

Rusk Says U.S. Will Probe Vague Hanoi Peace Offer

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Secretary of State Dean Rusk said Thursday the United States will use all diplomatic sources to determine whether recent statements by Hanoi about possible peace talks actually represent any change in the North Vietnamese position.

Rusk told a news conference he hopes to find out if there is "any increasing compatibility" in the positions of North Vietnam, on the one hand, and the United States and South Vietnam on the other.

Recent reports from Hanoi quoted North Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh as saying the North would enter negotiations if the United States stopped its bombing and other acts of war.

Rusk said whenever such a statement is made, two things are necessary—"to find out what he said, and then to find out what he meant."

"We cannot tell today if there is any change (in the Communists' position) or not," he added.

Rusk repeated the U.S. willingness to "go more than half way" in order to bring about a peaceful Southeast Asia where the countries "can live in security, free of harassment and violence."

But he indicated doubts about Trinh's good faith on the new proposal when he pointed out that there had been "intolerable violations of the New Year's cease-fire," with heavy attacks on both U.S. and South Vietnamese forces.

Before stopping the bombing, he said the United States would still need an assurance from Hanoi that the North would not capitalize on the halt by replenishing its supply lines of ammunition into the South.

Rusk noted that Trinh used the positive instead of the conditional in talking about possible peace talks.

"The use of the word 'will' instead of could or would is a formula of a particular point," he said.

"We need to clarify what that word in fact really means," Rusk said.

He was asked if because of the Trinh statement he felt peace in Vietnam was any closer. He replied "I wouldn't want to make that judgment now."

On the question of "hot pur- (Continued on Back Page, Col. 5)



CHESTER BOWLES

Bowles Going to Cambodia

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson Thursday selected Chester W. Bowles, ambassador to India, for the delicate task of discussing with Cambodian Prince Norodom Sihanouk the problem of Communist Vietnam sanctuaries in his country.

Formal announcement of the choice came from the Texas White House. The brief statement specified no timetable for the talks, saying only that Bowles would arrive in Phnom Penh "within the next few days."

In Phnom Penh, a spokesman for Sihanouk said the prince had approved Bowles' selection.

Washington officials said the veteran diplomat was picked because of his longtime interest in Southeast Asia and the fact that he already had discussed the sanctuary problem with Indian officials. India is chairman of the three-nation International Control Commission (ICC), set up to work out political questions in the Southeast Asia area.

Although the Cambodian chief of state singled out Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield as a particularly welcome visitor, he later said he thought an experienced diplomat would be the best choice for the talks.

Cop Can't Budge Little 'Junior'

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (UPI)—Junior absolutely refused to take his cough medicine, the mother told sheriff's officers over the phone, and would they please send someone out to talk to the boy about it.

Deputy James E. Lewis was sent to the home, but reported he had no luck either. The youngster, Lewis said, was 19 years old.

PACIFIC
STAR
AND
SPARKS
AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OF THE ARMED FORCES IN THE FAR EAST
FIVE-STAR EDITION 10¢
昭和34年1月22日国鉄東局特約印刷新聞紙第175号 (日刊)
(昭和34年4月21日第3種郵便物認可)

Vol. 24, No. 5

Saturday, Jan. 6, 1968



AP Radlaphoto

SECRETARY OF STATE RUSK MAKES A POINT AT NEWS CONFERENCE

Call Him Carronfordco

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Judge Leland J. Lazarus granted permission Tuesday for a man named Vin 42 Ford to change his moniker to Ricardi Strikeohits Carronfordco.

Carronfordco, who was named Marvin Lee Burris when he was born in New York in 1938, had legally changed his name to Vin 42 Ford last Aug. 29.

In granting the motion, the Superior Court judge asked why the petitioner had picked his new name.

"Because there are so many people named Ricardo," Carronfordco replied.

Newly Arrived North Viets Battered by Americal Div.

SAIGON (UPI)—U.S. troops killed 329 Communists in a day of fierce fighting Wednesday near South Vietnam's northern coast. But Red forces struck with thunderous attacks on two airfields Friday, spokesmen said.

Communists identified as newly arrived troops of the North Vietnamese Army's 2nd Inf. Div. sprang into battle Wednesday against U.S. troops in the Que Son Valley about 365 miles north-

east of Saigon—and promptly fought themselves into bloody disaster.

Elements of the U.S. Americal Div. entrenched in the valley hurled back a pair of furious ground assaults and withstood three other mortar attacks, then chased the battered Red force into nearby hills, spokesmen said.

The Communists picked out a pair of U.S. landing zones named "Ross and Leslie" near the dis-

trict capital of Queison and slammed mortar rounds, recoilless rifle fire and 122mm rockets into both.

Then they tried to overrun the two sites. Scores of them tore through the defensive perimeter at "Leslie," it was reported.

Americans leveled artillery pieces and fired point-blank into the onrushing Communists as wave after wave of Reds broke (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

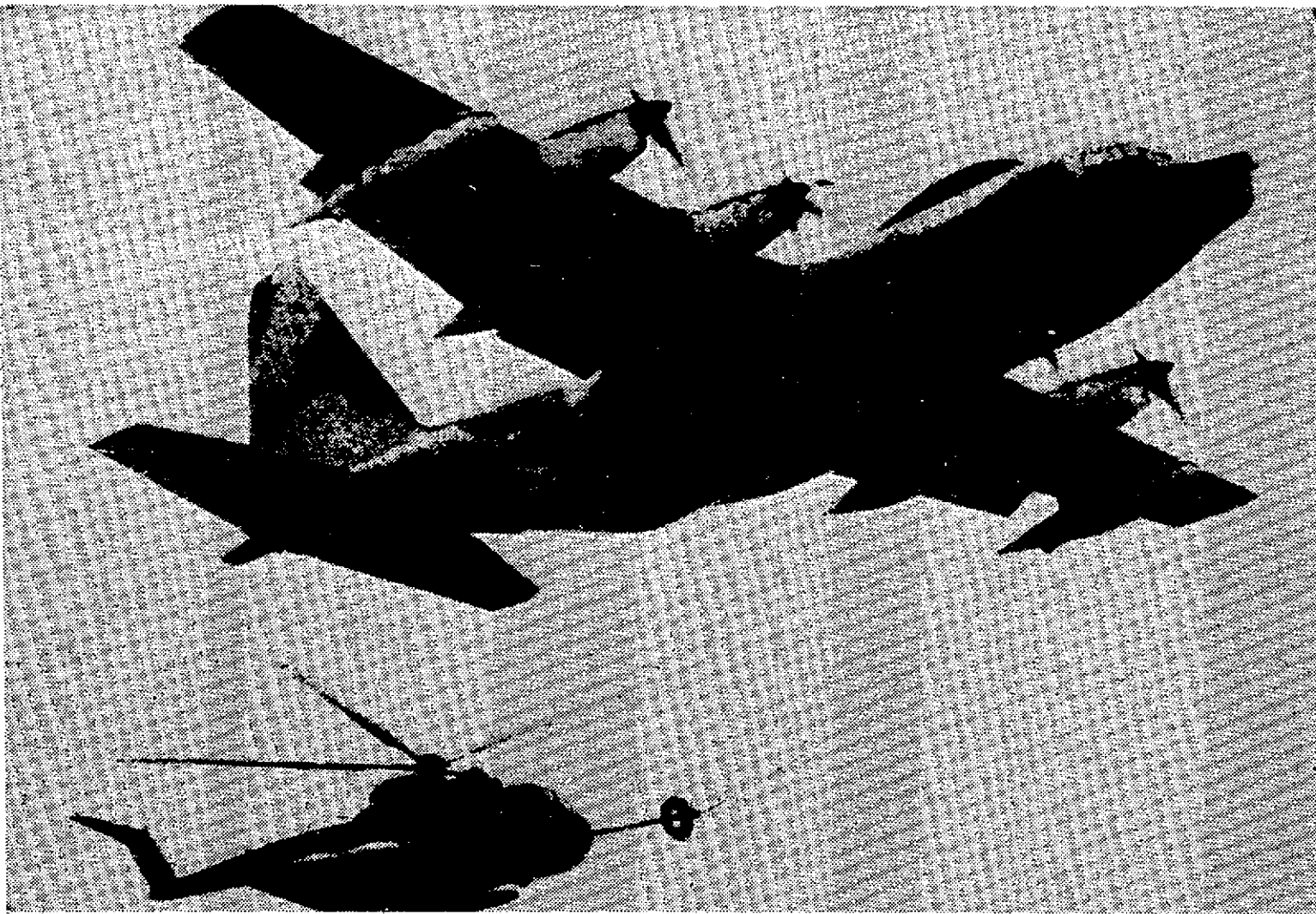
Holiday Casualty Toll Up

SAIGON (AP) — The number of Americans killed in the Vietnam war during Christmas week — a period when cease-fires were proclaimed by both sides — increased, figures released Thursday disclosed, but the number of wounded dropped sharply.

South Vietnamese government casualties decreased slightly during the seven-day period ending last Saturday, while those of other Allied forces were up. The number of enemy killed dropped.

In its weekly summary, the U.S. Command said 185 Americans were killed in action last week as compared with 166 a week earlier. The number of wounded last week, however, was only 437 as compared with 1,361 in the previous week. Of the 437 wounded, the command said, 130 did not require hospitalization.

The new totals raised to 15,997 the number of Americans killed so far in the Vietnam war and the number of wounded to 99,742. Another 878 Americans are listed as missing, captured or interned since Jan. 1, 1961.



Copter Refueled Over Gulf of Tonkin

A "Jolly Green Giant" helicopter eases itself under the belly of a C-130 Hercules tanker plane to take on fuel while on duty over

the Gulf of Tonkin near the carrier Ranger on Yankee Station. The chopper is used to pick up downed pilots. (AP)

U.S. Planes Blast Haiphong Targets

SAIGON (AP) — A break in the monsoon weather blanketing North Vietnam brought a surge of slashing attacks Wednesday by U.S. warplanes against half a dozen targets in the Hanoi-Haiphong area.

The closest strike to either of North Vietnam's principal cities was a raid by U.S. Navy pilots on the Kien An highway bridge and an adjacent bypass bridge only two miles southwest of the heart of Haiphong.

Air Force Phantoms flew through the formidable defense ring around the North Vietnamese capital to hammer the Trung Quan railroad yard and anti-aircraft sites seven miles northeast of Hanoi.

Other strikes in the Hanoi-Haiphong area included attacks on a railroad bridge and pontoon bridge 22 miles northwest of Haiphong and the Hao Binh army barracks 30 miles southwest of Hanoi. Air Force pilots also reported interdicting the Kep Ha airfield runway 59 miles northeast of Hanoi while Navy A4 Skyhawks pounded the Hung Yen boatyard 32 miles southeast of the capital.

The brief improvement in the weather over northern North Vietnam brought with it the bulk of the American raids — most against targets within a 100-mile radius of Hanoi.

U.S. Marine pilots continued to hammer Communist supply lines in the North Vietnamese panhandle along with enemy weapons positions inside and just north of the Demilitarized Zone.

The B52s continued their close support of embattled American infantrymen with two raids.

Late Wednesday, the Stratoforters dropped tons of explosives on a suspected enemy assembly area just 12 miles southwest of Da Nang. In a Thursday morning raid, the big bombers dumped their payloads on a target 59 miles northwest of Saigon.

The B52 attack near Da Nang followed a bloody rampage Wednesday by North Vietnamese and guerrilla rocketeers and infantrymen against the Da Nang Air Base (hit with 45 large Russian-designed rockets), six Vietnamese government outposts and two landing zones held by troopers of the U.S. First Air Cav. Div.

Ted Tours Delta

SAIGON (UPI) — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., toured the Mekong Delta—South Vietnam's muddy, rice-paddied breadbasket — Thursday and then flew to the embattled northern quarter.

Viets Fear 'False Peace'

SAIGON (AP) — South Vietnam's Lower House declared itself Thursday opposed to recognition of the Viet Cong's National Liberation Front and to a possible coalition government with the communists.

The House of Representatives proclamation declared that Vietnamese can decide their country's fate. The proclamation spoke out against "any form of false peace," showing a concern of some House members that the United States may be seeking a way out of the war which might include recognition of the NLF or the formation of a government which could include communist representation.

U.S. officials have said they are opposed to both ideas.

During the debate on the proclamation, one representative, Phan Xuan Huy, spoke of possible "betrayal from the U.S. side on the question of forming a coalition government . . . which would force the people and the government of Vietnam to reconsider the question of confidence in their great ally, the U.S. government."

Vietnam Casualties

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

KILLED IN ACTION

- Army**
- 1Lt. Jerald F. De Loore, Anniston, Ala.
 - Spec. 4 Oscar Aguayo Jr., Tempe, Ariz.
 - Spec. 4 Robert L. Flores, Parker, Ariz.
 - Cpl. Michael D. Sander, Oakland, Calif.
 - Spec. 4 Ronald L. Klusing, El Cajon, Calif.
 - Pfc. Arthur R. Keeling, El Monte, Calif.
 - Pfc. Donald C. Willis, Hayward, Calif.
 - Spec. 4 Kenneth Cushen, New Haven, Conn.
 - Spec. 4 Ian W. Adamitz, Opa Locka, Fla.
 - 2Lt. Phil J. Dickens, Columbus, Ga.
 - Cpl. Billy L. Godfrey, Resaca, Ga.
 - SSgt. Allen L. Van Keuren, Savanna, Ill.
 - Spec. 4 Michael R. Mc Cord, Carmi, Ill.
 - Spec. 4 Richard J. Boeshart, Sioux City, Iowa.
 - Cpl. Riley C. O'Neil Jr., Kansas City, Kan.
 - Sfc. Louis W. Wadlington, Radcliff, Ky.
 - Spec. 4 Lloyd Stack, Grand Rapids, Mich.
 - 2Lt. Howard L. Doyle, Davison, Mich.
 - Sfc. John D. Roche, Bay City, Mich.
 - Spec. 4 John E. Mogan, Clifton, Maine.
 - Pfc. Stephen J. Whipple, Portland, Maine.
 - Sgt. George L. Myers, Ft. Meade, Md.
 - SSgt. Sherman A. Sorrell, Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y.
 - Sgt. Edward M. Looney, Brooklyn, N.Y.
 - Cpl. Steven Matarazzo, Montgomery, N.Y.
 - Spec. 4 Thomas E. Grix, Yonkers, N.Y.
 - Spec. 4 Michael A. Nederlik, Rochester, N.Y.
 - Pfc. Stephen W. Pickett, Jackson Heights, N.Y.
 - Pfc. Richard M. Proscio, New Hyde Park, N.Y.
 - Sfc. Austin R. Van Kleist, Fayetteville, N.C.
 - Sfc. Dan Wagner Jr., Fayetteville, N.C.
 - Spec. 4 Willie French Jr., Pittsboro, N.C.
 - Spec. 4 Charles W. Hicks, Butler, N.C.
 - Pfc. Elijah Waters, La Grange, N.C.
 - 1Lt. John H. Laffin Jr., Columbus, Ohio.
 - Cpl. Hubbard A. Choppa, Hubbard, Ohio.
 - Pfc. Donald R. Burgess, Tulsa, Okla.
 - Pfc. Gary R. Johnson, Silverton, Ore.
 - Pfc. Durward A. Limbacher, Uniontown, Pa.
 - 2Lt. Roy E. Southerland, Morristown, Tenn.
 - Sgt. Joe Pena Jr., Plainview, Texas.
 - Pfc. Wayne D. Ryzar, Houston, Texas.
 - SSgt. Donald C. Nelson, Renton, Wash.
 - Sgt. Juan S. Ozuna, Wapato, Wash.
 - Spec. 4 Denny A. Balty, Kennewick, Wash.
 - Pfc. Gregory P. Curtis, Longview, Wash.
 - Spec. 4 Richard D. Harrison, Liberty, W.Va.
 - Sfc. James E. Lynn, Kenosha, Wisc.
- Navy**
- BUHNC Roger E. Hueslis, North Merrick, N.Y.
- Marine Corps**
- Lt. Phillip S. Hollaway, Birmingham, Ala.
 - 2Lt. Richard W. Vaughn, Corto Medra, Calif.
 - Pfc. James W. Powell Jr., Washington, D.C.
 - 2Lt. Charles D. Kerr, Pensacola, Fla.
 - Pfc. Eddie L. Jackson, Jacksonville, Fla.
 - Lt. Louis N. Cooley Jr., Council Bluffs, Iowa.
 - Pfc. Ernesto Perez, Rake, Iowa.
 - Lt. William F. Mc Carthy, Medford, Mass.

- Pfc. Richard L. Norton, Melrose, Mass.
 - Lt. Frank A. Indyke, Raymond, N.H.
 - Pfc. Michael D. Nissenbaum, Findlay, Ohio.
 - Pfc. Wesley A. Mayle, Duquesne, Pa.
 - Cpl. Robert M. Sawaya, Orem, Utah.
 - Lt. Gary E. Schubert, Wheeling, W.Va.
- Air Force**
- 1Lt. Myron F. Smith Lawton, Okla.
- DIED OF WOUNDS**
- Navy**
- BU2 William D. Thompson Jr., Oxnard, Calif.
- Marine Corps**
- Lt. James T. Taylor, Gratton, Ohio.
- MISSING TO DEAD-HOSTILE**
- Army**
- Pfc. Jim L. Harnden, Lakewood, Calif.
 - Sfc. John W. Fitzgerald Jr., Clarksville, Ind.
 - Cpl. George P. O'Toole Jr., Mankato, Minn.
 - Spec. 4 Robert J. Larson, Minneapolis, Minn.
 - Maj. Charles D. Wilkie, Genesee, N.Y.
 - Sfc. Luis M. Marquez-Lopez, Spring Lake, N.C.
 - SSgt. Clifford R. Carter, Fayetteville, N.C.
 - 1Lt. Frank H. Moore, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- Navy**
- SN Gilbert J. Graham, Anaheim, Calif.
 - EN2 Joseph T. Muselli Jr., Hall Quarry, Maine.

MISSING IN ACTION

- Army**
- Spec. 4 James C. Houghton
 - Spec. 4 Anthony N. Lapardo
 - Pfc. Douglas R. Johnson
 - Pfc. Herbert Piummer Jr.
- Air Force**
- 1Lt. Robert E. Bennett
 - 1Lt. Howard J. Hill
- DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- WO William K. Clawson, Ozark, Ala.
 - Spec. 5 Matthew P. Amaral III, Gloucester, Mass.
 - Spec. 4 Kenneth R. Dau, Viking, Minn.
 - Pfc. John E. Davis, North Platte, Neb.
 - Spec. 4 Jerry M. Roberts, Hobbs, N.M.
 - Spec. 4 Ronny K. Kindred, Checotah, Okla.
 - 1Lt. Haron L. Brown II, Huntington, W. Va.
- Marine Corps**
- Cpl. John C. House, Pine Bluff, Ark.
 - Lt. Verne L. Johnson Jr., Largo, Fla.
 - Sgt. Marvin R. Davis, Albany, Ga.
 - Pfc. Robert C. Olson Jr., Natrona Heights, Pa.
- Air Force**
- CWO William G. Wilkinson, Amarillo, Texas.
- MISSING TO DEAD-NON HOSTILE**
- Army**
- Pfc. Jerry W. Brannock, Hickory, N.C.
- MISSING NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- Spec. 5 Gary W. Latze
 - Spec. 5 Michael Berrios
 - Pfc. James C. Groover

Red Aid for Cambodia

PIINOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Cambodia Thursday officially accepted military aid from communist China, including three MIG17's, four training planes, four single engine transport planes and several dozen anti-aircraft guns.

Marines Bolster Hamlet Defenders

WASHINGTON (S&S) — The Marines will add another 35 to 40 combined action platoons to the 79 they now have for hamlet defense in the I Corps area of South Vietnam in the next few months Marine Gen. Leonard F. Chapman, Jr. said Wednesday.

Chapman made the announcement a few hours before he

left for the Far East on his first inspection tour as the new Marine Corps commandant. He replaced Gen. Wallace M. Greene Jan. 1.

The increase in CAPs was authorized, Chapman explained, because of their success and the fact that, he said, "not one hamlet protected by a platoon has reverted to Viet Cong control."

Each platoon is made up of

a U.S. Marine squad and a Vietnamese popular force platoon for hamlet defense.

Chapman said he found the Marines who are in Vietnam or have been there believe in the U.S. course of action. They believe in what is being done so strongly, he added, that some 16,000 have voluntarily extended their duty tours by six months over the past two years.

Hard But Safe Landing

DA NANG, Vietnam (ISO) — As Marine Capt. John A. Drew, 28, of Granite City, Ill., a pilot with Marine Fighter Attack Sq.-122, nosed the F4B Phantom II into a steep dive to attack an enemy fortified position, Dec. 23, calamity struck.

An automatic weapons round slammed through the cockpit shattering both his left arm and shoulder.

The jet was out of control as Drew fought to keep his consciousness and regain control of the aircraft. In the rear seat, the radar intercept officer, 1stLt. William S. Simone, 27, could only hang on unable to help the wounded pilot.

Finally Drew was able to regain control. Maj. Jacques C. Naviaux, 33, flight leader for the direct air support mission, brought his F4B up next to the crippled wingman.

Drew elected to fly back to Da Nang even though he had only the use of his right arm. Each time he had to use a control on the left side of the cockpit he had to release the control stick and reach across with his right arm.

The trickiest part of the return was the landing, but according to Naviaux, Drew made a "magnificent arrested landing" and taxied to the waiting ambulance.

Grenades Open VC Hideout

TAN TRU, Vietnam (IO) — Second Lt. Bjorn J. Ulstad knew something was wrong as he and his platoon approached an artillery-riddled concrete building near this 9th Inf. Div. camp in the Mekong Delta.

"Instinct told me the VC were close," he recalled later.

Ulstad, of Minneapolis, and Pfc. Alberto Hernandez, of San Antonio, Tex., proceeded to check out the building.

As Ulstad climbed atop a four-foot wall, he noticed a flickering movement in a hole directly on the other side of the wall.

He yelled for anybody down there to come out, but the response was silence.

After dropping a couple of grenades into the opening, Ulstad saw hands wave. Six men in identical uniforms appeared. They said one wounded man was still below.

One of the detainees turned out to be an assistant squad leader in the local hamlet guerrillas.

New Name Tags Delayed by Army

WASHINGTON (S&S) — Army commands worldwide have been granted a one-year extension to change the "U.S. Army" name tapes on field uniforms because of supply and funding difficulties some of them are having.

Originally the tapes were to have been changed to more subdued black on olive drab colors for camouflage by Jan. 1, 1968, the Army said.

Helping Villagers

Seabees Doing Peace Corps Work

VINH LONG, Vietnam (PAO) — Take a group of men who can build a bridge, set concrete, lay pipe, advise on water purification and sanitation, handle light and heavy construction equipment and communicate in Vietnamese, and you might think you're dealing with the Peace Corps.

Add weapons training and unit defense and you know you're dealing with the Navy's version of the Peace Corps, the Seabee Team.

The personnel of these 13-man teams differ from their fellow Seabees throughout Vietnam in that they are concerned entirely with civic action, working with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS).

Their mission is to assist and advise Vietnamese villagers in area development and construction and sanitation techniques.

To do this, they work on such projects as the construction of small earth dams, land clearance, the construction and repair of roads, bridges, power generators, hospitals, schools and other public structures, and other development projects designed to give lasting benefit to the people of Vietnam.

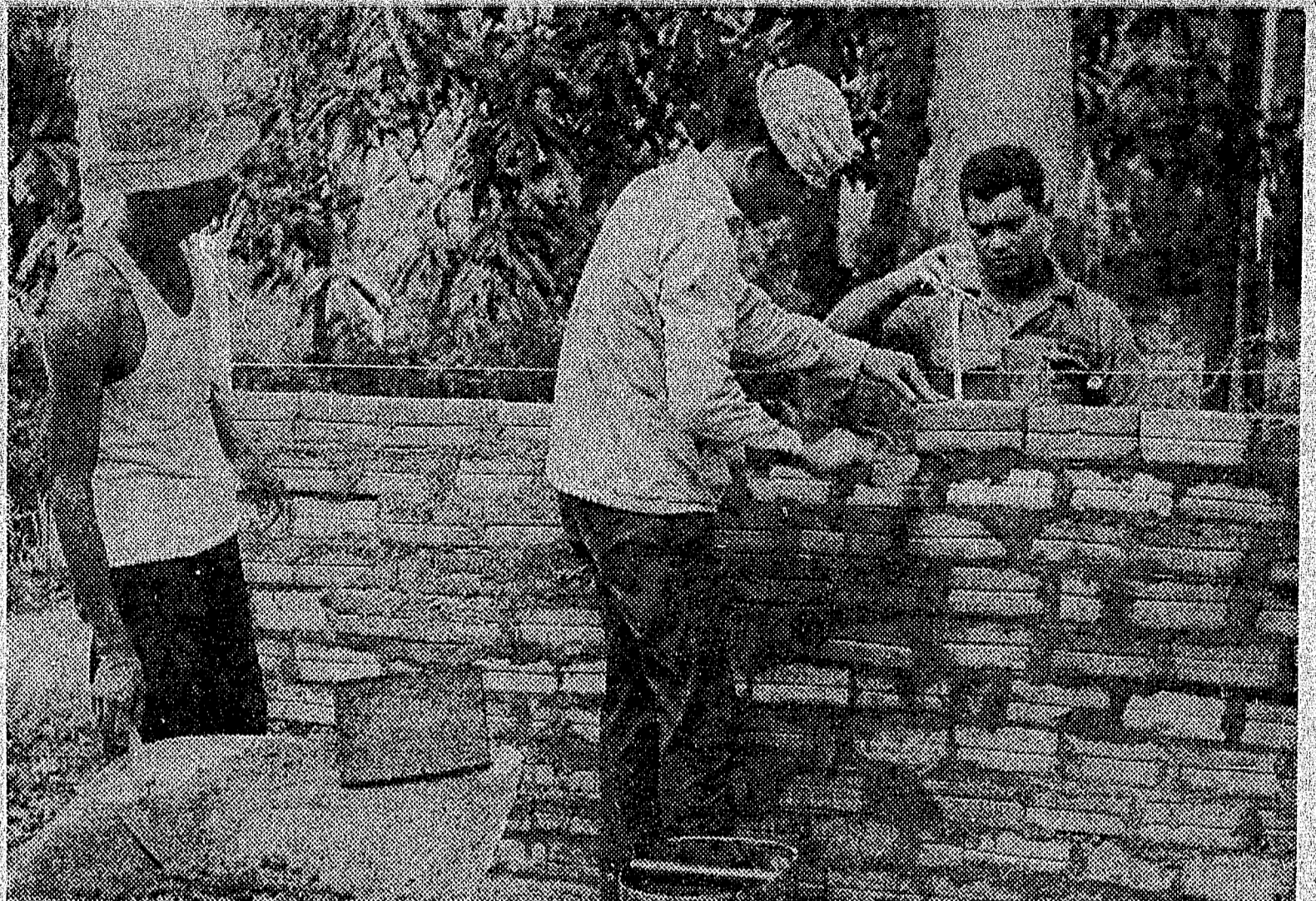
There are now eight Seabee Teams in Vietnam. One is CBS Team 1011, based at Vinh Long, 55 miles southwest of Saigon, in the Mekong Delta.

The team is headed by Lt. (JG) Thomas E. Brisbane of Denver, Colo.

The 12 men who serve with him have eight different specialties, but, as with members of any well-coordinated team, they are cross trained so that the hospital corpsman can drive a tractor, and the electrician give first aid. Other specialties include steel working, surveying building, plumbing and heavy construction.

CB Team 1011 arrived in Vietnam last August as relief for another team. The members expect to remain in the area until spring.

The unit was formed up and trained for four months at the U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme,



A member of Seabee Team 1011 helps two Hoi Chanh (former Viet Cong) learn how to lay bricks. Team 1011 is based at Vinh Long in the Mekong Delta, southwest of Saigon. (USN)

Calif. This training consisted of operation of specific equipment, pipe setting, use of water purification systems, unit defense and weapons training. Graduation consisted of a two-week field training exercise on Vandenberg AFB, north of Santa Barbara, where they established a camp, built a bridge and filled in a road.

They also underwent a two-week intensive language familiarization course at Coronado, Calif. The one hospital corpsman with the unit also received dental training.

Shortly after arriving in the Mekong Delta, Brisbane and his crew undertook their first major project—constructing a concrete surface in the marketplace of An Duc.

Situated seven miles southeast of Vinh Long, An Duc is a typical Delta hamlet, with the marketplace as center of the town's community life. When the Seabees arrived they found the marketplace to be just an

open square between the houses and the river, with a dirt surface that turned to mud after each rain.

With the laying of the concrete and installation of drainage gutters leading to the nearby Cai So river, the people have a clean, sanitary area on which to exhibit their food and goods. Other results of the project were the training of local residents in modern construction techniques, proper use and mixture of concrete, and the creation of a favorable impression of the government of Vietnam.

"The people are also weak on equipment maintenance, and one of our main short-range aims is to train some mechanics, soon," Brisbane said.

Among the trainees in construction techniques at the compound in Vinh Long are four Hoi Chanh, former Viet Cong who have defected.

The Seabee compound is com-

pletely self-supporting, although the Seabees now eat with the Military Assistance Command advisory team next door.

Another current project is widening and extending an old trail serving an agricultural area. The new road was started by the previous Seabee Team that began laying the crushed rock surface. The new road is now three and a half miles long with two bridges.

While working in the countryside the team members are protected by Vietnamese Regional Force troops who patrol the area. So far, no trouble has been encountered.

Despite the heavy work schedule there is always a little off-duty time. This is mostly spent in civic action projects, such as making playground equipment — swings, see-saws, etc.—out of building materials purchased with funds collected by Army and Air Force personnel at Vinh Long AB.

Old Hands at Recon—After 1st Patrol

PHU BAI, Vietnam (ISO) — The recon patrol dubbed Sand-box was a new outfit which won its spurs on the gloomy slopes of the Co Bi Tan Thanh Valley.

Nine men, each straining under 60 pounds or more of equipment, slogged through the jungle. Five were on their first patrol. On the second day, the Marines were ambushed by Viet Cong, but, with massive air, artillery and mortar support, fought their way clear, killing 19 enemy.

Some of the patrol members: S. Sgt. Walter A. Zawistowski, 26, veteran patrol leader. His second tour with recon in Vietnam.

Lance Cpl. Stephen A. Miller, 20, the M79 gunner. Miller joined the Marines after high school. It was his first patrol.

Lance Cpl. Ralph Coogle, 18, the patrol's radio operator. His first patrol.

Pfc. William T. Hollis, 20. He joined A Co., 3rd Recon Bn., from the infantry. Also his first patrol.

The Marines made no contact on the initial day of the

three-day patrol. On the second day the patrol pushed toward the summit of Hill 300 in the Co Bi Tan Thanh area. The thick underbrush tore at their clothing and cumbersome packs.

A scout dog and his handler were on point as the patrol neared the top. Suddenly, two shots rang out. Miller felt "stunned for a second" as one shot hit the point man and the other zipped past the patrol. Recovering, he dropped to his

knees and fired three M79 rounds in the direction of the shots.

The rear of the column did not realize at first what had happened. "I heard two rounds and then someone yell," Coogle said. "I didn't know what happened but hit the deck. Later, word was passed back that the point man had been killed. We all felt bad but we had to continue the fight."

The Marines formed into a tight circle. "The perimeter was

maybe 10 feet across and 10 feet wide," Zawistowski said.

"We were on top of each other." The VC, an estimated platoon or more, poured small arms and automatic fire at the Marines.

Working the radio and firing M79 rounds, Zawistowski directed a deadly hail of mortar, artillery and air strikes onto the enemy positions.

"They kept coming," he said. "They were within 15 meters of us. I fired 90 M79 rounds. I got one enemy right through the head."

"They were all around us now. The aerial observer told me he had close air support on station but it would be very, very close. I told him to have them drop their ordnance."

Hollis said, "One time the AO asked us how many men we had on our right flank. We didn't have any men there. That's how close the VC were."

The VC took a hammering. Nineteen lay dead from the air, artillery, mortar and small arms fire.

But He Didn't Buss Her

SAIGON (UPI)—The English-language Saigon Daily News carried the following news item under the headline "Hugging in Public Does Not Pay."

"A 38 year-old lady was startled, blushed, shouted when a fellow male passenger in the Tri-Lambretta (small bus) sitting next to her turned to her and hugged her tenderly in his robust arms.

"The man, reportedly an ex-VC (Viet Cong) was seen by

many people, especially the passengers of the minibus performing such an intimate act in broad daylight. . .

"The driver immediately stopped the vehicle after the alarmed cries of the chaste lady who quickly pointed an accusing finger at the man. . .

"The man was taken into custody for interrogation.

"There was speculation that the returnee thought the lady looks like his girl friend or mistook her for his wife."

Diplomats Puzzled by Peace Offensive

LONDON (UPI)—Qualified diplomats said Thursday they were mystified by Hanoi's sudden peace offensive.

They cautioned it might be a gimmick. Both the timing of the peace feeler and its scope are considered puzzling. Diplomats said they conflict with the Communists' well known tough line policy stand so far and an appeal from President Ho Chi Minh only a week ago for an intensified fight against the United States.

Unless the purported willingness of the Hanoi regime to start talks when American bombing is halted represents a major policy reversal by the Communists, the move could be a gimmick designed to

cause considerable political embarrassment to the United States, the diplomat said.

So far all attempts to elicit clarification from Hanoi of its offer to talk have produced no response.

Taken at face value, the diplomats said, the conditional offer to negotiate covers a multitude of possibilities. The Communists may mean business because they see no chance of ultimate success any longer in their current fight. Alternatively, they may want to drag the United States to the conference table, after having secured a halt to the fighting, to present Washington with terms for its speedy withdrawal altogether

from Vietnam, the informants said.

What has been established firmly so far is that North Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh has offered to negotiate "the questions concerned" if the United States "ends unconditionally the bombing of North Vietnam and other acts of war."

There has been no clarification of the term of "other acts of war," nor of the scope of the envisaged negotiations.

Diplomats frankly feared that behind the offer may hide a plan to get Americans to first end their military activities and then tell them at the conference table they must clear out.

In other words, they may refuse to

negotiate a detailed settlement taking into account American and South Vietnamese as well as North Vietnamese considerations.

At any rate, Hanoi's offer was considered a clever political move, hard for the Americans to reject out of hand and therefore likely to give the Communists a considerable propaganda success.

Diplomatic sources in Vientiane, Laos, Thursday denied that the U.S. Embassy had confirmed or knew anything about a report that North Vietnam is sounding out the Laotian, Cambodian and Burmese governments on a site for possible Vietnam peace talks. The sources said the report was not current in Vientiane.

Congolese Heckle Humphrey

KINSHASA, Congo (AP) — Some 150 shouting Congolese youths slowed U.S. Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey's motorcade Thursday as they waved anti-U.S. banners.

One sign said: "We condemn U.S. imperialism . . . crimes in Vietnam."

Another read: "Go back home Humphrey."

The vice president arrived Thursday afternoon from Accra, Ghana, on an African tour.

He told Congolese dignitaries in a brief arrival statement: ". . . The American people will be among your strongest admirers as the Congo grows and prospers, proud of our mutual friendship and our mutual belief in the social justice of mankind."

Humphrey and his party of 60 piled into a 28-car motorcade behind 21 motorcycles to drive to Mount Stanley.

At the monument to Patrice-Emery Lumumba, the Congo's national hero, a group of sign-waving youths crowded the road.

The motorcade slowed, with Humphrey in the lead car, and the youths charged the cars. Several of the group thumped the sides of the cars but did no damage. It was believed the youths were members of several student leftist groups.



Wife Does Barnard's Homework

Dr. Christian Barnard, heart transplant surgeon, relaxes at his home in Cape Town, South Africa, while his wife sews valves for his use in heart operations. Materials are in the small dish in front of them. Story on page 4. (NBC Photo via UPI Radiophoto)

One Aussie Quint Dies; Others OK

BRISBANE, Australia (UPI)—Geoffrey, one of the four-day-old Braham quintuplets, died Thursday of undisclosed causes. The four other infants were reported doing well.

Mrs. Mary Patricia Braham, the 36-year-old mother, was discharged from the hospital Thursday night. Her husband, Roger, 34, said she was grief-stricken and wanted privacy.

The four surviving infants—a boy and three girls—remained in the hospital under intense care in incubators.

Americal Div. Batters N. Viets

(Continued From Page 1)

against the two perimeters.

The U.S. barrages finally drove the North Vietnamese out of "Leslie" and away from the edges of "Ross," where the Communists could not quite break through.

When the shooting was over, 143 bodies were found around "Ross" and 58 more at "Leslie," 40 of them inside the latter's barbed wire defenses.

More American troops tangled with the North Vietnamese in another pair of battles later in the day, killing an additional 40 Communists. Still other U.S. troops chased the Reds, killing some as they went.

When the day ended, U.S. spokesmen said, the Communist death total stood at 329, the second time this week Reds have

lost 300 or more in one general battle area.

American casualties were placed officially at 17 killed and 135 wounded.

Communist forces swung the brunt of their attacks elsewhere in South Vietnam late Wednesday night and early Thursday, hitting the capitals of Ba Xuyen and Darlac Provinces and hammering airfields at An Khe and Ban Me Thuot.

At Ban Me Thuot, about 156 miles northeast of Saigon, the Communists shot their way into the city and tried to break into the home of the chief of Darlac Province, government spokesmen said.

One government soldier was killed and two others wounded in defending the house, it was reported.

Meanwhile, Viet Cong mortar

shells fired from positions a little more than a mile southeast of the city pounded Ban Me Thuot's airfield, a South Vietnamese infantry regiment's staging area and an engineering battalion.

Government spokesmen said "a number of helicopters" were damaged at the airfield. However, casualties to South Vietnamese troops throughout the city were described as "light."

Vietnamese troops, "many battalions" strong, fought off the invaders and chased them throughout the morning, government officials said.

Communists zeroed in on the airfield at An Khe, 260 miles northeast of Saigon, and pounded it with an estimated 30 mortar rounds early Thursday.

U.S. spokesmen said damage at the field was light and that there were no casualties.

In the Mekong Delta, government spokesmen said, other Viet Cong soldiers hurled 20 mortar rounds into the province capital of Ba Xuyen, 90 miles southwest of Saigon in an attack that started shortly before midnight Wednesday.

Death Cancels Prison's Blood Gift

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—For 18 years, Frank A. Frank Jr. lived on "borrowed blood."

When he died, it was not from the rare ailment which required continuous transfusions, but in a traffic accident.

Frank, of South San Francisco, was kept alive by donated blood. His last gift was from the inmates of San Quentin

prison, who volunteered, as a Christmas gift, to take care of all his future blood needs.

Frank, a freshman at the College of San Mateo, suffered from Cooley's anemia, a rare ailment which did not permit his body to reproduce red cells fast enough.

Every few weeks, he went to Children's Hospital for a three-pint transfusion with blood from the Irwin Memorial Blood

Bank. In the 12 years since the family moved from Pittsburgh, the boy's father, Frank Sr., said, the bank never had charged.

Young Frank went riding with two friends Tuesday, looking for spare parts for an old car. They stopped at a red light, and their car was hit in the rear. Pushed forward into a small bus, it careened into another traffic lane where it was hit by another vehicle.

Rusk—

(Continued From Page 1)

suit" of Communist forces into Cambodia, Rusk said the United States would "much prefer" that Cambodia take steps to eliminate the border sanctuary.

"If the Cambodian government, with the assistance of the International Control Commission, assures its own neutrality and guarantees the integrity of its borders, the conditions which create the problem would be eliminated," he said.

"That we would much prefer," he added.

Rusk chided Poland for what he indicated was that country's lack of cooperation as a member of the International Control Commission.

"The three members of the ICC are India, Canada and Poland," he told reporters. "If all three took a cooperative attitude on this matter, then they could accomplish a good deal."

"And we think some of them will take a cooperative attitude but Prince Sihanouk of Cambodia indicated that he had not had the cooperation of Poland on this particular point."

Asked if he felt the United States is committed to test Hanoi's intentions by stopping the bombing to see if negotiations result, he repeated:

"Let's find out what they mean in relation to what they say."

Egging on to 105

BOSTON (UPI) — Abraham Goldberg, who turned 104 on New Year's Day has a culinary formula for longevity.

"Every day I'd get up at 4 a.m. and mix up an egg and wine for breakfast. Then I'd go to work and at 10 a.m., I'd have another egg and wine," he said Wednesday.

World Weather

USAF Weather Central

TOKYO AREA

Friday night: Mostly Fair; Low 22

Saturday: Mostly Fair; High 53

TEMPERATURES

Jan. 4

	H	L		H	L
Tokyo	52	30	Saigon	84	72
Chitose	27	3	Bangkok	86	66
Itazuke	48	36	Hong Kong	66	55
Seoul	45	30	Jakarta	88	72
Naha	61	54	K. Lumpur	84	71
Toipei	66	54	Melbourne	71	57
Manila	86	67	Singapore	85	72
Guam	80	—	Sydney	72	70
	H	L		H	L
Albany	28	-3	Louisville	35	29
Albuquerque	47	19	Memphis	37	35
Amarillo	56	10	Miami	76	72
Anchorage	32	19	Milwaukee	10	04
Atlanta	48	37	Moscow	32	29
Birmingham	58	48	NYC	32	28
Bismarck	02	-26	N. Platte	23	-18
Biose	28	07	Okl. City	22	17
Boston	35	17	Omaha	12	-12
Chicago	18	09	Paris	41	37
Cincinnati	28	23	Phila.	34	26
Cleveland	28	23	Phoenix	55	33
Denver	39	-6	Pittsburgh	35	27
Des Moines	06	-8	Portl., O.	41	26
Detroit	25	17	Rapid City	21	-18
Duluth	-3	-24	Reno	38	03
Fairbanks	29	18	Richmond	42	29
Fargo	-1	-20	St. Louis	20	14
Fort Worth	42	36	Salt Lake	32	13
Honolulu	79	70	S. Antonio	61	52
Ind'apolis	70	56	San Diego	62	52
Jack'ville	61	55	San Fran.	56	25
Kansas City	12	-1	S. S. Marie	17	02
Las Vegas	50	40	Seattle	41	30
Little Rock	34	32	Shreveport	46	42
London	43	37	Tucson	58	40
L.A.	63	46	Wash.	35	20