

Pueblo Talks Get Nowhere; Red Viet Drive Fails: LBJ

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U.S., Soviet Ships Collide Near Korea

WASHINGTON (UPI) —The Defense Department disclosed Friday that a U.S. destroyer and a Soviet freighter collided in the Sea of Japan — the fourth such incident in 19 months in the same waters where the USS Pueblo was seized by North Korea.

U.S. officials claimed the earlier collisions were deliberate harassment by the Soviets, but Navy officers indicated the latest incident appeared to be an accident. But the Soviet Union did not share that view and delivered a protest to the U.S. embassy in Moscow.

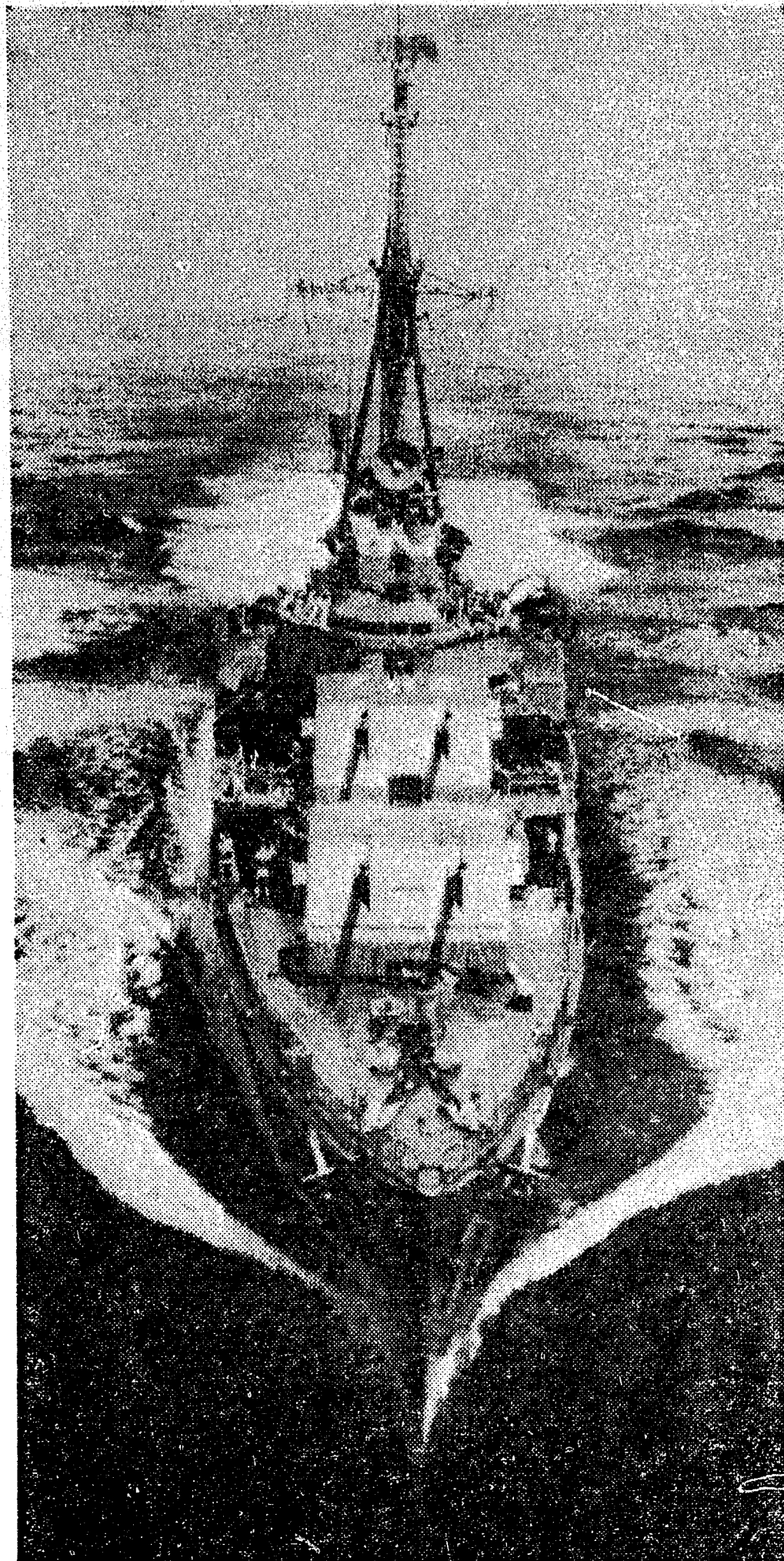
There were no casualties and only minor damage when the two ships brushed in the Sea of Japan.
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No Romney, Nixon Debate

MANCHESTER, N.H. (UPI) —Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon Friday turned down a challenge to debate Gov. George Romney of Michigan on pertinent issues, saying a debate "would not be in the best interest of the Republican party."

Nixon, appearing at his first news conference since announcing Thursday he again would seek the Republican presidential nomination, said, "The only winner of a debate between Republicans would be President Johnson."

Romney issued the debate challenge last month as he started active campaigning for the GOP nomination.



The destroyer Rowan, shown here in a file photo, had a "minor collision" with a Russian merchant ship in the Sea of Japan, the Defense Department reported.
(UPI Radiophoto)

WASHINGTON—A second meeting with North Korea at Panmunjom "has not produced satisfactory results" toward release of the U.S. Navy ship Pueblo and its crew, President Johnson said Friday at an impromptu news conference.

The President also said the Viet Cong's "general uprising" in South Vietnam had been a "complete failure" from a military standpoint and that the Allies now face a major enemy offensive in the Khe Sanh-DMZ area.

Concerning the second Panmunjom session, the United States Thursday said only that it was prepared to seek such a meeting.

Asked Friday whether a second meeting had taken place, the President replied:

"Yes. There has been a meeting between representatives of North Korea and the United States. We hope there will be additional meetings. These meetings have not produced any satisfactory results as far as the U.S. is concerned."

Johnson added, "We are exploring every diplomatic means available to us" to gain return of the ship and its crew, and also taking "such precautionary steps" militarily as are justified.

Johnson said he saw nothing to indicate that the Pueblo incident has put a "strain in our relations" with South Korea. A questioner had suggested that Seoul was unhappy because of Washington's focus on freeing the U.S. ship and crew, while the South Koreans are most concerned about North Korean intrusions into the South.

Johnson said he has been in close touch with South Korea's President Chung Hee Park and "I think they understand how we feel."

Johnson said he is also sure that the South Koreans are concerned about the U.S. prisoners. And he said the United States is fully interested in its commitments to help protect South Korea from invasion.

The President called the situation near Vietnam DMZ "a fluid one" and promised to keep the American people informed. With-
(Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

Fighting Rages In Hue

SAIGON (AP) — Heavy fighting went on Friday for the old imperial capital of Hue.

There was other fighting at widely separated areas as the biggest enemy offensive of the Vietnam war moved through its fourth day. U.S. and South Vietnamese officials claimed the Communists were being beaten back on all fronts.

The U.S. command reported Saturday that 12,704 enemy were killed in South Vietnam from the period beginning at 6 p.m. last Monday through midnight Friday.

The report lists 661 South Vietnamese military and 318 U.S. military killed in the same period. It also reports 1,792 South Vietnamese military personnel and 1,639 U.S. military were wounded.

Among other Allied forces, four were reported killed and 52 wounded.

The report also said 3,576 suspects have been detained by Allied forces and 1,814 individual and 545 crew-served weapons seized in the period.

(Pacific Stars & Stripes correspondent Bill Collins reported that helicopter gunships joined U.S. and Vietnamese government ground forces to pour rockets and heavy gunfire on scattering Viet Cong units on the outskirts of Saigon Saturday morning.

(More than 650 VC had been
(Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

5 U.S. Missionaries Slain in VC Attack

NEW YORK (AP) — Five American missionaries were slain in a Viet Cong assault on a village in the highlands of South Vietnam, it was announced Friday.

A spokesman for the Christian and Missionary Alliance said the alliance had been notified by radio telephone that the five were killed when enemy forces overran the town of Ban Me Thuot.

Two other missionaries were injured in the raid, but were re-

ported under medical care by American forces, and were to be airlifted out of the area.

The organization's mission buildings, including a leprosarium on the edge of the village, were reported obliterated in the onslaught.

Two churches, used by Vietnamese tribal congregations, also were destroyed.

Bodies of the slain missionaries were reported left in the area, with boobytraps attached
(Continued on Back Page, Col. 4)

McNamara, Wheeler See No Gains for Viet Reds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top defense leaders denied Friday that the Communists had gained either a military or propaganda victory by the widespread Viet Cong attacks in South Vietnam.

After talking with Gen. William C. Westmoreland in Saigon earlier Friday, Gen. Earle G. Wheeler said U.S. and South Vietnamese forces were in control of most of the major cities and military centers subject to the surprise attacks.

Both Wheeler, chairman of the

Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara told newsmen the enemy failed to gain either a surprise military victory or a "psychological and propaganda victory."

They said they made these reports to a closed session of the Senate Armed Services Committee considering the new annual defense budget request for more than \$78.5 billion.

Both McNamara and Wheeler denied there had been a failure

of U.S. military intelligence in advance of the widespread attacks, including the effort to seize the U.S. embassy in Saigon.

Wheeler said intelligence warned that the attacks would be made but could not say where, when or the size.

"That would be a commander's dream," Wheeler said.

Wheeler said Westmoreland reported Friday that heavy fighting continued in parts of South Vietnam, including some firing in Saigon.

Cambodia Blocks U.N.

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP) — The United Nations announced Friday that the peace mission of Swedish diplomat Herbert de Ribbing to ease tensions between Cambodia and Thailand would be terminated because of Cambodia's refusal to permit it to continue.

A spokesman for Secretary-General U Thant said Thant had notified the two governments Wednesday that the de Ribbing mission would end Feb. 15, a year and a half after it began.

De Ribbing was sent to Southeast Asia to try to improve relations between the two countries and halt sporadic outbreaks of violence along their common border.

Bunker Blasts VC Trick

SAIGON (AP) — U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker issued a statement Friday denying Viet Cong radio broadcasts claiming that the U.S. armed forces are cooperating with the Viet Cong to invest the capital of Saigon and set up a coalition government for South Vietnam.

"I have been informed that the Viet Cong radio has been trying to trick the people of South Vietnam by broadcasting these claims," Bunker said.

"Nothing could be further from the truth than this ridiculous claim," he continued. "The U.S. is giving its full and complete support to the government of the Republic of Vietnam and will continue to do so. The Viet Cong broadcast is a desperate and shameful effort to compensate for Viet Cong failure to destroy law and order in the republic during the last few days."

Casualties

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

KILLED IN ACTION

Army
 Cpl. James C. Strano, Hartford, Conn.
 Sgt. Rudolf A. Schrader, Lantana, Fla.
 SSgt. Tammy L. Carpenter, Anderson, Ind.
 SP4 Albert L. Campfield, Edinburg, Ind.
 SSgt. Leroy J. Young, Thibodaux, La.
 Sgt. David J. Klippel, Daggell, Mich.
 Pfc. Gary D. Roerink, Pontiac, Mich.
 SP4 Gary B. Duncan, Williamsville, Mo.
 Pfc. George J. Holly III, Las Vegas, Nev.
 SSgt. Richard E. Stecker, Newcomerstown, Ohio.
 Cpl. Emilio G. Garcia, Barstow, Texas.

Marine Corps

LCpl. Thomas L. Cottrill, Los Gatos, Calif.
 Pfc. Leonard L. Newton, Stockton, Calif.
 Pfc. David A. Bingham, Melrose, Mass.
 Sgt. William A. Polchow, Port Washington, N.Y.
 LCpl. Jerry O. Stenberg, Klamath Falls, Ore.
 Pvt. Paul R. Bellamy, Portland, Ore.
 LCpl. David T. Rozelle, Scranton, Pa.
 Pfc. Theodore Brown Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.
 LCpl. Clifton R. Jones, Pickens, S.C.
 Pfc. Tom W. Simmons Jr., Trinity, Texas.
 Pfc. Howard L. Johnson, Memphis, Tenn.
 LCpl. Steven L. Hellwig, Seattle, Wash.
 GYSgt. Melvin L. Rimel, Milton Junction, Wisc.

DIED OF WOUNDS

Navy
 HM2 Elliot F. Guild, Keene, N.H.
 Marine Corps
 2Lt. Thomas R. Pearson Jr., San Diego, Calif.

MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE

Army
 2Lt. Eulis N. Wilkes Jr., Yuma, Ariz.
 Sgt. Clifford J. Voike, Ft. Culver City, Calif.
 Pfc. John E. Esten, Pequabuck, Conn.
 Cpl. Gary L. Ellis, Louisville, Ky.
 Pfc. Leo E. Michaud, Gardiner, Maine.
 Cpl. John F. Young, Oxon Hill, Md.
 SP4 John J. Moore, Brooklyn, N.Y.

MISSING IN ACTION

Army
 SP4 Andy Garnica
 SP4 John T. McChesney III
 Pfc. Julie A. Calderon
 Marine Corps
 LCpl. Richard W. Fischer

DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION

Army
 SP4 Jimmie J. Jeff, Los Angeles, Calif.
 SP4 Joseph Vielro, Fall River, Mass.
 SP4 Boyce L. Duncan Jr., Alamogordo, N.M.
 Pfc. Jerry D. Wells, Portland, Ore.
 Sgt. Nery J. Branes, Bayamon, P.R.

Navy

LCdr. William J. Thompson, Coronado, Calif.
 Lt. Orville D. Cooley, San Diego, Calif.
 AO3 William H. Reedy Jr., Chico, Calif.
 TN Guillermo B. Pasaduan, San Nicolas, Pangasinan, Philippines, Entry in Service: San Diego, Calif.
 Lt. (j.g.) Ronald L. Roehrich, Glassboro, N.J.
 Lt. (j.g.) Warren W. Soles, Beeville, Texas.

Air Force

Sgt. James A. Stark, Wollaston, Mass.
 MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE
 Marine Corps
 SSgt. Homer D. Springs, Jacksonville, N.C.
 SSgt. Ronald Fair, Millington, Tenn.



Refugees Pull Out of Saigon Suburb

Vietnamese refugees stream past a U.S. armored personnel carrier as they flee from a northern Saigon suburb. Viet Cong

guerrillas overran the suburb Friday but it was retaken by U.S. and South Vietnamese troops supported by armored vehicles.

(AP Radiophoto)

Reds Making Bid For Coalition: Thieu

SAIGON (AP) — South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu held an emergency meeting Friday with government leaders and then went on nationwide television to tell the public that "the back of the Viet Cong attack" on every major city in South Vietnam "has been broken."

The president, speaking calmly to newsmen gathered in the red-carpeted state dining room of Independence Palace, said there is still Viet Cong resistance "in a few provincial capitals . . . but we can consider they have been totally defeated."

Thieu said the Viet Cong's purpose in the spectacular attacks on Saigon, Da Nang, Hue, and nearly every provincial capital was primarily to force formation of a coalition government and thus "to communize all of Vietnam under Hanoi."

Even as the president spoke, government troops and allied soldiers were battling guerrillas in house-to-house fighting at half a dozen locations in the capital.

SAIGON (UPI) — President

Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam has assured U.S. officials that the state of martial law proclaimed Wednesday will last only a few days — until the Viet Cong have been cleaned out of the major cities.

Thieu met with U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker briefly Thursday and reportedly told him martial law would be lifted as soon as life could return to normal.

"It shouldn't be too long now," a spokesman for Thieu said Friday. "Maybe two days, maybe a week."

POW Release Delayed by VC Raids

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP) — Two Americans, one a priest, on their way to Hanoi to receive three captured American pilots, have been delayed in Vientiane by the Vietnam war crisis.

The Americans, Dr. Howard Zinn and Father Daniel Berrigan of Cornell University, were to have flown to Hanoi Friday where the fliers were to have been handed over to them.

But the International Control Commission (ICC), which operates the only air link between Saigon, Vientiane and Hanoi has

Jets Fly 80 Red Missions

SAIGON (UPI) — While battles raged in and around the outskirts of most of the key cities of South Vietnam for the fourth day in succession, the American Command announced 80 missions by American warplanes in the Communist North.

Navy, Air Force and Marine pilots Thursday streaked through a 1,500 foot cloud ceiling covering most of North Vietnam to smash communication lines, military structures and a surface to air missile site.

A strike near the North Vietnamese capital was made by Air Force Thunderchief pilots who zeroed in on a causeway.

postponed the flight because of the current Communist offensive in South Vietnam.

An ICC spokesman said the plane would not go on to Hanoi "at least until Tuesday." The reason given for the delay was "technical reasons."

Father Berrigan and Dr. Zinn went to Vientiane airport Friday hoping the flight would leave as scheduled.

But they were forced to return to their hotel where U.S. Embassy officials met them and offered "all assistance."

Father Berrigan said he and

VC Raids Held 'Desperation'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — The commander of Marines in the Pacific and Vietnam Thursday called Viet Cong suicide raids in Saigon "acts of desperation."

Their aim, said Lt. Gen. Victor H. Krulak, is to divert attention from Communist activity in the Demilitarized Zone, to "get in the newspapers" and to "let the Vietnamese know that they are still around."

Krulak said he does not believe the raids were a success. The enemy lost more men during the 60-hour period encompassing the raids than any other period of the war, he said, and "the cost has been prodigious."

Zinn had received word last Sunday that Hanoi would turn over the fliers to them.

The contact with Hanoi was made through the David Deringer Peace Committee which took part in a similar release of prisoners in Phnom Penh two months ago.

The prisoners Hanoi has said it will release this time are Capt. John David Black of Tennessee, Maj. Morris Miller Overly, of West Virginia and Ens. David Paul Matheny of Indiana.



A smiling group from the Am-Phong Boys Home in Vung Tau, Vietnam, surrounds Father Nguyen Van Qui, supervisor. The home gets a helping hand from the 330th Transportation Co. (USA)

GIs Help Boys to Clean Up

VUNG TAU, Vietnam (IO)—Some 100 boys at the Am-Phong Boys Home here have been getting help from the 330th Transportation Co. through its Civic Action Program.

The boys, from 10 to 16 years old, all have come under Father Nguyen Van Qui's supervision voluntarily, and are free to leave at any time. Most stay on, and are involved in the work that

keeps the home operating.

For the past few years the 330th, 765th Transportation Bn., 34th General Support Group, has given them a hand with their laundry and bakery. Most of the men of the 330th have their laundry done at the home, which brings it extra money. Through its Civic Action program, the 330th contributes funds, to the home. These donations plus pro-

fits have helped to make the home almost self-sustaining.

Father Qui, of the Redemptionist Congregation, feels the home is doing quite well, although there are still many needs. Clothing is always a problem, and facilities always need improvement. But, since Father Qui is optimistic, he's already thinking of another home, this one for wayward girls.

Unit Takes a Shine To Vietnamese Boy

CU CHI, Vietnam (IO) — Nuynh, an 11-year-old Vietnamese boy, had never been to school. Money was scarce, so the boy became an expert at shining boots to earn money to help his family.

Every day he would hurry to the business district of Cu Chi to compete against other boys for customers.

Because he did such a good job, Nuynh had many friends at the big American base camp near the village.

One of his favorites is 1st Lt. Alfred Serrato, executive officer with the 25th Div.'s 1st Bn. (Mech.), 5th Inf.

One day as Serrato was having his boots shined he noticed the boy was extremely quiet. When Serrato asked what was wrong, Nuynh burst into tears.

"The other kids around us started teasing the boy, so I

asked them what was going on," Serrato said. "They told me Nuynh couldn't afford to go to school like the rest of them."

Serrato told the boy he would be back in two days with enough money for his schooling. A big grin appeared on the boy's face. He wiped away the tears and went on with his work.

"I thought this would be a good project for the company," Serrato said "so I asked them for help. The response was great."

Within hours enough money had been collected to send the boy to school for a year. With the extra money, they bought school clothes for him.

"As time goes by and he needs money for school supplies, we'll have it ready," Serrato said.

Little Nuynh is still shining boots, but only after school and then just to visit his friends.

Stubborn GIs Help School

CHU LAI, Vietnam (IO)—"If they destroy it again, we'll just come back with new materials and help the people rebuild it," said Sgt. 1.C. Arlen C. Williams, platoon sergeant of the Americal Div. G-5's 6th Civil Affairs Platoon.

"This is the second time we've helped rebuild the school at Khong Nhon," Williams continued. "It was destroyed once before we started the project."

The school, located in the hamlet of Khong Nhon near Chu Lai, was first destroyed last year. The platoon stepped in and helped start the reconstruction.

"When the school was about 90 per cent complete, the VC leveled it, probably with satchel charges," Williams added.

While the 220-student elementary school is being rebuilt, classes are being held in a small, adjacent, wooden structure.

Khong Nhon is also the site of other civil action programs. Many wells have been built and a large garden project is under way.

AF Helps Build Clinic for Lepers

PLEIKU, Vietnam (OI) — A \$9,000 check has been presented at Pleiku AB from the Air Force Blue Civic Action Fund to aid in building a leper clinic for Pleiku City and the area.

The check was presented to the Rev. Charles Long, director of the Evangelical Mission in Pleiku by Lt. Col. W.A. Scha, 633rd Combat Support Group vice commander.

Japanese Youth Group Sees Sights in Bangkok

By MIKE BOYD
S&S Correspondent

BANGKOK, Thailand — A Japanese youth group, 368 strong, spent four days in Bangkok last week as part of a good-will cruise.

The young diplomatic corps is comprised of Japanese workers between 19 and 25 years in age. About 90 are girls. They were selected by their government for the trip to commemorate the centennial of the Meiji Restoration.

While in Bangkok, they were divided into four sections, some making trips up-country and others staying in Bangkok to meet Thai officials and to see the sights.

Receptions and meetings with Thai youth groups were a major part of their itinerary.

Their ship, the 12,600-ton Sakura Maru, has been converted into a floating classroom for its travelers to learn the history and culture of each nation they visit.

Prime Territory

Ex-Reds Spur VC Defections

BAN ME THUOT, Vietnam (IO) — "I was a Viet Cong a few months ago. But for a long time I had been dissatisfied with what I was doing and I could no longer believe in what the Viet Cong stood for," blared the loudspeaker.

Speaking to the crowd of villagers that had quickly formed was a member of the Armed Propaganda Team, composed of ex-Viet Cong soldiers who had renounced their allegiance to the North to encourage the voluntary withdrawal of Viet Cong personnel from high-lands villages.

The team had sided with the S-5 element of the 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. headed by Capt. Carl Brewer, and was now working the village of Buon Hra near the "Regulars" firebase.

Brewer remarked, "I'm looking forward to working with the team as they have brought in 20 Chieu Hoi in the past four months. This is prime territory and we should see some definite results." His words proved prophetic.

First Lt. Robert Goodstein, the team's American adviser on whose head the VC had put a sizable price tag, arrived later and the patrol set out.

Arriving at the village of Van Moui, the team's squad leader took a position behind the loudspeakers and told the villagers of his past. He went on to relate what had happened to him since he had become a Chieu Hoi. The effect on the villagers was soon apparent as one man stepped forward, declaring himself a supply agent for the Viet Cong. It was his job to collect rice and gather bits of intelligence for the enemy.

"The VC come here every Friday and drain the village of its food reserves," he told Thuan, a school-trained interpreter with the "Regulars." "They give us no weapons because they do not have enough for themselves," he continued.

After a search of the village, the S-5 element conducted a MEDCAP (medical civic action program) for the villagers and then moved on to the village of Buon Ea Huk for another talk.

Before the afternoon was over the team had added three more Chieu Hoi to its list. After an interpreter had finished his talk to the men, a group of girls came up and identified themselves as wives of CSFs (Vietnamese civil-soldiers who make

up the American-advised Camp Strike Forces).

One of the girls admitted, "When the VC come they mistreat and mock us because we are married to CSFs. We don't know what they will do to us the next time."

Brewer assured them they would be protected and praised the girls for helping to remove the scourge of the Viet Cong.

When the patrol left, a new Vietnamese flag was flying over the village and another Viet Cong supply center had been undermined.

The new Chieu Hoi were escorted with their families back to the firebase and later to Ban Me Thuot.

Copter Rescues 3 Filipinos

CU CHI, Vietnam (IO)—Three seriously injured Filipinos were rescued by a U.S. Army helicopter crew.

The trio was spotted from the air by Maj. Jack O. Johnson, 269th Aviation Bn. aircraft commander, as he approached the Tay Ninh Airfield, 65 miles northwest of Saigon.

Landing the aircraft nearby, Johnson found that one of the victims, a man, had been thrown clear of the wreckage, while a second man and a woman were trapped beneath it and in danger of drowning.

Johnson reported all three were unconscious and bleeding from multiple injuries.

WO pilot Phillip E. Coates immediately radioed for medical aid, while Johnson and Spec. 4 James E. Hensley, crew chief, began extricating the trapped couple.

Pfc. Charles Patrick, door gunner, administered first aid to the second man.

According to Johnson, it took 20 minutes to free the two in the ditch. Since they were unconscious, Patrick had to hold their heads above water.

All three were made as comfortable as possible until a dust-off helicopter arrived to evacuate them to the hospital.

Viet on a Motorbike Turns Wheels of War

DA NANG, Vietnam (ISO)—A Vietnamese motorcycle driver and a U.S. Marine teamed up to get reinforcements when a squad's radio went dead during a VC attack.

After an enemy mortar round landed nearby and a sniper started firing past their heads, 1.Cpl. Jimmy Davis, 19, calmly stepped out on the road and thumbed a ride.

"A Vietnamese drove up on a motorcycle," Davis said. "I used sign language and a bit of French to tell him that I needed a ride to the battalion about a mile away."

"I got on the rear seat and we hauled off," said Davis. "That guy could drive! You

should have seen the stares we got when we pulled into the battalion area."

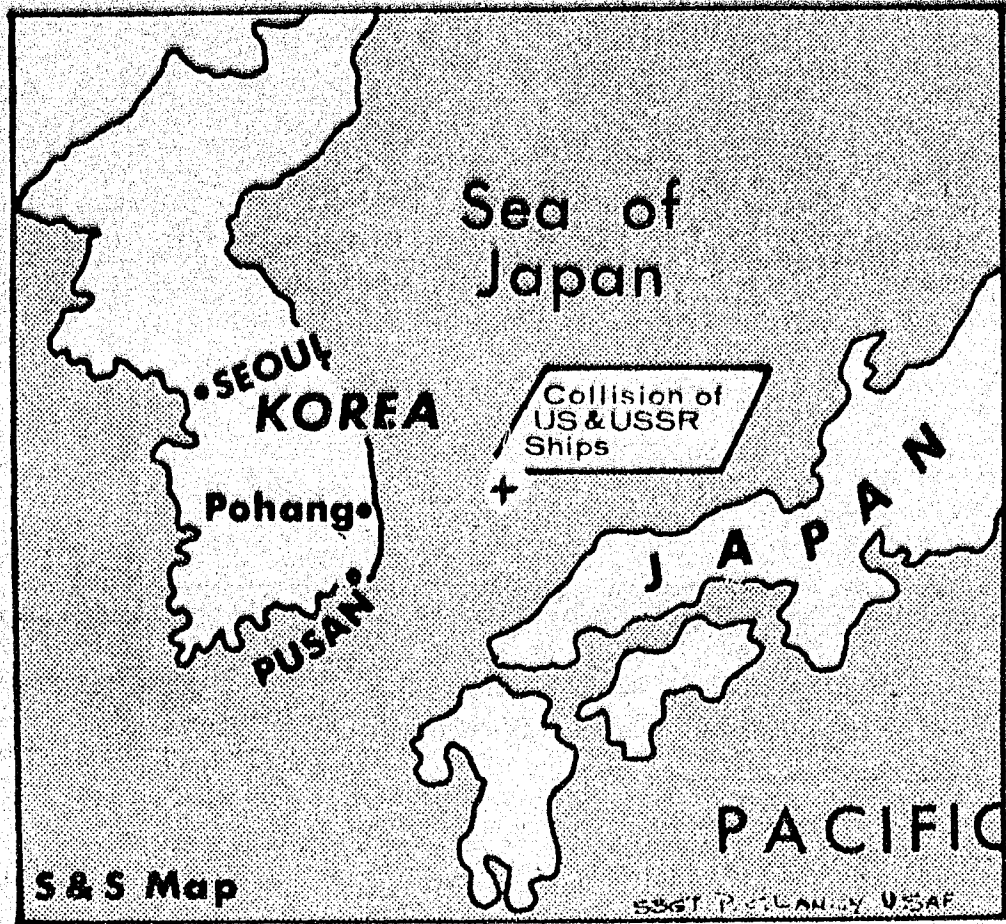
Davis ran to B Co. at the 1st Bn., 5th Marine Regt. command post to tell of the attack.

Marines were loaded on a truck with a spare radio and headed for the squad's position.

"When we got back to the section of the road where our squad was providing security, the guys were all right," Davis said.

"We didn't have any more trouble with the VC for the rest of the day," he said.

U.S. Destroyer, Russ Ship Collide



(Continued From Page 1)
Japan early Wednesday, the Defense Department said.
Involved were the USS Rowan and the merchant ship Vislobokov.

The Rowan reported a three foot hole was torn in its hull above the waterline. In response to queries from the U.S. ship, the Vislobokov signalled there was "damage to my stern two meters (about two yards) in length" but added "no assistance required."

The protest from the Soviet Foreign Ministry was delivered Thursday night to the U.S. embassy in Moscow and forwarded to the State Department, a spokesman said. It said the U.S. ship was at fault in the collision.

Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said the United States intended to reply "in due course" to the Soviet Union.

Navy authorities noted that

the Wednesday, Washington time, collision occurred at 4:53 a.m. when darkness still prevailed. Even though the incident happened in the general area where the U.S. intelligence ship Pueblo was hijacked Jan. 23, Defense Department spokesmen discounted any connection.

The Pentagon said the collision came during a "crossing situation" which seemed to imply that each ship was unknowingly on a collision course.

They added that the Rowan, skippered by Cmdr. Loren I. Moore of Wheat Ridge, Colo., had the right of way under international maritime regulations. The site of the collision was 95 miles off the South Korean port of Pobang.

U.S. officials said that American Navy captains have long had orders to hold their course and speed when they have the right of way and another vessel crosses their path.



RUTH WILTING



CAROLYN GRISWOLD

N. Korea, U.S. Meet At DMZ

By SGT. J. TOM GRAHAM
S&S Korea Bureau

SEOUL—U.S. and North Korean senior Military Armistice Commission (MAC) delegates met in private, four-hour talks at Panmunjom Friday but failed to reach agreement on the return of the U.S. Navy vessel Pueblo and crew, a U.S. Embassy spokesman here said Saturday.

Rear Adm. John V. Smith, senior United Nations Command member, and North Korean senior spokesman Maj. Gen. Chung Kook Park held the unscheduled MAC meeting between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Friday with only two interpreters present.

The two did not reach any agreement, one source said, except to meet again at Panmunjom in two or three days.

An aide to Maj. Gen. Byong Hion Lew, ROK member of the United Nations Command MAC delegation, said Gen. Lew did not attend the unscheduled Panmunjom meeting Friday.

The meeting was held a day after North Korean Radio broadcasts indicated a willingness to discuss the Pueblo incident at Panmunjom. The U.S. announced in Washington Thursday that it had agreed to meet North Korea at Panmunjom.

Heavy Fighting Rages at Hue

(Continued From Page 1)
killed in Saigon's Gia Dinh area alone. Civilian casualties for the area were reported at 88 killed and more than 1,000 wounded.

(In one nine-block section of Saigon, a police cordon rounded up 100 Viet Cong, as well as an anti-aircraft gun and an anti-tank weapon.

(A Red force attacked the Newport bridge Friday morning but were held off by Vietnamese soldiers until helicopter gunships, gunboats and armored cars arrived to drive the Communists off. The bridge leads to docking facilities on the south side of the Saigon river.

(Several other firefights were reported, but details were sketchy.)

The main center of attention Friday was on Hue, 400.8 miles north, where the enemy appeared to be making its strongest bid to hold control.

Associated Press correspond-

ent John Lengel reported from Hue Friday night that the city was completely blacked out because power supplies had been cut. He said the situation was confused, but the Viet Cong appeared to have much of the city under their control.

The U.S. command said Communist forces still held two corners of the old walled city called the Citadel, and that heavy fighting was going on. U.S. Marines and South Vietnamese troops were in the action. Other information indicated the enemy control was more widespread with the Allied troops holding on to isolated islands of resistance.

From 10 to 20 Americans were reported missing in the city.

Reports from the scene said that because of the historical importance of Hue as the one-time seat of Vietnamese kings, the South Vietnamese authorities were reluctant to give permission to destroy some of the old buildings where the Communists were entrenched.

Lengel said that Friday night the U.S. forces were holding a perimeter around the U.S. military advisory compound on the south bank of the Perfume River that divides the city. Shortly before sundown, the Marines tried to move out of the perimeter but fierce fighting followed and they were forced back into their positions.

One unconfirmed report said

South Vietnamese airborne troops had tried four times to crash through a gate in the southern part of the Citadel, but were beaten back each time.

Heavy firing occurred all over the city throughout the day and it was difficult to evacuate the wounded, Lengel reported.

In a sand-bagged bunker in the advisory compound, doctors were working feverishly to treat the mounting toll of casualties.

5 Missionaries Slain

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to them, when American forces reached there.

The dead were identified as the Rev. Robert Ziemer, 49, Toledo, Ohio; the Rev. C. Edward Thompson, 43, and his wife, Ruth, 44, of New Kensington, Pa.; nurse Ruth M. Wilting, 42, Cleveland, Ohio, and Leon C. Griswold, 66, of White Plains, N.Y.

Griswold's daughter, Carolyn, 41, also a missionary, and Mrs. Ziemer were injured.

The Rev. Gerald Smith, an official of the missionary organization, said word of the deaths came from an Army chaplain, the Rev. Richard Perkins, who called last midnight by radio from Ban Me Thuot.

The call was relayed through McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

The report also said that another missionary, Hank Blood,

of the Wycliffe Bible Translators, was captured by the Viet Cong, but that his wife and children were released and are safe.

Chaplain Perkins, in his call from Ban Me Thuot, said that of the situation there now: "We are in a more secure position and are getting reinforcements now."

Only one of the bodies of the dead, that of Rev. Mr. Ziemer, was recovered immediately, he said. The others could not be approached until experts were available to deal with the booby traps.

The alliance said it had the largest Protestant missionary force in South Vietnam, with 138 persons assigned there. Its work, a spokesman said, is primarily evangelical.

Ridgway Confers At White House

WASHINGTON (AP)—Retired Army Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway met with President Johnson and Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey Thursday for talks on the Vietnam and Korea situations.

The White House said the talks were held after a luncheon also attended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Ridgway was at the White House for about four hours.

LBJ Discusses Pueblo, VC

(Continued From Page 1)

out forecasting a victory in what seemed to be an imminent battle, he said, "I am confident that our men and the South Vietnamese will be giving a good account of themselves."

The President said: "We have known for several months that the Communists were planning a massive winter-spring offensive."

"We have detailed information on Ho Chi Minh's order governing that offensive. Part of it is called a general uprising. We know the object was to overthrow the constitutional government in Saigon and to create a situation in which we and the Vietnamese would be willing to accept a Communist-dominated

coalition government. "Another part of that offensive was planned as a massive attack across the frontiers of South Vietnam by North Vietnamese units . . .

"Just before meeting with you I read a long cable from Ambassador (Ellsworth) Bunker which described the vigor with which the Vietnamese government and our own people are working together to deal with" the current general uprising, Johnson said.

"In the meanwhile, we may at this moment be on the eve of a major enemy offensive in the area of Khe Sanh and generally around the Demilitarized Zone . . ."

He said that, after intensive review of recent developments in Vietnam, he saw no reason at this point to ask Congress for more troops beyond the present

525,000 authorized for the Southeast Asian war.

He said current American manpower in Vietnam was slightly under 500,000.

Summing up his review of the Vietnam situation and enemy losses, the President said: "That does not look like a (Communist) victory to me."

The President met reporters in the Cabinet Room adjoining his office a few minutes after noon.

The newsmen had only a few minutes notice that the news conference was to take place.

Johnson began by reading a prepared statement. Then he accepted questions and answers for about 30 minutes, walking up and down one side of the long cabinet table while reporters shot questions at him from the other side. The conference was not filmed for television use.

Oil Fire Hits Town in N.J.

GUTTENBERG, N.J. (AP) — A scorching fire and several minor explosions devastated water-front offices and an oil storage area of the Imperial Oil Co. here Friday.

Police said the fire was "under control" about three hours after it began. Large oil storage tanks on the company property were not endangered.

There were no reports of injuries.

The fire broke out in a section of the office building containing 55-gallon oil storage drums, setting off explosions and spreading to the offices.

Fire companies responded from three nearby cities.

Guttenberg is on the Hudson River across from 86th Street in New York City.

World Weather

USAF Weather Central

TOKYO AREA

Saturday: Fair and cold; Low near 20
Sunday: Fair to cloudy; High near 50

TEMPERATURES

Feb. 2, 1968

	H	L		H	L
Bangkok	92	70	Srijaon	68	56
Chitose	23	5	Seoul	27	10
Manila	84	72	Taipei	55	50
Naha	57	50	Tokyo	45	28
	H	L		H	L
Albany	34	27	Melbourne	68	56
Albuquerque	49	31	Memphis	65	62
Amarillo	53	38	Miami	73	70
Atlanta	47	44	Milwaukee	49	39
Birmingham	64	59	Moscow	34	28
Bismarck	23	-4	N. Orleans	73	56
Boise	47	03	NYC	36	32
Boston	35	33	N. Platte	45	22
Chicago	54	47	Oklahoma City	55	40
Cincinnati	62	45	Omaha	32	25
Cleveland	58	42	Paris	43	37
Denver	44	28	Phila.	41	34
Des Moines	39	30	Phila.	41	34
Detroit	53	37	Phoenix	62	35
Duluth	33	24	Pittsburgh	46	34
Fairbanks	-33	-44	Portl., O.	52	42
Fargo	10	-3	Reno	27	10
Fort Worth	67	55	Richmond	47	36
Hong Kong	54	50	Singapore	88	74
Honolulu	82	64	St. Louis	61	45
Houston	74	62	St. Paul	34	29
Ind'polis	60	45	Salt Lake	41	22
Jackville	62	54	S. Antonio	75	64
Jakarta	93	75	Son Diego	67	48
Kansas City	49	35	Son Frun.	52	46
K. Lumpur	90	71	Seattle	47	37
Las Vegas	58	31	Shreveport	68	63
London	45	33	Sydney	82	72
L.A.	74	48	Tucson	63	30
Louisville	62	50	Wash.	46	45