


# LBJ IN DALLAS, SEES MORE 'BLOOD AND TEARS'

PACIFIC  
**STARS AND STRIPES**  
AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OF THE  
U.S. ARMED FORCES IN THE FAR EAST  
昭和34年1月22日創刊 東京 丸の内區 神田區 池袋 175号 (日刊)  
昭和34年4月21日第3種郵便物認可



10¢

Vol. 24, No. 58

★★★★★ EDITION

Thursday, Feb. 29, 1968

## Cuban Lifeboat Is Rammed, Gunned Off Virginia Coast

PORTSMOUTH, Va. (UPI)—A Cuban ship put three would-be defectors over the side in a lifeboat Tuesday, then savagely rammed and machine gunned the small vessel while the U.S. Coast Guard looked on helplessly. The ship later claimed it picked up the three—a point which raised considerable doubt.

Two U.S. Coast Guard cutters, their crews incensed by the brutality of the incident, peeled the covers off their guns and hemmed in the ship for a brief period, but were forced to let it proceed since the ramming took place eight miles off the Virginia coast—five miles beyond U.S. territorial limits.

Minutes after the vessel made its murderous run, it hoisted a Cuban flag and radioed in English:

"The trouble is settled now. We go back to Cuba."

A Coast Guard plane hovered overhead, relaying reports on

the tense situation back to the Portsmouth Coast Guard base.

The cutter Point Brown was first on the scene, and was joined by the cutter Chock just as the Cuban ship was making its third run over the shattered remains of the lifeboat.

One man was seen momenta-

rily clinging to the wreckage of the lifeboat and the other two were bobbing in the wake of the Cuban vessel.

Later the ship, identified as the 292-foot "26th of July" radioed it had retrieved the three men from the water, but

(Continued Back Page, Col. 1)

DALLAS (UPI)—President Johnson, making his first trip to Dallas since the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination of President Kennedy, Tuesday promised more "blood, sweat and tears" in Vietnam.

In an echo of Winston Churchill's famous World War II speech, Johnson said:

"The enemy of freedom has chosen to make this year the decisive one. He is striking out in a desperate and vicious effort to shape the final outcome. So far, he has failed in his major objectives.

"There is a long road ahead. There will be blood, sweat and tears shed. The weak will drop from the lines, their feet sore and their voices loud."

Johnson told the 26th annual meeting of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association that a recent report from a Vietnam Commander Gen. William C. Westmoreland showed recent Communist casualties, including those of the Tet new year offensive, at 43,000 killed and 7,000 captured.

Johnson flew from his Texas ranch to Dallas' Love Field where he had been sworn in an hour after Kennedy's assassination. Security precautions were so tight Tuesday that Dallas police had only two hours' notice of the trip and White House reporters did not know where they were going until just before they took off for Dallas.

The motorcade route took him a few hundred yards from the Texas Schoolbook Depository building, from where Lee Harvey Oswald shot Kennedy. There was no sign that Johnson took notice of the now-famous Dallas landmark and workers in the building were not even aware he was in the city.

"When did he go by?" building manager Roy Truly asked a reporter calling to see what the depository employes had been doing.

Johnson spent less than two hours in Dallas before returning to his ranch.

The President told the REA delegates that as part of this nation's resolve in Vietnam, there must be "no retreat from responsibility; no failing of our fighting sons, no betrayal of those who fight beside us, no breaking of our trusted commitment, no weakening of will that would encourage the enemy and prolong the bloody conflict."

"I believe in the wisdom and fortitude of the American people—the good sense and stout heart of Americans like you. I believe with all my faith in the American future that you have worked so long and well to shape," Johnson said.

Turning to domestic issues, Johnson said "the problems of cities, suburbs and countryside are a single national problem." He said we must have a "declaration of domestic inter-dependence" and work together everywhere "so that all our people may have a fuller share of the better life that is their right."

The President said this is the purpose of the Great Society—the label he gave his administration in 1964 but one he has rarely invoked during the past year.

He invoked it in Dallas quite forcefully, saying:

"Thanks to you and countless strong Americans like you, the Great Society is here to stay."

## Army Asks ABM Cash

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army appealed to Congress Tuesday for an increase of nearly 1,400 per cent in funds for deployment of an anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system.

Department officials urged approval of a requested appropriation of \$312.9 million for the system, which has been named Sentinel. This year there is \$22.6 million available.

They said it "will be very effective against the light, unsophisticated attacks that the Chinese Communists are capable of launching against the United States during the mid-1970s."

The comments were in statements to a closed session of the

## Yul Still Shines

CAGNES-SUR-MER, France (AP)—Actor Yul Brynner was at the wheel of a car which rolled over several times and transformed itself into a total loss Monday, but he escaped without a scratch.



A car carries President Johnson past the Texas Book Depository Building (right background), in Dallas, from which an assassin killed President Kennedy. (UPI Radiophoto)

## GIs Hammer VC at Can Tho

SAIGON (AP) — American infantrymen, probing the heart of the fertile Mekong Delta to take pressure off the embattled Can Tho City nerve center, smashed into Viet Cong troops from the air and sea, the U.S. Command reported Tuesday.

At least 57 Viet Cong troops have been killed, headquarters said. Fighting was continuing

in the area 80 miles south of Saigon.

The Viet Cong, in a pre-dawn counterattack Tuesday, charged the night defensive positions of the Army-Navy task force, blazing away with machineguns and rocket-propelled grenades. Two Americans were killed and 16 wounded.

As the new fighting developed

around Can Tho, the biggest city in the delta and the region's military headquarters, three Communist tanks and an armed personnel carrier were spotted along South Vietnam's western frontier only 50 miles from Saigon.

There were new indications, too, that the North Vietnamese

(Continued Back Page, Col. 2)

## Hippies Punchy?

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Is the free, unregimented world of hippiedom beginning to crumble? Art Kunkin, editor of the underground newspaper the Los Angeles Free Press, has installed an employes' punch time clock at the paper's office.

# Red Moves in Laos Worry U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The State Department expressed serious concern Tuesday over what may be a developing Communist drive into the neutral kingdom of Laos.

Press officer Robert J. McCloskey, at the same time, declined to link the threatening developments in Laos with the continuing Communist general offensive in neighboring Vietnam.

The expression of official U.S. concern was at a somewhat higher pitch than on Monday when the spokesman, replying to questions, expressed concern but limited it to North Vietnamese efforts to protect their supply lines.

On the basis of more information, the view here now is that North Vietnamese and Pathet Laos attacks "may be a drive toward the low-lying parts of Laos."

This is the lush valley region along the Mekong River where most of the population lives.

The spokesman said recent moves by North Vietnam and Pathet Laos forces represent further violations of the 1962 Geneva agreement which guarantees neutrality of Laos.

McCloskey said that there were three phases of the fighting in Laos.

The first action is taking place in the northern panhandle where the road center of Thathom was taken by Communist forces who are advancing in the direction of Paksane on the Mekong.

The second area is southwest of Saravane, two-thirds of the way down the panhandle where North Vietnamese and Pathet Laos forces penetrated to Lao-Ngam. This force was thrown back two days ago.

The third area of the fighting is around Attopeu, in the extreme south.

(Meanwhile, in Vientiane, Laotian Defense Ministry officials reported two minor victories at Saravane and Attopeu, the UPI said. But the main North Vietnamese offensive remained unchecked.)

(Defense Ministry spokesman Col. Thone Phan Knockay said the Communists lost about 90 dead at Attopeu.)

(Knockay reported fighting continuing around Muong Phalane and Saravane and near Sala Den Din, 50 miles north of Paksane.)



## Clean-up After Hue Battle

Vietnamese shop owners, their families and cleaning up their city after the end of three weeks of fighting. (AP Radiophoto)

# Weather Hinders U.S. Jets

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON—Poor weather over North Vietnam Monday continued to hamper U.S. air strikes against the Communist country.

Most of the day's 62 strikes were confined to the coastal panhandle and in and just north of the DMZ.

Navy A6 Intruders used radar to zero in on a railroad bridge 40 miles southwest of Thanh Hoa during the night. Pilots reported all bombs on target, but darkness prevented a damage report.

Other A6s hit another railroad bridge 24 miles northwest of Vinh and reported cratering approaches to a highway bridge 25 miles northwest of Dong Hoi.

## Rude Awakening For VC Patrol

SAIGON (AP) — South Vietnamese Army Rangers caught the Viet Cong napping in the midday sun Tuesday.

As reported by a military spokesman, a unit of Vietnamese Rangers on patrol near the city of My Tho in the Mekong Delta found 10 Viet Cong soldiers asleep under a tree.

"The Rangers captured all ten," the spokesman said.

## Saigon Port Backed Up

SAIGON (AP)—A continuing strict curfew in Saigon is increasing congestion in the capital city's commercial port and 19 ships with a total of 100,000 tons of cargo now are backed up waiting to unload, officials said Tuesday.

Although the amount of cargo unloaded daily has increased, the cargo backup has increased by 40,000 tons and four ships since last Tuesday.

The 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. curfew has limited work by civilian stevedores to one shift.

# 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

Pfc. Earnest P. Holmes Jr., Childersburg, Ala.  
Spec. 4 Jerry A. Hurd, Casa Grande, Ariz.  
Pfc. Vernon H. Lackey, Globe, Ariz.  
Sgt. Dillard G. Rye, Gustine, Calif.  
Sgt. Howard C. Bell, Oakland, Calif.  
Sgt. David M. Cash, Alhambra, Calif.  
Spec. 4 Donald E. Clark, Ventura, Calif.  
Spec. 4 Frederick W. Haas, Santa Rosa, Calif.  
Spec. 4 Eugene A. Sorenson, Glendale, Calif.  
Pfc. Richard Perez, North Hollywood, Calif.  
Pfc. Charles P. Tortliatt Jr., Petaluma, Calif.  
Sgt. Thomas H. Morris, Decatur, Ga.  
Spec. 4 Bobby E. Lee, Moultrie, Ga.  
Pfc. Joseph R. Weaver Jr., Sumner, Ga.  
Sgt. John W. Pyle, Chicago, Ill.  
Cpl. Cullen W. Quin, Harvey, Ill.  
Spec. 4 Dennis F. Hahn, Olney, Ill.  
Spec. 4 James B. Brandon, Chicago, Ill.  
Spec. 4 Donald M. Dale, Champaign, Ill.  
Sgt. Lawrence E. Gibson, Rochester, Ind.  
Sgt. Michael P. Ash, Terre Haute, Ind.  
Sgt. Jerome R. Kelly, Culler, Ind.  
Pvt. Ronald D. Bunting, Corning, Iowa.  
Spec. 4 Robert W. Seaton, Kevil, Ky.  
1Lt. James M. Hill, Oak Grove, La.  
Cpl. Charles L. Baugh, Grand Isle, La.  
1Lt. Frank J. Schap, Baltimore, Md.  
Cpl. James C. Albertini, Mansfield, Mass.  
Cpl. Wayne T. Severino, Taunton, Mass.  
Sgt. Dale L. E. Davis, Adrian, Mich.  
Sgt. Richard P. Veltance, Hemlock, Mich.  
Spec. 5 Kenneth L. Fulton, Fairack, Mich.  
Spec. 4 Spencer S. Freestone, Holland, Mich.  
Spec. 4 Ronald F. Klos, Detroit, Mich.  
Pfc. Roger D. Pyne, Detroit, Mich.  
Pfc. Lukas J. Ventiline, Detroit, Mich.  
Spec. 4 Deryl R. Carvick, Kiestler, Minn.  
Spec. 4 John A. Hstrup Jr., St. Louis Park, Minn.  
Spec. 5 Bruce A. Nelson, Malden, Mo.  
Spec. 4 Clarence R. Holt, Liberty, Mo.  
Spec. 4 Curtis D. Scowden, Overland, Mo.  
Spec. 4 James L. Wood, Eldon, Mo.  
1Lt. Ralph L. Williams, Billings, Mont.  
Cpl. Emanuel F. Burroughs, New Brunswick, N.J.  
Cpl. Daniel Meade, New York City.  
Pfc. Francis S. Bechtold, Churchville, N.Y.  
Pfc. John M. Dushnow, Syracuse, N.Y.  
Pfc. Lester Freeman, New York City.  
Pfc. Ramon S. Rodriguez, New York City.  
Pfc. Samuel J. Santangelo, Springfield Gardens, N.Y.  
Pvt. Kenny L. Coffer, New York City.  
Pfc. Lionel N. Phillips Jr., Concord, N.C.  
Sic. Donald B. Stieklerka, Canton, Ohio.  
Sgt. Charles O. Penny, Cleveland, Ohio.  
Spec. 4 Charles E. Anderson, Cleveland, Ohio.  
Spec. 4 Richard L. Bosworth, Centerburg, Ohio.  
Pfc. Henry Gregory, Cleveland, Ohio.  
Pfc. Frank L. Hone, Bellefontaine, Ohio.  
Pfc. Durrell W. Sibert, Amelia, Ohio.  
1Lt. Robert F. Brulte Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Cpl. Joseph L. Ostlin, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Sgt. James T. Davis, Decatur, Tenn.  
Spec. 4 Bennie E. Mc Corkle, Johnson

City, Tenn.  
Spec. Benjamin S. Underhill, Burns, Tenn.  
2Lt. David G. Isbell, Huntsville, Tex.  
SSgt. Raul R. Lamas, El Paso, Tex.  
Sgt. Adolfo Luna, Mercedes, Tex.  
Sgt. Vito Vela Jr., Falfurrias, Tex.  
Cpl. Wade E. Thackrey Jr., Lubbock, Tex.  
Pfc. Raul Candelaria, El Paso, Tex.  
Spec. 4 Randall L. Saunders, Logan, Utah.  
Pfc. Kellynn V. Snow, Salt Lake City, Utah.  
1Lt. Thomas E. Dobrinska, Phlox, Wis.  
Sgt. Anthony J. Padebradsky, Lena, Wis.  
**Navy**  
EN2 Dallas D. Cummings, Wakefield, R.I.  
**Marine Corps**  
LCpl. Blake H. Halfman, Phoenix, Ariz.  
2ndLt. Robert E. Wright, Sacramento, Calif.  
Pfc. John A. Page, San Diego, Calif.  
LCpl. Mark E. James, Bremen, Ga.  
Pfc. Kenneth C. Forham, Macon, Ga.  
LCpl. Larry R. Mc Kinney, Richmond, Ind.  
LCpl. Louis W. Cussing, Rockwood, Mich.  
LCpl. Lawrence E. Hames, Kalamazoo, Mich.  
Pfc. Richard J. Vonasek, East Grand Forks, Minn.  
Pfc. Byron L. Brown, Sikeston, Mo.  
LCpl. Tyrone F. Lamille, Brushston, N.Y.  
Pfc. Michael J. Kelly, Findlay, Ohio.  
LCpl. Herbert D. Hammons, Pocomet, Okla.  
Pvt. Stanley C. Grove, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Pfc. Jack C. Bogard, Humble, Tex.  
LCpl. Larrington Owens, Palmyra, Va.  
Pvt. Jerome A. Schuettl, Reedsburg, Wis.

### DIED OF WOUNDS

**Army**  
Pfc. Larry Anderson, New York City.  
Pfc. Edward L. Frazier, Aubrey, Tex.  
**Marine Corps**  
Pfc. Raiketh E. Baker, Chicago, Ill.  
Pfc. William Boney, Tallulah, La.  
Pfc. Daniel A. Nelson, Detroit, Mich.  
Cpl. Larry K. Spangler, Jackson, Ohio.  
Pfc. Robert K. Raymond, Oklahoma City, Okla.  
**MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE**  
**Army**  
Cpl. Ben E. Causey, Mobile, Ala.  
Cpl. James L. Brown Jr., Marianna, Ark.  
2Lt. Jerry A. Novakovich, Concord, Calif.  
Sgt. Robert E. Alexander, Garden Grove, Calif.  
Cpl. Rene Z. Hernandez, Rosemead, Calif.  
Spec. 4 Phillip O. Guillen, San Jose, Calif.  
Spec. 4 Innes L. Marland, Long Beach, Calif.  
Spec. 4 Stephen D. Mazza, Novato, Calif.  
Pfc. Clyde L. De Melto, El Sobrante, Calif.  
Pfc. Russell W. Krill, San Jose, Calif.  
Pfc. Gaylord J. Sebans, Santa Rosa, Calif.  
Sic. Adrian A. Quick Jr., Colorado Springs, Colo.  
Spec. 4 Wayman E. Paskins, Greenwood, Del.  
Sgt. William N. Flint, Naples, Fla.  
1Lt. Gary C. Jones, East Point, Ga.  
Pfc. Albert D. White, Atlanta, Ga.  
Pfc. Roland M. Bowen, Iron City, Ga.  
1Lt. Jeffrey A. Hults, Kankakee, Ill.  
SSgt. Bobby G. Matheny, Chicago, Ill.  
Sgt. Terrence E. Staudohar, Chicago, Ill.  
Spec. 4 Gregory A. Muszalski, Lemont, Ill.  
Pfc. Kirk E. Houle, Peoria, Ill.  
Spec. 4 Leonard A. Stalnaker, Beech Grove, Ind.  
Pfc. Steven E. Clark, Noblesville, Ind.  
Pfc. George J. House, Indianapolis, Ind.  
Spec. 4 Gordon J. Weljen, Homestead, Iowa.

Sgt. Lonnie G. Le Bombard, Lawrence, Kan.  
Pfc. David E. Littleton, Lexington, Ky.  
Cpl. Deryl R. Kirkwood, Baton Rouge, La.  
Spec. 4 Ronald L. Brown, Hyattsville, Md.  
Sgt. Eugene V. Sanner, Ayer, Mass.  
Spec. 4 George J. Gottwald Jr., Roslindale, Mass.  
Spec. 4 Hugh R. Johnson Jr., Brockton, Mass.  
Spec. 4 Lewis J. Newberry, East Longmeadow, Mass.  
Pfc. Charles A. Yeomans, Medford, Mass.  
2Lt. William E. Lozier, Cassopolis, Mich.  
Spec. 4 Willis C. Rheault, Lake Linden, Mich.  
Pfc. Victor M. Stribling, Starkville, Miss.  
Pfc. Orville A. Sheets, Fulton, Mo.  
Pfc. Michael Nemeth, South Amboy, N.J.  
LTC John F. Martin, Peekskill, N.Y.  
2Lt. Richard W. Pershing, New York City.  
Spec. 4 Michael P. Anderson, Flushing, N.Y.  
Spec. 4 Thomas Norton, New York City.  
Spec. 4 Jose J. Sanfigo, New York City.  
Spec. 4 Kenneth E. Schneider, Staten Island, N.Y.  
Pfc. Arnold M. Duryea, Nunda, N.Y.  
1Lt. Thomas Y. Osborne, Concord, N.C.  
Sic. John L. Church, Fayetteville, N.C.  
SSgt. Bernard J. Caron, Fayetteville, N.C.  
Spec. 4 James E. Parker, Oak City, N.C.  
Pfc. Edward E. Dew, Hallsboro, N.C.  
Spec. 4 Orville W. Helgeland Jr., Columbus, Ohio.  
Sgt. Harry F. E. Peoples, Nashville, Tenn.  
Cpl. James M. Virba Jr., Eutaw, Tex.  
Spec. 5 Henry W. Hartman, Georgetown, Tex.  
Spec. 4 Greg B. Belaw, Brigham City, Utah.  
Cpl. Thomas T. Oliver, Bedford, Va.  
Spec. 4 Ralph A. Dahm, Iron Ridge, Wis.  
Spec. 4 Delbert B. Dunifer, West Allis, Wis.  
Pfc. Gerald R. Anderson, Kenosha, Wis.  
Pfc. Norman C. Kissinger, Milwaukee, Wis.  
Pfc. Randall A. Woolcott, Milwaukee, Wis.  
**Marine Corps**  
SSgt. George W. Walbridge, Huntsville, Ala.  
SSgt. William L. Brown, Albany, Ga.  
2Lt. Michael J. Hall, South Bend, Ind.  
1Lt. Carl E. Peterson, Manistique, Mich.

### MISSING IN ACTION

**Army**  
WO Michael L. Koskovich.  
SSgt. Louis V. Supino.  
Spec. 4 Vincent M. Soranno.  
Spec. 4 Harold P. Gray.  
Pfc. Ernest M. Weatherbee.  
Pfc. Kenneth W. Shupland.  
Pfc. Willie C. Torrence.  
Pfc. Domenico Morgera Jr.  
**Navy**  
LTJG James S. Kravitz.  
**DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**  
**Army**  
SSgt. Taylor W. Foreman Jr., Fort Irwin, Calif.  
SSgt. Robert J. Wiggins, Ayer, Mass.  
Spec. 5 Craig H. Bueh, Kansas City, Mo.  
1Lt. John Godfrey Jr., Olean, N.Y.  
Spec. 4 Alvin R. Church, Deep Gap, N.C.  
Pfc. Garry R. Powell, Scotland Neck, N.C.  
**Marine Corps**  
Cpl. Frank P. Capuano, Rochester, N.Y.  
LCpl. Sylvester Mc Farland, Rochester, N.Y.

# DC6 Limpers in Carrying Thieu, Other Officials

SAIGON (AP)—A four-engine plane carrying South Vietnam's president, premier and other top-ranking officials lost an engine on a cross-country flight, and a U.S. rescue helicopter was sent to escort the disabled plane to a landing, a government spokesman said Tuesday.

The incident occurred Sunday when the presidential DC6 carrying President Nguyen Van Thieu was en route from Saigon to Da Nang. About one hour out of Da Nang, the right in-board engine "just stopped," said Lt. Col. Tran Van Lam, who was aboard the plane.

Lam said a U.S. HH43 Pedro helicopter was sent from Da Nang to escort the stricken plane. The Pedros are strange-looking craft with counter-rotating blades crammed with rescue equipment, including fire-

fighting chemical foam. The chopper is standard equipment at U.S. air bases where it is used to rescue pilots from crashed planes and extinguish fires.

When the plane landed at Da Nang AB, Lam said, two U.S. Air Force fire engines raced down the runway with the aircraft and escorted it to the terminal.

On the plane with Thieu were Premier Nguyen Van Loc, Gen. Cao Van Vien, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Defense Minister Nguyen Van Vy; the speakers of the House of Representatives and Senate; former Gens. Tran Van Don and Ton That Dinh, two leading senators; Health Minister Lu Y, and other ranking South Vietnamese officials.

The purpose of the trip was a visit to Hue, where North Vietnamese troops held out for more than three weeks.

# Copter Crewmen Rescue Six in 3-Hour Stretch

SAIGON (OI)—A Huskie helicopter crew of Det. 10, 38th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Sq., Binh Thuy AB, made six combat saves within a three-hour period one night recently. In Southeast Asia, the Huskie is nicknamed Pedro by the crews.

The first save was made when the crew rescued four downed Army Huey helicopter crew members and a wounded soldier, five miles southwest of Can Tho.

The second save was about three hours later by the same crew. They picked up an F-100 Supersabre pilot from the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, Bien Hoa

AB, who was shot down by enemy ground fire one mile north of Binh Thuy.

The Pedro crew members were Capt. Lawrence W. Conover, 37, San Francisco, aircraft commander; and Leslie E. Johnson, 37, Bruceton, Tenn., pilot; T.Sgt. Kenneth Hogan, 39, Roanoke, Va., flight engineer, and Airman I.C. Larry D. Nicholson, 21, Disly, Calif., a pararescueman who was on his second mission after one month in country.

The first save, of the unarmed Army Huey from the 82nd Medical Det., Soc Trang Airfield, was made after the Air Force

Pedro crew, preparing to land at Binh Thuy, received a call from the downed crew.

When the Pedro arrived at the scene, a Navy Sea Wolf helicopter was already there and provided air cover for the rescue. Enemy fire was received from about 50 meters on either side of the chopper during the rescue but the save was made without incident and they returned to Binh Thuy.

Units of the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, of which the 38th ARRS is a part, have completed more than 1,400 successful rescues since December 1964.

## Tet Attack Victims Get Cash Aid

By SPEC. 5 RAY BELFORD  
S&S Staff Correspondent

SAIGON — The Vietnamese government has announced a plan for aid to civilian victims of the Communist Tet offensive it was reported by the U.S. Mission.

Any civilian under 18 who was wounded during the offensive will get the equivalent of about \$9 in aid. The government will pay about \$18 to persons over 18 who were wounded.

The program also includes indemnification payments by the government to families of persons killed during the fighting. Heads of families will receive about \$19 for each child under 18 killed and \$36 for persons over 18.

Under a second category of the program, aid will be given to families whose homes were damaged or destroyed. Payments of about \$12.50 will be made for homes that were less than 50 per cent destroyed and about \$25 will be paid to homeowners whose homes were more than 50 per cent destroyed.

Latest figures released by the government show more than 21,000 civilian casualties for the offensive, more than 6,000 of whom were killed.

The government also disclosed refugee camps have been crowded by 668,684 persons as a result of the offensive, making a total of more than 1.4 million persons living in the camps.

The government is urging refugees to return to their homes as soon as their towns and villages are secure.

The U.S. Mission spokesman did not say if building materials will be provided for damaged homes.

## Medics Carry On In Face of Tragedy

DUC PHO, Vietnam (IO) — When you drive into the hospital square here, the base of the MEDCAP (Medical-Civil Affairs Program) medical section of the 11th Light Inf. Brigade, several things become immediately and painfully apparent.

The first is the great need of these people for the barest physical essentials—food, clothing, medical care. Another is the feeling that you are on stage. Every pair of eyes watches your every move, carefully, hopefully, sometimes with a hint of fear.

The hospital has bare beds, and attempts at cleanliness by U.S. standards are difficult to maintain. Chickens and dogs wander in and out of the wards.

As soon as the team is set up, Capt. David E. Grayson, Littleton, Colo., general medical officer, tends to the in-patients and the seriously ill. The men who accompany him daily are Spec. 6 John M. Ford, Roxbury, N.Y.; Spec. 5 Timothy K. Donahue, New York, N.Y.; Spec. 4 David J. Ahern, Troy, N.Y.; Spec. 4 Jack W. Godbey, St. Albans, W. Va.; and Pfc. Kenneth D. Burris, Centerville, Ohio.

The first patient has a cast on his leg and foot. The doctor examines the leg and then instructs the interpreter to tell the man, "Three more weeks and then all well again."

The next patient is a woman. She has a fearful look in her eyes, almost as if she knows what the doctor is going to say. He diagnoses the case as a severe liver infection and prescribes treatment through the interpreter to the Vietnamese hospital orderlies.

Penicillin, streptomycin and other antibiotics, as well as deficiency tablets are useful and prescribed in almost every case.

When out-patient sick call time

comes, the people press to see the doctor, and the problem becomes one of organization.

One woman walked 20 miles from an outlying village with her seven-year-old child who has measles. Dr. Grayson examines the child, diagnosing a rare condition in which the heart is on the right side of the chest.

Further examination discloses a severe heart defect. The irregular beating of the child's heart is easily seen through his emaciated body, and his whole frame labors each time he takes a breath.

"We see over 75 patients a day," Dr. Grayson says. "We really have no way of knowing how effective we are—but it's a beginning."

## Ewell Assumes 9th Inf. Helm

SAIGON (UPI) — Maj. Gen. Julian J. Ewell assumed command Sunday of the U.S. 9th Inf. Div., U.S. Headquarters announced.

Ewell, 52, of Stillwater, Okla., was formerly deputy commander and chief of staff of the Army's Combat Developments Command at Ft. Belvoir, Va.

He succeeds Maj. Gen. George G. O'Connor, who will become deputy chief of staff for individual training for the U.S. Continental Army Command at Ft. Monroe, Va.

The 9th Div. is headquartered at Long Thanh, south of Saigon in the Mekong Delta.

## GI Medical Care Saves Viet Child

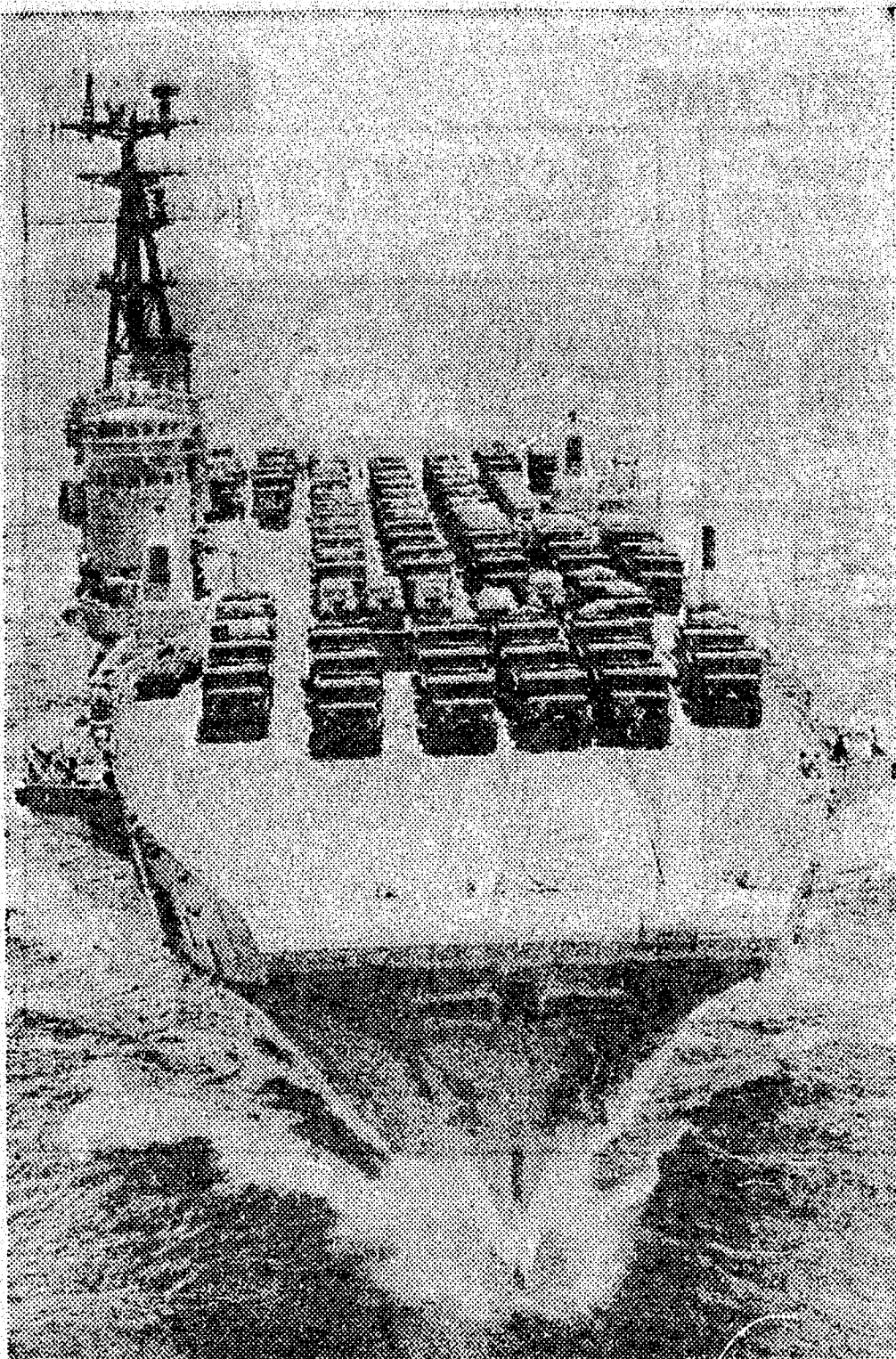
DA NANG, Vietnam (ISO)—A young Vietnamese girl, the victim of a Viet Cong punji stake, is fully recovered, thanks to a Leatherneck battalion near Da Nang.

She was playing in the fields near her home when she fell onto the stake. Her wrists were badly cut and she was taken to the 3rd Bn., Fifth Marine Regt.

Civil Affairs personnel took her to the battalion aid station for treatment. She was later evacuated to the Naval Support Activity hospital in Da Nang.

After two weeks of treatment she was released.

Pacific Stars & Stripes 7  
Thursday, Feb. 29, 1968



The Australian troop carrier Sydney steams into Sattahip with men and equipment for SEATO Exercise Ramasoon. The Sydney was the first capital ship ever to moor at the new Thailand port facility.

## SEATO Exercise Set in Thailand

Special to S&S

BANGKOK—More than 2,000 officers and men from six Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) nations will deploy in Thailand next month for Exercise Ramasoon, according to U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Edwin F. Black, exercise director.

The 35th combined SEATO exercise, Ramasoon is based on an imaginary air and ground attack against Thailand which is being delayed by the Royal Thai armed forces, while SEATO forces are being sent to assist.

The main objectives are:

—To exercise the establishment and operations of communications.

—To develop better understanding and closer cooperation and coordination among the participating nations.

Two main headquarters will be established — at Bangkok; and at Korat, about 170 miles northeast of Bangkok.

The exercise forces include troops, and some air communications units, from Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines,

Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States. They have arrived in Thailand by air and sea, and will deploy in various areas of the country between March 4 and 15.

A command post exercise, Ramasoon is designed to test communications between the forces of SEATO member nations. There will be a minimum of troop movement during the exercise.

Ramasoon is an integral part of a long term program of collective effort by SEATO nations to prepare for and resist any armed aggression.

Since the first SEATO exercise in 1956, there have been many different types of exercises, including sea and air, air defense and ground defense, air to ground and sea to land, amphibious, harbor defense, naval control of shipping, and convoy.

The most recent exercise, Seadog, was a maritime operation conducted in July last year.

Black's deputy directors for the exercise are Brig. C.M.L. Pearson, Australian Army, and Col. Pongse Pekan, Royal Thai Army.

## Thailand Air Base Gets Comm Center

KORAT ROYAL THAI AFB, Thailand (OI)—The first Automatic Switching Center (ASC) on the Southeast Asia mainland, the newest link in the Air Force Automatic Digital Network (AUTODIN), was accepted for operation by the Air Force Comm. Service in ceremonies here recently.

The Thailand ASC is being operated by the 1998th Comm. Sq. here and is located at the Jones Park U.S. Army Comm. Facility near the air base and adjacent to U.S. Army Camp Friendship.

Cutting the traditional ribbon signifying the acceptance of the facility was Maj. Gen. Hal D. McCown, commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command-Thailand (MACTHAI).

Creation of the new center was a tri-service venture. It was built under the auspices of the Army Strategic Communications Command; construction was handled by the Navy Facilities Engineering Command; and operational responsibility lies with the Air Force Comm. Service.

The equipment was installed

by Philco-Ford (the military electronics division of Ford Motor Co.)

AUTODIN is a highly sophisticated data and narrative message traffic network which will eventually serve all Department of Defense agencies and other government organizations throughout the world.

A "flash" message from the Pentagon can be received at Korat in 12 seconds.

Besides being the first Automatic Switching Center on the Southeast Asia mainland (another is located at Clark AB, P.I.), the Korat center uses

orbital satellites for its message transmission.

The messages from Korat will be beamed by tropospheric scatter to Takli RTAFB where they are retransmitted to the satellite which relays them to the Navy-operated switching center in Hawaii. From there they travel by undersea cable to the mainland United States.

At the present time there are nine ASCs in the United States which are leased facilities operated by Western Union. Korat's is the fourth to become operational overseas.

# 2 Corps Commanders Ousted in Viet Shake-Up

SAIGON (AP)—Two of South Vietnam's four corps commanders have been replaced in what amounts to the highest-level shake-up in the South Vietnamese army in two years, official spokesman disclosed Tuesday.

A spokesman for the Vietnamese Joint General Staff said Maj. Gen. Nguyen Van Manh had been replaced as commander of the IV Corps—the Viet Cong-infested Mekong Delta area—and that Lt. Gen. Vinh Loc, a member of the former Vietnamese royalty, had been replaced as commander of the II Corps.

The II Corps is the largest of the corps areas and includes the sensitive central highlands and a 300-mile-long section of the central coast.

As corps commanders the two generals wielded considerable power in their areas, and were powerful members of the military junta that ruled Vietnam until a constitutional government was elected late last year.

New assignments for the two generals were not announced.

Replacing Manh in the IV Corps will be the energetic Maj. Gen. Nguyen Duc Thang, a military man considered incorruptible and extremely capable. Until recently, Thang headed the nation's pacification program, then was placed in charge of eliminating corruption in the South Vietnamese military. Most recently he was chief of staff of the National Recovery Committee.

Thang quit the last two posts reportedly because he thought the government was moving too slowly.

The II corps will go to Maj. Gen. Lu Lan, presently chief of the Military Training Department.

Government spokesmen said the shake-up had been in the works for many months and had nothing to do with the recent Communist offensive. Both corps areas were heavily hit in the coordinated Communist attacks against population centers and military installations.

## Dobrynin, Rusk Talk

WASHINGTON (AP)—Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin called on U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk late Tuesday for what Dobrynin termed "not emergency" discussions. The Moscow envoy declined to tell newsmen the subjects of his 30-minute talk with Rusk, except to say that one dealt with international matters and one with U.S.-Soviet affairs.



In a South Vietnamese Army command shake-up, Maj. Gen. Nguyen Duc Thang, (left), has replaced Maj. Gen. Nguyen Van Manh (right), and Maj. Gen. Lu Lan (second from left), has replaced Lt. Gen. Vinh Loc (second from right). (AP Radiophoto)

## GIs Hammer VC at Can Tho

(Continued From Page 1) were stockpiling war supplies near the encircled U.S. Marine fortress at Khe Sanh along the Laotian border below the northwestern section of the demilitarized zone.

An air observer sighted two burning trucks one mile north of Khe Sanh city, a North Vietnamese command post, after tactical fighter-bombers and artillery had pounded the area. Khe Sanh City, which the Communists seized last month, is only 2 miles south of the Marine fortress.

The sightings of the armored column raised the possibility of an escalation of the war with new enemy buildups along the Cambodian border. The U.S. Command said one of the armored vehicles was reported

blown up and 30 enemy troops killed.

It was the deepest ever an armored column had penetrated into South Vietnam.

South Vietnamese headquarters said the column consisted

SAIGON (AP)—The big allied airbase at Bien Hoa came under a Viet Cong rocket barrage early Wednesday, South Vietnamese military officials reported. U.S. Headquarters confirmed the base had been hit by rockets but said it had no immediate details.

of three tanks and a half-tracked armored personnel carrier with wheels in the front and tracks on the back.

The U.S. Command identified them only as "armored vehicles of an unspecified type."

## National Debt Rises Above \$350 Bil. Level

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Treasury Department said Tuesday the federal debt exceeded \$350 billion for the first time in history the day before Washington's birthday.

In its daily summary of income and outgo, the department fixed the exact level of the gross federal debt at \$352,546,363,116.57 as of Feb. 21.

On that day, the department put on its books the \$1.25 billion in new cash it borrowed this month. This raised both the cash balance and the gross debt an equal amount.

The total debt subject to the \$358 billion debt ceiling fixed

last year by Congress is about \$1 billion higher than the gross debt because the government must now include sales of participation certificates under the ceiling.

Thus far in the fiscal year, the government has sold \$2.25 billion of the certificates, which are much like bonds and are backed by pools of government-owned loans and mortgages.

Other items totaling \$260 million are part of the gross debt but are not subject to the ceiling. This leaves the total subject to the ceiling at \$354,536,166,676.35 as of Feb. 21.

## ABM—

(Continued From Page 1) Senate Armed Services Committee, which favors an ABM system.

The Army testimony that was made public referred only to a possible Red Chinese missile threat and did not mention the Soviet Union.

The Sentinel system employs long-range detecting radar, tracking and guidance radar and Spartan and Sprint interceptor missiles.

Col. Thomas N. Chavis, deputy director of missiles and space in the Army research and development program, told the committee modifications in the Sentinel system may be needed "if the Chinese threat increases in size and sophistication."

He said a more attractive alternative to increasing the number of Sentinel stations would be improving the system "to counter the improvements in the Chinese ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile)."

Chavis noted an additional \$165 million was being sought to look into possible improvements.

## Wheeler To Report

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Gen. Earle G. Wheeler will report to President Johnson in Washington at 8:30 a.m. EST Wednesday on his trip to Vietnam and troop needs there.

## Weather

USAF Weather Cent at TOKYO AREA  
Wednesday night: Mostly fair: Low near 30  
Thursday: Scattered Showers: High low 50s

TEMPERATURES				
FEB. 27				
	H	L	H L	
Bangkok	85	75	Naha	64 57
Chitose	52	37	Saigon	80 73
Guam	87	71	Seoul	45 25
Hazuke	54	34	Taipei	73 57
Manila	84	70	Tokyo	54 36
	H	L	H L	
Albany	39	03	Louisville	43 15
Albuquerque	64	33	Melbourne	65 57
Amarillo	47	17	Memphis	44 37
Atlanta	52	19	Miami	67 47
Birmingham	50	38	Milwaukee	32 27
Bismarck	30	27	Moscow	19 13
Boise	55	34	N. Orleans	71 44
Boston	37	22	NYC	43 22
Chicago	36	25	Okla. City	61 33
Cincinnati	43	17	Omaha	37 31
Cleveland	34	08	Paris	41 27
Denver	53	22	Phila.	45 21
Des Moines	35	32	Phoenix	84 51
Detroit	39	12	Pittsburgh	36 09
Duluth	35	24	Port., O.	68 35
Fairbanks	23	-12	Rapid City	49 30
Fargo	29	23	Rego	69 31
Fort Worth	70	34	Singapore	90 73
Hong Kong	63	51	St. Louis	38 30
Honolulu	79	62	St. Paul	36 27
Houston	74	52	Salt Lake	58 30
Ind'polis	44	16	San Antonio	73 43
Jackville	58	40	San Diego	63 56
Jakarta	86	73	San Fran.	73 59
Kansas City	43	35	Seattle	59 44
Las Vegas	76	50	Shreveport	68 40
Little Rock	55	30	Sydney	75 65
London	43	29	Tucson	85 50
L.A.	71	60	Wash.	48 23

## Cuban Ship Rams, Shoots Up Lifeboat

(Continued From Page 1) Vern Jones, a newsman for WAVY-TV Norfolk, said he did not see how this could be true since the ship was constantly moving. Jones managed to reach the scene in a small boat.

For about an hour after the ramming, the cutters kept the ship boxed in while Coast Guard legal officials searched frantically for some legal means by which the cutters could take action in the incident, one of the most tense confrontations to take place near the U.S. shores since German U-boats prowled

the Atlantic waters in World War II.

No means was found and the ship was permitted to continue on its way in late afternoon.

At one point the Coast Guard said it was "very unlikely" the three had been picked up, but later officials retreated to a no comment.

They said the cutters were remaining in the area to search for bodies.

Asked whether a ship could pick up someone while in motion, a Coast Guard spokesman replied:

"Yes, if you don't care what kind of shape they're in."

As its parting shot, the 26th of July, a cattle freighter, radioed:

"We are leaving and no persons are being left in the United States."

The strange series of events began unfolding about 3 a.m. when the ship messaged the Coast Guard at Portsmouth that some of the 21 persons aboard wanted political asylum in the United States.

The Cutter Point Brown rendezvoused with the ship, early in the afternoon, prepared to take the would-be defectors aboard, but instead found itself a witness to the brutal ramming.

Shortly after the rendezvous, the ship lowered the three men in the lifeboat onto the calm Atlantic. Without warning,

it then headed right for the small boat, dealing it a direct blow and spilling the men into the water.

It made three more runs at the tiny vessel—missing all three times—and then the clatter of machine gun fire was heard.

Although there was no way of knowing what actually happened aboard the ship, there was speculation that the three had somehow taken a hostage and forced the captain to send the message saying they wanted political asylum.

Apparently they made the mistake of not taking the hostage with them when they went over the side in the lifeboat.