

2 U.S. Aides Slain in Guatemala

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala (AP) — Terrorists firing machine guns from a passing car killed the two top U.S. Army and Navy officials here Tuesday and wounded two other American military men.

They were apparent victims of a wave of politico-gangster violence ravaging this Central American country.

Earlier in the day, machine-guns killed a former congressman from the era of leftist President Jacobo Arbenz Guzman, who was toppled in 1954 by a U.S.-supported army coup aimed at preventing a complete Communist takeover. The congressman's bodyguard also was slain.

Police quoted a gardener as saying the Americans, driving toward their homes, were shot from a green car that drove off fast.

The slain Americans were Col. John D. Webber Jr., 47, head of the U.S. military group in Guatemala since 1956, and Lt. Cmdr. Ernest A. Munro, 40, head of the U.S. naval section.

A machinegun burst killed (Continued on Back Page, Col. 4)

STARBUCKS PACIFIC CRIPES

AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES IN THE FAR EAST

10¢

Vol. 24, No. 17 FIVE-STAR EDITION

中華民國三十三年一月二十二日 (1944年1月22日) 星期四

Thursday, Jan. 18, 1968

WILSON SLICES U.K. SPENDING

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Harold Wilson Tuesday announced drastic slashes in social welfare benefits and sweeping cuts overseas which are likely to mark his country's withdrawal as a world leader.

Wilson announced British military withdrawals from Southeast Asia and the Persian Gulf and also told the House of Commons his government has canceled a billion-dollar order for 50 American F111 bombers, the plane which was to carry Britain's H-bombs in the 1970s.

In a program of other sweeping defense and domestic cuts the Labor premier disclosed decisions to speed the cutdown of Britain's armed forces; phase out its last three aircraft carriers, and suspend civil defense work. Wide ranging cuts in social service benefits came too.

The intention, said a grim-faced Wilson, is to slash state spending in the 1968-1969 fiscal year by 300 million pounds (\$720 million) rising to more than 400 million pounds (\$960 million) in subsequent years.

The cuts were not the whole story. Chancellor of the Exchequer Roy Jenkins, in a nationwide television broadcast, also warned the British they face stiff taxes to prevent them buying goods that should be exported.

"Our purpose," Wilson said, "is to make devaluation (of the (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)



FLAMES BOIL UP AROUND FREIGHTER AFTER IT COLLIDED WITH BARGES IN HOUSTON, TEX., SHIP CHANNEL

AP Radiophoto

Dials Direct To Poorhouse

MISSION HILLS, Calif. (UPI) — James Young has been literally talked out of his \$27,000 home by his daughter, Collene, 19, whose husband, Lynn Cross, 20, was stationed with the Navy in Alaska last year.

"In just 38 days they made 95 telephone calls to each other," Young said. "All the calls were charged to my phone. The bill was \$4,509.81."

Unable to raise the money to pay the bill, Young put his home up for sale.

Houston Channel an Inferno As Freighter Rams Barges

HOUSTON, Tex. (AP) — The freighter Christiane smashed into a string of gasoline-laden barges in the Houston Ship Channel early Tuesday, turning the water into an inferno of blazing fuel exploding in shocks felt and seen for 30 miles.

There were no serious injuries as two American tourists, the captain's wife and 3½-year-old

daughter and 27 officers and crewmen from the Christiane fled through the blazing waters in lifeboats.

Traffic was choked off on the ship channel, one of the busiest in the nation, until midmorning when Coast Guard units began allowing ships to pass through the gasoline-laden waters with caution.

One of the barges flamed up anew shortly after dawn before the fire was tapped out and the gasoline barges were towed to anchor amid fireboats on the side of the channel.

The collision occurred about 12:30 a.m. just south of a highway tunnel between the suburbs of Baytown and La Porte, which (Continued on Back Page, Col. 5)

Israel Scores Again

NEW YORK (AP) — There were 376 votes submitted by sports writers and broadcasters to determine the outstanding team of 1967 in the annual Associated Press poll. However, only 372 were made official.

The other four votes were for the Israeli Army.

Reaction Force Kills 13, Routs Red Ambushers

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON—The Communists continued their ambush tactics Monday, triggering a surprise attack on a 40-vehicle convoy east of Pleiku on Highway 19.

A quick reaction force from the 4th Inf. Div. forced the enemy to withdraw, killing 13 Reds. Ten Americans were wounded.

The ambush was the third in as many days. Communist forces hit a Marine convoy Saturday just south of the DMZ, and early Monday sprung a trap on a convoy north of Kontum.

U.S. headquarters announced damage to the convoy near Pleiku was light.

In the Que Son Valley east of Tam Ky, 31 enemy were killed as action continued by the 3rd Brigade, 1st Air Cav. Div.

Pacific Stars and Stripes photographer John Olson accompanied a force sent in to recover the helicopter of a battalion commander downed four days earlier. He reported three bodies recovered, all from shallow graves near the burned-out chopper, apparently dug by North Vietnamese. Communist snipers hampered the intended rescue operation.

Olson also reported intense anti-aircraft fire in the area. Ground operations in the valley are now being directed, he said, from the ground, instead of from airborne command helicopters, due to the heavy .50 caliber fire.

Four helicopters are still down in enemy territory, according to Olson, and Landing Zone Ross, a staging area for U.S. operations into the Que Son Valley, has been attacked six times in two weeks.

Elements of the 25th Inf. Div. engaged an unknown-sized enemy force 59 miles northwest of Saigon Monday. Four U.S. soldiers were killed and 29 wounded. Enemy losses were unknown.

(In Quang Nam Province, 375 miles northeast of Saigon, a large Viet Cong force attacked a company of Vietnamese troops—about 130 men—on a road-clearing operation and inflicted what officials called "heavy" casualties before reinforcements could be rushed up, UPI reported.)

(When they arrived, the reinforcements chased the attackers and killed 40, government spokesmen reported.)

U.S. Bombs Down Army Copter

CHU LAI, Vietnam (UPI)—A U.S. Army helicopter gunship was bombed out of the sky Tuesday by American fighter-bombers in a freak accident that injured the four crewmen.

The helicopter was flying at treetop level, protecting an infantry unit's flank when it was engulfed in turbulence caused by exploding bombs. Fragments hit the helicopter but apparently it was the turbulence that yanked the ship out of control and plunged it to the ground.

The planes were making a radar-controlled bomb run above the cloudy weather and no one saw or heard them.

Hanoi Seen Peril to Laos

WASHINGTON (UPI)—American withdrawal from Vietnam would lead to a North Vietnamese attempt to overrun neighboring Laos, the U.S. ambassador to Laos said Tuesday.

Ambassador William Sullivan said, "The presence of U.S. troops in Vietnam is a very major contribution to the safety of Laos."

Sullivan spoke to newsmen after briefing the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Rep. Clement Zablocki, D-Wis., chairman of the House Asian Affairs Subcommittee, told newsmen, "On the basis of the ambassador's report, I don't think the war will broaden into Laos."

121 Bomb Missions Hit North in 1 Day

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — U.S. warplanes, using radar to guide them through thick clouds, pounded North Vietnam with 121 missions Monday, but the heavy overcast limited damage, reports.

Air Force F105 Thunderchiefs bombed the Thai Nguyen steel fabrication plant 38 miles north of Hanoi for the first time since June 27, 1967. After the June raid, U.S. officials said the plant was completely destroyed. There were no damage reports on Monday's radar-directed raid.

Other Thunderchief pilots hit

a railroad yard, 94 miles northwest of Hanoi, for the second day in a row. The yard lies on the vital northwest railroad, linking Hanoi with Communist China.

Air Force pilots also hit an army barracks area and truck and barge traffic along the coastal panhandle.

Marine Corps A6 Intruders bombed the Hu Ly railroad bypass bridge, 29 miles south of Hanoi, and the Khe Se railroad yard 91 miles northwest of the Communist capital.

Navy fighter-bombers struck a port facility, 12 miles northeast of Haiphong and three bridges in the northern panhandle.

Navy pilots also blasted several key targets in the southern panhandle, hitting the Nam Dinh railroad yard and a highway ferry, 16 miles southeast of Vinh and the Lang Son highway ferry, 40 miles northwest, and a railroad bypass 12 miles northwest of the coastal city.

Navy warplanes also hit the Dong Phong Thuong railroad siding and rail lines, 12 miles northeast and 40 miles southwest of Thanh Hoa, respectively.

Other Navy planes hit the Chau Cau barracks area 34 miles south of Hanoi.

Air Force B52 bombers hit enemy troop positions and staging areas early Tuesday morning 10½ miles north of Khe Sanh in Quang Tri Province.

Later in the morning other B-52s hit enemy troop positions 58 miles northwest of Saigon in Tay Ninh Province.

Casualties

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

KILLED IN ACTION

Army
SP4 Eldon Garamilo, Denver, Colo.
SP4 Johnny R. Bryson, Mableton, Ga.
Sgt. Wojciech Wysocki, New York City.
Sgt. Furman L. Johnson, Willard, N.C.
SSgt. William E. Bernard, Lexington, Okla.
2Lt. Gerald W. Norton, Dallas, Tex.
Navy
HN Gary L. Meridith, Fremont, Calif.
HM2 Thomas P. Moore, Racine, Wis.
Marine Corps
Pfc. Billy W. Brill, Hapeville, Ga.
Pfc. Joseph C. Wior, Royal Oak, Mich.
Cpl. Robert C. Wolf, Milwaukee, Wis.
MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE

Army
Sgt. Jesse E. Rodriguez, Fresno, Calif.
Cpl. Gene A. Polla, Cleveland, Ohio.

MISSING IN ACTION

Army
WO Francis G. Anton.
WO Sheldon D. Schultz.
Pfc. Raul G. Gutierrez.
Navy
Cdr. Robert J. Schweitzer.
LT(j.g.) Ralph E. Faulks Jr.
LT(j.g.) Richard W. Minnich Jr.
DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION
Navy
EN3 Farlino J. Apollinar, Prescott, Ariz.
LT1 Richard O. Williams, Natchez, Miss.
LT(j.g.) Dennis E. Montague, Olean, N.Y.

MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE
Army
Pfc. Philip A. Tingley Jr., Arverne, N.Y.
MISSING NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION

Army
Pvt. Roger D. Anderson.
Navy
BM3 Charles M. Bell.
CORRECTION
Pfc. Arthur J. Withers, USMC, Delete from list, released in error.



'River Rat' Checks a Boat

An American military policeman crawls over the top of a Vietnamese fishing junk looking for Viet Cong arms and contraband. He is one of the "River Rats," military police who patrol the seashore and rivers south of Da Nang in high-speed, heavily-armed boats. (AP)

Military Trial OK'd For U.S. Civilians

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Dist. Judge George L. Hart has ruled that wartime provisions of the Code of Military Justice apply to U.S. civilians in Vietnam on grounds the United States is in fact waging war there.

Hart's decision Monday makes John H. Latney, 47, of Middlesex County, Va., a merchant seaman, subject to Marine Corps justice in the knife slaying last Aug. 12 of a fellow American in a Da Nang bar.

Hart agreed with Asst. U.S. Atty. Oscar Altschuler that the United States is engaged in a de facto war in Vietnam.

The judge denied the contention of defense attorney Arthur J. Keeffe, a Catholic University

professor, that Latney was ineligible for Marine justice because he was not accompanying troops in the combat zone.

Hart ruled that since Latney was a crew member of a U.S. flag vessel delivering jet fuel to Da Nang he must be considered as accompanying troops.

"Since the man was receiving hazard pay for being within 30 miles of a combat zone, it also stands to reason that he was 'in the field' within the terms of the code," Hart said.

Keeffe had asked the court to order Latney brought to the United States on a writ of habeas corpus for disposition of his case before civilian authorities.

Saigon Warns On Offer

SAIGON (AP)—The apparent softening of North Vietnam's position on peace negotiations is "simply designed to give the impression that it is not Hanoi who desires to prolong the war," South Vietnam's Acting Foreign Minister Pham Dang Lam said Tuesday.

In an interview published in the official Vietnam press, Lam said a recent statement by North Vietnamese Foreign Affairs Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh that North Vietnam will begin peace talks when the United States halts bombing of the North in fact proposed that the North "enter into negotiations with the United States exclusive of the Republic of Vietnam" and "to discuss only problems interesting Washington and Hanoi."

Say Peking Plotted to Kill Tito, Sihanouk

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (UPI) — Police announced Tuesday they have discovered a huge cache of arms near the historic Angkor Wat temples and charged pro-Chinese Communists planned to assassinate Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Yugoslav President Tito during their visit there this week.

Sihanouk, the Cambodian chief of state, announced Monday the discovery of a China-backed

plot he said was designed to kill Tito, one of the Communist reform leaders most hated by Peking.

Tuesday police authorities substantiated the charge by announcing that state security forces have uncovered a cache of a thousand hand grenades at Siemreap, near the Buddhist temples of Angkor Wat deep in the jungle.

Tito, who is arriving Wednesday

as part of an Asian tour, is due to visit the temples later this week.

Police also said the small but dynamic Communist Party, backed by "foreign elements," distributed thousands of leaflets urging the Cambodian population to rise against Sihanouk.

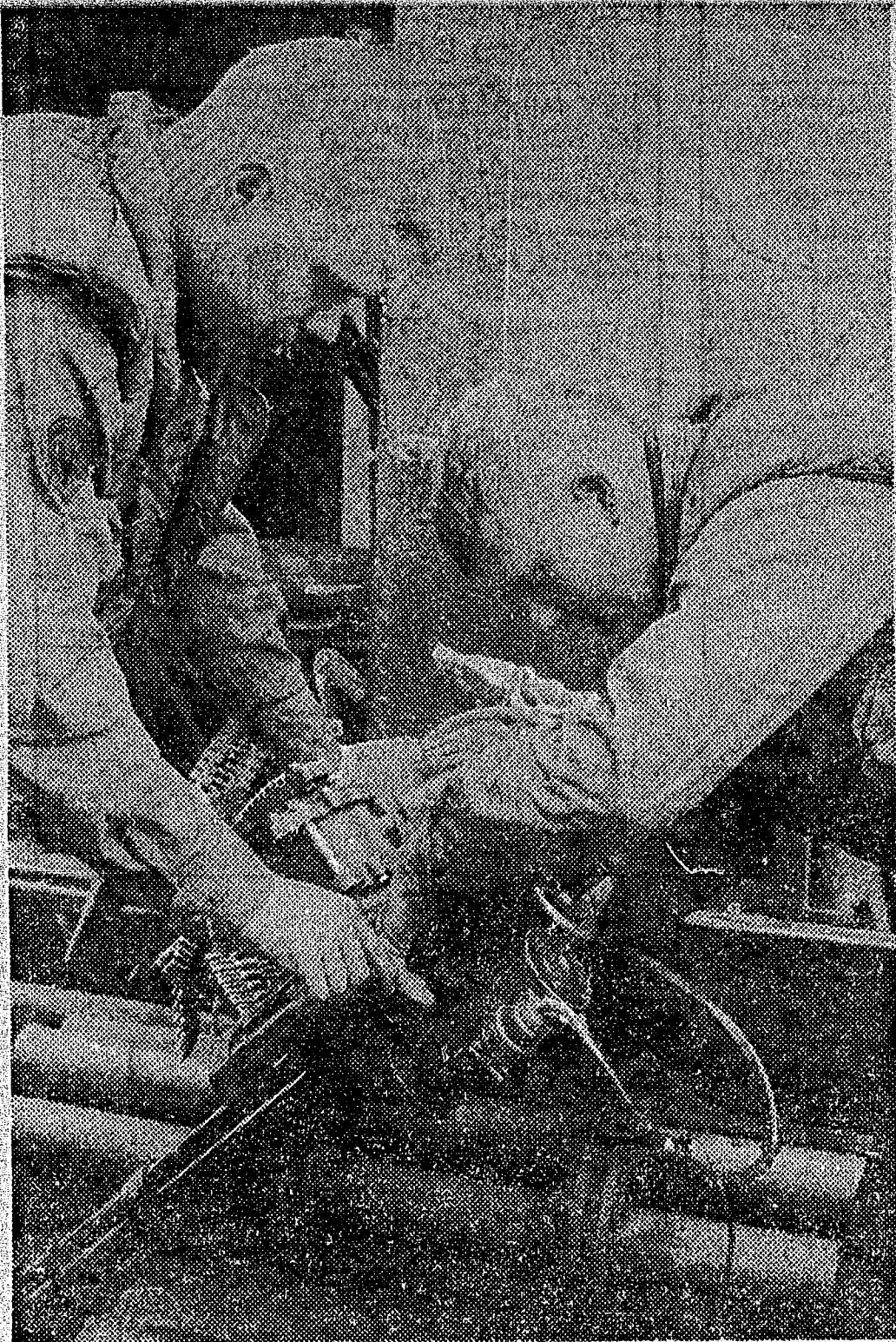
Police said the "foreign elements" included agents from North Vietnam, the South Viet-

namese National Liberation Front (Viet Cong) and China.

Police officials questioned a group of pro-Chinese Cambodians and their alleged foreign accomplices seized over the weekend on charges of having hatched the plot.

During their arrest, police said, they discovered a number of radio transmitters and weapons.

Crew Chiefs Are Eyes and Ears of Gunships



Spec. 5 Bud Maher (left), of Cut Bank, Mont., crew chief with the 174th Aviation Co. at Duc Pho, and Spec. 4 Gary Bugher, of Kokomo, Ind., a door gunner, pull maintenance on one of the miniguns installed on a gunship.

Story And Photos

By SPEC. 5 STEVE WILSON
LONG BINH, Vietnam (IO)—He's part mechanic, part pilot, an ordnance expert and a darn good machinegunner. That's how one helicopter pilot described the Army crew chiefs assigned to gunships in Vietnam.

Holding the responsibility for an aircraft and weapon system worth thousands of dollars, the crew chief's job is not a simple one. The helicopter is his aircraft and he's the man who says whether it flies or not.

Crew chiefs are trained by the Army for their future jobs, but according to Spec. 5 Bud Maher, Cut Bank, Mont., a crew chief with the "Sharks" of the 14th Combat Aviation Bn.'s 174th Aviation Co. at Duc Pho, "We never stop learning."

The crew chief must keep astride of new developments in the complex helicopter engines and the ever changing weapons systems installed on the Army's gunships.

Maher said he spent about three months in on-the-job training after coming to Vietnam, learning more about the gunships for which he is responsible.

Capt. Tom Wood, Brunswick, Ga., platoon leader of the "Sharks," says when his day ends, the crew chief's is just beginning. Before he leaves the aircraft, the helicopter must be ready to be airborne at a moment's notice.

To keep the aircraft in top shape, the crew chief will pull a daily inspection in which he checks out every vital part of the aircraft and its armament.

For every 25 hours in the air,

he pulls a three-hour inspection looking over the aircraft for the slightest defects which could prove fatal once in the air.

Often, in the short time between sorties, he and his door gunner will have to pull maintenance on the ship or weapon systems.

At any time of the day or night he and his crew are liable to be called on a short notice scramble to assist ground troops.

One pilot said the crew chiefs treat their assigned choppers as though they were their family cars.

Sgt. James Yocum, Chicago, Ill., platoon sergeant of the "Sharks," said, "They're proud of their unit and proud of their ships. It's nothing out of the ordinary to see a crew chief working in the dark late at night on his ship to make sure it will be flying in the morning."

N. Viet Soldiers Fail To Duck Alert Gls

BONG SON, Vietnam (IO)—A North Vietnamese Army attempt to find a better way to conceal troops from 1st Air Cav. Div. helicopters has been foiled by an alert scout team from the 1st Cav.'s 1st Brigade aviation platoon.

Four NVA soldiers were killed by the team of two OH13 observation helicopters who spotted unusual structures in a flooded rice paddy near the scene of a heavy contact between 1st Brigade elements and the NVA.

"They looked like duck blinds," said W.O. Arthur Essenpreis, Jr., Prairie View, Ill., one of the scout pilots. "They were building them in the reeds that grow near the paddy dikes. They had woven some reeds together to make the top and sides and the whole thing was supported by stakes driven into the mud."

"We could tell them from the rest of the reeds because they were rigid," said W.O. Phillip Rybolt, Clinton, Ill., the other pilot. "They didn't bend from the propwash when we flew over them."

A wooden plank floating in the middle of the enclosure and large enough to support a man was part of each structure, the flyers reported.

Each had a small opening, enabling a rifleman inside to fire at helicopters or at a nearby village.

"I guess they figured that nobody would think to look for them in the middle of an open paddy," Essenpreis said. "That water was 5-foot deep in places."

First Off Can Be Headache

DA NANG, Vietnam (ISO)—Being first can sometimes be a headache.

Pfc. Jesse T. Lucero, 20, of Bernalillo, N.M., was the first man off the lead helicopter during Operation Auburn.

When the 'copter touched down, Lucero started to disembark when a sniper round hit his helmet.

"I got a little dizzy and sagged," Lucero said, "but a Marine helped me up and I ran across the rice paddy as fast as my feet could carry me. That was too close for comfort and I wasn't going to get hit again, not if I could help it."

The Marines assaulted a tree line where some of the sniper fire was coming from.

After things had quieted down, Lucero, a squad leader with "M" Co., 3rd Bn., Fifth Marines, had time to think about his close call.

He examined his helmet and saw that the round had creased it.

The only damage—a tremendous headache.

1st USO Opens in Thailand

U-TAPAO AIRFIELD, Thailand (OI) — The first USO facility has opened in Thailand at U-Tapao Airfield.

Performing the ribbon-cutting ritual at the dedication was Col. John W. Brock, 635th Combat Support Group commander, with an assist by Sgt. James A. Scovil, 635th Civil Engineering Sq. Others at the dedication included Phil Haight and Judy Legrady, director and associate director of the new facility.

Haight, in his remarks at the opening, said, "This is a very important day for us. We are here as servants for you. Although the club is far from being completed, we expect it to grow and we would like you to help us make it grow."

The USO, located in the former Airmen's Club building on 5th Street, will be open seven days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. A USO staff member will always be present to assist any personnel.

Rusk Names Special Assistant

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin, former U.S. envoy to Thailand, has been named by secretary of state Dean Rusk to be his special assistant for refugee affairs.

Rusk said Martin's appointment means "greater emphasis and vitality" in the coordination of refugee assistance programs operated by various government agencies.



Returning from a combat assault, Maher reloads rockets on his gunship to prepare it for another mission, which might occur at a moment's notice.

Despite VC Harassment

Viet School Chief Winning Battle

HIEU NHON, Vietnam (IO)—Hoang Huu Ha is fighting an educational battle here and slowly winning.

Despite the handicaps that plague him—teacher shortages, shrinking classrooms, Viet Cong harassment, and an ever increasing flow of refugees from other districts—he's holding his own in his fight to see to it that all the children in the Quang Nam Province get a grade school education.

Ha is the primary education

service chief for the Quang Nam Province—a position similar to the state superintendent of schools in the U.S.

Ha has had to resort to doubling up and going to a split session program to accommodate his needs.

He points out that though the classrooms are starting to show the bulge—packing in between 40 to 60 students per session—there are still nearly 8,000 children that must go without education at the present time.

Ha feels that this is a temporary situation, at best, because Quang Nam Province is in the national priority zone and the Revolutionary Development program is picking up momentum.

This year, the government built 185 new classrooms in the Quang Nam Province. Fifty of these were built through the Revolutionary Development program.

In addition, the program was

instrumental in training 81 new teachers this year, but Ha lost 10 of the new teachers to higher paying jobs. He also loses some to the draft, another reminder of the war that is going on around him.

According to Ha's figures, 114 new teachers and 106 new classrooms are projected for 1968 through the program.

Wilson Slashes Defense, Welfare Costs

(Continued From Page 1)
pound) work."

Reactions were varied. One member of Wilson's cabinet, Lord Longford, quit.

Longford was angered by a decision to delay until 1973 a proposed rise in the minimum school-leaving age from 15 to 16. British children start school at five. He viewed the rise in the drop out age as essential for social and educational equality.

Lord Shackleton, 56, minister without portfolio, was named to succeed Longford.

Wilson carefully excluded

Hong Kong in announcing a speed-up of British troop withdrawals from Southeast Asia by a new target of 1971.

"There is no intention to reduce the effectiveness of our Hong Kong garrison," he stressed.

On Singapore and Malaysia, Wilson said his government is prepared to assist Commonwealth partners "in a joint air defense system for Malaysia and Singapore" and to train personnel to operate it.

On the Persian Gulf, he said, "We have indicated to governments concerned that our basic

interest in the prosperity and security of the area remains and the capability we shall be maintaining here will be available for deployment wherever in our judgment it is right."

The prime minister said the F111 cancellation will mean a

Related story, Page 5.

saving to his country of 400 million pounds (\$960 million) even when penalty costs for cancellation are taken into consideration.

Wilson said his government would make its contribution to Western alliances dependent on

"our economic capability."

Wilson said the withdrawal from East of Suez will permit manpower reductions in the armed forces of 75,000 military personnel and 80,000 civilians.

The prime minister said Britain's defense budgets will be cut by 110 million pounds (\$264 million) in fiscal 1969-70; between 210 and 260 million pounds (\$504 to \$624 million) in 1972-73.

Wilson said all of the Royal Navy's aircraft carriers will be phased out "as soon as our withdrawal from the Persian Gulf and Singapore has been completed."

The prime minister also listed slashes of many of the Labor Party's "sacred cows."

He announced re-establishment of charges for medical prescriptions. Free milk to children in state secondary schools will end in September. The projected increase in the minimum age for leaving school—from 15 to 16 years—was deferred until 1973 to save the expense of the additional schools and teachers that would have been needed.

Wilson said the cuts aimed at education would save 72 million pounds, (\$172.8 million) in the fiscal year 1968-69.

U.S. Won't Try to Fill U.K. Role

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department expressed regret Tuesday over Britain's decision to withdraw its forces from Asia and to cancel its contract for the purchase of American F111 aircraft.

Simultaneously, the State Department made it clear that the U.S. has no plans to fill the vacuum to be created when the British pull out of Southeast Asia and the Persian Gulf.

State Department Press Officer Carl Barch told a press conference, "We have no plans to move in where the British forces pulled out."

In saying this Barch confirmed what high U.S. officials repeatedly have said — that the U.S. is not in a position to assume Britain's responsibilities and military commitments in the Middle East and in Asia.

"We regret the British government's announcement regarding its forces in Southeast Asia and the Persian Gulf and the F111 contract," Barch said in his brief statement.

Barch was asked what will happen to the \$240 million U.S. orders for British equipment, intended to offset part of the cost of the 50 F111 bombers the Wilson government has now cancelled.

"It remains to be seen, it requires further study," Barch said.

Barch also brushed aside questions about speculation that the Soviet Union might move into areas, especially in the Persian Gulf, when the British leave.



British Prime Minister Harold Wilson steps out of his car after returning to his official residence in London after announcing plans to cut Britain's spending. (AP Radiophoto)

2 U.S. Aides Slain

(Continued From Page 1)
Webber instantly. Munro died in an ambulance en route to a hospital. Webber was from Houston, Tex., Munro from Rockland, Maine.

Wounded were Sgt. Maj. John R. Forster, 42, of Salem, Ore., and Navy Senior Chief Radioman Harry L. Greene, 41, of Omaha, Neb. Greene was reported critically hurt. Forster was discharged from the hospital after treatment for an arm wound.

The cabinet of President Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro went into session quickly to study the shootings, but there was no immediate indication from police on the identity of the assassins or their motives.

(Police also reported the assassination late Monday of a military police sergeant, Otiliano Sis Borrero, who was on guard at the residence of Col. Carlos Arana, head of the Zapaca military zone where the government is conducting anti-guerrilla operations, UPI said.)

(Sis Borrero was also slain by machine-guns from a speeding car.)

In the past year-and-a-half, more than 1,000 persons, perhaps as many as 4,000, have died in the terrorism of political factions and gangsters.

The attack on the Americans occurred on the eve of the scheduled arrival here of Covey T. Oliver, U.S. assistant secretary of state, who is on a tour of Central America. He was in Panama Tuesday with a group of members of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Before Tuesday's killings, officials say no U.S. citizens had been victims of the wave of violence.

In Washington, experts said they had no information as to whether the attack was the work of rightist or leftist extremists or of other origin.



COL. JOHN WEBBER

Houston—

(Continued From Page 1)
is 30 miles southeast of Houston.

The Christiane, a 372-foot craft of Liberian registry owned by Christiane Shipping Co. of Bermuda, was outbound toward Port Arthur, Tex., when it struck the barges being pushed by the tugboat Barbara Waxler.

Help was close by because rescue units along the heavily industrialized waterway were still dealing with an explosion and fire that broke out two hours earlier and 12 miles upstream at a Shell Chemical Co. plant. Four men were hurt, one critically, in that unrelated mishap.

World Weather

USAF Weather Central					
TOKYO AREA					
Wednesday night: Fair; Low 21					
Thursday: Mostly fair; High 45					
TEMPERATURES					
Jan. 16					
	H	L	H	L	
Bangkok	60	70	Truk	57	52
Chitose	27	16	Saigon	54	64
Guam	81	75	Seoul	39	18
Itozuke	45	34	Taipei	63	50
Manila	84	—	Tokyo	46	37
	H	L	H	L	
Albany	35	24	L.A.	70	52
Albuquerque	53	23	Louisville	36	26
Amarillo	48	26	McBourne	92	63
Atlanta	36	23	Memphis	35	23
Birmingham	42	27	Miami	73	56
Bismarck	19	-12	Milwaukee	27	21
Boise	50	32	Moscow	-8	-13
Boston	39	34	N. Orleans	54	27
Chicago	32	27	NYC	35	30
Cincinnati	29	20	OKla. City	32	19
Cleveland	29	18	Omaha	25	09
Denver	52	21	Paris	52	46
Des Moines	22	07	Phila.	36	30
Duluth	19	11	Phoenix	68	39
Fairbanks	-36	-43	Pittsburgh	28	22
Fargo	11	-1	Port., O.	51	43
Fort Worth	50	25	Reno	56	33
Hong Kong	66	54	Singapore	84	73
Honolulu	80	62	St. Louis	33	24
Houston	59	37	St. Paul	25	08
Ind'polis	34	27	Salt Lake	29	08
Jackville	51	29	S. Antonio	65	29
Jakarta	81	72	San Diego	67	47
Kansas City	31	16	San Fran.	57	55
K. Lumpur	83	70	Seattle	51	44
Las Vegas	57	33	Shreveport	50	27
London	52	48	Sydney	71	63
			Tucson	73	42
			Wash.	40	30

3 Kidnapers Net \$10,000

NEW YORK (AP)—A 38-year-old service station manager was kidnaped Monday from his suburban home and forced to pay his abductors \$10,000 while his family was held hostage at gunpoint.

Two kidnapers abducted Marcello Dallo as he left his West Hempstead home to go to work and ordered him to drive to the service station, some 10 miles away.

A third gunman stayed with Dallo's terrified family, which included his mother, sister, wife and four-year-old daughter.

At the service station, the kidnapers forced Dallo to open the safe, took \$10,000 and fled. In the meantime, the third gunman had left Dallo's home.

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes
Thursday, Jan. 18, 1968

Judgment Day Coming For Man Who Sued God

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — God—and his agents in Lake Worth—are being sued for \$25,000 by an accident victim whose injuries were attributed by a jury to an act of God.

The man, who identified himself as George Albright, an electrician, paid a \$17.50 filing fee and handed astounded circuit court clerks copies of his allegations to distribute to the defendants.

They include 32 Lake Worth churches and synagogues lumped by the plaintiff under the term "God and Co."

Pastors of churches named codefendant with God reacted with disbelief and not a little humor.

The Rev. E.W. Zilch, pastor of

Bethel Pentacostal Temple, said, "If he brings the principal defendant into court, I'll be glad to come and testify for Him."

The Rev. James Magnuson, pastor of the Evangelical Covenant Church, said, "I always thought that expression 'act of God' in regard to accidents was a misnomer. If this keeps up, people will be suing the churches everytime a tree falls."

One court official said, "It may be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction."

Albright claimed he was injured in 1964 when a rain-sodden sidewalk collapsed under him. The defendants in the first suit were a construction firm and the city of Lake Worth, a suburb of West Palm Beach.

Leftists Hit Sasebo Base

SASEBO, Japan (UPI)—Japanese riot police used water and tear gas barrages Wednesday to turn back hundreds of club-wielding leftists who tried to storm the U.S. naval base here.

The demonstrators, mostly youngsters from the militant Zengakuren student organization, swarmed off a train and rushed to the edge of the base.

The students ran toward a barbed wire barricade but they were turned back by streams of water from riot control vehicles and tear gas.

The students were here to protest the port call—expected Friday—of the U.S.S. Enterprise, a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier which has seen duty in Vietnam waters.