

 **377TH SECURITY POLICE SQ.** 
PROVEN IN COMBAT

Newsletter for the 377th Security Policeman

Volume 3

2014

My buddy, Joe Richardson, wanted to borrow my camera to take photos of his dog Augustus "Augie", tattoo number A681.

We were at the kennels on the north side of the base and Joe had Augie in the fenced in training area off-leash. The gate catch had broken so if you were working your dog in the area you wrapped a choke chain around the gate posts and padlocked it shut.

I was outside of the area talking to Joe and Augie was barking at me. Augie tried pushing on the gate and it opened about 6 inches.

The next thing I knew Augie forced his way through that narrow opening and was coming after me.

Our sentry dogs were trained that everyone but the handler was the enemy.

Joe had placed the key for the padlock on the bunker in the training area so he ran to get the key to

come out and help me.

As I was running away from Augie my mind went back to our training at Lackland dog school "Man runs 10 miles per hour – dog runs 35 miles per hour".

I heard Augie coming so I threw my left arm back to let him bite that. He did!

I raised my arm up with him hanging onto it and tried to choke him so he would let go. I couldn't get a good choke on him so I grabbed the side of his neck and raised him up so he would release to take another bite.

During this time Joe was trying to get the gate unlocked.

I was going to hold Augie by both sides of his neck until Joe could get there to help me but my left arm was useless, like having fallen to sleep on it.

Augie's skin that I was holding onto

was gradually slipping out of my grasp while he was fighting to get at me again.

When I knew he was almost loose I tried to throw him away from me. His hind legs hit and he sprang back up and bit my right arm.

Joe finally got to us and choked him off of me. Both of my arms were worthless for two weeks after the incident.

You know how people say they were screaming but nothing comes out. I thought I was screaming but guys in the building twenty feet away never heard it.

A couple years ago at one of our reunions Joe told me that when he put Augie back in his kennel he patted him and said "Good Boy" because he had done what he was trained to do.

When I got the film developed guess what the first picture I saw was - Augie!





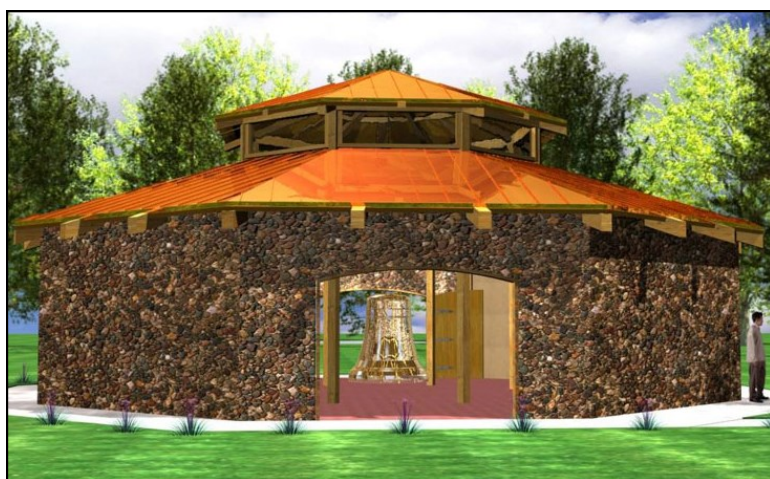
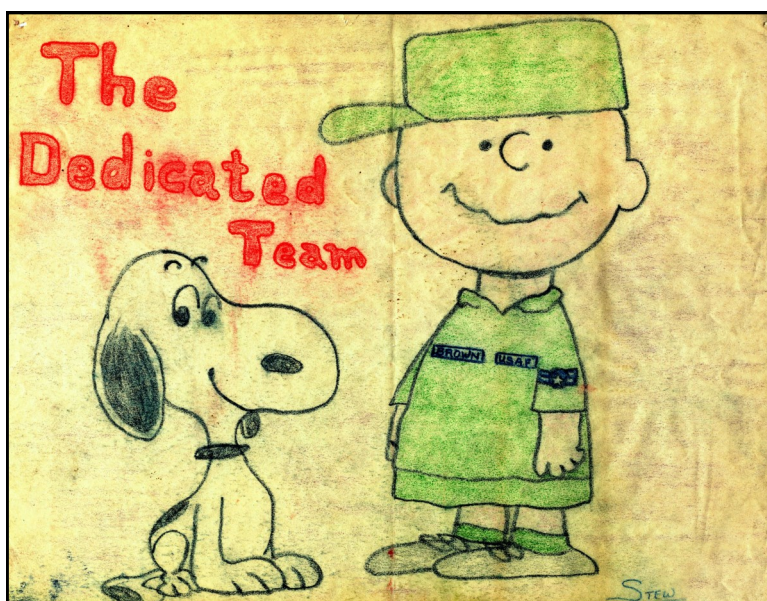
Joseph L. Richardson



Sentry Dog



James A. Stewart



Veterans Bell Memorial located in Montrose Township, MI
www.vetsbell.org

Saigon Attacked Data Base **Jan 07, 1964 – April 11, 1972**

Dec 24, 1964, The Brink Hotel in Saigon, also known as the Brink Bachelor Officers Quarters (BOQ), was bombed by the Viet Cong on the evening of December 24, 1964, during the Vietnam War. Two Viet Cong operatives detonated a car bomb underneath the hotel, which housed United States Army officers.

The explosion killed two Americans, an officer and an NCO, and injured approximately 60, including military personnel and Vietnamese civilians.

Mar 04, 1965, Thursday (Summary of MACV News event 1965.pdf) (Penley) US Embassy in Saigon damaged by VC explosives.

Jun 25, 1965, Friday (Summary of MACV News event 1965.pdf) (Penley) Two VC mines blast My Canh restaurant in Saigon.

Dec 04, 1965, Saturday (Summary of MACV News event 1965.pdf) (Penley) Terrorist bombing of the Metropole BEQ in Saigon. (Stars and Stripes Headline: Blast Rips GI Billet In Saigon, 10 Killed.)

Jan 06-07, 1966, Monday (Summary of MACV News event 1966.pdf) (Penley) A claymore mine explodes at Tan Son Nhut gate (entrance to Saigon airport), killing two persons and injuring 12.

Jan 22, 1966, Friday (Summary of MACV News event 1966.pdf) (Penley) Terrorists bombed army billet in Saigon.

Mar 11, 1966, Friday (Summary of MACV News event 1966.pdf) (Penley) Terrorists threw grenade into US Army truck in Saigon injuring 4 US and 3 Vietnamese.

Apr 01, 1966, Friday (Summary of MACV News event 1966.pdf) (Penley) At 0510 hrs, VC detonated est 450 pounds explosives at entrance Victorial BOQ in Saigon/Cholon. First three floors extensively damages, upper floors and surrounding buildings moderate damage. 6 killed (3 US, 3 VN) 116 wounded (107 US 3 Aus 6 VN).

Apr 11, 1966, Monday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) VC Hits Police With Mortars. (S&S .pdf dated April 14, 1966, Saigon)

Sep 04, 1966, Sunday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) VC Mine Kills 12 aboard Bus.

Oct 17, 1966, Monday (Summary of MACV News event 1966.pdf) (Penley) In Gia Dinh Province at 0630 hours, VC detonated claymore mine in front of KY Son BEQ in Saigon. 1 US Killed, 7 US wounded (all military) 1 Vietnamese civilian killed (woman) and 2 Vietnamese civilians wounded.

Oct 18, 1966, Tuesday (Summary of MACV News event 1966.pdf) (Penley) At 0625 hours near Tien BOQ near Tan Son Nhut, terrorist grenade explosion caused 5 US wounded (4 slight).

Dec 04, 1966, Sunday (Summary of MACV News event 1966.pdf) (Penley) In Saigon at 0455 hours, VC detonated explosive charge on roof PsyOps temporary quarters (former King Do (Capital) Theater) at 83 Le Van Suyet Street. Building was in use as office and quarters by 6th Psy-War-Opns-Bn. 12 US Injured. Heavy damage to building.

Dec 14, 1966, Wednesday (Summary of MACV News event 1966.pdf) (Penley) At 0920 hours, terrorist threw grenade into 2 ½ USA truck near 506 Ben Hom Tu Street in Cholon. 1 US wounded. Suspect apprehended by VN police.

Dec 03, 1966, Saturday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) Grenade Wounds 3 Viet Civilians, (Page 6) Saigon, Vietnam

Dec 05, 1966, Monday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 1) (Penley) "Jihn Do Building" adjacent to HQ U.S. Agency For International Development (AID) was bombed

Dec 06, 1966, Tuesday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 24) (Penley) Lodge Tours Bombed Billet; 'Can't Stop This Type of Attack', Saigon, Vietnam. It is the USAID HQ.

Dec 08, 1966, Thursday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 24) (Penley) High Viet Politician Killed by Gun Men, Saigon, Vietnam.

Dec 09, 1966, Friday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 24) (Penley) MPs Arrest Saigon Mayor, Saigon, Vietnam

Dec 11, 1966, Sunday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 1) (Penley) Viet Sentry Saves Span, Convoy, Saigon, Vietnam

Dec 11, 1966, Sunday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 24) (Penley) VC Attack Ammo Dump, Saigon, Vietnam

Dec 13, 1966, Tuesday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) Alert Guards Save Bridge, Saigon, Vietnam

Dec 15, 1966, Thursday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) VC Terrorists Toss Grenades, Saigon, Vietnam

Dec 16, 1966, Friday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) Saigon Serviceman Injured by Grenade, Saigon Vietnam. Grenade thrown into the back of a 2 ½ ton truck near the Capitol BEQ.

Dec 18, 1966, Sunday (Stars and stripes article, Page 6) (Penley)

Grenade Injures 4, Saigon, Vietnam. Unknown bar.

Dec 29, 1966, Thursday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) "Viet Politician Hurt By Bomb Placed in Auto.

Apr 1967 (Presidential Palace attacked .pdf) (Penley)

Jun 13, 1967 (Tuesday) (Stars and Stripes) Woman Terrorist shoots USAF Captain (Referenced from Jun 24th incident) (Penley)

Jun 24, 1967 (Saturday) (Stars and Stripes) (.pdf) Woman Terrorist shoots 5th Victim (Penley)

Jun 25, 1967 (S&S page 6, .pdf) Grenade injuries 30 At Busy Saigon Corner (Penley)

Jan 11, 1968 (S&S page 6, .pdf) VC Grenades Hurt 14 Police (Penley)

Jan 18, 1968, Thursday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 41) (Penley) Saigon. (Gia Dinh Providence) – Vietnamese civilian fired at USA Sgt riding motor scooter Cholon. MP's apprehended 3 suspects, turned over to National Police. No weapon found at time suspects detained.

Jan 31, 1968 (Tet Offensive)(Penley)

Feb 25, 1968 (S&S page 6 .pdf) ROK Embassy hit.

May 03, 1968, Friday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 308) (Penley) Terrorists explode a taxi loaded with explosives outside Saigon AFRTS studio, (Armed Forces Radio Television Studio) (3 civilians killed, 30 wounded (5 US).) Broadcast service momentarily disrupted.

May 05, 1968, Friday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 308) (Penley) VC infiltrators kill three Australian and one British newspapermen in Cholon, Saigon. First Secretary of the West German em-

bassy is also killed by VC in Saigon.

May 6, 1968 (S&S page 1 .pdf) Saigon Hit, Reds Shell Viet Cities (Penley)

May 03, 1968, Friday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 308) (Penley) Terrorists explode a taxi loaded with explosives outside Saigon AFRTS studios (3 civilians killed, 30 wounded (5 US).) Broadcast service momentarily disrupted.

May 07, 1968, Tuesday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 308) GVN imposes 24-hours curfew on Cholon section (6th, 7th and 8th precincts) of Saigon due to heavy fighting.

May 09, 1968 (S&S page 6 .pdf) Viet Police Colonel Slain by sniper (Penley)

May 09, 1968 (S&S page 24 .pdf) Reds Hit Saigon, Police Stations, Shell Downtown (Penley)

May 19, 1968, Sunday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 309) Enemy commences campaign of nightly rocket attacks against Saigon. 22 rockets land in Saigon, about 150 houses destroyed near Central Market. (3 Nation Police and 3 Civilians killed, 32 civilians and 1 US wounded.)

Jun 04, 1968, Tuesday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 13) (Penley) CMD (Gia Dinh Prov): 40 rounds of indirect fire received in CMD between 0102 hours and 0145 hours, 12 Vietnamese civilians wounded and 2 ships (SS Gretna Victory and SS Steel apprentice) received minor damage.

Jun 06, 1968, Thursday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 15) (Penley) CMD (Saigon): Last night and this morning 6 rounds unknown type ordnance impacted Saigon/Cholon. 11 Vietnamese civilians killed and 23 wounded.

Jun 06, 1968, Thursday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 15) (Penley) CMD (Saigon): At 1315 hours in Saigon, an estimated 200 pounds of C-4 explosive destroyed Chinese National Newspaper Building and damaged 2 other buildings. 5 Vietnamese civilians killed.

Jun 07, 1968, Friday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 16) (Penley) CMD (Saigon): At 0300 hours 13 rounds of indirect fire (believed to be rockets) impacted in Saigon. Results: 2 Vietnamese civilians Killed and 4 injured.

Jun 08, 1968, Saturday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 16) (Penley) CMD (Saigon): 22 rounds, believed to be 82mm mortars, hit southeast section of city and dock area. Casualty unknown.

Jun 09, 1968, Sunday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 17) (Penley) CMD (Gia Dinh Providence): At 0300 hours 3 rounds unknown mortars hit near Newport Bridge. No Casualty or damage.

Jun 09, 1968, Sunday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 17) (Penley) CMD (Saigon): 4 rounds unknown mortar hit near Cha Va Bridge at 2230 hours, injured 2 police.

Jun 10, 1968, Monday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 18) (Penley) CMD (Saigon): 10 rounds 122mm rockets hit Saigon from 0205 to 0210 hours. 7 Vietnamese civilians killed, 23 wounded.

Jun 11, 1968, Tuesday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 19) (Penley) CMD (Saigon): 25 rounds 122mm rockets impacted between 0615 – 0625 hours. 19 Vietnamese Killed, 67 wounded.

Jun 12, 1968, Wednesday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 20) (Penley) CMD (Saigon): Tan Son Nhut Air Base received 10 rounds 122mm rockets. Results: 2

US civilians Killed, 4 Vietnamese civilians Killed and 24 wounded. June 13, 1968, Thursday (S&S page 6, .pdf) Soldiers Rushed To Saigon After Heaviest Attack (Penley)

June 13, 1968, Thursday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 21) (Penley) CMD: (Saigon): At 0250 hours an estimated 20 rounds mortars impacted 3.5 miles north of Saigon. No casualty reported.

June 15, 1968, Saturday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 21) (Penley) CMD: (Gia Dinh Providence): At 0115 hours, 20 rounds of unidentified mortars impacted in SW portion of Saigon. 2 National Policemen and 3 Vietnamese civilians were wounded.

June 15, 1968, Saturday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 21) (Penley) CMD: (Gia Dinh Providence): At 1800 hours, 8 107mm rockets were located 7 mile east-northeast of Saigon by elements of 2nd Bde, 1st Inf Div. Earlier in afternoon, the marines discovered 39 rounds of 82mm mortar rounds, 4 rounds of 60mm mortar rounds and 10 rounds of RPG-2 rocket grenades in same area.

June 19, 1968, Wednesday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 26) (Penley) CMD: (HQ MACV): At 1415 hours a pallet of ammo exploded on a truck in Tan Son Nhut munitions area resulted in 1 US Army person killed and 3 US Army persons injured. One USAF person also slightly injured. Cause of explosion unknown. Truck was destroyed. Ambulance crossing runway to scene was hit by US Army U-21 aircraft on takeoff. Two USAF medics in ambulance killed. 5 US Army in Aircraft were injured (1 hospitalized. Aircraft and ambulance damaged extensively.

June 20, 1968, Thursday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 27) (Penley) CMD: (Saigon): At 2339 hours rounds of 122mm rock-

ets impacted in Gia Dinh on North edge of Saigon. One round landed on Tan Son Nhut Air Base. No US Casualty reported, 6 Vietnamese civilians were reported killed and 14 wounded.

June 21, 1968, Friday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 28) (Penley) CMD: (Saigon): At 0015 hours, 5 rounds 107mm rockets impacted on Tan Son Nhut Air Base at northern edge of Saigon. Reports of 10 rounds rocket fire received last night and this morning: 6 Vietnamese killed (Civilian), 14 wounded. No US Casualty reported. Damage at air base was negligible. One civilian house damaged. ARVN casualty light. Engaged fire fight 8 miles north of center of Saigon.

June 22, 1968, Saturday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 29) (Penley) CMD: (Saigon): At 0215 hours 8 rounds of indirect fire ordnance impacted in Saigon dock area 3 miles SE center of city. 6 rounds unknown type impacted in river and adjacent to river. 1 round hit British merchant ship, London Statesman, causing minor damage. 1 Vietnamese civilian in junk next to ship was killed. 1 rounds, a dud, also landed on ship. Round identified as 105mm Howitzer shell. Origin of fire unknown.

Jun 24, 1968, (S&S page 6 .pdf) Three police wounded (Cholon) (Penley)

Jul 21, 1968, Sunday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 311) VC terrorists kill 5 civilians and injuries 55 civilians by a blast set off in the Quoc-Than Theatre, newer National Police HQ, Saigon. Four others killed and 41 wounded as VC terrorists set off charge in a restaurant on Vo Tanh Street, 2nd Precinct, Saigon.

Jul 26, 1968, (Summary of MACV News event 1964 - 1968.pdf) (Penley) Four VC terrorists blow up Chinese Achan (Daily News) building in Cholon, Gia Dinh Province at

1315 hours, after evacuating employees. Building destroyed.

Aug 09, 1968, Friday (HQ USMACV Monthly Summary.pdf page 312) VC terrorist tosses grenade into MP jeep in downtown Saigon, killing one and wounding one in 3rd precinct. Terrorist escapes.

Aug 22, 1968, 1968, Thursday, (Summary of MACV News event 1968.pdf) (Penley) After a two month lull, enemy 122mm rockets hit Saigon. Ten fell in the downtown area, six in Cholon, three along the docks (17 civilians killed, 69 civilians wounded). National Assembly building roof is hit, moderate damage.

Sep 03, 1968, Tuesday (Summary of MACV News event 1968.pdf) (Penley) VC terrorists explode a grenade in front of USAID HQ on Le Van Duyet Street in downtown Saigon, wounding 7 civilians. Another grenade wounds 8 civilians in Saigon doc area.

Sep 09, 1968, Monday (Summary of MACV News event 1968.pdf) (Penley) VC terrorists set off a 75 pound charge at GVN Information Office in Saigon's VI Precinct at 2030, destroying the building and killing 9 civilians and wounding 55.

Sep 25, 1968, Saturday (Summary of MACV News event 1968.pdf) (Penley) Enemy terrorists explode a 1/2 pound TNT charge in parking area, adjacent to Cholon (COFAT) PX, Saigon during normally busy Saturday afternoon shopping period. 3 vehicles damaged, no personnel injured.

Oct 31, 1968, Thursday (Summary of MACV News event 1968.pdf) (Penley) Between 2125 hours and 3130 hours eight rockets (122mm and 107mm) impact in city of Saigon. Four were duds and didn't explode on impact.

Nov 01, 1968, Friday (Summary of MACV News event 1968.pdf) (Penley) Five enemy rockets hit Tan Son Nhut Air Base, causing light damage. First rocket attack on TSN since June. Six rockets hit the southern portion of Saigon; one hitting a Catholic Church on Khanh Hoi Island, killing 21 Vietnamese civilians and wounding 64.

Dec 28, 1968, Saturday (Stars and Stripes Article) (Penley) Grenade Attack on MPs, Patrol's Dawn Is Up Like Thunder, Saigon, Vietnam

Jan 09, 1969, Thursday (Stars and Stripes Article) (Penley) Women Raid House, Saigon, Vietnam.

Jan 23, 1969, Thursday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) VC Shell Bases, Attack BOQ's In Night Of Terror, Saigon, Vietnam. (Annapolis BOQ and Missouri BOQ)

Jul 03, 1969, Wednesday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) 2 MP's Killed, responded to the Ivory Tower nightclub where a disturbance was. An ARVN Lt Col shot and killed them.

Oct 22, 1969, Wednesday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 24) (Penley) Blasts, Fire Rip USO in Saigon, Saigon, Vietnam.

Feb 10, 1970, Tuesday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) Bomb Shatters Viet Press Office, Saigon, Vietnam.

May 06, 1970, Wednesday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) Bus Hits Mine; 13 Viets Killed, Saigon, Vietnam

May 14, 1970, Thursday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) 3 Red Rockets Shake Up Saigon, Saigon, Vietnam.

May 15, 1970, Friday (Stars and Stripes article, Page 6) (Penley) Terrorists Strike Twice, Saigon, Vietnam. (Louisiana BEQ and Cholon.)

Jun 04, 1970, Thursday (Richard Carvell) – Machine gun attack; 2 Vietnamese civilians killed.

Jun 20, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – Police station fire bombed; no casualties.

Jun 21, 1970, Sunday (Richard Carvell) – Grenade thrown into a bar on Plantation Road (a bar which was off-limits to American servicemen) just outside the Tan Son Nhut west gate; no casualties.

Jun 22, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Grenade thrown into the USO (one of two attacks on the USO during my Vietnam tour, but I visited the USO infrequently); one Vietnamese civilian wounded.

The Stars & Stripes Vietnam Bureau reported about the grenade thrown into the USO in the last paragraph of a longer story about casualties and terrorist attacks. Part of the story dealing with events outside of Saigon is deleted.

Jun 29, 1970, Thursday (Stars and Stripes article, page 6) (Penley) BEQ Blast Injures 5 In Saigon, Saigon, Vietnam. (Le Lai BEQ)

Jul 03, 1970 (.pdf)(Penley) Sabotage Attack On the Rex BOQ, Saigon, Vietnam.

Jul 06, 1970, Monday (Stars and Stripes article, page 6) (Penley) Bus hits VC Mine, Saigon, Vietnam.

Jul 09, 1970 Thursday (Stars and Stripes article, page 6) (Penley) Saigon Sentry Kills 2 In Grenade Incident. Took place adjacent Brinks Hotel.

Jul 13, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Grenade thrown at the automobile of the General Secretary of Vietnam's Lower House; the General Secretary was not in the vehicle; two Vietnamese civilians wounded.

The Associated Press later reported:

Jul 13, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Rocket struck a boat; one Vietnamese civilian wounded.

Jul 16, 1970, Monday (Stars and Stripes article, page 7) (Penley) Assassins Miss Viet Assemblyman (Richard Carvell)

Saigon (AP) – A grenade exploded Monday under the car of Pham Duy Tue, secretary-general of the Vietnamese National Assembly's lower house, wounding a guard and a main. Tue was not in the car.

The 29-year-old representative said he was upstairs in his Saigon apartment at about 7:45 a.m. preparing to go to his downtown office when he heard the explosion, looked out and saw a cloud of smoke rising from the car.

He ran to the car, Tue said, and found the guard and a maid bleeding from head wounds. The maid was reported seriously injured, but the guard suffered only minor shrapnel wounds. The guard was inside the car and had just started the engine.

Tue said the U.S.-made M26 fragmentation grenade apparently had been placed in a box under the front of the car during the night and rigged to go off when the car moved.

Tue said government self-defense force troops were on duty all night at a guard post just outside the driveway, and he did not know how anyone managed to get to the car.

Tue, a representative of Gia Dinh Province just outside Saigon, is the third youngest member of the lower house.

He was considered a strongly pro-government politician until the House recently began debating a

broad economic and fiscal reform package that Tue has opposed.

Asked if he knew who was trying to kill him, the secretary-general laughed and said, "I have no idea, but I had a feeling recently that something like this might happen."

Jul 20, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Rocket struck a house; no casualties. Suspected rocket launch point: 953-858 on map.

Jul 20, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – (201R) [H-9] – Rocket landed in the fish pond in front of the Vietnamese Presidential Palace; no human casualties.

The AP reported:

Jul 21, 1970, Tuesday (Richard Carvell) (Stars and Stripes article) 2 Rockets Hit Saigon (Richard Carvell)

SAIGON (AP) – Two 122mm rockets smashed into downtown Saigon early Monday, causing some damage but apparently no casualties. One of the Communist-made, 100-pound rockets went through the roof of a three-story apartment one block from the Central Market.

Several persons were sleeping in the building but none was hurt. There was no immediate word on where the second rocket landed. It was possible it came down in the Saigon River, a few blocks away from the first.

Jul 24, 1970, Thursday (Stars and Stripes article, page 6) (Penley) Viets Kill 49; USO Bombed (Richard Carvell) (Tan Son Nhut USO outside the main gate.)

SAIGON – Elements of the Vietnamese 21st Inf. Div. killed 49 enemy soldiers in two IV Corps battles Monday, as ARVN spokesman reported.

Two terrorist incidents were reported in the Saigon area Sunday and Monday.

An explosive device went off at a Plantation Road bar Sunday night, causing light damage. There were no injuries, an ARVN military spokesman said. A hand grenade exploded in the kitchen of the Tan Son Nhut USO Monday night, slightly injuring a kitchen helper. Damage was light, a USO spokesman said....

Jul 26, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – Two pounds of plastic explosives detonated; no casualties; one pound of explosives found in the same area and disarmed.

Jul 27, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – In Saigon at 2200H, a VN Security Guard observed a terrorist loitering across from the main gate of the Hienn Young Motor Pool for U.S. buses at the intersection of Nguyen Dinh Chieu and Truong Minh Giang Streets (XS 848 921), 4.3 kilometers southeast of the Tan Son Nhut main gate. When challenged, the terrorist fled with the guard in pursuit, and dropped a grenade which detonated, slightly wounding the guard. U.S. EOD located an unexploded M-26 grenade opposite the motor pool during their investigation. The terrorist escaped. (CMAC TOC)

Jul 31, 1970, Friday (Richard Carvell) – Fifty pounds of explosives detonated on a Honda motorcycle at the Ky Son BEQ (Bachelor Enlisted Quarters); one American wounded. Three floors heavily damaged; two Vietnamese tailor shops damaged; three vehicles damaged; two Honda motorcycles destroyed. Terrorist escaped.

Aug 02, 1970, Friday (Richard Carvell) - Stars & Stripes reported: (Richard Carvell)

Blast, Fire Rip Ky Son BEQ in Saigon

By SPEC 5 CHARLES C. SELF
S&S Staff Correspondent

SAIGON – A 45-pound explosive ripped open a fuel tank outside the Ky Son enlisted men's quarters in downtown Saigon Friday night setting off a fire that swept through the bottom floor and caused the evacuation of the building.

No injuries were reported in the explosion or fire although a security guard standing near the generator was reportedly knocked into the street by the blast.

Lights in several nearby U.S. buildings blinked as the explosion destroyed a generator at the BEQ. The Plaza Hotel, Ky Son Annex and Dai Nam Theater also lost their electricity.

A civilian engineer setting up a new generator after the explosion explained that the charge had apparently been placed next to a 600-gallon fuel tank serving the generator.

When the bomb went off, it caused the fuel tank to explode – breaking windows on the first three floors of the building. The first that followed swept the ground floor and caused some damage to the second floor.

Residents of the nine-story building said dense smoke poured into the upper floors forcing residents, some still in night clothes, to leap to the roofs of adjoining buildings or grope through the darkened halls to stairways leading to the roof.

Two automobiles in front of the building were gutted by fire, and a third was damaged.

Officials said the men would be housed in other billets until the damage could be repaired.

“Everyone acted pretty good,” one man said. “Everybody kept their cool. The guys who were in charge really did a good job. They had gas masks and flashlights and helped everybody get out pretty smoothly.”

The next day, August 3, this short article appeared in Stars & Stripes updating the bombing:

Aug 02, 1970, Friday (Richard Carvell) - 4 Hurt in Blast At Ky Son BEQ (Richard Carvell)
S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – The enemy terrorist bombing of the Ky Son BEQ in Saigon Friday night left four persons injured – two Vietnamese civilians and two U.S. personnel – according to the U.S. Command.

The U.S. wounded were treated at a dispensary and released, spokesmen said.

The 30- to 40-pound plastic charge, that ripped through a generator fuel tank and did moderate damage to the nine-story building, was placed by “an undetermined number of enemy terrorists,” the command reported Saturday.

Aug 12, 1970, Wednesday (Richard Carvell) – Two terrorists fired on a Vietnamese National Policeman and a Vietnamese civilian, wounding both. Terrorists escaped.

Aug 17, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Three cakes of TNT detonated under a restaurant table; 19 wounded (12 Vietnamese civilians and seven Vietnamese National Policemen).

Stars & Stripes reported:

Blast in Shop Wounds 19 (Richard Carvell) S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – Nineteen people, including four National Policemen, were wounded early Monday morning in an apparent terrorist explosion that

ripped apart a coffee shop in the Cholon section of Saigon, a National Police spokesman said Monday.

Aug 28, 1970, Friday (Richard Carvell) – Hand grenade thrown at passing ambulance; no casualties. Terrorist escaped.

Sep 12, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – Thirty-five pounds of plastic explosives detonated near Vietnam Regional Exchange Office at 489 Retrus Ky Street; two Vietnamese civilians wounded; two Vietnamese houses damaged; one Vietnamese auto damaged; no damage to the Vietnam Regional Exchange Office.

Sep 12, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) Stars & Stripes reported:

Blast Wounds 2 (Richard Carvell)

SAIGON (S&S) – Two persons were wounded Saturday by an explosive charge detonated in front of a house in Saigon, a government source reported. One house was heavily damaged, and other house and an automobile parked nearby were slightly damaged.

Oct 29, 1970, Thursday (Richard Carvell) – (302) (K-9) – Plastic explosives with ball bearings detonated at a Vietnamese house; one Vietnamese civilian wounded; house 50 percent destroyed.

Nov 1, 1970, Sunday (Richard Carvell) – Explosive at PDSF Office; two PDSF wounded.

Nov 2, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Four 122 mm rockets were launched on Saigon on this date. At this impact site, two houses were damaged by the rocket rounds. The rocket impact area was five to six kilometers southeast of the Tan Son Nhut main gate.

Nov 2, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – One Vietnamese child killed; 11 Vietnamese civilians wounded; three houses damaged.

Nov 2, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Two Vietnamese civilians wounded.

Nov 2, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Five Vietnamese civilians killed, two Vietnamese civilians wounded; three houses destroyed. Suspect launch site of all rockets XS 962-835.

Army artillery engaged fire against the suspected launch site (XS 962 835) with unknown results. (TACC SECURITY/MACV)

The Stars & Stripes story came from both AP and S&S sources. Stars & Stripes reported in its initial story that there were three rockets, but the next day, the number was increased to four.

Reds Drop 3 Rockets on Saigon, 5 Killed (Richard Carvell)
Compiled From AP and S&S

SAIGON – Viet Cong gunners shelled Saigon Monday for the first time in 3 ½ months, killing five Vietnamese, wounding five others and destroying a half dozen houses.

The rocket attack appeared timed to coincide with South Vietnam’s National Day, celebrated only hours earlier and the U.S. Congressional elections Tuesday.

Three 100-pound missiles crashed into the capital shortly after midnight.

One of the missiles blew out the entire front of a third floor apartment building near the central market, about five blocks from Independence Palace. The rocket shattered windows in a block wide area. Many Americans live in the area, but none were reported hurt.

A second rocket hit across the Saigon River on the eastern edge of the city, near the Vietnamese Navy headquarters, and the third rocket hit two blocks from the central mar-

ket, near the Alaska Barge Company, but there were no casualties.

Nov 12, 1970, Thursday (Richard Carvell) – Grenade thrown at the front door of the Saigon USO (second USO attack during my tour); no casualties and only minor damage.

Nov 16, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Arms cache discovered near Tan Son Nhut Air Base.

Nov 22, 1970, Sunday (Richard Carvell) – Arms cache discovered near Tan Son Nhut Air Base.

Nov 24, 1970, Tuesday (Richard Carvell) – Arms cache discovered near Tan Son Nhut Air Base.

Nov 25, 1970, Wednesday (Richard Carvell) – Three to four pounds of explosive detonated in rear of bookstore; three Vietnamese civilians wounded.

Nov 27, 1970, Friday (Richard Carvell) – Arms cache discovered near Tan Son Nhut Air Base.

Nov 28, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – In Saigon at 1935H, three unidentified persons on two Hondas stopped at a tax office at #105 Phung Hung St. (XS 816 885) 5.3 km south of Tan Son Nhut. While two of the terrorists held a NPF guard, the other terrorist placed and detonated an estimated two kilos of explosive inside the building. There was 55 percent damage to the inside of the building, however no casualties resulted. The terrorists escaped and the incident is under National Police investigation. (HAC/CMAC/MACV)

Dec 12, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – Two students on a motor bike threw a fire bomb at a Scout vehicle; no casualties; vehicle destroyed.

Dec 13, 1970, Sunday (Richard Carvell) – Five students threw a fire bomb at a U.S. jeep; one U.S. mili-

tary injured (burned); jeep 20 percent destroyed.

Dec 15, 1970, Tuesday (Richard Carvell) – Thirty-three pounds of TNT exploded on the steps of U.S. Army Le Qui Don BOQ (Bachelor Officer Quarters); two Vietnamese civilians wounded; 50 percent damage to building.

Here is the Stars & Stripes report of the attack: (Richard Carvell)

Satchel Charge Rips Saigon Officer Billet
By SPEC. 4 John Durham
S&S Staff Correspondent

SAIGON – Terrorists exploded a satchel charge at an American officers' billet two blocks from the presidential palace in downtown Saigon Tuesday night, slightly injuring two GIs and destroying an American jeep.

The blast ripped off a balcony and damaged rooms on six floors of the building. The jeep, which had been parked inside the compound, was blown across the street.

Stagg Sgt. Bernard Strawn, hotel supervisor of the Le Qui Don BOQ, said the two Americans who were injured were at a party in a room close to where the charge was set. He said one man received a bump on his arm when he was knocked across the room. The other was slightly cut by flying glass or concrete, he said.

A young Vietnamese boy walking by the BOQ at the time the charge went off was tossed across the street and wrapped in a section of fence, according to Spec. 4 Randy C. Shreves, one of the first MPs on the scene. The boy was slightly injured, according to a U.S. Command spokesman.

Shreves, who was cruising in the area before the blast, said he heard a smaller charge which "sounded like a hand grenade" before the satchel charge blew.

A Vietnamese woman, peddling soft drinks and beer from a push cart no more than 30 feet from the explosion, was unhurt, according to witnesses.

"I was standing up and was rocked by the explosion," Strawn said. "I grabbed my rifle and went outside." Strawn said there were no serious injuries because almost everyone on that side of the building had gone to eat when the blast went off at 7:05 p.m.

Dec 17, 1970, Thursday (Richard Carvell) – Grenade exploded in open-air bar; one U.S. Navy man and one Vietnamese civilian killed; 12 Vietnamese civilians wounded.

Dec 17, 1970, Thursday (Richard Carvell) – Thirty-five pounds of explosives detonated; one U.S. military killed, one Vietnamese civilian and one U.S. military wounded.

Dec 19, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – Rocket attack; six Vietnamese civilians killed; seven Vietnamese civilians wounded; one house destroyed, two damaged.

Dec 19, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – Rocket hit filling station two blocks from the U.S. Embassy; 1 Vietnamese civilian wounded.

Dec 19, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – Plastic explosive detonated at Vietnamese newspaper office; four Vietnamese civilians wounded.

Dec 19, 1970, Saturday (Stars and Stripes article) (Penley) S. Viet Assemblyman Killed.

Dec 21, 1970, Monday (Richard Carvell) – Two pounds of TNT detonated at railroad station; no casualties.

Dec 26, 1970, Saturday (Richard Carvell) – Explosion destroyed two generators at Merlin BEQ (Bachelor Enlisted Quarters); resulting fire destroyed 70 shacks of Vietnamese disabled veterans; two Vietnamese

civilians killed; 12 Vietnamese civilians wounded.

Apr 8, 1971, Thursday (Richard Carvell) – Forty pound plastic explosive device detonated; one U.S. military, one Vietnamese civilian killed; 12 Vietnamese civilians wounded.

Bomb Kills GI In Saigon Bar (Richard Carvell)
By SPEC. 4 John Durham and
SPEC. 4 Larry McQuillan
S&S Staff Correspondents

SAIGON – A terrorist bomb ripped apart a downtown Saigon bar Thursday night, killing a GI and a young Vietnamese woman and injuring at least a dozen persons.

Sources at the scene said the charge was a 40-pound plastic device, and it scattered bricks and plaster at least a block away. The explosion shook buildings as far as four blocks from the bar, situated one block off Tu Do Street in a popular entertainment area.

At least 55 U.S. servicemen were in the CBC bar at the time of the explosion, according to Air Force Sgt. Steven V. Shearer, who was sitting close to the wall where the bomb was planted.

It was the first attack against Americans in Saigon since terrorists blasted two American billets in mid-December.

Shearer, who crawled under rubble to help pull wounded Americans out of the bar, said the place had one of the best rock and roll bands in Saigon. Psychedelic posters covered two of the walls that were still standing.

Military police radio reports at the scene described the CBC bar as completely destroyed and said a restaurant next door had been extensively damaged.

A tanker truck parked on the street next to the bar was not damaged. Shortly after the explosion at 9:10 p.m. a few round of small arms fire were heard close to the scene. A sailor who went outside after the detonation said he saw a South Vietnamese soldier shooting at a man running down the street.

Vietnamese and American military personnel cordoned off the area immediately after the blast and searched nearby buildings and vehicles for other explosives. At least four ambulances screamed away from the bar carrying wounded to civilian and military hospitals.

Rescue teams, working under searchlights, picked their way through the rubble for more than one hour.

The bar, which reportedly could accommodate more than 100 persons, is on the corner of Phan Van Dat and He Linh streets, which faces Saigon's waterfront. The block houses night club spots catering to Americans.

Apr 11, 1972, (Stars and Stripes article) (Bob Laymon) In the Saigon area, a lone Viet Cong sapper slipped into a South Vietnamese ammunition dump eight miles east of the capital before dawn and set off explosive charge. The blast destroyed 25 per cent of the ammunition stores and shook buildings in Saigon. The sapper was killed, and one South Vietnamese soldier was wounded.



If you have a good, short story (two to three pages at the most), then please write it and send it to Charles Penley.

It is your history and all of our histories that we are trying to preserve.

A good photograph of yourself or other photographs that would be appropriate for that story would be appreciated.

Thank you for your service to our country.

