hit," said the captain, "he was silhouetted against a burning building. He stood right out there in the open and mowed them down."

Wounded by enemy grenades, the Marine stayed on the machine gun until a relief force arrived the next morning. Before dawn he had fired nearly 3,500 rounds of ammunition. During lulls in the fighting, he carried bandages and ammunition to other Marines along the perimeter.

According to the young Leatherneck, the enemy had crept so close he could not depress his sights enough to hit them. The only way he could shoot them

was to climb up above them and shoot down into them.

Lance Corporal Richard C. Wall was another stalwart in the Cam Lo defense. He ran among his men, exposing himself to enemy fire and shouting orders to the fire team while firing into a hedgerow to his front and pitching grenades at the enemy.

When the firing slackened near daylight, the Marines redistributed their ammunition and patched up their wounds. Then a reaction force arrived, supported with tanks, to begin the mopping up operations.

Outside of a few U.S. Army advisors, some Marine engineers and the headquarters personnel of CACO-Papa, the platoon had been the only defense for the district headquarters.

The Cam Lo defenders had practically annihilated a company of North Vietnamese regulars.

According to Captain Haines, the North Vietnamese had plans for a big celebration following their ill-fated assault.

Mail THE OBSERVER Home

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

From:

Place Stamp
Here

(12 cents 1st class)
(20 cents Airmail)

TO:

