



# SEA TIGER



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III Marine Amphibious Force, Vietnam

November 24, 1967

## 32 Year Marine Veteran

# 3rd Division CG Killed in Helo Crash

PHU BAI—Major General Bruno A. Hochmuth, 56, commander of the 3rd Marine Division since March 18, was killed in a helicopter crash northwest of Hue, Nov. 14.

The general, three crew members, a Division staff officer and a Vietnamese interpreter were killed in the UH-1E Huey copter accident, just west of Highway 1 at noontime.

The pilot of the accompanying "chase" helicopter reported the general's aircraft exploded in mid-air, breaking into two parts. The cabin portion landed upside down in shallow water.

A reaction force from the Fourth Marines, located at nearby Camp Evans, quickly arrived at the site about seven miles from Hue. A cable was attached to the cabin section from the chase plane. It was rolled over in hopes that survivors might be breathing in the air space of the submerged portion.

Gen. Hochmuth had been visiting the commanding general of the Vietnamese Army's 1st ARVN Division and was returning to his headquarters at Phu Bai when the accident occurred.

An investigation is underway to determine the cause of the crash.

This tour marked the second war Gen. Hochmuth had participated in with 3rd Division Marines. A veteran of 32 years Marine service, the general was in World War II as commanding officer of the 3rd Bn., Fourth Marines in the Okinawa campaign.

During the late '30s he had spent two and one half years with the Fourth Marines before

being transferred in September 1940. Following a Stateside assignment at Quantico, Va., he moved to the Pacific area in May 1944, as assistant operations officer with the 3rd Am-

phibious Corps in the campaigns at Saipan and Tinian.

As executive officer of the Fourth Marines, he made the initial landing on Japan, August 1945, and attended the formal

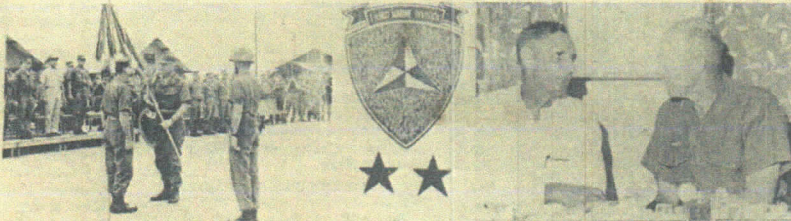
surrender ceremony at Yokosuka.

From August 1955 to August 1956 he was again with the Division as the G-4 in Japan and later on Okinawa.

On Nov. 15, 1963, MajGen. Hochmuth became Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif.

During May 1965, the University of San Diego conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, upon the general in recognition of his contributions to higher education and to the welfare of the citizenry of the United States and the San Diego community.

Gen. Hochmuth is survived by his wife, the former Mary Stovall of Houston and two daughters. His father, Walter E. Hochmuth, resides in Houston.



1911

MAJGEN. BRUNO A. HOCHMUTH

1967



On November 14, the Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force issued the following statement:

"The loss today of Major General Bruno Hochmuth was for me a great personal as well as professional tragedy. We entered together as 2nd Lieutenants and served together on numerous occasions during the past 32 years as the closest of friends. His courage under fire, his tenacity and sense of purpose, his unyielding devotion to duty marked him as a born leader and an outstanding Marine. I join in mourning his untimely passing with those many friends and comrades in arms who have known him and worked with him. We also join in sending the deepest sympathy and condolence to his family in this time of their bereavement.

R. E. CUSHMAN JR.  
Lieutenant General

## MajGen. R. M. Tompkins Named 3rd Marine Division Successor

DA NANG — Major General Rathvon McC. Tompkins, has been named as the new commander of the 3rd Marine Division according to a Headquarters Marine Corps announcement.

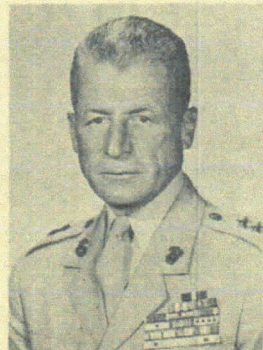
The 55-year-old veteran of more than 32 years Marine service was the Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., at the time of the announcement.

This marks the second time in less than a decade the general has been with the 3rd Division. In April 1958, then - Colonel Tompkins, arrived in the Far East for duty as Chief of Staff, 3rd Marine Division, in Okinawa. The following April he became Assistant Division Commander until June 1959.

Gen. Tompkins received the Navy Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star and Purple Heart for actions during World War II in the

Pacific. He received a Gold Star in lieu of a second Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" during the Korean War.

The general received the Navy



Cross for extraordinary heroism while commanding a Marine infantry battalion of the 29th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, on Saipan, June 17, 1944.

Earlier he had been awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement on Guadalcanal. Subsequently, during landing operations on Tarawa, he earned the Silver Star Medal for conspicuous gallantry in rescuing seven wounded Marines under continuous enemy fire, Nov. 20, 1943. Following the June 1944 action in which he garnered the Navy Cross as commander of the 1st Bn., Twenty-ninth Marines, he was wounded by shell fragments on Saipan, and later evacuated to the United States for hospitalization.

The general is a native of Boulder, Colo., completed high school in South Kent, Conn., and was graduated from the University of Colorado in 1935.

## Sgt. Escapes Near Disaster

DA NANG — "All I could hear was bullets hitting the dirt around my head," recalled Sgt. Douglas M. Mudgett (Mount Vernon, N.Y.), "K" Co., 3rd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, describing a patrol when he "almost got it."

"We had gone into Cam Van (1) and Cam Van (2) villages outside our lines to check out the huts for Viet Cong," he said. "After we left the village, they hit us."

"We had wounded one of them, an officer, in the village and we were trailing him. We lost his trail near the river and doubled back."

The lieutenant in charge of the patrol was the first to relocate the blood trail and turned into the treeline to follow it. He went only a few steps before being shot.

Mudgett was just behind the lieutenant and started firing as he jumped to one side, fell to the ground and started rolling to get away from the VC slugs.

"I knew he was going to get me if I didn't keep moving, so I kept rolling and fired each time I came up on my stomach. I finally hit him in the chest and

(Continued on Back Page)

First Sergeant Michael Canter (Pasadena, Calif.), senior enlisted aide to Gen. Hochmuth was selected to escort the general's body to the United States for burial. 1stSgt. Canter had known the general since 1938.

Memorial services for Gen. Hochmuth were held Nov. 16 in the 3rd Division Memorial Chapel, Division Chaplain, Navy Capt. R.C. Fenning was to officiate at the 30-minute services.

Other Marines killed with Gen. Hochmuth were:

Major Robert A. Crabtree, Division staff officer, (Fairfax, Va.).

Capt. Milton G. Kelsey, pilot with Marine Observation Squadron-3 (VMO-3), (Madelia, Minn.).

1stLt. Thomas A. Carter, pilot with VMO-3, (Clearwater, Fla.).

Cpl. Ronald Phelps, crew chief with VMO-3, (Menominee, Mich.).

## Marines Win Fight for Life

DONG HA — Acts of bravery are commonplace among combat Marines, but the men of "Bravo" Co., Fourth Marine Regiment found that when the chips are down, every man can become a hero.

The unit was patrolling a jungle trail north of Hill 674, near Camp Evans, when they prematurely sprang a North Vietnamese ambush.

"The fire was so thick," said Sgt. John E. Estes (Rockledge, Fla.), "that it took guts to get up and return fire. They hit us with everything."

The NVA ambush was sprung when the Marine's 1st platoon decided to recon the site by fire. Three men were hit immediately by the initial burst of enemy automatic weapons fire. The rest of the platoon began fighting for their lives.

The enemy was dug in on both sides of the trail, only 25 meters away. As they raked the trail with deadly automatic weapons fire, other NVA soldiers fired 60mm mortars and RPC (rockets) rounds. The Marines hit the deck where they were and returned fire.

A corpsman started running

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# SEA TIGER

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# Navy Chaplains Corps-1967

The Navy Chaplain Corps history is as old as the Navy itself. It was on November 28, 1775, under article two of the regulations for the Continental Navy that the Corps was founded.

William Balch was the first chaplain to be commissioned in the Navy. He held no service rank as we know today. It was not until 1899 that chaplains were appointed to rank and it was usually that of lieutenant.

Since its founding the Chaplain Corps has contributed much in creating a better way of life for all seafaring men. Chaplains were instrumental in the founding of the Naval Academy, elimination of flogging in the Navy and the establishing of various welfare and recreation programs. Chaplains were also responsible for introducing modern laundry machinery aboard naval vessels.

Like their predecessors today's Navy Chaplains, armed with faith, trust in God and the teachings of the American Churches they represent, continue to serve their vast and varied congregations.

After a history of almost two centuries, the Corps boasts a strength of nearly 1100 chaplains. This number, which includes the augmentation requirement to meet the Vietnam crisis, is the largest the Corps has reached since the days of World War II. One-third of the Navy Chaplain Corps has come on active duty within the past 36 months.

Today, the Navy Chaplain Corps represents 47 of America's 252 religious denominations. Naval Forces in Southeast Asia are being provided with the most comprehensive religious coverage in the history of naval warfare.

Navy Chaplains are accompanying Marine battalions into combat areas no matter how hazardous or demanding, and are taking with them the ministry of the American Churches they represent. They provide opportunity for worship; they minister to the wounded and the dying; they counsel the confused, the lonely, the depressed; they lecture on Vietnamese religious customs to help militarymen understand and appreciate their Vietnamese allies.

Every Marine and Seabee in Vietnam has ready access to his chaplain. He can count on his chaplain being wherever he is, bringing the ministry of the Church into the field, to him personally. If wounded, he knows without question that one of the first persons he will see, either where he falls or at the field hospital, will be a Navy Chaplain. He will be there to see him through his hour of crisis.

Offshore with the fleet Navy Chaplains are assigned to every type command. Chaplains are

serving on every carrier and every cruiser in Southeast Asia. They ride destroyers and ships of the Amphibious Force, Service Force and Mine Force. Ships without chaplains attached are being provided for by Navy Chaplain circuit riders.

Many Navy Chaplains who have served and are serving in Vietnam have been decorated for heroism or meritorious achievement. The decorations bestowed upon Navy Chaplains during the nearly three years of action in Vietnam include: Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", and Secretary of the Navy Commendation for Achievement.

Without exception all citations accompanying the awards refer to the Navy Chaplains as being conscientiously engaged in carrying out their religious ministry when they distinguished themselves by heroic acts or meritorious achievements.

In response to duty in Vietnam, virtually every chaplain who has served there has assessed it as, "My most meaningful ministry since I was ordained." In Vietnam, the religious ministry of Chaplains enjoys a high degree of respect. This is reflected by the dedication of over 50 American Chapels in Vietnam. The troops themselves provided the initiative and the construction of the majority of the chapels.

First and foremost, the Navy Chaplain is concerned about his religious ministry.

It is the Divine Being, continually active in human affairs, whom the Chaplain seeks to reveal through his ministry and whose sovereign will he seeks to relate to his people in their daily living.

During the recent disaster on board the aircraft carrier USS FORRESTAL (CVA-59), Navy Chaplain Lieutenant Geoffrey Gaughan conducted Mass in the cluttered hangar bay and was quoted as saying:

"I don't apologize for my inability to talk to you quite clearly. I was self contained about this tragedy until I heard confessions this morning. Your emotions became my emotions. We must pray for the injured and for the dead among us. We must pray for their families. We must pray also that we deserve to have lived."

Wherever the men of the Navy and Marine Corps are called to go, be it in the jungles of Vietnam or on the high seas or in the relative calm of a shore station, the Chaplain is with them.

The Navy Chaplain mediates for his people for the forgiveness and the blessing of God, he instructs them in the ways of living that make them acceptable to God and men.

The Chaplain ministers to his people as "a venture of Faith in a world of fear."

This is THE NAVY CHAPLAIN CORPS—1967.

## Editorial

### Piaster Spending

When U.S. servicemen spend their piasters on the Vietnamese economy, the money most often goes for entertainment, patronage of bars and restaurants, purchase of souvenirs and the use of taxis. Having a great deal of money to spend, they pay much higher prices for the goods and services than would the average Vietnamese.

This places into the hands of a small group of people—the owners of the bars and restaurants, the "Saigon tea" girls and the souvenir shop owners—an unproportionately large amount of money.

This group takes this money and goes to the Vietnamese market place to buy food, clothing and the necessities of life. Because they have more money, they will pay more.

Since the economy of Vietnam is tied to the farmers of the country (over 80 per cent of the population), very few people work to produce the other necessities. This means these items are scarce. The people with more money bid up the prices on them.

To help fill the gap in the quantity of scarce goods, assistance is given the government of the Republic of Vietnam through such organizations as U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

What can be done? Reduce piaster spending to the barest minimum. Pay only for essential goods and services and pay only a fair market price for those received.

You can also help by participating in the Command Savings Program, using military recreational facilities, avoiding the black market and suggesting ways to further reduce personal as well as official piaster spending.



**HERO'S WIFE**—Mrs. Carole Chadwick accepts her late husband's Silver Star Medal from MajGen. Marion E. Carl, at Cherry Point. Capt. Leon G. Chadwick III was killed near Da Nang last November. He was cited posthumously with the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross and 13 Air Medals.

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# WO With 40 Years Service—Not Sure of Career

By Cpl. R. R. Keene

**CHU LAI** — "I'm still not sure if I'm going to make the service a career. I've only been in 40 years and the first 20 were just a warm-up."

These are the words of Marine Chief Warrant Officer Thomas C. Van Over (Santa Ana, Calif.), 55-year-old veteran of service in Nicaragua, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

Van Over completed his Vietnam tour recently at Chu Lai where he served as Maintenance Control officer of Marine Attack Squadron-311.

His military career began in 1927 when, at age 15, he joined the Ohio National Guard in his home town of Kenton.

"A lot of us joined the Guard while still in high school," says Van Over. "They didn't have the age limit of 17 for joining then."

His tour with the Guard ended and he spent his 17th birthday at Parris Island, S.C., learning to be a Marine.

"I may have thought I was a man then, and I may have been, physically, but I soon learned that it's more than physical — it's wisdom and knowledge. I learned that training is what makes a Marine who can do his job well."

His first Marine Corps tour was as a member of the Marine detachment aboard the cruiser USS Augusta, and later the cruiser USS Chester.

"During my career, I've put in a lot of sea time. I have made two Mediterranean cruises, a Greenland tour, and spent Christmas of 1929 on the battleship USS Wyoming during the Haitian revolution. I can't count the times I've seen Puerto Rico."

Van Over got his baptism of fire in the Caribbean. "I was with the 7th Company, Fifth Marines in Nicaragua. The Marines had been there since 1927 to protect the American interests. We left in 1933, but I learned there that when the chips are down, you can count on the American serviceman — and it holds true today."

In 1936 Van Over left the Marine Corps and entered Wayne State University at Detroit, Mich. He maintained his rank of sergeant by staying in the Marine reserves.

Van Over was a staff sergeant when World War II broke out, and in June of 1942 he was back on active duty serving as an ordnanceman with Marine Fighter Squadron-221. The bat-

tle of Midway was the first of many campaigns in which he participated against the Japanese.

It was shortly after World War II that he served with Marine Aircraft Group-12 for the first

time. He was a member of Marine Fighter Squadron-214. He later served in Tientsin, China.

In 1952, Van Over, then a master sergeant, again served with MAG-12 at Pongtgaek, Korea, 50 miles south of Seoul. He

was appointed a warrant officer later that year.

Last year Van Over's friends asked him why he wanted to go to Vietnam. His reply was, "This country just can't have a war without me. The Marine Corps is my cup of tea." He arrived in Vietnam during October, 1966.

"This tour has been the most enjoyable of all. The difference between the old and the new Corps is the troopers. They get better as the years go by. These are the finest Marines I've ever served with, and I've known some fine ones. These young men are, without a doubt the world's best.

"In my time, I've learned that the service is what you make of it. A man must be happy at what he does, and I enjoy the Marine Corps. I enjoy doing, or attempting to do, things people say can't be done. I've gotten satisfaction out of being part of the team that proves them wrong. I like to compete. Every unit I've been with has won awards.

"I suppose the biggest reward of all is being able to look back and see these young lads, who have worked for me, turn out to be some of America's finest and knowing that I had a hand in helping them."

After 40 years, most would think the gunner would be retiring. Not Van Over. He is looking forward to his next duty assignment at Marine Corps Air Facility, Santa Ana, Calif.



**OFF AGAIN**—Marine CWO Thomas C. Van Over, veteran of Nicaragua, World War II, Korea and Vietnam, leaves for another duty assignment after 40 years of military service. Van Over has served as Maintenance Control Officer of Marine Attack Squadron-311 based at Chu Lai. (Photo by: Cpl. R.R. Keene)

## Aviator's Final Job Filled With Action

By: GySgt. Chris Evans

**DA NANG** — If the adage of saving the best for last means the worst is first, a Marine aviator disagrees following the final mission of his tour.

"It started out as an ordinary close air support mission for Operation Kingfisher," said Maj. Desmond F. Browne (Long Island, N.Y.), executive officer of Marine All Weather Fighter Squadron-235, "but ended up as the most hairy mission I've had in Vietnam."

Browne and his wingman, 1st Lt. John J. O'Neill (Maple Glen, Pa.), were scheduled for a close air support mission in support of Marines near Con Thien. However, when they arrived over the target area in their F-8E Crusaders the airborne tactical air controller informed them that he had a different target for them just north of the demilitarized zone, if they would take it.

Browne agreed and the controller turned north and fired a smoke rocket to mark the target.

"I made the first run on North Vietnamese soldiers in trenches

with my 20mm cannons," said Browne, "and my wingman came in right behind me.

"I came around and started my second run when all hell broke loose. There were three automatic weapons about 100 meters south of a tree line and all I could see was a steady stream of tracers coming at me.

"It was then that I decided to switch targets and take care of those automatic weapons. They were set in sort of a triangle, and I weaved back and forth as I fired the remaining rounds of 20mm cannon. Just as I got in the right position, I let all my bombs go. As I pulled out, I saw the string of bombs explode right on target.

"As we headed back for the base, I thought to myself, 'are you crazy or something?' because this was my last mission in Vietnam before going home and I didn't have to take that target. Those people were shooting at me. But now that it's over, I'm glad that I did."

Browne completed his tour with VMF (AW)-235 and left for the United States earlier this month.

## 'Tiger' Attacks VC 400 Times A Day

**CAU NGANG**—There's a tiger in this ARVN position — a 'Toy Tiger' who mauls Charlie 400 times a day.

Diminutive Vietnamese Airborne Lt. Dao Van Thuong, fire direction officer for 4 gun "A" Battery, Airborne Artillery, does his mauling with 105mm howitzer rounds and he doesn't mind when U.S. advisors call him the "Toy Tiger".

"They've always called me that," he says. "They do it because I get excited when my battery makes a mistake. My battery must be the best."

But "A" Battery isn't making many mistakes while it is here supporting screening forces just north of Dong Ha.

U. S. Army SFC Billy L. Bowlin (Mansfield, Texas), the battery's American advisor, says: "This is the best artillery outfit I've seen in 25 months in Vietnam. A lot of the credit goes to 'Toy Tiger'. He's sharp. Just give him and Sgt. Nhuong (the FDC chief) a set of coordinates and watch the smoke."

"If anybody goofs in this battery, the 'Tiger' growls just like his namesake."

As the sergeant spoke, a loudspeaker blared, "Fire mission."

Bowlin, the 'Tiger' and his sergeant tumbled off the bunker top and into the FDC. Guns were loaded and trained. Rounds were on the way in seconds.

This mission — like about half of them — was fired on the call of a Forward Air Controller of the U.S. Air Force's 19th Tactical Air Support Squadron which works with the Vietnamese Airborne Task Force.

Like most, the mission was direct support for a ground unit.

But the battery also fires counter battery and harassing and interdiction missions.

"And," says the battery commander, Lt. Nguyen Van Nghi, "when we fire 'H&I' the whole area is eliminated."

Each of the battery's guns is firing 102 rounds every day from this screening position, and — as the 'Tiger' says — "That's a big growl."

## Filipino Vet Advisor at Quang Tri

**QUANG TRI** — A Filipino who fought as a guerrilla in World War II and then worked in intelligence during the Huk insurgency in the Philippines is applying his experience as an advisor to the Chieu Hoi program at Quang Tri.

Luis E. Balinasay, a father of nine children, is one of 45 Filipinos who came to Vietnam a year ago in an advisory capacity to the Vietnamese government. He expects to stay two or three more years.

Balinasay utilizes 22 years of experience in the Army of the Philippines, especially his work in intelligence, to develop the Chieu Hoi (Open Arms) program.

"Basically, the situation faced by the Vietnamese government in trying to curb the Viet Cong is similar to the problem faced by my own government during the Huk emergency," he said. "The Huks attempted to wrest control from the government with many of the methods currently employed by the VC."

Balinasay spent almost 10 years of his army career fighting the Huks.

"Now I can use much of the experience I gained in that campaign with the Chieu Hoi program," he said.

The program is gaining momentum and will play an important part in the government's fight, according to Balinasay.

Although the program is primarily a government project, the 3rd Marine Division reaps benefits in the form of Kit Carson scouts. All surrendered as Chieu Hoi and now work closely with Marines against the Viet Cong.

Balinasay assists in the sifting and selection of prospective scouts in addition to his major job of advisor, which includes Chieu Hoi rehabilitation.



**ON THE MOVE**—Leathernecks of the 1st Marine Division move through paddies in knee-deep water during a search and destroy operation 20 miles southwest of Da Nang. The Marines landed on UH-34D 'copters of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadrons-361 and 363. (Photo by: SSGt. W.F. Schrider)



**ON TARGET**—A Marine forward air observer directs an air strike on enemy positions during Operation Medina. The air strikes were directed against an enemy-held ridge-line in front of 1st Bn., First Marine Regiment positions during the early stages of the operation.

(Photo by: 2ndLt. E.C. Arnold)

## Paratroopers Save Two Viet Civilians

**CHU LAI**—Five paratroopers of the 101st Airborne recently saved the lives of two Vietnamese civilians when the Americans responded to NVA sniper fire during an action west of here.

A Co., 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., established their perimeter on a hilltop commanding the surrounding area. At the base of the hill was a small cluster of native huts.

Earlier in the day the paratroopers had checked the huts and found an old man and little boy. They left them alone.

As darkness fell sniper fire began peppering the paratrooper position. Not wanting a sleepless night the men decided to silence the harassing enemy.

The sniper was pinpointed somewhere within the cluster of huts. Rather than kill innocent people and miss the chance to take a prisoner, five men volunteered to get the sniper.

Led by Lt. Thomas J. Lowrie (Sturgeon Bay, Wis.), the paratroopers moved down the terraced hillside, using dikes for cover. Rain helped conceal their advance.

"A man ran into the jungle as we closed in," said Lowrie.

They did not chase him. "He might have been a decoy to lead us to an ambush," said Pfc. John E. Starr (Columbus, Ohio).

The paratroopers first removed the old man and little boy. Then they searched the hut—two men went on one side, three on the other.

An NVA soldier tried hiding in a bunker under the floor of a hut. When he refused to surrender they grenaded him.

"We brought the old man and little boy back," said Lowrie. "They might have gotten hurt down there."

Later that night sniper fire resumed from the huts and the paratroopers responded with M-

79 rounds and machine guns. The firing stopped.

An old man and little boy are still alive because the Screaming Eagles took time to care.

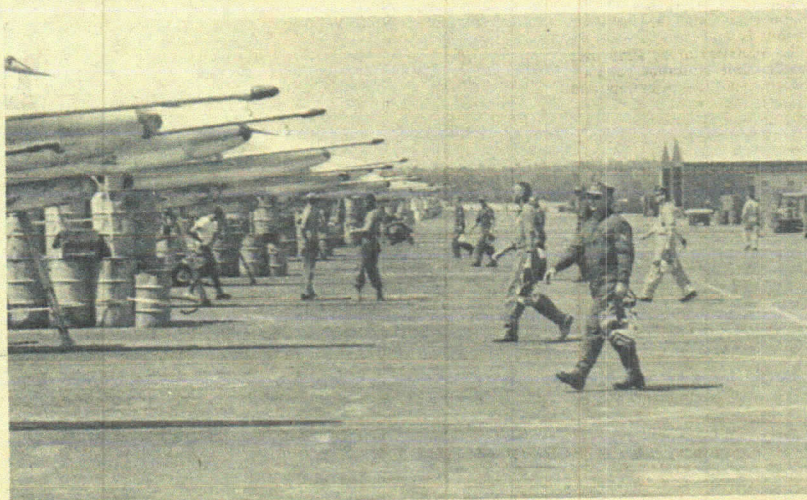
**CHU LAI**—What appeared to be the final chapter of "Sand and Steel" was recorded recently as a squadron of A-4E Skyhawks taxied down the aluminum mat runway at Chu Lai, turned left on the crosswind taxiway, and proceeded to a new home at the west field.

Sand and Steel was the name given to a film dealing with the construction of the first expeditionary landing field to be used in a combat environment. Built in 1965 by Seabees and Marines,

the field was intended to last for only 90 days.

More than two years later, Marine Attack Squadron-223 left its hangars, shops and huts at east field to move to the newer, longer concrete runway to the west. This was the last squadron of Marine Aircraft Group-12 to operate from the aluminum strip.

The field was opened on the first day of June, 1965, just 24 days after the Fourth Marine Regiment hit the beach at Chu



**FAREWELL TO "ELF"**—Marine Attack Squadron-223 pilots walk toward their planes across the expeditionary landing field for the final time. VMA-223's A-4E Skyhawks were the last Marine Corps fixed wing aircraft to be based on the aluminum mat runway at Chu Lai.

(Photo by: SSgt. Gary Thomas)

# VC Enjoy Occasional Prank, Bury Fake Trash-Hidden Mines

**DA NANG**—LCpl. Albert Carroll (Washington, D.C.) feels that the enemy must enjoy an occasional joke.

Combat engineers with "A" Co., 9th Engineer Bn., 1st Marine Division, Carroll and his teammates rid the roads of deadly trash-hidden mines.

"One day my buddy and I got a reading on our detector," Carroll recalled. "I dug out the spot carefully, but I found only a can. When I tipped it, the tail fin of a mortar round slid out. It was caught just enough so that I couldn't see the top part."

Carroll's partner, Pfc. Jose Vasquez (Brooklyn, N.Y.), reacted quickly.

"I thought, it's too late to jump—but I'll try it anyway," he stated.

Vasquez dove into a ditch and Carroll landed on his back. They waited for the explosion, but nothing happened. When they took a look, all they saw was the tail fin.

"There was no explosive head," said Vasquez. "Just a tail fin someone had buried for us to find."

Near Hoi An, about 20 miles south of Da Nang, the engineers sweep for mines on the road running south to Hill 63, former combat base of the Fifth Marine Regiment.

At times the job seems to go on with monotonous regularity, but there are always incidents to remind the team of constant, hidden danger.

"You've got to stay sharp all the time," said Sgt. Patrick J. Brenner (Pittsburgh, Pa.). "Once in a while you'll run into a series of tin cans and harm-

less metal that the detector will pick up. It's then that you tend to relax or get careless," he added.

From time to time, an element of humor appears in what might have been a tragic situation.

Brenner recalled the time a dump truck hit a buried mine as the driver was backing up to dump a load of dirt.

"Actually, the rear wheels set off the mine," he said, "but the front end took the explosion. The hood was a mess, the fenders were bent and that carburetor

sounded worse than the blast itself."

"The driver just leaned out of his cab, muttered a couple of choice words, backed the truck and dumped the load as if nothing had happened," Brenner continued. "Without losing any time, he took off to haul another load of dirt."

Though they call themselves "road sweepers," the engineers don't carry brooms or pick up paper. They do locate and destroy many mines, earning the gratitude of every Marine who travels over their "clean" roads.

## Heavy Flak Jacket Saves Leatherneck

**DA NANG**—The standard armored vest is a heavy item to wear on patrol, but LCpl. Samuel Sanford (Tuscaloosa, Ala.), never complains about the weight—his flak jacket saved his life.

Assigned to "M" Co., 3rd Bn., Fifth Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Sanford moved out on a routine, squad-sized, day-time patrol. The Leathernecks started through the rice paddies and around the graveyards.

With the sun beating down, they waded in two-man teams through the warm rice paddy mud toward a group of huts on the other side. After questioning the occupants and checking ID cards, the patrol continued their search across more rice paddies.

The sun was getting hotter

and the men didn't think "Charlie" was going to show. But they were wrong.

Seconds later, an enemy sniper made himself known. The Marines returned fire with their M-16 rifles and M-79 grenade launcher.

Sanford, armed with the M-79, took up a kneeling position. "I felt something hit me," he recalled. "It was so hard, I fell backwards into the mud."

A carbine round had struck Sanford between the flak jacket, zipper and the jacket body itself.

"It slowed down the round," he commented, "because my utility jacket wasn't even torn."

The VC broke contact and fled when they saw more Marines on the way. Sanford was the only 'casualty'. A band aid fixed him up.

# Expeditionary Airfield Closed After 2 Years

Lai. The runway, then only 4,000 feet long, had many of the characteristics of an aircraft carrier deck, but it floated on a sea of sand. Aircraft were often launched by JATO rockets and arresting gear was frequently utilized for landings. Often, Marine Skyhawks took off with just enough fuel to get airborne, then refueled from Marine aerial tankers before proceeding to their targets.

The 90-day wonder has already survived two monsoon

seasons. Although numerous repairs and improvements have been made during the past two years, the field has abundantly served its original purpose.

The fact that VMA-223 was awarded the Chief of Naval Operations Aviation Safety Award while operating off the expeditionary landing field is evidence of its effectiveness.

The aluminum runway had its peculiarities. The impact of each landing would drive the whole 8,000 feet of matting a fraction of an inch in the direction of landing. Hills and dales would develop in its surface.

It was easy to repair, however. Holes punched by incoming mortar rounds were simply welded closed. When the under-base needed filling, a 100-foot section was 'zippered' out, pulled out of the way, and zippered back in when the base was repaired. The strip was never closed for more than a few hours.

The expeditionary strip paid for itself many times over. In its first week of service, two Air Force F-104 Starfighter pilots, too low on fuel to make their base at Da Nang, were about to ditch at sea near Chu Lai. Marine air controllers invited them to try the 'tin runway' and they did, successfully. It was a hairy landing, however, as the Air Force planes had no arresting hooks, and the pilots had never seen a runway so narrow.

The east field is not being abandoned. As each squadron of jets moved out, a unit of Army or Marine helicopters moved in. The 8,000-foot aluminum strip will continue to be used by jets in emergencies.



**RIVER CROSSING**—Soldiers of Company C, 52nd Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade, wade across a Vietnam river during a combat patrol mission near Duc Pho in the Southern I Corps area. The 198th arrived in Vietnam in late October, and almost immediately began in-country orientation, including patrols and combat assaults. (USA Photo)

## Corpsman—Phu Bai Pied Piper No Flute Needed—Just Traps

PHU BAI — A Navy corpsman at Phu Bai is becoming known as the Pied Piper of I Corps.

Unlike the storybook counterpart, HN2 Arthur M. Di Donato (Pleasant Lake, Mass.), didn't use a flute — just a simple, Vietnamese-made trap to collect 105 rats. The rats are then checked for diseases which might be spread.

A member of the Marine Corps' Force Logistic Support Group "Alpha" (FLSG-A), Di Donato gathers and delivers the rodents to the 3rd Medical Bns. preventive medicine section (PMS), a unit of the 3rd Marine Division. Other neighboring commands also have men trapping the small fur-bearing creatures for PMS.

According to Navy Ens. W.M. Parsons (Dallas, Tex.) PMS entomologist, "None come close to matching Di Donato's enthusiasm for trapping rats."

A source of irritation to Di Donato is an over-sized rat, "with tracks as big as quarters" who continues to ignore the traps. This rat "as big as a cat" has been spotted on several occasions by Marines, yet still remains at large, a constant challenge to the corpsman.

Meanwhile, Di Donato has been assured by Parsons, he will receive a "rat button" when he traps his 200th rat.

"To trap the record total of rodents in a 45-day period,"

Parsons said, "he used peanut butter wrapped in four-inch-square gauze pads. Another bait popular with rats is a throat lozenge."

Preventive medicine's laboratory receives and chloroforms each small pest and then extracts any parasites such as fleas or ticks living within his fur. They are examined and tested as possible carriers of plague. The rodents are also examined for tell-tale signs of rabies.

A rat is dissected and his internal organs, especially his liver, spleen and lungs are examined for diseased parts. To date, the section has performed autopsies on 531 rats. Those displaying symptoms of rabies are shipped to the preventive medicine headquarters at Da Nang for more positive tests.

"This is the season when rats provide the greatest threat as they leave their flooded nests — seeking the high ground," Di Donato said.

"As a result the 'varmints' move into the tents and huts where their presence creates the danger of spreading plague, rat-bite fever or rabies."

Supporting all the military commands and refugee villages in the Phu Bai area, PMS also provides unit sanitation support, performs spot identification, and lab tests on reptiles and conducts mosquito surveys.

Boasting one of the best-

equipped labs in I Corps, this section is able to combat any Malaria problem areas with proper use of insecticides. By means of aerial insecticide spraying and larvaciding, they keep most of the infested areas under control.

# Conflict in Vietnam Reducing Language To Abbreviations

By: SSgt. Walt Trott

DA NANG—The Vietnam conflict is reducing military language to a scramble of abbreviations.

Stateside civilians who don't read their newspapers closely would be baffled by the talk of today's Marine in Vietnam.

The conversation could go something like this: "After my R&R, FLC's CG ordered me to report ASAP TAD to CAP which is OpCon to III MAF to work with PF's and APT's against the VC."

Translated, the statement would go: After a rest and recuperation (R&R) leave, Force Logistic Command's commanding general (FLC CG) ordered me to report as soon as possible (ASAP) to temporary additional duty (TAD) at a Combined Action Platoon (CAP), which is under the operational control (Op-Con) of Third Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF), to work with Popular Forces (PF — military trained, armed Vietnamese), and Armed Propaganda Teams (APT — former Viet Cong who go into unpopulated areas attempting to explain pitfalls of communism to villagers) against the Viet Cong (VC).

Confusing? Not to Marines, whose Vietnam vocabulary includes such abbreviated speech. More than in any other war, military men are reverting to shortened reference to words and phrases.

Further examples among such

accepted abbreviations are: ARVN, Army of the Republic of South Vietnam; LSA, Logistic Support Area; RD, Revolutionary Development; MACV, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam; USAID, U.S. Agency for International Development; and NVA, North Vietnamese Army.

Even U.S. war correspondents furnishing topical news for civilian consumption pepper their copy with such alphabetic aberrations to lend a "salty" air to on-the-spot reports.

Perhaps the increasing use of such shortened terms is an outgrowth of our new jet-paced way of life. Also they add brevity to official reports and documents while newspapers adopt them because space is money. Even in our civilian society, abbreviations are catching on until they have become household words. Who doesn't instantly recognize LBJ, AFOI, GOP, FBI, or UCLA?

A case in point, this story will go from FLC ISO via MACV releasing officer to II MAF CIB prior to possible release to the USA.

## Marines Slay Four Viet Cong

DA NANG — Four Viet Cong were killed on a search and destroy operation conducted by the 2nd Bn., Fifth Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division recently.

The operation, which was held 20 miles southeast of Da Nang in Quang Nam Province, netted quantities of enemy documents, rice, clothing, fuses, and detonators for enemy booby traps.

Among the captured documents was a log book listing all of the losses the enemy has suffered in the Phu Nuan area of Quang Nam Province. The book contained not only the losses of war, but from floods, fires and the other elements as well.

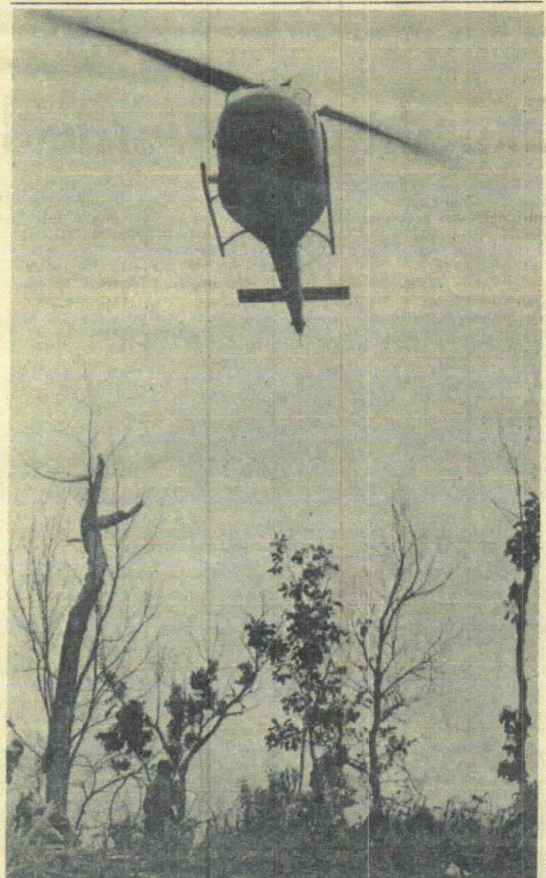
Extensive tunnel networks, caves, trenches and enemy fighting positions were destroyed by the leathernecks as they swept through the countryside.

Three of the enemy killed during the operation were discovered in one of the tunnels that the Marines were searching.

The VC revealed their presence when they threw grenades through a trap door as a Marine opened it to look inside. One Marine was wounded by the enemy grenades.

The leathernecks threw three grenades into the hole, killing the hidden VC.

Fourteen Viet Cong suspects were returned to the battalion's combat base for questioning.



**AIR SUPPORT**—A UH-1E Huey helicopter of Marine Observation Squadron-2 provides protective cover for infantrymen of the 1st Marine Division as they clear a landing zone. The action took place during Operation Knox, a search and destroy mission 16 miles northwest of Da Nang. (Photo by: SSgt. W.F. Schrider)

## Hospital Ships—Important

What type of Navy ship goes to war with two commanding officers, women in her complement, a helo pad, a laboratory, and not one weapon aboard?

The hospital ships USS Sanctuary and USS Repose do. It is only a matter of minutes from battlefield to hospital bed. Several times a day, the big medevac helicopter lands softly on a hospital ship's helo pad, bearing war-wounded servicemen. Moments later, doctors are attending to the casualties in the comfortable, air conditioned treatment rooms and wards below, specialists in almost every medical field stand ready to assist; nurses, corpsmen and medical service people are on immediate call.

The ships are as well-equipped as any modern Stateside hospital. Artificial hearts, artificial kidneys, recompression chambers and frozen blood banks are a few of the ultra-modern lifesaving devices aboard. Each ship has four operating rooms, 20 wards, a pharmacy, several X-ray rooms and laboratories.

Hospital ships are the only Navy vessels authorized two complete crews. One commanding officer with a crew of officers and enlisted men, run the ship itself. Another CO with his crew of enlisted men and officers, including female nurses and Red Cross representatives, run the Naval Hospital aboard.

# General Walt Returns to Harveyville

**HARVEYVILLE, KANSAS** — It was a day of nostalgia in this small rural Kansas town some 35 miles southwest of Topeka. Every citizen of the community and some from all over Wabaunsee County in the rolling hills of this farming area came to see "Lew".

Lieutenant General Lewis W. Walt, who until his return to the United States five months ago commanded Marine forces in Vietnam, came home to the place of his birth, home to where the people call him "General Lew."

Landing by Air Force helicopter in a landing zone far different from any he remembers from the combat zone, the general was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Nancy Walt, his aides, a writer - photographer from Life magazine, and Scripps-Howard writer Jim G. Lucas.

A large over-sized key to the city of Harveyville was presented to him by the mayor on the hard surface of the consolidated school's basketball court. It was there that he was greeted by his brothers and sisters who had traveled to the small town to join the famous Marine.

It was to be a day of reminiscence for the general and Walt loved every minute of it. He was obviously pleased at the warmth of the people and grateful for the celebration.

From the helicopter landing site, the Walt family traveled in a motorcade about a mile down a dirt road to the farmhouse where he was born, just south of the town.

Accompanying the general was Dr. C. L. Youngman, 91, the only physician in Harveyville

and the man who delivered Walt on Feb. 16, 1913.

The doctor recalled he had driven to the event in his buggy, pulled by his mare, Flora, a half Indian pony.

The Buck Workman family, who met Walt about five years ago when he drove through the town and stopped at the farm, welcomed the general and his wife. Walt walked over to admire a large sign in the yard erected by the town. In red, white and blue lettering, it proclaimed that the farmhouse was the Walt birthplace.

With his brother and sister he walked out to the nearby barn where he vaguely recalled having played as a child. Inside was an old spotted hound dog and the general stooped over to pet the animal as television and newspaper photographers broke the silence with the noise of shutters clicking and the whirring of motion picture cameras.

The general poked around the dark interior in an area where hay is stored and where feed is kept for chickens cooped in a pen adjacent to the old brick-red structure.

The Walts were invited into the modest farmhouse by the Workmans where they spent a few minutes visiting with the farmer and his family.

Within an hour after his arrival Walt was back at the school to attend a news media meeting. He spoke of the war in Vietnam as he has throughout the nation since his return. His message was the same.

Hanoi hopes to win the war here in America through the lack of support and protest demonstrations only serve to prolong the struggle, Walt told newsmen. He also praised the valor of South Vietnamese fighting forces.

A parade was held in his honor and the general led it in

an antique 1922 Dodge convertible. Eight high school bands marched in the parade along with units from the National Guard and a platoon of Marines from the Naval Air Station, Olathe, Kansas.

Walt's car started the parade on the main street of town, renamed General Walt Street in a proclamation by the mayor. The general and his wife left the parade about two miles from the starting point as they walked from the car to sit in the reviewing stand while the parade units passed. The Kansas Air National Guard held a fly over with jet aircraft during the parade.

The houses along the parade route were freshly painted and on each hung an American flag. Signs proclaiming "General Lewis Walt Day" were posted in the windows of the three or four businesses in the town.

At the reviewing stand an announcer named the units as they

passed in review. Nearby small boys romped in the grass oblivious to the significance of the event; the biggest day in Harveyville's history.

The parade ended and the general and his family attended a reception in the home economics room of the school. It was a time to meet old friends. "Lew", his brother, C.A. Walt, Grand Junction, Colo.; his sisters, Mrs. Blanche Evans, Aurora, Colo.; Mrs. Alberta McCrate, Iola, Kans.; Mrs. Hazel Lindquist, Topeka, Kans.; and Mrs. Mary McMasters, Wichita, Kans.; greeted those attending.

After a reception, everyone in town crowded into the school's auditorium to hear the general's speech.

He again turned to the war in Vietnam, backing the administration's policy there.

During the evening C.A. Walt told of the early childhood of the general.

All the elements were there, humor, pathos, nostalgia, and the day in Harveyville ended with the general returning to Topeka where he departed for another "Lew Walt Day" in Milwaukee. But no matter what the day might bring it could not be the same as Harveyville for Harveyville is home.

## No Firing? Marines Slay 799

**PHU BAI** — Without firing a shot, a handful of Marines accounted for 799 confirmed enemy killed from July through October.

The men who compiled this impressive record are the aerial observers of the 3rd Marine Division.

Former ground officers who ride in the back seats of tiny observation planes, the AOs are a vital link between Marines in the field and supporting air artillery, and naval gunfire.

Their primary duty is the collection of intelligence information. Due to Vietnam's rugged terrain, they often use the airborne vantage points to aid Marine forward artillery observers and forward air controllers on the ground.

Their experience as infantry officers, combined with the visual advantage of altitude, make them particularly suited for adjusting artillery and calling in air strikes. They spend more than 40 per cent of their flight time controlling attack aircraft.

Most of the aerial observers' flying time is spent in the light observation planes of the Marine Corps, Army, and Air Force which take off from air strips at Phu Bai, Dong Ha and Khe Sanh.

An AO may spend as many as 130 hours per month in the air. During the four-month period ending in October, they controlled more than 1,650 flights of strike aircraft and more than 500 artillery missions.

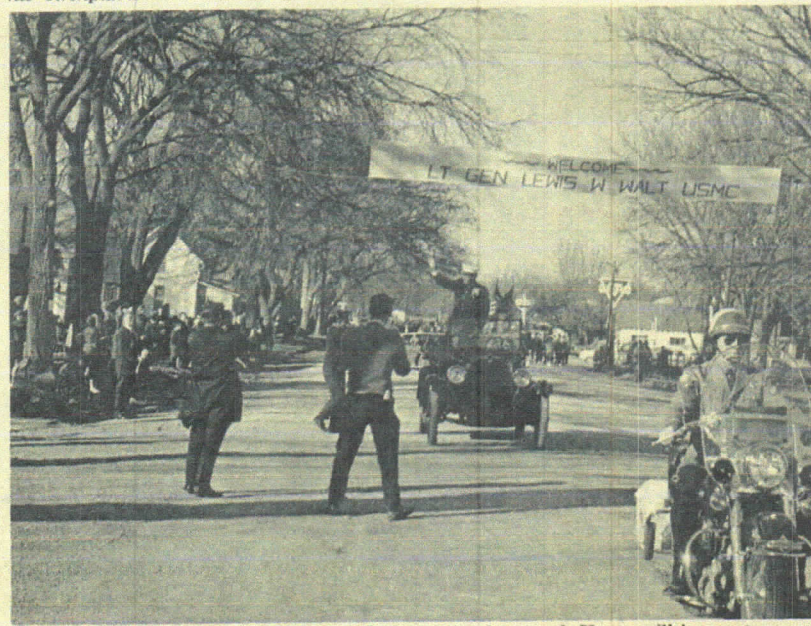
Awards earned by the observers during the period include a Distinguished Flying Cross and 80 Air Medals.

Although the observation planes carrying the AOs are unarmed and offer tempting targets to anti-aircraft gunners, the enemy is reluctant to shoot at them.

They have learned that the little planes have powerful friends.



**THE KEY TO THE CITY**—of Harveyville, Kansas was presented to LtGen. Lewis W. Walt by the Mayor when he returned there to revisit the farm that was his birthplace.



**GENERAL WALT STREET**, renamed in honor of Harveyville's most prominent native son, was lined with spectators as the General led a parade in an antique 1922 Dodge.

## Phong Bac School Has Dedication

**DA NANG** — Vietnamese officials, Marine officers and smiling parents attended the dedication ceremony for a new school in the hamlet of Phong Bac near Da Nang.

"The one other school is small and crowded," explained Capt. Neil O. Whittington (Eureka, Ill.), civil affairs officer, 1st Tank Bn., 1st Marine Division. "Many children were forced to attend schools in other villages."

"The people of Phong Bac asked for our assistance," Whittington said, "and 1st Tank Bn. supplied the tools, materials and technical advisers."

Present for the dedication was BrigGen. Foster C. LaHue, assistant 1st Division commander; Tinh Giac, chairman of the Da Nang Buddhist association; Mr. Chan, chairman of the village Buddhist association; LtCol. R.M. Taylor, commanding officer of the 1st Tank Bn., and Maj. Haauv, Vietnamese District Chief.

The Buddhist association will pay for maintenance of the building and the salaries of its teachers.

"But anyone is free to attend this school," Whittington said, "from grades one through six, regardless of religion."

Using an interpreter, Gen. LaHue spoke to the Vietnamese parents who had gathered to witness the ceremony and pay registration fees for their children.

print for the three-room building was drafted by Seabees but Vietnamese workmen did the actual construction."

# Hieu Nhon District Chief Uses Strange Weapons to Fight War



**WATCHING FOR CHARLIE**—Pfc. John R. Pomeroy (Nashville, Tenn.), a gunner with an M-60 machine gun team of "C" Co., 1st Bn., Fifth Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division watches for targets during a search and destroy operation near Da Nang. (Photo by: Sgt. W. F. Dickman)

**HIEU NHON** — Than Trong Sinh fights his war with strange weapons: sanitary latrines, electrical generators and a facile tongue.

And he believes he's winning. Sinh, the Hieu Nhon District Chief, a civilian, represents the government of Vietnam here and he's picked a tough place to do that.

He works out of a tent. There has been no district headquarters since a 27 September VC attack — one typical of the shooting war here, a place the VC are said to be sworn to hold because, some say, Ho Chi

Minh, was born here.

"But," Sinh says, "one doesn't need a building."

Then he was off to see how his part of the war was going.

He hailed a sampan and was off to a nearby river island hamlet — Tham Nam in Cam Nam Village where Quang Nam Revolutionary Development Team No. 7 is working separated from VC riflemen by only about 500 meters of river and marsh.

"We've got enough strength to keep the VC over there," he said, "..... someday we'll get enough to chase them

away. . . let's look at some of the important things."

The "important things" were spaced out along palm-shaded streets that looked as if they were built for a Dorothy Lamour movie.

They were:

—Elevated latrines which soon will have a grand opening: "We've got to teach the children sanitation to stamp out disease so we'll be teaching them about these latrines in the school. They have to be elevated because of the water."

— A new school: "It's better to teach children near home. It's too far for the little ones to walk to the mid-island school."

— About a dozen brand new wells: "There weren't enough before, and these have good clean water."

— A new bridge spanning a channel that splits the hamlet.

— A suggestion box: "The people like that."

After a brief talk with a village official and an RD team officer, he was off to another hamlet — one where brand new utility poles were being emplaced, "and people will have electricity for the first time."

At the just-finished generator house, he chastised a woman gently for covering its steps with drying rice. "But," he said, "it doesn't make much difference. I need help before the generators will run."

"Help" in this case is Maj G. E. Strickland USMC, an engineer who is also serving in the war as a civilian — an employee of CORDS who's now in the states on an extension leave.

Then a crisis.

The hamlet chief of Thanh Nam Hamlet in Cam Ha Village had a bunch of upset people on his hands. U. S. Marines were building a Combined Action Platoon compound at the hamlet market place.

"They don't understand that the Marines will leave plenty of room for them, and that they will make us safe from the VC," Sinh said. "I'll speak to them."

He spoke for about 10 minutes. The people applauded.

"I think we're winning," Sinh said. "You'll have to excuse me; I have other places to go."

## BIG VC Escapes With Long Trunk

**DA NANG** — What could have been one of the biggest catches of the Vietnam war evaded capture by a Marine squad patrol, leaving the Leathernecks with nothing but a story.

The enemy being pursued was a plain, ordinary, 8-foot tall elephant.

"No, it wasn't a pink ele-

phant, either," said Cpl. Thomas F. Morgan, (Richmond, Va.), a squad leader in "H" Co., 2nd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division.

"He had little ears, though," said HM3 Vernon Free (Cave Springs, Ga.).

The elephant was suspected of having been used to carry enemy rockets to an area west of Da Nang.

Viet Cong forces had launched rockets from positions in the area during an attack against the Marines' Force Logistic Command camp, northwest of Da Nang, over a month ago.

"We were out on a patrol in that area," explained Free, "when we found the elephant tracks and then finally spotted it."

One Marine came as close as eight feet to the elephant before the animal turned and ran.

"We tried to herd him into an area where we could capture him but he kept getting away," explained Free.

"He's probably still out there roaming around," said Free.

The elephant story could have been worse. If it had been a giraffe, the Marines would be on the charge of spreading tall tales.

## New Amphibious Supply Line Carrying Equipment to Vietnam

**DA NANG**—A new amphibious supply line is now shuttling tactical equipment from the States to support combat Leathernecks in South Vietnam.

Force Logistic Command (FLC), a major supply point for I Corps Marines, is using the services of a commercial shipping firm to operate a manufacturer-to-Marine supply line, brand new to warfare.

It works this way: Supplies, ranging from heavy combat gear for Marine line units to toothbrushes for the PX, are picked up by the company's trailer-trucks at fac-

ship arrived at Da Nang harbor August 28. Since then, every 15 days, a ship has arrived loaded with 229 trailer containers fitted snugly into the ship's shaft-like steel holds. Each trailer contains about 45,000 pounds of supplies.

Four types of vans are being used. Dry cargo containers carry the bulk of the gear, an open-topped trailer (covered by canvas) is used for heavy equipment, reefer units for items needing refrigeration and flat-rack vans for steel, lumber and drums.

At the Da Nang pier, cranes lift the trailers from the ship's hold and they are hooked up to tractor units for the trip to Camp Books. There, the supplies which have been untouched since being sealed in the trailers at their point of origin in the States, are unloaded and moved to Marine units throughout I Corps.

Back at Da Nang pier, the cranes have loaded 229 trailer vans for the return trip to the U.S. Many of these are loaded with salvaged brass from ammunition used by Marines in Vietnam.

In four minutes a van can be off-loaded from the ship and another loaded in its place. Normal turn-around time for each ship is about 48 hours.

Da Nang is the only Vietnamese port now involved, but plans are underway to expand the facilities.

Force Logistic Command's Transportation and Embarkation Operations officer, Lt. Joseph A. Gorzynski (Schenectady, N.Y.), talks about the

ories and supply points all over the U.S. and hauled to West coast seaports. There, the 35-foot-long trailer vans are unhitched from their tractors and loaded by cranes aboard specially-designed ships for a 21-day Pacific crossing to Da Nang.

At Da Nang, the trailers containing goods destined for FLC are again hooked up to tractors and hauled to Camp Books, eight miles northwest of Da Nang. Camp Books is headquarters for FLC, the complex supply outfit that supports the 75,000-plus Leathernecks fighting in northern I Corps. Also utilizing this unique service are Navy, Army and Air Force commands.

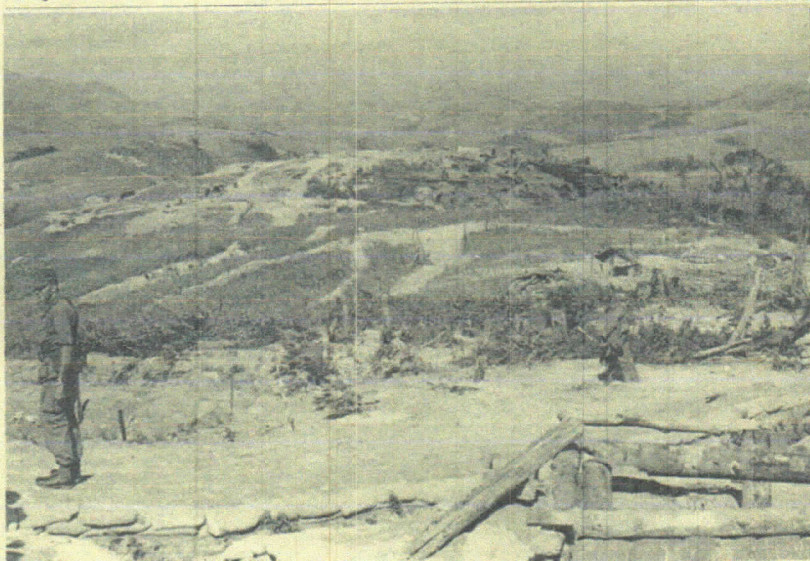
Camp Books' shipping and receiving officer, 2ndLt. Rex L. Hinman (Kansas City, Mo.), says the system is the greatest thing he's seen in transportation in his eleven years as an officer and enlisted man in the supply field.

"The gear arrives in great shape," says Hinman, "and the combat Marine really benefits from this."

Without special crating or packaging, the supplies go untouched from manufacturer to Marine, bypassing such logistic problems as waiting on the docks (both Stateside and in Vietnam), the necessity for moving the gear from ship to supply dumps by separate transportation, and the exposure of vital equipment to bad weather en route.

Sea-Land Corp., is the American company contracted to handle this new concept in hauling cargo.

The Vietnam phase of the service began when the first



**SIX MONTHS LATER**—Marines have prepared defensive positions on Hills 881 north and south, sites of bitter fighting that ended during May northwest of Khe Sanh. Hill 881 north is seen from 881 south, looking toward the ominous countryside below the demilitarized zone. (Photo by: 1stLt. J.O. Olsen)

## Bullets Halt One Enemy Other Runs

DA NANG—For several hours, Marines of "I" Co., 3rd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, silently watched two men coming and going at a village where sniper fire previously harassed the Leathernecks.

Although the sniper fire was silenced, the Marines weren't in the mood to take chances. They went after the suspected VC, immediately after the two had left the village the fifth time.

Leading the patrol of six men, Cpl. Joseph P. Lamb (Toronto, Canada), moved toward the village to set up an ambush.

"We had orders to capture the suspects, but to return fire if necessary," said Lamb.

A half hour later, the two VC were on their way back to the village. Both were armed.

The Marines were stretched from the village to a curve in the road, 100 meters away.

Positioned at the curve, Lamb and another Marine prepared to capture the suspects.

Their plans were foiled, however, when one of the VC sighted Lamb and, grenade in hand, proceeded to rush him.

Three shots from Lamb's rifle hurled the VC to the ground. His grenade exploded atop him tossing the VC into the air.

A map of enemy supply routes throughout the area, medical supplies, an AK-47 assault rifle and several grenades were found on the enemy's body.

During the skirmish, the second VC escaped in the opposite direction.



**DIVINE SERVICES**—Cdr. Carl Auel (Reed City, Mich.), First Marine Regiment chaplain conducts worship services during Operation Medina. Leathernecks of the First Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division participated in the 10-day search and destroy operation southwest of Quang Tri. (Photo by: Cpl. M.J. Coates)

## RVN-Sponsored APT Teams A Demoralizing Factor to VC

PHU BAI — A civilian force that saves Marine lives, uncovers countless booby traps and identifies Viet Cong suspects is helping Leathernecks in the Phu Bai area.

Spearheading the pacification program are 74 men of the Vietnamese government-sponsored Armed Propaganda Teams (APT), all former Viet Cong.

Marines from such activities as the Civil Affairs section of Force Logistic Support Group

"Alpha" (FLSG-A) work hand-in-hand with the APT in a combined effort to crush the enemy in the Phu Bai area.

Accompanying Marines on combat operations in unpopulated areas, such teams are able to gather valuable information from farmers and villagers which often aids the success of these tactical missions.

"The mere presence of the APT is a demoralizing factor to the local VC because these men were once counted among their numbers," said Lt. Jim Uhl (Flagstaff, Ariz.), FLSG-A civil affairs officer.

According to Fernando de los Santos, I Corps director for APT, his men talk to relatives and parents of VC sympathizers, explaining the Chieu Hoi program. Chieu Hoi villages are designed to house refugees who have rallied to the side of the South Vietnamese government. Chieu Hoi advisor for Thua Thien province Juan D. Artajo said, "APTs find such face-to-face contact most effective. Its members present themselves as examples of the good the South Vietnamese government can accomplish."

Santos and Artajo are Filipino advisors to the Republic of Vietnam government.

Careful observation of those Chieu Hoi villagers who are con-

sidered good prospects for APT is made by political advisors living among the Chieu Hoi's. Attitude and loyalty to the government are top characteristics desired.

"All APT members have to be volunteers. Once they are selected, they must undergo a four-week training course to orient them in the function and operations of the team," Artajo continued.

Because of day-to-day junkets into enemy territory, the five-man teams are armed. The Phu Bai APT branch is the largest propaganda unit in South Vietnam. It began operating under its present concept in September, 1966.

"These teams are very successful. It's quite a relief to know they can find out from the people where mines are planted, ambushes are set-up and who the VC are in each village," Cpl. Dave Patton (Pine Ridge, S.D.), FLSG-A Marine, said.

Plans to add another platoon of 100 men have already been approved for the Phu Bai area by the Ministry of Chieu Hoi in Saigon. Additionally, APT officials are contemplating assigning ranks as titles to the APT members as a form of identification even though it is not a military force.

## Engineers Are Destructive While on Operation Knox

DA NANG — "We really had a workout on this one," said LCpl. Tommie Marshall (Baltimore, Md.), describing the work of Marine combat engineers on Operation Knox.

Marshall and LCpl. John Jones (Modesto, Calif.), made up the engineer team working with "H" Co., 2nd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, during Knox. Both are from the 1st Engineer Bn.

The seven day search and destroy mission, 25 miles northwest of Da Nang, included the destruction of one Viet Cong cave, 12 enemy bunkers, numerous fighting holes, 21 Chi-com (Chinese communist) grenades and the disarming of a Claymore mine.

"The cave," explained Marshall, "was a natural granite

cave. We couldn't destroy it completely, but it'll take some doing for the VC to dig it up again."

"The cave had a tunnel going under it," explained Jones. "In all it was about 60 meters long. The opening was only three feet by five and it was concealed behind some bushes."

The concussion grenades, hand grenades, and other enemy materials destroyed by the Marine engineers were abandoned by the VC when they hastily fled their positions in the wake of a Marine assault.

Marines from "H" Co., 2nd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment, secured the hill, fighting an estimated force of more than 20 hard-core VC in a fierce one-and-a-half hour battle before the enemy abandoned the hilltop position and supplies.

## Marine Unit Uncovers VC Camp

DA NANG — Marine ground units, heli-lifted into an area 10 miles northwest of Da Nang in support of a reconnaissance squad that had come under enemy attack, succeeded in uncovering an enemy base camp in the aftermath of the encounter.

The camp site was searched, then marked for destruction by air bombardment. It had been hastily abandoned by the enemy just before the Marines arrived.

"We found rice that was still warm from cooking," said LCpl. Garry Reed (Holland, Ohio), a radioman with the 2nd Plt., "I" Co., 3rd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment.

The rice was found inside one of the three fortified bunkers at the camp site. Digging materials and two canteens were also found.

Discarded equipment and blood trails were found near the area where the Marines recon squad had been ambushed the previous day. The enemy attackers were estimated to be a combined Viet Cong-North Vietnamese Army unit.

"We were on an observation mission in the area," said LCpl. Serie Di Gioia (San Diego, Calif.), a point man with the recon squad from "C" Co., 1st Recon Bn.

"They must have had a force of about 20 men," noted Di Gioia. "They were equipped with machine guns and automatic weapons."

Elements from "I" and "K" Co., 3rd Bn., Seventh Marines, were heli-lifted into the mountainous area following air bombardments on the enemy positions.

In a search of the battle area the morning following the enemy attack, blood trails and discarded equipment were found.

The enemy camp site was situated on a hilly area about a mile from the battle area.

## Engineer Up VC Mine Discovered

DA NANG — When the word came over the radio for the engineer to come up, LCpl. Elwin G. Hilling, (Jermyn, Pa.), wasn't sure what to expect.

Hilling, an engineer with "I" Co., 3rd Bn., Fifth Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, was out on a platoon sweep.

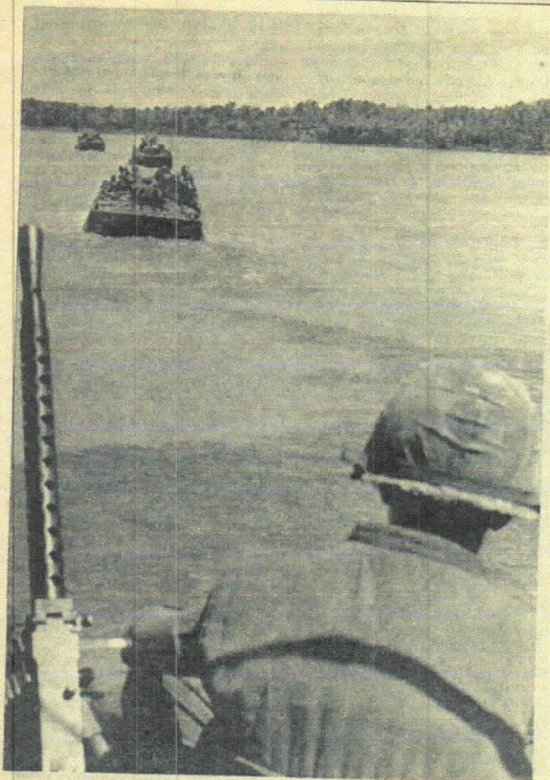
"I was with the platoon command post, about 3,000 meters from one of the squad-sized patrols, when we were radioed," Hilling recalled.

When one of the Marines in the squad felt tension on his leg, he knew something was about to happen. He realized it was a booby trap, and slowly backed off. It was then that the engineer was called up to check it out.

With a fire team, Hilling proceeded to the patrol to try and remedy the situation.

"He was just as shaken up as I was," Hilling stated. "It was that kind of booby trap that only goes off when the trip-wire is jerked completely, but since it was only half-way pulled, something had to be done."

Taking his time about the whole matter, Hilling removed the Chi-com grenade from its position and took it over to a ditch where he put a charge on it and detonated the booby trap.



**READY FOR TROUBLE**—Amtracs of the 3rd Amphibian Tractor Bn., 1st Marine Division, carry Republic of Korea Marines up inland waterways in search of Viet Cong 17 miles south of Chu Lai.

(Photo by: Sgt. Russ Cowen)



# Camouflaged Enemy Mauled by Marines

By: Sgt. Bob Pitner

PHU BAI—A large force of armed, camouflaged Viet Cong was caught in the open and severely mauled by a reinforced Marine company four miles east of Camp Evans.

Army Quad-50 machine guns and artillery from the 3rd Bn., Twelfth Marine Regiment helped the riflemen of "M" Co., 3rd Bn., Twenty-Sixth Marine Regiment rout what may have been the lead elements of a Viet Cong battalion.

The troops were attempting to cross into the rich rice country to the east of Highway 1 when they ran into the Marine ambush.

At approximately 8:45 p.m., the Marines saw 15 enemy soldiers cross a ridgeline approaching their position.

The enemy scouts suddenly retraced their steps back over the ridge, returning a few moments later guiding two troop columns.

The Marines held their fire until the Viet Cong were within 75 meters of their position.

By then more than 70 enemy soldiers could be seen.

Calling in artillery, the first exploding round was the signal for the Marines to open fire.

The Viet Cong were too stunned to move as tracers and bursting shells slammed into their exposed column.

As the enemy began to retreat, Marine artillerymen walked their barrages after them.

More than 400 rounds of high explosive 105mm and 155mm shells were fired at the fleeing VC.

Many of the enemy soldiers were seen to fall under fire and others were observed being carried away.

There were no Marine casualties.

A number of the Marines were new arrivals to Vietnam. This was their first real contact with the enemy.

Capt. Alfred Lardizabel Jr. (Oxnard, Calif.), praised the professionalism and aggressive actions of the Marines.

Said the captain, "My lieutenants are just out of basic school, my staff noncommissioned officers just arrived from the

States, and, in fact, most of my company is new, but they did an outstanding job. We learned a lot."

So did the Viet Cong.

## Phu Bai Villagers Get Water

PHU BAI—Thousands of villagers in the Phu Bai area have cleaner water as the result of work and cash donations by members of Force Logistic Support Group "Alpha" (FLSG-A).

The unit is constructing covers for 20 hamlet wells and installing hand pump on them. Thirteen of the pumps have already been installed.

The pumps were bought in Japan for \$12.50 each with money donated by unit members.

The project is part of FLSG-A's medical aid and sanitation program. "Open wells," pointed out the unit's civil affairs officer, 1stLt. James Uhl (Flagstaff, Ariz.), "are an open invitation to disease."

Several hundred families often use one well, he explained and the buckets lowered into the wells are not always sanitary. Open wells become breeding places for malaria-carrying mosquitoes. The covers also prevent objects, insects, and rodents from falling into the wells and contaminating the water.

"If the pumps prevent one case of malaria," said Uhl, "they will be cheap. It costs less to prevent illness than to cure it."



STRIKE FORCE—Leathernecks of the 1st Marine Division prepare to board helicopters of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing to kick off Operation Essex. The search and destroy mission is being conducted in Antenna Valley, southwest of Da Nang. (Photo by: SSgt. W.F. Schrider)

## Want Your Own Red Wagon? —Get High Marks in School

CAMP CARROLL — Five months ago, MSgt. William D. Abbott initiated 'Operation Red Wagon' with two wagons sent to him by his wife. Today he has received more than 300 of an expected 1,000 wagons.

Abbott, sniper-scout platoon commander with the Third Marine Regiment, conceived the wagon idea last May when he saw a Vietnamese child pulling his friend along in a discarded ammunition box near the village of Cam Lo.

"I thought it would be nice to see those kids with a red wagon," Abbott said.

He then wrote his wife Madreen, residing in Stafford, Va., with their two children, to send him two little red wagons.

One of the wagons he received was given to a child in the vil-

lage. The other was given to a Roman Catholic priest who works with the families in the refugee camp.

Since then, Abbott's idea has snowballed and contributions for the \$4 wagons have been received from people and clubs all over the States.

"The primary goal of Operation Red Wagon," explained Abbott, "is to reward the children who achieve high marks in school and to encourage the people to help themselves."

The wagons will be presented to deserving children during appropriate ceremonies in the villages.

Abbott added that, "Because of the hundreds of refugees cramped into the Cam Lo area, the spread of disease through unsanitary habits is a health

hazard. Therefore the wagons will also be awarded to families who keep the cleanest homes and cleanest children."

The idea was enthusiastically received by the Amateur Trap Shooters Association (ATA) in which Abbott and his wife have long been active members.

Ralph Taylor, president of the ATA and a long time friend of Abbott, spoke about the project at a shooting match and enough money was raised on the spot to buy 109 wagons.

"Since then more than 900 have been purchased and are being shipped to me," commented Abbott.

The wagons are being assembled by members of the Third Marine Regiment motor transport section and men in Abbott's platoon.

Plans are being formulated by the civil affairs officer with the village and hamlet chiefs to create incentive programs so that children and families can earn the wagons.

"I never expected this much," Abbott admits, "but every minute I've spent with this program has been well worth my time."

## Cpl. Kills VC

DA NANG—A Marine corporal who was spun around by a Viet Cong bullet that pierced his flak jacket, came out of the spin to return a blast of fire of his own, killing the surprised attacker.

"My reflexes went into high gear," recalled Cpl. Richard L. Neufeld (Upper Saddle River, N.J.), telling about what amounted to a quick-draw showdown between himself and the VC sniper.

The incident occurred during a helicopter extraction, 18 miles southwest of Da Nang.

"We were being heli-lifted back to our base camp after a three-day search and destroy mission," explained Neufeld, a fire team leader with the 2nd Plt., "I" Co., 3rd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment.

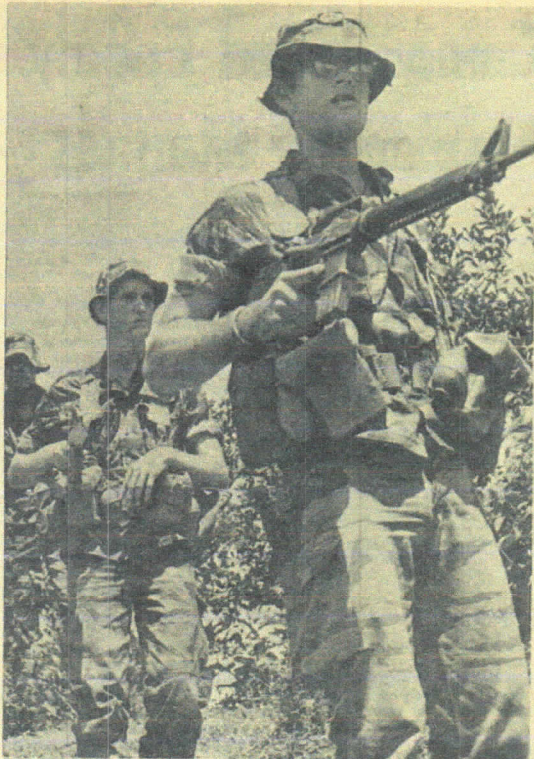
"I was on the flank as protection while some of the others were boarding the chopper. The sniper hit us from the other side. He was about 50 meters away. Luckily I was able to come back firing after his bullet spun me around."



DOWN THROUGH THE CLOUDS—A CH-53 Sea Stallion of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-463 airlifts a load of supplies to the Marine base at Con Thien. (Photo by: SSgt. W.F. Schrider)



OUT ON A LIMB?—A track-mounted 175mm gun receives a thorough cleaning job at the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division's base camp at Duc Pho. And you think your M-16 is hard to clean. (USA Photo)



**PATROL**—Members of the Tigers, a reconnaissance force from 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf. move cautiously as they search for the enemy. In front is Spec. 4 David Brocki (Muncie, Ind.), Pfc. Wyman Helms (Fort Meade, Fla.). Pfc. Benturo Leak (New York City), follows.

(USA PHOTO)

## No Division Cook Just French Chef

PHU BAI—Not every command can boast of having a French chef. A unit that can is Headquarters Bn., 3rd Marine Division, at the Phu Bai combat base.

The head cook of the enlisted mess is SSgt. Raymond J. Violette whose grandparents immigrated to the U.S. from France and Canada.

The cuisine might not be exactly Parisian but the French spirit of making available food as tasty as time and circumstances permit is followed.

Be it dejeuner (breakfast), dine (lunch) or suppe (supper), every meal has its entree (usually a fruit or meat cocktail or salad), a meat dish, hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

The sergeant's job is to provide nutritious and tasty food for some 800 to 1,200 hungry men at each meal, not just to please a few gourmants.

The mere bulk of food required entails heavy work. If steak is on the menu, 450 pounds of it must be prepared.

When fresh potatoes are available, it takes 600 pounds of the "pomme de terre" that must be hand peeled and prepared.

Two vegetables might be corn (48 gallons) and peas (10 gallons).

The salad bar usually has one meat or fish salad and three or four vegetable salads.

If pie is served, more than 800 servings must be baked.

It takes 60 gallons of coffee at breakfast and 30 gallons for each of the other two meals.

All is prepared in a galley where the temperature soars above 120 degrees.

In addition to the three regular daily meals, hundreds of men passing through Phu Bai by convoy must be fed at varying times

10 SEA TIGER

# Typhoons, Wet Roads, Snipers 1st Div. Mail Still Gets Through

DA NANG — Add typhoons, washed out roads, and sniper bullets to that saying about "neither sleet, nor snow, nor rain . . ."

The mail clerks at 3rd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division outpost at Dai Loo, 14 miles southwest of Da Nang, have been up against exactly those elements lately. Keeping up with the tradition they have managed to get the mail through with a minimum of delay. It hasn't been easy though.

"The floods after the typhoon slowed us up for three days," noted Cpl. Bruce Stone (De Kalb, Ill.), one of the battalion's three mail clerks. "We got the mail in, but we had to row it across a flooded rice paddy on a flat boat to do it."

In addition to rowing the mail through, the Marine mail clerks had to walk it across caved-in road sections, transferring the mail bundles from one truck to another.

"That was a total of three days mail, so our mail room was really packed to the ceiling that night," said Cpl. Paul J. Sittmann (Long Island, N.Y.), battalion mail clerk.

"It didn't take long to get rid of some of it though," Sittmann added. "The word got out that we'd made it through. As soon as we reached the compound the guys began gathering at our door."

One Marine walked away with eight packages and a Navy corpsman was the leader in letters received with 12. "As far as snipers go," said

Cpl. Wayne Atene (Low Mountain, Ariz.), "we've been shot at, but we haven't been hit yet."

Atene has the unwanted distinction of having been sniped at the most among mail clerks.

"That's okay though," he says, "I rotate home in a few weeks, so I won't be making the run anymore."

The road that the mail run has to pass over to reach the 3rd Bn. compound has been christened "Ambush Row."

"With the monsoons," explained Stone, "it'll be harder to get the mail through. We're getting a truck soon though and there're helicopters for emergencies, so I imagine we'll manage."

"Wish it were only sleet, snow and rain," said Atene.

## Okinawa-Based KC-130 Aircraft Finish Busiest Month in RVN

DA NANG — Okinawa-based KC-130F aircraft ended October with their busiest month in Vietnam in a massive effort to stockpile supplies before the flight-hampering monsoon season settles over the Leathernecks in I Corps.

According to Maj. Ron L. Owen (Kennett Square, Pa.), who commands Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152's Vietnam detachment, the big four-engine planes transported 40,000 passengers and nearly 6,400 tons of cargo. They dropped 8,800 flares and logged in 168 hours of in-flight refueling time during 1,403 sorties. Total flight hours for the month were 1,431.

"This not only indicates a lot of flying time for the seven flight crews that rotate back and forth from Okinawa," said Owen, "but represents hard work and long hours for the Marines operating within the detachment in Vietnam."

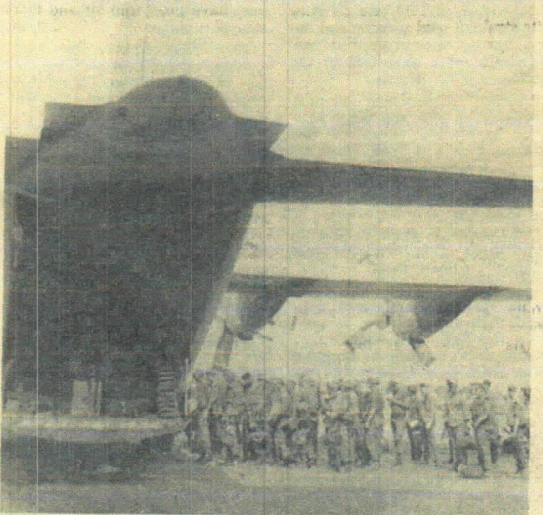
The detachment is made up of air freight handlers, passenger manifesters, motor transport personnel and ordnancemen who handle flares.

"I have men who live and work at Chu Lai, Phu Bai, Dong Ha and Quang Tri," he added, "besides the ones operating at our Da Nang air base headquarters."

According to the major during a normal work day four of the big transports will be on cargo and passenger missions, two will be flying flare drops throughout the night and aerial refueling will be accomplished

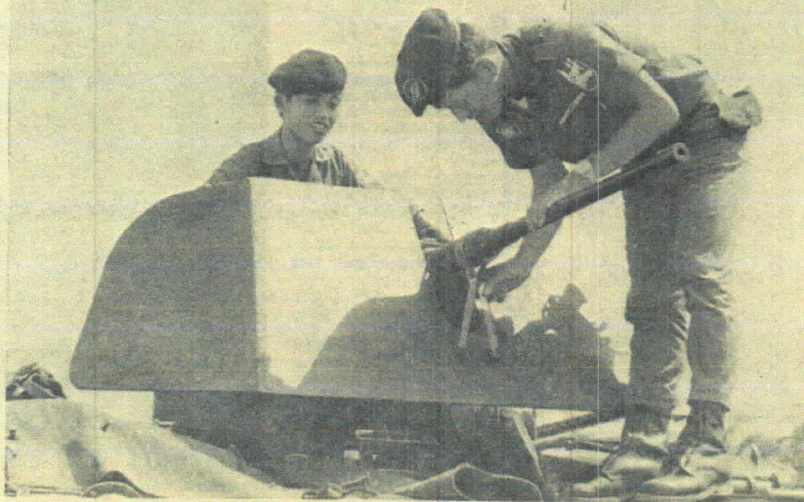
as required.

"If the need arises," he said, "our KC-130s have the capability of in-flight refueling even while engaged on a passenger or cargo mission or while loaded and rigged for flare drops."



**BUSY AIRCRAFT** — Some of the 40,000 passengers wait to board a KC-130F aircraft before departing for various places in I Corps. The four-engined planes also transported nearly 6,400 tons of cargo, dropped 8,800 flares and logged 168 hours of in-flight refueling time during 1,403 sorties.

(USMC Photo)



**AVENGER**—Second Lt. Ha Van Hoa inspects a .50 calibre gun on one of his APC's before getting ready to go to the field. Lieutenant Hoa fights the VC to avenge his father who was slain when he was a baby.

(MACV Photo)

### NO EXPLOSIVES ABOARD AIRCRAFT

— Personnel found attempting to transport any type explosives or ammunition aboard an aircraft will be removed from either an R&R flight or a rotation flight to the States and returned to their unit for disciplinary action. Force Bulletin 4050 of 13 July 1967 and ICCTI 1710.5B apply.

# Singapore-A Bustling Present-A Historical Past

By: MGySgt. J. T. Frye

DA NANG — Mention old Singapore and the mind's eye conjures up visions of intrigue and passion — pirates and spies, freighters and junks, jasmine and jade—ala Maugham, Mason and the movies.

To some extent it still holds the same allure, a bustling island city-state emitting a mixture of sounds, sights and scents. And it remains a prime tourist target for the English-speaking world.

Latest crop of travelers to converge on the 14x26-mile plot off the southern tip of Malaya are the plane loads of I Corps GIs, inbound for five days of rest and recuperation.

Whether there's much rest is a matter of conjecture, because this polyglot center of diverse cultures offers such a variety of things to do and see, whether one's interest runs to the scholarly or to the pursuit of frantic fun. And recuperation — at least financial — is doubtful because Singapore is comparable with any bargain paradise on earth.

In 1377 the ancient Malay city of Tumasik was obliterated by invading Japanese who later established Singa Pura. It means lion city, though, of course, no lions were ever seen there.

It never again amounted to more than a couple of dozen huts until Britain's great old imperialist, Sir Stamford Raffles, expanded the East India company's trading sphere to cover the island in 1819. He foresaw its strategic and commercial importance and organized its administration, law, education and trade.

True to his prophecy, Singapore has grown to a city of two million, climbed to fifth rank among the world's sea ports and become a focus of military and naval strategy.

After Japanese occupation in World War II, the island received status as a separate British Crown colony, gained self government in 1959, joined the Federation of Malaysia in 1963 and two years ago peacefully seceded to become an independent republic.

Its population is three-quarters Chinese, but its language and national identity include essential immigrating waves of at least five types from India, plus Jewish, Arab, Ceylonese, Thai, Malay, representative Eurasian and hosts of others. Malay is the national language and coinage is interchangeable with its continental neighbor. The exchange rate continues about three to one

U.S. dollar.

For spending one's money, few places can be as interesting, whether it's for the joy of haggling or the resulting goodies. Because of the free port status and the absence of taxes, goods from around the world are often cheaper in Singapore than in their land of origin. Swiss watches, German cameras, Japanese radios, French cosmetics, Swedish glassware, British wool, Malayan silver, Balinese woodwork, and textiles, pewter, gems, cutlery, curios and antiques from across the globe are available throughout the city.

Try Raffles Place, Collyer Quay, High Street, North Bridge Road, Stanford Road, and Middle Road for the ordinary or the exotic. Arab Street specializes in Mid-East products while Change Alley and Peoples Park hawk everything from American cigarettes to jungle charms. Night bazaars and itinerant peddlers are fascinating to deal with.

For shopping, sightseeing or nightclubbing, best transportation is by taxi. But be careful. The cabbies are prone to detour you to an associate's place of business or take the long way home. In five rides, we were "had" thrice.

Spending money at night is, of course, no more trouble in Singapore than elsewhere. However, it goes a bit further than Tokyo, Sydney, San Francisco or Waikiki.

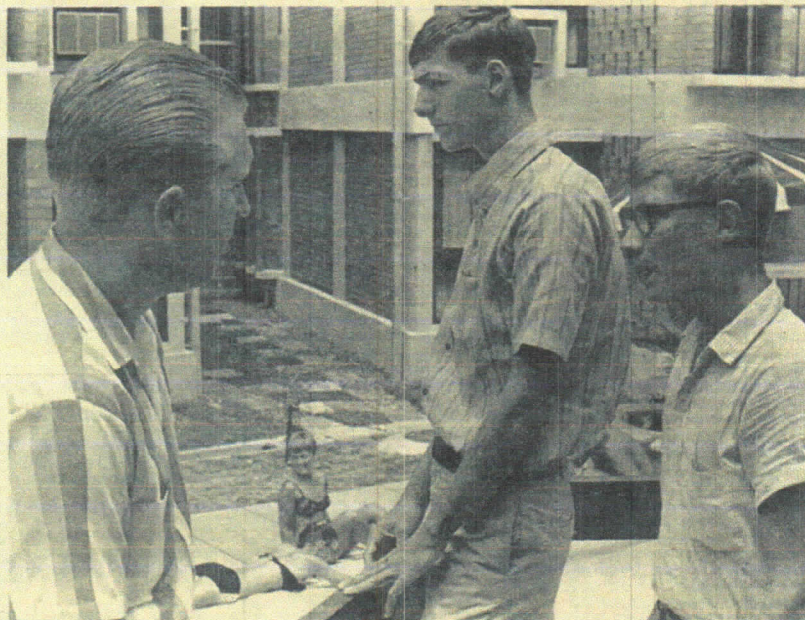
Traditional bars are located in most hotels. Local-color cabarets have girls who sit and talk with the customers. It's best to check the ground rules on prices, dancing with girls, etc., because of differing regulations. Also there are usually "mummies" or chaperons hovering about.

Best known clubs are the Car Park, Cabaret Singapura, Great World, El Amigo and Southern Cabaret. Bands and floorshows are frequent at the Adelphi, Airport Restaurant, Cockpit, Four Lions, Golden Venus, Princess, Flamingo, Arundel Room or Starlight Room. Anything from a Latin combo to an extemporaneous sing-along with holidaying Aussies is liable to occur.

Strictly local fare features island folk-dancing, Chinese opera, Indian temple dancing and similar offerings.

A five-day round of eating out in Singapore is a multi-flavored adventure. Outdoor stalls feature national treats. According to the area of the city one may try Chinese mee, Malayan satay or Indian curries.

For more sophisticated dining



Seriously girl-watching at the Seven Palms in Singapore are FN3 Robert F. Stout, left (Ellington, Mo.), Naval Support Activity; Pfc. Jack Milligan (Des Moines, Iowa), 1st Bn., Third Marine Regiment and LCpl. Tom Nordrum (Eau Claire, Wis.). (Photo by: MGySgt. J.T. Frye)

try the Adelphi Grill for the English and Continental flare. Batik Inn for Malaysian, Cathay Hibiscus Room for French cuisine, Cockpit for Javanese Rijst-tafel, Eastern Palace for Pekingese, Gino's Ristorante for Italian, Omar Khayyam for Muslim specialties, Raffles for smorgasbord, Sakura for Japanese, White Bear for Russian and if you're so mundane, the Cairnhill for choice steak.

Singapore is always crowded and the hotel situation parallels. Excellent hotels abound. The Singapore Intercontinental is popular and gay, while the Raffles is historic and staid. But for price and convenience the R&R team has worked out arrangements with the Shelford House, Tangli Mansion, Seven Palms, Biltmore and Serene House. They are not in the center of town, but are easily accessible. All offer added attractions including pools, restaurants and shopping centers. Those such as the Seven Palms are built on the motel plan. Prices range from \$6 to \$9 single.

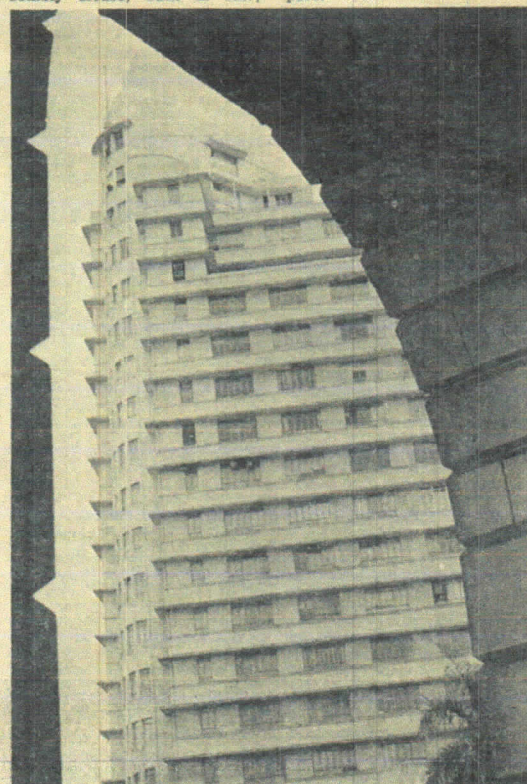
Don't neglect the fun in good, old-fashioned touring. If

you've time, make the rounds in a trishaw — Southeast Asia version of the rickshaw. Roaming through Chinatown or absorbing the atmosphere of the harbor areas are experiences which won't be available many more years. Junks, sampans, godowns and balustraded facades are giving way to speed boats, Butler buildings and high-rise apartments.

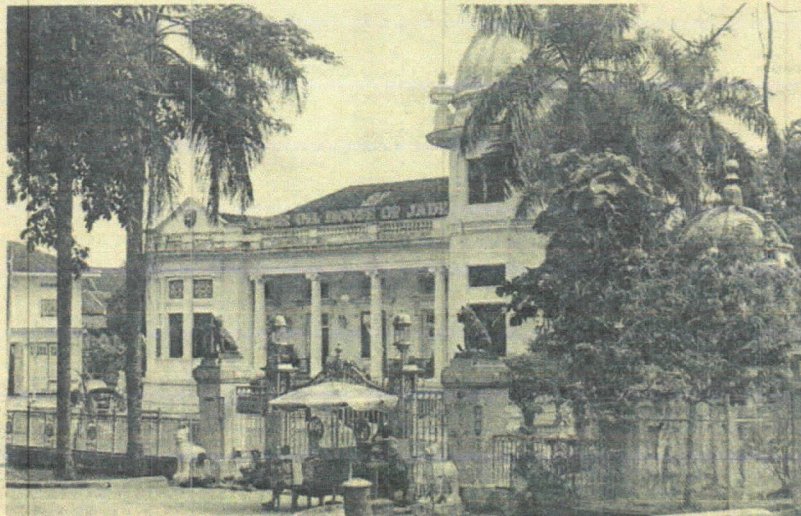
Specifically, cover the Quay area along the river; Raffles place commercial area; Assembly House, built in 1827;

Cenotaph Memorial; and Van Kleeq aquarium. Most unique are the Tiger Balm mansion with 1,000 pieces of Jade and Tiger Balm Gardens, where statues depict scenes from Chinese mythology.

As a final reminder, Navy Lt. Cdr. Jack L. Reifschneider, officer-in-charge of the R&R detachment, says: "There are no curfews or off-limits areas here; there have been no incidents or jailings of servicemen. No 'ugly American' has visited Singapore."



Singapore's business district is imposing. (Photo by: MGySgt. J.T. Frye)



House of Jade exhibits a collection of 1,000 pieces of antique Chinese Jade. (Photo by: MGySgt. J.T. Frye)

# Recon Patrol Slays 31 in Fierce Battle

DONG HA — A patrol from "C" Co., 3rd Reconnaissance Bn., accounted for 31 North Vietnamese kills during a nine-hour battle at Dong Ha mountain, eight miles northwest of Camp Carroll.

The eight-man patrol, headed by Sgt. Robert R. Chaney (Laward, Tex.), was inserted to observe the mountain area, set up an observation post and, if possible, make contact with the enemy.

"We were heli-lifted into the area Oct. 28," Chaney said. "We started moving northwest and in the evening set up our first patrol base. We made no contact or observed any movement throughout the night."

"At first light we moved out. Toward mid-morning LCpl. Marlin G. Bohn (Frederick, Md.), my primary radioman, spotted three armed Viet Cong moving in the direction of the mountain."

"I could see that one of the VC had something wrapped in a poncho," Bohn said. "I couldn't make out what it was because of the distance. I followed their movements until they disappeared into a woodline."

Chaney then told how his patrol set up their second patrol base that evening. Three hours later the patrol spotted eight to 10 lights coming from the area where they had been inserted the previous day.

The patrol leader quickly called in artillery on the lights which were doused a few minutes later. Soon afterwards, the patrol heard small arms fire coming from that same direction.

The next morning the patrol moved toward the mountain top, bypassing an unexploded 250-pound bomb on the way.

"At 1 p.m. the artillery's H&I (harassment and interdiction) started coming in," Chaney said. "From where the rounds were hitting we could hear small arms fire. I called in 30 high explosive rounds."

"It was almost 6 p.m.," Bohn said. "Sgt. Chaney was plotting our artillery rounds for the night. I suddenly heard voices in a treeline 50 meters to the north."

"Chaney, using a scope, spotted nearly 30 NVA crawling around the bomb craters below us."

Another Marine spotted what appeared to be a light, but knocked it out with a couple of rifle bursts.

"By midnight I would say we were completely surrounded," Chaney said. "At 3:30 a.m. three choppers, escorted by gunships, came to pick us up. In 40 min-

utes we were safely out of the area."

Chaney gave high praise to the artillery support he received that evening. "Those artillery people saved our necks with their precise firing. They fired a total of 2,000 rounds in support of us and I think everyone of them must have been on target."

The eight Marines accounted for 31 confirmed kills without suffering a casualty.

It had been a long nine hours for the encircled Marines, but it must have been longer for the NVA.

## Fight . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

forward to assist the wounded Marines on the point. Twenty-five meters from them, he was wounded by a rifle bullet. He crawled the remaining distance, bandaged a wounded Marine and died at his side.

One Marine lance corporal jumped forward to retrieve a machine gun. He reached it in time to shoot five NVA with the weapon. He then fired a LAW (Light Anti-tank Weapon) at the entrenched enemy, ran to the rear of the column three different times, and returned to fire 10 more LAWs into the enemy positions.

Wearing khaki uniforms with leaves tucked into them, the NVA charged the Marines, but were repulsed. Some enemy were throwing Chi-com grenades at the Marines from trees lining the trail.

The "B" Co. commander was hit as he ran forward to the ambush site. Giving the order to withdraw, he himself refused to leave until all his men were out of the area. Many Marines were wounded trying to help comrades who were wounded earlier and were lying in exposed positions.

When the artillery forward observer was hit, the 81mm mortar forward observer, Cpl. Jim J. McNulty (Santa Monica, Calif.), ran 300 meters up the trail to take his place. He took over the artillery radio and directed the incoming barrages.

Cpl. Mark Montgomery (Houston, Tex.), helped keep the enemy pinned down with accurate 60mm mortar fire.

Retrieving their wounded under sporadic enemy fire, "Bravo" managed to break contact with the enemy force. As they withdrew, the NVA tried to cut them off and encircle them, but the Marines fought their way clear.



TRACKING CHARLIE—Leathernecks of "H" Co., 2nd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division pursue Viet Cong forces during a search and destroy operation north of Da Nang. (Photo by: LCpl. D.J. Brush)

## Sgt. Escapes Disaster . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

he went down."

"I checked our lieutenant and found he was dead, and I had another man wounded so I called for a medevac helicopter to take them out," he continued.

As the choppers came into the area, Mushett said the enemy opened fire upon them with automatic weapons forcing the helicopters to leave the area.

"As they left, I started calling in artillery fire on the VC. It did some good, but they just got low and stuck around," Mushett recalled. "They weren't going to leave. Then a pair of Phantom jets came in to hit them and I guess it got too hot so they shoved off."

After the VC left, Mushett recalled the helicopters.

Cam Van village is not the only action the Mt. Vernon Marine has seen.

During March of this year, Mushett was acting as a platoon sergeant near Duc Pho on Operation De Soto when he noticed a VC force trying to flank his platoon in an ambush attempt.

Mushett alerted his troops and they opened fire on the enemy, forcing them to take over. As his unit moved in, their advance was halted by a VC in a fox-hole.

Mushett became "tired of messing around" and pitched a grenade toward the VC. As the enemy soldier ducked, waiting for the blast, Mushett got ready

to charge. As soon as the grenade went off, he was up and running.

As the VC popped up again, Mushett killed him.

"It wasn't heroic or anything—just something that had to be done," he said.

He was later awarded the Bronze Star Medal for the action.

Mushett has also been presented the Army Commendation Medal for his actions while a member of a Combined Action Platoon near Chu Lai in mid-1967. He was cited for his effectiveness on patrols in the area when he would take two or three Popular Forces (Vietnamese) soldiers on a night-time raid into VC villages.



AFTER THE FIGHT—Marines of "H" Co., 2nd Bn., Seventh Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, catch their breath after destroying Viet Cong caves and bunkers. The Marines were participating in an operation north of Da Nang. (Photo by: LCpl. D.J. Brush)

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### New Course

The Marine Corps Institute announces the opening of a new course, Math for Marines (13-34), which is designed to give a review of the arithmetic skills used by all Marines in their daily performance.

This course is recommended for all Marines, regardless of rank or MOS, who desire a review of math covering fractions, simple algebra, geometric forms, and an introduction to the "New Math." Information from both Shop Mathematics I (13.25b) and Shop Mathematics II (13.26a), which have been discontinued, has been incorporated into Math for Marines.

The course has 5 lessons and a final examination which require a total of 19 study hours. A reservist can earn 6 reserve retirement credits by completing this course.