

# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Hopeful Signs in Paris—Clifford

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of Defense Clark M. Clifford, reporting "some movement" in the Paris talks on Vietnam, suggested Thursday those U.S.-North Vietnamese sessions may be moving out of the public propaganda stage toward private negotiation.

Clifford, one of President Johnson's key advisers on Vietnam policy, told a news conference: "When we get to the stage that private talks are taking place

... then I believe we will begin to make some progress."

Meanwhile, the defense secretary reported that "North Vietnam has chosen to increase the flow of men and materiel" into South Vietnam in a bid to put pressure on U.S. negotiators in Paris.

The price, he said, has been an increase in both U.S. and enemy casualties into a range of 400 to 500 a week in American losses and close to 5,000 a week in

Viet Cong and North Vietnamese battle deaths.

"There is a very real question as to how long they would choose to submit their military force to this extreme degree of attrition," Clifford said.

In May, Clifford said, it is estimated that infiltration from the North into South Vietnam totaled some 29,000 men.

This is nearly twice the 15,000 infiltration figure for April cited recently by

Gen. William C. Westmoreland, outgoing U.S. commander in Vietnam.

About 26,000 of the 29,000 infiltrators in May are replacements for battle losses suffered by the enemy, Clifford said.

In June, July and August, he estimated, the North Vietnamese will send down 20,000 men a month, also mostly replacements rather than reinforcements.

Despite the reported high level of (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

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# HOUSE OKS TAX HIKE

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House passed Thursday the long-fought bill to increase by 10 per cent the income tax take and to impose a \$6-billion spending cut.

The long-embattled bill passed on a 268-150 roll call.

The vote was a bittersweet victory for President Johnson. He urgently sought the added revenue, more than \$15 billion from the sur-

charge and accompanying tax changes, to fight inflation and bolster the dollar.

But he sought almost to the end to scale down the \$6-billion mandatory spending cut Congress attached to it.

The Senate is scheduled to vote about noon Friday and is expected to send the measure to Johnson for assured approval.

Fifteen days after the President signs it, increased withholding begins for U.S. wage and salary earners.

Within minutes after the House acted, Johnson issued this statement:

"The House of Representatives today declared itself for a responsible fiscal policy. Its voice will be heard around the world.

"Our democracy has passed a critical test. This is a landmark decision—to help safeguard the pockets and pocketbooks of all Americans from the pilferage of inflation—to help insure a healthy flow of credit through our economic system; to help defend the value of the dollar at home and abroad—to sustain our remarkable 88-month record of economic advance.

"I am very hopeful and confident that the Senate will promptly complete the legislative action on this measure."

The bill, center of wrangles and recurring deadlocks between Congress and the executive branch for most of a year, would impose a 7.5 surcharge on the income tax due from individual taxpayers, except those (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

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## Tighter Gun Bill Gains

WASHINGTON (AP)—A strict ban on mail order sales of rifles and shotguns was approved Thursday by the House Judiciary Committee.

The vote came just a half day after President Johnson signed into law a similar prohibition dealing with pistols and revolvers, and called for tighter restrictions over the sale of firearms.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, which had scheduled action on a corresponding bill Thursday put off action until next Thursday.

Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, D-Conn., chief sponsor of the administration measure, said he moved to defer a vote principally because four committee members—three of them supporters of the bill—were absent. An effort to permit the absentees to vote by proxy was rejected.

The bill approved by the House Judiciary Committee by a 29-6 vote would also prohibit the sale of rifles and shotguns to anyone living outside the state where the sale is made, or to anyone under 18.

House leaders have promised speedy action on the committee-approved bill, which can probably be brought to a vote next week.

### 4-Footed Chicken

HASLINGDEN, England (UPI)—Farmer Eddie Winterbotham, plagued by chicken thieves, bought a watch dog for protection. The thieves struck again this week and stole his watch dog and a fresh batch of pullets.



Major action at present is centered in the area surrounding Saigon, but the work of supplying Marine units in northern areas goes on. A "parking attendant" leaps to signal the lift-off of a resupply helicopter from Landing Zone Stud, 12 miles east of Khe Sanh. (AP Radiophoto)

## Rockets Kill 6 in Saigon

SAIGON (AP) — South Vietnam's capital was hit just before and after midnight Thursday with rocket barrages that killed six Vietnamese civilians and wounded 14, the U.S. command said Friday.

The rockets hit "on or near" Tan Son Nhut Air Base on the western edge of the city, spokesmen said. Damage on the base was "negligible."

Most of the casualties occurred when the blasts ripped through residential areas. No American

deaths or injuries were reported and South Vietnamese military casualties on the base itself were described as "very light."

A spokesman said five rocket rounds slammed into the Saigon area a few minutes before midnight and another five landed about 1 a.m. He said five of the 10 had been identified as 107mm rockets. The others were believed to have been the bigger 122mm shells.

Enemy gunners had fired two mortar rounds into the city

early Wednesday, but caused no casualties. That shelling had been the first since Sunday. The Viet Cong had threatened last week to shell Saigon with 100 rounds per day for 100 days beginning Monday.

Meanwhile, U.S. infantrymen patrolling Saigon's outer defense ring killed 93 Viet Cong and seized 33 suspects in four clashes south and north of the capital, (Continued on Back Page, Col. 5)

### This Fellow's Courting an Ulcer

DENVER (UPI)—Drunk driving defendant Lowell J. Conway told County Judge John Sanchez he drank "a few beers" before coming to court because he was nervous.

Now Conway has two more dates in court. His drunk driving case was continued and Sanchez ordered him to appear on another charge of being drunk in a public place—the courtroom.



## GIs Wallow in Their Work

Smoke from a demolition charge placed in a VC spider hole during a reconnaissance in force mission south of Saigon. The three billows up near 9th Inf. Div. soldiers from the 3rd Bn., 39th Inf., troops took to the water during a firefight. (USA)

# All AF Pilots in Viet Must Serve Full Year

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Air Force said Thursday that all pilots flying combat runs against North Vietnam will have to serve a full 12 months of duty, rather than leaving as soon as they complete 100 missions.

An Air Force spokesman said the action was taken to eliminate inequities between pilots who fly missions against North

Vietnam and those who operate against targets only in South Vietnam.

Under the old system, the Air Force said, "some aircrew members were allowed to return from Southeast Asia upon completion of 100 combat missions over North Vietnam..."

Most pilots have been able to do this in about 10 months, the

Air Force said, but there have been fliers who finished their duty in as little as eight months.

On the other hand, Air Force crewmen flying solely against targets inside South Vietnam had to serve a full year of combat duty, the usual length of time for most U.S. troops in the war, regardless of the number of missions, which sometimes

amounted to 300.

The Air Force denied the new order has anything to do with a pilot shortage, but it appeared obvious that extending the tours would slow up personnel rotation and thus relieve the pressure to provide replacements.

The old system allowing pilots to leave the war zone after 100 missions regardless of time was set up because flying against North Vietnam was considered a greater risk than faced in South Vietnam.

Statistics supported this view. As of Jan. 11, the United States had lost 852 planes over North Vietnam, which has radar-guided antiaircraft guns and surface to air missiles.

In the same time, 270 American planes went down in the South, where pilots usually faced only small arms and machine gun ground fire.

# More Unidentified Aircraft Seen

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — Unidentified aircraft believed to be North Vietnamese helicopters were sighted again Wednesday night along the Demilitarized Zone, the U.S. Mission said.

It was the fourth straight night of sightings, and a U.S. spokesman said for the first time that these were both radar and visual observations. All previous reports indicated the objects were seen only on radar screens. But the spokesman said Thursday that Monday's sightings were also visual.

He also said that Air Force F4 Phantoms fired on the aircraft on two occasions over the weekend.

Meanwhile, an aura of mystery surrounds the U.S. command's investigation into reports of the sightings and the possibility that a North Vietnamese helicopter may have been responsible for the sinking Sunday of a Navy Swift boat in the Gulf of Tonkin.

## Prices Down in Saigon

SAIGON (AP)—Retail prices in Saigon fell three per cent last week, U.S. economists reported Thursday. Food prices were down four per cent during the same period. It was the second week prices have fallen, indication of a continued decrease in the level of hostilities.

Officials have not said that the objects definitely were enemy helicopters, and they are not giving any information that may lead to further speculation.

"When we can resolve all of the questions on what was in the air at the time, we'll give it to you," a spokesman told

reporters. "There is no effort on our part, any place in the command, to suppress anything. It's merely a question of trying to clear up, and clarify and get some of these conflicting things out of the way so we know what we're talking about. And this has proved to be very difficult."

# Casualties in Vietnam

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

### KILLED IN ACTION

- Army**
- Sgt. David Wilson, Magnolia, Ark.
  - Sgt. Henry E. Wooley, Banks, Ark.
  - SSG Charles J. Chase, San Mateo, Calif.
  - Cpl. David H. Lalich, West Covina, Calif.
  - Cpl. Gary L. Richardson, Red Bluff, Calif.
  - Cpl. William M. Rowland, Garden Grove, Calif.
  - Cpl. Leonard R. White, Salinas, Calif.
  - Sp4 Richard T. Christy, Watsonville, Calif.
  - Pfc. Oscar Valenzuela Jr., Oakland, Calif.
  - Pfc. Ronald A. Wilson, Weaverville, Calif.
  - SSG Porfirio S. Salano, Avondale, Colo.
  - Pfc. Jeffrey L. Dargun, Washington, D.C.
  - Sgt. Carlos L. Knight, Plant City, Fla.
  - 1Lt. Robert S. Grasshart, Crescent, Ga.
  - Sp4 Gary G. Evans, Heyburn, Idaho.
  - Pfc. Wayne A. Decker, Elkhart, Ind.
  - Pfc. Darrell W. Maynard, Scottsville Ky.
  - Cpl. Donald E. Yearout, Abbeville, La.
  - Pfc. James L. Jennings, Baltimore, Md.
  - Pfc. Charles A. Gaudreau, New Bedford, Mass.
  - Sp5 John W. Wright, Raytown, Mo.
  - Sgt. Ervin L. Auman, Firth, Neb.
  - Sp4 Donald G. Denney, Albuquerque, N.M.
  - Sp4 William A. Johnson, Brooklyn, N.Y.
  - Sgt. Henry C. Santard Jr., Parma, Ohio.
  - Cpl. Donald L. Rankins, Miami, Okla.
  - Pfc. Edmond J. Greer, Jay, Okla.
  - Pfc. John C. Wheeler, Eugene, Ore.
  - Cpl. Stanley E. Spangler, York Pa.
  - Sfc. Kenneth O. Palmer, Coventry, R.I.
  - Pfc. Woodrow Davis Jr., Holly Hill, S.C.

- Sgt. Jerry R. Ferguson, Harriman, Tenn.
- Pfc. Seferino Alvarez Jr., Lockart, Tex.
- Pfc. Juan Antu, San Antonio, Tex.
- Pfc. Joe A. Saitko, Austin, Tex.
- Pfc. Gerrard T. Wolferman, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Sp4 James L. Hawthorne, Fredericksburg, Va.
- Sp4 Richard T. Huggell, Poquoson, Va.
- Pfc. Raymond L. Goodman, Lynchburg, Va.
- 1Lt. Charles S. Beranek, Mosinee, Wis.
- Pfc. Kenneth R. Mengel, St. Cloud, Wis.
- Pfc. Julio Serrano-Rivera, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.
- Navy**
- HN James B. Howard, Bakersfield, Calif.
- Marine Corps**
- LCpl. Oscar Gentry Jr., Birmingham, Ala.
- LCpl. Wilbert D. Monroe, Langdale, Ala.
- GySgt. Robert L. Sproul, Santa Monica, Calif.
- GySgt. Edward T. Wright, Los Angeles, Calif.
- LCpl. Felix F. Flores, Los Angeles, Calif.
- Pfc. Kenneth R. Huggans, Pelaluma, Calif.
- Pfc. James A. Phipps, Compton, Calif.
- LCpl. Robert J. Irwin, Hollywood, Fla.
- Cpl. Frank O. Cuevas, Gary, Ind.
- Cpl. Bernard W. Dickerson Jr., Clarinda, Iowa.
- Pfc. Dwight A. Price, Bath, Maine.
- Pfc. Bernard J. Snead Jr., Baltimore, Md.
- LCpl. Gerald E. Korson, Greenville, Mich.
- Pfc. Rickie J. Jacobs, Detroit, Mich.
- LCpl. Donnie A. Geardes, Rochester, Minn.
- LCpl. Billy J. Wyatt, Columbia, Mo.
- Pfc. Robert S. Castelot, Hillsboro, N.H.
- Pfc. Havart E. Johnson, Newark, N.J.
- LCpl. Paul N. Loya, Fultonville, N.Y.

- LCpl. Ronald D. Poole, Delaware, Ohio.
- Cpl. Donald Baker, Philadelphia, Pa.
- LCpl. Edward D. Scott, Media, Pa.
- Pfc. Michael M. White, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Cpl. Donald C. Crofts, McConnells, S.C.
- 2Lt. Michael L. Dewlen, Amarillo, Tex.
- Cpl. Alan R. Lyman, Georgetown, Tex.
- LCpl. Leonard M. Mills, Houston, Tex.
- Pfc. Sam Jones, Marshall, Tex.
- Pfc. Russell J. Weekley, Sweeney, Tex.
- LCpl. Daniel F. Andrus, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Pfc. James R. Richmond, Fairmont W.Va.
- Pvt. Michael L. Ewing, Reatown, Wis.
- Air Force**
- Maj. David G. Brenner, Overland Park, Kan.
- MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE**
- Army**
- Pfc. James D. Hoages, Florence, Ala.
- Cpl. Robert L. Cousin, Haganville, Ga.
- Pfc. Terry L. Ivener, Sioux City, Iowa.
- Sp4 Dallas A. West, Edgewater, Md.
- Sgt. Patrick B. Coppo, Calumet, Mich.
- Pfc. Samuel Boyd Jr., Newark, N.J.
- Pfc. Van Etsitty, Crownpoint, N.M.
- Cpl. Charles Jones Jr., New York, N.Y.
- Pfc. Norman W. Hassell, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- Cpl. James L. Lawrence Jr., Waynesville, N.C.
- Pfc. Donald G. Smith, Walnut Cove, N.C.
- Sgt. Roger D. Weber, Dover, Ohio.
- Pfc. Ernest R. Taylor, Sentinel, Okla.
- Capt. Gordon A. Hawkins, Maryville, Tenn.
- Pfc. Larry T. Miller, Wichita Falls, Tex.
- MISSING IN ACTION**
- Army**
- Capt. Earl R. Michles
- 1Lt. Michael L. Phillips
- WO James D. Carter
- Sgt. Emory M. Smith
- Sgt. Ronald V. Wearmouth

# King Signs Constitution

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej Thursday signed into law Thailand's eighth constitution in 36 years and opened the way for a return to parliamentary democracy after 10 years of military rule.

Amid glittering scenes of ancient royal splendor, the 40-year-old monarch signed his name to three copies of the constitution before an invited audience of political leaders, nobles and diplomats.

Members of the public were not allowed in the imposing Italian renaissance-style parliament building. A few hundred spectators gathered behind police barricades across the road.

Elsewhere in the city, police and military were in full alert as a precaution against demonstrators seeking to exert their rights under the new constitution.

The government has announced the constitution will make no difference to the rule of martial law for the time being.

# Casualties Down on Both Sides

SAIGON (AP)— Allied and enemy combat casualties dropped last week, the U.S. and South Vietnamese commands reported Thursday, but the total number of Americans killed in the Vietnam war passed 25,000.

U.S. headquarters said 324 Americans were killed in the week ending last Saturday, 56 less than the previous week and the lowest count since 302 were killed in the week ending April 27.

The headquarters said 2,325 Americans were wounded last week, compared with 2,739 in the previous week. Of the total last week, 1,247 required hospitalization.

The U.S. Command reported 1,613 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese were killed last week, or about half as many as the 3,176 enemy soldiers reported killed in the previous week.

South Vietnamese headquarters reported 286 government troops killed and 1,189 wounded last week, compared with 392 killed and 1,156 wounded a week earlier.

- Sp4 Michael J. Kaplatsky
- Pfc. Robert C. Hawkins
- Pfc. Coy F. Stark
- Pfc. Gary L. Vantol
- Pfc. Forrest E. Ward
- Marine Corps**
- Pfc. Barry Lowe
- DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- Sp4 Craig L. Seidel, Indianapolis, Ind.
- Sgt. Robert L. Rodrick, Brockton, Mass.
- Sp4 Jan. as A. Burton, Pascagoula, Miss.
- Sp4 Robert W. Werley, Desloge, Mo.
- Sp4 Todd D. Kelso, Sunburst, Mont.
- Marine Corps**
- Pfc. William F. Burdick Jr., Plainfield, Conn.
- Cpl. Paul J. Bonetti, Oak Park, Ill.
- LCpl. Raymond R. Varner Jr., Moline, Ill.
- 1stLt. Glenn J. Zamorski, Rahway, N.J.
- Cpl. Conrad Lerman, Tucumcari, N.M.
- Cpl. Edward Quinones, Bronx, N.Y.
- Air Force**
- TSgt. Royal C. Munk, Sawyer Air Force Base, Mich.
- Capt. Harold R. Vogel, Nashville, Tenn.
- MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE**
- Army**
- LTC Frank A. Barker Jr., Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.
- 1Lt. Michael L. Phillips, Oxon Hill, Md.
- WO Jerry H. Johnson, Hampton, Va.
- Sp4 Gary A. Milton, Hartley, Tex.
- MISSING NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- WO Herbert W. Scott, III
- Sp5 John T. O'Donnell
- Pfc. Allen R. Weomet
- Sp4 Clifford Jenkins Jr.

# Aircraft Shelters Needed

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Air Force has ordered urgent reconstruction of shelters for its aircraft in South Vietnam to protect against intensified Viet Cong rocket and mortar attacks.

"Recent attacks on Air Force bases in Vietnam have demonstrated the need for better protection of aircraft" than the current roofless shelters now in use, the Air Force said Monday in response to questions.

At present, the aircraft, most costing at least \$1 million each, are parked on bases in South Vietnam in roofless revetments made from earth-filled steel walls five feet wide and 12 feet high.

The first steps taken to carry out the program are now under way in the form of tests to determine the best material to use in building roofs for the current shelters. When the tests are finished in the near future, construction will start.

Because the enemy hasn't made air raids against the bases these shelters were thought adequate, at least until the Tet offensive early this year showed them vulnerable to rocket and mortar fire.

When the damage from the offensive was tallied, it was found that 192 aircraft were either destroyed or badly damaged from the bombardment.

Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a Senate committee earlier this year that more than \$132 million in U.S. aircraft had been destroyed or damaged on the ground in Vietnam.

Wheeler contended that special protective shelters planned for U.S. planes based in Europe could have held those losses to about \$7 million.

Secretary of the Air Force Harold Brown has urged Congress to appropriate money for an extensive aircraft shelter program at all overseas bases where the United States has positioned much of its tactical air power.

He has testified that the swift destruction of the Egyptian air force on the ground during the Arab-Israeli war last year "dramatically demonstrated the vulnerability of exposed aircraft on the ground."

The Pentagon is asking for \$17.4 million for the over-all aircraft shelter effort, on top of about \$8.5 million voted last year.

But Brown said this is "only the beginning of what we think should in the end be a program amounting to the order of \$100 million or more in Europe" over five years.

Further, Brown said, the Air Force has another \$50 million in mind for this kind of protection in the Pacific area, including South Korea.

## 'Please Don't Kill Us'

# Battered, Starving, VC Surrender

(Associated Press photographer Dang Van Phuoc watched the mass surrender of Communist troops to government Marines on the outskirts of Saigon. Here is his report.)

By DANG VAN PHUOC

SAIGON (AP) — The voice came faintly from a battered shed 20 feet ahead of us in a patch of jungle.

"We want to surrender, but we are frightened you will execute us," the voice said.

The Vietnamese Marine battalion commander signaled to his men to cease firing, and we strained to hear the voice.

Through the branches I could see a trenchline running from the building ahead and figures moving there. One young Marine pointed to the left and I could see a man with a bandage on his head.

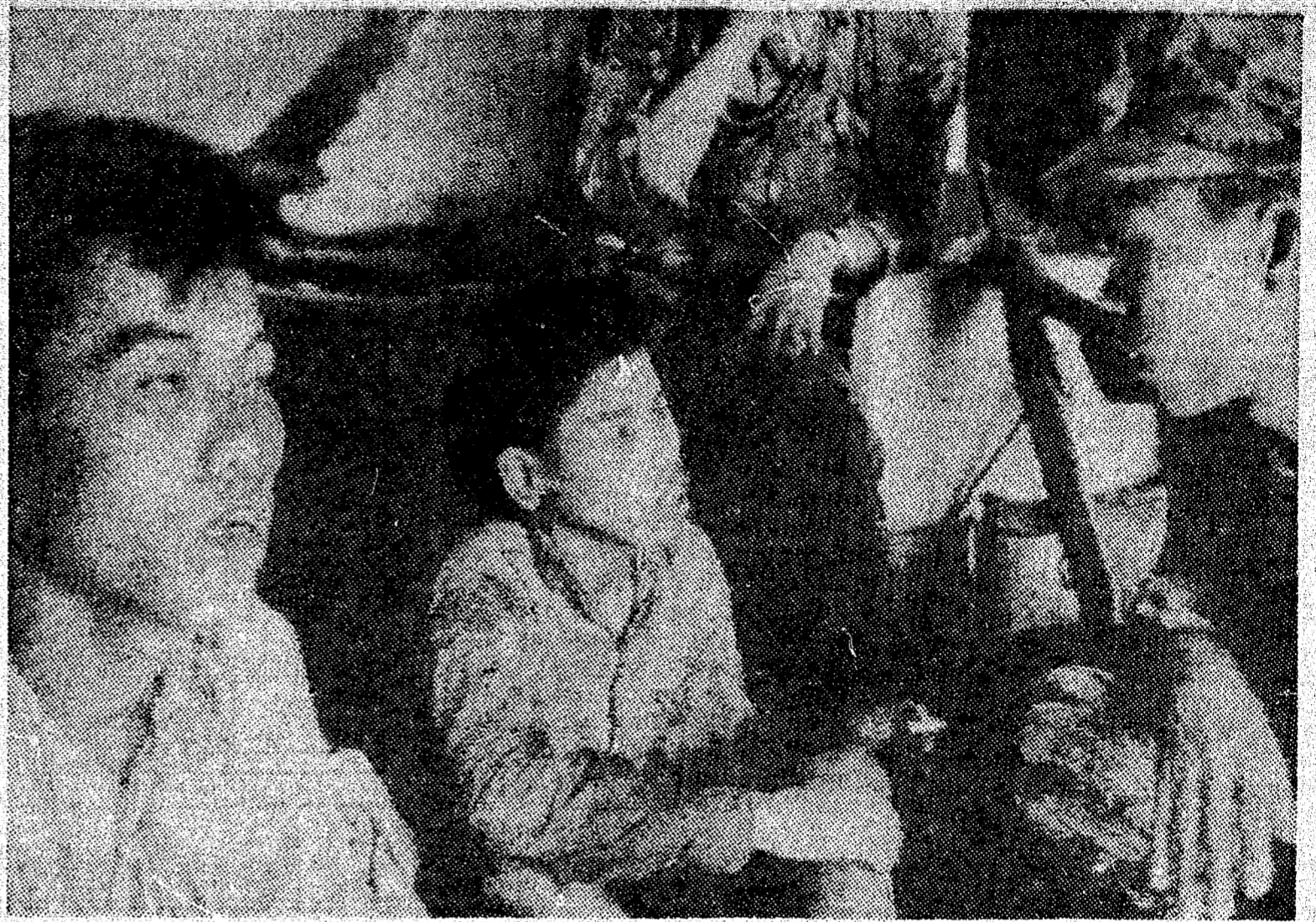
Shadows of other people were in the same area. "There must be about 100 of them," a Marine said excitedly.

The voice again pleaded for mercy. The Marines tensed expectantly. Suddenly a tattered figure arose from alongside the wooden shed and walked towards us, his rifle slung across his shoulder.

Then half a dozen more moved out from the right. Soon a stream of battered men were gathering in a clearing surrounded by the Marines.

These were the hungry and exhausted remnants of a battalion from the Quyêt Thang (Resolve to Win) Regt. Their resolve had broken.

They had been discovered the previous afternoon hiding behind the Giac Quang pagoda in Gia Dinh on the outskirts of Saigon. The Marine battalion fought them for several hours, but withdrew because of darkness.



A Vietnamese Marine officer interviews a 16-year-old Viet Cong soldier who was among the troops of a battered VC force that staged a mass surrender in Saigon. (AP Radiophoto)

The next morning the Marines went in after them.

The area was sealed off and for one hour heavy fighting took place. Then government psywar teams appealed over loudspeakers to the enemy troops to surrender. This method has proved successful in the recent Saigon fighting, particularly when the enemy soldiers were low in ammunition, in need of food and medical supplies, and exhausted.

That was the plight of the group that surrendered. The first to give himself up was a platoon leader, and he was followed by 16 others. They were

all in tattered clothing, several were wounded, and all were hungry. They carried their weapons.

The platoon leader said, "We have some more who want to surrender, too, but they are afraid to be caught in the crossfire between your people and ours."

The Viet Cong leader added that some of his men were wounded in the bunkers, and he asked the Marines to help him evacuate them.

The Marines complied, applying first aid and calling in ambulances to take the 20 most

seriously wounded to hospitals. As they came out of hiding, the Communist troops called out "Please do not execute us, please. We surrender with our weapons."

The civilian population of the area gathered around the prisoners. Some brought out food to feed them. "They are starving," one old woman said sympathetically.

The prisoners at first refused, but soon began to greedily eat the bread and rice after the population told them, "Don't worry, the Marines will not harm you."

## Nancy Stacks Odds on VC

# Tough Gal Clears Way for Convoys

By BOB CUTTS  
S&S Correspondent

QUI NHON, Vietnam—Nancy is no lady. With yellow snarling teeth and a part of plate armor, she makes life hell for the men who "court" her every week in Ambush Alley.

Nancy's a truck — standard Army deuce-and-a-half, but with some extra "optionals" you can't get in a showroom. Like five machine guns, armor plating, grenade launchers and radios.

Nancy and another truck just like her, both mounted with "quad .50" turrets (armored pods mounting four .50 cal. machine guns under a single gunner) are insurance policies for the trucks of the 8th Transportation Group — insurance against the kind of hijackers

that would send any teamster running for cover fast, but which are SOP for 8th Group truckers who run the daily convoys from Vietnam's central coast northward, or up into the highlands.

Recently, the 40-truck convoy was headed for Pleiku, making the long, long run up Highway 19 — "Ambush Alley" — with a load of highly explosive artillery rounds.

Nancy was last in line, with her fire team of machine gun-mounted jeep and armored light weapons truck. Unexpectedly, the mortars hit — first they bracketed the road, then scored a direct hit on the tractor-trailer just ahead — all eight rear tires but the load was untouched and the GI piloting her kept going on the rims.

That was Nancy's cue.

Sgt. Jimmy Wood, team skipper, ordered Nancy's driver, Spec. 5 Dennis Morningstar, to pull out around the convoy and head into the "kill zone" to cover the trucks.

Spec. 4 Rudy Salinas, in the quad turret, opened up, while Spec. 4 Jerry Swick, dancing in the open, fed her bullets. It was tight—they could see blasts of smoke from the North Vietnamese gun muzzles, not 25 yards away in the grass. Salinas' answering blast was a stunning roar of sound. But then two of his .50's jammed.

Wood opened up with his cab-mounted M-60 machine gun, trying to stem the tide of bullets. But it jammed too. Just as he leaned down for his rifle, a bullet smashed through the

fire wall, spewing upward to clip him through both legs. He was put out of action.

It was all in a day's work for the 8th Trans. The 8th, biggest truck outfit in this half of the world, runs 120-truck convoys to both Pleiku, in the highlands, and Bong Son, north of Group's Qui Nhon headquarters, every day. With the deuces and 5-ton tractor-trailers, the 8th moves needed supplies — about 4,000 tons of them a day—to the 4th Inf. Div., the 173d Airborne Brigade, An Khe base camp, the Korean Tiger Div. and three engineering groups; everything from beer to bombs.

Commanded by Col. Joe Bellino, the 8th does not have an envied job—they get socked by VC and North Viet ambushes at least once a week. And since they're supposed to be "support" troops or non-combatants, requisitioning enough goodies like Nancy, to foil the Reds, is not easy.

In fact, one of the most treasured compliments the truckers received was when Gen. Creighton Abrams, commander of MACV, accidentally witnessed an ambush from the air and remarked "Those guys look just like a bunch of frustrated tankers."

# Call It Shipping, Receiving and Shook

BEARCAT, Vietnam (Special) — "I heard yelling and screaming in the shipping and receiving section so I ran over and found my men hanging from the rafters like a bunch of frightened monkeys," said 1st Lt. Robert Bahl.

"I couldn't believe it," continued Bahl, an assistant platoon leader in the 9th Inf. Div.'s 799th Maintenance Bn. "A wild

boar was running through the office, ripping and tearing everything up. I finally rallied my men and we got the animal locked into a conex. But where he came from I'll never know."

What he didn't know was that the boar had been chased into the area by another platoon's jeep. There, Spec. 4 Norman Zann, of N. Hollywood, Calif., used a forklift to herd it into the shipping and receiving sec-

tion where a young private first class said "I ran out one door as the boar came in the other one."

Once it was trapped in the conex, the men made a square corral with three other storage bins. Spec. 4 Russel Richardson, of E. St. Louis, Mo., volunteered to open the door.

"You should have seen how fast he leaped out of that cor-

ral," said S. Sgt. Buford Gillman, of Jenkins, Ky. "To tell the truth, the pig or whatever it was scared the heck out of all of us."

After the unwelcome visitor was safely caged and accepted as a pet of sorts, participants in the chase held a mock ceremony where each was presented with a make-hilt "Royal Order of Boar with V Device."

# Clifford Sees Hopeful Signs in Paris

(Continued From Page 1)  
North Vietnamese infiltration on men and materiel, Clifford indicated that the U.S. troop commitment will not go beyond 550,000 as currently planned. The total already there is about 534,000.

Clifford said he does not believe U.S. commanders in Vietnam will ask for more troops.

Asked about the possibility of resuming full scale bombing of North Vietnam, Clifford hinted strongly that the present limitations, ordered by Johnson on March 31, will be kept in effect as long as there is hope that North Vietnam may reciprocate

and thus move closer to a negotiated settlement.

Clifford described himself as hopeful about the Paris talks.

"I think we get some bits and straws that indicate that there is some movement now no matter how slight," Clifford said.

He noted that "in the early days discussions were consisting solely of diatribes" on both sides, but that the U.S. and North Vietnamese diplomats then decided to have recesses, and that the recesses are getting longer.

"There are indications that now, instead of just pleasantries taking place, that perhaps

subjects are being touched that might be peripheral to ultimately starting some additional kind of contact other than the public propaganda that has been flowing," the defense chief said.

"I believe that in this regard, when we get to the stage that private talks are taking place . . . then I believe we will begin to make some progress."

Also on Vietnam, Clifford said:

"I do not know if there were any enemy helicopters" operating out of North Vietnam into or below the demilitarized zone; he has asked field commanders for a report.

"Apparently, a considerable confusion came up," Clifford said. "It seems to me, as I recall the report, the first indications were night sightings on our radar system."

Some reports from Vietnam have spoken of as many as a dozen helicopters having been shot down, but these have not been confirmed here.

—Reported that Gen. Creighton Abrams, the new U.S. commander in Vietnam, "thinks well of the progress" that South Vietnamese armed forces are making.

Clifford in the past has emphasized U.S. intent to turn over

a major share of the war responsibility to the South Vietnamese "in due time," but never has specified what that time is.

Clifford told newsmen all regular South Vietnamese combat troops will have the lightweight, fast-firing M16 rifle by the end of July and that the militia-type troops who fight at village and province level will have them by 1969.

Clifford made a strong pitch for going ahead with the Sentinel missile system, which faces a heavy congressional economy onslaught.

## Venezuelan Plane Hijacked to Cuba

HAVANA (AP)—A Venezuelan airliner with 81 persons aboard, including four Americans, was hijacked Thursday and forced to land at Santiago in eastern Cuba.

Reports from Santiago said a young man carrying a grenade commandeered Viasa Airlines' flight 797 from Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and threatened to explode the grenade unless the plane landed in Cuba.

## Tax—

(Continued From Page 1)  
in the lowest brackets, on 1968 income.

The surtax rate is 10 per cent, but the effective date for individuals is retroactive to April 1, while for corporations it covers the whole year.

The bill also provides a speed-up of corporation tax collections and continues the excise taxes on automobiles at 7 per cent and telephone service at 10 per cent, instead of 2 per cent and 1 per cent respectively as existing law provided.

The total revenue yield is estimated at \$15.2 billion in the year starting July 1.

On the spending side, the measure requires appropriations to be cut \$10 billion and actual spending \$6 billion in that year under budget estimates.

If, as seems likely, Congress does not do the full job, the President must. He is directed also to recommend, for consideration in January, reductions of \$8 billion out of appropriations carried over from previous years.

The government payroll is to be trimmed gradually of 244,000 jobs to bring it back to the mid-1966 level, which would become a permanent ceiling. This is to be done by filling only three out of every four vacancies.

## Turk Heads UNICEF

UNITED NATIONS (UPI) — A Turkish pediatrician, Dr. Ihsan Dogramaci of Ankara, Wednesday was elected chairman of the executive board of the United Nations' Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The Swiss Embassy in Havana, which handles Venezuela's interests in Cuba, confirmed that the plane was hijacked and said it had been advised the DC9 jet would be allowed to take off soon.

The Swiss reported late Thursday the plane was expected to take off at Santiago around 7 p.m. EDT for Caracas, Venezuela, via Curacao.

The U.S. Embassy in Santo Domingo said the four Americans aboard included Army Col. Henry Joslin, chief of the American military assistance group in the Dominican Republic, and his wife, Wanda.

The airline reported in New York that another American aboard was William W. Taylor, employed by the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co.

The fourth American was identified only as Russell Edwards.

The Cuban government refused information about the plane or its passengers and crew and newsmen were not allowed to telephone them at the Hotel Versailles in Santiago, 460 miles southeast of Havana.

Hotel officials said all the passengers and crew were well.

The Viasa Airlines office in New York said 78 passengers and three crew members were aboard the plane on a flight from Santo Domingo to Caracas, Venezuela via Curacao in the Netherlands Antilles.

A spokesman said all the passengers boarded the plane in Santo Domingo and that passengers who had flown from Miami, Fla., to Santo Domingo on the plane all got off in the Dominican Republic.



Secretary of Defense Clark Clifford tells newsmen at a Washington press conference that he sees some movement toward more encouraging talks at the previously stalemated Paris peace meetings. (AP Radiophoto)

## Train Goes Loco, Tears Across Kan.

KINSLEY, Kan. (AP)—A runaway two-unit diesel locomotive plowed into an open switch near here Thursday and came to a crashing halt after racing 98 miles through nine towns at speeds up to 90 miles an hour. No one was hurt.

The unmanned locomotive rolled out of the yards at Hutchinson, almost hit a pedestrian and two cars, then rammed a track supervisor's motor car at the edge of town and headed down a branch line of the Santa Fe.

Highway patrolmen raced along the highways ahead of the speeding engine, setting up roadblocks to keep people and vehicles off the crossings.

One patrolman, racing the train between Great Bend and Larned, said he was going 80 m.p.h. and the engine was outrunning him.

Trainmen finally threw a switch east of Kinsley, derailing the unit. It jumped the tracks and rolled over, tearing down telephone poles and chewing up rails before it came to a halt.

Trainmen were trying to figure out how the locomotive got loose. They said it had been in the roundhouse for service and was set on a track outside the shed.

Trainmen speculated the "dead man's switch," which should automatically shut off the throttle, failed to operate.

## Saigon—

(Continued From Page 1)  
the U.S. Command reported Thursday.

No ground action was reported in the city and its suburbs. In the northern suburb of Gia Dinh, government Marines used grenades to collapse bunkers abandoned when some 175 Viet Cong gave up in the largest mass surrender of the war.

The biggest clash outside of Saigon was fought by soldiers of the U.S. 25th Inf. Div., who killed 44 Viet Cong Wednesday around a helicopter landing zone 12 miles north of the capital. U.S. losses were 15 killed and 14 wounded.

Another 39 Viet Cong were killed 29 miles northeast of Saigon when they were caught by troopers of the 1st Inf. Div. and then hit by artillery, helicopter gunships and AC47s.

Two Americans were killed and 18 wounded in the 90-minute fight.

Soldiers of the 9th Inf. Div. killed 10 more Viet Cong nine miles southeast of Saigon Wednesday.

The 33 prisoners were taken by troops of the 199th Light Inf. Brigade southwest of the capital.

Vietnamese militiamen engaged a band of Viet Cong Wednesday 9 miles north of Saigon. After they had killed one, nine others surrendered. One captive identified himself as a major and the acting artillery chief of a Communist subregion in suburban Gia Dinh Province.

Pacific Stars & Stripes Vietnam Bureau said Air Force, Navy and Marine pilots touched off 82 fires and 33 secondary explosions Wednesday in 125 missions over North Vietnam.

Binh Duong Province north of Saigon was pounded by three B52 raids Thursday morning. The eight-engine bombers hit enemy ammunition storage areas from 33 to 36 miles north of the capital.

## World Weather

June 20					
	H	L			
Bangkok	92	77	Naha	79	72
Chitose	57	50	Saigon	93	79
Guam	87	79	Seoul	79	67
Itazuke	77	66	Taipei	75	73
Manila	90	77	Tokyo	72	56
	H	L		H	L
Albany	74	60	Melbourne	56	50
Albuquerque	97	64	Memphis	92	71
Amarillo	91	61	Miami	82	72
Atlanta	84	69	Milwaukee	77	54
Birmingham	92	69	Moscow	86	77
Bismarck	79	52	N. Orleans	87	70
Boise	96	68	NYC	74	61
Bozton	75	60	N. Platte	93	49
Chicago	78	65	Okla. City	86	66
Cincinnati	84	63	O.maha	86	61
Cleveland	74	63	Paris	72	55
Denver	94	53	Phila.	79	61
Des Moines	86	56	Phoenix	115	75
Detroit	80	63	Pittsburgh	79	58
Duluth	73	44	Port., O.	67	58
Fargo	81	50	Rapid City	88	55
Fort Worth	89	69	Reno	89	47
Hong Kong	84	75	Singapore	90	75
Honolulu	82	76	St. Louis	89	69
Houston	78	71	St. Paul	78	59
Indianapolis	85	66	Salt Lake	97	68
Jacksonville	83	74	S. Antonio	82	71
Jakarta	87	75	San Diego	75	61
Kansas City	92	73	San Fran.	61	52
K. Lumpur	91	74	Seattle	65	56
Las Vegas	110	69	Shreveport	86	72
London	63	56	Sydney	61	44
L.A.	85	59	Tucson	109	72
Louisville	86	61	Wash.	82	64

## Mother Decapitated by Flying Fireworks

SANDUSKY, Ohio (UPI) — A sesquicentennial celebration at a high school football stadium ended in tragedy Wednesday night when a piece of flying metal from a fireworks display ripped into the crowd, decapitating a young mother and injuring two other persons.

Police said the incident occurred when a simulated atomic

blast, part of the fireworks display, went awry and ripped into the crowd of 700 persons in the stands.

The dead woman was identified as Mrs. Ruth Ann Hamer, 29, of Sandusky. Police said she was in the 12th row of the stadium. They said she was the mother of one child and was pregnant with her second.

Seriously injured was Mrs. Sara Jane Seitz, 42, also of Sandusky. She was taken to Elyria Memorial Hospital for

emergency surgery. Cheryl Dearth, 51, Sandusky, suffered minor cuts.

Police Capt. Floyd Churchwell said Charles Tenge, 21, of Columbus, Ohio, an employee of the Ohio Fireworks and Display Co. of Bellaire, was handling the display. He was not held.

It was the final week of the sesquicentennial celebration, with fireworks displays planned for every night.

But the incident Wednesday night and two earlier incidents

caused police to cancel the displays.

Earlier Wednesday evening, a rocket went off course and slammed down a block from the field, shattering a window and storm door at a private home. A 17-year-old girl suffered cuts on the legs from flying glass.

Tuesday night, another rocket went off course and hit a car a block away, scorching the vehicle and shattering some windows. There were no injuries.