

# Conferees OK 10% Tax Hike

## PACIFIC STAR STRIPES

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Friday, May 10, 1968

## Nebraska Next Test For RFK

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (AP) — Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, D-N.Y., is ready to duplicate in next Tuesday's Nebraska primary the men, money and movement formula that landed him on top in Indiana's three-man Democratic presidential contest.

But the outcome in Nebraska of his basic contest with Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy, D-Minn., could be even less clearcut than the results of the massive effort which gave the New York sena-

Pictures on Pages 12-13; Ohio, Florida and Alabama results on Page 3.

tor 42 per cent of the Indiana Democratic vote.

With 99 per cent of the ballots counted, results of the Democratic vote were: Kennedy 320,485 (42 per cent); Gov. Roger Branigan 234,312 (31 per cent); McCarthy 209,165 (27 per cent).

Richard M. Nixon, alone on the Republican ballot, had 499,773 votes (100 per cent) with 98 per cent counted.

President Johnson's name remains on the Nebraska ballot, despite his March 31 announcement that he would not accept renomination. Friends are working quietly to mount a write-in campaign for Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey.

In the Nebraska foray, to be concentrated in weekend rounds, Kennedy will carry with him the controversy over the money he is spending in an attempt to duplicate the primary sweep that helped his brother, the late John F. Kennedy, win the party nomination in 1960.

Kennedy denied charges by State Democratic Chairman Gordon St. Angelo that his Indiana campaign expenditures approached the \$2 million figure. He said in an election night tele- (Continued on Back Page, Col. 4)



Willard Burdette sits with hands clasped at W.Va., as he awaits word of his brother, trapped entrance of flooded coal mine near Hominy Falls, with 24 other miners. (AP Radiophoto)

## 16 of 25 Miners Known Alive In Flooded W.Va. Coal Shaft

HOMINY FALLS, W.Va. (AP) — Only nine of the 25 miners trapped in the flooded passageway of a southeastern West Virginia coal mine are unaccounted for, rescue officials said Wednesday.

The number of those who have not been contacted since water flooded the mine at noon Monday was revised from 10 to nine by rescue directors.

Officials also said two brothers, Oscar and Otis Dillon, previously thought to be among those not contacted, were with another group one mile from the mine's entrance.

It will be at least Thursday evening before rescuers can bring out the 16 miners known to be alive in the water-filled mine, the president of the company that owns the mine said.

C. E. Richardson of the Maust Coal and Coke Co., told relatives and friends of the trapped miners at 6 p.m. that "it will be at least 24 hours" before the passageway is pumped out.

The 25 men were entombed when the wall of an adjoining abandoned mine cracked, filling a 2-mile long passageway with water.

The known survivors are in spaces that allow only a few to stand erect.

Joy reigned in a virtual tent city near this small mountain town as wives and relatives heard that Mrs. Elwood O'Dell and Mrs. Otis Junior Walton had talked to their husbands by a radio-telephone lowered 437 feet down a vertical airshaft drilled over night.

"They are all rooting for you," Mrs. O'Dell hollered to her husband. "Are you cold? How's your head and nose," she inquired.

Mrs. Walton asked her hus- (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate-House conferees agreed Wednesday night on a \$10 billion income tax increase and a \$6 billion cut in spending during the next year.

The tax would be in the form of a 10 per cent surcharge on existing taxes, as President Johnson proposed.

The \$6-billion spending cut is the figure passed by the Senate, which Johnson said was excessive and against the national interest.

There was no immediate indication when the compromise might be submitted to the House and Senate, but could not be earlier than next week since the conference did not finish work on the complex bill.

Chairman Wilbur D. Mills, D-Ark., told newsmen after a nine-hour interrupted session that he could announce two decisions — on the tax and spending levels.

He called the conference to reconvene Thursday afternoon.

Mills said the agreement included a spending ceiling of \$180.1 billion for the fiscal year beginning July 1, compared with a budget figure of \$186.1 billion.

The combination of tax in- (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

## Talk Won't Be Delayed —Paris

PARIS (UPI) — The United States and North Vietnam will open preliminary talks here Friday on schedule, the French Government announced Wednesday.

Information Minister Georges Gorse made the announcement immediately after a Cabinet meeting presided over by President Charles de Gaulle.

"If the talks are successful, they will be expanded immediately into full-scale peace talks," Gorse said.

"We understand the talks will start May 10 as scheduled," Gorse said. "We also understand there will be no transition between these preliminary talks and the real peace negotiations that are to follow."

He said the French Government believed full-scale peace talks would be held in Paris too, "in the same place and by the same negotiators."

Gorse noted that the two delegation chiefs — U.S. Ambassador-at-Large W. Averell (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

## Pope to Attend Bogota Meet

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Paul VI announced Wednesday that he would travel to Bogota, Colombia, in August for the 38th International Eucharistic Congress.

The Pope made the announcement to a crowd of pilgrims at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Basilica.

The trip will be the 70-year-old pontiff's sixth journey abroad since he became head

of the half-billion-member Roman Catholic Church in June 1964.

The trip to Bogota will be the longest for the Pope since he became the first pontiff to use jet travel. His previous longest journey was to Bombay in 1964 for the Eucharistic Congress.

The Pope had already named his official representative to the Congress — Giacomo Cardinal

Lercaro, former archbishop of Bologna.

He previously visited the Holy Land, the United Nations in New York, India, Portugal and Turkey.

The Bogota Conference, an international meeting of Catholic prelates to honor the Eucharist — the central mystery of the Catholic faith — will be held Aug. 15-25.

## Moms' Day Celebration

SAN QUENTIN, Calif. (AP) — Some 200 mothers will have breakfast with their sons and go to church with them in the San Quentin prison chapel on Mothers' Day, associate warden James Park said Tuesday.

Inmate sons are paying \$1 for each mother to cover the cost of the breakfast next Sunday. The sons will also present corsages to their mothers from flowers grown in the prison greenhouse.

# 'France Deserted Us, U.S. Won't'

SAIGON (AP)—Looking back at the 1954 Geneva Conference and ahead to the Paris talks, Foreign Minister Tran Van Do expressed the conviction Wednesday that "the United States will never abandon our country as France did."

"The situation in Paris will not be the same as it was in Geneva," said Do, who headed his country's delegation at Geneva. "France was beaten and wanted to get out. Today the military picture is far better. The United States is not France, and the whole world situation is different. What is at stake

today is not the colonial future of France but the peace and security of the whole Pacific area."

The 64-year-old foreign minister was interviewed on the 14th anniversary of the beginning of the talks in Geneva that brought about a cease-fire in the French-Indochina War.

He recalled that May 8, 1954, "was a very bad time for France." The garrison at Dien Bien Phu had fallen the day before, and in a little over a month the Joseph Laniel government would be toppled by Pierre Mendes-France, who had

promised a quick end to the fighting in Vietnam.

The Tet offensive and the current fight in Saigon, Do said, were Communist attempts to recreate the conditions of Dien Bien Phu, "using confusion and discouragement as a political rather than a military aim."

"In America some political leaders have grown weary of the war," said Do, "but Bob Kennedy is not the new Mendes-France. He knows if the United States abandons South Vietnam, the last barrier against Communism in Asia will have fallen, leaving two terrifying questions.

What will be the influence of the United States the world over, and can other undeveloped countries like us, in Asia, in Africa, trust the word of America?"

Do said he is "convinced and reassured" that America is going to Paris "in full knowledge that there the future of the Free World will be tested. America cannot any more take care of the rest of the world, she has her own problems at home, but she cannot let Russia and China between them divide the Asian world. Without Free World help, Laos would be gone in a day."

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

**KILLED IN ACTION**

- Army**
- SP5 Anuel Moore, Huntsville, Ala.
  - Pfc. Benny D. Cash, Wadsworth, Ala.
  - Pfc. Larry D. Kelley, Fullondale, Ala.
  - Pfc. Ronald E. Parr, North Birmingham, Ala.
  - 1Lt. Joseph L. Shreve Jr., Sacramento, Calif.
  - Sgt. Donny E. Hereau, North Hollywood, Calif.
  - SP4 Donald L. Musselman, Tulelake, Calif.
  - SP4 Thomas L. Twytard, Grover City, Calif.
  - Pfc. Walter K. Clarke, El Cajon, Calif.
  - Pfc. Thomas M. Halcombe, San Diego, Calif.
  - Pvt. Ashton H. Prindle, Greenwich, Conn.
  - Pfc. Gory L. Daniels, West Palm Beach, Fla.
  - Pfc. Geoffrey D. R. Saunders, Miami, Fla.
  - SP4 Steven M. McArthur, Coeur d'Alene, Ida.
  - SSg. Charles L. Frisby, East St. Louis, Ill.
  - Sgt. Paul L. Miller, Glendale Heights, Ill.
  - Cpl. John W. Lankford, Belleville, Ill.
  - Pfc. Nicholas L. Hollingsworth, Onarga, Ill.
  - Pfc. Joseph A. Maag Jr., Le Claire, Iowa.
  - Pfc. Robert L. Glenn Jr., Marrero, La.
  - Pfc. Edward A. Gafiney, Baltimore, Md.
  - Pfc. John P. Holcomb, Baltimore, Md.
  - Pfc. Richard S. Banks, Kalamazoo, Mich.
  - Sgt. William J. Seykora, Owatonna, Minn.
  - Pfc. Thomas G. Stricklin, Minneapolis, Minn.
  - Pfc. Eddie A. Gardner, Jackson, Miss.
  - SP4 Jerome Rawlings, Kirkwood, Mo.
  - SP4 George E. Peters Jr., Lodge Grass, Mont.
  - Sgt. William Jursza, Jr., Bayonne, N.J.
  - Cpl. Alexander Tate Jr., New York City.
  - SP4 Ben S. Bitel, Flushing, N.Y.
  - Pfc. John T. Inlhar, Jamestown, N.Y.
  - Pfc. George Lathan, Yonkers, N.Y.
  - SSg. Larry O. Copeland, Swepsonville, N.C.
  - Sgt. Eddie J. White, Barberton, Ohio.
  - SP4 Edward L. Perry, Fairborn, Ohio.
  - Pfc. Larry E. Lutz, Parma, Ohio.
  - Pfc. David L. Massa, Lexington, Ohio.
  - Cpl. Elmo L. Butler, Grove, Okla.
  - SSg. John B. Gligery, Lewisberry, Pa.
  - Cpl. Valentine A. Ochs, Sandy Lake, Pa.
  - Pfc. Lawrence J. Merschel, Wayne, Pa.
  - Pfc. Ronald E. Sprouse, Greenwood, S.C.
  - Pfc. Andrew L. McDoniel, Memphis, Tenn.
  - Sgt. Wayne L. Harland, Texarkana, Tex.
  - Cpl. George L. Maughan Sr., San Antonio, Tex.
  - Cpl. Willard A. Perry Jr., Brownwood, Tex.
  - SP4 Ralph Voss, Waco, Tex.
  - Pfc. James D. Cain, Hull, Tex.
  - Pfc. Milton A. Lee, San Antonio, Tex.
  - SSg. Celso N. Gomez Jr., Lower Graniteville, Va.
  - Pfc. Ronald E. Critzer, Schuyler, Va.
  - Pfc. Gerald D. Allon, Centralia, Wash.
  - SP4 Alfred M. Wolfe, Morgantown, W.Va.
  - Sgt. Charles W. Reberg, Casper, Wyo.
  - Pfc. Andrew J. Jobey, Niagara Falls, Ont.
  - Pfc. Herman B. De Leon, Agaña, Guam.
- Navy**
- HN Albert A. Peterson, Emporium, Pa.
  - FN Michael A. Burns, Amarillo, Tex.
  - RM3 Dale L. Kruse, Langview, Wash.
  - HM3 Marley R. Cowan, Kennewick, Wash.
  - SN Larry J. Leindecker, Antigo, Wis.
- Marine Corps**
- GYSgt. Manuel J. Gomez, Vallejo, Calif.
  - Sgt. Robert E. Anderson, Concord, Calif.
  - Cpl. Walter F. Barnes, Yucaipa, Calif.
  - Pfc. Mauro Martinez, Ft. Lupton, Colo.
  - Pfc. Thomas M. White, LaGrange, Ga.
  - LCpl. Kenneth C. Baxter, Council Bluffs, Iowa.
  - LCpl. Lawrence Williams, Davidsonville, Md.
  - 2Lt. Daniel J. Jaskiewicz, Grand Rapids, Mich.
  - LCpl. Robert P. Shellem, Atlantic City, N.J.
  - Pfc. William G. Butler Jr., Peach Bottom, Pa.
  - Pfc. Lawrence J. McRae, Bethlehem, Pa.
  - LCpl. Jimmie L. Grooms, Hopkins, S.C.
  - Sgt. Roy L. Gibson, Dallas, Tex.
  - Cpl. Dixie C. Berger, Houston, Tex.

## Saigon Civilian Toll 141

SAIGON (AP) — The Saigon government announced Wednesday night that 141 civilians have been killed and 1,230 wounded in fighting between Communist forces and allied units inside the capital since last Sunday.

South Vietnamese officials also reported that an estimated 29,000 persons have fled their homes.

The number of homeless reflects only those persons who are receiving some kind of assistance from the mayor's office and the National Refugee Ministry. Many presumably will return to their homes when the fighting dies down, officials said.

Most of the refugees and evacuees are housed in 19 schools, two churches and a pagoda in five of the city's districts where the fighting has been heaviest.

At the peak of the Communist Lunar New Year offensive in Saigon three months ago, an estimated 240,000 persons left their homes. Some 64,000 remain in temporary camps in the city, and another 18,000 in the neighboring suburb of Gia Dinh.



### 4th Day of Saigon Fighting

Vietnamese Rangers fire at Viet Cong positions through its fourth day. Smoke rises from burning in western Saigon as fighting in the capital went homes. (AP Radiophoto)

## Jets Destroy 114 Supply Trucks On Panhandle Road to South

SAIGON (AP)—U.S. Air Force bombers smashed 114 North Vietnamese trucks headed for South Vietnam with war supplies in raids in the southern panhandle Tuesday, military sources said Wednesday.

It was one of the biggest catches of the war.

Sources said some of the trucks were in convoys, while others were parked along the side of road. The biggest concentration, about 35 trucks, was caught 27 miles west of Dong Hoi. Dong Hoi is 40 miles north of the Demilitarized Zone.

Air Force F4 Phantom and F105 Thunderchief pilots raked the trucks with rockets, 20mm cannon fire and 500 and 750-pound bombs.

The bombs touched off 36 secondary explosions, 11 sustained fires and 18 fuel fires.

The Air Force crews also destroyed or damaged two armored vehicles, two surface-to-

air missile transports and three highway bridges.

U.S. pilots, flying through what they described as "heavy" anti-aircraft fire and surface-to-air missiles, logged 117 missions Tuesday.

The raids cost a Navy F4 Phantom downed near Vinh, 145 miles north of the Demilitarized Zone. The two crewmen were rescued by a Navy helicopter from a carrier in the Tonkin Gulf. It marked the 834th American warplane downed in com-

bat over North Vietnam.

U.S. military sources say that North Vietnam is taking advantage of President Johnson's curtailed bombing campaign to move record numbers of trucks and troops into the south.

Military spokesmen said a record 17,000 enemy supply trucks were sighted moving through the narrow southern part of North Vietnam and down the Ho Chi Minh trail through Laos during April while Johnson's curtailment order was in effect.

## Korean Troops Kill 12 Viet Reds

SAIGON (AP) — South Korean infantrymen and Marines killed 12 enemy troops in light, scattered action Tuesday in the central coastal section of South Vietnam, Korean headquarters reported.

The Korean command also reported that elements of the ROK White Horse Div., on Operation Dok-Su-Ri Back-Ma (Vulture-White Horse) Six, killed eight enemy since the operation began Sunday. The operation is being conducted 7 to 14 miles southwest of Ninh Hoa. No Korean casualties have been reported.

## Sailor's Wife Inherits a Boatload

TAFT, Calif. (UPI) — A Taft woman whose sailor-husband is serving in Vietnam said Wednesday she has learned she inherited \$2 million from an aunt she met only "once or twice as a child."

The aunt, Alice Sanders, died in London in 1966.

Mrs. Louise Amadisto, 28, a native of Morehead, Ky., said a London attorney handling the

estate contacted her last month and informed her of the inheritance. She said it includes a \$100,000 home and 500 acres of land near London.

"I never saw her (the aunt) but once or twice as a child," Mrs. Amadisto recalled.

She said she hasn't made any plans for the money. She said she told her husband, Leroy, 37, a career Navy man now serving

in Vietnam, about it and he asked her to wait until he returned home later this month before making a decision.

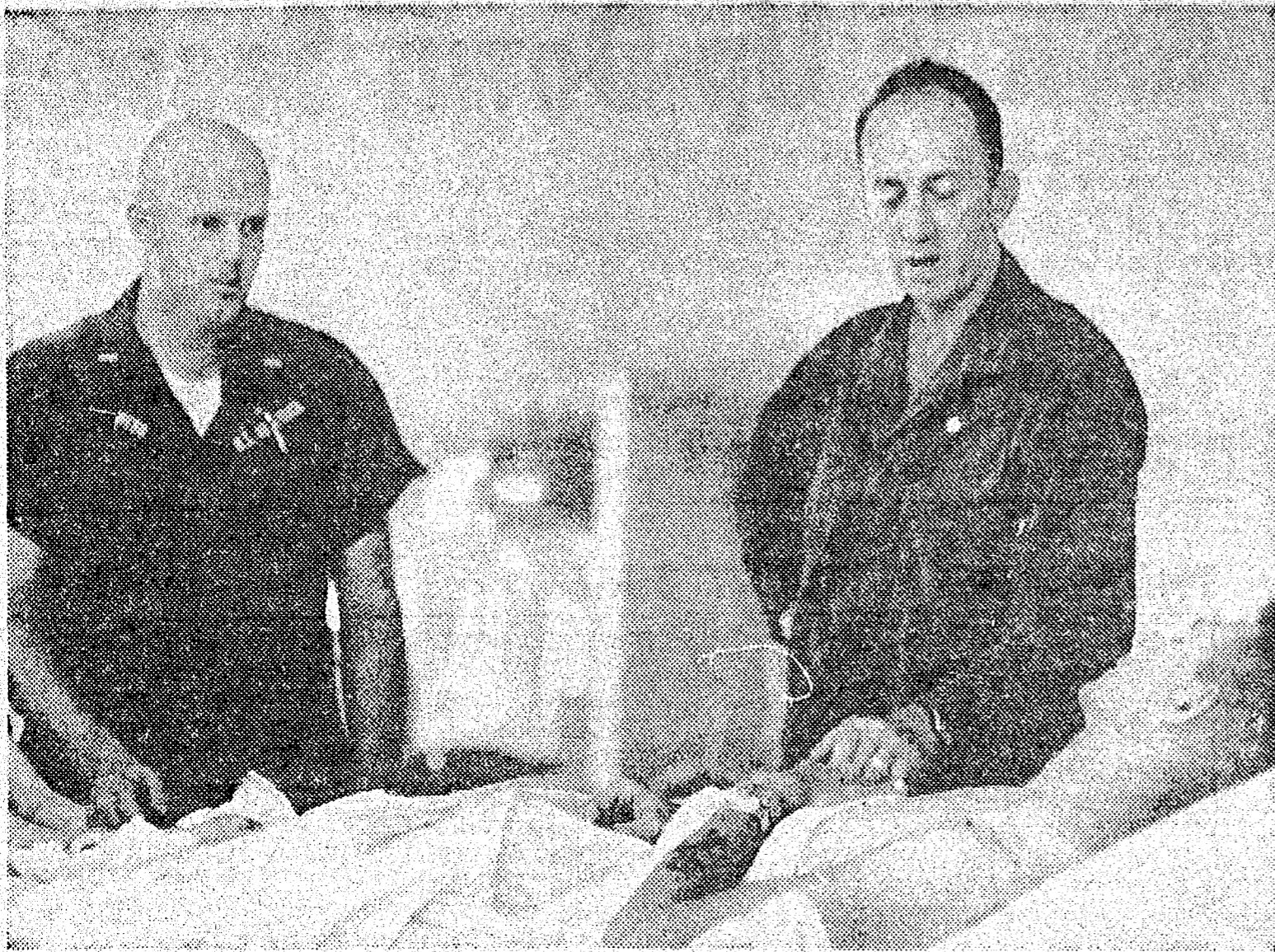
"I'm going to invest it in something," she said. "I don't know what, but I want to buy a business later on."

She blamed the delay in receiving notification of the windfall on a previous marriage and extensive travel.

- DIED OF WOUNDS**
- Marine Corps**
- Pfc. George Gregorius, Stockton, Calif.
  - Pfc. Jean H. Teeler, Medford, Ore.
- MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE**
- Army**
- SSg. Franklin R. Du Long, Chicago, Ill.
  - Cpl. Gene M. Burkell, Algonac, Mich.
  - Cpl. Alexander Tsiros, Lakewood, Ohio.
  - Pfc. Ronald E. Wilson, Columbus, Ohio.
  - Cpl. Robert D. Patterson, Leeburg, Pa.
  - Pfc. Joseph R. Bennett, Titusville, Pa.
  - Pfc. Fred A. Miller, Station, Tex.
  - SP3 Grover C. Wright Jr., Swords Creek, Va.
  - SP4 Lewis C. Nelson, Seattle, Wash.
  - SP4 Juan Gomez-Rivera, Caba Rojo, P.R.
- MISSING TO CAPTURED**
- Navy**
- LCdr. Edward D. Estes.
- DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- Sgt. Michael E. Santos, Monterey Park, Calif.
  - SSg. Robert Badcock, Clinton, Mass.
- Marine Corps**
- Pfc. Claude H. Green, Margaretville, N.Y.
- MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE**
- Army**
- CWO Dale A. Crull, Phoenix, Ariz.
  - SP4 Anjela J. Apriliano, Valley Falls, N.Y.
  - CWO Robert L. Brown, Mineral Wells, Tex.
- MISSING NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- SP5 Richard Cardinoli.
- CORRECTION**
- Pfc. Grady Scott, USA, Change Status from missing to dead—non hostile to missing to dead—hostile.

**Rejects German Reds**

GENEVA, Switzerland (UPI) —The World Health Organization (WHO) Wednesday overwhelmingly voted against a proposal to admit East Germany to membership.



Maj. Roger M. Peterson (right), chief nurse at the Da Nang dispensary, and 1st Lt. Kenneth J. Webb talk with a patient about his progress at the Da Nang Dispensary. (S&S)

## Male Nurse Corps Growing

# Angels of Mercy Can Be Men

By MGY. SGT. J. T. FRYE  
S&S Staff Correspondent

DA NANG, Vietnam — Male nurses have been in the Air Force only a dozen years, but today they make up 10 per cent of the Nurses Corps.

In Vietnam the percentage is much higher. At Da Nang Air Base Dispensary, five of the 15 nurses are men. Before January they were all male because of the lack of facilities and quarters for women.

Chief Nurse at Da Nang is Maj. Roger M. Peterson who has been in the Corps almost 12 years. He was the 68th male nurse commissioned. Now there are about 400.

Besides his nursing staff, Peterson supervises 53 medical technicians in the 198-bed, class-

A dispensary and casualty staging facility. The wounded of all branches are brought in treated, and processed for movement to down-country hospitals or to Japan, the Philippines, Guam and the U.S.

Some of Peterson's biggest problems involve coordinating the movement of patients to meet planes. It's also impossible to plan ahead. In January, for instance, 1,800 men were treated, in February, 3,850. The March figure was 2,700, and in April it dropped to 2,150.

Male nurses meet the same educational requirements as their feminine counterparts — three years training and a state license.

Peterson, of Malone, N.Y., took his training at New York's

St. Lawrence State Hospital in Ogdensburg.

Most of the officers come from Pennsylvania or New York, according to the major, because these states pioneered in coeducational nurses training programs.

Three of the five officers have their BS degrees in nursing.

First Lt. Kenneth J. Webb of Chester, Calif., graduated from Chico State and received his training at San Francisco City and County Hospital.

Peterson says many of the men join the Nurses Corps expressly for duty in Viet Nam.

And plenty of duty they get. They average about 60 hours a week in the dispensary. During the Tet attacks many worked more than 100.

## Red 'Mailman' Comes Late

PHU BAI, Vietnam (IO) — The North Vietnamese Army postal service suffered a setback north of here recently when one of its couriers stumbled onto a company of 101st Airborne Div. paratroopers.

The infantrymen from B Co., 2nd Bn. (Abn.), 327th Inf., moved out from their camp early one morning to a new area of operation.

As lunch time approached, each platoon took turns eating and standing local security for the command element. Pfc. James W. Rucker was watching a trail parallel to the one the paratroopers were using.

"I looked up and saw an NVA soldier with a weapon at sling arms walking straight toward me," he said. "I quietly reached for the safety on my M16."

The NVA messenger saw the paratrooper. But his attempt to fire his AK47 was thwarted by Rucker's quick reactions and accurate shooting.

"Besides the AK47, we found documents on the body pertaining to enemy activities in the area including detailed maps," said Capt. James G. Shepard, company commander.

## University Reopens

MADRID (AP) — The University of Madrid, closed March 28 following student-police incidents, has reopened.

# Viet Baby Named After Leatherneck

DA NANG, Vietnam (ISO) — A 21-year-old Marine from Clinton, Conn., has living proof of his success in working with the Vietnamese people in the Combined Action Program.

Cpl. Robert Raiola, assistant squad leader in a combined action platoon near Tam Ky, is building a reservoir for the village of Ly Tra. But the living proof of his success is a week-old boy in the village who has been named Bob in his honor.

Raiola's reservoir began when he discovered a natural spring just outside the platoon compound. It feeds into the nearby rice paddies. Since water is a high priority item in the sandy-soil area he decided to build a reservoir rather than let it seep away unused.

He contacted Seabee friends and the bulldozing tasks began. The corporal's military specialty is demolitions so he put his skill to work by blasting part of the reservoir.

Next he began digging the dam.

"This has been the hardest part so far," said Raiola. "We don't have the right materials and the dam keeps breaking."

According to Raiola the village has been most receptive to the Americans. He attributes

this partly to the fact that their land is productive.

He said the reservoir will help them irrigate and plan their crops better.

Raiola's squad is integrated with a 35-man Vietnamese Popular Force unit. Their mission is to provide security for the village they live in from the Viet Cong.

Each squad is made up of 13 Marines and 1 Navy Hospital Corpsman.

The corporal, like all Americans in the program is a volunteer. According to Marine headquarters, some 60 per cent of them have extended their tours in Vietnam from six months to a year.

# Ship Rescues Ditched Jet Officer

WITH THE 7TH FLEET OFF VIETNAM (PAO) — On a routine coastal surveillance off the coast of South Vietnam, the destroyer escort Forster recently rescued a radar intercept officer of an Air Force F4 Phantom.

A bridge lookout, Seaman George Bunch, spotted the F4 in a steep dive, apparently out of control. Moments later a parachute opened a few miles off the Forster's right side.

# Airman Braves 'Cook-Off' Threat To Save Phantom

SAIGON (OI) — "It was a job that had to be done, so I did it," Airman I.C. James E. Mordecai, 22, of Indianola, Miss., said after risking his life to save a multi-million dollar aircraft.

Five F4 Phantoms laden with bombs and other ordnance, were taking off for an air strike in the southern panhandle of North Vietnam.

Mordecai, a weapons specialist with the 13th Tactical Fighter Sq., observed one of the Phantoms abort its takeoff and come to a halt on the runway, leaving a trail of smoke from a blown tire.

He jumped into a munitions loader and headed across the field to the smoking fighter.

The F4 had a full fuel load, including external wing tanks. The bomb clusters were just five feet from the smoking wheel assembly.

As Mordecai approached the aircraft, the left tire and wheel assembly burst into flames. Without hesitation, he dashed under the aircraft to disarm the bombs by removing the sensitive fuses.

"I was afraid those bombs would 'cook-off.' If they reach a certain temperature they can explode, and that would make quite a hole in the runway."

Faced with extreme heat and the possibility of the fuel tanks or bombs exploding, Mordecai disarmed the bombs in minimum time.

When asked what went through his mind, he replied, "I was hoping the fire department wouldn't spray me with foam while I worked on the bomb load."

## Unit Award Goes to Wing

UDORN ROYAL THAI AB, Thailand (OI) — The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award was presented to the 432nd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing here by Lt. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commander of 13th Air Force.

The award was presented for "exceptionally meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an opposing force in Southeast Asia from Sept. 1966 to Sept. 1967."

During the ceremony, Davis said, "The job that you have done has been a hazardous one, it has also been one that has been the basis for the successful combat operations with 7th Air Force during the course of this war. Without your job the rest of it could not have been done."

## Officer Is Unit's Big Gun

DAU TIENG, Vietnam (IO) — A forward observer for A Co., 2nd Bn., 10th Inf., had to resort to hand-hurled artillery during a reconnaissance in force some seven miles west of Saigon.

The 3rd Brigade, 25th Inf. Div. unit ran up against a U-shaped complex of Viet Cong tunnels and reinforced bunkers. Enemy forces were well dug in and opened up on the company.

Ordering his men to draw back, the company commander asked that immediate artillery fire support be ordered by his forward observer, 1st Lt. Martin Beach.

Beach was unable to comply, however, because his radio operator was pinned down.

Seizing an armload of grenades, Beach charged the enemy complex, scattering fragmentation devices into Viet Cong spider holes, bunkers and tunnels. Lending fire support to the lieutenant's charge were Sgt. Nat Taylor and 1st Lt. Charles Mohr.

At the conclusion of the action, the unit had successfully blotted out the enemy stronghold, with a confirmed body count of 18. The company also captured three AK50 and five AK47 assault rifles, and one 175mm recoilless rifle.

Asked what had happened to his artillery, Beach replied, "It was all the artillery I had, sir."

## AF Dispensary Gets Lab Award

TUY HOA, Vietnam (OI) — The laboratory section of the 31st U.S. Air Force Dispensary at Tuy Hoa AB has received a 1968 "Program of Excellence" award from the College of American Pathologists.

The award followed an examination evaluating the facilities and procedures in the Air Force laboratory.

A total of 15 sample problems covering all phases of the laboratory field were submitted by the College for evaluation.

# Reds Hold Out in West Saigon; 2,000 Slain

SAIGON (AP)—Street fighting flared on Saigon's western edge for the fourth straight day Wednesday.

The U.S. Command said more than 2,000 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese soldiers had been slain in the last three days in heavy fighting in and around the capital.

But despite the alleged heavy losses, Communists held out bitterly on the western edge of the city and in other scattered pockets of the capital.

Two Viet Cong flags, red and blue with a yellow star in the middle, fluttered defiantly atop power poles in the Chinese Cholon section of western Saigon. One

now only 500 yards from a government police station.

(UPI reported heavy fighting in Cholon touched off a fire early Thursday that swept through at least four blocks of homes. Government spokesmen reported the city had been quiet most of the night but fighting flared again at daybreak.)

U.S. headquarters said American and South Vietnamese forces killed 2,002 enemy soldiers in Saigon and on the fringes of the capital since the new Communist attacks on the city were launched last Sunday.

U.S. casualties were reported as 30 killed and 323 wounded. South Vietnamese

casualties were put at 181 killed and 666 wounded.

U.S. helicopter gunships slammed rockets into enemy positions in western Saigon while fighter-bombers pounded enemy infiltration routes farther west.

(Pacific Stars & Stripes Vietnam Bureau reported troops of the 9th Inf. Div. killed 113 Communists in house-to-house fighting on the outer fringes of Saigon Wednesday.)

(The 3rd Bn., 39th Inf., came under intense enemy fire from houses near the Kinh Doi Canal, a major waterway serving Saigon, as they rushed to cut off Communists attempting to enter the city.

(In savage street fighting, the 9th Div. soldiers killed 47 VC before the remaining Reds took to housetops to snipe at the Americans.)

(Helicopter gunships were called in to blast the Reds with miniguns and rockets. According to reports the gunships devastated the area.)

(In two days of heavy fighting just outside Saigon proper, 9th Div. troops have killed 312 Reds trying to enter the city.)

Enemy rockets hit Da Nang in northern South Vietnam Wednesday night, but apparently caused no damage or casualties.

## Talks—

(Continued From Page 1)

Harriman and North Vietnam's former Foreign Minister, Xuan Thuy—were to arrive in Paris Thursday.

"I see no reason why the opening of the talks should have to be postponed," Gorse said.

He said he believed Hanoi had approved the French Foreign Ministry's international conference center, the former World War II Gestapo headquarters for Paris, as the scene of the talks.

However, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said this approval had not yet been received, "although we regard this as a mere formality."

The United States announced its approval Monday.

Gorse ruled out any French attempt to mediate or otherwise interfere in the talks. He dismissed suggestions that Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville might preside at the opening session.

However, he said France will provide "what material help she can to ensure a smooth conference."

Despite French optimism about the talks starting on time, American officials said a formal opening session may be held Friday to get them under way but the real negotiations may not begin until Monday.



## Thai Leader, Johnson Return Smiles

Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn of Thailand (left) and President Johnson greet spectators at White House welcoming ceremonies for the Thai leader. Story on Page 5. (AP Radiophoto)

## Surcharge—

(Continued From Page 1)

crease — applying both to corporations and individuals — and spending cuts would be calculated to reduce by \$16 billion a budget deficit that has been estimated as high as \$35 billion.

For months the administration and the Federal Reserve Board have been urging deficit-shrinking action to ward off inflation at home and bolster faith in the dollar abroad, ending any suspicion that it would be devalued.

Mills said the effective date of the tax increase would be as specified in the Senate-passed bill. This would be retroactive to Jan. 1 for corporations and April 1 for individuals.

The tax increase would expire June 30, 1969, unless extended by Congress.

## Miners—

(Continued From Page 1)

band whether he was "keeping warm and dry." Both men reported they were in good condition and anxiously awaiting rescue.

Meanwhile, the fate of the 9 other miners farther back in the mine remained unknown. They have not been heard from since tons of water poured into the mine Monday.

Ten giant pumps are sucking an estimated 3,200 gallons of water from the darkened mine each minute.

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes  
Friday, May 10, 1968

## RFK Tops Humphrey in D.C.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Robert F. Kennedy defeated Vice President Hubert Humphrey in their first primary confrontation Tuesday night and captured the District of Columbia's 23 votes to the Democratic National Convention.

The Kennedy ticket also took an early lead in races for national committee posts, but other contests that could give the New Yorker control over the local Democratic organization were in doubt and might not be

known until an official canvass of the vote.

Although it was not a presidential preference vote, all 21 members of a slate supporting the New Yorker increased their leads over Humphrey backers as hundreds of college student volunteers counted the lengthy paper ballots.

Because of the outmoded ballots final results often are delayed for days.

A spot check also showed Democrats voting 10-to-1 for a

unit rule that will bind all convention delegates to the majority will.

On the Republican side, an organization slate supporting former vice president Richard M. Nixon and New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, won easily over a slate weighted heavily toward California Gov. Ronald Reagan.

## Old Gunner's Mates Hold a Blast for Harry

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Former President Harry S. Truman missed a great party Wednesday celebrating his 84th birthday.

For the second year Truman did not attend the luncheon in a downtown hotel, which this year drew more than 250 friends and admirers.

Although reported in good health, the nation's 33rd President spent the day at his rambling frame home in suburban Independence receiving congratulatory phone calls, flowers and gifts.

Undaunted by Truman's ab-

sence, the all-male luncheon audience proceeded to serenade, praise and pray for the former chief executive just as if he were there.

"Happy Birthday Mr. President" read icing on a big white cake topped by the pink figures "84."

Special labels on bottles of sherry read "The Man of Peace" and bore a seal proclaiming "84 and going on 100."

The program paused at a one point while a dozen old comrades of Truman in Battery D from World War I rose and roared, "Hurrah Truman."

## Surprise Death in Heart Case

HOUSTON, Tex. (AP) — One of the three men who underwent heart transplants within five days of each other died Wednesday.

A St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital announcement said James Cobb, 48, died unexpectedly.

"The transplanted heart was not rejected and functioned well until the unforeseen complications occurred," the announcement said.

The cause of death was not known but the hospital said Cobb, who received the heart of a 15-year-old boy Sunday, was believed to have died because of liver and kidney failure.

Meanwhile, the other two patients remained in satisfactory condition.

The latest heart recipient, J. M. Stuckwisch, 62, was either "dead or dying" when the heart of a 36-year-old man was implanted in his chest Tuesday, a hospital official said.

The heart of Clarence A. Nicks, who was beaten in a tavern April 23, was transplanted in Stuckwisch's chest in 20 minutes.

The question of when the donor was medically and legally dead arose as Dr. Denton A. Cooley prepared to lead the surgical team in the Stuckwisch operation.

Joseph Jachimczyk, Harris County medical examiner, said Nicks was pronounced dead at 10:30 a.m. by Dr. Pedro Caram.

Caram said an electroencephalograph showed absence of any brain waves. A respirator was used to keep the donor's heart viable before it ceased to function at 1:58 p.m., a hospital spokesman said.

## Weather

Asian Weather Central

TOKYO AREA

Thursday Night: Fair; Low: 41

Friday: Fair; High: 73

TEMPERATURES

May 8		May 9	
H	L	H	L
Bangkok	96 76	Naha	73 59
Chitose	64 30	Saigon	93 77
Guam	81 74	Seoul	73 41
Hokuzo	59 45	Taipei	79 68
Manila	94 79	Tokyo	55 52
May 8		May 9	
H	L	H	L
Albany	64 34	Melbourne	72 57
Albuquerque	65 40	Memphis	80 52
Amarillo	70 46	Miami	80 72
Atlanta	75 47	Millwaukee	59 46
Birmingham	79 47	Moscow	73 64
Bismarck	47 41	N. Orleans	82 47
Bolse	65 35	NYC	68 44
Boston	61 45	N. Platte	58 39
Chicago	72 50	Okla. City	71 53
Cincinnati	73 40	Omaha	60 51
Cleveland	66 30	Paris	57 34
Denver	60 35	Phila.	67 38
Des Moines	58 32	Phoenix	88 50
Detroit	64 36	Pittsburgh	63 27
Duluth	60 40	Port., O.	64 38
Fairbanks	57 37	Rapid City	57 37
Fort Worth	82 67	Reno	71 25
Hong Kong	90 78	Richmond	70 37
Honolulu	83 66	Singapore	90 76
Houston	80 70	St. Louis	76 51
Jackville	83 45	Salt Lake	60 30
Jakarta	91 75	S. Antonio	74 70
Kansas City	67 55	San Diego	62 52
K. Lumpur	91 74	San Fran.	66 48
Las Vegas	82 48	Seattle	62 44
London	50 44	Shreveport	78 60
L.A.	72 54	Sydney	70 49
Louisville	74 46	Wash.	68 42