

N. VIET DECLARES IT'S READY TO TALK

LBJ, Aids to Confer in Honolulu

PACIFIC STARBUCKS STRIPES

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★★★★★ EDITION

Friday, April 5, 1968

McCarthy, Nixon Sweep Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE, Wis. (AP)—Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy, propelled by a landslide, 57 per cent showing in Wisconsin's presidential primary, went to work Wednesday to enhance his Democratic fortunes in contests he acknowledged may prove more difficult.

The Minnesota senator swept to a Wisconsin primary victory Tuesday. President Johnson, whose Sunday rejection of candidacy stripped the primary of its major contest, drew 35 per cent of the Democratic vote.

Richard M. Nixon captured 80 per cent of the smaller Republican turnout. He said it showed (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)



Sen. Eugene McCarthy smiles as he is surrounded by well-wishers and campaign workers Tuesday night in Milwaukee. (AP Radiophoto)

Stocks Shatter Trading Mark

NEW YORK (AP) — Trading volume on the New York Stock Exchange soared to a record 19,290,000 shares Wednesday in a powerful reaction to Hanoi's broadcast offer to talk with the United States about a complete halt of the bombing of North Vietnam.

The total topped the record of 17.73 million shares set Monday. Before this week's hectic trading, the previous mark of 16.41 million shares had stood since Oct. 29, 1929, the day of the great market crash. (Details on Page 8.)

Allied Force Pushes Toward Khe Sanh

SAIGON (UPI) — Columns of allied tanks and infantrymen covered by swarms of helicopters inched along Highway 9 toward Khe Sanh Thursday to relieve the threatened Marine garrison there. For the first time since last

September, American forces traveled the twisting mountain road that links the 6,000 Leathernecks at Khe Sanh with coastal supply areas.

The going was slow. At least 17 bridges were knocked out and mines and booby traps

turned up about every 100 yards.

By dusk Wednesday, the column was still about three miles from the besieged base, which is surrounded by North Vietnamese troops.

The move down Route 9, a

dust-choked road that is little more than a trail, was a massive allied thrust code-named Operation Pegasus and involving about 10,000 troops.

It was aimed at seizing control of Highway 9 and taking (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The United States and North Vietnam took a small but enormously significant step Wednesday toward preliminary diplomatic discussions that could lead to an end of the Vietnam war.

First, the Hanoi government declared in a radio broadcast its willingness to meet with American representatives to discuss "the unconditional cessation of the United States bombing raids and all other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam so that talks may start."

Then President Johnson told newsmen at the White House he was accepting Hanoi's offer.

He announced that the United States "will establish contact with the representatives of North Vietnam. Consultations with the government of South Vietnam and other allies are now taking place."

The President also said he would fly to Honolulu, Hawaii, late Thursday evening for a long weekend of conferences with American officials from South Vietnam.

The Pentagon said Defense Secretary Clark Clifford and Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, would accompany the President to Hawaii.

State Department officials said they expected Secretary of State Dean Rusk would join the Presidential group in Honolulu. Rusk is now in Wellington, New Zealand, for talks with U.S. allies in the Far East.

Johnson did not say when, where or how contact would be made with North Vietnam.

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

LBJ Sees Humphrey, Bobby Separately

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson met Wednesday for about an hour each with Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, D-N.Y.

The two meetings were separate and the White House had almost nothing to say about either one. It indicated it would maintain silence.

Kennedy and Humphrey are possible finalists in the showdown for the Democratic presidential nomination, along with Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota.

Kennedy is actively campaigning now and Humphrey is

expected to say within a week or two whether he will run.

White House press secretary George Christian said he knew of no plans for Johnson to confer with McCarthy and was unaware of any request from McCarthy for a conference.

Kennedy had asked for a meeting with Johnson, and Humphrey had announced he planned to see the President, too—obviously about what may happen now in the wake of Johnson's renunciation of any attempt for a second full term.

Kennedy was first in, at 10 a.m. EST, for a talk with Johnson. (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)

Kidnaped by Reds

Find Bodies of 4 German Doctors

SAIGON (AP)—Vietnamese authorities have reported to the West Germany Embassy that the bodies of four German doctors, who were kidnaped by the Communists two months ago, have been found in a mass grave in the northern city of Hue.

An embassy spokesman said it was "nearly certain" that the bodies were those of Prof. Horst Guenther

Krainick, 59, and his wife, Prof. Elisabeth Krainick, 55; Dr. Raimund Discher, 38; and Dr. Alois Altkoester, 36.

All were from the University of Freiburg, Germany, and had been teaching on the medical faculty of the University of Hue.

An embassy representative was on his way to Hue to identify the bodies, but the embassy spokesman said Hue University officials had identified the bodies and that papers were found which also identified the bodies.

The university planned a memorial service for the four doctors.

The bodies were found in a mass grave near a pagoda just outside the city. The embassy spokesman said the wife of the rector of the University of Hue had informed an embassy representative aboard the German hospital ship Helgoland in Da Nang.

The four doctors were at the university when North Vietnamese troops invaded the city Jan. 31 during the Tet offensive.

Another German citizen, Otto Soellner, a music teacher who lived in the city, was unharmed during the fighting and has since returned to Munich.

Robb Lands At Da Nang

DA NANG, Vietnam (UPI)—Marine Capt. Charles Robb, President Johnson's son-in-law, arrived Wednesday for a 13-month tour of duty in the war theater.

"I am very happy to be here but I wish you'd leave me alone," he told newsmen after stepping off a jet airliner that brought him here from Okinawa.

Robb, 28, husband of the President's oldest daughter Lynda, was driven away in stifling heat. He was assigned to the 1st Marine Division which has its headquarters in this Leatherneck bastion city, 360 miles north of Saigon.

A former White House aide, Robb requested Vietnam duty.

He arrived in charge of a 165-man Marine replacement detail. He wore the starched green garb of Marines in the battle zone.

VC Kill 67 More Civilians

SAIGON (UPI) — A total of 344 Vietnamese civilians were killed, wounded or kidnaped by the Viet Cong during the week ending March 30, according to figures released Wednesday by the U.S. mission.

Breaking down 133 reported terror incidents, the mission said 67 were killed, 43 were wounded and 234 were kidnaped during the week.

The 67 killed included seven national policemen and four pacification cadremen. The wounded included a province chief, five national police and five pacification workers.

The III and IV Corps areas—the lower central portion of the country including Saigon and the Mekong River Delta area—accounted for 25 civilian deaths each, according to the figures.

Thirteen were reported killed in the Central Highlands, or II Corps, and two were reported killed in the northern provinces of I Corps.

The Highlands area, while low on the number of killed and wounded, had 107 reported abductions during the week. This compared with 65 for I Corps, 17 for II Corps and 45 for IV Corps.

U.S. Continues Leaflet Drops

SAIGON (AP) — U.S. officials said Wednesday they planned to continue dropping propaganda leaflets over North Vietnam including the northern region which President Johnson declared out of bounds to U.S. bombing raids.

No leaflet plane drops have been made since Johnson's de-escalation order Sunday but officials here said the paper raids were prevented by poor weather conditions.

Leaflet drops over North Vietnam are made with the "wind drop" method. In this system, the direction and speed of the wind are first calculated and then used to blow the leaflets over the selected target area.



Armored Personnel Catcher

An armored personnel carrier of the 3rd Sq., 11th Armored Cav. Regt., cuts loose with its machine guns during an engagement in the joint U.S.-Vietnamese Operation Quyet Thang (Resolved to Win) west of Saigon. (USA)

Jets Belt Panhandle 113 Times

SAIGON—U.S. pilots flew 113 missions over the panhandle of North Vietnam from the 20th Parallel to the DMZ Tuesday, following a Department of Defense statement which placed the 20th Parallel, 225 miles north of the DMZ, as the northern boundary for bombing missions.

The northern line crosses through North Vietnam just above Thanh Hoa, which is one of the major shipping points through which most supplies are channeled for movement down the panhandle into South Vietnam.

The day's most northern strike was just one mile short of the parallel as U.S. Navy pilots bombed a railroad siding 12 miles northeast of Thanh Hoa.

Other Navy pilots blasted the Bai Thuong airfield, 22 miles northwest of Thanh Hoa, a repair facility two miles south of the city and a shipping point a mile away.

Further south, the Navy aviators hit the Vinh airfield five miles north of the city and a shipping point one mile south of Vinh.

Air Force pilots concentrated on targets along the Mu Gia pass near the Laotian border, hitting truck parks and storage areas.

2,413 Reds Slain In Saigon Area Push

SAIGON — Ground fighting in South Vietnam was reported as light and scattered Tuesday in one of the quietest days this year.

Some of the day's heaviest fighting was around Saigon in Operation Quyet Thang. Ten Communists were killed during a 30-minute battle two miles northeast of Hoc Mon with a company from the 2nd Brigade

of the U.S. 25th Inf. Div. Three U.S. infantrymen were wounded in the action.

During the first 23 days of the massive operation Quyet Thang 2,413 Communists have been killed and 413 captured.

U.S. casualties for the operation are listed as 101 killed and 831 wounded. Government casualties are said to be 168 killed and 391 wounded.

Vietnam Casualties

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

KILLED IN ACTION

- Army**
- SGT Val E. Barton, Santa Clara, Calif.
 - SP4 Larric J. Gotcher, Citrus Heights, Calif.
 - SP4 Donald E. Green, Compton, Calif.
 - SP4 Richard E. Hall, Lodi, Calif.
 - SP4 Dennis K. Showers, Fair Oaks, Calif.
 - PFC Carl R. Rosari, Woodland Hills, Calif.
 - SP4 David M. Brancio, Denver, Colo.
 - PFC Jimmy T. Tessardi, Salida, Colo.
 - SGT Kenneth M. Barker, Royal Palm Beach, Fla.
 - PFC Charles E. Davenport II, Hollywood, Fla.
 - PFC John D. Harper Jr., Maultrie, Ga.
 - SP4 Odis L. Gosnell, South Holland, Ill.
 - SGT Louis J. Maher Jr., Walkerton, Ind.
 - SP5 Robert J. Wiedemann, Gary, Ind.
 - 2LT Francis L. Gaulocher, Iowa City, Iowa.
 - PFC Larry M. Granewold, Dnnahue, Iowa.
 - PFC Albert J. Peters, Bagclusa, La.
 - SP4 William J. Shortleaves, Malden, Mass.
 - SP4 James E. Blaouw, Grayling, Mich.
 - PFC Julius Maddox, Detroit, Mich.
 - SP5 Jeffery H. Van Vleet, Kimball, Minn.
 - SP4 Donald H. Schmidt, Saint Paul, Minn.
 - SP4 Donald R. Kinton, Kreole, Miss.
 - PFC Gary R. Wiginton, Marietta, Miss.
 - SP4 Bennett J. Herrick, Kansas City, Mo.
 - SSG Terrance E. Smith, Phillipsburg, N.J.
 - SP4 Gerald G. China, Gallup, N.M.
 - SP4 Terry Zimmerman, New York City.
 - PFC Johnnie D. Harris, Raleigh, N.C.
 - SP4 David R. De Priest, Rolette, N.D.
 - SP4 David T. Orwig III, Niles, Ohio.
 - PFC John B. Reale, Philadelphia, Pa.
 - SSG Glenn F. Cashdollar, Columbia, S.C.
 - PFC Broadus A. Whit, Honea Path, S.C.
 - 2LT James E. Laird, Texarkana, Tex.
 - SGT Jimmy Flores, San Antonio, Tex.
 - PFC Fred C. H. Frappieu Jr., Saxtons River, Vt.
 - SP5 Michael J. Kelley, Menomonee Falls, Wis.
- Navy**
- HM3 Douglas B. Parsons, Walnut Creek, Calif.
- Marine Corps**
- CPL Vernon L. Downs Jr., Huntsville, Ala.
 - SGT David L. Simmons, Garden Grove, Calif.
 - LCPL Stephen C. Shannon, Santa Monica, Calif.
- Army**
- PFC Howard L. Savare, San Diego, Calif.
 - CPL Louis C. Goi, North Seminole, Fla.
 - PFC Curtis E. Baker, Oakley, Ill.
 - SGTMAJ Donald W. Bean, Topeka, Kan.
 - PFC Patrick M. Berwer, Topeka, Kan.
 - LCPL Lawrence R. Raymond, Manchester, N.H.
 - SGT John J. Grahman, Linwood, N.J.
 - PFC Robert L. Jackson, Newark, N.J.
 - CAPT Walter J. Egger, Columbus, Ohio.
 - LCPL Dennis C. Shively, Coos Bay, Ore.
 - 1LT Paul W. Bush, New Castle, Pa.
 - LCPL Clarence Dawkins Jr., Columbia, S.C.
 - PFC Bennie J. Sisson, Lufkin, Tex.
- DIED OF WOUNDS**
- Marine Corps**
- 1LT William G. Hall, Wichita, Kan.
- MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE**
- Army**
- SGT Grady Gant Jr., Castleberry, Ala.
 - CPL Dennis R. Cantler, Baltimore, Md.
 - PFC Irving C. Pierce Jr., Bridgeton, N.J.
 - SP4 Rodolfo Villafraanco, San Benito, Tex.
 - SGT Thomas J. Sturgal, Ashland, Wis.
- MISSING IN ACTION**
- Army**
- 2LT Michael R. Callaway.
 - SFC Linwood D. Martin.
 - SSG Donald L. Gearhart.
 - SSG Balfour O. Lytton.
 - SGT Robert Luna.
 - SP4 Richard A. Friend.
 - SP4 Thomas J. Murray.
- DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- PFC Roland R. Bellamy, Des Plaines, Ill.
 - PFC Clarence Jefferson Jr., Shreveport, La.
 - SGT George Campbell, Aberdeen, Md.
- Navy**
- SN William R. Phillips, West Palm Beach, Fla.
 - DT3 Charles R. Bartholomew, Farmington, Iowa.
- Air Force**
- CWO Charles A. Hinckley, North Highland, Calif.
- MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE**
- Army**
- PFC Melvin R. Ranson, Baltimore, Md.
- MISSING NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION**
- Army**
- SP4 Daniel Thomas.
- CORRECTION**
- CAPT Bill W. Deetz, USMC, CAPT Lucien C. Tessier, USMC, SGT Kenneth P. Ehnis, USMC, LCPL Benjamin F. Johnson III, USMC, Change Status from missing to dead—hostile to missing to dead—non hostile.

Suharto Raps Red China 'Meddling'

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (UPI)—Indonesian President Suharto told a cheering throng of Cambodians Wednesday that Asians must defend themselves against "colonialism in all its forms" and "foreign interference."

In a sharp attack on Communist China, the visiting Indonesian chief of state said Peking was "in the front ranks" of

those who would meddle in other states' affairs.

A crowd estimated at 100,000 listened to a long speech by Suharto in the Cambodian National Sports Stadium here and repeatedly interrupted him with wild applause.

Suharto saluted Cambodian Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk for "spectacular success" in fighting foreign interference in Cambodia. He said the two states had "common aspirations and destinies" and

that their independence was "without compromise."

The Indonesian President condemned "those in Indonesia who wanted to change our principles with a foreign ideology" and said "the 1965 rebellion of the Communist Party was destroyed by the people themselves."

But Suharto warned that Southeast Asia was "still menaced by tensions that can disappear only through peaceful co-existence and respect for the independence and sovereignty of all countries."

New High For Airport

BIEN HOA, Vietnam (OI) — Bien Hoa Air Base, the busiest airport in the world and home of the Air Force's 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, recorded a new high in takeoffs and landings in February with 73,046. This total surpassed the previous record of 71,768 set by the base in March 1967.

The Bien Hoa control tower, jointly operated by the Air Force 1877th Comm. Sq. and Vietnamese Air Force air traffic controllers, handles one take-off or landing every 37 seconds. The base accommodates every type of aircraft from huge civilian airliners to small liaison aircraft.

High Wire Act Was Petrifying

CHU LAI, Vietnam (OI) — "I don't think I ever stood as still in my life as when someone yelled that my antenna had hit a booby trap wire," said a radio operator with Americal Division's 196th Light Inf. Brigade.

Pfc. Neil Amalfitano, of Wilmington, Del., of the 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., was speaking of when his radio antenna caught in a trip wire while on a sweep during Operation Wheeler Wallowa.

"We were moving through some pretty thick brush when I saw Neil's antenna catch the high trip wire," said Spec. 4 Earl Thorn, of Colbert, Okla., who was walking behind Amalfitano.

"The wire went forward, but didn't snap," said Thorn, "so I yelled for him to freeze. While the antenna continued to hold the wire taut, two other Company C members began carefully tracing the wire." Thorn said.

Everyone else had taken cover when the wire led them to two grenades strapped to a nearby tree. The grenades were blown harmlessly. "I didn't think I could move after it was over," said the radio operator. "I had really frozen in place."

"All I can remember is staring up at that thin wire and hoping it wouldn't break."

Quick Rescue Saves Airman

TUY HOA, Vietnam (OI) — Quick thinking by S.Sgt. William M. Bohannon Jr., 24, Rincon, Ga., an Air Force air traffic controller at Tuy Hoa Air Base, saved an airman who suffered an electrical shock while working on airfield lighting.

Bohannon, a member of the 1884th Comm. Sq., was on duty in the control tower when he overheard a radio request for an ambulance from a fire truck on the flight line.

Taking control of the situation, he radioed the pilot of an Air Force rescue helicopter on a training flight near the scene. Directing the pilot to the scene, Bohannon instructed the crew to pick up the injured man and fly him to the base dispensary.

While the helicopter, a HH-43 Huskie from Detachment 11, 33rd Army Support and Recovery Sq., was picking up the man, Bohannon alerted the dispensary. He also routed all air traffic out of the helicopter's path.

The injured airman was taken to the hospital in minimum time and is now recovering. Hospital officials credit Bohannon with saving the man's life.

Frantic End to R&R

5 Win 6-Mile Footrace With VC

BIEN HOA, Vietnam (IO) — A 101st Airborne Div. officer led four men to safety over a 14-mile trek after the helicopter in which they were riding was shot down.

Capt. James H. Nichels, Maben, Miss., commander of B Co., 2nd Bn. (Abn), 501st Inf., of the 101st Airborne Div.'s 2nd Brigade, was taking a routine shuttle flight back to his battalion base camp following R&R in Australia.

Their helicopter was flying at 200 feet when shots suddenly rang out. Five automatic rifle rounds fired from the tree tops struck the helicopter's engine.

A small house, several hedgerows and acres of sand dunes passed under the chopper as the pilot fought to keep it in the air.

"He somehow managed to keep it up for awhile," said Sgt. Arthur A. Paulin, Torrance, Calif. "When we landed safely in the sand we received more automatic weapons fire from three sides."

A platoon of enemy soldiers

was making its way over the sandy terrain toward the downed helicopter.

"I immediately realized we couldn't stay with the helicopter," Nichels said. "We had to run for it before the Communist force had us completely surrounded."

Taking charge of the men, Nichels led them in a dash to the temporary safety of a nearby sand dune.

The small party was armed with one M-16 rifle and four pistols.

The enemy kept coming closer, shouting and shooting. "When I tried to get a bead on one of them with my rifle, it seemed like they shot away six inches of sand off the top of the hill," said Sgt. Jerry McKinney, Chicago.

Grasping their only chance, the five men struck out to the west, the only direction free of advancing enemy.

The men kept running as the Communists tried to close the gap, firing as they ran.

"They were about 300 yards behind us when I fell down," said Capt. Humberto Arrillaga, San Juan, P.R., the battalion doctor. "Machine-gun fire was flying all over the place. I started sinking in the sandy dune. The rest of the group was moving out of sight ahead of me."

Paulin saw the doctor's dilemma and raced back.

"He found me just as I was sinking in the wet sand and dragged me out by brute strength," the doctor said. "We quickly caught up to the others."

They had no map. Nichels knew the pilot had been flying westward. In that direction, he thought they would find a military base.

It began to get dark. The Communists never were less than 500 yards away. As the five men raced into the dying sun, their pursuers could be seen firing at them.

"We seemed to be outrunning the enemy soldiers when mortar rounds began exploding around us," McKinney said. "Capt.

Nichels led us through the danger, and the rounds soon were falling to our rear."

The men stumbled into a rice paddy for a short breather. They then began running through waist-deep water. Suddenly the doctor fell again.

Nichels came to his aid this time and pulled him out of the muddy water.

"The enemy soldiers must have given up after that," Nichels said. "The automatic fire died away and the mortars ceased. They probably returned to the helicopter site."

The men later learned they had been chased for six miles.

Nichels kept guiding on the stars and heading west. Suddenly, ahead of them peeping out of the darkness they saw a flickering red light.

They eventually reached a portion of Vietnam's national highway, Route 1, and followed it to a nearby military compound.

Their long trek was over. The tired men reported the helicopter's position and looked at a map. They had run 14 miles in less than three hours.



Waiting for the Smoke to Clear

An Air Force jet dives in on a bombing run before combined elements of the 25th South Vietnamese Div. and the U.S. 11th Armored Cav.

Regt.'s 3rd Sq. advance on a treeline near Saigon. The action occurred in Operation Quiet Thang. (USA Photo by 1st Lt. David L. Fortney)

400 Sent Home From Vietnam

FT. BRAGG, N.C. (AP) — Some 400 U.S. paratroopers sent to Vietnam in February have been returned to Ft. Bragg because they had been home less than six months before their second combat tour began.

An Army spokesman said the men arrived on two flights from Chu Lai, Vietnam. He said additional flights were expected later in the day, but did not know how many more troops were involved.

The 3rd Brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division were part of the 10,500 men President Johnson ordered to Vietnam in Feb-

ruary to bolster allied defenses after the Tet offensive.

The callup involved 4,000 men from the 82nd and President Johnson visited Ft. Bragg Feb. 17 to bid farewell to the first contingent. The men had only 24-hours notice before leaving for the combat area from adjoining Pope Air Force Base.

It was sometime after the callup that some parents and friends wrote to the President, Pentagon officials and congressmen, noting that among the troops were men who already served in Vietnam and had not

been home six months before the callup—as required by Army policy.

An Army spokesman indicated Sunday that the short notice involved in the callup was the reason the policy was not followed.

"But the President promised to send them back and he has," the spokesman said.

Eighty per cent of the 3rd brigade were veterans of at least one tour of combat duty in Vietnam. The total number that had been home less than six months before being sent back was not released.

Smoke Cool... Try Combats

RACH KIEN, Vietnam (IO) — Care for a man's cigarette? A combat cigarette?

These are the questions posed by posters in the Rach Kien post exchange.

Sgt. Wiley B. Harris, 22, of Vauxhall, N.J., is giving this type of cigarette away to the men of the 9th Inf. Div.'s 3d Bn., 39th Inf.

"The cigarettes were damaged during the last mortar attack," Harris said. "I couldn't sell them so I am giving them away as a combat cigarette for the combat man."

Harris said the cigarettes have small shrapnel holes in them, making them unsaleable, though still smokeable.

"And they are going fast," he said.

What? Cute Dock Hands?

DA NANG, Vietnam (PAO) — The Naval Support Activity in Da Nang has introduced something new to the rough business of cargo handling—women.

The Support Activity's Vietnamese administrative training branch is teaching 13 women the art of cargo handling.

Some of them will drive forklifts capable of handling 4,000 pounds. They'll also be taught how to operate winches and act as signalmen to direct cargo on the docks.

It takes three weeks for the women to complete classes, according to Boatswain's Mate I.C. Eugene West.

West says the women are often better workers than men. There are other reasons for hiring women. "We were losing two or three men a week to the Vietnamese Army. We won't have that problem with women," he said.

Acuff at Lai Khe

LAI KHE, Vietnam (IO) — Col. Earl C. Acuff has assumed command of the 1st. Inf. Div.'s 3rd (Iron) Brigade.

Johnson Accepts Hanoi Offer to Start Talks

(Continued From Page 1)
 Geneva, Switzerland, was considered a likely site. The President already has said his prime negotiators in the event North Vietnam chose to respond to curtailment of the bombing raids would be Ambassador-at-Large W. Averell Harriman and

Llewellyn E. Thompson, U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union.

Whether any other figure would join the negotiating team was unknown.

There was no word from Moscow or any other world capital Wednesday to shed any light on the President's specific plans.

He quoted from an official U.S. government comparison of the English-language broadcast by the North Vietnamese government and a translation of a Vietnamese-language broadcast of the same statement which preceded the English version. The English version began at 9:33 a.m.

The President said:

"Today the government of North Vietnam made a statement which included the following paragraph:

"However for its part, the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam declares its readiness to appoint its representative to contact the United States representative with a view to determining with the American side the unconditional cessation of the United States bombing raids and all other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam so that talks may start."

"Last Sunday I expressed the position of the United States with respect to peace in Vietnam and Southeast Asia. In that statement I said: 'Now, as in the past, the United States is ready to send its representatives to any forum, at any time, to discuss the means of bringing this war to an end.'"

"Accordingly, we will establish contact with the representatives of North Vietnam. Consultations with the government of South Vietnam and other allies are now taking place."

After reading the brief statement from a single sheet of yellow paper, Johnson said:

"So you may have as much notice as I am able to give you on another matter, I will be leaving tomorrow (Thursday) evening late for Honolulu and will meet with certain of the American representatives from South Vietnam for a series of meetings over the weekend in Hawaii."

Kennedy—

(Continued From Page 1)
 son in the Cabinet room, Humphrey came in for a conference set at 11 a.m.

Christian had no analysis to offer as to whether the President's providing equal time to Kennedy and Humphrey was indicative of his intention not to take sides in the scramble to pick a successor to himself for the Democratic nomination.

Khe Sanh

(Continued From Page 1)
 the initiative away from the North Vietnamese who mounted their biggest threat of the war against Khe Sanh.

Lt. Gen. Robert Cushman, commander of Marines in Vietnam, said the siege already had been broken and estimated that about half the 16,000 North Vietnamese troops who once surrounded the base still were in the area.

The operation kicked off Monday when elements of the U.S. 1st Air Cav. Div. whirled in by helicopters and established positions on peaks and ridgelines overlooking the road. For security reasons newsmen were not allowed to write about it until Wednesday.

Bill Blunt, 20, a husky Marine from Youngstown, Ohio, wheeled his jeep out of the Leatherneck base at Ca Lu 10 miles from Khe Sanh Monday and took up the point position.

"Hey, man, I am to drive the first vehicle into Khe Sanh," he said.

He was right behind Sgt. Drew Studebaker of Muncie, Ind., who has only 11 days left before going home, and four other engineers walking with long-stemmed mine detectors.

In the first three days of the operation, the column moved about four miles, flanked on both sides by infantrymen hacking their way through the brush.

Cushman said the Marines had their "first sign of victory when the enemy shelling of Khe Sanh began to taper off."

"That's when we decided to launch Operation Pegasus to clear out the enemy, reopen Highway 9 and put Khe Sanh back in business halting the North Vietnamese infiltration into the northern provinces," Cushman said.

He said the tremendous American firepower combined with the stubborn courage of Vietnamese and Marine defenders broke the Communists' grip.

"I believe that we have won the first phase of the battle of Khe Sanh just as surely as we will win the ultimate victory for this particular area, and the work of the ARVN Rangers and Marines patrolling and hurling back enemy probes certainly contributed to the winning of that first phase."

McCarthy Sweeps Wisconsin

(Continued From Page 1)
 Wisconsin would be in the GOP column when the White House votes are counted next Nov. 5.

For McCarthy, it was on to South Bend, Ind., in the state in which he and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, D-N.Y., will meet head-to-head in a May 7 primary.

"I think that after Indiana there will be only one candidate," McCarthy said there.

These were virtually complete returns in the Wisconsin Democratic primary:

McCarthy 406,098, or 57 per cent.

Johnson 249,518, for 35 per cent.

Kennedy, whose name was not on the ballot, and who advised his supporters to vote for McCarthy, received 43,207 votes, a 6 per cent share.

There were 3,281 write-in votes for former Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace; and 3,177 for the unballoted Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey.

The Republican ledger read this way:

Nixon 385,052 for 80 per cent.

California Gov. Ronald Reagan, on the ballot but disclaiming real White House candidacy, 51,574 for 11 per cent.

Quadrennial regular Harold E. Stassen 28,453, or 6 per cent.

New York Gov. Nelson A.



PRESIDENT JOHNSON TALKS TO NEWSMEN OUTSIDE HIS WHITE HOUSE OFFICE.

City Votes No To Pullout

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—A referendum question calling for an immediate cease fire and withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam went down to defeat in Madison Tuesday night.

With all of the capital city's 41 precincts reported, the proposal lost 58 per cent to 42 per cent. There were 27,555 "no" votes and 20,172 "yes" votes.

Much of the referendum's support centered on the 31,000-student University of Wisconsin campus. The issue was placed on the ballot by a petition of 8,410 voters.

Opposition was spearheaded by the Madison Veterans Council, which contended a "yes" vote would demoralize American troops and would condone Communist aggression in Vietnam.

If the Madison resolution fails, it will be the fifth defeated among the six that have gone to the voters recently. Anti-war proposals have been defeated in Cambridge and Concord, Mass., San Francisco, and Dearborn, Mich.

Navy Plane Down In Gulf of Siam

SAIGON (AP) — The U.S. Military Command confirmed Thursday that a Navy patrol plane with 12 men aboard was shot down Monday in the Gulf of Siam off the west coast of South Vietnam.

An official announcement said only that the plane reported being "hit by anti-aircraft fire." Other sources reported earlier, however, that the plane was fired upon by a Cambodian ship.

The U.S. Command's announcement said the bodies of two crewmen were recovered and search operations are continuing.

The command said the plane, a Navy P3 four-engine patrol craft, crashed about five miles south of Phu Quoc Island in the Gulf of Siam.

The island is part of South Vietnam. The site of the crash was about 50 miles off the West Coast of South Vietnam.

The U.S. announcement said:

"U.S. Navy P3 aircraft, engaged in Market Time operations, crashed Monday about five miles south of Phu Quoc Island. There were 12 crew members aboard. Two bodies have been recovered. Search and rescue operations are continuing. The aircraft reported being hit by anti-aircraft fire while patrolling the area between the island and the mainland. Investigation is under way."

The "Market Time" operation is an allied sea and air campaign to intercept enemy vessels bringing arms and other supplies to the Viet Cong in South Vietnam.

The P3 Navy planes are used primarily to patrol offshore to detect gun-running trawlers and junks.

(In Washington, according to United Press International, Chairman L. Mendel Rivers of the House Armed Services Com-

mittee said Wednesday he had information confirming that a Cambodian PT boat had shot down a Navy patrol plane. He declined to say where he got his information.

"We should send ships into Cambodian waters and sink every Cambodian naval vessel and let the chips fall where they may," Rivers said.)

Cambodia broke relations with the United States in 1965.

In a military display in Phnom Penh, the capital city of Cambodia, Prince Norodom Sihanouk has on exhibition the wreckage of an American helicopter and C123 two-engine cargo transport. He says both planes were brought down inside Cambodian territory along the Vietnamese border in violations some two years ago.

Weather

Asian Weather Central
TOKYO AREA
 Thursday Night: Partly Cloudy; Low: 53s
 Friday: Partly Cloudy; High: 65s

TEMPERATURES			
April 3			
	H	L	H L
Bangkok	93	80	Soerion 84 74
Chitose	48	27	Seoul 64 41
Manila	94	72	Taipei 69 63
Naha	70	66	Tokyo 66 43
Albany	59	27	Melbourne 72 62
Albu'que	64	40	Memphis 59 49
Amarillo	73	45	Miami 77 71
Atlanta	60	49	Milwaukee 52 29
Birmingham	57	45	Moscow 50 32
Bismarck	34	28	N. Orleans 77 56
Boise	50	39	NYC 61 36
Boston	57	35	N. Platte 63 45
Chicago	60	40	Okl. City 65 51
Cincinnati	62	36	Omaha 46 40
Cleveland	59	28	Paris 53 43
Denver	63	34	Phila. 61 31
Des Moines	47	39	Phoenix 71 34
Detroit	57	32	Pittsburgh 58 26
Duluth	35	28	Portl., O. 52 44
Fort Worth	48	30	Rapid City 49 23
Hong Kong	74	59	Reno 51 33
Honolulu	72	63	Singapore 88 73
Houston	62	66	St. Louis 49 44
Indianapolis	79	68	St. Paul 63 42
Jackville	61	37	Salt Lake 46 31
Jakarta	74	62	S. Antonio 76 61
Kansas City	57	44	San Diego 64 36
K. Lumpur	93	72	San Fran. 58 52
Los Vegas	64	49	Seattle 59 45
London	39	28	Shreveport 75 58
L.A.	65	51	Sydney 78 62
Louisville	65	39	Tucson 66 50
			Wash. 63 37