

It's 'Play Ball' Time Again—P. 17



Vice President Hubert Humphrey, substituting for President Johnson, rears back to hurl the first pitch of the 1968 baseball season in Washington Wednesday. The vice president then rooted for the Minnesota Twins who shut out the Washington Senators 2-0 on Dean Chance's 4-hitter. (AP Radiophoto)

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Abrams Named Viet Commander

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson Wednesday named Gen. Creighton W. Abrams to replace Gen. William C. Westmoreland as U.S. commander in Vietnam.

Adm. John S. McCain Jr., commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe for the past year, will succeed Adm. U.S. Grant Sharp Jr. as commander of U.S. Forces in the Pacific. Sharp is retiring July 2.

Abrams will be succeeded as deputy U.S. commander in Vietnam by Lt. Gen. Andrew J. Goodpaster, chief of the Army War College and a former aide to President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Johnson told a news conference that all appointments had been recommended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Defense Secretary Clark M. Clifford.

The Abrams appointment was no surprise in a year that has been full of them. The former World War II tank commander in Europe under Gen. George S. Patton conferred with the President at the White House recently after Johnson had nominated Westmoreland to be Army chief of staff starting July 2.

There was some speculation previously that Abrams might have taken Sharp's command, although it had traditionally been held by an admiral.

In nominating Goodpaster to succeed Abrams, the President also will nominate him for promotion from lieutenant general to full general. Goodpaster now is commandant of the National War College. (Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)

Allies Launch Biggest Thrust

By SPEC. 5 RAY BELFORD
S&S Staff Correspondent

SAIGON—The U.S. Command announced Wednesday that more than 90 U.S., Vietnamese and allied battalions kicked off the largest operation of the war Monday.

The new operation, called Toan Thang or "Complete Victory," takes in all 11 provinces in the III Corps tactical zone plus the Saigon special military zone.

Military spokesmen say the operation is nearly twice as large as the massive Operation Quyet Thang which ended Sunday. In that operation, more than 50,000 U.S. and allied soldiers killed 2,658 Communists in Saigon and five surrounding provinces during 27 days of almost continuous fighting.

Operation Toan Thang involves all troops in the III Corps area and is being directed by a centralized coordinated command at the Vietnamese III Corps Headquarters and at its counterpart, II Field Force Vietnam, the spokesman said.

The operation is "oriented to the elimination of enemy forces

throughout the 11 provinces in III Corps tactical zone," the announcement said.

The provinces included are: Tay Ninh, Binh Long, Phuoc Long, Long Khanh, Binh Tuy, Phuoc Tuy, Bien Hoa, Long An, Gia Dinh, Hau Nghia and Binh Duong.

Allied units taking part in the operation are the U.S. 1st, 25th and 9th Inf. Divs., the 3rd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Div., the 199th Light Inf. Brigade, the 11th Armored Cav. Regt., the 1st Australian Task Force and the Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regt. These units are under the operational control of II Field Force Vietnam.

Under the control of III Corps Headquarters are the Vietnamese 5th, 18th and 25th Divs., 5th Ranger Group, Vietnamese Airborne troops, Marines, Regional (Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)

Civil Rights Bill OK'd, Sent to LBJ

WASHINGTON (UPI)—In a capital tense because of national racial disorder, the House Wednesday passed a bill outlawing discrimination in most of America's housing. It also makes such acts as the murder of Martin Luther King a federal crime.

The bill was adopted by a vote of 250 to 171 and sent to President Johnson for his approval, considered certain since he asked Congress for the legislation two years ago. Minutes earlier, by a key vote of 229-195, the House defeated a

final attempt to sidetrack the measure.

By 1970, when the full force of the legislation is felt, discrimination in the sale or rental of four out of every five homes in America will be illegal. Initially it affects only federally-aided housing.

Opponents charged Congress was buckling to the pressure of rioters in passing the measure.

"If this bill passes, I suggest that the American flag be flown at half-staff in mourning for this once great House of Representatives." (Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)

Ferry Sinks; 150 Feared Dead

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (UPI) — A giant ferry designed originally as a troop ship foundered at the entrance of Wellington Harbor Wednesday when typhoon winds smashed her into a reef.

At least 45 persons were known dead, but many of the 744 aboard were saved by a Dunkirk-like flotilla of small boats. It was feared the death toll would reach 150.

Police reported at 2 a.m. Thursday that 45 bodies had been recovered and 101 survivors were hospitalized.

The sea-going car-passenger ferry Wahine foundered during a storm with winds up to 125 m.p.h.

Most of those aboard were rescued by small boats which braved the raging seas to pick

Photos on Pages 12, 13

up men, women and children who leaped or were hurled into the icy waters when the Wahine heeled over near treacherous Barrett's Reef.

The storm wrought heavy damage in Wellington and nearby areas.

Prime Minister Keith Holyoake declared a state of emergency.

The Wahine was on a regular run across Cook Strait from Lyttelton on New Zealand's south island to Wellington on the southern tip of the north island with 614 passengers and 130 crewmen.

Just outside the harbor entrance, the 490-foot Wahine crashed into the reefs. Holed at the waterline, it wrenched loose and a tug put a line aboard.

But the line snapped in the (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

Rusk to Undergo Hospital Checkup

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Dean Rusk is entering Walter Reed Hospital for a checkup, the State Department announced late Wednesday.

Press Officer Robert J. McCloskey said Rusk, 59, will be in the hospital for two or three days. Papers requiring his attention will be delivered to him periodically.

Stocks Top Mark Again

NEW YORK (AP) — Trading volume on the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday shot to 20.41 million shares—the third record in seven sessions.

The total topped the previous mark of 19.29 million shares on April 3. On April 1, 17.73 million shares changed hands, exceeding the record of 16.41 million that had stood since Oct. 29, 1929, the day of the historic market crash.

The Dow Jones average of 36 industrials closed with a gain of 8.21 points at 892.63 after having been ahead more than 15 points.

Details on Page 8.

Meet No Resistance

U.S. Troops Retake Lang Vei Camp

LANG VEI, Vietnam (AP)—U.S. air cavalry troopers moved Wednesday into the Lang Vei Special Forces camp overrun by North Vietnamese early in the siege of Khe Sanh.

Two companies from the 1st Air Cavalry Division met no resistance when they walked into the camp. They had come under enemy artillery and mortar fire earlier in the day as they worked their way from a nearby mountain peak to Lang Vei.

Inside the camp were the bodies of Americans, South Vietnamese irregulars and the enemy. No one was sure how many bodies would be found in the area.

The body of one American was found in a bunker, the body of another in a smashed Jeep. They could be identified only by dog tags.

Lang Vei is three miles west of Khe Sanh, four miles east of the border of Laos and about 20 miles south of the Demilitarized Zone.

It was overrun in vicious fighting Feb. 7. In their assault,

SAIGON (UPI) — It was so quiet Wednesday at Khe Sanh that American troops there were playing baseball. Dispatches said no Communist shells had hit the base in 48 hours and Marines and 1st Air Cav. Div. troops got in some spring training.

the North Vietnamese used tanks for the first known time in the Vietnam war.

Nine Soviet-made tanks rumbled in over the bunkers of the camp and the U.S. "Green Berets" called in artillery fire on top of their own defenses in a desperate attempt to beat back the attack. Five of the tanks were destroyed.

There were more than 300 persons in the camp when the North Vietnamese launched the attack. Of 24 "Green Beret" Special Forces men, 15 made it to safety. More than 100 Vietnamese and Montagnard irregulars also made their way back through enemy lines.

The camp gave silent testimony to the bitterness of the battle more than two months ago. Only one concrete bunker appeared to have escaped destruction. The others were battered by artillery and bombs.

Bits of paper littered the ground. There were letters, government saving bonds, insurance policies and bank statements.

Large stocks of ammunition and weapons belonging to the defenders also were found.

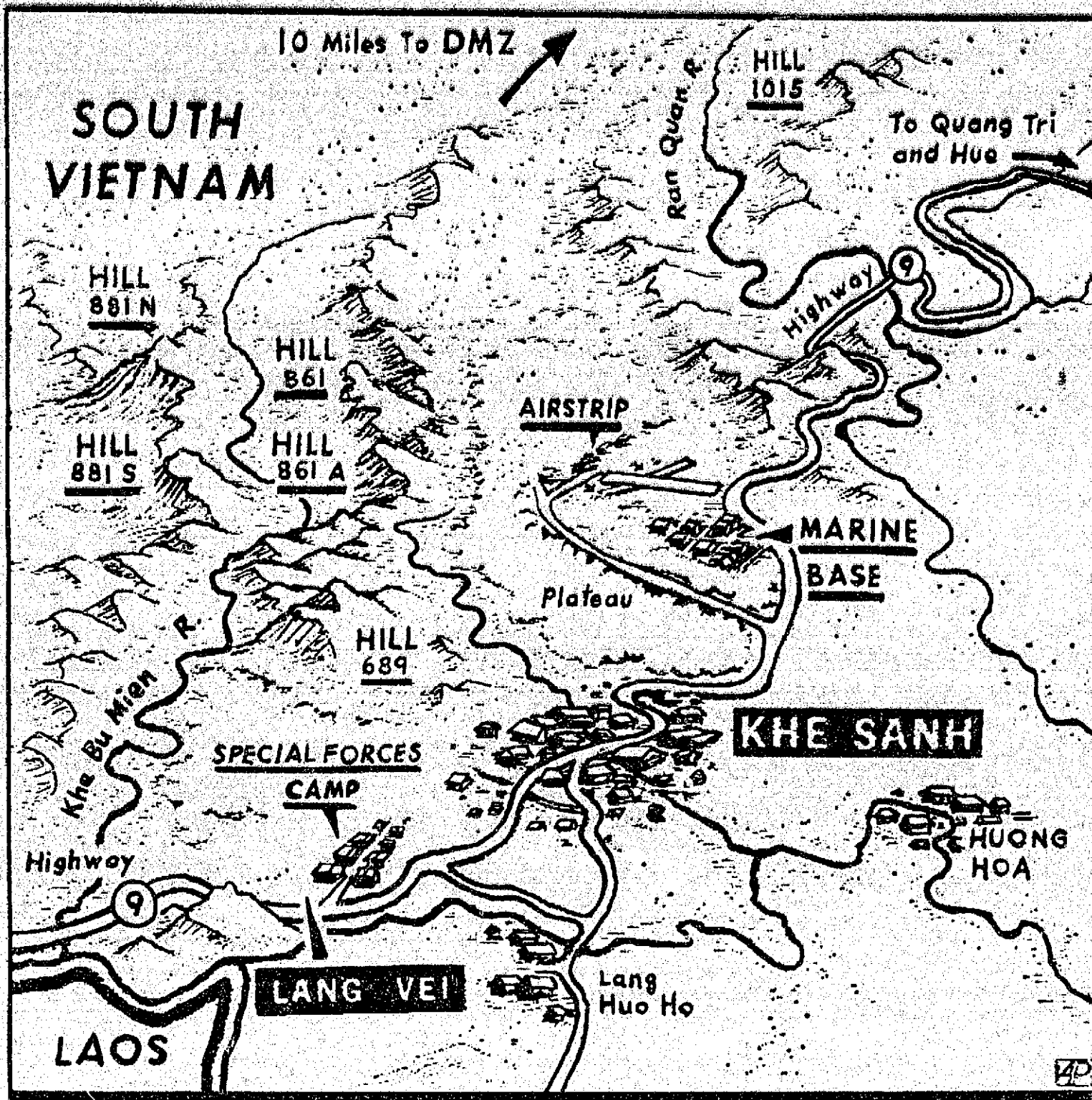
Senator Found In Mass Grave

HUE, Vietnam (UPI) — The body of National Sen. Tran Dien, 55, was found in a mass grave near Hue, government authorities said Wednesday.

Dien, one of five senators elected to the National Assembly from Hue, had been missing since the Tet offensive, but his whereabouts remained a mystery until his body was uncovered Tuesday.

Officials returning from the grave site one mile east of the city limits reported 30 to 40 bodies have been uncovered.

The 55-year-old senator, a professor at Hue University, had spent five years in jail during the Diem Regime.



S. Viet House Gets Measure Asking General Mobilization

SAIGON (AP) — President Nguyen Van Thieu said Wednesday he had sent a bill calling for "general mobilization of South Vietnam's manpower and resources" to the House of Representatives and called for urgent passage of the measure.

In a speech before a joint session of South Vietnam's House and Senate, Thieu did not outline the provisions of the general mobilization, but informed sources have said it will widen the draft age from 18 to 40 and above in some cases, as well as recall most reservists and veterans.

General mobilization presumably also would include drastic economic measures.

Thieu told the joint legislative session, "while preparing for peace we must increase our fighting potential more than ever. The Communists will only accept peace talks when they are aware of our strength and when they know they cannot win."

General mobilization would be over and above the 135,000-man increase in South Vietnam's armed forces by the end of this year, already announced. It could bring the total number of men under government arms to more than one million, giving South Vietnam one of the biggest armies in the world.

VC Kill 577 Civilians

SAIGON (AP) — Viet Cong terrorism continued strong in March with a total of 577 civilians killed and 1,180 wounded, government officials claimed.

Thieu also said the cessation of the bombing of the North, in efforts to bring about peace talks, was "a calculated risk in the search for peace." He said the upcoming meetings between the United States and North Vietnam, "are not peace talks. They are only exploratory talks to determine if conditions exist for possible peace talks."

Thieu said "no substantive issues" would be discussed by

the U.S. and North Vietnamese representatives. He added that the two governments could make no decisions "without prior consultations with us."

Thieu warned that the pause in the bombing of the North will allow North Vietnam to infiltrate more men and supplies into the South. "With less hindrance, they will try another offensive under the pretext that the talks have bogged down," Thieu said.

Casualties in Vietnam

WASHINGTON (S&S) — The Defense Department has announced the following casualties in connection with the conflict in Vietnam.

- KILLED IN ACTION**
- Army**
- Sgt. Leslie A. Ball, Napa, Calif.
 - Cpl. Rodolfo C. Serrano, Soledad, Calif.
 - Pfc. Gerard A. Lavigne, Hobe Sound, Fla.
 - Cpl. Joseph B. Kube, Columbus, Ga.
 - Pfc. Ricky L. Richards, Jasonville, Ind.
 - SSgt. David A. Brenner, Parsons, Kan.
 - Cpl. Curtis A. Rhodes, Swanton, Md.
 - 1Lt. David R. Wilson, Kalamazoo, Mich.
 - Cpl. John C. Bonney, Jackson, Mich.
 - Cpl. James Streach Jr., Kalamazoo, Mich.
 - SP4 Robert H. Rassel, Wauton, Minn.
 - Cpl. Albert Shiller, Alpha, N.J.
 - Pfc. George J. Kohlmeier III, Binghamton, N.Y.
 - Cpl. John H. Blalock, Fayetteville, N.C.
 - Sgt. Robert E. Floyd, Bradford, Ohio.
 - 1st Lt. Ingo J. Wiskow, Columbus, Ohio.
 - SP4 Roy D. Elston Jr., Toledo, Ohio.
 - Cpl. Clifford L. Williams, Akron, Ohio.
 - SP4 Michael L. Sloan, Big Cabin, Okla.
 - Pfc. John E. Black, Idabel, Okla.
 - Sgt. Robert A. Mowery, Lancaster, Pa.
 - SSG Joe T. Kenmerling, Dyersburg, Tenn.
 - Pfc. Rafael Martinez, Edinburg, Tex.
 - SP4 Bruce L. Badger, Danville, Va.
 - SP4 Charles E. Shaw, Abingdon, Va.
 - Pfc. Walter G. Wilson, Seattle, Wa.
 - Sgt. Watson Underwood Jr., Huntersville, W. Va.
- Navy**
- HM3 Dennis E. Chester, Sacramento, Calif.
 - BUHNC Mark E. Hadel, Lodi, Calif.
 - BUHNC James R. Retzlaff Jr., Suttley,

- Calif.**
- HM2 Wallace B. Johnson III, Pensacola, Fla.
 - BUL3 George R. De Shurley, Roswell, N.M.
 - BUL3 Allan L. Mair, Park City, Utah.
- Marine Corps**
- Pfc. Gerald L. Johnson, Mojave, Calif.
 - Pfc. Danny P. Bouchez, Decatur, Ill.
 - Cpl. John Faldvary Jr., Lincoln Park, Mich.
 - Pfc. Thomas J. Kovacevich, Detroit, Mich.
 - Cpl. Michael L. Doane, Browning, Mont.
 - LCpl Larry J. Milot, Manchester, N.H.
 - Pfc. James Wilf, Bayonne, N.J.
 - 1Lt. Timothy J. Shorten, Flushing, N.Y.
 - Cpl. Walter W. Rosolie, Rosedale, N.Y.
 - LCpl Charles D. Miller, Wewoka, Okla.
 - LCpl Donald C. Emery, Portland, Ore.
 - Pfc. Frank E. Weiss, Clymer, Pa.
 - Pfc. William R. Neal, Amarillo, Tex.
- DIED OF WOUNDS**
- Marine Corps**
- SSgt. John H. McCarthy, Brighton, Mass.
- MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE**
- Army**
- Pfc. Norman L. Blasingame, Hacienda Heights, Calif.
 - Pfc. Aniello C. Nunziato, Woodside, N.Y.
 - Pfc. Charles H. Dyches, North Augusta, S.C.
 - Pfc. Robert D. Robinson, Houston, Tex.
- Marine Corps**
- LCpl. James B. Farmer, Valle Crucis, N.C.
- MISSING IN ACTION**
- Army**
- Cpl. Archie A. Hayman.
 - SP4 Robert S. Jernberg.
 - Pfc. David Cup Jr.
- MISSING TO CAPTURED OR INTERNED**

Jets Hit Roads, Vehicles

S&S Vietnam Bureau
SAIGON — U.S. pilots Tuesday for the fourth straight day contained their strikes in North Vietnam to below the 19th parallel. The northernmost limit, set by President Johnson, is the 20th parallel.

Air Force tactical fighter-bombers accounted for 59 of the 131 strike and tactical missions flown in overcast weather over the southern panhandle. Their targets were transportation routes, vehicles and automatic weapons sites, with the deepest penetration being 168 miles north of the DMZ.

Carrier-based Navy aircraft flew 52 missions, concentrating on bridges and highway ferries. They also bombed a railroad siding 22 miles north-northwest of Vinh airfield.

The Air Force's B52s rained bombs on targets west of Kon-tum city and southwest of Hue in South Vietnam.

VC Defector Gets \$9,222

SAIGON (AP) — A seven-year Viet Cong veteran, who said he was forced into the guerrilla ranks, has been awarded \$9,222 for leading Allied troops to the two largest arms caches ever found in South Vietnam.

The defector, Nguyen Van Lieu, received payment at a ceremony Tuesday. The sum was the largest ever presented to a defector. He turned himself over to the South Vietnam government in September 1967.

During his indoctrination he advised government authorities of the two cache locations.

Lieu said he was forced into Viet Cong ranks with promises of a bright future. But, he said, very few of the promises had materialized.

Damage \$173 Mil.

SAIGON (AP) — Property damaged in South Vietnam during the Communist Lunar New Year offensive will require more than \$173 million to replace, U.S. officials said Wednesday.

- Air Force**
- 1Lt. Col. Samuel R. Johnson.
 - Capt. Fredric R. Flam.
- RETURNED TO MILITARY CONTROL**
- Marine Corps**
- Cpl. William P. Tallaterra.
- DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- Pfc. Gerald L. De Rose, West Orange, N.J.
 - Pfc. James O. West, Fayetteville, N.C.
 - SP5 Fred C. Jenkins, Eufaula, Okla.
- MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE**
- Navy**
- HN Wayne J. Fielding, Pittsburgh, Pa.
 - HM3 William H. Cook, Mt. Vernon, Wash.
- CORRECTIONS**
- Pfc. Bobby D. Smith, USMC, Change status from died not as a result of hostile action to killed in action.
 - WO William A. Kimsey Jr., USA, Change status from missing not as a result of hostile action to missing in action.
 - SP5 Robert B. Hedge, USA, Change status from killed in action to died not as a result of hostile action.
 - SP5 Gerald McCaffrey, USA, Change status from killed in action to died not as a result of hostile action.
 - Pfc. Michael W. Thompson, USMC, Delete from list, released in error.
 - RMSN (Radlaman Seaman) Michael A. Evenson, USN, Change status from missing to dead—hostile to missing to dead—non hostile.
 - Cpl. Hans W. Brunner, USA, Change status from killed in action to died not as a result of hostile action.
 - 2Lt. Robert W. Prine, USA, Change status from missing to dead—hostile to missing to dead—non hostile.

Korat Chaplains Pray for Pilots' Return

By S. SGT. GENE YOUNG
S&S Thailand Bureau Chief

KORAT, Thailand—Four sleek, bomb-heavy F105 Thunderchiefs taxied down the strip. Near the end of the runway they came to a stop in front of a group of U.S. Air Force personnel of the 385th Tactical Fighter Wing here.

Two men in white vests moved from the sideline over to the flight leader's aircraft. They gave him a thumbs-up signal and moved to the side of the Thunderchief. Each stood with his head bowed. Then they slowly moved to the next plane in line.

These men with the white vests were not mechanics, crew chiefs or armament personnel. They were two chaplains.

The chaplains of Korat have made it a very important point to be at the

end of the runway to see off every strike launch of the wing. They alternate on the ramp every day, but schedule it so that there are at least two of them there to lend moral support.

Of all the personnel working around the ready aircraft, the chaplains stand out pretty sharp among the group. The white vests have a black cross on the front and on the back is a fist with a thumbs-up sign.

Sometimes the runway temperature is over 110 degrees in the boiling sun. Added to this is the tremendous heat generated by the jets as they turn and taxi for take-off. The chaplains come away soaked with sweat, but not one plane nor one pilot has missed receiving this gesture.

On this particular day it was a

Catholic priest and a Lutheran minister. However denominations make little difference to the pilots. It's the presence of someone who really cares that means so much.

Maj. Mark Steege, a Lutheran chaplain from Springfield, Ill., has been with the wing for eight months and has watched thousands of aircraft take off for North Vietnam.

"You never get over the feeling of helplessness watching those guys take off and into combat. I have to stay behind and all I can offer is a smile, a thumbs-up and a few words of prayer. It just doesn't seem like I'm doing enough," he says.

"I hate the thought that maybe some of them won't be in church next Sunday. I only hope that in some way I have

helped them, there at the end of the runway."

Father Francis Daly is a reserve captain from Kansas City, Mo., who came back into the Air Force because he felt he had to do something in this war. Now he is at Korat doing in his way what he feels is his duty to his fellow man.

"These are the greatest bunch of men in the world and I feel very proud of being here with them. If I felt that I wasn't helping them in some way, then I haven't any business being here. I have to agree with Chaplain Steege, though. It is very hard to lose a pilot from the 388th. They are like a big family to me and it hurts deeply knowing that one of my boys is in a prison camp up North. I can only pray that they return safely."

We'd Rather Fight Than Switch . . .

By MGY. SGT. J. T. FRYE
S&S Staff Correspondent

DA NANG, Vietnam—Despite frequent, incoming enemy rounds, long, irregular hours, dangerous cargoes, and the necessity of each man knowing several jobs, most LCU sailors wouldn't trade for carrier or land-based duty.

Take the ranking members of LCU-1477 out of Da Nang.

Boatswain's Mate 1.C. Batice Goff Jr., 28, of Alexandria, La., has been in the Navy seven years. He's always been in small boats, and recently was given command of his own U-boat.

Goff is on his fourth tour in Vietnam, first coming to the Da Nang area in March 1965. He explains that after a month or so back in the States, "There'd be a shortage of small boat men here or a buddy would get married, so I'd volunteer to return."

The assistant craftmaster, BM-2 James A. Dutcher, 27, New York City, is a nine-year veteran who will probably move up to the top when Goff rotates in June.

Dutcher claims seniority in straight Vietnamese service over any U-boater in the area. He's been here 21 months and has just extended to March 1969. All of his time is on 1477.

Engineman 3.C. James E. Sellers, 20, of Moline, Ill., looks like the baby of the hierarchy. He joined the day he was 17, and like the other two got his training and experience on the job, most of it in 11 months on 1477.

Sellers is chief engineer, guardian and protector of the power system—three 225 HP, 6-71 G.M. diesel engines and two 2-71 generators.

The three shipmates agree that their love for U-boat duty is based on such tangibles as that they operate independently, work with a small, closely knit crew, double in a variety of jobs, go to new and different ports and are assured few dull moments.

Their sentiments are echoed by the 11 other members of the crew: quartermaster, deck

boatswain's mate, gunner's mates, engineer-striker and cook.

The 1477 and her sister boats depart their Da Nang home lighterage usually every other day. Most frequent port-of-call is Hue, a seven-to-ten-hour run north or Dong Ha and Qua Viet, another three-four hours farther.

"We were one of the first Us into Dong Ha in December '66," said Dutcher.

Much of their time under fire came during the Tet offensive earlier this year.

An LCU next to them at the Dong Ha anchorage took a direct hit. And there was the incident when they doubled as a gunboat, taking aboard a Marine 106 mm recoilless rifle plus rocket and mortar teams.

"Made a shambles out of the deck and gunwhales," said Goff.

Pockmarks from shrapnel and stray rounds attest to 1477's participation in Operation Hue City also, but fortunately, though only two men were wounded, none was killed.

LCU men believe that nowhere in the Navy does an enlisted man have to exercise as much initiative and responsibility.

The craftmaster, as on any ship, has overall command. But under him the deck boss oversees the cargo load and its placement; the chief engineer is responsible for overhaul and upkeep of the powerplant and taking on fuel and oil; the cook not only prepares but must procure all provisions.



Hit and Run

A soldier of the 25th Inf. Div.'s 2nd Bn., 14th troops advancing toward a suspected enemy stronghold.

(USA Photo By Spec. 4 Marty Caldwell)

Allies Protect Thu Duc's Power

By S. SGT. GERARD FORKEN
S&S Staff Correspondent

THU DUC, Vietnam — Thu Duc, a quaint little village six miles northeast of Saigon, has been the scene of much bitter fighting since the outbreak of the Tet Offensive.

Although most of the fighting has tapered off in the capital area, Thu Duc, with its nearby multi-million dollar water purification and power plants, continues to attract enemy gunners.

Units of the 1st Inf. Div. reinforced 5th ARVN Div. troops and killed over 100 of the enemy when the Reds first stormed the ultramodern structures Jan. 31.

But the Communists were not to give up lightly and, as the weeks progressed, continued their attacks—though in smaller numbers—against the Allies defending the plants.

Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 18th Inf., originally heliborne into the area, ran into pockets of re-

sistance almost daily, killing another 100 of the enemy in a score of small firefights. When the Americans pursued the Reds, they found them melting into the sanctuary of the village.

"Each day we sweep through the same area, and each day we kill a few—four today, five yesterday—always just a few. I hope it keeps up that way," commented Maj. Gen. Keith Ware, the 1st Inf. Div. commander.

A factory and wooded area

Thai Birth Control

BANGKOK (UPI) — A birth control program has been submitted to the Thai government by the National Research Council. Netr Khemayothin, secretary general of the council, said Thai Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn has expressed concern at the high birth rate in the country.

near the water purification plant have offered the enemy cover to launch its predawn attacks, but with little success. The infantrymen have taken few casualties.

"Yes, I'd like to see it continue this way," added Ware. "We can keep killing them as long as they want to get in our way. If it keeps up long enough, maybe they'll run out of people to send."

Lt. Col. Max L. Waldrop of Jackson, Miss., commander of the 2nd Bn., 18th Inf., now protecting the plants, feels the Reds are not out to destroy the power houses but to take control of them.

Spec. 4 Walt F. Long of Lansing, Mich., is happy with his present assignment. "It sure beats ploughing through the steaming jungle," insisted the 26-year-old trooper. "Here, we can have a hot shower; but the modern buildings do make one homesick."

Marines Add Air Support

DA NANG, Vietnam (S&S)—The Marine Corps' first light helicopter squadrons have made their appearance at 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Da Nang.

Designated HML-167 and HML-367, the two units will fly the UH-1E helicopters. An increase in light helicopter support for ground forces is expected because of greater latitude in missions and aircraft selection. Each squadron will have 24 choppers.

Initially planes and personnel will come from VMO-3, an observation squadron which was deactivated in the same move. Two remaining observation outfits, VMOs 2 and 6 will eventually add new aircraft.

Commanding the new units are Lt. Col. G.R. Hunter, 43, Tampa, Fla., HML-367 and Maj. R. C. Finn, 34, of Des Moines, Iowa, at HML-167.

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Camp to Bear General's Name

PHU BAI, Vietnam (S&S)—The sprawling military complex at Phu Bai has been named Camp Hochmuth in honor of the late commander of the 3rd Marine Div., Maj. Gen. Bruno A. Hochmuth, who was killed in a helicopter crash near here Nov. 14, 1967.

A marble plaque was unveiled in Hochmuth's memory.

LBJ Names Watson Successor

O'Brien Quits as Postal Chief

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson Wednesday accepted the resignation of Lawrence F. O'Brien as postmaster general and named Marvin Watson, a White House aide, to succeed him.

Johnson told an informal news conference that O'Brien came in to see him Wednesday and submitted his resignation from the cabinet. Johnson said he promptly accepted it.



LAWRENCE O'BRIEN

O'Brien was the first cabinet officer to depart since Johnson announced that he would not seek re-election—and that decision may have been why O'Brien quit.

Johnson named two special assistants, Jim Jones and Larry Temple, to take over Watson's duties.

Watson was formerly executive assistant of the Lone-Star Steel Co. He has held his post in the White House since Feb. 1, 1965, is a native of Oakhurst, Tex., and received his BA and MS degrees from Baylor University.

Johnson told reporters that when O'Brien called on him he told him what he has told other members of the cabinet; "since I was not going to be a candidate, now is the time for any one of them to make decisions concerning their family and future."

The President had high praise for O'Brien, a holdover from the Kennedy Administration, who had served first as a congressional liaison officer under President John F. Kennedy and later was named postmaster general by Johnson.

"We shall miss him but will cooperate with his desire to go into private life," Johnson said.



GEN. ABRAMS



ADM McCAIN

Abrams Appointed

(Continued From Page 1)
al War College at Ft. McNair, Washington, D.C.

In 1954, Goodpaster joined the White House staff as defense liaison officer and staff secretary to Eisenhower and stayed on in that capacity until two months after President John F. Kennedy took office in 1961, when he went to Germany with the 3rd Inf. Div.

Johnson said he considered Abrams "the man most competent" to replace Westmore-

land. Abrams was named deputy commander in Vietnam by Johnson April 6, 1967.

Westmoreland has been commander in Vietnam since August, 1964.

Johnson said Goodpaster has been "a trusted adviser to me" and he recalled that Goodpaster had from time to time served as a liaison with former President Eisenhower.

Johnson said he had informed Eisenhower that he was naming his former aide to the No. 2 job in the Vietnam command.

McCain, who is 59, is a 1931 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He attained the rank of admiral May 1, 1967. McCain's son, John III, was shot down over North Vietnam in a Navy plane and is held captive.

McCain's naval career included considerable submarine duty.

Search For Killer Continues

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The task of finding the person who killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. apparently has settled down to the grueling police routine of sifting every clue and checking every lead.

There was no talk of an early arrest, as there had been shortly after King was assassinated last Thursday night. Robert G. Drewry and John C. Moore, the two U.S. commissioners here, said they had not been approached to issue a fugitive warrant by either the FBI or the U.S. attorney.

As federal officials pressed their manhunt, there were reports of arrests in various parts of the country and of a widespread search in Mexico.

However, none of the arrests turned up a genuine suspect.

150 Feared Dead

(Continued From Page 1)
winds and seas. The Wahine floundered helplessly, dragging her anchor for several hours before suddenly heeling over.

Marine Minister John Scott said all hope for the missing had been abandoned.

Police said they still had no real idea of how many people survived. The ship's papers were lost and many survivors are believed to have gone home without informing authorities.

One survivor was Capt. H. G. Robertson, skipper of the Wahine, which was commissioned only 19 months ago, Ashen-faced and shaken, he would say only that all passengers and crew were off the ship

when he, the chief officer and the pilot left.

Survivors said only the lifeboats on the starboard side could be launched because the boats on the other side were too high after the Wahine heeled over.

Operation-

(Continued From Page 1)
and Popular Forces and National Policemen.

U.S. and allied forces have only met light and scattered resistance during the first two days of the operation, according to a U.S. spokesman.

The major shake-up of command structure for the large scale operation is the first of the war. Centralization of command will allow units to operate outside their tactical areas and permit rapid deployment of units throughout the operational area, according to the U.S. spokesman.

\$2.6 Billion OKd For AEC Projects

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate approved by voice vote Monday a \$2.6 billion authorization for the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) which includes stepped-up development of a faster antisubmarine submarine. The House-passed measure was sent to the White House for President Johnson's signature.

The measure, carrying authorizations for the AEC in the fiscal year beginning July 1, was \$277 million greater than the current weapons authorization level.

The Name Smells

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, Wash. (AP)—Residents on Bainbridge Island have petitioned their county commissioners to change the name of the road they live on—to Island Center Hill Road. Its present name is Garbage Dump Road.

Rights Bill OKd, Sent to LBJ

(Continued From Page 1)
Representatives," Rep. H. R. Gross, R-Iowa, said in the final hour of debate.

But Rep. Robert A. Taft Jr., R-Ohio, the son of one of the most powerful legislators in American history, argued that the bill was "a step on the road back to reason and reality" in the aftermath of disorders in more than 100 U.S. cities.

Several hundred Marines and soldiers were still on guard in and around the Capitol as the House acted. They were put on duty Friday night when violence broke out in the slums behind

Capitol Hill in the aftermath of King's assassination in Memphis, Tenn.

That act six days ago was believed to have been the decisive factor in tipping the scales in favor of the bill in Congress, where open housing legislation has long been extremely sensitive.

The key vote of 229-195 defeated a final effort to sidetrack the bill by sending it to a House-Senate conference committee for modifications. This would have reopened the possibility of a Senate filibuster on a compromise bill, severely

U.S. Aim: Restraint By Hanoi

WASHINGTON (AP)—A primary aim of the United States in proposed preliminary talks with North Vietnam is to find out whether the Hanoi government would be willing to impose restraints on its military operations so that the rest of the U.S. bombing can be ended, officials said Wednesday.

The date and place of the preliminary contacts between Ambassador W. Averell Harriman and the North Vietnamese

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envoy are still being debated in diplomatic exchanges between Hanoi and Washington.

A decision on an early start of the discussions in an Asian capital, however, is expected shortly.

President Johnson returned to the White House late Wednesday morning from conferences at Camp David, Md., with Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker, who returned from Saigon to report to the President, and Adm. U.S. Grant Sharp, commander in the Pacific.

Johnson had announced Tuesday that the latest in a series of exchanges with North Vietnam had taken place, the U.S. sending a message to Hanoi concerning the time and place of the proposed preliminary discussions.

Wednesday, State Department officials said there seemed to be an obvious desire on the two sides to get together.

The whole problem is one of selecting a suitable place.

North Vietnam proposed Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and the United States proposed Geneva, Switzerland.

Compromise possibilities included Jakarta, Indonesia; Vientiane, Laos; Rangoon, Burma, and New Delhi, India.

North Vietnam has said that the purpose of the preliminary discussions would be to find out when the United States would end the bombing of North Vietnamese territory below the 20th parallel — all bombing above that line having been halted by presidential order March 31.

Ending all bombing and "other acts of war" by the United States is Hanoi's condition for going into full-scale talks.

Washington officials said President Johnson's purpose in the preliminary discussions would be to try to set up suitable arrangements for getting peace talks started. This obviously brings up the question of ending the rest of the bombing.

diminishing the likelihood of any congressional action on open housing this year.

A cheer went up from the House and from visitors in the galleries when Speaker John W. McCormack announced the crucial vote by which the Senate version was accepted by the House.

In addition to outlawing housing discrimination, the bill carries anti-riot provisions, makes it illegal to transport guns for use in riots, extends the "Bill of Rights" to Indians and protects civil rights workers from violence.

Weather

Asian Weather Central
TOKYO AREA

Thursday Night: Cloudy, Drizzle; Low: 55

Friday: Partly Cloudy; High: 65

TEMPERATURES

April 10			
	H	L	
Chicago	47	28	Chicago
Denver	59	39	Denver
Los Angeles	64	48	Los Angeles
London	69	60	London
Manila	82	77	Manila
Melbourne	79	66	Melbourne
Moscow	79	64	Moscow
New York	73	57	New York
Paris	66	41	Paris
San Francisco	66	41	San Francisco
Seattle	66	41	Seattle
Singapore	81	69	Singapore
Tokyo	79	66	Tokyo
Washington	73	57	Washington
Albany	66	41	Albany
Albuquerque	66	41	Albuquerque
Amarillo	60	43	Amarillo
Atlanta	80	57	Atlanta
Birmingham	76	56	Birmingham
Bismarck	55	27	Bismarck
Boise	67	48	Boise
Chicago	64	48	Chicago
Cincinnati	64	47	Cincinnati
Cleveland	60	44	Cleveland
Denver	59	39	Denver
Des Moines	66	33	Des Moines
Detroit	64	48	Detroit
Duluth	52	29	Duluth
Fairbanks	16	09	Fairbanks
Fargo	55	30	Fargo
Fort Worth	66	54	Fort Worth
Hong Kong	81	69	Hong Kong
Honolulu	69	60	Honolulu
Indianapolis	64	45	Indianapolis
Jackville	89	69	Jackville
Kansas City	69	35	Kansas City
K. Lumpur	91	73	K. Lumpur
Las Vegas	75	43	Las Vegas
London	55	36	London
L.A.	91	60	L.A.
Louisville	63	48	Louisville
Melbourne	78	48	Melbourne
Memphis	66	56	Memphis
Miami	77	74	Miami
Milwaukee	63	38	Milwaukee
Moscow	40	32	Moscow
N. Orleans	76	64	N. Orleans
NYC	76	62	NYC
N. Platte	65	26	N. Platte
Okla. City	69	54	Okla. City
Omaha	65	32	Omaha
Paris	57	32	Paris
Phila.	74	52	Phila.
Phoenix	87	47	Phoenix
Pittsburgh	61	45	Pittsburgh
Port., O.	70	37	Port., O.
Rapid City	59	25	Rapid City
Reno	81	56	Reno
Singapore	89	76	Singapore
St. Louis	67	40	St. Louis
St. Paul	53	29	St. Paul
Salt Lake	58	29	Salt Lake
S. Antonio	70	62	S. Antonio
San Diego	90	56	San Diego
San Fran.	78	57	San Fran.
Seattle	64	40	Seattle
Shreveport	63	59	Shreveport
Sydney	76	64	Sydney
Tucson	80	47	Tucson
Wash.	80	53	Wash.

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes
Friday, April 12, 1968