

# Tonkin 'Decoy' Charge Is Denied

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The commander in charge of the two U.S. destroyers involved in the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin incident has flatly denied that his ships acted as decoys or that they "provoked" North Vietnamese attacks.

Capt. John J. Herrick, who was in charge of the destroyers Maddox and Turner Joy, told United Press International in an interview Friday night that there could be "no doubt" his ships were attacked.

Capt. Herrick, who was aboard the Maddox, denied a charge by Sen. Wayne Morse, D-Ore., that the U.S. ships were on a mission to "stimulate" North Vietnamese radar or radios into activity.

"I don't know how you would stimulate an electronic reaction," he said. He said his ship carried only "passive" radio equipment, that it could only listen.

The officer also denied that a secret Navy message made public by Senator Morse had been addressed to his ships.

The message cited by Morse said the U.S. vessels would proceed north to demonstrate determination, possibly to draw North Vietnamese torpedo boats

(Continued Back Page, Col. 1)

## 48,000 Called In Draft

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Defense Department Friday issued the second highest draft call of the Vietnam War — including a request for the first Marine inductees in two years — while also considering a military proposal to call up nearly 50,000 Reserves.

The Defense Department set the April draft call at 48,000 men—only 1,200 fewer than the Vietnam War high of 49,200 inducted in October, 1966.

The Marines, who asked for 4,000 of the April draftees to get up to authorized strength of 302,000, have been bearing the brunt of the defense of the besieged Vietnam outposts of Khe Sanh and Con Thien.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff has recommended mobilizing nearly 50,000 Reservists and National Guardsmen if President Johnson decides on a further Vietnam buildup. A White House source emphasized Friday that no decision had been made on this.

But Chairman L. Mendel Rivers, D-S.C., of the House Armed Services Committee said there was no question "additional men must be called up" and indicated a decision would probably be made in a few days.

The Marine Corps, which

## Taylor Gets Post

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP) — President Johnson named Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor (ret.) Friday to replace Clark M. Clifford as chairman of the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

# STARBUCKS PACIFIC CURIPES

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# VIETS STORM HUE; KHE SANH POUNDED



Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is greeted by Gen. William C. Westmoreland and Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker on arrival in Saigon Friday. Wheeler is in South

Vietnam to "gain first-hand information" and to convey to Westmoreland President Johnson's "great confidence" in his handling of the war. Story on Page 6. (AP Radiophoto)

## Novelist Fanny Hurst Dies At 78 in New York Hotel

NEW YORK (UPI) — Fannie Hurst, an American novelist of enduring popularity whose work was translated in 13 languages, died Friday at her Hotel des Artistes apartment here after a brief illness. She was 78.

A spokesman said Miss Hurst had delivered the manuscripts of two new novels to her agent only a few weeks ago. She had been bedridden for only a few

days and death came at 1:13 p.m.

The raven-haired, white skinned writer had turned out 18 novels, four plays, an autobiography, eight volumes of short stories, and six film scenarios.

She had been a delegate to the U.N. World Health Organization, emceed a five-day-a-week television program, headed the National Housing Commission and the Authors Guild of America,

and crusaded for antivivisection, civil rights, workmen's compensation and slum clearance.

Hurst's marriage to Russian pianist Jacques Danielson, who died in 1952, was a unique arrangement. They lived separately and renewed their marriage contract every five years if both wished. They claimed it was a happy arrangement.

Born in Hamilton, Ohio, Oct. (Continued Back Page, Col. 2)

Compiled From AP and UPI

SAIGON — South Vietnamese troops assaulted the Communists' last stronghold inside Hue's citadel, enemy gunners pummeled the U.S. Marine combat base at Khe Sanh with more than 1,300 shells and Tan Son Nhut came under rocket and mortar attack again, the U.S. Command announced Saturday.

There were these major developments in the fever-pitched fighting that has raged from the demilitarized zone to the Mekong delta since the Communists

The battle for Hue, Page 12.

launched their lunar new year offensive Jan. 30-31:

A battalion of Vietnamese troops charged the Communist-held palace grounds inside Hue's citadel and ripped down a large Viet Cong flag that has flown over the walled palace since Jan. 31.

A government spokesman in Da Nang said the Vietnamese Marines and soldiers "mounted several other attacks Saturday morning" inside the citadel. It appeared that government troops and U.S. Marines were making their big move to wipe out an estimated 350 enemy troops entrenched in the citadel.

Military spokesmen reported North Vietnamese forces slammed 1,307 high explosive (Continued Back Page, Col. 3)

## Love off the Rails

SUNDERLAND, England (AP) — Stan Kipling, 62, was given his choice between his home-made railroad locomotive and a bride. His fiancée, a 66-year-old widow, said he either had to get the 3-foot-high locomotive out of the bedroom or there would be no marriage. Kipling thought it over and decided on the locomotive.

## 'Confident' in Westmoreland

# Wheeler Arrives in War Zone

SAIGON (AP)—General Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrived for a visit to the war zone Friday and said he would convey to General William C. Westmoreland "the great confidence" placed in him by President Johnson, the defense secretary and the Joint Chiefs.

Westmoreland, commander of American troops in Vietnam, has been under criticism from some congressmen and others in the United States since the Communists launched their major offensive against 35 cities and towns Jan. 30 and 31.

Wheeler, in a prepared statement, said Westmoreland "has

our full backing in carrying out the demanding mission with which he is charged."

Wheeler's statement added: "This same confidence and backing extend to the gallant men of the South Vietnamese armed forces, the other free world armed forces in South Vietnam, and the United States armed forces, who have faced the savage attacks of the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army forces over the past few weeks."

"As President Johnson has reminded us, there are times when we are forced to back our belief with steel. We are backing our beliefs with steel, here and

now, in Vietnam—weapons of steel and wills of steel.

"My purpose for this visit to South Vietnam, as has been the case on my previous trips, is to gain at first hand information on the situation. From 10,000 miles away, even with the best of communications and a constant flow of reports, it is difficult to get an accurate grasp of the state of affairs and of the problems and the opportunities which lie ahead.

"Therefore, I come to observe the situation on the ground and, most importantly, to talk to key American and Vietnamese leaders. During my stay, I will have the opportunity to confer with Gen. Westmoreland and his

senior commanders and advisors, with Vietnamese officials and with Ambassador (Ellsworth) Bunker."

Wheeler also said:

"A corollary purpose for my being here is to convey to Gen. Westmoreland the great confidence placed in him by the president, the secretary of defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff."

The U.S. command said Wheeler would remain for a "short visit" but did not specify the exact length of his stay.

Headquarters added that "in view of his heavy schedule, he will not be able to meet with the press during his visit."

## AF Bombs MIG Airfield

SAIGON (UPI) — U.S. Air Force pilots, zeroing on targets by radar, bombed several regions of North Vietnam Thursday, including the Hoa Lac airfield near Hanoi where communist MIG fighter planes are based.

Air Force spokesmen reported that because of overcast weather only 24 missions were flown into the north and bomb damage assessment was not immediately possible.

In addition to bombing of the MIG air base 20 miles west of Hanoi, F105 Thunderchief pilots struck two radar sites 85 miles west-northwest of the capital.

In other raids, spokesmen said, Air Force F4 Phantom crews bombed three field artillery sites in and above the demilitarized zone and truck parks and staging areas.

## Viet Police Place 7 In Custody

SAIGON (UPI) — Vietnamese police Thursday arrested three politicians, two Buddhist leaders and two labor leaders for unspecified reasons, it was learned Friday.

Earlier this week, the police arrested Thich Tri Quang, the militant anti-government Buddhist leader, and two prominent opposition politicians.

Government officials declined to comment on the arrest other than to say that the monk and two politicians, presidential "peace" candidate Truong Dinh Dzu and former economic minister Au Truong Thanh, were being held under "protective custody."

Those arrested Thursday were politicians Vu Hong Khanh, Pham Van Binh and Ho Thong Minh, labor leaders Tran Huu Quyen and Vo Van Tai, and Buddhist monks Thich Lieu Minh and Thich Ho Giac.

## H'Kong Quarantine

HONG KONG (UPI) — Hong Kong health authorities announced that quarantine restrictions have been imposed on travelers arriving from Hue and Dalat in South Vietnam.



## U.S. Bombs Fall Close to Khe Sanh

Smoke clouds rise from exploding American bombs just outside the U.S. Marine base at Khe Sanh in northern South Vietnam.

Communist forces had moved in so close to Marine positions that some air strikes were within 500 yards of the base.

(AP Radiophoto)

## Viet Unit Batters VC-Held Village

By S. SGT. GERALD FORKEN  
SAS Staff Correspondent

PHU LOI, Vietnam — "When it comes to moving mountains, these men can do it," said Lt. Anthony Callen of Jackson, Ala., an adviser with the 5th South Vietnamese Div. 5th Recon. Co.

Callen was referring to the three-day battle for Phu Hoa Dong, a village 15 miles north of Saigon where the division's troopers killed at least 65 Reds while taking only two casualties.

The battle broke out just before midnight Tuesday, when two Viet Cong companies assaulted and overran the government outpost on the southwest section of the village.

The Communists held fast throughout the night and all day Wednesday as the ARVN 'shock troopers' were helicoptered within

1,600 yards of the enemy positions at 9 a.m.

As the South Vietnamese troops encircled the village, supported by U.S. Army gunships of the 1st Inf. Div., they encountered heavy enemy fire.

The battle flared up as the government troops advanced on the enemy-held compound, engaging the Viet Cong in hand-to-hand fighting.

As darkness fell, the 5th ARVN Div. troops withdrew from the battered compound to the northern section of the village and called in Allied air and artillery.

Throughout the night, the Communists tried to slip out of the village but with little success. An early morning sweep

of the village Thursday, uncovered the 65 enemy bodies. No civilian casualties were reported as the enemy only occupied the military section of the village.

## Casualties in Vietnam

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

### KILLED IN ACTION

**Army**  
Pfc. Stanley E. Watson, Anderson, Calif.  
Cpl. Samuel R. Stewart III, Miami, Fla.  
Sgt. Michael J. Ramberg, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.  
Sgt. Jess Thomas, Mascotte, Fla.  
SP4 Given W. Bradley, Pompano Beach, Fla.  
Pfc. Franklin Clovis, East Point, Ga.  
Pfc. William F. Joiner, Fairburn, Ga.  
Pfc. Harold D. Stokes, Gary, Ind.  
Pfc. Harold L. Smith, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Sgt. James R. Anderson, Scranton, Kan.  
SP4 Robert R. Gray, New Salem, Mass.  
SP4 Gerald A. Tucker, Dearborn Heights, Mich.  
Pfc. James E. Slaver, Detroit, Mich.  
Sgt. Michael R. Ewells, Gaylord, Minn.  
SP4 William J. Weber, St. Paul, Minn.  
Pfc. Luis F. Velez, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Pfc. Gary S. Christenbury, Concord, N.C.  
Pfc. Jerry W. Gieghorn, Tulsa, Okla.  
Pfc. Roy L. Wheeler, Broken Bow, Okla.  
2Lt. Raymond E. Dunlap, Amarillo, Texas.  
Pfc. James P. Strain, Moran, Texas.  
2Lt. Robert C. Turnbull, McLean, Va.  
Pfc. Norman W. Holmes, Cosmopolis, Wash.

**Marine Corps**  
Pfc. Martin Marquez Jr., Los Angeles, Calif.  
LCpl. James L. Waller, Pueblo, Colo.  
LCpl. Ramon A. Meeker, Pekin, Ill.  
Pfc. Leonard Jackson, Chicago, Ill.  
Pfc. Anthony J. Schaeffer Jr., Dorton, Ill.  
Pfc. Montzelle A. Ford, Columbus Junction, Iowa.  
Pfc. Tammy L. Stewart, Redessa, La.  
1Lt. David Buursma, Holland, Mich.

Pfc. Terry M. Curtis, Flint, Mich.  
Pfc. Jerry D. Mallory, Linden, Mich.  
Pfc. Donald B. Olson, Warren, Mich.  
Cpl. Marilyn R. Anderson, St. Paul Park, Minn.  
Sgt. Ernest W. Cole, St. Louis, Mo.  
Sgt. Michele Basso, White Plains, N.Y.  
Cpl. Kenneth R. Bradley, Oxford, N.C.  
LCpl. Evaristo P. Johnston, Columbus, Ohio.  
LCpl. James P. Rizzo, Bratenahl, Ohio.  
Pfc. David L. McPherson, Martins Ferry, Ohio.  
Pfc. Troy T. Threet, Elyria, Ohio.  
LCpl. Roy E. Alwine, Arnold, Pa.  
Pvt. Ronald E. Seichel, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Cpl. Dennis M. Keefe, Warwick, R.I.  
LCpl. Russell B. Carlin Jr., Adams, Tenn.  
Pfc. Martin Jossa, Houston, Texas.  
Pvt. Thomas J. Blaha, Madison, Wis.

**DIED OF WOUNDS**  
**Navy**  
HM3 Stephan L. Bechtel, Harrisburg, Ky.

**Marine Corps**  
Pfc. Jehu J. Cox Jr., Baltimore, Md.  
Pvt. Richard W. France, Ft. Worth, Texas.

**MISSING TO DEAD — HOSTILE**  
**Army**  
SP4 Raymond N. Curley, Orange, Calif.  
Sgt. Bernard S. Ryan, Columbus, Ga.  
SP5 Allen C. Hardison, Mocon, Ga.  
Cpl. Robert G. Keals, Evanston, Ill.  
Cpl. Robert L. Phillips, Chicago, Ill.  
SP4 Robert L. Conley, South Bend, Ind.  
WO Gary W. Hanna, Elliff City, Md.  
SP4 Quentin W. Binder, Bruce Crossing, Mich.  
SSgt. Duane E. Litzinger, Waite Park, Minn.  
SP4 Peter R. Hansen Jr., Ortonville, Minn.  
Pfc. Dennis D. Nehring, Wells, Minn.  
Pfc. Selmer E. Solveston, St. Paul, Minn.  
Pfc. Larry G. Barnham, Portageville, Mo.  
Pfc. Gordon L. Currier Jr., Independence, Mo.

MSgt. Harold G. Shirley, Brick Town, N.J.  
SSgt. Donald M. M. Willey Sr., Fayetteville, N.C.  
Pfc. Thomas M. Marlich, Cleveland, Ohio.  
Sgt. Robert Torres, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Sgt. Howard E. Botton, Paris, Tenn.  
Sgt. Jerry G. Sims, Linden, Texas.  
SP4 Lanny E. Hale, Wylie, Texas.  
SP4 Danny R. Northcutt, Deamont, Texas.  
Maj. Edward W. Crum, Lake City, Utah.  
Sgt. Phillip M. Gernslein, Swanton, Vt.  
Pfc. Charles C. Hale Jr., Williamsburg, Va.  
Sgt. Ronald E. Ray, Spokane, Wash.  
Pfc. Wayne D. Boyer, Shepherdstown, W.Va.

**MISSING IN ACTION**  
**Army**  
LTC Benjamin H. Purcell  
Cpl. Franklin S. Bradley Jr.  
Cpl. Robert D. Flier  
WO Ronald C. Fields  
WO Michael F. O'Connor  
Sfc. Charles W. Lindewald Jr.  
SSgt. Dennis L. Thompson  
Sgt. Curtis R. Patton  
SP5 Paul R. Anzelone  
SP5 Leslie L. Cowden  
SP4 Robert E. Hopkins  
SP4 James L. Moreland  
SP4 Allen L. Mummet  
SP4 Donnie R. McCormick  
SP4 Leonard A. Skalnaker  
SP4 Thomas H. Von Patten  
Pfc. Bruce N. Knox  
Pfc. Gregory C. Weisner

**DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**  
**Marine Corps**  
Pfc. Charles E. Muzzey, Enfield, N.H.  
Cpl. Richard C. Langsloen, Seattle, Wash.

**MISSING TO DEAD — NON HOSTILE**  
**Army**  
SP4 Joseph E. Helman, Port Townsend, Wash.

# VC Offensive Hit Low Point in Viet Highlands

CAMP ENARI, Vietnam (IO) — Hundreds of enemy troops lie dead in the wake of the enemy's Tet offensive in the Central Highlands.

In and around Kontum more than 980 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong bodies were counted by 4th Inf. Div. and other allied soldiers after bitter street fighting.

Some 260 enemy soldiers died in an eight-hour battle with an Army Republic of Vietnam unit and the 4th Aviation Bn.

A joint effort by the division's 1st Bn., 69th Armor and a battalion of Korean soldiers from

the Capital Tiger Div. resulted in the death of 193 enemy. The Koreans surrounded a reinforced battalion of North Vietnamese after an exhaustive, 40-day chase through dense jungle near Phu Cat, then called in the U.S. armored unit when the enemy finally holed up.

The 4th Engineer Bn., serving as infantry, killed 21 enemy soldiers after being airlifted into Pleiku to help quell North Vietnamese activities. The engineers suffered no casualties.

Tet was only 15 minutes old, when the 24th North Vietnamese Army Regt., which had

taken part in the bitter battle at Dak To last November, began to rake Kontum with mortar fire. Ground attacks followed against tightly defended South Vietnamese and U.S. military compounds in the area.

Failing to dent the compounds, the enemy shifted his attack to civilian areas. A Viet Cong unit occupied the post office and other official buildings in the early hours, and the city market place was overrun by enemy soldiers.

The 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. joined the Kontum battle the following afternoon and began a door-to-

door clearing of buildings — a type of warfare reminiscent of that in World War II.

The gunships of the 7th Sq., 17th Air Cav. were used to clear the city's market place of the enemy.

During the following week an ARVN artillery unit, learning of an enemy battalion-sized force outside Kontum, caught the force in the open with a wall of steel. A sweep of the area later revealed 150 NVA killed by the deadly rain of artillery.

A week after the fighting had broken out, relative peace returned to the smoldering city.

Near Pleiku the 3rd ARVN Cav. had pinned an enemy battalion in a small village and called for 4th Aviation Co. gunships.

One helicopter crew, seeing an armored personnel carrier under enemy rocket attack, rolled in and marked the target with smoke for a nearby gunship. Several passes were made with the gunship riddling the position with rockets. Enemy soldiers raced to escape the deadly fire only to face the gunship's door gunners. Some eight hours after the gunships had been called in, bodies of 260 NVA were counted.

The Korean force was being snarled by enemy snipers when five tanks from the 1st Bn., 69th Armor were dispatched to help out. In the next three days, the two ground units with the assistance of air strikes killed 193 enemy and captured 126 enemy weapons along with a large find of rice, medical supplies, packs and gear.

"They acted like war veterans," said 1st Lt. James N. Ogden III of Mobile, Ala., speaking about the 4th Eng. Bn.'s battle in Pleiku.

The "veterans" he was referring to included nine men with only a few days in country, five motor pool mechanics and scarcely any man who had come under enemy fire previously. Nonetheless, the engineers managed to kill 21 enemy soldiers while losing none of their own.

## Electronic Ears Guard Base Camp

LAI KHE, Vietnam (IO)—If a guerrilla thinks that darkness will enable him to infiltrate the perimeter of the 3rd Iron Brigade base camp at Lai Khe, he couldn't be more wrong.

Operating 24 hours a day, special 1st Inf. Div. radar sections scan the area beyond the barbed wire and reveal the slightest movement of a suspicious nature beyond the perimeter. First Lt. William F. Goin is the officer in charge of the 1st Bn., 16th Inf. radar section, and S. Sgt. Thomas E. Sisk is the chief noncommissioned officer.

Spec. 5 Robert L. Winders, who was directly responsible for stopping two potential mortar attacks on Lai Khe, said, "it's unbelievable how much movement takes place at night, but we catch it all and record it."

When movement is spotted, a call goes from the radar tower to the battalion's tactical operations center. The movement is then challenged by mortar fire, or if an American patrol is in the vicinity, it is alerted to catch the enemy by surprise.

Super-keen hearing is possible at night through electronic listening equipment. 1st Sgt. Paul E. Estep, commented, "you can hear a man waiting in the grass with these ears."

## Aid for Refugees

VINH LONG Vietnam (IO) — More than 5,500 refugees of Vinh Long have received assistance from the 9th Inf. Div. More than 8,500 pounds of food and ten large Army tents have been rushed to the once-besieged Delta town.

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Sunday, Feb. 25, 1968

## New Label: Ol' Grandpa

CHU LAI, Vietnam (ISO) — Crystal Dee Marzioli's grandfather doesn't fit the traditional pattern. His "old rocking chair" is the rear seat of a Marine F-4B Phantom jet.

The flying grandfather is 1st Lt. Joseph Marzioli, 29, of Haverhill, Mass., a radar intercept officer with Marine Fighter-Attack Sq. 323 at Chu Lai.

A veteran of 17 years' Marine service, Marzioli is just a beginner as a grandparent. Crystal was born Jan. 19 in Garden Grove, Calif., while Marzioli was there en route to Vietnam.

## Ivy Div. Fund to Homeless

CAMP ENARI, Vietnam (IO) — Homes lay smoldering, children were wounded and entire villages disappeared during this year's Tet, historically a time for festivity.

In the wake of the tragedy, a brief conference was held at Kontum between Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joe Sheehan, 4th Div. chaplain, and the Rt. Rev. Speatz, Bishop of Kontum. On behalf of the Ivy Div., Father Sheehan gave the bishop \$1,000 to aid the wounded and the homeless in his diocese, which includes Pleiku, An Khe and Kontum.

On a happier day and under more fortunate circumstances, Bishop Speatz will journey to Camp Enari on St. Patrick's Day, March 17 to confirm eligible Catholics in the division.

## Dangled From Copter After Rescue

PLEIKU, Vietnam (OI)—Pilots have won the Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross for varied heroic deeds. But a pararescue man at Pleiku AB earned his in an unusual way—riding a hoist cable hanging 20 feet below a helicopter for five miles after making a successful rescue.

The award was pinned on S. Sgt. John A. Smith, 24, of Det. 9, 38th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Sq., Pleiku, by Col. Emil Beaudry, vice commander of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service. Smith also received two Air Medals during the ceremony.

The rescue operation came about when an O-1 Bird Dog aircraft went down at Plei Diereng. One of the survivors was injured.

Smith, with his medical gear, was lowered 150 feet through the jungle canopy on a hoist. While treating the more seriously injured man, he sent the other one up on the hoist.

"I had to drag the injured man on a litter to an open spot about 15 feet away because a fire had broken out around the aircraft, I was wondering if the fuel tank would blow up," Smith recalled. He hooked the litter to the hoist and signaled the helicopter crew to take him up.

The operation went smoothly until Smith himself was being hoisted off the jungle floor with his gear.

"I strapped myself in and got to within 20 feet of the helicopter when the hoist cable knotted," Smith said.

"I was on the penetrator for about five miles, riding it in the air with two Huey gunships side-by-side for protection," he said.



A small refugee, one of 400 who arrived at Da Nang AB recently, licks his lips over a plate of bread and hot rice (left), while another young



refugee (right) smiles her thanks for a piece of candy given her by Sgt. Richard A. Wallis. (USAF)

## AF Feeds, Houses 400

# Aid for Khe Sanh Refugees

DA NANG, Vietnam (OI) — Four hundred tired, hungry, South Vietnamese refugees from embattled Khe Sanh City landed at Da Nang AB in a four-hour period recently after being

driven from their homes by an enemy force.

Air Force and Army civic action officials teamed up to make the refugees as comfortable as possible.

Within minutes after the refugees arrived at Da Nang, Air Force Col. J. J. Adleman, the base commander, had found a vacant building to house them.

Army civic action officials worked hand in hand with an Air Force civic action team, headed by Capt. Elton L. Brian and provided some of the food and coffee for the refugees.

The Air Force bakery at Da Nang baked 100 large loaves of bread and made 50 gallons of soup to go with 200 pounds of rice, which the U.S. Army's 29th Civil Affairs Co. furnished to help feed the hungry people.

All food for the refugees was cooked in the Air Force dining hall.

Blankets to keep the people warm were furnished by the III Marine Amphibious Force.

A1C John H. Harris, a member of the 15th Aerial Port Sq., was observed throughout the night playing with the younger children and giving out chewing gum. He commented, "getting the chance to help these people who have endured so much is one of the best things that has happened to me since I arrived in Vietnam."



S. SGT. JOHN SMITH

# Navy Captain Denies Tonkin 'Decoy' Charge

(Continued From Page 1) northward away from South Vietnamese naval operations and to keep the U.S. ships away from these South Vietnamese navy actions.

Capt. Herrick and Johnson Administration officials said the message cited by Morse actually was addressed to Adm. U.S. Grant Sharp, U.S. commander of Pacific Forces in Honolulu.

It was sent by Adm. Thomas Moorer, then U.S. Naval commander in the Pacific.

Officials said the message was sent by Sharp to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who did not approve it. They said it never became an order.

Copies of the message were sent informationally to both the Maddox and Turner Joy. Capt. Herrick said he doesn't really remember receiving it, and would not have been impressed by it since it was not an order.

Other points made by the captain:

—There was never any doubt aboard the ships, he said, that sonar reports showed torpedo firings. The only doubts, he said, were over how many torpedoes.

—He said it "never occurred to me" that he was acting as a "decoy" or luring North Vietnamese boats north.

He said he had heard the

term "34 Alpha," which was used to describe South Vietnamese naval bombardment of North Vietnamese islands. "But I had no prior knowledge of what they did," he said.

Did his ships "provoke" attacks on themselves?

"No," the captain said. "As matter of fact it started out as a sort of Sunday cruise. People were waving at junks as they went by. Everything was serene until the afternoon of the second of August" (two days before the Aug. 4, 1964, attack).

This was the day of the first attack, involving only the Maddox.

"We were cruising in our as-

signed patrol track in the vicinity of Hon Me Island," Herrick said. "It was mid-day. A very nice day. Personnel were topside sunbathing and enjoying themselves."

"We got a report of a radar contact. I think three PT-boats and a small oiler is what it appeared to be. They proceeded south. We paid them very little mind. We expected both navy and junk traffic up there."

He said an hour or two later the boats appeared to be on an "intercept course" at speeds of 40 to 50 knots. The Maddox sounded general quarters and got up more steam.

"They continued to close. We began to surmise that their intent was hostile."

The Maddox radioed the carrier Ticonderoga, which dispatched planes.

Herrick authorized the skipper of the Maddox to fire a warning shot if the boats came within 10,000 yards. They did and the warning salvo was fired, he said.

"They continued in without hesitating at all, and we commenced fire to hit."

The captain said torpedoes were fired and "we observed one passed close the Maddox." He said the boats turned under the destroyer's stern and fired machine guns. The planes from the Ticonderoga were authorized to open fire. They did.

The incident ended with one boat apparently dead in the water, and another of the boats apparently towing the third.

Herrick said the Aug. 4 incident began late in the day. The ships had been patrolling along the coast and were heading out into the center of the Tonkin Gulf. They intercepted the radio message indicating a planned attack. They picked up radar contacts which seemed to be some boats "waiting to spring a trap on us after nightfall."

The same precautions were taken—general quarters and firing up additional boilers to make more steam. The U.S. ships also changed course.

"We wanted to determine if these people were just sitting there or if they were going to follow us."

About this time darkness was falling, and it became a cloudy, overcast night. From here on, what Herrick observed were through the eyes and ears of radar and sonar.

"As we changed the course the boats repositioned, or closed on us, and we tracked them on in. There seemed to be some boats which tracked up to 40 knots and others farther away of slower speeds."

"Our two ships were approximately in column, with the Maddox ahead and the Turner Joy astern. The lead boat kept closing.... They got into range around 6,000 yards.... They made a sort of button-hook turn away from the Turner Joy. The Turner Joy was convinced she was under torpedo attack and commenced firing at the boat."

The Maddox at this time picked up torpedo noises on her sonar. For what seemed "a number of hours"—he no longer recalls exact times—Capt. Herrick said the boats "seemed to make multiple attacks." He said sonar heard "a number of torpedoes."

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara has described in testimony how Navy authority ashore had some doubt about the validity of the sonar contacts and sought confirmation.

Herrick said that as far as he was concerned the only doubts were "as to number—I had no doubts of the initial ones and I had no doubts that numerous ones were torpedoes."

The captain said the Maddox had entered the Gulf of Tonkin the previous July 31. He said the primary mission was "surveillance of North Vietnamese junks and any other naval or merchant traffic in the area. He said another purpose was to "conduct passive intercepts" of North Vietnamese radio and radar emissions.

Before starting the mission, he said, the Maddox took on board additional radars, so that she would be able to monitor more frequencies.

The patrols, he said, were routine and dull.

## Rusk Cites Progress On Pueblo

PHOENIX, Ariz. (UPI)—Secretary of State Dean Rusk said Friday that talks with North Korea on the release of the Pueblo are "over the preliminaries and we are now getting to the heart of the matter."

Rusk called the overall North Korean situation both "acute and dangerous" and said it was a major stumbling block along with the Vietnam war to peace in Southeast Asia.

Rusk spoke at a conference on foreign policy, sponsored jointly by the State Department and the Council of World Affairs of Phoenix, Inc.

Commenting on the Vietnam war which he termed the biggest block to peace in the world today, Rusk said the end to the conflict will come when Hanoi realizes it cannot win. He said the series of raids against cities during the Tet celebration may mean a change in tactics that could signal the war is coming to a climax.

However, he said he could not put a date on an end to the war, adding that would come when Hanoi moves toward peace.

Greeted by a handful of about 35 placard-carrying pickets, Rusk told the 1,200 at the luncheon he is "sorely tempted" to ask some of the pickets who greet his appearances to "let me help you carry" their signs.

## Weather

USAF Weather Central  
TOKYO AREA  
Saturday: Partly cloudy; Low 20  
Sunday: Mostly clear; High 41

### TEMPERATURES

Feb. 23		Feb. 24	
H	L	H	L
Bangkok	82 72	Naha	57 50
Chitose	32 -2	Sain n	99 70
Guam	84 72	Seoul	23 14
Hazuka	35 30	Taipei	55 50
Manila	85 69	Tokyo	45 35
H L			
Albany	28 06	Louisville	30 08
Abuqwe	57 40	Meibourne	96 60
Amarillo	70 16	Memphis	31 16
Anchorage	20 17	Miami	72 58
Atlanta	46 15	Milwaukee	30 03
Birmingham	44 16	Moscow	30 23
Bismarck	13 -16	N. Orleans	- 26
Boston	48 36	NYC	31 10
Boston	27 07	N. Platte	17 09
Chicago	32 10	Okla. City	24 7
Cincinnati	26 -03	Omaha	22 10
Cleveland	23 02	Paris	41 36
Denver	43 30	Phila.	31 08
Des Moines	24 -01	Phoenix	77 49
Detroit	32 06	Pittsburgh	23 00
Duluth	19 -12	Portland, O.	59 49
Fairbanks	-13 -22	Rapid City	18 11
Fargo	11 -16	Reno	45 40
Fort Worth	31 25	Richmond	38 06
Hong Kong	55 51	Singapore	87 71
Honolulu	80 63	St. Louis	32 08
Houston	38 33	St. Paul	16 -08
Indianapolis	27 03	Salt Lake	52 37
Jackville	42 19	S. Antonio	37 30
Jakarta	92 75	San Diego	67 57
Jameau	39 33	San Fran.	40 54
Kansas City	30 20	S. S. Marie	20 02
K. Lumpur	74 55	Seattle	55 49
Las Vegas	75 50	Shreveport	35 21
Little Rock	15 15	Sydney	80 63
London	37 26	Tucson	70 47
LA.	80 58	Wash.	37 10

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes  
Sunday, Feb. 25, 1968

## Fanny Hurst Dies

(Continued From Page 1)

16, 1889, daughter of a shoe manufacturer, Miss Hurst got little encouragement at home in her desire to be a writer. After she was graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 1909, she went to New York to do graduate work at Columbia University and work as a waitress, sales clerk and nurse while bombarding magazines with manuscripts.

By 1914 she was one of America's most popular and prolific magazine authors and was ready to try her hand at novels. Some of her best known works were "Lummo," "Five and Ten," "Lonely Parade," "Hallelujah," "Any Woman," and "The Man With One Head." "Imitation of Life" was made into movie twice and "Back Street" three times.

Her fiction was vigorous rather than subtle, emotional rather than intellectual. She was a glutton for work, for involvement in causes, for service to humanity and animals. Summing



FANNIE HURST

it up in her autobiography, "Anatomy of Me," in 1958, she said: "I don't enjoy looking back as much as looking ahead and living."

## Clear McNamara Tonkin Data

WASHINGTON (AP)—Defense security censors gleaned through more than 247 pages of testimony by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara on the controversial 1964 Gulf of Tonkin incidents and pronounced them ready Thursday for public disclosure.

However, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is not expected to make them public until next week to give its members a chance to study the censored document.

Sen. J.W. Fulbright of Arkansas, the committee chairman, has urged speedy clearance of McNamara's testimony given behind closed doors earlier this week on North Vietnamese attacks on two U.S. navy destroyers.

In a cover letter accompanying the transcript returned to the committee Thursday night, McNamara emphasized he wants to eliminate any doubts remaining over the veracity of official statements on the 1964 attacks.

These led to the first U.S. air strikes against North Vietnam and were a prelude to major U.S. intervention in Southeast Asia.

Fulbright charges that administration has failed to prove that the destroyers Maddox and Turner Joy were actually attacked by the North Vietnamese on Aug. 4, 1964.

Richard C. Fryklund, a Pentagon spokesman, said Thursday night only about 250 words in the 62,200-word transcript of McNamara's give-and-take with probing senators was deleted for security reasons.

These, Fryklund said, dealt

with intelligence collection.

"There is no security reason why the entire transcript minus those 250 words cannot be made public tonight," Fryklund said.

McNamara presented a prepared, 21-page statement to the Senate panel Tuesday, but Fulbright said later the defense chief failed to demonstrate the American ships were attacked Aug. 4, 1964.

## Viets Storm Hue

(Continued From Page 1) shells into the mountain-rimmed Khe Sanh position guarding South Vietnam's northwestern corner.

They then hit with a ground attack against a Vietnamese Ranger battalion guarding Khe Sanh's perimeter. The attacking force was estimated at perhaps 500 men.

The attacks were the heaviest yet against Khe Sanh which American officials believe will take the brunt of the most massive Communist offensive of the war. An estimated 16,000 North Vietnamese troops surround Khe Sanh and American officials expect them to try to overrun it.

The Communists slammed in 24 rounds of rocket and mortar fire at Tan Son Nhut, Saigon's international airport and nerve center for both Allied and Vietnamese military operations.

Four U.S. servicemen were killed and 31 others wounded.

First reports said 11 Vietnamese civilians were killed and four or five were wounded in a

As is routine, the transcript of McNamara's answers to questions had to be submitted through security review process to glean out information that might be valuable to an enemy.

McNamara had assigned a team of special review personnel to work shortly after 10 a.m. Thursday on "an expedited basis" to get his secret testimony ready for release.

cluster of houses about two blocks from the air base's main gate.

U.S. spokesmen said there were hits on several buildings inside the big base on the western edge of the capital, but no aircraft were hit. They said there was some minor damage to aircraft—such as broken fuel lines—from the concussion of the explosions.

About 20 rounds of 122mm rockets and some mortar shells were believed fired in two quick barrages.

South Vietnamese Army spokesman said two rocket rounds hit the Vietnamese joint general staff headquarters compound just outside the air base, and that two Vietnamese servicemen were wounded there. The headquarters compound has been a frequent target for Viet Cong rockets and mortars.

The U.S. spokesman said one American barracks took a direct hit, but all the men who lived there had made it to their bunkers and escaped injury.