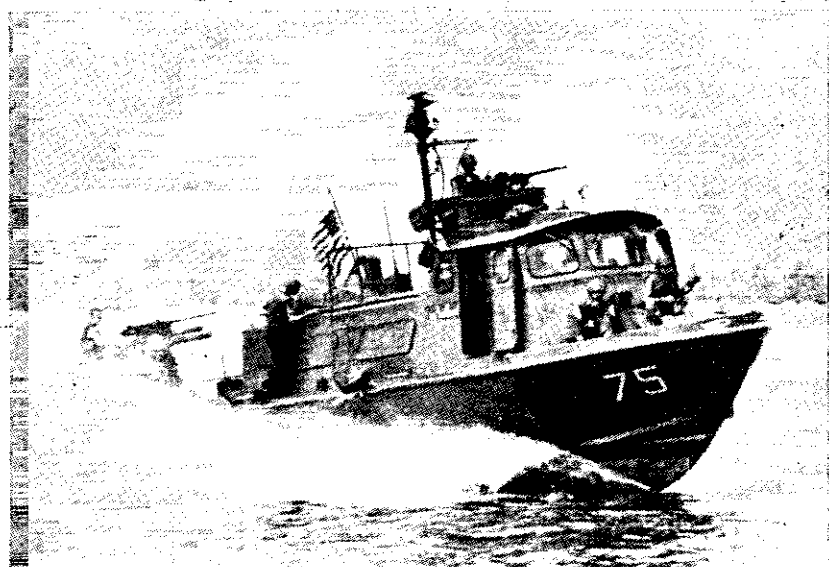


THE JACKSTAFF NEWS

VOL. I No. 17

U.S. NAVAL FORCES II, III, IV, CORPS, VIETNAM

JUNE 16, 1967



HIGH SPEED RUN — A Swift boat speeds to its patrol area to relieve another Operation Market Time boat that has been on station more than 24 hours.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by Wendell, PH2)

As Shells Burst in the Air Our Flag Was Still There

With shells from North Vietnamese shore batteries falling all around their ship, destroyer sailors ran out on exposed decks to retrieve their fallen national ensign and raise the largest American flag they had aboard.

While operating off the DMZ, providing gunfire support for forces ashore, the destroyer USS Edson was hit by fire from enemy shore batteries. Ten men were injured by shrapnel, but none seriously.

The shrapnel also cut the halyard on which the American flag was flying. Seeing their colors trailing on the broken halyard, Signalman First Class Clifford M. Kirkele Jr. and his fellow signalmen immediately ran out on exposed decks in the middle of battle, retrieved the Ensign and hoisted the largest American flag they had on another halyard.

As if in response to this "battle cry", the Edson and her fellow destroyer, USS Taylor, returned the fire and silenced the shore battery with their five-inch guns.

Edson received minor material damage, but remained operational.

Aug. Advancement Chances Reported Good by BuPers

Now's the time to knuckle down to studies if you're planning to participate in the August Navy-wide examinations for advancement in rate!

The August exams will continue to offer outstanding advancement opportunity as requirements for petty officers in most rates and ratings will increase, according to the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

A lack of vacancies will continue to hamper advancement to the first class and chief petty officer levels. However, lower level promotions in most ratings will be given to as many personnel as can successfully

pass the exam.

The magnitude of failures in the February exams—68,157 as compared to 115,638 test-passers—shows that the ratio can be greatly reduced by careful preparation by those who take the exams. So, let's break out those books!

But don't take the test if you're in for a field promotion! If you fail the test you will lose that advancement.

'Game Warden' Patrol Takes Heavy Casualties

Four U.S. Navymen and a Vietnamese National Policeman were killed and five other Navymen wounded in one incident. It was one of the heaviest single action casualty losses for Game Warden units operating in the Mekong Delta and Rung Sat Special Zone. The action took place May 24 on the Ham Luong River, 60 miles south of Saigon.

Shortly after dawn a recoilless rifle round slammed into the lead boat of a two-boat patrol. The round ricocheted off a forward shield into the midst of the crew of the River Patrol Boat killing three Navymen.

Both riverbanks then erupted with machine gun and recoilless rifle fire directed at the lead boat. Enemy shells and bullets landed within yards of the PBR. One exploding shell sent a plume of water 200 feet into the air.

Another crewman was killed by machine gun fire while readying his own weapon to return the fire.

Three of four near misses from enemy recoilless rifles caused the lead boat to veer out of control and head for the right bank. The only surviving crewman took the helm and, using the engines for control, steered the boat clear of the enemy fire. He was forced to dodge fish stakes as he guided the boat free of the attack zone.

The bulk of the enemy fire then turned on the second boat and caused moderate damage. A Vietnamese National Policeman, assigned to the patrol as liaison officer, was killed aboard this boat.

All five of the second boat's crewmembers were wounded, but they emptied all of their machine gun ammunition and grenades into the enemy positions while moving out of the attack zone.

Fighter-bomber and Navy helicopter gunship air strikes were called on the enemy positions. Three enemy structures were destroyed and six damaged by the aircraft.

PBRs were involved in five separate incidents on May 22.

In the first incident, six boats of River Division 51 stationed aboard the tank landing ship USS Hunterdon County provided gunfire support for a beach assault by the 21st Vietnamese Army Division on the Bassac River 100 miles southwest of Saigon.

The PBRs softened the landing zone with a 60mm mortar barrage, followed by .50-caliber machine gun firing runs mixed with 40mm grenade fire.

Only sporadic sniper fire was received by the boats. There were no friendly casualties.

(Continued to Page 3)

Officer Receives Five Medals

In a single ceremony at Can Tho, Lieutenant Commander Henry C. Mustin, Chief Staff officer to Commander Delta River Patrol Group, received five awards

The Navy officer was awarded two Bronze Stars and the Navy Commendation Medal for service in Vietnam, the Secretary of the Navy Commendation for Achievement for work at his last command and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

The four awards for service in Vietnam cited Lcdr. Mustin for organizing and leading combat air and river operations in the Mekong Delta.

According to the citations, Lcdr. Mustin's efforts led to major disruption of Viet Cong activity in the Delta.

He developed tactical concepts for River Patrol Boat (PBR) operations, working without precedent and many times exposing himself to intense hostile fire on board the

PBRs to gain experience and knowledge of the special problems associated with river fighting.

The fifth award, the Secretary of the Navy Commendation for Achievement, cited the Navy officer for developing procedures at a previous duty station for the operation of guided missile ships that were subsequently adopted for use in the Cruiser-Destroyer Force, Atlantic Fleet.

Lcdr. Mustin is the son of Vice Admiral and Mrs. Lloyd M. Mustin of Alexandria, Va. Admiral Mustin is Commander of the Amphibious Forces, Atlantic Fleet.

Lcdr. Mustin is being detached from his duties in Vietnam and will report as Aide to Admiral Ulysses S. Grant Sharp, Jr., Commander-in-Chief, Pacific.

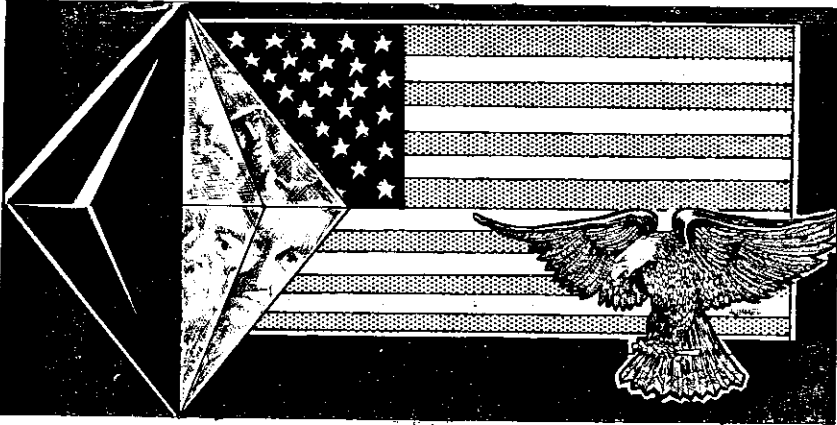
EDITORIAL

Don't Take It For Granted

AS members of the Armed Forces, often assigned to duty in a foreign country, we may be called upon to explain American democracy.

This is a difficult job sometimes inasmuch as it is hard to define an ideal. It is particularly difficult when we must put our definition into terms that have meaning to a person who has never experienced the freedoms and opportunities we take for granted.

Democracy is not limited to the United States. In various parts of



the world it has developed in different ways. There are, however, certain basic ideals of democracy, common to all its areas, which inspire and mark it as a unique way of life.

In a democracy, the basic equality of men is recognized and the individual is valued more than the state. A democratic government is based upon the rule of law rather than upon the rule of men and the government is the servant of the people, not their master.

Reason and experience guide the democratic government, keeping it vital and flexible. And, although the will of the majority is the governing factor, the rights of the minority are not infringed upon.

Following these basic precepts, democratic means and procedures rather than force and coercion, are employed to gain social, political and economic goals.

These are our basic democratic ideals. Each of us has, or should have, an understanding of them and their application and relationship in our individual lives. Unless we are able to offer tangible definitions of them, we can never hope to explain them to people of another country.

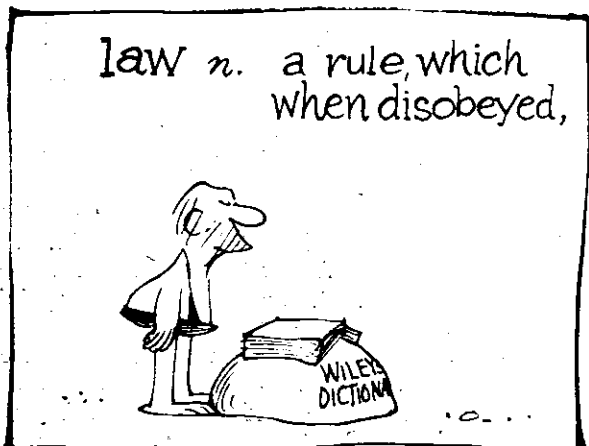
As members of the Armed Forces, we must be secure in our own knowledge of the democratic principles which we defend. By our individual actions we serve as an example to millions of people in the world. (AFNB)

The Jackstaff News

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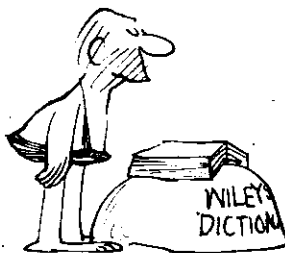
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B. C.



law n. a rule, which
when disobeyed,

sets us apart from others.



SEE hoosegow.

by Johnny hart

Chaplain's Corner Does It Matter?

By Chaplain Chamberlin

Does it matter—if I never join a church? Of course it does. You may think you are as good a Christian being a "lone wolf" and that only God can judge.

But you are not too effective a Christian as far as the community goes, any more than an educated man who never joins a college, a doctor who never goes near a hospital, or a businessman who has nothing to do with businessmen. When we really believe in something, we usually join with others who believe the same thing, don't we? Is Christianity any different?

Does it matter if I stay in the pad on Sundays and rest up? Certainly there's nothing wrong with resting up after a busy week. Indeed, it was Judaism and Christianity that first stressed the need of every one of us having one day in seven to relax from work.

But have you ever thought that the best way to rest may not be to lazy in your room but to do something more personal, something more creative. Sunday is your chance to worship God in the beauty of holiness. Don't miss it.

Does it matter if I let my family get my religion for me? Sure, it doesn't matter if you're the sort of a person who wants to get all the best things of life second-hand. Or if you want to be part of your family in the lighter moments of its life, but never part of its deepest moments.

Or if you want your children to feel that you are always sending them to church but never bothering to go yourself. No, think it over! Religion is something you can never get second-hand and have it mean much.

Does it matter? Of course it matters. It matters very much that you be the very best Christian you can possibly be... starting TODAY!

Gen. Westmoreland Praises U.S. Servicemen in Vietnam

General William C. Westmoreland, Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, has called American servicemen in that Southeast Asian country "the finest and best equipped fighting force ever deployed against an enemy."

Expressing utmost confidence in U.S. battlefield capability, Gen. Westmoreland predicted bitter fighting ahead in the Vietnam conflict but stated that "with fighting forces like these, a commander cannot help but look forward with confidence as he views the military situation."

Gen. Westmoreland said that American soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coast guardsmen:

- Are better educated than before;
- Are better informed;
- Have traditional American ingenuity and initiative;
- Are better physical specimens;
- Have high morale;
- And understand what the war is all about.

He said that although the military picture is favorable, "I emphasize the fact that we have no evidence to indicate that the enemy is slowing his invasion from the north or that he is breaking up his major units and scattering them about, or that he has given up his plans to inflict major defeat upon us."

High Endurance Cutters Go into Action

Game Warden Report

Enemy Troops Mowed Down

(Continued from Page 1)

In the second action, A Vinh Long-based patrol routed Viet Cong tax collectors from their canal-side station after the patrol was informed of their activity by friendly Vietnamese.

The patrol, headed by Lieutenant (jg) W.M. Drennen and Petty Officer First Class John H. Lowe, was inspecting a large junk when the occupants told of being taxed by the Viet Cong. Occupants of several sampans in the area confirmed the report.

The tax station was found on a canal off the Co Chien River, 75 miles southwest of Saigon.

The patrol approached and spotted a two-sided bunker facing the river with a table and stool inside.

Warning shots, then 40mm grenades were fired. Six fragmentation hand grenades destroyed half of the bunker.

Later in the day, two Hunterdon County PBRs were attacked with heavy automatic weapons while pursuing an evading sampan in a small canal off the Bassac River, 100 miles southwest of Saigon.

The PBRs returned the fire but were unable to silence the enemy positions. A "Seawolf" helicopter team was called in and the combined PBR-Seawolf assault suppressed the enemy fire.

In the fourth incident of the day, PBRs of River Patrol Section 513 went to the aid of a beleaguered Vietnamese village 80 miles southwest of Saigon on the Co Chien River.

The hamlet chief had reported 80 Viet Cong near his village.

A Navy Seawolf armed helicopter fire team joined with the PBRs in firing on the area after permission was granted by the sector advisor.

Enemy small arms fire was quickly silenced by the combined Navy fire team.

Sailor Killed in Blockade Operation

And in a delayed report, one Navymen was reported killed in action as his patrol provided blockade support for Vietnamese Popular Forces units sweeping an island in the Mekong River 80 miles southwest of Saigon.

Two Viet Cong were confirmed killed during the action and one Chinese Communist machine gun was captured.

The patrol, headed by Petty Officer First Class Jesse C. Sandlin, was unable to provide gunfire support for the popular forces because of their close proximity to the enemy.

The patrol was a unit of River Patrol Section 521 based at Sa Dec.

A U. S. Navy effort to win a small part of the Vietnam conflict without bullets was interrupted by enemy fire May 25.

A PBR team on the Bassac River 75 miles southwest of Saigon was playing information tapes when more snipers opened fire from three locations.

The operation was suspended while the boat returned fire with machine guns and grenades, suppressing the enemy fire.

The interruption was termed "unfriendly reaction by Viet Cong to a friendly U.S. Navy campaign."

When the firing stopped the tapes were resumed. People lined the riverbank to listen.

Can Tho-based PBR 127 was used in the operation. The boat captain was Lieutenant Commander David J. Wright. Patrol officer was Lieutenant Commander Donald D. Sheppard and the psychological operations officer was Lieutenant Commander Richard F. Dewey.

A large enemy force was turned back by PBRs on May 29 before they could overrun a Vietnamese Army outpost 90 miles south of Saigon on the My Tho River.

The size of the enemy force was estimated at two companies. They backed down when PBRs 123 and 126 opened fire on their positions with .50-caliber machine guns.

Ambush Party Hit by Seawolves

On the morning of May 31, two Seawolf helicopters surprised enemy troops setting up an ambush on the Ham Luong River. The attack resulted in seven enemy dead, ten bunkers destroyed and five others damaged.

Sometime later the same fire team destroyed three enemy supply sampans found hidden in a restricted area 15 miles east of the first action scene.

On June 4, PBRs and Seawolf helos engaged a company-sized enemy force on the Ham Luong River, 65 miles south of Saigon.

Three PBRs on normal patrol received light small arms fire from the riverbank while inspecting a sampan.

Preparing to return fire, the PBR crews spotted 50 to 60 enemy troops running across an open field. The boats opened fire with .50-caliber machine guns and M-79 grenade launchers.

Twenty to thirty enemy soldiers were seen falling under the heavy barrage.

Minutes later two Seawolves arrived on the scene and poured rockets and M-60 machine gun fire into the enemy forces. The enemy returned the fire with automatic weapons.

A spotter aircraft called artillery fire onto the positions and the PBRs and helos withdrew.

There were no American personnel casualties in the action. One helo and one PBR sustained light damage.

The PBR were units of RivPatSec 513 while the helos were from Helicopter Attack Squadron Three.

It only took a week from their arrival in Vietnam for the newest addition to Operation Market Time to get into action.

Two of the newly introduced 311-foot High Endurance Coast Guard Cutters (WHECs) shelled a known Viet Cong coastal emplacement on the Ca Mau Peninsula, destroying five structures and three sampans. The action took place on May 22.

The Cutter Barataria (WHEC 381) bombarded the coastal area with 45 rounds of high explosive 5-inch .38-caliber ammunition, destroying the structures and sampans and starting a large fire, according to U.S. Air Force spotter aircraft.

The Cutter Bering Strait (WHEC 382) also fired into the area, but battle damage assessment on her attack could not immediately be made.

In other Market Time action, patrol craft killed one enemy while providing naval gunfire support for U.S. Army units under attack in Quang Tri province 60 miles south of Chu Laion May 22.

A Swift boat (PCF 75) and the Coast Guard Cutter Point Gammon were on routine patrol when the Army units requested the gunfire support.

The Market Time boats fired 33 rounds of 81 mm mortar fire to help

break up the enemy attack. One enemy was confirmed killed. There were no friendly casualties.

Navy Swift boats based at Qui Nhon rounded up a total of 395 detainees and 80 junks and sampans in a two-day period May 24-25 while supporting U.S. Army units in Binh Dinh Province.

The Market Time craft were providing a seaward barrier against enemy escape from ground sweeps made by the First Cavalry (Airmobile) Division.

All detainees were turned over to Army units for further questioning.

And on May 31 a Navy rocket landing ship, the Coast Guard Cutter Point Caution and the Navy Swift boat PCF 22 inflicted heavy damage on an estimated enemy battalion 70 miles south of Da Nang.

The Market Time units were credited with 99 enemy bunkers and other emplacements destroyed or damaged. In addition, the naval rockets and mortars destroyed 200 feet of trench works. Three secondary explosions and nine secondary fires were observed.

Spotter aircraft called the naval gunfire. Action was initiated after friendly aircraft received fire from the area.

Unions, Lions Send Smokes To Navymen Serving Here

The "Back Our Boys in Vietnam" parade held in New York recently was not enough for several New York locals of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers and Lions International of Fairlawn, New Jersey.

These organizations felt that a gift was an additional means of reflecting their gratitude and dedicated support to their Navymen in Vietnam. The gift, 266 cases of cigarettes, arrived in Saigon in May.

The Naval Support Activity Special Services Office was given

the task of distributing the cigarettes to all naval units in the II, III IV Corps areas. The entire shipment was allocated, wrapped and shipped by registered mail to all Navy units in those areas with the exception of those in the Saigon area.

10% Savings Deposits Total 79 Million in First 7 Months

The new Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program has surpassed in seven months of operation the old Soldier's, Sailor's and Airman's Deposit program.



Defense officials said \$79,495,839 was deposited in the new program at the end of the first seven months. At its peak, the old program deposits reached \$60 million.

Officials attribute success of the new program to a 10 percent quarterly compounded interest rate and to the eligibility of officers to participate. The old program had a straight four percent interest rate.

Some 43,000 servicemen in Vietnam account for \$26.5 million of the total new deposits.

The worldwide number of accounts is 113,110 with 83,796 of these enlisted and 29,314 officers.

PBR Sailors Help Village Prepare for Heavy Rains

CNFVN—The villagers of Phu Hoa on the bank of the Mekong Delta's Bassac River have discovered U.S. Navymen have more in mind than swapping machine gun and grenade fire with the Viet Cong.

With the approach of the monsoon season, a frenzied effort to repair homes and the bridges which span tributary streams of the river is underway.

U.S. Navy River Division 51, a unit of Operation Game Warden, pitched in to make necessary repairs before the first onslaught of monsoon rains.

Through arrangements made by Lieutenant Commander Donald D. Shepard, Commander River Division 51, roofing, cement, building supplies and food were delivered to Phu Hoa Village April 4, along with

a team of Navymen to help with the work.

River Patrol Section 511 sailors, commanded by Lieutenant Norman B. Howell, escorted a supply-laden landing craft to the village, off-loaded it and helped with repair projects.

A sagging 45-meter bridge, which could easily have been swept away by the rising torrents of the monsoon, was reinforced.

Supplies were provided by USAID headquarters at Can Tho, where River Division 51 is located.



BUNDLES FOR HO CHI MINH — Aviation Ordnancemen aboard the Seventh Fleet attack aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk roll 500-pound bombs across the flight deck prior to a launch against targets in North Vietnam. (Official U.S. Navy Photo by R.D. Moesser, JOC)

Vietnam Bomb Tonnage Approaches WWII Rate

In March, American planes dropped 77,000 tons of bombs over North and South Vietnam—a one month record for the war, at the unbelievable rate of more than 3,000 pounds a minute around the clock.

This total is just short of the 80,000 tons dropped in Europe during the average month of the peak year of bombing in World War II.

The 77,000 tons in March compares with 29,000 tons per month spilled against the Japanese at the height of World War II operations in the Pacific and with 17,000 tons a month dropped during the Korean War.

With intensified raids and the widening of the approved target list, the tonnage seems likely to soon exceed the World War II rate.

The bulk of the effort is directed at North Vietnam, although airpower is also used to support ground operations in the South. Approximately 50% of the bomb tonnage dropped on the North is dropped by Navy aircraft.

Destruction is not the only reason for the bombing.

Air Force Secretary Harold Brown said in a major policy speech last December:

"All of these targets are hostages to U.S. airpower which operates over North Vietnam every day. That power can be increased to a much higher level if it is concluded, on balance, that this will contribute to the attainment of our objectives.

"It is also a constant and visible reminder to the people of North Vietnam that their leaders cannot avoid the cost of aggression."

Administration spokesmen say the chief consideration in the selection of targets is still the question of how many civilians might be killed.

Policy is to avoid or at least minimize damage to the populace.

In 1966 American planes dropped 512,000 tons over Vietnam—one-third of the entire U.S. bomb tonnage dropped during World War II in North Africa and Europe.

During 37 months of the Korean War, 700,000 tons of U.S. bombs fell.

Jennings County Logs 400th Helo

CNFVN—The tank landing ship USS Jennings County (LST-846) logged her 400th helicopter recovery April 13.

The ship was recommissioned in June 1966, as a support ship for Operation Game Warden in Vietnam.

The Navy's "Seawolf" UH-1B helicopter gunships fly in support of the Mekong Delta River Patrol Boat operations which are aimed at curtailing enemy movement on the waterways of the area.

The 22-year-old ship, specially configured to support River Patrol Boats as well as the helicopters, has been on station in the Delta since November 1966.

The 400th helicopter landing was made by Lieutenant (jg) Gordon DeGraw with Lieutenant Alfred Banford, the copilot. They are members of HAL-3, Detachment 4.

The Seawolf Detachment is commanded by Lieutenant Commander George Rockwell. Jennings County is commanded by Lieutenant Lawrence M. Patella.

New Officers' Reading List Contains Interesting Books

A new recommended reading list for Navy and Marine Corps officers has been promulgated by Secretary of the Navy Instruction 1520.5A change 3, dated March 31, 1967.

The purpose of the list is "to encourage Navy and Marine Corps officers to read timely and significant books and articles for intellectual growth and development".

An advisory committee of naval and civilian specialists recommends books for the list and inclusion of a book does not imply official Navy endorsement of the views contained therein.

The list is intended as a guide and to encourage persons to develop and plan their own reading programs.

The new list contains 16 titles. Included is "Decision at Leyte", by Stanley F. Falk, a dramatic story of a key Pacific War campaign; and "The Russians at Sea", by David Woodward, which is the story of Russian seapower from the days of Peter the Great to the present.

Other military titles include: "Battles Lost and Won", which is an analysis of great campaigns of World War II by Hanson Baldwin, and "Midway: Turning Point of the Pacific", a participant's view "salted with human interest and warm humor" by Vice Admiral William W. Smith (Ret).

Some titles are not strictly military; such as "Presidential Greatness", a "provocative, funny, absorbing" study of the strong and weak points of our presidents; and "The Comedians", by Graham Greene, which focuses on life in a corrupt South American dictatorship.

All of the titles on the list may be borrowed by mail from: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Station (Library-ALSC), Box 174, FPO San Francisco 96630.

Patrol Officer Holds Sick Call For Vietnamese on Bassac River

CNFVN—While searching for enemy traffic on the Bassac River, a Navy River Patrol Boat patrol officer holds waterborne "sick call" for friendly Vietnamese.

Lieutenant Robert J. Novak is a former medical student. When on patrol, he takes with him a simple medical kit of aspirin, salve, bandages and disinfectants to treat minor ailments.

More serious cases are evacuated. When inspecting a sampan, Lieutenant Novak offers medical aid if it is needed. This is the only medical attention available to many of the river people.

Word of Lieutenant Novak's floating "sick call" has spread to the villages along the river and people often launch their sampans to request medical aid when Lieutenant Novak's patrol approaches their section of the river.

Lt. Novak is a patrol officer of Operation Game Warden's River

Section 511 supported by USS Jennings County.



Vietnam Vets Have Priority For Recruiting/Instructing

A shortage has developed in the number of applicants for recruiting and instructor duties and the Bureau of Naval Personnel has decided to give priority to Vietnam veterans who desire such assignments.

Eligibility requirements are quite rigid, however. Requirements for shore duty must be met as indicated in the current SEAVEY listings and applicants must have sufficient obligated service to complete a normal shore tour.

GCT scores of 50 and 55 are required for recruiting and instructor duties, respectively. However, a 10-point waiver will be considered when candidates are otherwise qualified for instructor duty. No waiver will be granted for recruiting duty.

Personal traits loom large when a commanding officer makes his evaluation of an applicant before recommending him. Leadership ability, military bearing, good judgment, ability to work with others, good record and clear speech are traits needed for instructor duty.

Hopeful recruiting applicants need

forcefulness, a sense of humor, the ability to meet the public and to converse intelligently, a cooperative attitude, the ability to successfully present ideas and convince others, a clear record and evidence of financial stability and sobriety.

Additional requirements for recruiting duty include a valid state driver's license and 36 months of obligated service computed from month of transfer.

Recruiting duty is limited to career-minded second class petty officers and above.

Requests for recruiting and instructor duty may be made when filling out the SEAVEY Rotation Data Card.

Further information may be obtained from Commander Naval Forces Vietnam Notice 1306 of March 20, 1967.

Careless Servicemen Carry 'Killer Malaria' to States

U.S. Servicemen returning home from Vietnam have caused an increase in the number of reported cases of malaria in the U.S., according to the U.S. Public Health Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta, Ga.

The Communicable Disease Center reports that the number of cases of malaria in the U.S. for the first three months of 1967 has already exceeded the total number reported in all of 1966.

Most of the 700 reported cases in the U.S. have been traced to service personnel returning from Vietnam and over 500 of the cases reported were caused by *Plasmodium falciparum*, commonly called the "killer

malaria." This strain of malaria has been extremely difficult to treat.

Will you be guilty of carrying malaria home? Will you be the one to cause the illness of your wife, child, parents or other loved ones?

The spread of malaria can be stopped in many ways but the easiest way is simply taking your anti-malaria pill every week and continue taking it for eight weeks after returning home.

Piaster Expenditures Drop To \$18 Per Man in March

Personal piaster purchases dropped to an all-time low during the month of March with MACV comptroller records reflecting an average individual purchase of \$18.88.

The trend toward the purchase of fewer piasters by individuals began in December and continued throughout the first three months of this year. Personal buying of "Ps" for the three-month period averaged \$22.15.

An all-out campaign to reduce personal piaster spending and to increase personal savings began in December and is continuing.

According to Lieutenant Colonel Edwin C. Heffelfinger, recently appointed chairman of the MACV Piaster Expenditure Control Working Group:

"Military personnel in all of the services throughout Vietnam have shown that they recognized and understand the inflationary problem which Vietnam faces. They have shown an amazing response in doing their part to ease the situation."

With a view toward even further reduction in the personal spending

of piasters, General W.C. Westmoreland, MACV Commander, has set a new goal of \$10.00 average monthly expenditures for each individual.

Coded Checks Required

The Vietnam Regional Exchange announces that effective July 1, 1967, its facilities will accept only personal checks which bear the Magnetic Ink Character Recognition (MICR) codes of the American Bank Association and uncoded checks drawn on military banking facilities in Vietnam.

Authorized post exchange customers whose personal check do not contain MICR special coding are urged to obtain correctly coded checks from their stateside banks. Checks drawn on Vietnam military banking facilities need not be magnetically coded.



EAGER BEAVERS — Vietnamese in a refugee village aren't shy about accepting the clothing handed out by Navy YN3 Harold H. Harkson II. Harkson got the clothing from the people in his home town area.

Home Folks Key to Success Of Navyman's Civic Action

By Ted Jorgenson, JOC

CNFVN — "Go into a small, isolated village in Vietnam bearing gifts and you will see a sea of smiles and eagerness like you've never seen before."

This is the way a young Navy petty officer, Yeoman Third Class

Skipper Directs His Ship's Fire From Helicopter

The skipper of the Seventh Fleet destroyer USS Brinkley Bass may have made naval history recently when he directed his ship's gunfire from an Army helicopter.

Commander Sumner Gurney was visiting First Cavalry Headquarters at Bong Son for a tactical briefing. Brinkley Bass was supporting First Cavalry operations.

The Army invited him to ride a helo gunship during a fire mission. He did. And while in the air he directed his own ship's gunfire onto the target, a Viet Cong infiltration route.

In another Army helicopter close-by were Lieutenant John L. Erlandson, the destroyer's operations officer, and Radarman Second Class Larry M. Murphy. Murphy commented on his ship's gunfire, "After that last low pass over the target, you can see what accurate naval gunfire can do. It is nice to know how accurate we are!"

Cdr. Gurney commented, "I'm glad we're up here and not down there on the receiving end of those salvos!"

Harold H. Harkson II, summed up a recent experience he and other Navy men had delivering nearly 1,000 pounds of clothing to a refugee camp.

Harkson was instrumental in getting the clothes to Vietnam.

He saw the need for such clothing as he made short inland trips from his base at Cam Ranh Bay. Harkson works for the Navy's Military Sea Transportation Office, Vietnam at Cam Ranh Bay.

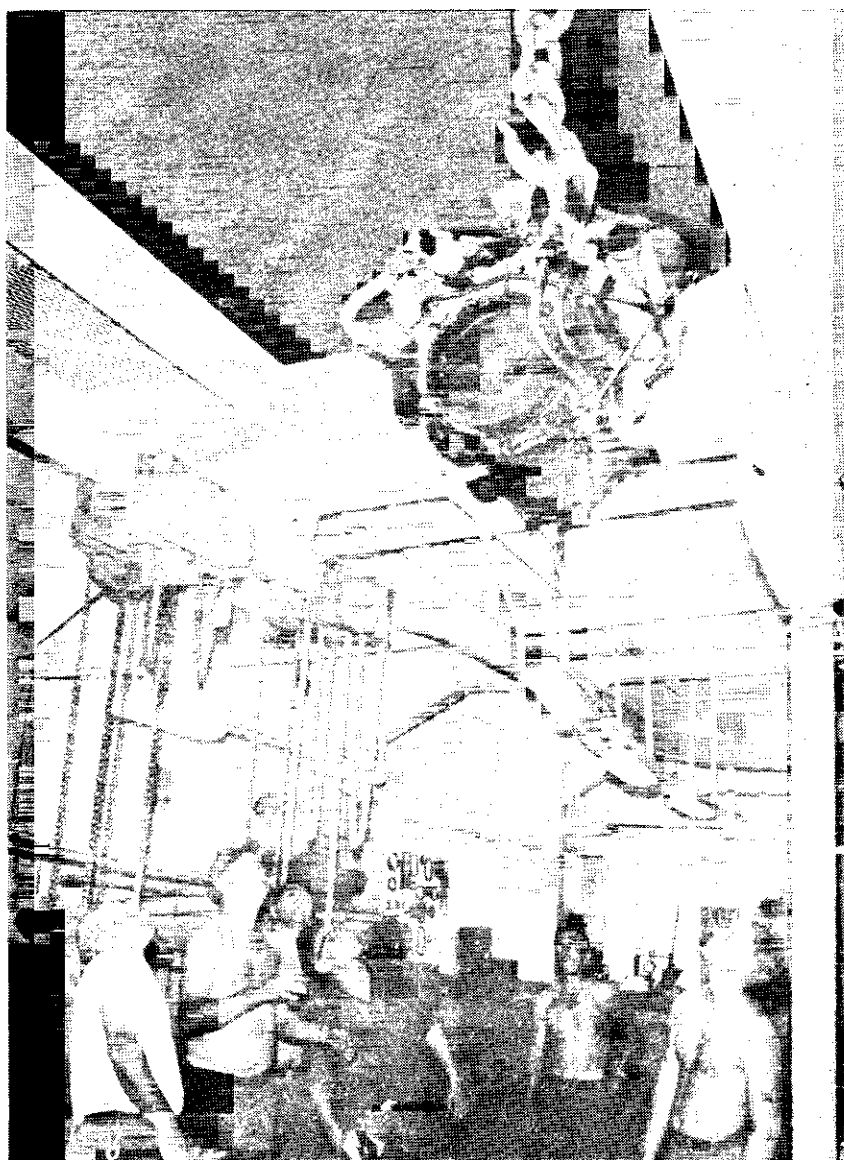
Harkson wrote about the Vietnamese refugees' problems to relatives and friends in Solvang, Calif. The people of the little Danish-like village and of the Santa Ynez Valley in which the village is located responded in grand style.

They not only collected and donated all the clothing, boxed according to size, but paid for the boxes to be sent from the U.S. to Vietnam.

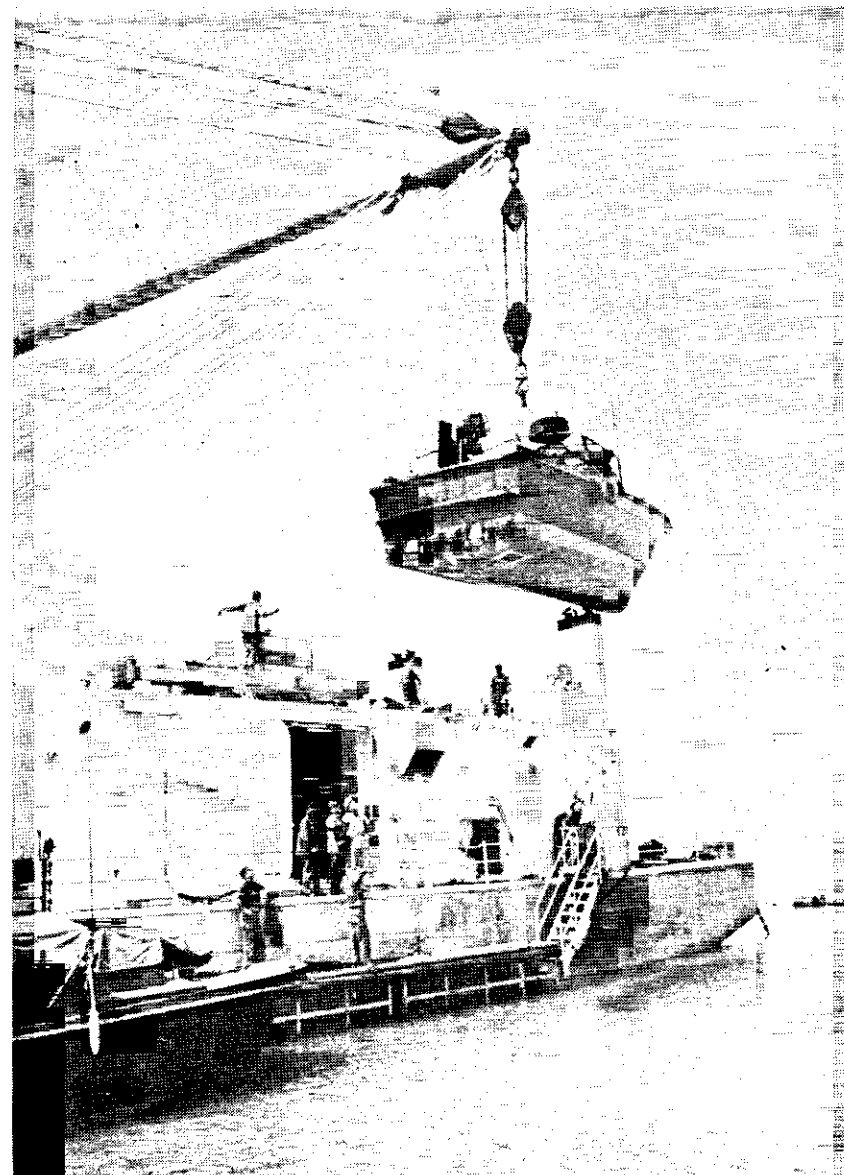
When the 65 boxes arrived at Cam Ranh Bay, Harkson selected the most suitable refugee camp, arranged for local transportation and assisted with the distribution.

The camp is located in the mountains northwest of Cam Ranh Bay. Practically all the Vietnamese in the camp are refugees from the North.

As Harkson put it, "This small civic action project of ours was a success because the people of the Santa Ynez Valley cared enough to collect and send the clothes."



OPEN FOR BUSINESS — A river patrol boat engine is lowered through the cargo hatch of YRBM 16 at Tan Chau. The YRBM is now "open for business" as a support base for PBR operations in the upper Mekong Delta.



PULL 'ER UP! — Lifting a PBR is no big thing for the YRBM 16's cargo boom. The boat will be placed on skids on the top deck for hull repairs.



NEW GAME WARDEN BASE — YRBM 16, moored at Tan Chau on the upper Mekong River for River Patrol Section 522. Use of the YRBM prevented costly and time-consuming operations. (All photos pages 6-7 Official U.S. Navy Photo)

YRBM 16 Is PBR Support

By Bob Edwards, JO

The newest support base for river patrol operations in the Mekong Delta is now open for business. Patrols and the support people are settling down to their tasks. But it is not yet ready for her boats.

The turmoil began with the arrival of the repair barge YRBM 16 (then designated YFNB 21) at Vung Tau. She had been towed from Japan by the ocean-going tug USS Tillamook. In Vung Tau she took on fuel, ammo and provisions. Then another tug, USS Sunnadin, took the craft under tow for the trip up the Mekong to Tan Chau, with an overnight stop at My Tho.

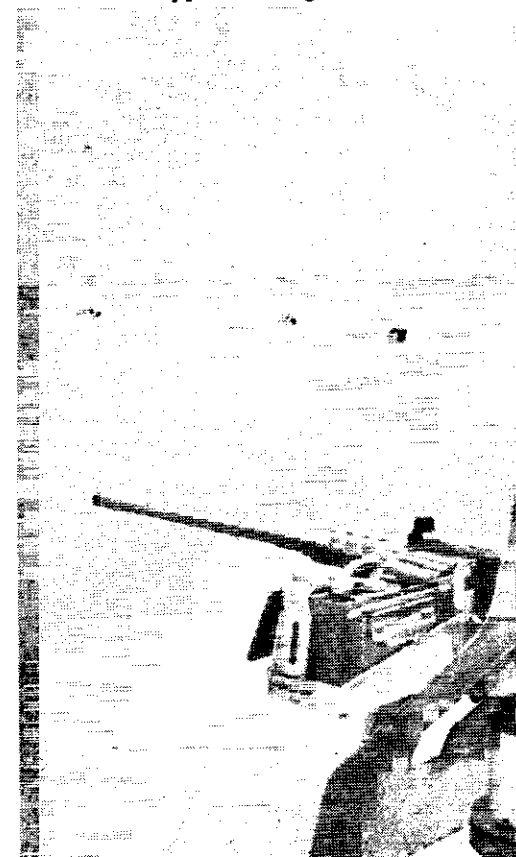
Upon arrival at Tan Chau, the YRBM was moored adjacent to a strip of riverbank at the edge of town. Mine nets were laid to protect the hull of the barge, causeways were built between the craft and the beach and the beach area was enclosed with concertina wire.

The YRBM had been secured for heavy weather during her trip from Japan. Once in Vietnam, gear that had been fastened down had to be unlash, hatches that had been welded shut were opened and much of the electrical machinery and electronic equipment had to be checked out and inspected before being put into use.

More ammunition, food and other supplies had to be brought aboard and stowed. All hands working parties were needed much of the time.

And after just a few days of long hours and hard work, the newly-established Naval Support Activity, Saigon Detachment Tan Chau was

ready for her boats. Located on the Mekong River less than ten miles from Cambodia, the base supports river patrol operations in the upper Mekong Delta region. Its mission: to provide full support for PBR operations in interdicting enemy supply lines on the waterways of the upper Mekong Delta.



ARRIVAL OF THE PBRs — The coming of the PBRs is the beginning of fevered preparation.

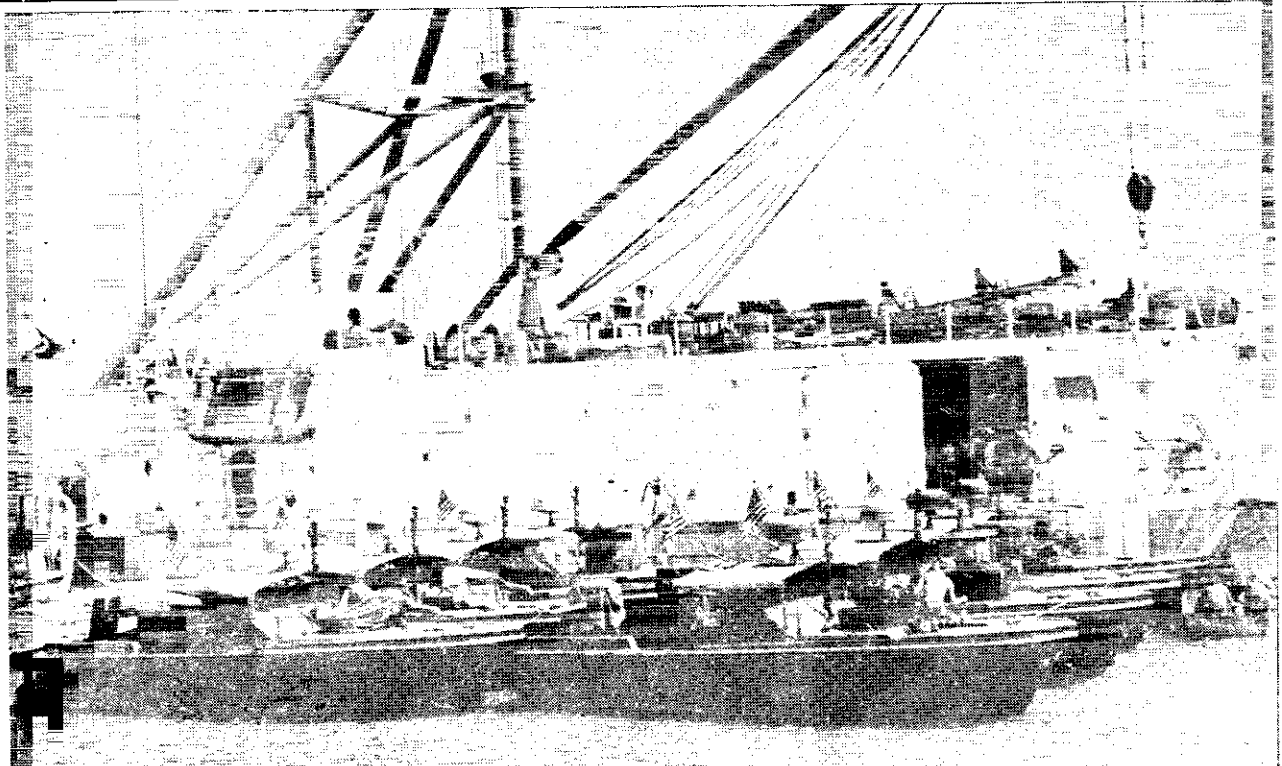


Delta is now operational. The PBRs are the calm after the storm in Tan Chau. (Navy Photos by Larry Lindberg, PH2)

Base at Tan Chau

Delta is now operational. The PBRs are the calm after the storm in Tan Chau.

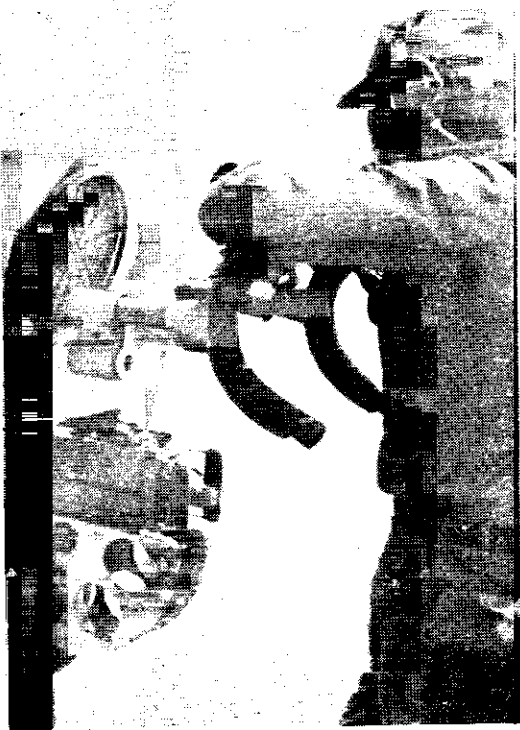
Lieutenant Villard Blevins is Officer-in-Charge of the Naval Support Activity Detachment, Tan Chau. He recently relieved Lieutenant Ray Zogg, who was O-i-C during the difficult establishment period. The base supports River Patrol Section 522, skippered by Lieutenant James Dykes.



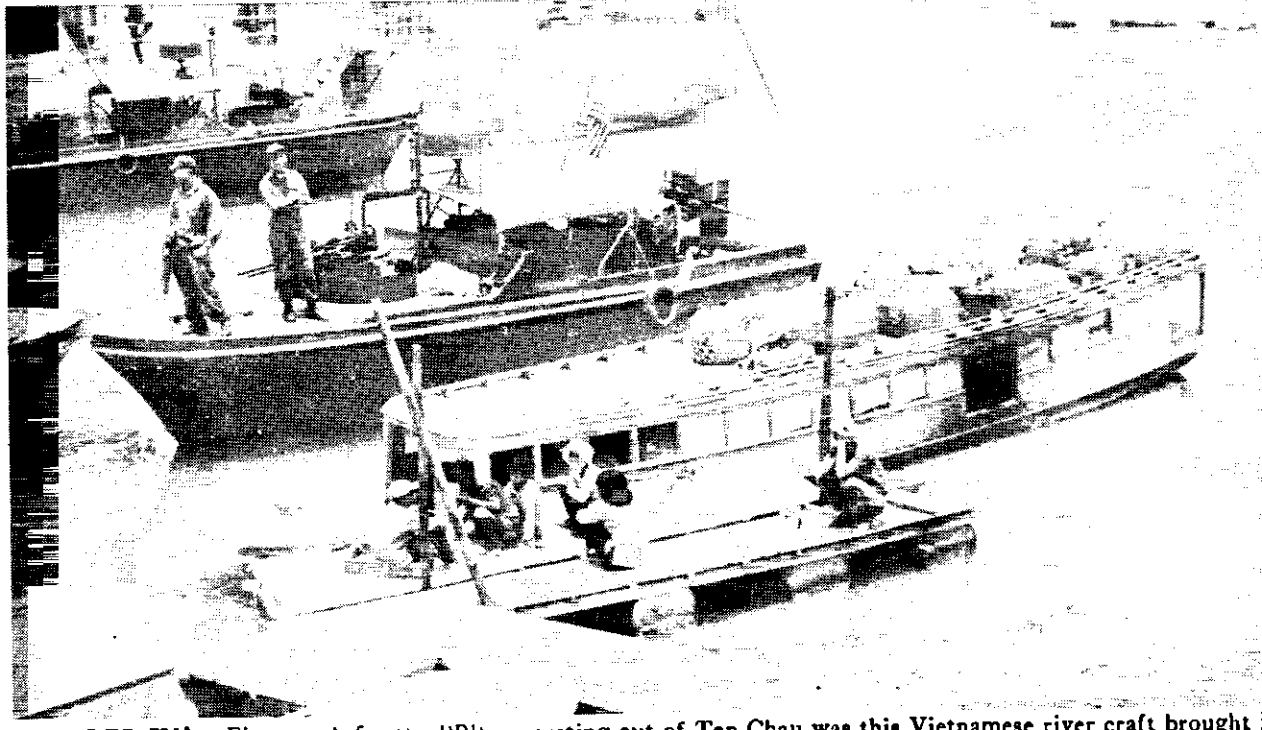
SNUG — PBRs of River Patrol Section 522 "snuggle up" alongside their "mother" ship, YRBM 16, at the new Tan Chau support base.



SHOPPING — Chief commissaryman R.A. McCollum buys fresh vegetables from a woman vendor. Tan Chau has no supermarkets!



The PBRs to Tan Chau climaxed a hectic week



'HAULED IN' — First catch for the PBRs operating out of Tan Chau was this Vietnamese river craft brought in for investigation after being caught with an improperly-manifested cargo.

Tan Chau Kids Get New 'Swimming Hole'

By Bob Edwards, JOI

It didn't take long for the crew of the YRBM 16 to begin a civic action program: within a week of their arrival at Tan Chau as a new PBR support base, the men began building a combination swimming pool and bath for the Vietnamese villagers.

When the YRBM arrived it was moored adjacent to a strip of beach along the Mekong River. The parcel of land had to be enclosed with concertina wire and was thus closed to the villagers. But the area had been the place for bathing, washing and general recreation for the children. So something had to be done!

And it was. In an area just beyond the concertina wire, the men began digging. They dug a hole six feet wide and 10 feet long. At one end it was four feet deep and only 18 inches at the shallow end.

Between 45 and 50 bags of cement were used to line the hole. Pipes were laid into the cement, with one outlet at the bottom and another at the top of the pool.

A fire hose was run from the middle of the river, through the YRBM, and up the beach to the pipes. A continual flushing system keeps fresh water running through the pipes at all times. Natural

drainage takes the water back to the river.

Not all the credit should go to the sailors, however. Much assistance was received from the villagers. As the hole was being dug, children took the dirt and loaded sandbags which were used later by the sailors to build a bunker for the security watch. Others helped mix and pour the cement and lay the pipes.

Within a week the job was completed and the pool was put to use. In fact, in late April it played a vital role when a fire broke out in a power plant a block down the street. Additional hose was applied to the connection at the pool and within minutes the U.S. Navymen had the fire out.

The project was directed by Lieutenant Ray Zogg, then officer-in-charge of the Naval Support Activity Saigon Detachment Tan Chau, based aboard the YRBM 16.



SHOVEL MATES — Yeoman Third Class A.M. Wines (left) and Fireman R.L. Valentine "dig in" with their shovels for a new swimming pool for the people of Tan Chau. They are members of the crew of the YRBM 16, new support base for Game Warden operations in the upper Mekong Delta area. (All photos pages 8-9 Official U.S. Navy Photos by Larry Lindberg, PH2)



ROOTING SECTION— turned out to lend moral support to the men of the YRBM 16 at Tan Chau as they undertook their first civic action project for the local populace.



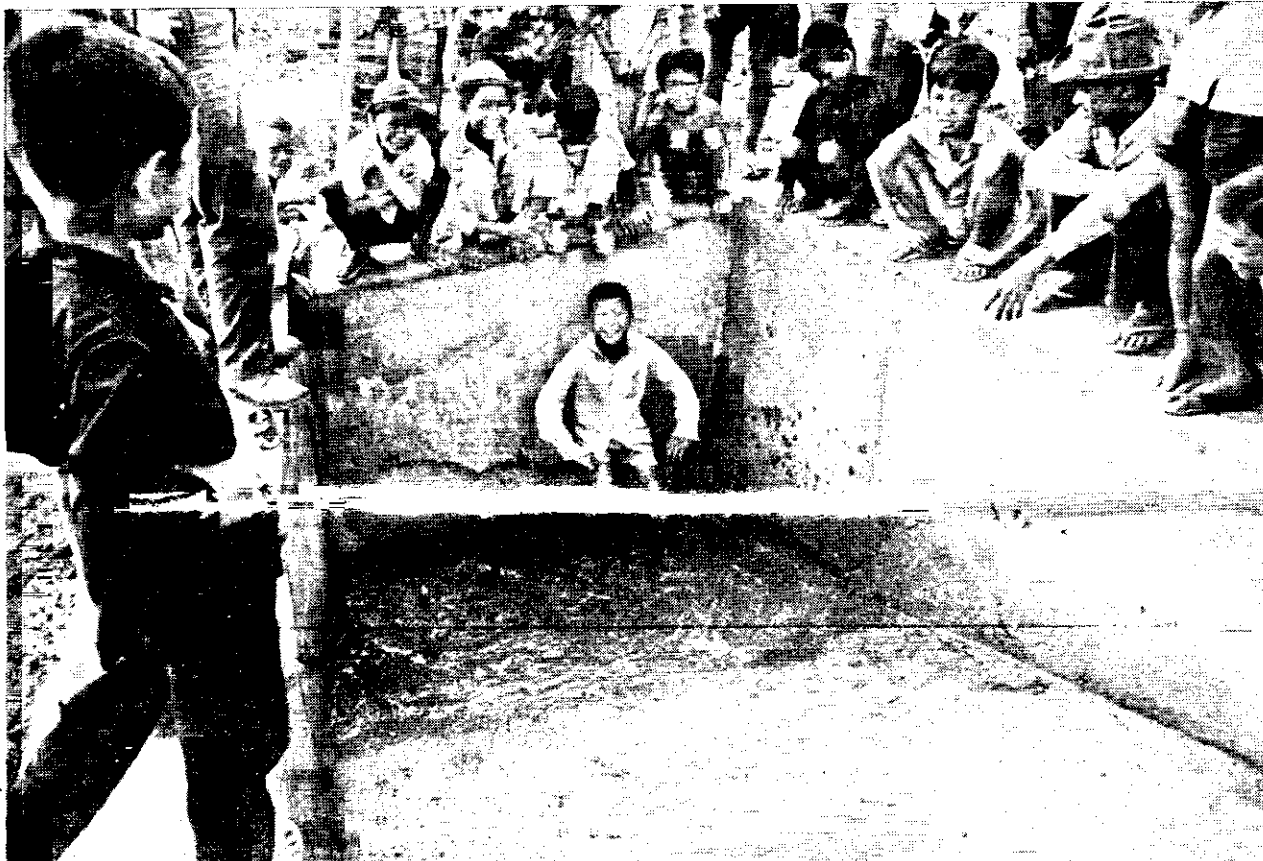
KIDS PITCH IN — Tan Chau youngsters lend their assistance to YRBM 16 personnel to dig the swimming pool at Tan Chau. These young men used excavated dirt to fill sand bags which were used to build a security watch bunker.



CEMENT MIXER — Firemen J.M. Sumrall and W.K. Carter receive some local assistance as they mix cement for the swimming pool.



FEELS SO GOOD! — An eager beaver makes the first splash in the pool built by the men of the YRBM 16 at Tan Chau.



FILL 'ER UP — This boy was the first to get his feet wet when the men of YRBM 16 neared completion of the swimming pool.



LAST ONE IN IS A ROTTEN EGG! — The youngsters of Tan Chau came running when they heard that the pool was finished.



'HEY, IT'S WET!' — This lad was a little dubious when first entering the swimming pool at Tan Chau, but soon was enjoying himself thoroughly!

Seabees Bring Better Way of Life to Village

Former VC Pitches In

VC Bullets and Mines Fail To Stop Work

"A few months ago, Raoul was a Viet Cong, now I wish we had a hundred more like him!"

Seabee John C. Clements was talking about one of the Vietnamese civilians working with Navy Seabee Team 0406, in the capital of Hau Nghia province, about thirty miles northwest of Saigon.

To accomplish their mission of civic action, the Seabees train Vietnamese in many phases of construction. They point to Raoul with a father's pride.

"Raoul was captured a few months ago by Vietnamese forces," said Lieutenant (jg) William A. Moros, the Officer in Charge of the team. "When he began working for us, he showed considerable aptitude and we felt that we had a good chance to rehabilitate him."

"He continually works overtime," Ltjg. Moros went on, "and never complains. Now he is the highest paid laborer working with us. When other Vietnamese who had lacked interest in the team projects saw his example, they began to work better."

A few weeks ago, his father died and Raoul became the head of the family. The financial burden of the situation might have forced him to leave the Seabees and go home to support the family.

But the team took up a collection and gave Raoul \$40 and sent him home to settle family affairs.

"Since he's been back, Raoul feels that Seabees can do no wrong," marveled Tony Schobes, the team's builder. "I guess it goes to show that if you treat a guy right—even a former V.C.—you won't be sorry."

"Until a few months ago, the children here had to walk through blocks of muddy streets to attend school. There were only the most primitive public sanitation facilities and disease was rampant."

These are the words of Lieutenant (jg) William A. Moros, the Officer in Charge of a 13-man Navy Seabee Team that is determined to improve living conditions for the 2,000 people in the village of Bao Trai.

Seabee Team 0406 is composed of volunteers from Navy Mobile Construction Battalion Four, homeported at Port Hueneme, Calif. It is sponsored, along with seven other such teams from construction battalions, by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Here to help the Vietnamese help themselves, the Seabees teach them modern methods of construction, sanitation and health care.

Community Was Isolated

Bao Trai, the capital of Hau Nghia province, is located about thirty miles northwest of Saigon, along a dirt road called Route 8. During the monsoons, sections of this road disappear under water, virtually isolating the community from the outside world. Making the road passable throughout the year was of primary concern to the village officials.

The Seabees trained one of the Vietnamese to operate a dump truck and began hauling fill dirt from a nearby quarry to the swampy road. Progress was halted occasionally because of sniper fire and land mines but thousands of cubic yards of dirt raised the road about three feet.

One Vietnamese guard was killed by a sniper and a dump truck was damaged when an effectively placed land mine blew its rear wheels off—without injury to the driver.

"Eventually we hope to surface

the road with a layer of gravel and rock," said Lt. Moros. "This will make it passable even during the monsoons."

With the completion of this major artery to Saigon, the team turned to problems in the village.

"Most serious," said Lt. Moros, "was the lack of drainage which made most of the streets in town solid mud during the rainy season. We began by hauling tons of fill to raise the street level. We had the equipment for this but most of the drainage ditches had to be dug by hand."

Moros went on, "we mentioned the need for laborers to the province chief, Trung Ta Nguyen. The next day he had men excavating the ditches, and soon the job was completed."

"We did run into some difficulty," he admitted "There was no pipe available for culverts that we wanted to put at the entrance of each house."

Shell Casings Utilized

The ingenious Seabees, living up to their "can do" tradition, utilized discarded 155mm and 105mm howitzer canisters by welding them together end to end and soon had the pipe for their culverts. Now there is an effective drainage system throughout the village. This prevents stagnant water that once encouraged the breeding of malaria carrying mosquitoes.

Garbage disposal presented another problem that the team is solving. For years the villagers had thrown refuse in any convenient corner, which contributed to the rat population and the spread of disease.

The resourceful Seabees, not having any garbage cans, combed the area for discarded 55 gallon fuel drums. They cut the drums in half, welded handles on the sides and painted the words "trash" on them in Vietnamese. The cans were distributed throughout the village and will be emptied regularly.

Cries of "Bac Si, Bac Si, Bac Si number one!" greet the team's hospital corpsman first class, Les Lagda, as he makes his sick call rounds in the village. "Bac Si" Lagda (Bac Si is the Vietnamese word for doctor), who is Filipino, is well accepted by the Vietnamese.

Lagda's sick calls are held five days a week and he treats upwards of 100 people a day.

"I find diseases here that are unheard of in the U.S." He cited such examples as scurvy, beri-beri and leprosy; then he pointed out that most of the ailments could be eliminated if the people had a proper diet and adequate sanitation facilities.

The various jobs undertaken by the Seabees often involve working 16 hours a day. In addition, they face the 100-plus degree heat, humidity that is often over 85 per cent and the ever-present Viet Cong. Under these conditions one might assume that the Seabees are an unhappy lot.

Morale Excellent

"Not so," said Ltjg. Moros, "our morale is excellent." First class Builder Tony Schobes told why.

"For instance, we built some swing sets for the school children; you should have seen them—five kids on one swing—and smiling from ear to ear! It really made us feel good. They play on them so much that at least one set is in for repair every day, and believe me, fixing them is a pleasure!"

The Assistant Officer in Charge of the team is Chief Equipment Operator Ernest Jones. A 16-year Navy veteran, Chief Jones considers this his most challenging and satisfying assignment.

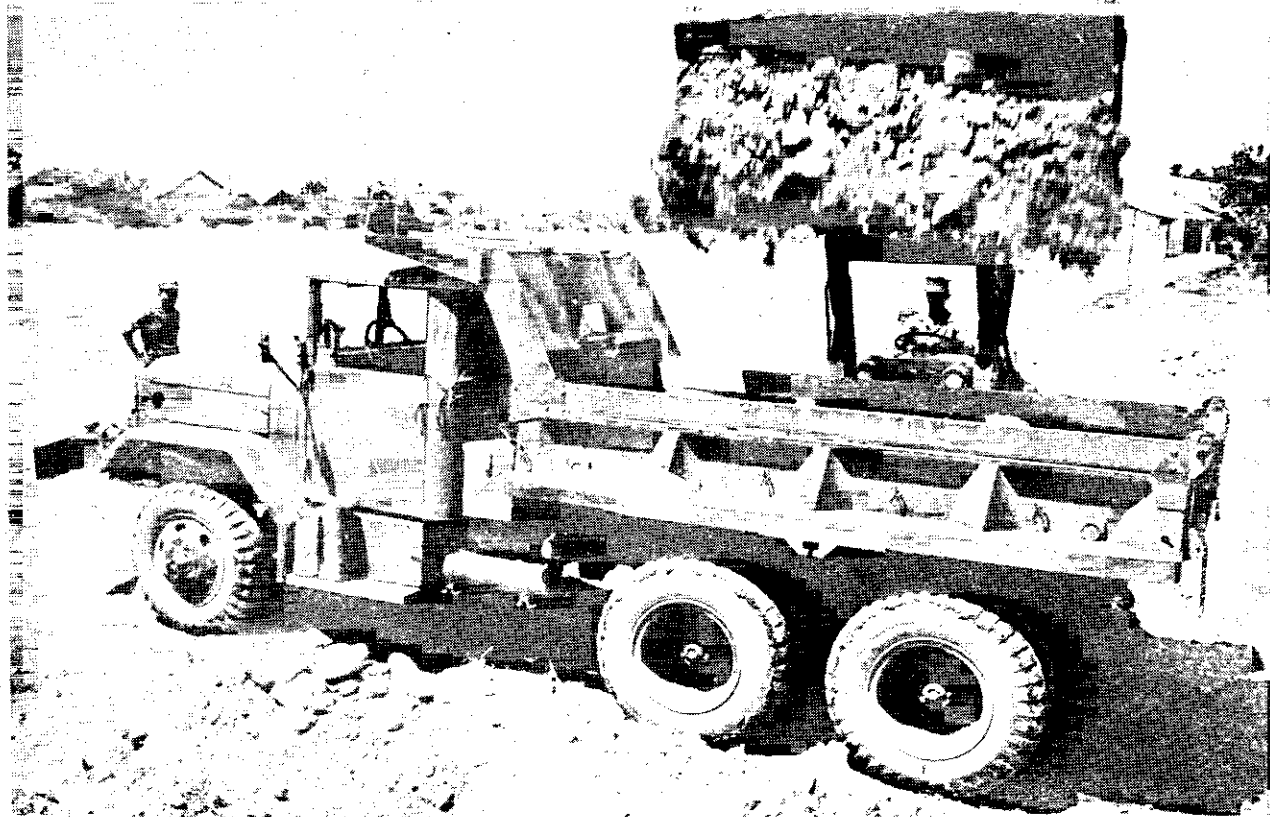
"The best part of this job," he said, "is that we can see the results of our efforts. As we accomplish our work, we can see these people live better and we know we're reaching our goals."

It's Your Life

Recently a VC terrorist exploded a grenade outside of a U.S. billet. The personnel inside the billet immediately rushed outside to see what happened, thereby ignoring policy and posted instructions.

Unknown to these people, the VC had planted a claymore mine with a delayed fuse for the very purpose of killing persons attracted by the grenade blast.

Fortunately, the mine was defective. The next one may not be.



BUILDING FOR A BETTER LIFE — Members of Seabee Team 0406 load up their dump truck with fill dirt which they will use to build a playground at the village school. A VC mine once blew the rear wheels off this vehicle.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by Bob Ruhl)

New Transfer Form 'High Line' to BuPers

Have You Considered Switching Your Rating?

By David Campbell, PNI

Are you ambitious? Do you want more responsibility and better opportunities for advancement? If so and you are a petty officer or a designated striker (pay grades E-4, E-5, or E-3) serving in one of the relatively nontechnical ratings where advancement is slow due to high manning levels, the Navy may have just the program for you.

It is called the Selective Conversion and Retention (SCORE) Program. Through this program you may change your rating to a relatively less crowded rating and be guaranteed Class "A" and "B" schools. And you may be able to qualify for automatic advancement.

Conversions are particularly desired, but not limited to, the following ratings: RD, STG, STS, MT, FTG, FTM, GMT, ETN, ETR, RM, CT, MM, BT, EM and IC.

You receive a qualified guarantee for both Class "A" and "B" schools. Upon completion of Class "A" school you will serve a period of not less than 12 months on-the-job training in your new rating. Provided your performance has been satisfactory during this period of on-the-job training, and you are in pay grade E-4 or E-5, you will be assigned to Class "B" school if requested.

Your rating will be changed immediately upon completion of Class "A" school. In addition, personnel in pay grades E-3 and E-4 may be given automatic advancement to E-4 and E-5 if they meet the requirements set forth in the SCORE

Program instructions (BUPERS-INST 1440.27A).

As an added bonus, many of these ratings to which conversions are desired are eligible for automatic proficiency pay.

Eligibility requirements for the SCORE Program are:

1. Be serving on active duty (USN or USNR) in pay grade E-3 (designated strikers), E-4 or E-5.
2. Have not less than 2 years active naval service and not more than 12 years active military service.
3. Meet the basic selection criteria for Class "A" school. A waiver of 10 points on combined test scores requirements, or 5 points on a single score requirement may be granted by your commanding officer.
4. Be recommended by your commanding officer.

So if you are in one of the overcrowded, less technical ratings the SCORE Program may be well worth your consideration. See your career counselor and learn more about the SCORE program and other opportunities available to you as a Navyman.

A new form has been introduced by the Bureau of Naval Personnel in hopes of eliminating that old enlisted gripe, "My transfer chit never left the ship!"

It has been called a "high line" which will give every sailor a direct line to the Bureau without the need for a friend in the right place.

The form, NavPers 1306/7, is called the "enlisted transfer and special request form". With a companion worksheet, NavPers 1306/8, it offers these features:

The chance of requesting a transfer to a particular type of duty, school, etc., a privilege belonging to every enlisted man.

Requests must leave the ship for decision by the proper distribution command, even though disapproved by the ship's commanding officer.

Even ineligible personnel may insist on getting a decision from higher authorities.

Almost every type of transfer request can be made using the new form—special duty, school or special programs. Requests for humanitarian reassignment, first-term re-enlistment incentive choices and seavey/shorvey "dream card" preferences are the exceptions.

Paperwork To Be Cut

Paperwork will be cut drastically, for both originator and the chain of command. The originator fills out the form in pen and when the form is ready to leave the ship, it is typed in the smooth. Forwarding letters and endorsements are eliminated. It's simply a matter of checking the right boxes.

The form is expected to be placed in the supply system by July. Rules for its use have been incorporated into the Enlisted Transfer Manual. It becomes effective upon receipt by the local command.

Also eliminated is NavPers form 1339, the enlisted evaluation report, required previously as an enclosure to most transfer and special duty requests. Space is provided on the new form for recording the evaluation marks. The 1339 form may be used until receipt of the new form.

Here's the way it works:

The requesting sailor fills out the worksheet, the front of which is an exact duplicate of the regular 1306/7-

form. On the back of the worksheet are spaces for check-off type endorsements from the division petty officer, division officer, department head and executive officer.

Also included are instructions for filling out the worksheet and where to go for help in completing it. Once the command has taken action on it, the worksheet is returned to the man. No typing has been needed.

A copy of the smooth form, noting the command action, is placed in the man's service record. The reverse side of the smooth form is blank and can be used to supply supplemental information needed by the distributional command in making its decision.

Alibis Eliminated

The idea is based on making it easier for everyone involved, thus eliminating the old alibis offered in the past for not processing requests. The features, plus the mandatory forwarding provision, should make the request process more effective.

To curtail irresponsible requests, however, they've made it a rule that a second request cannot be filed while the first one is still pending. This eliminates the possibility of an individual having two conflicting requests approved at the same time, which would cause much confusion.

Before the idea was adopted, it was sent out for comments from field commands and received unanimous approval.

Also in the works is another form revision, designed to replace some 170 varieties of special request forms. The new special request authorization form, NavPers 1336/3 will be used for leave, special liberty, special pay, commuted rations, out-of-bounds pass and standby duty requests.

These things won't be any easier to get with the new form, but at least you'll be able to ask for the same form no matter where you're stationed. Each command now holds its own locally-adopted form for these purposes.

Local Commanders Asked To Combat Racial Bias

Local military commanders Stateside have received more of the responsibility for fighting racial housing restrictions in the civilian community.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Cyrus Vance told commanders of installations to personally contact landlords and realtors who practice discrimination against Negro servicemen and ask equal opportunity for all servicemen. Owners and agents who don't comply are to be reported to the Service Secretary.

In his memo to the military departments Vance said:

"Because military personnel lack a civilian's freedom of choice as to where they will work and live, racial discrimination practiced against them in the matter of housing accommodations is of special concern. It is harmful to their welfare and morale and hence to the military effectiveness of the units to which they are assigned.

"The Department of Defense is firmly committed to a policy of fostering equal treatment for all its people.

"Progress has been made by this Department in reducing the incidence of housing discrimination with-

in the civilian community... but more needs to be done to attain our objective of assuring equal off-base housing opportunities for all men and women in uniform."

THE WIZARD OF ID



'Other War' Is Fought for Men's Minds

By Forest L. Kimler

With one of the most awesome military machines in the history of the world unleashing its fury against Communist forces in Vietnam, it is something of a shock to hear top military brains here proclaim:

"Hopping around knocking off Viet Cong isn't going to win this war."

But the acceptance of this disturbing fact by military and civilian leaders in Vietnam is the key to one of the most dramatic developments taking place today in this war-torn nation.

It is a development that may well decide the outcome of the communist-versus-Free World struggle the world over.

It is the realization that the forces of freedom must contribute more than military firepower and super-sonic weapons systems to the battlefield if the people of this or any other nation so threatened are to

break their ties to the communist cause.

There is little doubt here today that military and civilian leaders have finally and enthusiastically, for the most part, accepted the idea that military defeat of the Viet Cong must go hand-in-hand with a true political and social evolution in Vietnam, achieved as rapidly as is realistically possible.

It is "The Plan" for winning the war.

There is little chance, after so many frustrating years of trial and error, that the basic concept of victory will be changed.

The Free World will, indeed, "march to the sounds of the enemy's

guns and defeat him," but also they are being charged with the responsibilities:

Of construction as well as destruction.

Of throwing off the military cloak of immunity to political responsibility and using their might and enthusiasm for the principles of freedom to break, in cooperation with the civilian officials, the stranglehold of the communist infrastructure on the people of Vietnam.

Of building a new nation amid the flames of war.

For all intents and purposes, "The Plan" to which all the might of the Free World Forces is being rapidly geared in Vietnam today is simple:

1. Help create the opportunity and freedom for justice under law, economic progress and security in the local communities with the same zeal the communists are pushing communism at the rice-roots level.

2. Find out what the beleaguered people of Vietnam want out of life.

3. Demonstrate that the Vietnamese government, the Vietnamese Armed Forces and the Free World Forces are all positive instruments to help them achieve these goals.

4. Give the people a protective military cloak of security while helping them help themselves to build the kind of life, community environment and nation they desire for themselves and their children.

The goal, as one official in Saigon explained, is to give the people of this country something to live for -- but also something they will fight and die for. Something which will enliven their aspirations instead of inciting their opposition.

None of these goals are new to the struggle against the communists in Vietnam. "The Plan" isn't new. Revolutionary Development, Pacification, Rural Construction or any of the other names given the program are not new.

It's an old song with old words, but it is being sung with a new vigor.

"It's the old business of separating the fish from the sea -- the Viet Cong from the people whom the VC depend on for life and support," explained an official in Saigon. "But this time we have the enthusiasm and motivation for the program that makes it different -- that will make it work."

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1st Class 10cents
Airmail 16cents

Jim Scott

RIVER PATROL

THE GRENADE HITS THE FUEL TANKS AND THE RESULTING BLAST BLOWS JIM OVERBOARD...

PLUNGING INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS FLOATING, SWIRLING INTO THE UNKNOWN...



THE DEPTHS OF THE RIVER... THE CURRENT CATCHES JIM AND WASHES HIM UP ON THE BANK.....



WHAT THE... MAN, THAT WAS A ROUGH RIDE I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REST OF THE CREW....



STRUGGLING TO HIS FEET, JIM HEARS SOME VOICES NEARBY. HE HITS THE DECK AND CRAWLS INTO THE FOLIAGE...



HE LIES QUIETLY WHILE THE VOICES DRAW NEARER. BUT IT SEEMS HE HAS A TWO FOLD PROBLEM.



I THOUGHT I SAW ONE OF THE PIGS WASHED UP HERE, COMRADE..... PROBABLY HE IS ALREADY DEAD...

JIM IS WITHIN INCHES OF THE V.C. THE SCORPION COMES CLOSER. A DECISION MUST BE MADE. TO BE CONT'D....