



Westy: Reds Going for Broke

Interview on Pages 12-13



AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OF THE ARMED FORCES IN THE FAR EAST

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ EDITION

10¢

第34卷 1月22日 (昭和34年1月22日) 第55号 (1968年2月27日) (昭和34年4月21日) 34号 (1968年2月27日)

Vol. 24, No. 55

Tuesday, Feb. 27, 1968

Use 'Wagon-Train' Tactics

GI'S SMASH VC ASSAULT



An armored personnel carrier charges enemy positions as troops of the 25th Inf. Div. are pinned down by Communist machine-gun fire. The battle took place seven miles northwest of Saigon. No other details were available. (AP Radiophoto)

SAIGON (AP) — Fighting from behind a wagon-train circle of armored vehicles, U.S. infantrymen stood off Sunday 500 Viet Cong guerrillas who tried to overrun an American patrol base, seize heavy artillery and block a rice life-line from the Mekong Delta to Saigon.

The enemy attack wilted under counterattacks from infantry reinforcements, helicopter gunships, dive bombers and outside artillery. But damage inside the base was heavy.

The battle 42 miles southwest of Saigon lasted 2½ hours and switched attention anew to the swampy delta from the battle of Hue in the north which officials say is now in the mopping up stage.

The U.S. Command reported 94 Viet Cong killed in the assault on the 200-man patrol base of the U.S. 9th Inf. Div. charged with keeping open Highway 4 which carries rice and other foods to Saigon from rich delta farmlands.

American losses were put at 20 men killed and 70 wounded. Among the U.S. dead was the commander of the patrol base.

About 60 of the Viet Cong penetrated the base's western perimeter and managed for awhile to take over a 155mm artillery piece. Heavy American counter-fire drove the enemy away before they could turn it on the defenders or haul it away.

But in the enemy's covering mortar and rocket attack, 11 U.S. armored personnel carriers were destroyed.

The attack began shortly after (Continued Back Page, Col. 2)

Gen. Gerrity Dies at 54

DAYTON, Ohio (UPI)—Gen. Thomas Patrick Gerrity, commander of the Air Force Logistics Command, died of a heart attack Saturday night.

Gerrity, 54, suffered a heart attack about 7:30 at his home at nearby Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and was dead on arrival at the base hospital, an information officer said.

Lt. Gen. Lewis L. Mundell assumed Gerrity's duties pending naming of a successor.

Gerrity was promoted to four-star general at the time he assumed command of the logistics operation for the Air Force last Aug. 1. For the previous five years, he served at the Pentagon in Washington as deputy chief of staff for systems and logistics for the Air Force.

A veteran of 49 combat (Continued Back Page, Col. 2)

Loco (Tex.) Farmer Reports A Visit From 4-Foot Martians

LOCO, Tex. (UPI)—A cotton farmer here has taken Polaroid pictures of what he claims is a spacecraft from Mars.

The pictures, taken by Carroll Watts, are now in the hands of a second person who has been asked to validate them.

Mrs. Rosemary Watts, wife of the farmer, declined Sunday to identify the person, and said she did not know how long he would keep the pictures.

Watts, 29, had earlier given the pictures to Dr. J. Allen Hynek, an astronomer and professor at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

Hynek said the pictures were clear, "but unless there is more concrete evidence, no scientist

in his right mind would go out and vouch for it.

"I'm looking forward to getting more information on it," he said.

A special consultant to the Air Force said here Sunday the farmer's report of seeing a spacecraft from Mars "certainly does sound a little far-fetched."

The pictures are Polaroid color prints. Hynek said they "presumably cannot be altered by retinting but we do not know the circumstances and conditions under which they were taken.

"With photos, the burden of proving them accurate lies on the photographer," he said.

Chief of Police Don Nunnally

of Wellington, Watts' cousin, said at least 300 people in Wellington and Loco have reported seeing unidentified flying objects that match the description given by Watts.

Watts and his wife say the spacecraft is not connected with the American government in any way—as some who have reported seeing the objects believe.

"I don't think so," said Mrs. Watts when asked about that theory.

"They don't look like us, so I don't think they live here on our earth."

"They" refers to six 4-foot-tall men Watts said he saw in the spacecraft.

He said he even rode inside (Continued on Back Page, Col. 5)

Falls 2,800 Feet

CORVALLIS, Ore. (AP)—A sky-diver survived a 2,800-foot drop Saturday with a tangled parachute. Police said Ron Myers, 22, of Corvallis landed on his heels in a muddy field. Myers is reported in good condition in a Corvallis hospital.

Strikes Aimed at Port, Radio Sites

SAIGON (AP) — U.S. warplanes attacked Hanoi's river port facility Saturday for the first time in the war, the U.S. Command said. It was one of several strikes around North Vietnam's capital and marked the second step-up in the air campaign in the last four days.

In another key strike, U.S. pilots returned to hit at Radio Hanoi, 3½ miles southwest of the center of the city.

It had been hit for the first time Wednesday but remained on the air. Radio monitors in Saigon said the station, the most powerful in Southeast Asia, was still operating after the Saturday raid.

The raid on Hanoi's port, 1.8 miles southeast of the center of the city, previously out of bounds to U.S. pilots, was believed to have required specific approval from the Pentagon, possibly even from President Johnson, because it is so close to the city's center.

The port, on the Red River, 60 miles inland from the South China Sea, was described as an 11-acre complex of 38 buildings and a wharf. It is accessible to barges and small vessels. Military spokesmen said it was believed to be a transshipment point for war supplies from Red China.

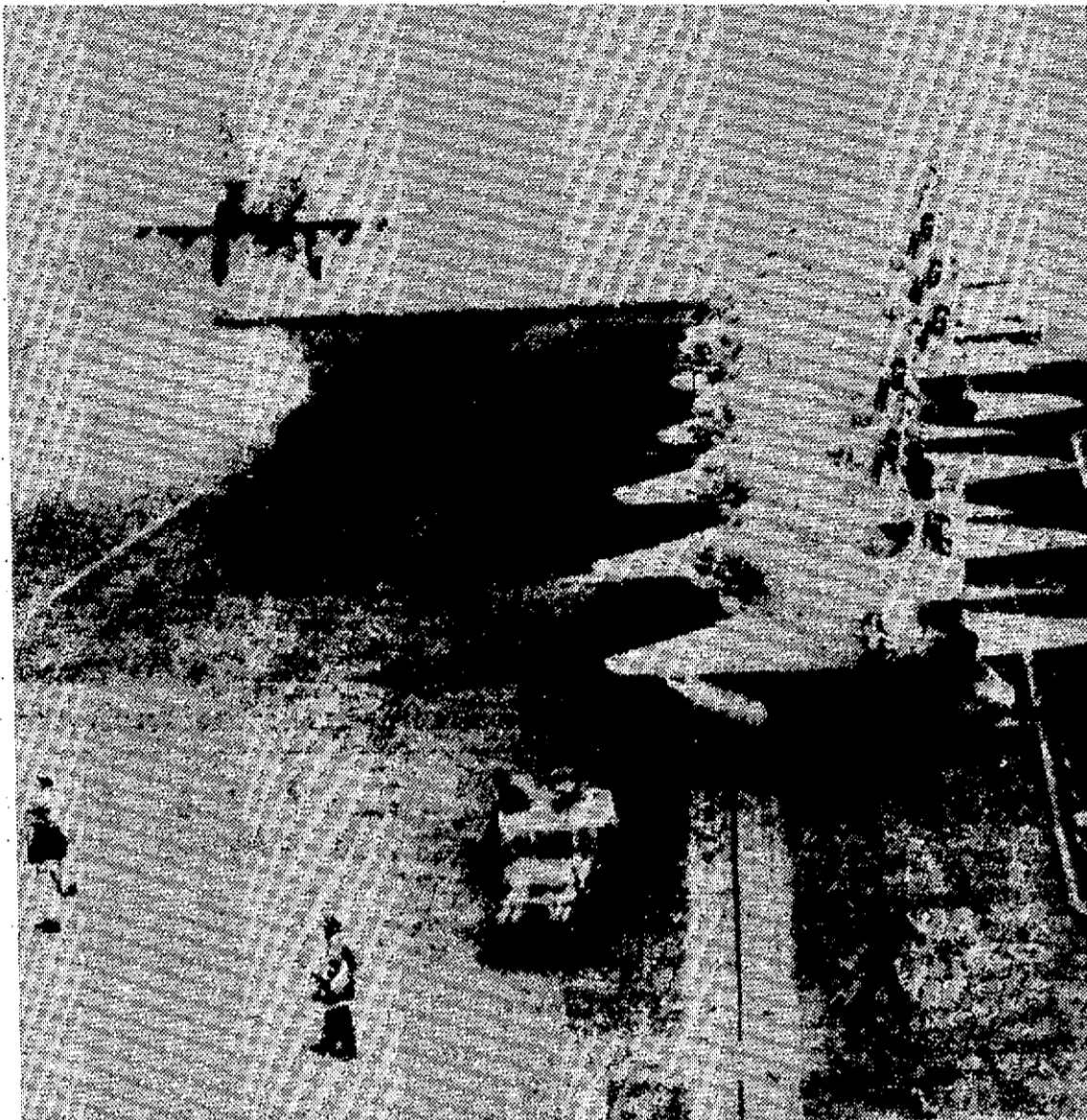
Navy intruder pilots returning to the carrier Enterprise, the world's biggest warship just returned for her third tour of Vietnam duty, reported multiple hits on the port. No further damage assessment was available.

Monsoon clouds covered the Hanoi region. Both the strike on the port and that by Marine fliers on Radio Hanoi were guided by radar. Considering the weather, it was probable that only a small number of planes were involved.

Military spokesman said the Radio Hanoi facility attacked Saturday is the main installation of a "highly diversified operation" that beams out all North Vietnam's propaganda. It was described as a 100-foot-square concrete building protected by a concrete blast wall.

Although monitors said Sunday that Radio Hanoi was still broadcasting on short wave frequencies without interruption, sources said the latest raid might have knocked out mediumwave transmitters apparently used to broadcast inside North Vietnam.

In other raids Saturday, U.S. Air Force jets reported silencing two radar sites 16 miles southwest of Hanoi. The American pilots hit at Kep airfield 28 miles northeast of the capital and Ha Dong army barracks seven miles southwest of the city. Ha Dong had not been attacked since last May.



An F4 Phantom takes off for a mission over North Vietnam from the U.S. aircraft carrier Enterprise. The carrier is on her third tour of duty in the Gulf of Tonkin. (AP Radiophoto)

Wheeler Expects Struggle

BANGKOK (UPI) — Gen. Earle Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrived here from Vietnam Sunday night and warned that "the enemy still has very substantial uncommitted forces in Vietnam and has lots of options."

Wheeler has been touring Vietnam for a first-hand look at the results of the Viet Cong Tet offensive.

Wheeler told newsmen that "we also have great opportunities."

Wheeler was met by Leonard Unger, U.S. ambassador to Thailand.

Also waiting to meet Wheeler at the airport were his mother, Mrs. Ida G. Wheeler, his sister, Mrs. Betty Jean Humphries, and his brother-in-law, James Humphries.

Humphries works for the U.S. aid mission in Thailand and Wheeler's mother lives with her daughter and son-in-law in Bangkok.

The general was scheduled to confer with Thailand's Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn Monday.

In a prepared statement before his departure, Wheeler said, "It is clear the enemy has launched a major offensive against the government of South Vietnam and its armed forces including an invasion of South Vietnam by the North Vietnamese army."

"The enemy retains substantial uncommitted resources. He has shown a determination to continue his offensive and his units fight tenaciously. We expect hard fighting to continue; I see no early end to this war."

Wheeler described his brief visit as informative and productive, and said he had conferred with President Nguyen Van Thieu, Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky, Gen. Cao Van Vien, Vietnamese chief of general staff; U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker and Gen. William C. Westmoreland and his principal advisers and commanders.

Wheeler concluded his statement by saying he was confident the allies could and would exploit the opportunities offered by "the major defeats and heavy losses inflicted on the enemy."

Discover VC Radio Center

SAIGON — A possible clue to the close coordination of the recent Viet Cong attack in the Saigon area was discovered 30 miles east of the city Friday.

Elements of the 9th Inf. Div. sweeping an area 2 miles east of their Bear Cat headquarters uncovered a complex communications center.

The installation was equipped with elaborate antennae over an underground bunker system.

ROK Embassy Hit

SAIGON (AP) — A detonator from a claymore mine exploded near the entrance to the South Korean embassy in Saigon Sunday night, U.S. military officials said. The U.S. officials said there was no damage to the embassy and no injuries.

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. John R. Shell, Ashdown, Ark.
 Cpt. Sidney L. Leonard, Riverside, Calif.
 SP4 Lester E. Smart Jr., King City, Calif.
 SP4 Boyd J. Nelson, Oxnard, Calif.
 Pfc. James P. Crook, La Mesa, Calif.
 Pfc. Mark S. Kaye, Studio City, Calif.
 Pfc. John J. Palmieri, Riverside, Calif.
 Pfc. Robert E. Williams, Cantonment, Fla.
 Sgt. Randy H. Brock, Temple, Ga.
 Sgt. Clyde A. Rhinehart, Atlanta, Ga.
 SP4 David C. Williams, Kailua, Hawaii.
 SP4 LeRoy E. Damiano, Harrison, Idaho.
 Pfc. Frank L. Stec, Chicago, Ill.
 Pfc. Mark A. Kolvek, Gary, Ind.
 Sgt. Charles E. Youngblood, Silverport, La.
 1Lt. Charles F. Johnson Jr., Dundalk, Md.
 Sgt. Jeffrey A. Pinheiro, South Dartmouth, Mass.
 SP4 Robert E. Preslon, Boston, Mass.
 Pfc. Val G. Allard, Worcester, Mass.
 Pfc. Richard M. Anderson, Dearborn, Mich.
 Pfc. Walter R. Pratt, Detroit, Mich.
 Maj. Eugene J. Conner, Hattiesburg, Miss.
 2Lt. Spencer B. Powers Jr., Cary, Miss.
 Sgt. Robert J. Ruhl Jr., Joplin, Mo.
 Sgt. Francis I. Arnett, Amityville, N.Y.
 SP4 John J. Petrillo, Farmingdale, N.Y.
 SP4 John M. Rupert, New Hyde Park, N.Y.
 Pfc. John I. Haselbauer, New York, N.Y.
 SSGT. Joseph H. Downing Jr., Washington, N.C.
 SP4 Willie B. McNeill, Fairmont, N.C.
 Sgt. Lauren J. Heydinger, Norwalk, Ohio.
 Sgt. Douglas W. Doady, Akron, Ohio.

- SP4 Robert L. Hughes, Westerville, Ohio.
 SP4 Freddie L. Thomas, Hamilton, Ohio.
 Pfc. James G. Miller, Akron, Ohio.
 Pfc. William E. Anderson, Lancaster, Ohio.
 SP4 Gerald Golts, Tulsa, Okla.
 Pfc. Max R. Beaver, Waurika, Okla.
 SSGT. Donald J. Hille, Nyssa, Ore.
 Sgt. Gregory Jones, Philadelphia, Pa.
 SP4 Francis Kairallis, Falcraft, Pa.
 Sgt. Franklin D. R. Hatton, Fort Worth, Texas.
 SP4 Ignacio Alvarez Jr., Christl, Texas.
 SP4 James T. Chambers, Georgetown, Texas.
 Pfc. Cecil W. Epps, Halifax, Va.
 Pfc. John A. Sullivan, Seattle, Wash.
 SP5 Danny R. Howell, Leeswood, W.Va.

Navy

- LN Michael W. Haslins, Ventura, Calif.
 Lt. (j.g.) Michael D. Hollingsworth, Lake Park, Fla.

Marine Corps

- 2Lt. Donald A. Hausrath Jr., Villa Park, Calif.
 Pfc. Gall Denham Jr., Pensacola, Fla.
 Cpl. Willie C. Scott, Thomasville, Ga.
 Sgt. James Scirhans, Chicago, Ill.
 Pfc. John H. Brancato Jr., LeGrange, Ill.
 Pfc. Kenneth Campbell, Chicago, Ill.
 LCpl. John L. Carey, Gardeners, Pa.
 LCpl. Wayne S. Greer, Trafford, Pa.
 Pfc. John J. McElroy, Kansas City, Pa.
 LCpl. Shuler A. Hoffman, Springfield, S.C.
 LCpl. Thomas G. Gaines, Sevierville, Tenn.
 LCpl. Nolan L. Simmons, Corpus Christi, Texas.
 Pfc. Theodore Shingleton Jr., Clarksburg, W.Va.
 Cpl. Cristobal Figueroa-Perez, Bayamon, P.R.

MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE

- Pfc. Steve N. Lambert, Phoenix, Ariz.
 Cpl. Wilmer Potts, Oakland, Calif.
 SP4 Richard F. Delgado, Salem, Calif.

- Pfc. Dennis E. Fuller, Santa Fe Springs, Calif.
 SP4 Alton B. Sebastian, Norwich, Conn.
 SSGT. Paul D. Shamp Jr., Jacksonville, Fla.
 SP4 Alberto Carrasquillo-Denton, Miami, Fla.
 1Lt. Donald B. Small, Columbus, Ga.
 Cpl. Joseph B. Jones, Lyons, Ga.
 SP4 Walter B. Maksymiw, Chicago, Ill.
 SP4 Raymond Brown, Kokomo, Ind.
 Pfc. Robert A. Labada, Gary, Ind.
 Cpl. Jackie W. Berry, Olla, La.
 SP4 Michael B. Cervera, Bloomfield, N.J.

- Cpl. Damon L. Ritchie, Selden, N.Y.
 SP4 Brian F. Durr, Whitesboro, N.Y.
 Sgt. Charles T. Parker, Asheboro, N.C.
 Cpl. Jack C. Taylor, Portland, Ore.
 Pfc. Alfredo Medina Jr., Rockport, Texas.
 Sgt. Patrick A. Whitlock, Bremerton, Wash.
 SFC Guy R. Hively, Elkview, W.Va.

Navy

- Lt. Frederick M. Kasch, San Diego, Calif.

MISSING IN ACTION

- Army**
 SSGT. Norbart P. Holzapfel
 SP5 William H. Smith Jr.
 SP4 Earl W. Haug
 Pfc. August H. Genzler
 Pfc. John C. Glesenkamp
 Pfc. Arthur Hines
 Pfc. Craig G. Knobloch
 Pfc. Larry W. La Pointe
- Navy**
 Lt. (j.g.) Robert C. Mac Mahan
- Marine Corps**
 Lt. Col. Carl E. Peterson
 SSGT. William L. Brown
 SSGT. George W. Walbridge

- Air Force**
 Capt. Joe V. Carpenter
 Capt. Robert M. Elliot
 Capt. Lawrence D. Writter

- DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
Army
 SP4 Robert J. Nardelli, Redondo Beach, Calif.
 Pfc. Charles H. Young, Denver, Colo.
 Pfc. David E. Bryant, Dayton, Ohio.
 Pfc. Howard W. Lee, Dallas, Texas.

- Navy**
 MA1 John W. Doby, Oceanside, Calif.
 RM1 Loyd B. Dohy, Moundsville, W.V.

- MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE**
Navy
 AOC Donald L. Gallagher, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc.

- MISSING NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
 WO Joseph A. Rose III
 SP4 Robert P. Chenoweth
 SP4 James E. George Jr.
 SP4 John H. Suydon Jr.

- Navy**
 Lt. (j.g.) Joseph P. Dunn
- CORRECTION**
 Pfc. Thelbert A. James, USMC. Change status from died not as a result of hostile action to killed in action.

Thieu: 1968 Last Year for VC

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam predicted Sunday that 1968 will be the last year of life for the Viet Cong.

Thieu called the renewed Communist offensive a last-ditch effort to try to strengthen the Viet Cong bargaining position for peace talks.

"After this year they will be weaker and weaker. They have no hope to win the war," Thieu said.

"I believe this is the last year for the VC."

The South Vietnamese president took a hard line toward suggestions from a bombing halt in North Vietnam.

He opposed U.N. Secretary-General U Thant's call for a

U.S. bombing halt unless Hanoi offers "a gesture of reciprocity." He said the minimum condition would be "for us to have some insurance that we could have some fruitful negotiations."

The South Vietnamese leader spoke in a television-radio interview on the CBS program "Face the Nation." The interview was taped Friday in Saigon and broadcast in the United States Sunday.

13,000 Delta Refugees Living on Fear, Hope

By SPEC. 5 RAY BELFORD
S&S Staff Correspondent

CAN THO, Vietnam—A refugee is expected to be sad, but in Vietnam today, he is mainly afraid.

The sadness seems to be disappearing. The people in the refugee centers are smiling again. But it is a tense, nervous smile.

Almost 13,000 refugees have sought shelter in 17 separate refugee centers in the delta capital of Can Tho. Many of them are now homeless because within the city more than 1,700 homes were burned and destroyed in the fighting which erupted during the Tet period.

The homeless are not the only Viet-

namese civilians seeking shelter in the overcrowded refugee camps. There are thousands who are afraid to return to their homes. These people are caught in the middle.

These people can no longer draw free rice at the refugee centers. They must now pay for it, and they have no money.

One man said he did not know what to do. He has a wife and three children to feed and care for, but has no money to buy rice. He said he is also afraid to go back home because in his hamlet outside of Can Tho the Viet Cong terror continues.

He is going to try and find a job, there are not enough jobs in Can Tho for

him and thousands of others who are also poor and afraid.

The government is trying to create jobs for the refugees, but until the enemy activity around Can Tho slacks off, there won't be much work for them.

Others are a bit more fortunate. One man without a family is going to reenlist in the army so he can eat. Others in the shelters have money but they still choose to live in the crowded refugee camps because they feel safer.

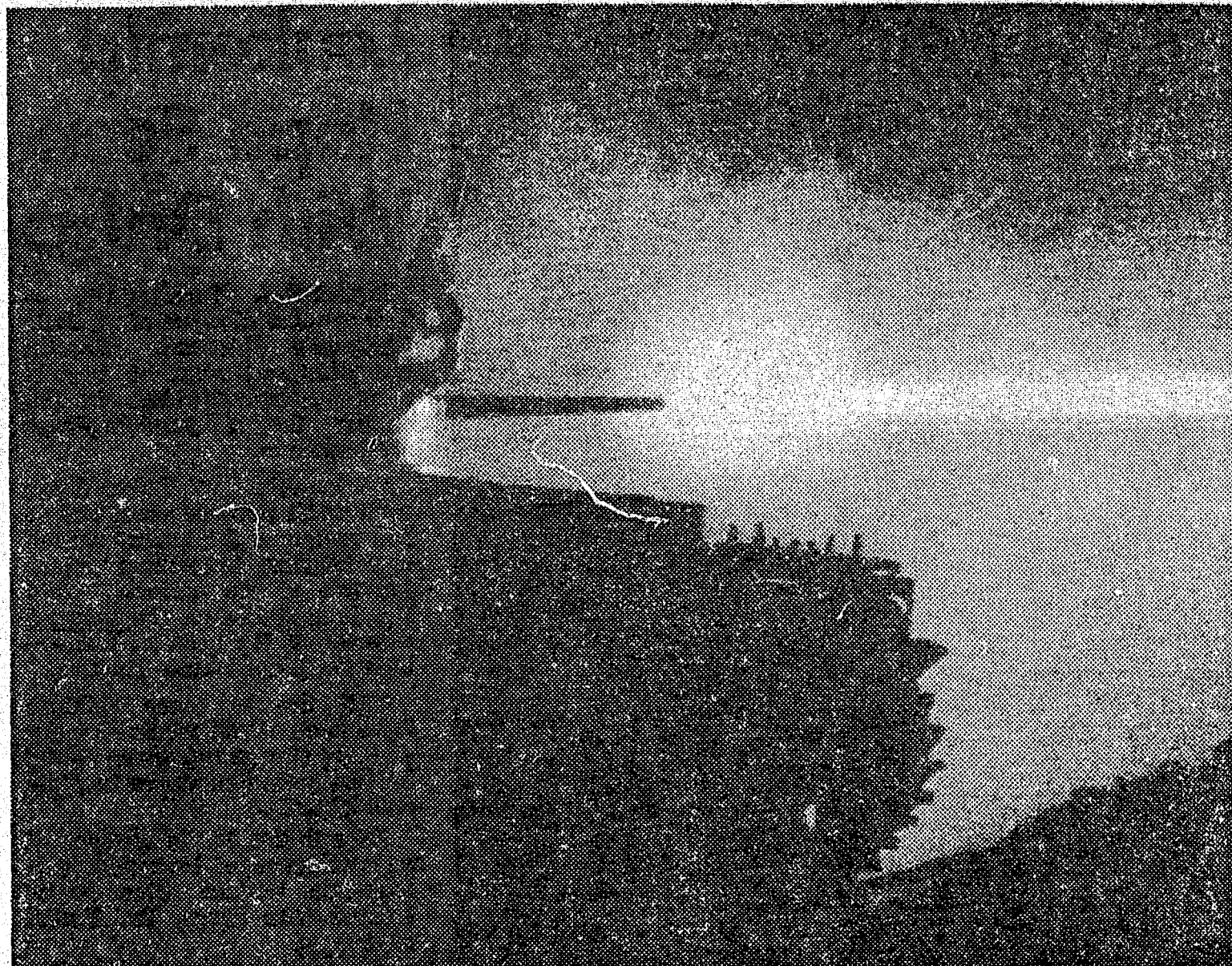
Those who have lost their homes are also worried. They have been offered sheets of tin roofing, cement and \$43 from the government to rebuild their homes. Many feel it is a generous

offer from the government considering the number of refugees throughout the country—now reported at over 650,000.

For some the meager sum will build them better homes than they had before but for most it is a step down. The head of one of the camps said it would take over \$860 to rebuild most of the homes. These people hope the government will be able to increase its offer later.

Most of them are facing up to their lot and say they have no other choice but to start over again and rebuild.

The refugees say they trust the Thieu-Ky regime, though with some reservations. "We just have to wait and see," one refugee said.



Hot Time for VC at Cu Chi

Harassment and interdicting fire from a track-mounted 40mm cannon (Duster) give the Viet Cong second thoughts about probing the perimeter of the 25th Inf. Div. base camp at Cu Chi. (USA)

Swift Boat Rescues Crew From Fallen Army Chopper

DA NANG, Vietnam (PAO)—"The helo just kept falling and falling. We knew it was going to crash any second," said Lt. (jg) Charles W. Johns of Youngstown, Ohio.

Johns, the skipper of PFC 78 (Patrol Craft Fast nicknamed "Swift Boat"), was heading north to his patrol station along the DMZ.

"We were only about 10 miles out of Da Nang," he said, "when we spotted this Army helicopter losing altitude very rapidly.

"The helo looked like it was trying to make it to the beach, but it was coming down much too fast."

Johns and his five-man Swift Boat crew sped after the copter.

"We were right on top of it when it finally hit the water," said Radarman 2.C. Russell R. Shaw of Glens Falls, N.Y. "We started moving immediately."

Engineman 2.C. Tyrone Nelson of Vista, Wash., had a life raft in his hand, ready to throw it overboard. "There were seven

of them," he recalled.

In less than eight minutes, all seven were safely on board the Swift Boat.

"One man, the pilot, couldn't swim," said Johns, who has been in Vietnam only two months and already put his Swift through two fire fights with the Viet Cong. "He kept himself afloat with his helmet until we could get to him."

After being rescued, one of the helicopter's crewmen said, "I've never seen such a pretty sight as this boat."

A few minutes after the res-

cue, the Swift was back in Da Nang. The helicopter crew was taken to the hospital at the Naval Support Activity, where they were given a clean bill of health and released.

It was later reported that the helo had been downed due to mechanical difficulties.

The other members of the Swift Boat crew at the time were: Quartermaster 2.C. Ralph W. O'Neil of Chicago, Quartermaster 2.C. Donald R. Osborn of Clovis, Calif., and Radarman 2.C. Pat Lannen of Hollywood, Fla.

Rach Kien: Harbor For the Desperate

RACH KIEN, Vietnamese (IO) — "Hungry and scared, they were people without hope for the future—people who live from day to day."

Spec. 5 Marc Levine, 21, of

New York City, was discussing the refugees who came to this small Mekong Delta village, home of the 9th Inf. Div.'s 3d Bn., 39th Inf., from the battle-scarred city of Saigon.

They lugged what they could on their backs. Some carried nothing, leaving behind their meager possessions in a mass of destruction.

Most of them walked. Those who couldn't were carried. All had the same goal—survival—though each was alone within himself.

They walked 12½ miles from Saigon to Binh Chanh—not a great distance. But for these people, it might as well have been an endless road.

When they reached Binh Chanh, the 3d Bn., 39th Inf., and the 46th Engineer Bn., provided transportation to Rach Kien. For many of these families, Rach Kien is home. For some, this is the second time they have been evicted by Viet Cong terrorism.

Rach Kien was at one time a VC stronghold. They came and took homes away from some of the people. Those families whose homes weren't taken had to pay VC taxes. The food the people produced, the land they lived on, the small amount of money they earned, and their lives were subject to taxes.

As their only means of rebellion and escape, many of the families moved from Rach Kien to Saigon, only to suffer the same thing again.

Now those families and more are returning to Rach Kien. They're living wherever there's enough space to sleep. Some are staying in private homes, others in the old village schoolhouse.

About 145 families, totaling some 905 men, women and children, are subsisting on 300 pounds of dehydrated food and 200 pounds of produce provided by the 3d/39th. The food is distributed by roster.

Many of the refugees will remain in this Delta village. Some will go elsewhere, while others return to Saigon.

Thai Children's Day Drive Nets \$4,500

U-TAPAO AIRFIELD, Thailand (OI) — More than \$4,500 in gifts was presented to individual children and schools in this area on the occasion of "Children's Day," all made possible through voluntary contributions by the personnel of U-Tapao Airfield and nearby Army and Navy units.

Nearly 3,000 Thai children were in attendance at the Bon Chang School near the base to accept the gifts from about 50 military personnel who represented U.S. military personnel from the U-Tapao area.

"The response and generosity of American personnel was almost unbelievable," said Capt. James B. Lyman, project officer for the event. "It was not unusual to find lower grade airmen contributing \$5, \$10 and even \$20. The money went to buy gifts for the kids as well as permanent improvements to their schools. Every indication I received was that the whole affair was a huge success."

Each child in the 11 school districts in the area was individually given a school uniform, a pair of play shorts, a ruler

and workbooks. In addition, each school was presented with athletic equipment, furniture, and other items to be used in the schools for the benefit of the students.

Personnel of Dillingham, Zachary and Kaiser, civilian contractors on base, also joined in the occasion, raising over \$600. School gifts in the form of cabinets, complete with medical supplies, tables and benches and world globes were presented in the name of the civilian work force at U-Tapao.

Entertainment was provided.

Several of the schools had groups of children present classical Thai dancing and bands performed with traditional instruments.

Dignitaries in attendance included Col. Fred T. Furchner, 635th Combat Support Group commander, and Mr. Vithaya Gesornsacwaphsk, Rayong governor. Mr. W. C. Collins was on hand to represent the civilian contractors.

Bonn to Aid Viets

SAIGON (AP)—The West German government will send \$1.02 million worth of relief supplies to South Vietnam in the next two weeks for civilian victims of the recent fighting, the official Vietnam Press said Saturday.

Japanese Ore Ship Sinks, Blocks the Panama Canal

PANAMA CITY (UPI) — A Japanese ship loaded with more than 50,000 tons of iron ore sank in the Panama Canal Sunday, completely blocking the vital waterway.

Canal officials said the bow of the 33,815 ton Shozan Maru was resting on the rocky bottom of a section known as Gaillard Cut near the Pacific end of the 50-mile canal. The ship is owned by Showa Kaiun K.K. of Tokyo

According to Lloyd's Register of Ships.

The stern was reported still afloat. Officials said the giant ship struck a bank in a 300-foot-wide stretch of the waterway.

A canal company official said 50 ships were waiting for transit when the accident occurred and more were expected to arrive at the rate of 45 a day.

Canal officials boarded the

vessel and all available salvage equipment and personnel, including divers, were ordered to the ship. No injuries were reported among the crew.

A canal company source said another ship, the 28,970-ton Liberian ore freighter Charles E. Wilson, owned by Oswego Oceans Carriers Ltd., of Monrovia, touched bottom in the same stretch of water Saturday.

Motorists Ignore Crash Survivor

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—The only survivor of a one-car accident that claimed six lives near here said Sunday that he spent seven hours trying to get passing motorists to stop and help.

The survivor, Pomery Sheffield, 20, of Miami told police many cars went by but none would stop.

Sheffield said he crawled up to the highway, U.S. 27, after the car veered off the road and crashed into a power pole 35 feet off the pavement.

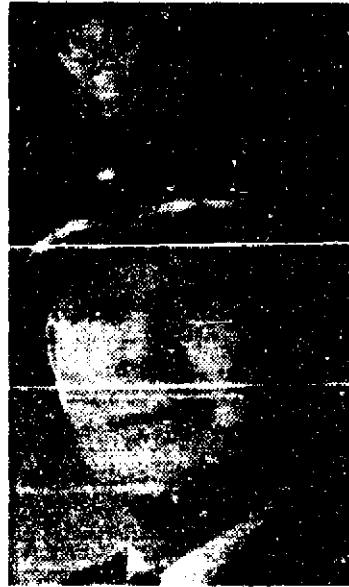
He said he lay bleeding beside the road waving and trying to yell. But no one stopped.

The accident occurred about 15 miles west of here.

Help finally came when a motorist stopped at a service station and called the police. Officials say they don't know whether any of the six could have survived if help had come earlier. The dead ranged in age from 4 to 23. They were not identified.

Sheffield suffered a fractured skull, eye injuries and cuts.

Gen. Gerrity Dies



GENERAL GERRITY

(Continued From Page 1)

missions in World War II, Gerrity had spent the last 25 years in aircraft development and support services for the Air Force. He served in the Philippines, Australia and New Guinea during World War II.

Gerrity, a native of Harlowton, Mont., was commissioned in the Army Air Reserve in 1940. He was awarded the Silver Star, the Distinguished Service Medal with the Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster and the Purple Heart for his World War II service.

Following the war, he commanded a Strategic Air Command bomb group, directed procurement and production engineering at the Pentagon and in 1957 became commander of the Oklahoma City air materiel area.

In 1960 he took command of the ballistic missile center in Los Angeles and in 1961 became the first commander of the ballistic systems division at Los Angeles.

Survivors include his widow, Margaret; a son, Thomas Jr., a graduate student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and a daughter, Mrs. John Morow, Chicago.



Farmer Carroll Watts of Loco, Tex., claims which is 80 to 100 feet long. Watts is undergoing this Polaroid snapshot shows an alien spacecraft a lie detector test. (AP Radiophoto)

Hijackers Lose All the Jack

CLEVELAND (UPI) — Two hooded gunmen kidnaped a guard and hijacked a Brink's armored truck containing \$300,000 Saturday but got nothing for their efforts when police found a sack full of money cached in an abandoned garage.

The guard was not harmed.

Police said a large canvas bag with \$152,000, three guns and clothing worn by the robbers was recovered from the garage. One of the weapons had been taken from the guard.

The other \$148,000 was still in the truck, which the gunmen abandoned several blocks from the scene of the hijack.

It was the second Brink's holdup in Ohio in less than two months.

Weather

USAF Weather Central

TOKYO AREA

Monday night: Fair; Low 20

Tuesday: Fair to Cloudy; High Near 50

TEMPERATURES

Feb. 25

	H	L		H	L
Bangkok	89	73	Naha	61	45
Chitose	46	28	Salga	90	70
Guam	80	71	Seoul	32	9
Hatuka	46	27	Telpef	57	36
Manila	82	70	Tokyo	46	29
	H	L		H	L
Albany	29	00	L.A.	87	58
Atlanta	51	27	Melbourne	100	81
Boston	35	14	Memphis	46	19
Chicago	32	28	Miami	70	62
Cincinnati	41	16	Moscow	20	12
Cleveland	23	13	N. Orleans	58	39
Denver	41	21	NYC	34	17
Detroit	32	14	Paris	39	39
Fort Worth	55	25	Phila.	48	20
Hong Kong	57	51	St. Louis	42	15
Honolulu	79	71	Snif Lake	58	39
Houston	57	32	San Fran.	63	54
Jakarta	87	69	Seattle	59	40
Kansas City	57	22	Sydney	65	47
London	37	28	Wash.	43	25

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes
Tuesday, Feb. 27, 1953

Wagon-Train Tactics Stop VC Loco

(Continued From Page 1)

midnight with a Communist unit from the east. The main attack came from the west.

Field dispatches said the Americans drew 16 armored vehicles in a circle around the base's four 155mm artillery pieces to stand off a human wave attack by Viet Cong who blasted their way through barbed wire on the western perimeter with bangalore torpedoes — tubelike explosive devices.

Spec. 4, Ralph Hirschler, of Lamar, Colo., manned a .50-caliber machine gun on an armored car.

"They kept coming over the rice paddy dikes and I kept heaving lead at them," he said. "I must have fired over 1,000 rounds in the first 10 minutes."

One of the attackers killed the company commander, and Lt. Stanley B. Nowach, of St. Louis, a forward artillery observer, took command.

The fight was touched off when the U.S. company spotted 12 Viet Cong moving toward the perimeter from the east shortly after midnight.

The American troops opened up with machine-gun fire and sent out four armored personnel carriers to sweep the area. The lead carrier was hit by Viet fire. Then the Viet Cong opened up from the southwest and northwest and then sent the

bulk of its force storming into the western perimeter.

An American reconnaissance platoon tried to break through to the encircled company but was attacked en route. Four of the seven armored personnel carriers of the platoon finally drove through along with another infantry company.

"It was obviously coordinated to overrun the four artillery guns, then overrun the patrol base," one officer said.

None of the artillery pieces was damaged, officers said.

In Hue, allied troops continued mopping up pockets of Communist resistance in the area of the old imperial Citadel. Allied forces also were on the move outside the city seeking to disrupt any enemy movements. U.S. Marines fought stiff skirmishes south of Hue.

As if to demonstrate the practical end of the Reds' 24-day holdout, President Nguyen Van Thieu, Premier Nguyen Van Loc and other government offi-

cial paid a visit to Hue and the Citadel Sunday. But they did not enter the old imperial palace or the south wall of the Citadel where there are still pockets of North Vietnamese troops.

Near Saigon, elements of a South Vietnamese ranger battalion battled an enemy force of unknown size three miles northwest of Tan Son Nhut Air Base, near the village of Tan Thoi, which the enemy occupied last week before being driven out.

Communist gunners zeroed in on the U.S. fighter base at Da Nang and a Marine heliport just across the river late Saturday night and early Sunday. Marine spokesmen at Da Nang said one American serviceman was killed and eight wounded. Two buildings were destroyed and 12 aircraft either destroyed or damaged.

At the Marine fortress in Khe Sanh, guarding the northwest invasion routes into South Vietnam, Communist gunners fired 360 rounds Saturday, killing five Marines and wounding 20.

Air Force B-52 saturation bombers, each of which can carry up to 50,000 pounds of bombs, countered with two strikes Saturday night and two more Sunday morning on suspected North Vietnamese troop concentrations and gun positions threatening the fortress.

(Continued From Page 1)

the craft for two hours and chatted with the little men, who communicated with him without moving their mouths, apparently through thought waves.

Watts said the men, who had white or grey skin, broad flat noses, a thin line mouth, no hair, and eye sockets that run nearly to their ears, told him they were from Mars and knew earth scientists would put a man on the moon within the next several years and then make Mars their next target.

"They said they did not have war on their planet and they were going to have to do something to keep us from bringing it to them," said Watts.

He said they had maps on the walls and were making a land survey of earth.

Watts said the men told him they had peaceful intentions and would not harm him. He said in their only display of anger they knocked him unconscious when he tried to sneak a paper weight into his pocket to keep after he was released.

Brazil Crash Kills 12

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP)—A bus skidded on a wet road and smashed into a guard rail near Mariana, in Minas Gerais state, killing 12 persons and injuring 24.

Lurleen 'Satisfactory'

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (UPI) —Alabama Gov. Lurleen Wallace ran a temperature Sunday and her pulse rate slightly accelerated but doctors said she continued in satisfactory condition from her third operation for cancer.