



PACIFIC
STAR STRIPES

FIVE-STAR EDITION
AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OF THE
U.S. ARMED FORCES IN THE FAR EAST

10¢

Vol. 24, No. 1

Monday, Jan. 1, 1968

Bundy on Cambodia:

**U.S. Going Slow
On Pursuit Issue**

WASHINGTON (AP)—A high U.S. Administration official said Saturday the United States will approach with "the greatest restraint" the

problem of the Communist use of Cambodian territory as a sanctuary.

At the same time, Assistant Secretary of State William P. Bundy said there are indications the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces "are developing a pattern of military action that could mean more significant use of border areas—not only in Cambodia but in Laos and along the demilitarized zone" in Vietnam.

The State Department's top Asian expert said in an interview that the next development "is somewhat more in the laps of the North Vietnamese than it is of ourselves."

"If they take additional action this will create a more difficult situation," he said. "We believe, (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

**Medicare
Costs
Boosted**

WASHINGTON (AP)—The anticipated \$1-a-month increase in the monthly premium on the voluntary medical insurance program which supplements medicare was announced Friday night.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare said the rate will advance from \$3 a month to \$4, effective April 1, 1968.

The voluntary program provides physicians' fees and other benefits beyond those afforded by basic medicare program which applies without charge to all persons over 65. The subscriber's monthly premium is matched by federal funds.

According to HEW figures nearly 18 million Americans—about 92 per cent of the over-65 population—are enrolled in the supplemental program.

Secretary John W. Gardner indicated last September that a \$1 increase probably would be necessary.

The announcement of the increase said about 20 cents of the added dollar is necessary to finance the program at its past level. It was noted that the premium for the 18 months of the program's operation should have been \$3.20 a month rather than \$3.

HEW said about 25 cents of the increase is in anticipation of increased use of the program and because the \$50 deductible which is paid by ailing subscribers probably will cover a (Continued on Back Page, Col. 4)



VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY CHATS WITH CHILDREN IN ABIDJAN MARKETPLACE.

**Humphrey in Ivory Coast,
Announces \$36.5 Mil. Loan**

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP)—Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey announced Saturday that the Export-Import Bank has agreed to give the Ivory Coast a \$36.5 million loan to help build a huge hydro-electric dam on the Bandama River.

Humphrey made the announcement on the first day of his 12-day tour of Africa.

The loan, covering 40 per cent of the cost of the Ivory Coast's largest development project, is repayable in 15 years at 6 per cent interest. A similar loan from the European Common Market's Economic Development Fund will finance the 175-megawatt project northwest of Abidjan.

A mile-long earth and rock

dam will form a 120-mile-long lake providing electric power, drinking water and 20 tons of fish per day for local consumption.

The loan was a significant gesture of American goodwill toward the government of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, which has been instrumental in (Continued on Back Page, Col. 5)

**S. Vietnam
Extends
Cease-Fire**

SAIGON (AP) — The 24-hour New Year's truce announced by South Vietnam will be extended by 12 hours, the Foreign Ministry announced Saturday.

The Foreign Office said the truce was being extended "in the spirit of His Holiness, Pope Paul's appeal of Dec. 15 that Jan. 1 be observed as a 'day of peace' throughout the world."

The extension would be one of the few times in the Vietnam war that a cease-fire has been extended, although the bombing pauses over the north that accompany the truces have been extended on occasion.

The extended truce will run for 36 hours, ending at 6 a.m. Jan. 2. The previously announced 24-hour truce was to (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

Volks Yields to Elk

SEDONA, Ariz. (UPI)—Robert McIntyre of Flagstaff, Ariz., suffered a fractured rib and punctured lungs Wednesday when a bull elk charged into his Volkswagen near here. The elk fled unhurt.

Because of the Jan. 1 holiday, there will be no Pacific Stars and Stripes tomorrow. This is the only day of the year on which the paper is not published. The comics that would normally appear tomorrow will be printed the following day.

67 Marines Fall As Battle Tempo Rises Near DMZ

SAIGON (AP)—The U.S. command Saturday reported grim new battles and B-52 saturation raids in South Vietnamese provinces below the 17th parallel. The day's war communiques listed 67 U.S. Marines killed and 128 wounded plus unspecified casualties in South Vietnamese units.

North Viet Taken in Delta Area

SAIGON (UPI)—The presence of North Vietnamese combat troops has been confirmed in the Mekong River Delta for the first time, it was learned Saturday.

The confirmation came with the capture Dec. 16 of a North Vietnamese rifleman by South Vietnamese forces in the IV Corps area's Dinh Tuong Province, southwest of Saigon.

South Vietnamese authorities are interrogating the Communist soldier. His capture was disclosed by a high U.S. military official.

The IV Corps region, stretching from south of Saigon to the Ca Mau Peninsula and containing the rice bowl of South Vietnam, had since the start of the war been a Viet Cong preserve which the North Vietnamese had not infiltrated.

The prisoner was identified as a North Vietnamese Army private first class named Uong. Interrogation reports said he came from Haiphong, left the north last May and arrived in South Vietnam in September.

He was part of a group of 20 North Vietnamese replacements assigned to the 267th Viet Cong Main Force Bn. in III Corps. Later he was sent with nine other members of his group further south to join the 514th Bn.

Palmer Hails Army in Viet

SAIGON (AP) — In a New Year's message to U.S. Army personnel in South Vietnam, Lt. Gen. Bruce Palmer, said Saturday "the year ahead is destined to be one of great challenge and opportunity."

Palmer, deputy commander, U.S. Army Vietnam, described 1967 as a year of significant achievement. He said in the past year, the "men and women of the United States Army Vietnam recorded solid progress toward our objective in Vietnam—to protect the right of the Vietnamese people to determine their own destiny."

Several thousand Marines and South Vietnamese troopers were on the march in a series of combat sweeps in Quang Nam and Thua Thien provinces, where the old imperial capital of Hue and the big base at Da Nang are located.

Fighting continued beyond the unilaterally declared Viet Cong truce period which began at 1 a.m. Saturday (the New Year's truce declared by the allied command was to begin at 6 p.m. Sunday).

The war continued unabated in the South and in the air over North Vietnam. The U.S. command announced that Red ground gunners Friday shot down a Navy F4 Phantom jet east of Haiphong but both crewmen bailed out over the Tonkin Gulf and were rescued.

The focus of the ground war was clearly in the northern provinces below the Demilitarized Zone, where heavy clashes have flared and subsided since last Wednesday. Some battle reports from the field were being delayed by the U.S. command on the request of local commanders whose units were still sparring with enemy troops.

The heaviest casualties listed in Saturday's war communiques came in a savage battle which raged Wednesday and Thursday and ended with the Marines storming a fortified village held by regulars of the 716th North Vietnamese Army Regt.

The fighting was in the coastal area author Bernard Fall called the "Street Without Joy." A landing group of about 1,000 Marines ran into about 300 North Vietnamese troops on the border of Thua Thien and Quang Nam provinces.

When the battle subsided Friday there were 27 enemy known dead against a Marine loss of 48 dead and 81 wounded.

Farther south, in Quang Nam province, 19 Marines were killed and 25 were wounded when a Communist force of undetermined size opened up as the Marines were being brought into a helicopter landing zone.

To counter the enemy pressure, high altitude American B-52s have laid a series of saturation raids on the infiltration routes into the sensitive northern war zone. The command Saturday reported the latest two raids hit alongside the DMZ above the Marine outpost at Con Thien and 28 miles southwest of Da Nang, the jungled area in which both Marines and South Vietnamese troopers have been fighting significant battles around Hoi An.



Loaded for the Hunt

This U.S. trooper carries more than his share of the load as he packs his own gear and unit equipment too. He was taking part in Operation Wheeler. (AP)

U.S. Opens Hospital For Viet Civilians

SAIGON (AP) — The first U.S. military hospital exclusively for the care of war-wounded Vietnamese civilians has been opened at Tuy Hoa, 230 miles northeast of Saigon, the U.S. Military Command said Saturday.

A command statement said the 300-bed Tuy Hoa facility, as well as hospitals for civilians which will open in the next several months at Chu Lai, Da

Nang and Can Tho, will handle civilian war casualties "exceeding the capabilities of the Republic of Vietnam's Ministry of Health Resources."

The command said, "Viet Cong terrorist acts and the resulting injuries have placed a heavy burden on the provincial hospitals."

The statement did not mention civilian casualties caused by allied action, but presumably they also would be treated at the hospitals.

The command said 1,100 U.S. Army medical personnel and about 300 Vietnamese will initially staff the hospitals. Vietnamese civilians previously have been treated on a space-available basis at U.S. military hospitals.

2 Shot in Cholon

SAIGON (AP)—A government policeman and his seven-year-old son were critically injured Saturday when two would-be assassins riding a motorbike shot them in Cholon, the Chinese section of the South Vietnamese capital, police sources said.

Lao Troops Hold Embattled Post

VIENTIANE, Laos (UPI)—Laotian high command sources Saturday denied reports that Muong Phalane, a government outpost east of Savannakhet, 225 miles southeast of here, had been retaken by Communist forces anytime after Lao troops recaptured it Thursday.

The high command said that although it had expected a counterattack against the village on Thursday night from the Communist forces it had driven away, none materialized.

Thieu Confirms Arrest of VC Envoy

SAIGON (AP) — South Vietnam's President Nguyen Van Thieu said Saturday the arrest of a Viet Cong emissary — who said he was on his way to contact the U.S. embassy about exchange of prisoners — had resulted in the arrest of eight more persons.

But Thieu also said the emissary was not high-ranking and that he doubted the man was a legitimate representative of the Viet Cong's National Liberation Front.

Reliable sources reported last Dec. 1 that the emissary had been arrested by Vietnamese national police, thereby thwarting a Viet Cong-U.S. Embassy meeting.

Thieu told newsmen Saturday at a New Year's reception for members of the foreign community:

"One man from the VC base came out to talk to the American embassy, to talk about exchange of prisoners. Before that he was arrested by the police. After he was captured we arrested eight other people."

Other Vietnamese officials

have commented on the arrest, but this was the most definite statement about the arrest to come out.

Thieu would not identify the arrested Viet Cong.

"He has many names," Thieu said. "We do not know which one is right."

He added, "We have not yet a complete report." Thieu said the man still is under arrest.

Truce Incidents Listed

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Pentagon reported Friday the Communist enemy touched off 118 incidents breaching the 24-hour Christmas truce in South Vietnam.

In a wrapup summary, the Defense Department said seven "free world combatants," including two Americans, were killed and 45, including 26 U.S. servicemen, were wounded as a result of enemy action during the Christmas truce. The Communist losses totaled 33 killed.

The Pentagon classed 40 of the 118 incidents as major, citing as examples the downing of a reconnaissance plane by ground fire and a mortar attack on a provincial capital, among others.

However, the Pentagon conceded that a portion of the shooting incidents triggered by the enemy may not have been deliberate violations.

"There always is a question as to whether enemy incidents during cease-fire periods result from the fact that small unit commanders have ignored orders to stand down or have not 'gotten the word'" the statement said.

"It also is possible that some incidents are reported during stand-downs that might not be reported during other periods."

In one respect, however, the Pentagon underscored that the Communists took advantage of the truce.

"Analysis of visual sightings and photography over North Vietnam during and immediately after the Christmas cease-fire period indicates that logistic activity by trucks was at a high level," the Defense Department said.

As many as 850 trucks were observed or photographed in an important stretch of North Vietnam's panhandle between Than Hoa and Dong Hoi. Of these, at least 750 were heading south, the Pentagon said.

Casualties

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

KILLED IN ACTION

—Army
Pfc. George P. Colangelo, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
SP4 Anthony R. Mantouvalos, Somersworth, N.H.
SP4 Robert J. Grande, Roslyn, N.Y.
Pfc. Richard E. Muhl, Mansfield, Ohio.

Marine Corps

LCpl. Patrick C. Cassidy, Chicago, Ill.
LCpl. Lawrence Stewart, Buffalo, N.Y.
Sgt. Junior L. Schriener, Hampton, Va.
LCpl. Denis L. Senz, Tomah, Wis.

MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE

—Army
Cpl. Larry K. Bilotta, Honolulu, Hawaii.
Sgt. Anthony N. Lapardo, Selden, N.Y.
Cpl. James Tierno, Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Navy

SN George R. Ycaco, Douglas, Ariz.
CMG3 Ronald A. Crose, New Boston, Ill.
SN Dale E. Egbert, Des Moines, Iowa.

MISSING IN ACTION

—Army
1Lt. Calvin A. Greene

DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION

—Army
SP4 Gary M. Rist, San Bruno, Calif.
Maj. Robert H. Gross, Sarasota, Fla.
Pfc. Lester L. Ridings, Shelbina, Mo.
Pfc. Virgil L. Hifer, Millford, Ohio.
2Lt. Jerry L. Nations, Olympia, Wash.

Marine Corps

LCpl. Willie Knowles Jr., East Palatka, Fla.

MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE

—Army
Cpl. Harley R. Standridge, Temple, Okla.

CORRECTION

SP4 Harry R. White Jr., USA, Change status from killed in action to died not as a result of hostile action.

Canine Scout A Hero

CU CHI, Vietnam (IO) — A 25th Inf. Div. scout dog saved his master's life twice in the course of one fight, first alerting him to an impending Viet Cong ambush, then warning him of an approaching enemy in the fight that ensued.

Members of the 1st Bn., 27th Inf. "Wolfhounds" further credited the scout dog with enabling them to kill eight Communists in a fierce one and one-half hour battle.

The action took place recently during the 2nd Brigade's Operation Atlanta in the Iron Triangle.

The Wolfhounds had been following a detainee to a reported enemy base camp when the dog, Charlie Brown, alerted.

Spec. 4 Patrick Mitchell, a member of the 38th Scout Dog Platoon, warned the men behind him that something was in the treeline ahead.

The patrol continued on, growing more cautious as Charlie Brown continued to alert, Mitchell said. Then the lead elements ran into enemy fire from bunkers and tunnels.

"When the VC first opened up on us," Mitchell recalled, "Charlie Brown and I were pinned down right on the trail. Then we had enough fire going so we could maneuver, and I moved off the trail into some brush."

"I had to sit on Charlie Brown to keep him down. He's been wounded before and gets scared in a firefight."

"As I was sitting on him, he alerted in the direction I'd set up my sector of fire. I looked closely and saw a bush moving about 30 meters away."

Mitchell sprayed the sector with automatic weapons fire, hitting the hidden enemy.

After the battle, the Wolfhounds found four bodies in the immediate sector, and four more scattered over the battlefield.

"If we hadn't expected to find some VC up ahead after Charlie Brown alerted," Mitchell said, "we might have been in trouble."

"On top of that, he let me know that VC were coming just before he got in hand grenade range, so he saved us twice during that fight."

Love Those C-Rations

CHU LAI, Vietnam (IO)—For the line soldier who thrives in the field by eating C-rations, the mention of ham and lima bean C-rations would usually bring a groan, but not to Pfc. Jeffery Hall of Americal Div.'s 196th Inf. Brigade.

This B Co., 2nd Bn. infantryman owes his life to a can of ham and lima beans which protected him during a firefight.

While walking through a sugar cane patch, Hall's unit came under fire and he hit the ground.

"As I was reloading," said Hall, "a bullet hit me in the hip and another hit my pack. After the fight ended I discovered that the round which wounded me had first hit a ham and lima beans can hanging from my pack in a sock."

"The other round," Hall continued, "smashed a pair of glasses which were in my pack."

Thanks to his unusual "body armor," Hall walked away with only a superficial wound.

More 2nd SE Asia Tours on Tap

S&S Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON — The Air Force has taken a series of 27 actions to hold off second involuntary tours in Southeast Asia, until now, but starting in the spring some non-volunteers will be returning, and, if the war continues at its present pace, more men can expect second tours in Vietnam and Thailand.

About 1,000 are expected to return for a second time next year in the munitions maintenance, construction equipment

and air freight-passenger fields. Civil engineers and transportation and intelligence officers can also expect to return.

Here is a summary of what the Air Force has done to see that the maximum number of all skills are available for the future.

The student body of the Air Command and Staff College and the Air War College was cut to 30 per cent of its former level.

Rated graduates of the AFIT are considered for immediate cockpit assignments in South-

east Asia on graduation.

In the past personnel selected for reassignment had seven days in which they could elect retirement. That has been cancelled except for those with more than 25 years of service.

Pilots who have not served in Southeast Asia are restricted from U.S. or long overseas tours.

All overseas tour extensions in long tour areas have been discontinued.

Most graduates of undergraduate pilot training are going di-

rectly to Southeast Asia after combat training.

Required time in the U.S. before overseas movement has been cut from 18 to 12 months for everyone. This, of course, does not mean that everyone moves overseas after 12 months in the States, but it does permit the selection of an individual with a critical skill where other resources are not available.

All rated personnel, support officers and airmen with critical skills are subject to involuntary consecutive overseas tours from long tour areas to Southeast Asia and from Southeast Asia to long tour areas.

Another 1,125 rated officers in non-flying jobs were returned to flying duties.

To encourage pilot volunteers for Asian duty, procedures have been set up so that pilots can volunteer for specific aircraft and have an assurance they will fly an aircraft with the same mission.

Where possible, grade substitutions are made to meet Southeast Asia requirements. For example some first lieutenants are filling captain vacancies and some technical sergeants are filling master sergeant slots.

Retirements of some regular officers have been delayed.

Certain captains who would normally have been separated through failure to be selected for promotion may remain on active duty.

Many pilots in a waived status and would not normally be required to fly have returned to full flying duties.

To see that controls are applied for the most needed skills in Asia, about 40 officer and 65 airmen skills have been designated critical. Men in this category are only assigned to Southeast Asia. The list is under constant review.

Where necessary, stabilized tours will be reduced in increments of one year down to the point where an individual will serve one year in the position.

These changes only affect airmen.

Base of choice assignments until retirement for those with 26 years of service has been changed to 27 years.

Deferments under the CHAP (Children Have A Potential) program have been reduced from 24 to 18 months.

Service retainability for an airman selected for SEA has been cut from 12 months to 9 months.

Airmen 55 years or more with 20 years of service remain eligible for overseas service until one year before their mandatory retirement rather than three years.

The policy which previously precluded an airman from being assigned to a third remote tour (12 months or less) during his career has been waived for the time being.

Airmen returning from overseas are now given a stateside assignment if they have three months or more left in the Air Force. It was six months.



Unwelcome Visitor for VC

Seeking to root out enemy snipers, a trooper of the Americal Div.'s 2nd Bn., 35th Inf., tosses a grenade into a bunker north of Duc Pho, South Vietnam. (USA)

Voices from the Deep Rice... Then the Mortars Opened Up

CU CHI, Vietnam (IO) — At first they thought the voices coming from the deep rice to their front belonged to the three-man listening post returning to the perimeter.

The four men huddled in the bunker, trying to keep warm in the crisp, early morning air.

Then the first of nearly 200 mortar rounds began to fall all over the base camp and the Americans knew they were in trouble.

"We'd just heard voices—VC voices—from the paddy when a round landed behind the bunker," recalled one soldier from the 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Wolfhounds.

Shrapnel hit two men; all four in the bunker were shaken by the concussion.

"We started to fire to our front. They started dropping flares, and we could see about 20 VC hitting us in groups of four or five," the soldier continued.

Before it was over, the 25th Inf. Div. soldiers had killed 41 enemy.

Although the defenders first thought the enemy to be Viet Cong, intelligence officers later identified them as members of the 2nd Bn., 101st North Vietnamese Regt.

Ten Wolfhounds were wounded in the assault, which backfired when an enemy diversionary assault failed to materialize.

But it was touch-and-go at moments. "A couple of them had gotten inside the perimeter," said Spec. 4 Robert Caruthers. "There was a posi-

tion about 50 meters to our left and we could see a VC with an RPG moving into the hedgerow between them and us."

Sgt. Robert Matamoros landed a grenade between the enemy's legs. "He went down, but he was alive and trying to fire. We finished him off with an M16," he said.

To Caruthers' left, the three-man position occupied by Sgt. Craig DeFyter and two men of his fire team had opened up on the advancing Communists.

"The listening post was still out to our front, so we had to hold our fire to the left side of our sector," DeFyter recounted.

"Finally, we saw the L.P., coming in with the VC right behind them. We just counted three men, then fired at anything that came along behind," he said.

The listening post reached safety to the left of DeFyter's position.

Meanwhile, artillery and mortar fire was pouring on the rice paddy and far edge of the perimeter.

On the other side of the base camp, an ambush patrol saw a 70-man enemy force approach the perimeter, then mysteriously veer sharply away.

On the north, in Charlie Co.'s sector, the battle raged on.

"They'd try to come in, and if we didn't kill them with small arms, we'd just pin them down until the artillery and mortars got them," Caruthers said.

When the attack slackened, a medic made his way through sporadic fire to treat the men in the bunker.

All four were evacuated, and replaced by the listening post.

In the paddy to their front, 34 Communists lay dead by their gear and weapons, 11 of them within 25 meters of the perimeter. Three had died inside the base camp.

This GI Has Eyes for Potato Patch

CHU LAI, Vietnam (IO)—The valleys and hills roamed by units of Americal Div.'s 196th Inf. Brigade are filled nightly with ambushes, and one found its way into a potato patch.

The potato patch had been chosen for the protection that the furrows would give against enemy fire.

Pfc. Robert W. Robinson, acting as rear security, was falling asleep after standing guard

when a "pop" sent him rolling into a furrow. To this Wichita, Kansas the "pop" meant an armed grenade.

"Just as I rolled into the furrow," said the member of C Co., 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., "a grenade exploded on the other side of the mound. I reached for my rifle, but it wasn't where I had left it."

The next morning the rifle was found with the stock and

hand grip blown completely off. His pack and nine of his rifle magazines were found ripped by shrapnel.

"My roll into the furrow saved my life," said Robinson. "Even the cocoa in my C-rations was filled with shrapnel—but not me."

Gen. Abrams Doubts Value of 'Hot Pursuit'

SAIGON (UPI)—The No. 2 U.S. commander in Vietnam Saturday described the proposal of "hot pursuit" of Communist troops into Cambodia by U.S. forces as unrealistic at the present time.

"It doesn't seem to me to be a very realistic military proposal," said Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, who as deputy commander of U.S. troops is the heir apparent to General William C. Westmoreland, expected to leave in 1968.

There has been a flurry of speculation over a possible change in policy to allow U.S. troops to follow Communist troops into their Cambodian sanctuaries but

Abrams said such a move was "quite a little ways off militarily."

In an interview, Abrams outlined as present policy for U.S. units operating near the border the doctrine that a field commander can take the necessary steps to protect his forces. He said this includes firing across the border if and when a U.S. unit receives fire from across the border, but not actually crossing the line.

There have been reports of American troops receiving fire from the Cambodian side since the U.S. buildup in 1965, but Abrams said he knew of none since his

arrival in Vietnam last April.

"We watch this like a hawk because it would cause a lot of critical political problems," Abrams said. "Frankly, I don't think we need anything more than that (the present policy)."

He stabbed his finger at the map in the border area near Loc Ninh and Bu Dop and said "we don't want somebody running across here with a company in 'hot pursuit' and getting all snarled up in a fight—you want to be able to support your people."

Abrams said the question might arise

in the future, but in his view it should only come at a time "when you've pulled yourself up—when you're running truck convoys into Bu Dop and have large bases at a place like Loc Ninh."

As to hitting at the Communist sanctuaries inside Cambodia, the general said it could be profitable, but only at such time as logistic supply lines were extended close enough to the border to allow large-scale operations.

"You want a payoff," he said, "and there wouldn't be much point to small raids except for their intelligence value."

U.S. Going Slow

(Continued From Page 1) as we have stated for nearly two years, that one of the actions that could be taken that would assist in this situation would be an enlarged role for the International Control Commission (ICC). The ICC is charged with supervising the neutrality of Cambodia but has been largely ineffective.

Bundy declined specific comment on the recent interview of Cambodia's chief of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk with the Washington Post, which apparently has opened the door to U.S. hot pursuit of Communist forces illegally making use of Cambodian territory. Nor would Bundy comment on Sihanouk's invitation for the United States to send an emissary to talk with him. That matter now is under White House consideration. Bundy, however, in the first official comment on Sihanouk's move declared:

"We understand that the prince is dedicated to the preservation of Cambodia as it now stands and to the continuation of its neutral posture in international relations.

"We have made it clear over and over again that we support Cambodian independence and territorial integrity and recognize and support their policy of neutrality.

"We have no desire to do anything that would make life difficult for the prince. At the same time we are faced with a military situation along the border

areas generally. . . . Some use of these borders has taken place in Cambodia for infiltration and occasion for resting and refitting before or after engagements. I don't want to say on what scale this has taken place."

Bundy added, "It is a problem that we will continue to approach with the greatest restraint and within at all times the basic policy of recognizing the independence and territorial integrity and neutral policy of Cambodia. These are the main outlines with which we will certainly continue to approach the problem."

(UPI reported Secretary of State Dean Rusk flew to the LBJ Ranch in Texas Saturday to talk with President Johnson about Sihanouk's offer and what the White House called "a number of year-end matters and the department budget.")

(Sihanouk's offer, first reported by the Washington Post, was confirmed Saturday in Phnom Penh by the Cambodian ruler's spokesmen and by Realites Cambodgiennes, a French-language weekly of which Sihanouk is editor-in-chief.

(The Cambodian officials, however, hastened to add that the prince's declaration was not meant to be an invitation to the U.S. military command to move into Cambodia with impunity. They insisted that Sihanouk's small armed forces simply were not prepared to intervene if the United States moved across the border into largely uninhabited border regions in pursuit of Communist troops that would disregard Cambodian neutrality.)

Bundy noted that Sihanouk strongly favors an expansion of the ICC and reaffirmed the United States is "prepared to give specific assistance to enable the commission to do a better job."

Sihanouk has asked for helicopters, vehicles, communications equipment and fixed post installations along his borders.

World Weather

USAF Weather Central
TOKYO AREA

Sunday: Fair; Low 22
Monday: Mostly Fair; High 42

TEMPERATURES

Dec. 30		H L		H L	
Tokyo	43 29	Saigon	88 72		
Chitose	23 -7	Bangkok	90 66		
Itazuke	37 31	Hong Kong	58 47		
Seoul	17 -3	Jakarta	85 72		
Haha	54 46	K. Lumpur	87 73		
Taipei	50 39	Melbourne	70 59		
Manila	87 72	Singapore	76 74		
Guam	82 68	Sydney	85 66		
H L		H L		H L	
Albany	30 22	Memphis	37 20		
Albuquerque	40 22	Miami	70 58		
Amarillo	36 24	Millwaukee	27 03		
Atlanta	41 19	Moscow	21 16		
Birmingham	35 32	N. Orleans	45 34		
Bismarck	18 05	NYC	36 29		
Boston	36 30	N. Platte	34 02		
Chicago	26 14	Okla. City	39 21		
Cincinnati	30 13	Paris	37 28		
Cleveland	26 18	Phoenix	62 40		
Denver	36 03	Pittsburgh	26 19		
Des Moines	28 09	Port., O.	45 42		
Detroit	25 08	Rapid City	33 18		
Duluth	18 05	Reno	47 16		
Fairbanks	32 16	St. Louis	32 09		
Fort Worth	48 25	St. Paul	24 19		
Honolulu	77 61	Salt Lake	35 22		
Houston	52 33	S. Antonio	49 29		
Indianapolis	29 09	San Diego	66 55		
Jacksville	59 45	San Fran.	65 57		
Kansas City	31 24	Seattle	45 43		
Las Vegas	— 35	Shreveport	44 24		
London	43 30	Tucson	65 39		
Louisville	32 20	Wash.	43 33		

Truce—

(Continued From Page 1) have ended at 6 p.m. the previous night. It begins at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Informed sources indicated that the truce had been extended at the request of Washington.

Even with the extension, the truces at Christmas, New Year's and the Vietnamese New Year (Tet) at the end of January are the shortest of the war.

The Foreign Ministry announcement said that the extended truce had been agreed on by the seven Vietnam allies. The Foreign Ministry communique said, "the government and people of Vietnam appeal to the Communist forces to respect the New Year's truce."

The Viet Cong announced last Nov. 18 that they would observe three-day cease-fires at Christmas and New Year's, and a seven day truce at Tet, the Vietnamese lunar New Year.

It was not until Dec. 15 that South Vietnam announced it would observe 24-hour truces at Christmas and New Year's, and four hours at Tet.

The Viet Cong New Year's truce began at 1 a.m. Saigon time Saturday and will run until 1 a.m. Jan. 2. The Communist truces actually run from midnight to midnight Hanoi time, which is one hour behind Saigon time.

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes
Monday, January 1, 1968



400 Battle Department Store Blaze

Fire fighters battle an early morning blaze store in Mount Pleasant, Ohio. Four-hundred that swept the block-square Ames department firemen fought the flames for 7 hours. (AP Radiophoto)

New Mother Slain Hubert— In Maternity Ward

(Continued From Page 1)

keeping Red China out of the United Nations.

The Ivory Coast has a \$30-million annual trade surplus with the United States and has a less urgent need for dollar loans than some of its poorer neighbors. Houphouet-Boigny, once a minister in the French government, remains under French influence but has resisted vigorous pressure from Paris to change his stand against Red China.

Under his leadership, a compact group of formerly French-ruled African countries has consistently swung the balance against Peking in the U.N.

Humphrey repeatedly paid warm tribute during the day to Houphouet-Boigny's historic leadership in the cause of freedom in Africa.

Wherever Humphrey went, the French residents who still dominate the country's economic life seemed to turn him a cold shoulder.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A man entered the busy maternity ward of a hospital Friday night, began talking calmly to his estranged wife, then suddenly shot and killed her and seriously wounded himself.

As two women patients looked on in horror, Alexander Hamilton, 44, of Philadelphia, shot his wife, Cynthia, 36, who gave birth to her first child Tuesday, police said.

Hamilton was in satisfactory condition at Women's Medical College Hospital, where the shootings took place.

Lt. Donald Patterson of the homicide unit said Mrs. Hamilton's brother, Jerome Wickman, 24, of Philadelphia, told them the couple had separated because Hamilton did not want his wife to become pregnant. Wick-

man said the couple had married in January and separated in June.

Two patients in the room where the shooting took place became hysterical and were given sedatives, hospital spokesmen said. There were 20 other maternity patients on the floor.

Medicare—

(Continued From Page 1)

smaller proportion of medical expenses, due mainly to increasing fees charged by physicians.

Another 25 cents, it said, is to meet anticipated further increases of physicians' fees.

The remaining portion of the premium increase is to be available for contingency purposes.

'Bomber' Hits Twice, Threatens More

MARYSVILLE, Calif. (UPI)—A terrorist who struck twice after threatening a "bombing a night" had this town's 10,000 residents on edge Friday.

The dynamite blasts at a downtown motel and at a storage tank on the outskirts of Marysville followed a telephone threat of an explosion each night until two narcotics suspects were released from jail.

A bomb was either thrown or planted in a motel swimming pool Wednesday night. It knocked out a glass wall between the pool and an adjoining bar and flooded the tavern.

None of the 30 patrons were hurt. Damage exceeded \$30,000.

The terrorist struck again Thursday night by taping dynamite to the side of a 20,000-gallon storage tank on the outskirts of Marysville. The blast blew several holes in the tank, which held 700 gallons of weed killer. No damage estimate was available.

"Everybody in town is a little edgy," said Mrs. Bernice Basore, manager of the damaged Ming Tree Motel.

"Everybody is starting to look a little suspicious."

The terrorist called police and threatened one explosion a night

until "Donnie Baker" was released. Donald L. Baker, 24, remained in jail Friday in lieu of \$6,250 bond. The caller upped his demands Thursday, telling police: "I want Baker and Yore turned loose tomorrow." Robert Yore was also held in lieu of bail.

Frost-Bitten Eskimos

CHURCHILL, Manitoba (AP) —Two stranded Eskimos were plucked from their 10 day perch on a tiny ice floe in Hudson Bay by a rescue helicopter Saturday. Both were suffering from frost-bite.