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Johnson Signs Tax Bill

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson signed into law Friday legislation imposing higher taxes on 82 million Americans.

The 10 per cent personal and business tax hike carries with it a mandatory \$6 billion cut in federal spending. The law puts a spending ceiling of \$180.1 billion on fiscal 1969. Johnson's budget had called for spending \$186.1 billion.

The tax surcharge will not apply to single persons making less than \$1,900 annually, nor married people with two dependent children earning up to \$5,000.

For the rest, the normal tax bill on April 15 will be 7.5 per cent more than it would have been without the new law, or an (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

36 Others Captured

GI'S, BARRAGE KILL 152 REDS

SAIGON (UPI)—U.S. cavalrymen pinned a North Vietnamese battalion against the sea Friday and killed 152 Communists with a barrage of support fire so fierce many dove into the water trying to escape, military spokesmen said.

Spokesmen said early Saturday that another 36 troops of North Vietnam's 814th Bn. were captured in the battle along the South China Sea coast about 10 miles south of the Demilitarized Zone.

The fighting was continuing. Remnants of the Communist force were trying to keep American air cavalrymen from overrunning a beach village.

U.S. casualties were described as very light.

But one officer of the U.S. 1st Air Cav. Div. said "the Communists are bunkered up real (Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)



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

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OK Delay in Sirhan Plea

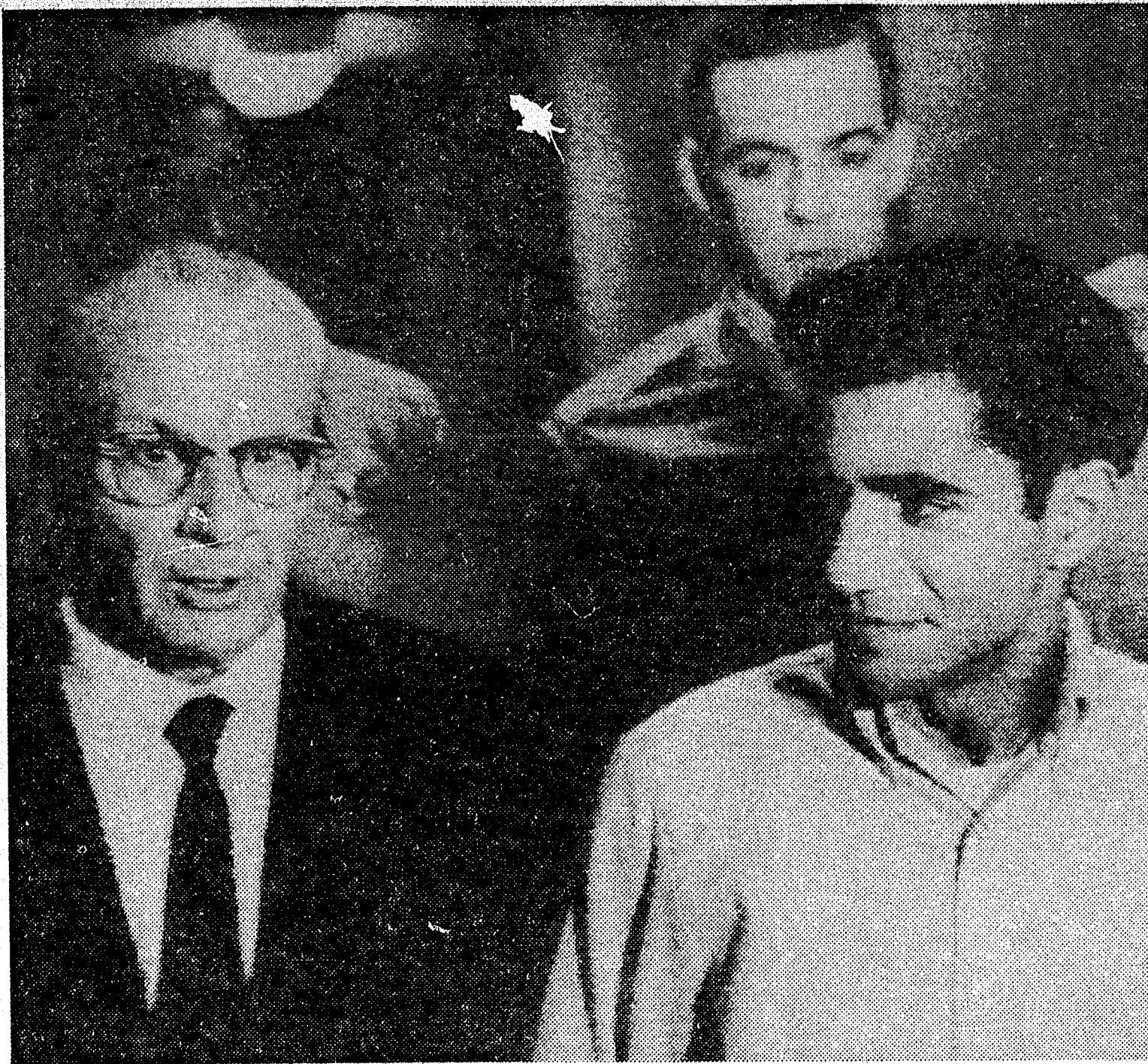
LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Sirhan B. Sirhan, surrounded by a human shield of guards in a jail chapel turned into a courtroom, Friday was granted an additional three weeks to enter his plea on charges he assassinated Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The 24-year-old defendant displayed an icy calm when he appeared before Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer and spoke only a half-dozen words in response to questions from the court.

He showed a moment of nervousness when he entered the makeshift courtroom, flanked by five deputy sheriffs who towered over him. As he walked up a step to the counsel table, Sirhan nervously stroked his upper lip with his right forefinger.

At the end of the nine-minute hearing he arose from the table and started to leave. He stumbled over the first step but recovered himself.

The motion for a continuance was made by defense counsel Russell E. Parsons who pointed out that he was just recently (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)



SIRHAN SIRHAN (RIGHT) SMILES AT HIS ATTORNEY RUSSELL PARSONS DURING HEARING.

AP Radiophoto

King Case Witnesses Disappear

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Four probable witnesses in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here April 4 cannot be found in Memphis—and there were indications Friday that they may be in protective custody. City Police Director Frank Holoman declined to say.

None of the four could be found by reporters who tried to contact them Thursday in connection with U.S. efforts to gain the return from London of James Earl Ray, charged with murder in the King slaying.

Among the missing was Charles Quitman Stephens, 46, a key witness in the case who lived in a rooming house from which police say a fatal rifle shot was fired at King as he stood on the balcony of the nearby Lorraine Motel.

Neither Stephens nor his invalid wife, another possible witness, were available at the rooming house Thursday. Their former room was padlocked and (Continued on Back Page, Col. 5)

Car, Bus Crash Kills 4

CRESWELL, Ore. (AP)—A car and a Greyhound bus collided and burned Friday, killing at least four persons and injuring dozens of others. The bus, with 38 passengers aboard, was en route from Los Angeles to Vancouver, B.C.

Soggy Cadets Hold the Line

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP)—The final review of the Army ROTC brigade at Worcester Polytechnic Institute unexpectedly turned into an amphibious operation. A dozen sprinkler heads in the football field water system spouted at one-minute intervals in the midst of the assembled companies of cadets. College officials, blaming a prankster, said not a man broke ranks but several company commanders maneuvered their formations to drier ground.

Man Falls From Airliner 8,000 Feet Over Missouri

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (UPI)—A passenger fell from a DC3 airliner flying at 8,000 feet Friday over southwest Missouri.

The plane, owned by the Purdue Aviation Corp., Lafayette, Ind., was en route to Dallas, Tex., with 23 passengers and 4 crew members aboard. All the passengers were delegates to the International Lions Club convention in Dallas.

Federal Aviation Agency

(FAA) officials identified the victim as a "Mr. Potter of Pontiac, Mich."

Potter was walking down the aisle toward the restroom when an exit door swung open and he toppled out of the plane, according to another passenger, Jim Schaive, 35.

"All the passengers remained seated and a crew member shut a door between the passenger section and the baggage depart-

ment to reduce air pressure," Schaive said.

"There was no panic and the crew should be commended for keeping everyone calm," another passenger said. "Mrs. Potter was on the plane with her husband. A hostess immediately went to comfort her."

The plane landed safely at Springfield Airport although the (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

Planned in April

Khe Sanh Pullout Approved by Westy

HONOLULU (UPI)—Gen. William C. Westmoreland said Thursday the plan to withdraw Marines from Khe Sanh was made two months ago while he

was commander of U.S. troops in Vietnam.

The general said he approved the plan "in principle."

He responded to newsmen's questions after an announcement in Saigon that Leathernecks were withdrawing from Khe Sanh and being redeployed for a more mobile defense of the area.

The Khe Sanh area, in the northwest corner of South Vietnam near the Demilitarized Zone, was the scene of a bloody 77-day siege by 16,000 North Vietnamese troops in the early part of the year. The 6,000 Marines who withstood intensive bombardment during the siege suffered more than 2,000 casualties.

Westmoreland, who will become Army Chief of Staff in July, said, "In April, I approved in principle the plan now being put into execution involving the redistribution of troops in the Khe Sanh area."

He said he left it to his successor, Gen. Creighton Abrams, to carry out the plan because, "In combat, timely decisions must be made by the responsible commander on the ground." Westmoreland said he would already have left Vietnam by the time the plan was to go into effect.

New Legal System for South Viet

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — American advisors will assist the Vietnamese government in establishing a uniform legal code to conform with Vietnam's new constitution it was announced Friday.

Under an agreement signed by Le Van Thu, Vietnamese minister of justice and Donald MacDonald, United States Aid to International Development director, assistance will cover 18 months and cost \$400,000.

The revision of the legal system is aimed at eliminating old and conflicting laws from the days when Vietnam was controlled by France.

In addition to replacing old laws, the new legal system will establish the Supreme Court as a separate branch of the government and improve the appeal system from lower courts. Under the revisions, the Vietnamese Supreme Court will review the constitution much the same way the American Supreme Court does with the U.S. Constitution.

Freeman Sets Vietnam Visit

SAIGON (UPI) — U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman will visit South Vietnam next week to take a look at America's farm assistance efforts, U.S. Mission spokesmen announced Friday.

Freeman is scheduled to arrive in Saigon July 2 for a five-day visit, it was reported.

Officials said Freeman would "review accomplishments in agricultural assistance" to South Vietnam and "renew acquaintances among top-level South Vietnamese officials," whom he has not seen since his last trip to Vietnam two years ago.

Woman, 132, Dies

EAST LONDON, South Africa (AP)—Mrs. Maggie Kani, who claimed to be age 132, has died in Graaff Reinet, East Cape.

Reds, Neutralists Face Jail: Huong

SAIGON (AP) — A strongly-worded warning from Premier Tran Van Huong's office Friday said that anyone in South Vietnam directly or indirectly supporting pro-Communist or pro-neutralist policies would be subject to immediate military trial and a sentence at hard labor.

A communique said the warning had been drafted because "a number of organizations have recently issued communiques appealing for peace in a rather vague way, sowing confusion among the population."

Citing a 1965 decree by the military junta which ruled South Vietnam at that time, Huong said sentences of hard labor would be applied to:

— "Those who directly or indirectly disseminate the policy, slogans and orders of the Communists, of individuals or groups directed or influenced by the Communists.



F100 Lends a Hand

An Air Force F100 streaks past troops of the 1st Bn., 50th Inf., 173rd Airborne Brigade, during operations against a large North Vietnamese force 35 miles north of Qui Nhon. (USA)

Saigon Alert For Attack

SAIGON (AP) — South Vietnamese authorities are holding a high-level Viet Cong official who gave the government information on a threatened third offensive against the capital, it was learned Friday night.

"He has been important to us tactically for military information," one source said.

The official was said to hold the rank of either a lieutenant colonel or a colonel in the Communist command's Capital Military District Region.

The Capital Military District was on 100 per cent alert Friday amid unconfirmed reports from intelligence agents that Viet Cong infiltrators were moving toward Saigon, indicating the possibility of a full-scale attack on the capital within the next three or four days.

The colonel was captured a week ago. U.S. sources have said their anticipation of a third offensive against the capital was based on prisoner interrogations and captured documents.

— "Those who carry out activities intended to weaken the national anti-Communist will and affect and struggle of the people and the armed forces.

— "Those who attempt and carry out neutral activities in accordance with the Communist policy under the label of peace."

Huong's statement said offenders would be brought before a military court martial within 24 hours.

South Vietnam's constitution prohibits pro-communism and pro-neutralism. Persons accused of either leaning were prohibited from running in the presidential and legislative elections last fall.

Peace appeals have been issued recently by Saigon students and by the militant and moderate wings of the Buddhists in Saigon.

Letter-Writing Town 'Adopts' 1,000 GIs

EFFINGHAM, Ill. (UPI)—This Southern Illinois town of little more than 8,000 persons has about 1,000 adopted "sons" in Vietnam.

The "sons" receive about 150 letters a week written by the townspeople and have written hundreds of letters of thanks as testimony to their appreciation.

It's all the work of Mrs. Tona B. Davis, a grandmother, mother of a soldier in Vietnam and news director of radio station WCRA. Mrs. Davis

said she was jolted into action when the mother of a soldier in Vietnam remarked that her son had said people back in the States "don't remember we are over here."

The next day, Mrs. Davis urged her listeners to send in addresses of servicemen in Vietnam they would like to receive letters. She's had about 1,000 GIs on her mailing list at one time or another.

One GI mail clerk sent her a list of soldiers who didn't get any letters from home and asked her to add them to her list. They were added.

The letter-writers even include Jay Mount, 9, an Effingham Boy Scout who now has a pen pal-soldier in Vietnam.

"We try to put in small candy, chewing gum or soft drink powder," Mrs. Davis said. "Some soldiers ask us to send them packages of seed. We have sent quite a few packets of tomato and melon seeds."

The mailing cost of the letters is underwritten by the radio station and contributions of up to \$100 from listeners and organizations. Members of the radio station staff and volun-

teers help Mrs. Davis stuff the 1,000-word letters.

Included with many of the letters are cartoons and poetry clipped from magazines and newspapers and pamphlets supplied by the Rev. Norman Vincent Peale, author and theologian.

As a result of her letter to Dr. Peale asking for some pamphlets, she has been asked to write a book about the letters. She said she will, but she also will continue writing the letters to the soldiers as long as they want them.

"It's the least I can do," she said.

138 Missions Rake N. Viet

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — American pilots took advantage of mostly clear weather to fly 138 missions over North Vietnam Thursday. No enemy MIG fighters or surface-to-air missiles were sighted during the day.

Four buildings of a repair complex 26 miles southeast of Vinh were destroyed by jets from the aircraft carrier America. A fuel dump 12 miles southwest of Vinh was blasted by pilots from the same ship.

"Our bombs covered about a 300-yard area," said Lt. Cmdr. C.W. Mullen, strike leader. "As we looked back, we could see bright explosions of gasoline and black smoke columns rising from burning oil."

During Air Force strikes Thursday, pilots reported destroying or damaging 11 cargo boats, six antiaircraft sites and five bridges. A SAM and its transporter were also hit.

Casualties

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

KILLED IN ACTION

Army
Sp4 Johnny D. Casey, Sylacauga, Ala.
Capt. Carl S. Kizer, Milpitas, Calif.
Pfc. James R. Fry Jr., Downey, Calif.
Cpl. Kenneth W. Hicks, Valrico, Fla.
1Lt. John J. Link, Columbus, Ga.
Sgt. Nathaniel Wade, Augusta, Ga.
Sgt. William J. Van Gorder, Markham, Ill.
Cpl. Clarence Bowman Jr., Austin, Ind.
Sp4 William R. La Plante III, St. Paul, Minn.
Sp4 Charles Segar Jr., New York, N.Y.
Sfc. Charles D. Boyer, Fayetteville, N.C.
SSG Jerry L. Addis, Dallas, N.C.
Sgt. Stephen A. Walker, Charlotte, N.C.
Cpl. David T. Bell, Willoughby, Ohio.
Sp4 Tommy J. Brehm, Ukiah, Ore.
Pfc. Michael Gigliotti, Johnsonburg, Pa.
CWO Charles M. Cotton, Angleton, Tex.
WO Ross O. Barlow, Benito, Tex.
Sp4 Ruben D. Mercado-Gutierrez, San-turce, P.R.
Cpl. Francis A. Peterson, Christiansted, St. Croix, V.I.

Navy

1Lt. William E. Dennis, Mobile, Ala.
HM2 William I. Mercer, Tujunga, Calif.
Marine Corps
LCpl. Roy L. Moore, Madison, Ala.
Pfc. Leroy Leland Jr., Theodore, Ala.
SSgt. Albert R. Taylor, Porterville, Calif.
Pfc. Elmer L. Faulkner Jr., Greenwood, Del.
Sgt. Herbert M. Allen, Winter Haven, Fla.
Capt. Lutkin S. Sharp, Gainesville Hall, Ga.
Pfc. Ronnie D. Davis, Pleasant Plains, Ill.
Pfc. Ramon P. Cancel, East Gary, Ind.
Pfc. Stephen W. Hadley, Princeton, Ind.
Pfc. Clavin L. Terrell, Louisville, Ky.
Pfc. Ronald D. Fogard, Battle Lake, Minn.
Cpl. James M. Mathews, Butler, N.J.
Cpl. Clarence V. Mobley, Winnabow, N.C.
LCpl. Amos D. Lawson, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Cpl. Arlan J. Kennedy Jr., Birdsboro, Pa.

DIED OF WOUNDS

Marine Corps
LCpl. George C. Currie, Quaker Hill, Conn.
Pfc. Gerald L. Johnson, Royal Oak, Mich.
MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE
Army
2Lt. David J. Bolton, Yuba City, Calif.
Sgt. Donald S. Fujimoto, San Joaquin, Calif.
Cpl. Alan R. Duke, Bakersfield, Calif.
Pfc. Charles A. Rygg, Oakland, Calif.
Sgt. Emory M. Smith, Sylvania, Ga.
Sgt. Jon R. Winger, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Cpl. Robert S. Allen, North Bergen, N.J.
Sp4 Randy S. Schell, York, Pa.
Pfc. Allen R. Weamer, Tacoma, Wash.
Sic. Dan L. Pfister, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.
Navy
GMG2 Billy S. Armstrong, West Helena, Ark.

DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION

Army
Sp4 John R. Tague, Burlington, N.D.
Sp6 Gerald A. Phillips, Alken, S.C.
Marine Corps
LCpl. Michael B. Kopelski, Rockland, Mass.
Pfc. Thomas D. Latanowich, Somerville, Mass.
Pvt. Tim L. Fritze, Nashua, Iowa.
MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE
Army

SP5 Thomas J. Brennan, Melrose, Mass.
WO Mark A. Wenzel, Alpha, Minn.
Sp4 Marvin L. Wyatt, Wise, Va.

MISSING IN ACTION

Army
Sp4 Ernest L. Elliott
Sp4 David L. Stockton
Pfc. Jeremiah Green
Pfc. Larry R. Kennann
Pfc. Sidney C. Squires

Air Force

1Lt. Col. Donald F. Casey
CORRECTION
Sp4 Bernard M. Pellegrino, USA, change status from died not as a result of hostile action to killed in action.
Pfc. Charles A. Loft, USA, change status from died not as a result of hostile action to killed in action.
1Lt. Ralph E. Hunt Jr., USMC, change status from died not as a result of hostile action to killed in action.
Sp4 Willie L. Morgan Jr., USA, change status from killed in action to died not as a result of hostile action.

Patrol On Skids, Glad of It

LAI KHE, Vietnam (Special)—A team of the 1st Inf. Div.'s long range reconnaissance patrol was evacuated from an area of heavy enemy fire on the skids of a Huey Cobra gunship recently 10 miles east of Saigon.

The gunship landed in a rice paddy and the four men of the Big Red One unit hopped aboard the ship. Two of the men were on the skids, one on the rocket launcher and one on the small wing.

The four-man recon team, led by Sgt. Robert P. Elsner of New York City had been pinned down by enemy fire from a large force for more than an hour when the Cobra made the rescue.

Spec. 4 William P. Cohn Jr., Norwich, Conn., said, "Our team was just beginning to leave the jungle and cross a rice paddy when we noticed a lot of movement in a woodline on the other side of the paddy. Elsner looked through the starlight scope and noticed that the Viet Cong had set up a L-shaped ambush.

The team then tried to avoid being spotted by the enemy. Sgt. David M. Hill, the assistant team leader, said, "We all got down on our stomachs to go back to the jungle when the enemy opened up on us." The other team member, Spec. 4 Gerald W. Paddy, Trenton, N.J., added, "The Viet Cong must have realized that we had spotted them because they really opened up on us."

Vietnam Has Hippies Too

FIRE BASE MOORE, Vietnam (Special) — Two Vietnamese "hippies" who had evaded ARVN service were found in the local version of a coffeehouse by elements of the 9th Inf. Div.

The Recon Platoon of the 3rd Bn., 39th Inf. was on an operation 20 miles northwest of My Tho in the Mekong Delta. The day had been uneventful until the unit entered a small hamlet.

"We were searching a hut when we found two really weird characters," said Spec. 4 John Carlson, of Mishawaka, Ind. "Both of them had long hair like the flower children and one even had a beard. They were just sitting there freaking at each other."

The two Vietnamese were taken to 3rd Brigade Headquarters for questioning. Only one could produce an ID card. Both admitted that although they were not Viet Cong, they were draft dodgers.

"Now I have seen everything," commented Spec. 4 Robert W. Boughner, of New Haven, Mich. "A hippie in Vietnam!"



YEOMAN I.C. CARL M. BLACK JR. IS SURROUNDED BY CHILDREN AT A SAIGON SALVATION ARMY CLINIC. (USN)

Sailor-Soldier Finds Fun Helping Others

SAIGON (Special) — When it comes to time-off in Vietnam, most servicemen head to one of the big R&R centers for sun and fun.

But Carl M. Black Jr., a Navy yeo. first class, finds his fun in helping others. The sailor is also a soldier in the Salvation Army. In his spare time he helps out at the Salvation Army's four refugee clinics in Saigon.

Black, of Sharon, Pa., believes his work is a vital part of the war effort. "These people need

the help we're trying to give them" he said. "When I go out there in uniform, they start to associate help with American servicemen."

The Salvation Army medical team has been working in Saigon about two months. By arrangement with the city of Saigon, the team's six members rotate throughout the four clinics, providing medical aid to people left homeless by communist attacks on Saigon.

About 250 people per day seek

treatment at the clinics. To keep the process orderly, Black puts to work his organizational talents gained during five years in the Salvation Army.

Black is particularly interested in children and often has many crowded around him playing games and chattering. The children are largely unsupervised during the day while many of their parents are at work.

There are six people who work full-time with the clinic.

Five are Salvation Army members. The team was set up by Salvation Army Lt. Col. Leonard Adams. Born in England, Adams has been a member of the Salvation Army for 37 years, and has been in America for 20 years. Many of his assignments have been to the Far East.

The clinic team's female doctor, Li Sin Wah, an employe of the Salvation Army, is from Hong Kong. Two SA cadets, Mr. and Mrs. James Lau, of Hong Kong, are interrupting their studies for the Salvation Army ministry to examine patients in the clinic. Major Eva Crosby of Canada and Envoy Chu Suet King of Hong Kong dispense medicines.

Black also serves as office supervisor in the Administrative Department headquarters, Commander U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam.

Regarding his work with the Salvation Army Black said:

"There's so much to do here — it will take years. Mostly, the health problems of the Vietnamese result from the bad water and their own ignorance of proper health techniques.

"Skin diseases are very common, especially in the children," he said. "Like kids everywhere, they only wash when they're told, and that isn't often enough. When they do wash they put the same dirty clothes back on.

"That's why we get hundreds of rashes, boils, open sores, that sort of thing," he added.

VC Kill 84 Civilians

SAIGON (S&S) — Viet Cong terrorists killed 84 Vietnamese civilians, including a Buddhist leader, during the week ending June 22.

Pacific Stars & Stripes
Sunday, June 30, 1968

GI Learns a Lesson

Youth Befriends, Then Betrays

BONG SON, Vietnam (Special) — "If they are big enough to hold a gun they are big enough to kill you," said Pfc. Jesse Diaz, of Santa Monica, Calif.

The 24-year-old paratrooper assigned to B Co., 2nd Bn., 503rd Inf., 173rd Airborne Brigade found out how true his words were recently when his unit was conducting a mission along South Vietnam's north central coast.

"We were searching a village

for a suspected Viet Cong company," Diaz said, "and during the search one of the guys gave a package of Kool Aid to a young kid who didn't look over 15.

"We didn't find any enemy in the village, so we moved on. Later that day we passed through the same village and all hell broke loose.

"VC were swarming all over the place hitting us with everything from AK47's to B40 rockets. Things looked tense for awhile, but our gunships moved

in and the enemy wasted no time in getting out of the village."

When B Co. swept through the village they counted 20 dead Viet Cong and an assortment of weapons and ammunition. One of the dead turned out to be the same youth who was given the Kool Aid. He still had the Kool Aid in his pocket, but this time he clutched a brand new AK47 in his hand.

"He was probably hoping to use our water," Diaz said grimly.

Holy Helmet, That's Pretty Close!

DON HA, Vietnam (Special)— "All I got was a slight headache," said Pfc. Pat Mansfield, 20, North Little Rock, Ark., as he fingered the five holes in his helmet.

Mansfield, attached to 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regt., was on an operation north of Dong Ha when the enemy zeroed in on him. The Marines had halted their advance when they began to receive small arms fire from

an undetermined size North Vietnamese unit.

Artillery was called in on the enemy position throughout the night. The next morning the Marines advanced about 100 yards and were met by strong resistance. Noticing a pinned down fire-team to his front, Mansfield crawled to a bomb crater to aid his comrades with supporting fire.

"I opened up with a burst," said Mansfield, "when all of a sudden my helmet came off my head." A bullet had entered the front of his helmet and left through the back.

Thinking the two holes in his helmet were the result of a stray round, he put the helmet back on and began firing again.

"I had no sooner let go with 15 more rounds when they hit

me again!" he exclaimed. This time a round tore through the underside, came through the side and then penetrated again puncturing a hole through the back.

"From then on I decided to keep my head down," said Mansfield.

With a headache from the second round which grazed his forehead, Mansfield concluded, "Someone's looking after me!"

Senate in Uproar Over LBJ Court Moves

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Spirited debate broke out Friday in the Senate on President Johnson's "lame duck" Supreme Court nominations. Democrats accused Republicans of resorting to blatant politicking on the issue.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield led off floor discussion by declaring he would move quickly to invoke cloture if Republicans went through with a threat of a filibuster against confirmation of Justice Abe Fortas to be chief justice and Homer Thornberry to be an associate justice.

Mansfield told the Senate that if Johnson had not made the appointments "he would be shirking his duty." The major GOP opposition led by Sen. Robert P. Griffin, R-Mich., is based on the argument that Johnson should leave the appointments to his successor who will take office next January.

Sen. John G. Tower, R-Tex., joined Friday in signing the Griffin protest petition. Said Tower: "I will not vote for cloture nor will I vote to confirm either of the two current nominees to the Supreme Court."

Mansfield said: "I hope this will not be a partisan political issue. It is much too important."

Sen. Frank E. Moss, D-Utah, said, "The 'politics' of the objections stated by those opposed to the nomination are so blatant and transparent that they should be disregarded in total."

Sen. Daniel B. Brewster, D-Md., called the Republican threat "a blatant political maneuver." Sen. John O. Pastore, D-R. I., said it was "idiotic."

Griffin claimed some Democratic support for his move.

"Democrats are fed up with President Johnson and his policies," he said. "They want a change and they don't want Johnson's cronies guiding the Supreme Court for the next 10 or 15 years."

The White House meanwhile disputed the contention of several senators that Johnson had no legal right to appoint Fortas and Thornberry to the Court because technically no vacancy existed.

At issue is the exchange of letters in which Johnson advised Warren that his resignation would become effective when a successor was confirmed.

White House Press Secretary George Christian commented: "There is ample precedent and ample indications of custom that confirmation proceedings have taken place frequently in both judicial and ambassadorial matters while individuals to be replaced have held office."

NYC Riot Claims Hit \$3.3 Million

NEW YORK (AP)—Claims against New York City for damages caused by rioting that followed the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in April now total \$3.3 million.

The claims allege that merchandise was stolen and stores damaged, forcing owners out of business. Comptroller Mario A. Procaccino is authorized to settle or reject them. They are being studied by a special unit in his office.



South Vietnamese troops give the Communists a taste of their own medicine as they fire captured 122mm rockets at suspected infiltration routes. A cache of rockets was found 12 miles west-northwest of Saigon. (AP Radiophoto)

Fall—

(Continued From Page 1)
exit door and steps were still down.

State highway patrolmen began a search in two areas, one near the Gasconade River in the vicinity of the Phelps-Marines County line and a section of wooded country about five miles north of Waynesville.

Edmund Benben, chief of the FAA air carrier district office in St. Louis, said FAA inspectors were dispatched to Springfield to check the aircraft.

"Nobody really knows what happened," Schaive said. "It just suddenly happened. There was a loud noise, the plane sort of quivered a little bit and the door came open. There was a rush of air. Nobody saw Mr. Potter actually fall out. He was there one second and gone the next."

Tax Bill—

(Continued From Page 1)
extra \$7.50 on top of every \$100 owed.

In signing the tax bill, Johnson said he was accepting its order to cut \$6 billion from his spending plans for the fiscal year beginning Monday, because the 10 per cent tax the bill imposed is "so imperative to the economic health of the nation."

Johnson said he believed the \$6 billion spending cut contained in the bill was "most unwise."

Johnson said that in carrying out the congressional mandate to slash spending, "I will do my best to fulfill our most urgent priorities and to continue the central operations of government."

Court OKs Sirhan Plea Delay

(Continued From Page 1)
named as attorney for Sirhan and had only a limited time to study the case.

The judge granted the continuance until the morning of July 19. The district attorney's office, represented by John Howard and David Fitts, made no objection.

Sirhan was wearing a long-sleeved light blue shirt, open at the neck, black slacks and black shoes. His hair appeared to have been freshly cut.

After he sat down, Judge Schauer asked, "Are you the defendant Sirhan B. Sirhan?"

"Yes, sir," Sirhan replied in precise English.

GIs Kill 152 Reds

(Continued From Page 1)
well" and the Americans were "continuing to meet considerable resistance."

Meanwhile, Saigon was spared from rocket or mortar attacks for the seventh straight day, and South Vietnamese troops who seized a big cache of Viet Cong rockets Thursday launched them Friday against Communist positions northwest of the city.

This is where an estimated 26 battalions of Reds were believed massing for a new attack, possibly within two weeks, against the capital. As a precaution, the Saigon government told the city to be ready for four "practice alerts" this weekend.

But it was not around the capital, but far to the north, that the biggest battle in nearly two weeks was touched off Thursday to break a lull in the ground war.

The North Vietnamese hid in a treeline and opened up on a unit of the 1st Cav.—and from the Communist point of view, it must have seemed that the sky caved in.

The cavalrymen called in strikes by U.S. warplanes, artillery barrages and a bombardment of shells from the eight-inch guns of the cruiser Boston just off the coast.

One observer aboard the Boston said the ship's barrage was so devastating that he could see Communist troops fleeing the village and "running into the water" in an attempt to reach safety.

A shore-based Marine spotter was jubilant. "All of your rounds are right on target," he

radioed to the Boston. "You must be giving Charlie (the Communists) fits."

In all, the Boston pumped more than 300 of its eight-inch rounds into a half-mile square area.

From the land, meanwhile, the first band of cavalrymen got some reinforcements — other troops who pushed in on the ground and still others rushed to the battlefield in a helicopter assault.

By nightfall the Americans had driven to the fringe of the village, but continued Red gunfire kept them at bay, spokesmen said.

Barely five miles west of the village, South Vietnamese troops Thursday wrapped up a two-day operation in which they killed 148 Communists and captured 18, government spokesmen said. South Vietnamese losses were 26 killed and 72 wounded.

The South Vietnamese gave the Viet Cong a taste of their own medicine Friday. Government troops pulled out four Soviet-made 122mm rockets they had seized as part of a 417-rocket cache Thursday, and fired them back at the Communists.

The rockets were shot toward Communist targets between Saigon and the Cambodian border, government spokesmen said.

Can You Walk on It?

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—The city of Hollywood wants hippies to get on their feet. An amendment proposed to the Los Angeles antiloitering law would prohibit anyone from sitting, lying or sleeping on streets or sidewalks.

Sirhan's brother Adel, was escorted into the courtroom by a half-dozen plainclothes sheriff's detectives.

Before being permitted to enter the county jail where the hearing took place, newsmen and all other persons were searched. Their names were taken on a register at a ground floor waiting room.

They were escorted to the third floor and searched again in a mess hall near the chapel. Pen knives, fingernail clippers and any other potential weapons were held by deputies.

No cameras or recording equipment were allowed in the courtroom.

King—

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if police knew of their whereabouts, they were keeping it a secret.

Also unavailable was Mrs. Bessie Brewer, the former manager of the rooming house, along with her husband, Frank. Mr. and Mrs. James MacDonald, now operating the rooming house, were asked about the Brewers and replied, "They'll be gone a few days."

But Willie Anchutz, another rooming house resident, was reported on the job Thursday by his supervisor at a delivery service. Anchutz and Stephens both told officers shortly after King was slain that they sought to use the rooming house bathroom and it was occupied for a long time by another rooming house guest.

Both men were quoted at the time of the slaying as saying they saw a man run out of the bathroom—from which police say the shot was fired which killed King.

A former landlord and a liquor store dealer with whom Stephens regularly cashes veteran benefit checks said they had not seen him recently.

Court records show Stephens was in custody June 16, on a charge of public drunkenness which was dismissed by City Judge Bernie Weinman the next day.

Robert Jensen, in charge of the FBI office, said he talked with Stephens "several weeks ago," but knows nothing of his present whereabouts.

He had no comment on the others.

World Weather

Friday, June 28				
	H	L	H	
Bangkok	90	78	Naha	83
Chitose	85	55	Saigon	90
Guam	85	80	Seoul	81
Honolulu	79	73	Taipei	90
Manila	90	76	Tokyo	75
	H	L	H	L
Albany	62	57	Melbourne	52
Albuquerque	99	59	Memphis	80
Amarillo	98	58	Miami	86
Atlanta	78	65	Milwaukee	66
Birmingham	82	56	Moscow	77
Bismarck	76	48	N. Orleans	87
Boston	91	62	NYC	60
Boise	91	62	N. Platte	88
Boston	58	57	Oklahoma City	87
Chicago	58	54	Omaha	75
Cincinnati	65	56	Paris	73
Cleveland	69	58	Phila.	65
Denver	94	54	Phoenix	108
Des Moines	71	48	Pittsburgh	76
Detroit	65	59	Port., O.	68
Duluth	65	48	Rapid City	88
Fargo	76	50	Reno	94
Fort Worth	87	60	Singapore	88
Hong Kong	91	82	St. Louis	70
Honolulu	82	77	St. Paul	70
Houston	88	56	Salt Lake	100
Indianapolis	60	56	S. Antonio	88
Jacksonville	94	77	San Diego	68
Jakarta	95	75	San Fran.	65
Kansas City	80	52	Seattle	62
K. Lumpur	93	74	Shreveport	83
Las Vegas	111	78	Sydney	58
London	64	50	Tucson	104
L.A.	72	62	Wash.	76
Louisville	65	57		