

Mourning a Playmate's Death

Robert Love, 15, (center) weeps and brother Allan, 10, watches in stunned silence as firemen hunt for Joseph Cecil, 10, in construction yard sandpile on Chicago's Northwest Side. The boys were riding their bikes when they were tempted by the fun the huge sandpile might offer. While

playing on the sand, a trap door under the pile opened. Joseph was drawn into the opening and buried by tons of sand. Robert made a vain attempt to hold his friend's hand. "Then all of a sudden Joe was gone," Robert said. The firemen recovered the body. (AP Radiophoto)

S. Viets Demand Role in Talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Three South Vietnamese legislators insisted Friday that the Saigon government must participate in any decisive talks on peace between the United States and North Vietnam.

Speaking as elected representatives of the National Assembly, the trio told a news conference they strongly oppose any participation by the National Liberation Front, political wing of the Viet Cong, in peace negotiations.

The three were Tran Quy Phong, vice president of the independent bloc in the House of Representatives; Nguyen Huu Duc, founder of the Catholic Administrative Association and a professor of law, and Vo Van Phat, a businessman and vice president of an association of free soldiers of the Saigon area.

"We are fighting not only for our own survival but also for

the purpose of sparing similar wars in other parts of the world," Phong said in a joint press statement.

"We hope that the United States which has been our staunchest and most generous ally will not waver in its commitment or lose patience in an

admittedly very trying situation," Phong said.

The legislators appeared nervous about the prospect of U.S.-North Vietnam negotiations. They asked not only for a voice for themselves but also that the representatives of other (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

Reds Bar West Berlin Mayor

BERLIN (UPI)—The Communists, in a move that could signal a new Berlin crisis, Friday denied West Berlin Mayor Klaus Schuetz passage through East Germany.

The American, British and French governments protested the Communist move, saying they "condemned this further interference with free access to Berlin."

Communist police at Babels-

berg, where road travelers from West Berlin to West Germany enter East Germany, delayed Schuetz for 90 minutes, then turned him back.

East German authorities told Schuetz he was not being sent back because he was West Berlin mayor, but because at present he also is acting president of West Germany. Schuetz is standing in this week for President Heinrich Luebke, who

H-BLAST RATTLES 4 STATES

PAHUTE MESA, Nev. (UPI)—An underground hydrogen blast 60 times greater than that of the Hiroshima atom bomb carved out a cavern big enough to hold Hoover Dam and set the earth trembling in four states Friday.

It shook tower hotels in Las Vegas and registered on seismographs on the East Coast as a "substantial earthquake." Delicate earthquake measuring instruments across the nation calibrated the shock at more than 6 on the Richter Scale.

The biggest underground test in free world history loosed a nuclear weapon equivalent to 1.2 million tons of TNT but caused no apparent damage to structures in nearby communities.

The earth above Ground Zero collapsed an hour and 46 minutes after the test and formed a crater 300 feet across and 50 feet deep. But there was no radiation leakage, the Atomic Energy Commission said, and "all indications are that the performance of this important test and its effects were in accordance with our expectations."

The carpeted floors of gambling casinos on the strip in Las Vegas, 100 miles away, vibrated but dice rolled without interruption.

At the Caltech seismological laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., 300 miles distant, there was a great swinging back and forth on instruments, and in Palisades, N. Y., the seismograph registered over 6 on the Richter Scale — a "substantial earthquake."

The AEC went ahead with the test, termed essential in development of an antiballistic missile system for the United States, despite protests that its (Continued on Back Page, Col. 4)

Living Cost Soars In March

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The nation's cost of living increased four-tenths of 1 per cent in March—the biggest jump in eight months, the Labor Department reported Friday.

The department's monthly consumer price index rose to 119.5 per cent of the 1957-59 base period, 3.9 per cent higher than a year ago.

The increase means it now costs \$11.95 to buy the same goods and services that cost \$10 during the base period.

Arnold Chase, assistant commissioner of labor statistics for the department, said if the present rate of increase continues, the cost of living in 1968 could pass the 4 per cent increase mark last registered (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

Espray De Corps

DA NANG AB, Vietnam (S&S) Unit mottoes are in no short supply in Vietnam, but the 12th Air Commando Sq. here, which flies chemical defoliation missions, has an intriguing one: "Only we can prevent forests."

LBJ Chat 'Impressing'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson chose a newly painted garden bench Friday for a political huddle with a top Democratic leader. The result showed.

After a ceremony installing W. Marvin Watson as new postmaster general, Johnson led Ed Weisl, New York Democratic national committeeman, to a white, wrought-iron bench.

There they sat until the President was summoned into the White House. Weisl left, carrying an imprint of the conference on his trousers and coat—a white bench design.

Johnson's impression of the meeting was not seen.

Viet Police Foil Attempt To Bring Guns Into Saigon

SAIGON (AP) — National police Friday thwarted an attempt by the Viet Cong to smuggle weapons into Saigon by river junk and ordered all sampans, junks and highway vehicles entering the capital to be searched.

The new precautions were taken after police stopped a junk as it pulled up at Saigon's riverfront dock area and found

10 AK47 assault rifles.

Police said they arrested two men and two women suspected of gun-running.

In addition to the rifles, police said they seized 2,000 rounds of ammunition and five pistols.

There have been recurrent intelligence reports here that the Viet Cong plan a new attack on Saigon.

The National Police Directorate warned the population Thursday of a possible new invasion similar to the Tet offensive.

U.S. B52 bombers staged three raids within 26 miles of Saigon Friday.

The giant bombers hit enemy targets six to eight miles west-southwest of Ben Cat, near the headquarters of the U.S. 1st Inf. Div.

A U.S. military spokesman said the raids struck at enemy bunkers, weapons positions and troop concentrations.

Meanwhile, fresh fighting was reported Friday on all sides of Saigon.

The U.S. Military Command reported a series of small-scale engagements 12 to 38 miles from the capital.

Ten U.S. troops were killed and 82 wounded. Only 18 enemy troops were known killed, U.S. headquarters said, and these were from air strikes.

The 18 enemy dead were found after raids by U.S. Air Force fighter-bombers in support of elements of the 25th Inf. Div. 25 miles west-northwest of Saigon. Infantrymen who swept the area after the air attacks reported 19 bunkers destroyed and 25 damaged.

In a 15-minute fight 31 miles east of Saigon, infantrymen from the 9th Div. suffered two dead and 21 wounded under a barrage of Viet Cong small arms and machine gun fire. Enemy casualties were not known.

New Push Reported By Reds in Laos

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP) — The pro-Communist Pathet Lao armed forces have resumed military operations in what appears to be an attempt to retake control of positions lost to the government forces since 1962, Laotian military sources said Friday.

In Military Regions 1 and 2 in north-central Laos, the Pathet Lao forces launched a series of "mopup

operations" aimed at sweeping anti-Communist Meo tribesmen guerrillas out of the rear of Pathet Lao-controlled areas, the sources said.

They said in Military Regions 3 and 4 in southern Laos, the government forces clashed last Tuesday with Communist troops eight miles southeast of the provincial capital of Saravane.

On the same day, the sources said, a government company was engaged by an unknown number of Pathet Lao one mile southeast of Ban Samia in Sedone Province in Southern Laos.

The Communist forces were repulsed after a two-hour engagement, leaving behind nine killed and seven wounded. They said two government forces soldiers were killed and five wounded.

A Defense Ministry spokesman earlier said about 200 Meo tribesmen operating inside the Pathet Lao-controlled area have reached government positions after breaking through the Communist encirclement.

The spokesman said the pro-government guerrillas were trapped by an estimated two Pathet Lao battalions 30 miles northeast of Xieng Khouang, headquarters of the Pathet Lao in north-central Laos.

3,660th Aircraft Downed

SAIGON (UPI) — The United States has lost 3,660 planes and helicopters in the Vietnam War, Saigon headquarters said Friday.

This includes an Air Force F4 Phantom shot down over North Vietnam Thursday in 110 American raids into North Vietnam's southern panhandle. The two crewmen are missing.

The northernmost raid, a Navy strike against a causeway 23 miles north of Vinh, was well within President Johnson's limitations on the bombing.

The Phantom downed over North Vietnam was the 827th U.S. plane lost since the bombing of the North began Aug. 5, 1964. Another 250 planes have been shot down over the South, with 1,006 lost to nonhostile causes, the command said.

A spokesman said 640 helicopters had been shot down over South Vietnam and nine over the North, with 928 lost to non-hostile causes.

Gen. Quilter to Viet

WASHINGTON (S&S) — Maj. Gen. Charles J. Quilter, commander of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing at El Toro, Calif., will succeed Maj. Gen. Norman J. Anderson as commander of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Vietnam in June, the Marine Corps announced. Anderson's next assignment will be announced later.

Red Mortar Fire Hits Hue Airstrip

SAIGON (AP) — Communist gunners fired 100 mortar rounds onto the airstrip inside the Hue Citadel Friday, South Vietnamese military headquarters said.

One South Vietnamese soldier was slightly injured. The extent of damage to the airstrip in the 2 a.m. mortaring was not announced.

Westy Visits 1st Cav. Troops

SAIGON (AP) — Gen. William C. Westmoreland made an unannounced trip to visit U.S. 1st Air Cav. Div. troops in the northern war zone Friday.

The four-star general's visit to sensitive northern provinces

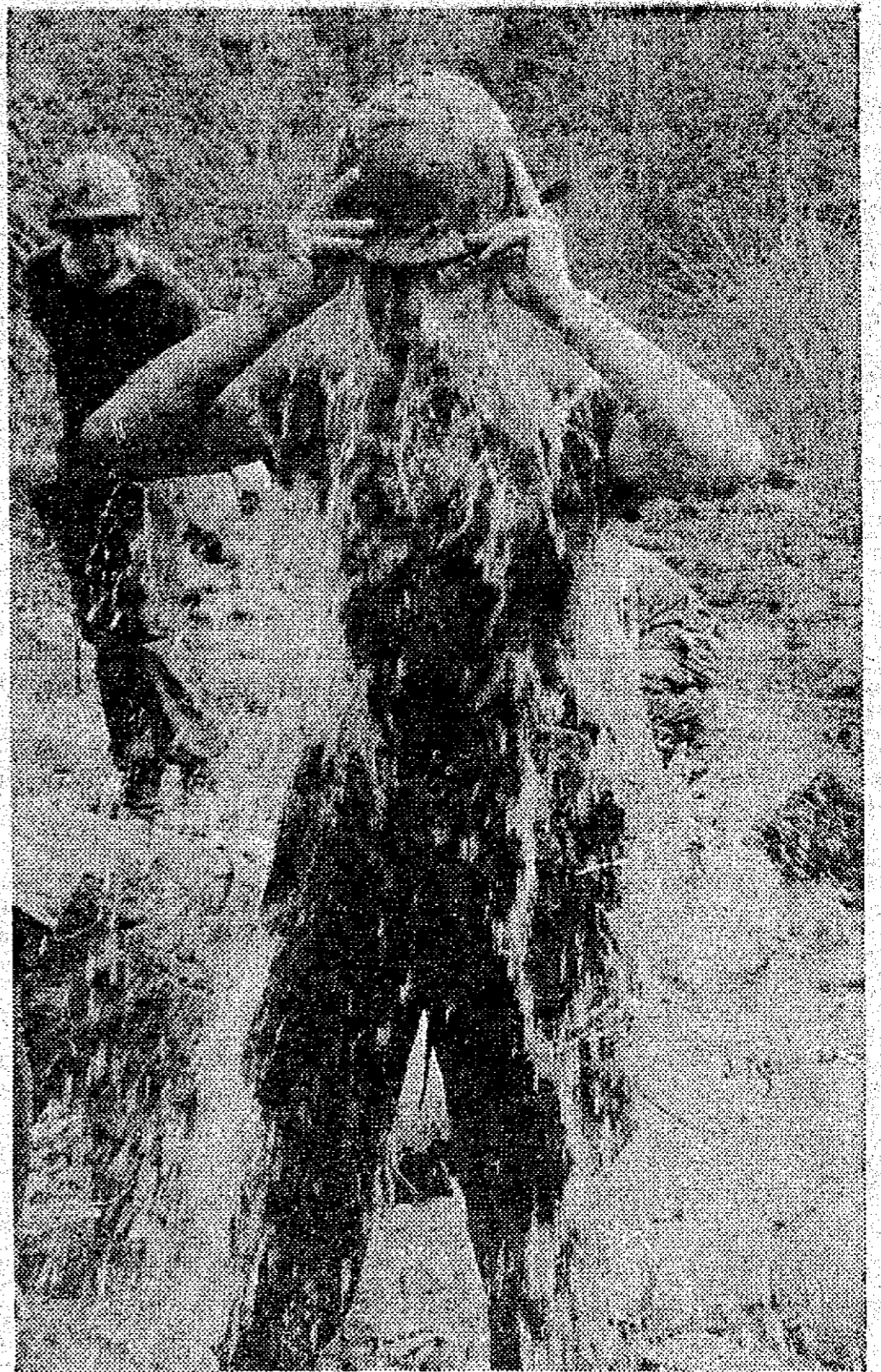
emphasized his concern for renewed fighting and North Vietnamese buildups below the Demilitarized Zone.

The exact itinerary of the U.S. commander in Vietnam was not announced.

The Air Cavalry troopers he visited, however, have been carrying the brunt of fighting

below the Demilitarized Zone and in the jungles west of Hue.

In the general area of Westmoreland's visit, America's biggest bombers, Air Force B52s, maintained their month-long campaign Friday against North Vietnamese positions in the A Shau Valley and along trails leading in from it to the old imperial capital of Hue.



Marine Cools It

The stream may be too shallow for swimming, but Marine Pfc. Harvey C. Henderson, of Washington, D.C., finds it can still be used for cooling off. Henderson was with F Co., 2nd Bn., 1st Marine Regt., between Ca Lu and Khe Sanh. (USMC)

Guarantee Against Infiltration Must Match Cease-Fire: Thieu

LONG XUYEN, Vietnam (AP) — President Nguyen Van Thieu said Friday he favors a cease-fire during negotiations to end the Vietnam war, but only if there is a guaranteed halt in infiltration from North Vietnam.

Thieu said that if the allies accepted a cease-fire while negotiating, and the Communists continued infiltration and fighting in the South, "we would be very stupid."

"I am in favor of a cease-fire with guarantees against exploitation," he said and added that such guarantees would consist of stationing sufficient troops along South Vietnam's borders and along the Demilitarized Zone to stop infiltration. He declined to estimate how many troops would be necessary for such a task.

Thieu's statements to newsmen were made during a day-long trip to the Mekong Delta provinces of An Giang and Vinh Long, inspecting agricultural projects and refugee camps.

Thieu was accompanied by a large representation from Saigon's diplomatic corps, includ-

ing U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker.

Thieu told newsmen the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese still have the capability, although limited, to stage another general offensive. He said the attacks would not be as strong or as generalized as the Tet offensive but connected to their activities at the negotiating table.

The president said there may be changes in the government

soon, apparently backing up reports that Premier Nguyen Van Loc and several ministers will be replaced.

"I think that if and when the National Assembly decrees general mobilization, we should revise the government's structure and maybe also personnel."

The legislature is considering Thieu's request for a general mobilization of South Vietnam's manpower and resources.

Vietnam Casualties

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

KILLED IN ACTION

- Army**
 SP5 Jon M. Young, San Luis Obispo, Calif.
 Pfc. Daniel R. Twitty, Sacramento, Calif.
 SP4 Morris R. Shepard Jr., Tampa, Fla.
 Cpl. Paul H. Stein Jr., Lockport, Ill.
 Sgt. Robert E. Girsch, Skokie, Ill.
 SSG. Robert H. Colegrove, Grayson, Ky.
 Cpl. Carl E. Hosnander, Holden, Mass.
 Sgt. Cecil R. Hobbs Jr., Wyandotte, Mich.
 Cpl. Roger E. Ward, Spring Lake, Mich.
 Pfc. Gary A. Ryden, Pontiac, Mich.
 Pfc. Larry J. Wallerman, Aniref, Minn.
 SP4 Robert E. Cook, Overland, Mo.
 2Lt. Lawrence H. Kocher, Butler, N.J.
 Cpl. Robert H. Ranges Jr., River Vale, N.J.
 SP4 Donald Stiles, Lincoln Park, N.J.
 SP4 David C. Cardinal, Hyde Park, N.Y.
 Pfc. Luis G. Scamaroni, Bronx, N.Y.
 Sgt. Ralph N. Wells, Nashville, N.C.
 Pfc. Douglas G. Bailey, Rutherfordton, N.C.
 Pfc. Joseph M. Rees, Columbus, Ohio.
 SP4 Douglas W. Gurst Jr., Pottstown, Pa.
 Sgt. Vance A. Barry, Amarillo, Tex.
 SP4 James M. Langford, Corthage, Tex.
 Pfc. Jesse C. Burroughs, Dallas, Tex.
 Pfc. Harold R. Smith, Winoski, Vt.
 SP4 James G. Signell, Chesapeake, Va.
 Pfc. Harry E. Smith, Kirkland, Wash.
 Pfc. Richard S. Brown, Laramie, Wyo.
- Navy**
 EN3 Steve D. Ledford, Ruston, La.
- Marine Corps**
 Pfc. Robert M. Jacob, Bristol, Conn.

- Pvt. James P. Smith, Hampton, Fla.
 Pfc. Thomas S. Nash, Atlanta, Ga.
 Pfc. Daniel R. Kettmann, Red Bud, Ill.
 Pfc. Robert A. Martin, Burnettsville, Ind.
 LCol. William C. Vance, Allen Park, Mich.
 LCpl. George R. Peckham, Wyoming, Mich.
 Pfc. Ronald T. Cavazos, Detroit, Mich.
 LCol. John E. Mount, Vineland, N.J.
 Pfc. Dennis Smith, Bayonne, N.J.
 Pfc. Steven L. Sparks, Columbus, Ohio.
 Pfc. John L. Ingram, Weleetka, Okla.
 LCol. Martin H. Mitek, Philadelphia, Pa.
 LCpl. Rudy J. Salazar, Ft. Worth, Tex.
 LCol. Carl M. Mabe, Pembroke, Va.
 LCpl. Barry M. Patton, Fairmont, W.Va.

MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE

- Army**
 Pfc. Richard M. Bargar, Novelty, Ohio.

MISSING IN ACTION

- Army**
 SP4 James E. Richardson
 Pfc. Paul P. Davis
 Pfc. Kenneth R. Roberts
 Pfc. Joe A. Willkop
- Marine Corps**
 LCol. Andrew Jackson
 Pfc. Ted D. Britt

RETURNED TO MILITARY CONTROL

- Army**
 SP4 James G. Emmell
 Pfc. Billy L. Ponder

DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION

- Army**
 SP4 Dennis L. Knott, Long Beach, Calif.
 Cpl. William J. Whitehead, Denver, Colo.
 SP4 William O. Wagner, Bertha, Minn.
 SP5 Charles D. Goforth, Ewing, Va.
- MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE**
Army
 CWO Danny R. Kidd, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Medics Block Epidemic

DAK TO, Vietnam (IO) — Prompt action by the civil affairs (S-5) team of the 4th Div.'s 6th Bn., 29th Arty. with assistance from the 1st Brigade's civil affairs officer averted a possible small-pox epidemic in two Montagnard villages recently.

When the artillery battalion's civil affairs team was visiting the Montagnard village of Dak Tomboe, it found a small girl suffering from smallpox. The girl and her mother, who also showed signs of the disease, were taken to the 4th Medical Bn. aid station at the 1st Brigade command camp here for treatment. The two patients were then sent to a hospital in Kontum for more advanced care.

The team notified 1st Lt. Walter Chun of Honolulu, brigade civil affairs officer, of the threatened epidemic and Chun quickly came up with a plan for inoculating the villagers and also the people of nearby Dak Robie.

"I knew where I could get some smallpox vaccine," explained Chun, "so I got enough to inoculate the two villages and went out to Dak Tomboe the next day with Capt. Rafael Rivera and S.Sgt. Jim Hurst of the artillery's medical team.

"The village chief was very cooperative and marshalled up the villagers for the shots," continued Chun. About 150 Montagnards were inoculated that day.

The chief told the medical team there were 15 villagers working in the fields who wouldn't be inoculated that day. "We told the chief that we were going to be at Dak Robie the next day," said Chun, "so while we were inoculating the 200 Montagnards of Dak Robie the next morning, the Dak Tomboe chief marched in his 15 who were in the field the day before to get their shots.

"The village of Dak Robie was so close to Dak Tomboe that we had to inoculate them too," Chun explained. "The people go back and forth between the villages every day, so to prevent any possible spreading of the disease we gave shots to both villages. Both village chiefs were extremely helpful and understanding."

VC Shift Propaganda

TAM QUAN, Vietnam (IO) — Turning from the "GI Go Home!" slogan, Viet Cong propagandists have become more refined in their use of signs and banners in the Tam Quan area.

North of Tam Quan, a mine-sweeping team from A Co., 19th Eng. Bn., 35th Engineers, found two propaganda signs written in English. The first sign said, "Implement correctly the 1954 Geneva Agreements in Vietnam," while the second sign read: "Vietnamese affairs should be settled by the Vietnamese people themselves."

Shortly afterward, a mine-sweeping team from C Co., 19th Eng. Bn., 35th Eng. Group, found two more propaganda banners not far away. One sign again referred to the Geneva agreements. The other claimed: "The Vietnamese are not enemies of the Americans."

From Sweet Talk to Threats

Psy War: an Endless Battle of Wits



A soldier of the 402nd Psychological Warfare Co., ARVN, gets a welcome in a village south of Bac Lieu. Below, left, the younger generation shows bashful interest, while an oldster, at right below, takes note of the pacification program operations.



Story and Photos
By BOB CUTTS
S&S Correspondent

Psychological Warfare is the spearhead of the pacification effort in the Delta. American planes in the air, Vietnamese civilians and soldiers on the ground—they all work to extend or introduce the government's influence in the thousands of tiny hamlets that belong to the Vietnamese Communists, scattered across the "Rice Bowl of Asia".

To the men of the 5th Air Commando Sq., "C" Flight, at Binh Thuy AB in the heart of the Delta, Psy War is endless day-and-night missions and sor-

Related Story on Page 9

ties that see a million leaflets dropped in an hour, or constant circling of enemy territory while Vietnamese propaganda tapes blare into the canals and jungles from 30,000-watt speakers.

But the men on the ground, such as the 21st Inf. Div.'s 402d Psychological Warfare Co. do the important follow-up work. With truckloads of tools, medicines and music machines, they "invade" each village in enemy territory, armed with nothing more lethal than guitars and handshakes.

Setting up "minute dispensaries," helping with local building projects, entertaining with songs and music, passing out newspaper and leaflets — attempting to win the hearts of people, young and old . . . the "real war" of South Vietnam.

Sometimes they're rewarded with valuable intelligence, or sometimes killed in ambushes or through treachery of the people they're trying to befriend. But each day, whatever happens, they go back out again and again, trying to help the common people.

It's not as easy as passing out a leaflet or singing a song — "Sometimes it's brutal," says one American. "The VC have the organization and the power out here in the hamlets, and we've got to be just as tough as they are to win. While the fun's going on, Hoi Chanh (Viet Cong from that area who have defected to fight for the government) visit the homes of enemy sympathizers and VC families they know. They say 'Tell your sons to come home. The war is over. If he doesn't come back I'll kill him.' It gets results—and so does the kindness."

Children Find 3 Explosives

DUC PHO, Vietnam (IO) — Three Vietnamese children from Duc Pho recently helped the men of D Co., 19th Eng. Bn., 35th Eng. Group, by pointing out three unexploded satchel charges.

The charges, consisting of blasting powder wrapped in a burlap covering, were found laying on the west side of Highway QL-1, just south of where the engineers were working.

An inspection of the charges showed the detonating caps had exploded—blowing holes in the burlap coverings — but leaving the charges intact. Demolition experts later detonated the charges in place.

Pacific Stars & Stripes 7
Sunday, April 28, 1968

Evicted in Chicago

GIs Chip In to Help Out an Old Lady

Special to S&S

CHICAGO — "How very thoughtful of them to think of me while they're at war," said 91-year-old Ethel Cazier.

Miss Cazier was evicted from her Chicago apartment in March, penniless. Through *Pacific Stars and Stripes*, 52 members of Hq. and Hq. Co., 2nd Bn., (Abn.), 327th Inf., stationed in Vietnam, heard about Miss Cazier's plight and decided to lend a helping hand.

They sent Miss Cazier a letter signed by them all, containing \$120.

Spec. 4 Frank J. Muller, spokesman for the 52 soldiers,

wrote the letter in care of The Chicago Tribune and asked the newspaper to forward the letter and money to Miss Cazier.

"We . . . know the world we are fighting for is not a perfect place, yet we realize that we are part of that world. If our small contribution eases your plight, then our mission as citizen soldiers has been accomplished," Muller wrote.

After reading the letter, Miss Cazier said, "Aren't people wonderful? Some of my old friends have forgotten me, but not these boys. Tell them I appreciate their thoughts."

Miss Cazier sat in the Wilson Hotel where she has been stay-

ing since the eviction. She talked about the day she had lost almost all her belongings. Her landlord had piled every thing on the sidewalk. She spoke of the expensive china dishes she brought from England and how they were sold for 50 cents a box because people were carting her things away.

Then there was a book containing the names of all the patients she had served while working as a nurse.

"But I have no complaints," said Miss Cazier. "I've had a good life. Sometimes you must accept things, even if you don't understand them."

Johnson Toasts King of Norway

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson saluted visiting King Olav V. of Norway Thursday night as "the man who is non-political by law" and said the two of them have something in common now, as non-politicals.

At a state dinner attended by several Americans of Norwegian extraction among the 140 guests, the President singled out one of them—Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey. He said Humphrey has shown the qualities of courage and endurance that Norwegian immigrants brought to this country and this

led him to the second highest office of this land.

In this toast to the visiting monarch, Johnson noted that he had dined at a Democratic fund raising dinner Wednesday night, with 7,800 politicians and partisans "and tonight I dine with a king. And that, your majesty, is democracy with a little 'd'."

Raising his glass in a toast to the ability, courage and hearty endurance of the Norwegians, Johnson pledged Norwegian-American friendship.

There were echoes of "skol" as the Norwegians joined in the toast.

King Olav, making the first visit of a reigning Norwegian monarch to the United States, expressed faith and hope in the United Nations as a way of helping mankind "to a better and more confident future."

He told Johnson of "the relief and pleasure" which Norwegians expressed at news of initial contacts toward peace talks for Vietnam.

F111 Jets Return to Viet Action

SAIGON (AP) — U.S. Air Force F111 jets resumed bombing raids against North Vietnam Friday night.

The raids were the first since the loss last Monday night of a third F111 in their first month of combat.

The controversial fighter-bombers have been held to their base in Thailand since the third crash.

In resuming the bombing raids Friday night, U.S. sources said, the F111s attacked highways and other lines of communications in the extreme southern end of North Vietnam around Dong Hoi. The area is about 35 miles north of the Demilitarized Zone.

The number of missions was not divulged, nor could it be learned how many F111s participated.

Only five of the revolutionary, swing-wing planes are in the Vietnam war theater.

Warsaw Ghetto Rising Hailed

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate, by a voice vote, Thursday approved a resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the uprising by Jews of the Warsaw ghetto against the Nazi occupiers of Poland. The resolution was passed Tuesday by the House.

The measure expresses the sense of Congress in recognition of "the world significance of the Warsaw ghetto uprising as a reaffirmation of the ineradicable determination to fight for freedom from oppression."

Talks—

(Continued From Page 1) allied powers who have sent troops to Vietnam be present when talks are held.

Duc said: "We welcome efforts and ideas that lead toward peace in honor and freedom and we think that non-official and probing contacts are useful."

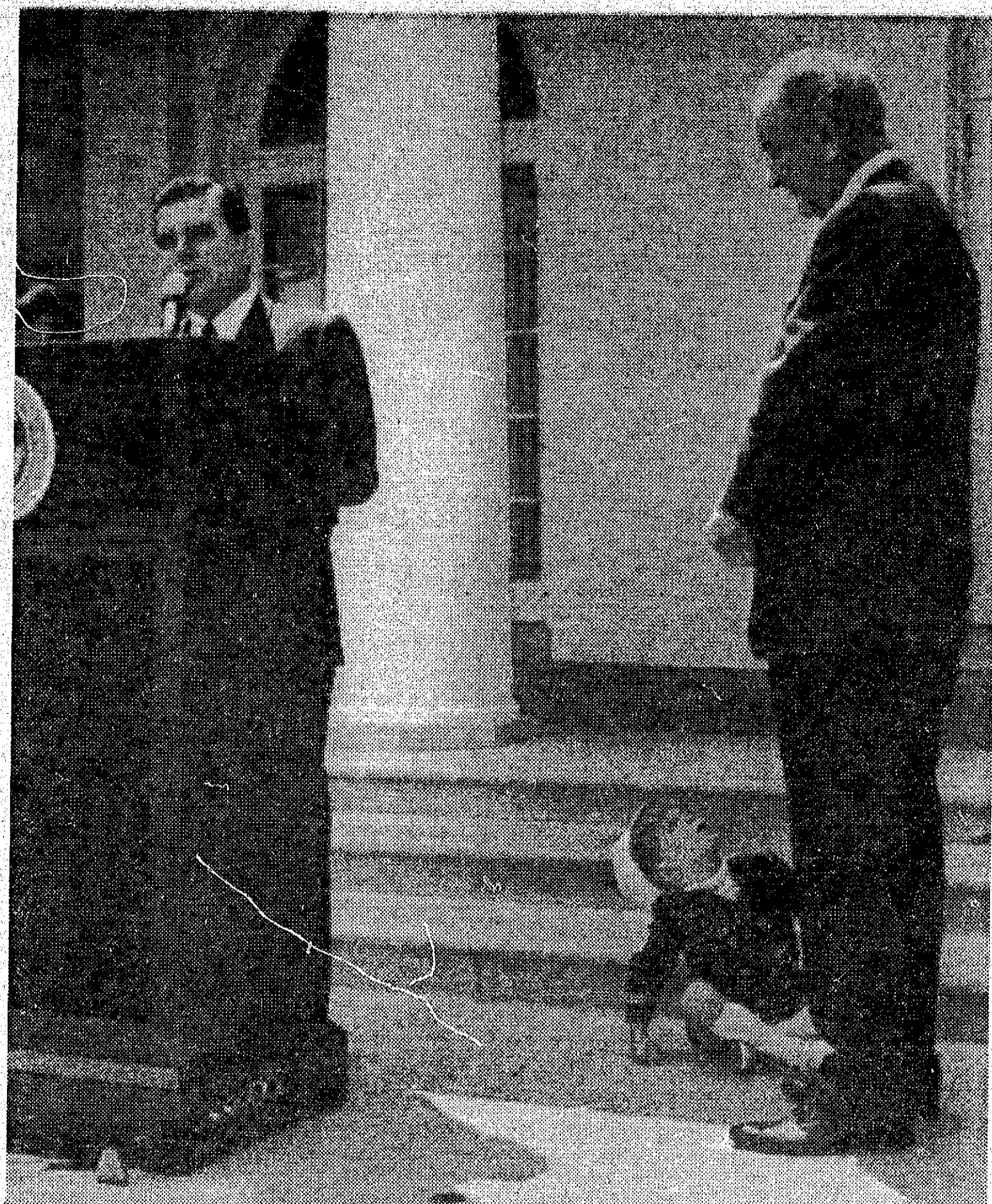
"But if any decision that might violate the sovereignty of South Vietnam is made at such talks, then we would oppose such a decision and we would not consider it a valid decision."

Phong said the independence bloc he represents was opposed to the limited U.S. bombing pause over North Vietnam. All three said they did not favor a bombing pause until North Vietnam withdraws its troops from the South.

Phong said in a statement for the three that "some well-intentioned people are misled in their belief that wholesale concessions to the Communists would bring about peace."

Meanwhile, a U.S. State Department spokesman said Friday the United States is still waiting for a reply from North Vietnam on a proposal for 15 potential sites for talks.

Press officer Robert J. McCloskey also said there had been no developments since U.S. Ambassador William H. Sullivan and North Vietnam Charge d'Affaires Nguyen Chan met in Laos Thursday. The State Department said after that meeting there was still no agreement on a site for diplomatic contacts.



It's a long way up from where 4-year-old Marvin Watson III is sitting to where he is looking. The President, towering over the boy, listens as

the boy's father speaks after becoming postmaster general in ceremonies at the White House Friday. (UPI Radiophoto)

Watson Sworn In As Postmaster

WASHINGTON (AP) — W. Marvin Watson became the new postmaster general Friday with praise from President Johnson and an outpouring of applause from well-wishers in the White House Rose Garden.

Mrs. Watson held the Bible as Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas administered the oath of office on the steps just outside Johnson's office. The three Watson children looked on.

Watson was Johnson's special assistant and appointments secretary before the President named him to the Cabinet to replace Lawrence F. O'Brien. O'Brien resigned to join the presidential campaign forces of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, D-N.Y.

In a jocular mood, the President said O'Brien had suggested

abolishing his job and turning the postal service over to a corporation.

"Marvin seemed to think we ought to give consideration to it at that time," Johnson said, adding, "Now I guess he's not so sure."

H-Blast

(Continued From Page 1)

magnitude could cause severe damage including shaking of giant Hoover Dam.

The Howard Hughes organization, which has invested \$125 million in Las Vegas property, even applied unsuccessfully to Vice President Hubert Humphrey to halt the test.

The cylindrical package with hundreds of instruments attached by cable was triggered at the foot of a 3,800-foot shaft at 7 a.m. PST.

Dust rose into the desert air on this 7,500-foot plateau and the earth bulged upward and then settled. The explosion—dubbed "Boxcar"—generated temperatures into the millions of degrees and carved a glazed cavern of liquefied rock estimated to be 720 feet in diameter.

The tremor was felt physically by residents in Nevada, California, Utah and Arizona.

"It went on for more than a full minute," said service station attendant Leroy Le France at Beatty, Nev., only 30 miles from Ground Zero.

Comedian Miles Dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jackie Miles, for many years a nightclub entertainer known as the comedians' comedian, died Wednesday at a hospital, friends reported Friday. He was 54.

Death followed a heart attack, they said.

Associates said Miles once made \$5,000 weekly but died almost penniless.

He was here trying to line up parts in films and television. Friends said three guest spots on TV shows had been promised him next season.

Weather

Asian Weather Central

TOKYO AREA

Saturday Night: Light Rain; Low: 50

Sunday: Mostly Cloudy; High: 57

TEMPERATURES

April 26

	H	L		H	L
Bangkok	91	75	Naha	77	63
Chilose	41	35	Saigon	90	79
Guam	83	76	Seoul	67	35
Hakue	73	54	Taipei	75	61
Manila	88	75	Tokyo	72	57
	H	L		H	L
Albany	54	40	Louisville	62	39
Albuquerque	71	38	Melbourne	68	54
Amarillo	71	42	Memphis	78	45
Atlanta	72	41	Miami	84	72
Birmingham	77	41	Milwaukee	52	34
Bismarck	64	34	Moscow	48	32
Boise	60	35	N. Orleans	74	40
Boston	61	53	NYC	55	46
Chicago	55	36	N. Platte	54	35
Cincinnati	60	40	Oklahoma City	74	45
Cleveland	39	33	Omaha	45	32
Denver	54	35	Paris	64	41
Des Moines	48	29	Phila.	55	44
Detroit	40	36	Phoenix	88	48
Duluth	44	26	Pittsburgh	40	35
Fairbanks	41	27	Port., O.	53	46
Fargo	57	28	Rapid City	59	34
Fort Worth	76	44	Reno	—	27
Hong Kong	83	70	Singapore	88	76
Honolulu	83	72	St. Louis	65	33
Houston	78	57	St. Paul	54	27
Indianapolis	58	38	Salt Lake	56	35
Jackville	81	52	San Antonio	77	41
Jakarta	95	75	San Fran.	70	52
Kansas City	64	39	Seattle	78	44
K. Lumpur	91	71	Shreveport	78	44
Las Vegas	80	45	Sydney	80	54
London	48	52	Tucson	81	48
L.A.	81	55	Wash.	64	42

Living Cost Soars in March

(Continued From Page 1) during the Korean War year of 1951.

Over the previous eight months, the index increase varied between two-tenths and three-tenths of 1 per cent each month.

The report cited wage increases and labor shortages in certain service industries as a major factor in boosting the increase rate.

Prices of food and beverages

rose by four-tenths of 1 per cent during March, with pork, poultry and fruit products making the heaviest advances.

Clothing costs were highest among the nondurable categories, increasing by seven-tenths of 1 per cent.

Overall consumer services rose by six-tenths of 1 per cent, and the cost of housekeeping services and personal care, such as beauty shops, both rose by 1 per cent each.

Charges for medical services, boosted by hospital cost increases and doctors' and dentists' fees, rose by nine-

tenths of 1 per cent. Rent, utilities and insurance costs, along with college tuition increases, also increased during the month.

The cost of automobiles and appliances remained unchanged, but furniture prices marked a six-tenths of one per cent rise.

Cost of living adjustments will be awarded to about 80,000 workers because of the March increase.

The department also reported that net spendable earnings for a rank-and-file worker with three dependents dropped six cents in March.