

REDS TRY NEW 'TET'



AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OF THE ARMED FORCES IN THE FAR EAST



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Little Ground Action To Back Up Shelling

SAIGON (AP)—Enemy forces shelled more than 120 provincial capitals, towns and allied military installations across South Vietnam Sunday and battled government troops inside the capital city of Saigon.

The attacks were evidently intended to be the follow-up punch to the Communist command's Lunar New Year (Tet) offensive of Jan. 31, but they appeared to be in far less strength. Nowhere were installations overrun or threatened as during the Tet offensive, which the enemy sustained for several weeks.

Tan Son Nhut Air Base on the edge of Saigon came under enemy shelling at dawn Monday, but first reports said the attack was light.

One officer said three or four rounds of mortar shells

Other stories, pictures, Pages 6, 12, 13.

or rocket slammed into the base, but there was no report of casualties or damage.

Sharp fighting apparently was going on south of the base, where South Vietnamese troops (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)



Brig. Gen. Nguyen Noc Loan, chief of the Vietnamese National Police who was wounded by Viet Cong, is helped by Australian newsman Pat Burgess after he was brought to safety by an American MP and two Stars & Stripes staffers. (AP Radiophoto)

U.S. Aids Arrive In Paris

PARIS (AP) — Americans and North Vietnamese are expected to reach agreement soon — perhaps Monday — on the place to hold their preliminary peace talks, informed sources said Sunday.

Several sites in and near the French capital are under consideration as the locale for the meeting which is scheduled to begin Friday, or shortly thereafter.

The first members of the American delegation arrived Saturday at Orly Airport from Washington.

A U.S. Air Force cargo plane also came in with a load of communications equipment and several technicians to prepare for the meeting. Another planeload of communications gear was expected Sunday.

There were reports here that North Vietnamese communications technicians would arrive Tuesday but North Vietnamese (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

A Catch in the Menu

DENVER (AP) — The area around Denver is noted for its delicious fresh trout and on May 16 the local chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold its annual banquet. Featured on the menu will be prime rib of beef.

Kansas City Battles 2 Big Fires

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Nineteen companies of firemen fought simultaneous fires Saturday, and the owner of the major structure ablaze estimated his inventory loss at \$1 million.

There were no reports of injuries.

The fires were not related but were within a few blocks of each other, a few blocks southeast of the downtown area.

The big loss was at United Auto Parts Co. at 1901 Troost (Continued on Back Page, Col. 5)

Indiana Primary May Leave Presidential Picture Still Hazy

WASHINGTON (AP) — With Indiana in center stage, five primary elections Tuesday and seven state party conventions later will make this the busiest political week of the year so far.

Before the weekend the returns will be in on the first direct ballot-box test between Sens. Robert F. Kennedy of New York and Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota as Democratic presidential nomination aspirants.

But the outcome in Indiana

probably will be blurred by the participation of Gov. Roger D. Branigin as a favorite-son candidate, plus the shadow of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey as a new factor in the race since President Johnson pulled out.

U. S. Senate candidates will be picked in three states along with nominees for 55 House seats.

And the voters in the primaries, plus the delegates to the state conventions, will settle on the delegates to cast 240 Democratic and 119 Republican bal-

lots in their respective national party conventions.

In addition Minnesota will start Saturday on a string of district Democratic conventions, running through May 26, to select 40 of that state's 52 Democratic convention delegates.

Besides Indiana, the primaries are in Alabama, Florida, Ohio and the District of Columbia.

The only names on the Indiana Democratic ballot are Ken- (Continued on Page 5, Col. 1)

Deliberate Execution

Viet Cong Slay 4 Newsmen in Saigon

SAIGON (AP) — Four news correspondents were killed by Viet Cong Sunday while covering street fighting in the Chinese section of Saigon. A witness said one was deliberately executed after being wounded in the first burst of gunfire.

Three of the four were Australian, the other British.

A fifth correspondent, Frank Palmos, 28, an Australian from Melbourne, was in the jeep which was sprayed with Viet Cong fire but escaped by playing dead and later running for his life.

He identified his companions as:

—Bruce S. Pigott, 22, single, an Australian, assistant bureau chief of Reuters, arrived in Vietnam last June 21.

—Ronald B. Laramy, 30, single, of Great Britain, arrived in Vietnam Feb. 7, 1968. He was

on the Reuters staff in Saigon.

—John L. Cantwell, 29, Time-Life. His parents live in Perth, Australia, while his widow and two children live in Hong Kong.

—Michael Y. Birch, 23, Australian Associated Press (home address not available). He had arrived in Vietnam last December.

Palmos said the correspondents, looking for action to report on, unknowingly drove to the perimeter of a Viet Cong area in Cholon.

"John Cantwell, driving, swerved to the left and while he was trying to get into reverse, trying to back it around and get out of there, two Viet Cong opened fire," Palmos said. "The burp gun and the AK47 pushed bullets for a full 10 seconds through the jeep."

After the initial fusillade, Pal-

mos said, the Viet Cong commander walked toward the jeep.

"Then I heard Michael Birch call out pleadingly, 'Bao chi, bao chi (Vietnamese for newsmen),' Palmos recalled. "The commander just looked at him, still pointing his gun and said derisively, 'Bao chi.' Immediately after he said it he pumped two .45 slugs into the jeep.

"I don't know whether he fired at Birch or anyone. I was looking at his face and I read on his face that everyone in the jeep was dead.

"I was lying there pretending I was dead. This fellow walked around the back of the jeep and the person lying on his back parallel with me about four feet away was moving. I thought he had been wounded (Palmos said he later learned this was Cantwell).

"The man took very deliberate aim from about five feet away and he shot his Colt .45 automatic three times. The first one hit below the body, skipped over the body and missed my head by a fraction of an inch. One of the next two bullets entered the body (of Cantwell). The body tightened up, then relaxed.

"I waited until he had finished his clip and was starting to put the gun back in his belt or holster. Then I peeked under my left elbow and saw that the burp gunner had also lowered his sights. I had about 100 feet to run and I ran a football dash, zigging and zagging. The AK47s and the burp gun opened up on me, but they were lousy shots."

The four deaths raised to 16 the number of correspondents who have been killed covering the war in Vietnam. Scores have been wounded.

VC Kill German Envoy

SAIGON (AP) — Baron Hasso Ruedt von Collenberg, first secretary of the West Germany Embassy, was executed by the Viet Cong Sunday during street fighting in the capital, the German Embassy said.

The diplomat's body was found near his white Volkswagen in the vicinity of Saigon's Phu Tho Race Track.

He had been blindfolded and some reports said his hands were tied behind his back. His body was found three blocks from where four correspondents were slain by the Viet Cong.

Newsmen who saw the body said the diplomat, who was the No. 2 man in the West German Embassy, had been shot in the back of the head.

Von Collenberg, a bachelor, was near the end of his second diplomatic tour in Saigon. He was first assigned to the embassy here in December, 1965, and has been here since.

Marine A6 Down Over North

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — A Marine Corps A6 Intruder was downed Friday north of Dong Hoi in North Vietnam. The crew is listed as missing.

American pilots flew 100 missions over North Vietnam Saturday hitting transportation facilities throughout the panhandle area.

In an effort to keep the Vinh airfield inoperative, naval aviators bombed it twice. The runway was cratered at both ends and in the middle. Pilots said the anti-aircraft fire was the heaviest they had ever seen.

Anti-aircraft batteries and a surface-to-air missile site were also hit five miles north of Vinh.

Other Navy aircraft destroyed bridges and supply boats in a circle around Vinh.

Supply craft were the targets of a large number of U.S. Air Force bombing missions.

Two barges were attacked 21 miles northwest of Dong Hoi. One was damaged and one was destroyed by a direct hit with a 750-pound bomb. A line of 32-foot-long sampans loaded with supplies was bombed 29 miles northwest of that coastal city. Nine were damaged and two destroyed.

Truck parks, radar sites and railroad cars were also hit.

Gen. Loan Wounded, Rescued

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — Brig. Gen. Nguyen Ngoc Loan, chief of the Vietnamese National Police, was wounded Sunday in fighting near the Newport Bridge in Saigon's suburbs.

Loan, followed by Stars & Stripes staffer Spec.5 Bruce McIlhane and photographer Spec.4 John Olson, was moving toward where four Viet Cong snipers were trapped when he was struck in the legs by small arms fire.

McIlhane reported, "One of the general's aides dragged him out of the path of enemy fire. Then two grenades landed near us. One that was a dud and one that wasn't."

The general, Olson, McIlhane and the aide were all hit by fragments from the grenade.

"Then an MP (Spec. 4 Robert Scott of Chicago, from B Co. of the 716th MP Bn.) rushed up and organized our shaky efforts to get Loan to safety," said Olson. "... We heard the VC sneaking up to us."

Scott was later wounded in the leg by an exploding grenade, but apparently was not hurt badly.

Scott dragged Loan into the Saigon River and, with Olson leading, pulled the general through the water under a row of huts held up by poles along the riverfront.

"I was in the rear," said McIlhane, "watching for Charlie. After about 50 yards John shouted to some Vietnamese to let us into their house."

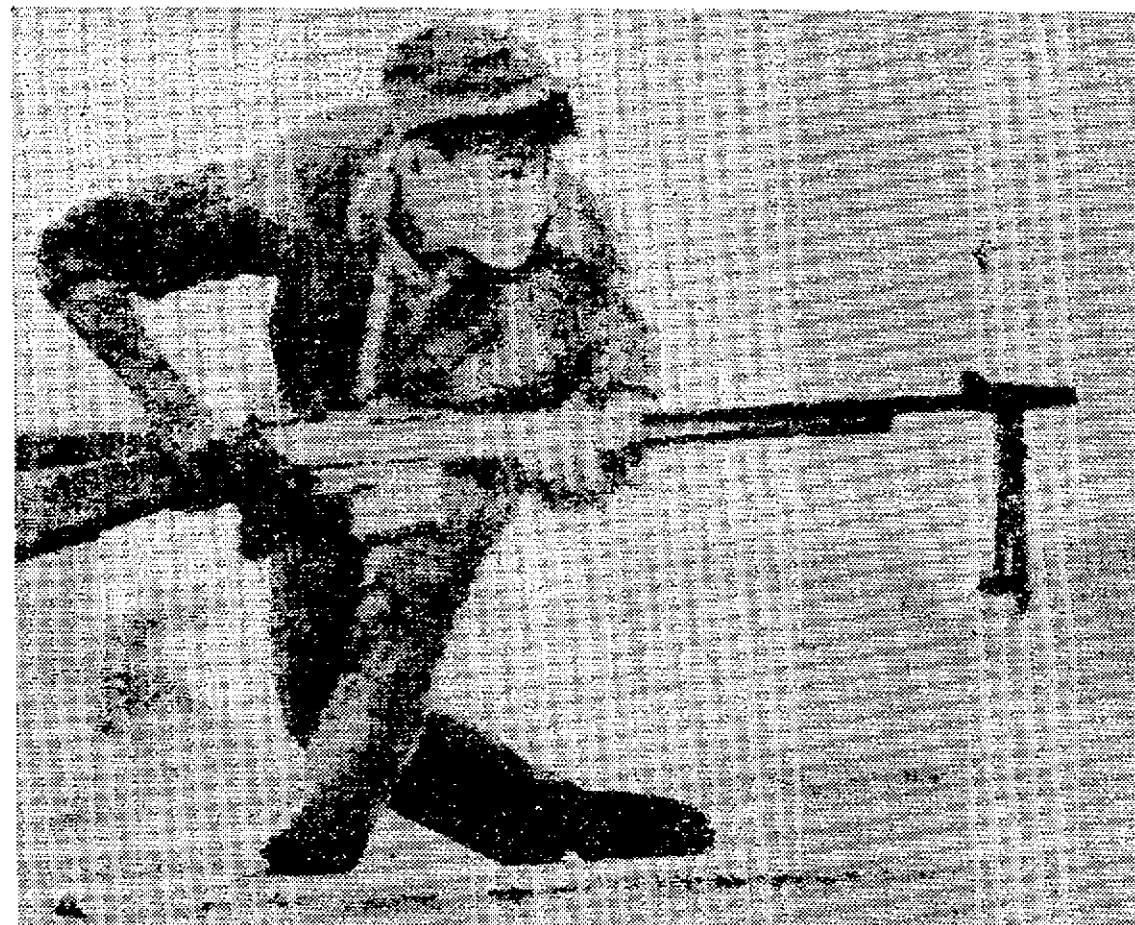
(By early evening, informed sources told AP, Loan was resting comfortably and apparently was out of danger. The sources said the police chief had been shot in the left thigh.)

Tighten Curfew To 7 p.m.-7 a.m.

SAIGON (AP) — The South Vietnamese government tightened curfew restrictions in the wake of renewed Viet Cong assaults, totally banning civilian movement during the hours of darkness.

Later the U.S. armed forces radio ordered all American government personnel and American military men to observe the same curfew.

6 Pacific Stars & Stripes Tuesday, May 7, 1968



A Vietnamese sailor fires from the hip as he runs for safety during an attack on a bridge in northeast Saigon. The Viet Cong wrecked one section of the bridge, which leads to the U.S. base at Bien Hoa, but did not cause enough damage to block traffic. (AP Radiophoto)

After Bombing Pause

Report Record Infiltration

SAIGON (AP) — The North Vietnamese moved a record high of 17,000 supply trucks along infiltration routes into South Vietnam during April, a U.S. military spokesman said Sunday.

His report of heavy truck movement followed by a day a report from other U.S. sources that the North Vietnamese had also increased their troop infiltration during April. This would cover the period since President Johnson ordered a bombing curtailment of North Vietnam March 31.

"With the bombing stopped north of the 20th parallel," one source said, "the North Vietnamese have a much better chance of getting troops down into South Vietnam."

The spokesman said he did not have any figures on troop infiltration. He added, however, that it could be deduced from the increased truck movement that troop infiltration had also

increased.

In Washington, administration sources said Sunday that, based on the latest intelligence reports, as many as 75,000 to 80,000 North Vietnamese soldiers have been moved toward South Vietnam in March and April.

That is almost as many as infiltrated into South Vietnam in all of last year, the sources indicated.

Previous U.S. figures showed troop infiltration into South Vietnam was running 6,000 to 6,500 a month.

Rocket Drops In—on Her Day Off

SAIGON (UPI)—A lean, little old Vietnamese lady usually lives in Room 502 in the apartment building at 40 Ngo Duc Ke in Saigon.

But Phan Thuan, a 63-year-old sleep-in cleaning woman in the apartment building, is off on Sundays. So Saturday evening she went home to her family on the outskirts of Saigon.

Less than eight hours later, the Viet Cong fired one of its biggest rockets, a 122mm projectile toward the center of Saigon.

The 6-foot, 4-inch rocket

whined over the heads of thousands of people as it coursed through the early morning sky. With a tremendous cracking explosion, the rocket smashed into the apartment house at 40 Ngo Duc Ke where hundreds of men, women and children lay sleeping.

It blew an 8-by-10-foot hole in the outer wall and demolished everything in the room—a bed, a bureau dresser and a chair. All that was left was a pile of bricks, beams, slabs of concrete and long strips of shrapnel from the rocket itself.

On any other night in the

week, Phan Thuan would have been sleeping in Room 502. Less than a month ago, an American lived there.

Two women and two little boys were sleeping in Room 501 next door, and in 503, on the other side, a woman and her two daughters were asleep when the rocket came in. No one received a scratch.

The women and the children, all howling with fear, stumbled over the rubble in the hallway and streamed down the stairs. They waited in the lobby for dawn to come.

A Shau Valley... 'That First Day Was Hell'

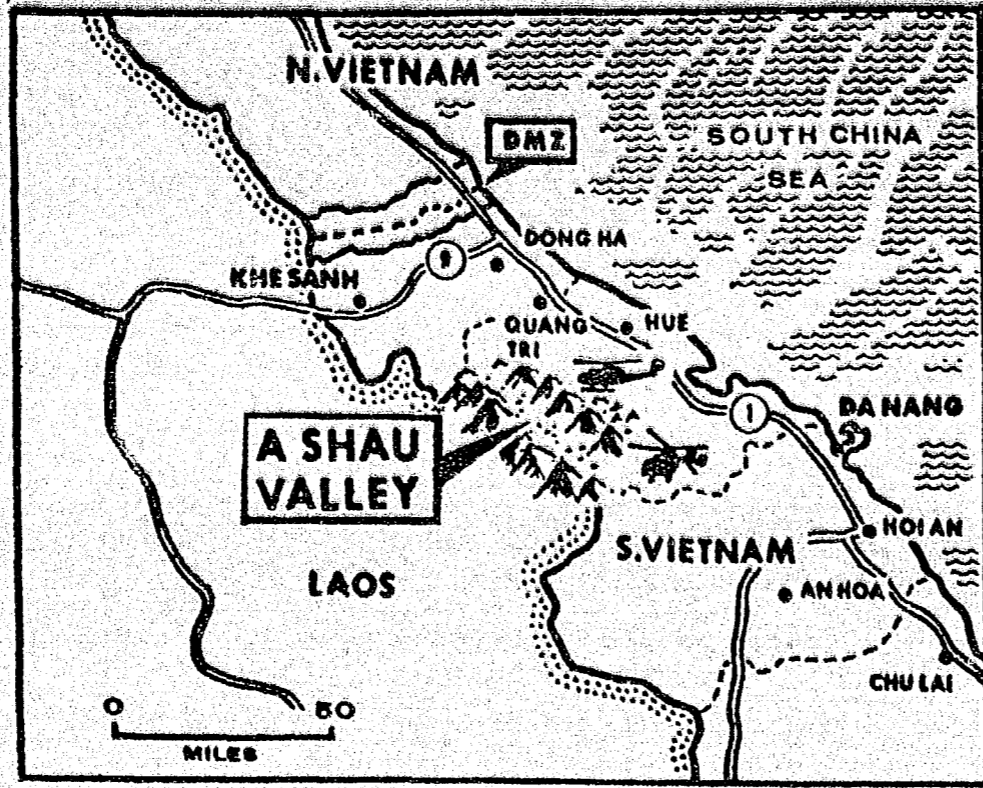
A SHAU VALLEY, Vietnam (AP) — "The fire was coming up so heavy it sounded like a steady roar. It was a solid red wall beside me."

Capt. Denny Miner of Harrisburg, Pa., tensed as he recalled that initial assault April 19 into this long, green valley near the Laotian border. Miner, a helicopter pilot in the 1st Air Cavalry Division, was in the first wave that entered the Communist stronghold.

American troops had not entered the valley in force for two years. North Vietnamese troops, using Russian-made anti-aircraft weapons, were in bunkers and ready.

Pilots here said 10 choppers were destroyed the first day by the enemy gunners and another 13 were hit so badly they just managed to limp back to base.

"That first day was hell," Miner said. "The fire was coming up so heavy it sounded like another engine running alongside. You know, usually the upcoming rounds make a cracking sound, you can hear, but this was a steady roar. I looked out the side window and it was a solid red wall beside me. All those tracers."



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Miner, red eyed from lack of sleep, paused. "We were so lucky. We didn't take a single hit."

Many of his friends were not so lucky. Machine gun fire from the North Vietnamese in bunkers blasted the tail of a ship directly in front of Miner. He had

to swerve sharply to miss the rotar blade that spun by him.

Across the valley, WO Larry Vought of Marlton, N.J., was flying a recovery ship. He watched helplessly as a stream of red tracer fire slammed into the copter near him.

"The copter just came down

in a long streak of fire. It exploded in the air and then again on the ground."

Another twin-bladed chopper heavily loaded with supplies took direct fire through its thin-skinned underbelly and plunged to the ground. Vought recalls seeing an explosion and figured the crew was lost.

But by some miracle, they were blown free and survived. Other rescue choppers coming in for them were waved off because of heavy fire from North Vietnamese troops. The four crewmen ran up the grassy hillside until they reached a position covered by 1st Cavalry troopers.

1st Lt. Richard E. Barrett of Belle Glade, Fla., went in with his chopper loaded with troops.

"Everything was coming up at us. It looked terrible out there. But you get kind of used to it. You accept the inevitability of it. You think, am I getting it this time?"

Skytroopers, as the 1st Cavalrymen call themselves, found light ground resistance once they got in position.

But the helicopters took a severe beating. Miner said it was the biggest loss of choppers in one day he could recall.

Another pilot on the first wave was WO Dale Fillmore of Pendleton, Ore. "It was just a curtain of fire out there. I looked ahead of me and there wasn't any place to dodge. You just had to go through it and hope for the best." He made it without a scratch.

But another ship in front of him took a bad hit and lurched so suddenly that one trooper was thrown out while the craft was still more than 100 feet up.

"The radio kept up a constant stream," Barrett recalled, "of stuff like this: 'I'm hit, going down. There's red smoke, what do they want? There's some yellow. I'm hit, going down'."

By the second day however, the anti-aircraft fire had fallen off sharply as wave after wave of Navy, Air Force and Marine jets pounded the positions and were followed by B52 bombers at night. With the exception of a couple of pockets, the A Shau Valley belonged to the 1st Cavalry after four days.

GIs Aid Stricken Villagers

DAK TO, Vietnam (IO) — A fire-scarred Montagnard village is being repaired rapidly, thanks to quick-reacting and compassionate men of the 1st Brigade, 4th Inf. Div.

The village, near the brigade command camp at Dak To, was nearly destroyed by flames which roared through tinder-dry wood and grass structures. Seventeen huts were leveled, leaving 450 Montagnards homeless.

Engineers from the 299th Engineer Bn. (Combat) sped to the scene and put out the fire.

The following day, plans were made to assist the stricken village. Medical teams from the 1st Bn., 8th Inf., and the 3rd Bn., 8th Inf., were sent to treat the injured and aid to the sick. Food and rice was donated along with plenty of canvas for makeshift shelters.

Lt. Col. William Tombaugh of Ft. Payne, Ala., 1st Bn., 8th Inf. commander set up a fund to help rebuild the village. Soldiers contributed more than \$750 to the fund and the money was put to work immediately.

The village was visited by Col. Richard H. Johnson of Beaumont, Tex., 1st Brigade commanding officer, and he saw that the villagers received gallon containers for cooking and water supply.

The 1st Brigade chaplains collected enough money to purchase 1,300 pounds of rice and the civil affairs section supplied clothes to the Montagnards.

Reds Routed; Ammo Seized

CUA VIET, Vietnam (ISO) — Using a series of swift thrusts, B Co., 1st Bn., 3rd Marines, captured large caches of North Vietnamese arms and equipment northwest of Dong Ha.

Sweeping north of the Cua Viet river to the Demilitarized Zone, B Co. forced North Vietnamese Army troops to pull out of the area without their stored arms and equipment.



Where There's Smoke . . .

A "Black Baron" smokeship from the 269th Aviation Bn. lays down a protective screen for incoming troop-copters. Waiting to be

picked up in the landing zone are troops of the 25th Inf. Div.'s 1st Bn., 27th Inf. (USA)

Captain Braves Mine Field To Rescue Wounded Soldiers

PHUOC VINH, Vietnam (IO) — A fast-acting captain rescued a wounded sergeant from an uncharted mine field near here.

A group of 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Div., paratroopers were clearing fields of fire and checking for booby traps when a sudden blast wounded several of them.

Capt. Fred Creapeau, Hqs. Co., 3rd Bn. (Abn.), 187th Inf., quickly took a bayonet from one of the men and began probing the ground.

He cleared a small path through 30 yards of an uncharted mine field to reach the wounded. "I could see that Sgt. (David) Norris, the farthest one out, was the most seriously wounded," Creapeau said.

Spec. 6 Wayne W. Hopson, a medic, arrived and directed Creapeau without entering the minefield.

"Just before I got out with the wounded man, I must have stepped off the path because I touched off another mine," Creapeau said, "but the weight of the man in my arms plus my own prevented it from discharging properly."

The blast of the primer charge threw both men to the ground. "As I started to get up, I noticed we had fallen between two other mines two feet away from us on either side," he said.

Having injured his knee, arm

and foot, Creapeau decided to wait for a helicopter to lift them out of the minefield.

The helicopter hovered 30 feet above the two men and lowered a wire stretcher.

Norris was placed in the stretcher by Creapeau and raised to the chopper.

The helicopter crew repeated the process until all of the wounded were evacuated. "If Capt. Creapeau hadn't been able to reach Sgt. Norris as quickly as he did, the sergeant might have easily bled to death," Hopson said later.

Malaysian Corpsmen Due

KOTA KINABALU, Malaysia (AP) — Another 16 American Peace Corps volunteers will arrive here in September to work in the state's tuberculosis unit, a spokesman for the volunteers said.

He said the 16—all university

graduates—will receive a three-month course in TB control before their arrival following a special request for their services by the Malaysian government.

There are 95 Peace Corps volunteers, mostly teachers, now working in Sabah.

Pilots Honor Fighter Wing

BIEN HOA, Vietnam (OI) — The American Fighter Pilots Association (AFPA) has selected the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, Bien Hoa AB, as the recipient of the first annual Gen. Gabriel P. Disosway Trophy as the outstanding Air Force tactical fighter wing.

Disosway presented the trophy, a large silver cup, to Col. Richard Catledge, former 3rd TFW commander. The presentation recently took place at the Annual American Fighter Pilots Association awards banquet in Atlanta, Ga.

The wing was cited for its accomplishments from March 1, 1967, to Feb. 29, 1968. "Throughout the year, the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing continued its role as leader and model in literally hundreds of diverse fields," read the citation accompanying the award.

As the Air Force's oldest active duty wing, the 3rd TFW is serving in its fourth war.

Reds Shell 120 Targets in New 'Tet' Try

(Continued From Page 1)
engaged an enemy force Sunday.

(The Pacific Stars & Stripes Vietnam Bureau reported the Viet Cong apparently tried to breach the Tan Son Nhut perimeter Monday morning but that the attempt was beaten off.

(Vietnamese troops were fighting in the area and were driving the VC toward the main gate of the airbase. Planes and helicopter gunships were hitting the Viet Cong. Vietnamese civilians were ordered out of the area.

(Vietnamese Marines were reported moving toward the Phu Tho racetrack. Fighting was reported north of the track.

(The outbreak near Tan Son Nhut was the only significant

fighting reported in Saigon Monday.)

The fresh attacks came less than a week before preliminary peace talks between the United States and North Vietnam scheduled for Paris next Friday. The apparent aim was to show the country and the world that the Viet Cong are everywhere and still to be dealt with.

U.S. officers attributed what they termed the lack of a heavy punch in the latest assaults to depleted Viet Cong ranks resulting from 60,000 enemy claimed killed in the last three months and a series of American and South Vietnamese spoiling actions, particularly around Saigon.

"This (the new attacks) was a poor substitute for the original Tet offensive," said Brig. Gen.

Winant Sidle, chief of information at U.S. Military Headquarters. "There is no doubt that our milling around the countryside has really messed this up for the enemy. It was a far cry from the Tet offensive."

Sidle added, however, "of course, they can rocket and mortar us again. It remains to be seen what they're going to do next. We're playing it safe. It doesn't look like they're going to do very much."

U.S. and South Vietnamese troops were ready for the latest assaults and were on 100 per cent alert.

Gen. William C. Westmoreland's headquarters termed the fresh assaults "harassing mortar and rocket attacks by fire."

"At least 122 locations were fired on during the night," a

U.S. communique said. "Initial casualty figures show 44 killed and 308 wounded. This includes both military and civilian. Most attacks consisted of a very few rounds."

Later, the casualty figures were updated to 49 killed and 360 wounded.

Saigon received 15 rounds of mortar fire in scattered sections of the city. One round hit near U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker's home, but he remained inside rather than being whisked away to a secret hideout as was the case in earlier attacks.

By mid-afternoon Sunday, fighting was reported in at least seven places either inside Saigon or on the fringes of the capital city. South Vietnamese Marines, Rangers and para-

troopers reported killing more than 200 Viet Cong in the series of clashes.

The heaviest fighting was centered in the slum areas of the Chinese Cholon quarter in southern Saigon, where 110 Viet Cong were reported killed by South Vietnamese paratroopers and Ranger units near the Phu Tho track. A U.S. Army helicopter gunship raking enemy positions in support of the government troops was shot down, but the crew escaped. Three other U.S. helicopters were also hit.

Also in Cholon, four news correspondents were killed by Viet Cong guerrillas while covering the street fighting.

The West German Embassy announced First Secretary Baron Hasso Ruedt von Collenberg was executed by Viet Cong during the fighting. His body was found near the race track.

A few blocks from the U.S. Embassy, Brig. Gen. Nguyen Ngoc Loan, head of the South Vietnamese National Police, was seriously wounded while leading an attack on Viet Cong snipers.

No U.S. installations inside Saigon were reported to have been hit.

"The countrywide attack had been anticipated," said Gen. Sidle. "It was exactly what we expected — many attacks by fire and very few on the ground."

Asked why the Communist command did not commit more troops to the fresh fighting, Sidle said, "we think we kept them from it."

U.S. troops from the 1st Inf. Div. reported killing 245 Viet Cong on the move Saturday 15 miles northeast of Saigon.

Despite the shelling of 122 locations, the only ground attacks launched were in Saigon and against the Bu Dop district headquarters, about 80 miles north of the capital and three miles from the Cambodian border.

U.S. Headquarters said about 300 Viet Cong attacked Bu Dop in pre-dawn darkness but withdrew 2½ hours later under a pounding by helicopter gunships. Sixteen enemy were reported killed and 16 weapons captured. South Vietnamese casualties were reported as light.

Westmoreland's headquarters said the Viet Cong mounted the largest number of shellings in the IV Corps area — the fertile Mekong Delta rice bowl south of Saigon. There were 36 shellings in the delta and nine provincial capitals were hit, including My Tho and Bentre.

At least 22 U.S. and South Vietnamese air bases were hit. One aircraft was reported destroyed and 27 others damaged.

Fire

(Continued From Page 1)

Ave., where a workshop, machine shop and storage area burned. In the storage area were motor car parts and military tanks. Norman Glazer, a co-owner with his brother Sherman, said the company manufactures truck trailers on a government contract. A quantity of grease in the area fed the flames.

Julius Lein, an employe working in the retail parts counter, said flames engulfed the machine shop before firemen were called.

The second fire at 24th St. and Forest Ave., damaged three houses, spreading to both houses adjacent to a vacant home where the flames began. Four companies of firemen fought the blaze in the houses, 15 others were at the auto company blaze.

22-Day Bell Strike Settled

WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of the Communications Workers of America (AFL-CIO) voted by a 5-3 margin Sunday to ratify new contracts and end a 22-day coast-to-coast strike, the union reported.

The new contract with the Bell Telephone System provides 19.8 per cent wage and fringe benefit increases by the end of the pact's 3-year life.

Union headquarters said tabulation of votes cast since Friday in 17 CWA units of the Bell Telephone System showed 54,680 members favoring the new three-year contract with 30,721 opposed.

The union spokesman said that 14 Bell System units endorsed the agreement—called by leaders the best ever reached in the industry—while the Michigan Bell System voted to reject.

About 200,000 workers were involved in the strike. But the new pact would apply to all the 400,000 CWA members employed by Bell. And its terms will provide a pattern for another 200,000 members of other unions who work for Bell.

This was the first nationwide telephone strike in 21 years.

Honor Thai Premier

EAST LANSING, Mich. (UPI) — Prime Minister Thanom Kittachorn of Thailand arrived here Sunday to receive an honorary doctorate degree from Michigan State University (MSU). Thanom will address an academic convocation and will be awarded his degree by MSU President John A. Hannah.

Weather

Asian Weather Central
TOKYO AREA

Monday Night: Cloudy, Showers; Low: 60s
Tuesday: Fair; High: Low 70s

TEMPERATURES

May 5					
	H	L			
Bangkok	86	75	Naha	81	79
Chitose	54	43	Saigon	91	79
Guam	83	76	Seoul	74	54
Manila	98	86	Tokyo	75	57
May 6					
	H	L			
Albany	49	51	L.A.	68	58
Atlanta	82	55	Melbourne	64	53
Boston	63	51	Memphis	81	62
Chicago	65	46	Miami	83	76
Cincinnati	52	47	Moscow	63	54
Cleveland	75	42	N. Orleans	79	62
Denver	72	40	NYC	69	57
Detroit	64	39	Paris	64	50
Fair Worth	81	61	Philo.	82	59
Hong Kong	84	77	Port., O.	62	42
Honolulu	82	74	Singapore	82	76
Houston	84	63	St. Louis	79	64
Jakarta	95	74	Salt Lake	75	41
Kansas City	74	48	San Fran.	58	50
K. Lumpur	93	74	Seattle	68	45
London	55	41	Wash.	85	60

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes
Tuesday, May 7, 1968



John O'Brien (left) and Richard Moose are welcomed at Orly Airport near Paris Saturday night by Serhan Valltmarescu (right), deputy public affairs officer of the U.S. Embassy. They were the first two members of the U.S. delegation to arrive for talks on Vietnam. (AP Radiophoto)

Paris—

(Continued From Page 1)
officials were not available for comment.

Violent student riots Friday which caused the temporary shutdown of the Sorbonne (University of Paris) stepped up speculation that the peace talks would be held at a chateau or mansion in the Parisian suburbs. More student demonstrations were expected Monday to protest against the arrests of some students and the closing of the Sorbonne and the faculty at suburban Nanterre.

Informants said word was expected here shortly from Washington and presumably Hanoi on which sites were acceptable.

Meantime, the two first members of the U.S. delegation to arrive, John O'Brien, deputy assistant secretary of state for public affairs, and Richard Moose, special consultant from the White House, conferred with U.S. Embassy officials on arrangements for press coverage of the peace talks.

U.S. sources said nearly 450 American press, radio and television newsmen were expected to be on hand for the parley.

There has been no official announcement here yet on the arrival date of Averell Harriman, head of the U.S. mission for the talks. Some informants predicted he would fly in Wednesday or Thursday.

Attack Won't Aid Reds, Ball Says

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Ambassador-designate to the U.N. George W. Ball said Sunday North Vietnam is "gravely mistaken" if it expects the latest Communist attacks in South Vietnam to improve its bargaining position in the Paris talks with the United States to start around Friday.

Ball said in a television interview that in giving him the U.N. post April 25, President Johnson asked that he work with him "also on the question of how the negotiations should be conducted with the North Vietnamese."

He said he had just talked with the President. He declared that in limiting the bombing of North Vietnam on March 31 to get the talks started, Johnson wanted "some kind of reciprocity" from the North Vietnamese, but "up to now there's been no evidence of that," and infiltration into South Vietnam set a record last month.

Besides, Ball continued, the attacks in South Vietnam "suggest that they may be following the same pattern" as with the 1954 Geneva conference in their war with the French, where "the day before the beginning,

Dien Bien Phu fell."

"Now if they think . . . that this kind of military operation is going to improve their bargaining position," Ball said, "then they gravely misconceive the attitude of the United States, the power of the United States and the determination of the United States to see an honorable settlement."

Ball was reminded that Hanoi wanted the Paris talks limited to unconditional cessation of all U.S. bombing and other acts of war against North Vietnam.

He replied that the United States had made it clear that "each side would present its point of view. What we're interested in is getting a process of negotiations started that can ultimately embrace much larger questions."

\$5 Mil. Bible Exhibit

WALTHAM, Mass. (AP)—A Bible collection valued at more than \$5 million has gone on display at Brandeis University. The exhibition depicts the evolution of art and scholarship in Medieval and Renaissance Bibles. The exhibit will be open to the public through June 10.