19,900 GIs Call Home

TAN SON NHUT AB, Vietnam (Special) — Air Force Military Affiliate Radio System stations in Vietnam placed a record 19,900 free telephone calls to the United States for U.S. servicemen during March.

The total for the first quarter of 1970 was more than 49,000 MARS calls, also a record.

There are 12 Air Force MARS stations in the Republic of Vietnam. Ten are operated by the Air Force Communications Service and two by the 505th Tactical Control Group.

The stations use high frequency radio equipment to call other Air Force MARS stations in the U.S. The stateside MARS station patches into the commercial telephone system and places a collect call to the serviceman's home. The only change is for the collect call from the stateside MARS station to the serviceman's home.

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