

19 Marines Die in Nev. Plane Crash

BATTLE MOUNTAIN, Nev. (AP) — Nineteen Marines were killed Wednesday when their C54 transport plane crashed into the side of a mountain.

Searchers, struggling up a snowblanketed mountain into an almost-inaccessible canyon, Thursday found the burned wreck of the transport plane with all aboard dead.

The four-engine plane crashed in a blizzard Wednesday afternoon near the peak of 9,779-foot Mt. Tobin, the highest point in the desolate area of northeastern Nevada 32 miles southwest of Battle Mountain.

Wally Swanson and Gene Corbridge of the Bureau of Land Management, who first spotted the wreck shortly after dawn, reached the spot at 12:50 p.m. (PST) and radioed back that there were "no survivors. Everything is burned to a crisp except the tail."

It took the two men six hours on foot to cover three miles up the mountain and into the V- (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

100 Hurt As Trains Collide

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — Two rapid transit commuter trains collided here Thursday at the start of the evening rush hour. Police said more than 100 persons were injured.

There were no reports of deaths.

Police counted at least 25 stretcher cases carried up from the snow-covered tracks in downtown Jersey City.

"We had at least 100 walking wounded," one police officer said.

There was no immediate report of what caused the accident. One subway-style train collided with the rear of another.

Both were eastbound for New York City from Newark, carrying hundreds of commuters to Jersey City and New York. The accident halted all service on the Port Authority Trans-Hudson Lines, a major commuter line for New York.

Rescuers braved six-degree cold to carry stretchers 300 yards along the track and up a steep metal stairway into a department store where a first aid headquarters was set up.

The first train moved into the Jersey City station after the impact. The other was stranded several hundred yards away.

Chicken, No Dressing

LONDON (AP) — British fashion designer Mary Quant predicts that within 20 years clothes will be replaced by cosmetics. Instead of dressing, women will just paint their bodies in different designs and colors. Miss Quant doesn't say where this will leave the designer. But she indicates they may be busy turning out stencils for women who can't draw.

STAR PACIFIC RIPES

AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES IN THE FAR EAST

10¢

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33 Pct. Slash in AID Ordered by President

Compiled From AP and UPI

AUSTIN, Tex.—President Johnson Thursday ordered the Agency for International Development (AID) to cut spending by one-third as part of his plan to strengthen the dollar.

White House Press Secretary George Christian said the cuts would represent a saving of \$100 million and that William S. Gaud, administrator of the agency, had agreed to the cuts.

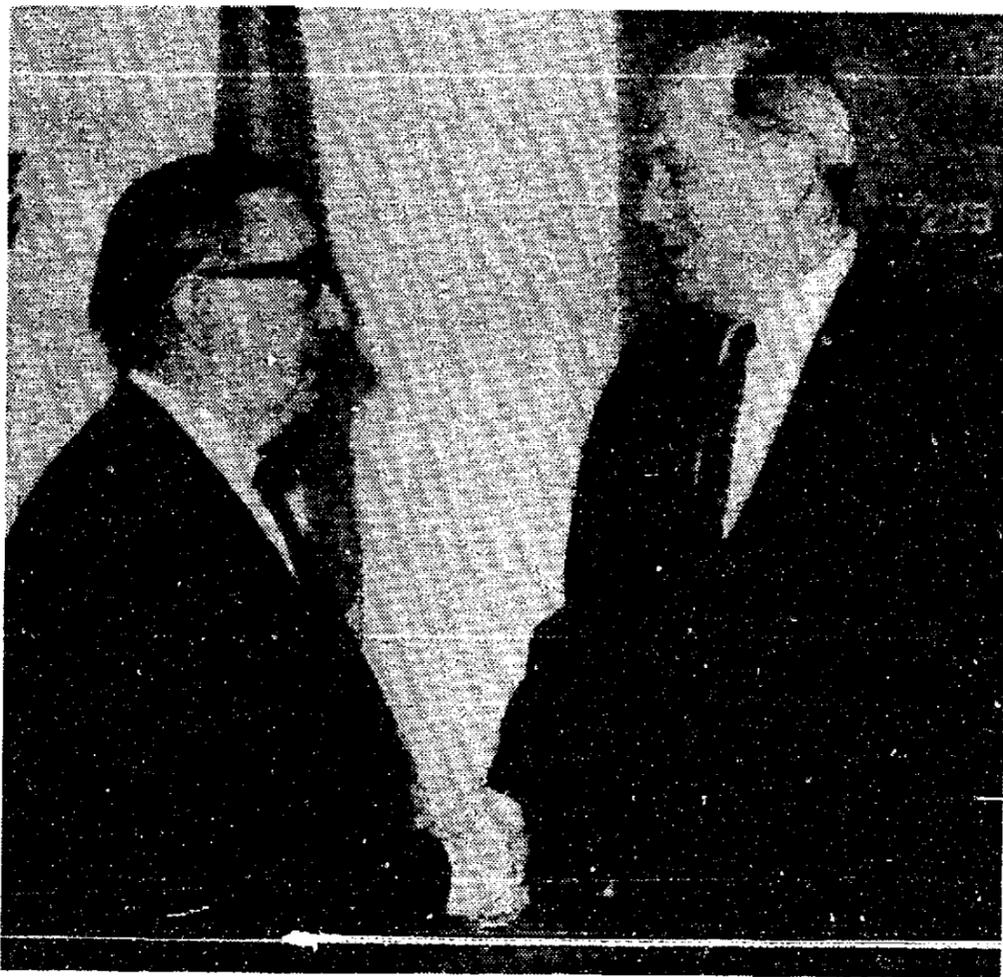
Christian said the agency had been aiming in that direction.

Last year's spending level was \$290 million overseas. All but 10 per cent of goods and services under the foreign aid program are purchased in the United States.

In his memorandum to the head of the foreign aid agency, Johnson said Gaud should take steps to achieve a \$100 million cut, including the reduction of actual spending, and increasing the foreign government contributions to cover the costs of technical assistance.

The Chief Executive's request was announced with Johnson's New Year's Day announcement of his intention to reduce by \$3 billion this year the balance of payments deficit.

Johnson swung back to consideration of budget problems (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)



Brown, Rusk Confer, Disagree

Secretary of State Dean Rusk greets British Foreign Secretary George Brown at the State Department in Washington where they discussed world problems Thursday. Brown said later that he thought Hanoi's latest peace feeler appeared sincere and significant. But Rusk apparently

disagreed. U.S. officials said the secretary of state made it clear he had found nothing to change the administration impression that Hanoi was only making a propaganda move. Hanoi said Dec. 30 that the Reds "will hold talks" if the U.S. stops bombing and ends "all acts of war" against North Vietnam. (AP Radiophoto)

Snake Shakes Official

And I'll Be Tied Up Next Year!

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Like a lot of people, Parks Commissioner Victor Tedesco isn't particularly fond of snakes, especially big ones.

Thursday was the day for the annual ceremony to weigh the Asiatic-type python at St. Paul's

Como Park Zoo, an establishment in the commissioner's territory.

Tedesco, who likes his elective post, attended the weigh-in and "volunteered" to take part.

This involved allowing the snake to wrap itself around the commissioner while standing on

a scale. Afterward the "volunteer's" weight is deducted to get the snake's poundage.

Tedesco boarded the scale. Zoo attendants produced the 16½-foot python, a constrictor type snake that handles its prey (Continued on Back Page, Col. 5)

Substitutes For Bride

SEOUL (S&S) — A 13-year-old girl was married Wednesday near Taejon City to a 28-year-old man as a substitute for her older sister who disappeared five days before the wedding day, it was reported here Thursday.

The young girl volunteered to be the bride because her parents worried and brooded over the 19-year-old daughter who apparently ran away to avoid the wedding. The groom accepted the offer.

Kittikachorn Visits Thai Troops in Vietnam

BEARCAT, Vietnam (UPI) — Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn of Thailand visited his country's troops in the field Thursday and presented a Silver Star to his eldest son, a major in the Queen's Cobras.

Kittikachorn, dressed in fatigues with the insignia of a field marshal, visited his troops' headquarters, 20 miles north-east of Saigon, by American helicopter and dropped in on three forward fire support bases.

Deputy defense minister, Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya, traveling with the prime minister, said the main purpose of the three-day trip had been to visit Thai troops.

Dawee also revealed that "before the end of the year there would be 12,000 Thai troops in Vietnam, most of them infantry."

"This decision was made some months ago," Dawee said. He added that the number of troops Thailand could send to Vietnam was limited by "troubles at home."

"We have trouble in the northeast and now in the north with guerrillas trained by the North Vietnamese," he said.

The prime minister's day started with a presentation of medals to five Thai troops and one American, at the Thai Queen's Cobra Div. base camp.

Standing on an improvised dais, Kittikachorn, flanked by Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky of Vietnam and by the commander of the U.S. 9th Div., Maj. Gen. George G. O'Connor, reviewed a small contingent of troops.

Presenting the Silver Star to his eldest son, he smiled broadly as he shook hands, saying, "Well done."

The party boarded helicopters to visit three Thai fire support bases where the prime minister, a spy 57, insisted on looking around the base perimeters after hearing military briefings in sandbagged command posts.

With him were U.S. Gen. Creighton W. Abrams and the visiting chief of the Thai forces.

He was given a rundown on the Thai's major battle since their arrival in Vietnam in September, during which his son, Maj. Na Rong Kittikachorn, ran through Viet Cong fire armed only with a pistol to help an ambushed platoon.

An American sergeant became the first person outside Thailand to receive the Thai medal for bravery.

He was Sgt. Thomas O'Connell, of the Bronx, N.Y., who called in air strikes on Viet Cong positions during the Thai forces' first major contact Dec. 20.

Sihanouk, Bowles End Talks Quietly

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (UPI) — Presidential Emissary Chester Bowles and Prince Norodom Sihanouk Thursday wound up formal talks on the Vietnam War and U.S. Cambodian relations, leaving their surface appearance much the same as when they started.

According to government

spokesmen, the result of the three days of talks between Sihanouk, Bowles and other officials was "completely satisfactory," but there was no immediate indication they would lead to startling break-throughs in the war or a speedy resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Sihanouk was host to Bowles and the four other members of his delegation at a palace luncheon Thursday, following a morning which included three meetings between the U.S. group and Cambodian officials.

Bowles was to depart Friday, leaving time for last-minute consultations with officials and diplomats. He was to fly to Washington to report to President Johnson before returning to his regular ambassadorial post in India.

Sihanouk Promised U.S. Data

WASHINGTON (AP)—A State Department spokesman said Thursday the United States has agreed to keep providing the Cambodian government with evidence that Cambodian territory is being used as a sanctuary by Viet Cong and North Vietnamese army units.

Press Officer Robert J. McCloskey said the United States already has provided the Cambodian government with an extensive amount of evidence of Viet Cong violations of its borders.

This evidence will be added to "as information becomes available," he added.

This evidently was part of the broad agreement Prince Sihanouk announced in Phnom Penh that he had reached in his talks with special U.S. presidential envoy Chester Bowles.

The State Department spokesman declined to confirm Sihanouk's announcement that Bowles had promised the U.S. would not adopt a policy of hot pursuit into Cambodian territory.

However, State Department officials reaffirmed that the United States has no wish to widen the Vietnam War nor see U.S. forces enter the neutral kingdom from Vietnam.

Cambodia Protest To U.N. Council

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP)—Cambodia complained in a letter to the Security Council Thursday that one Cambodian was killed and another seriously wounded by rocket and machine-gun fire directed at a Cambodian village by an "aircraft of the United States-South Vietnamese armed forces."

The incident occurred Dec. 11, Cambodian Charge d'Affaires Or Kosalak said. He asked that the letter be circulated as a Council document but did not request a Council meeting.

U.S. Jets Plaster MIG Base

SAIGON (UPI) — American fighter-bombers launched the fourth attack of the year against a MIG jet base in North Vietnam Wednesday and used radar to bomb other targets in monsoon rains, U.S. spokesmen said Thursday.

Clouds and rain dropped ceilings to 3,500 feet or less over most of the country. But pilots still managed to put in 75 raids.

Air Force F105 Thunderchiefs sent 750-pound bombs hurtling into the Hoa Lac MIG base 20 miles west of Hanoi. Clouds prevented a damage assessment.

Other F105s streaked into a corner of North Vietnam to bombard the Ky Dong rail spur, 113 miles northwest of Hanoi.

Navy A6 Intruders slammed 500-pound bombs into two small truck convoys.

Vietnam Casualties

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

KILLED IN ACTION

Army

Pfc. Thomas E. Cast, Birmingham, Ala.

1Lt. Raymond D. Bretches, Anaheim, Calif.

Pfc. Guy D. Kistner, Burlingame, Calif.

WO Howard D. Anderson, Marathon Shores, Fla.

Sgt. Louis Suter Jr., Miami, Fla.

Spec. 4 James E. Loudermilk, Vero Beach, Fla.

Pfc. Jerry J. Mc Daniel, Winder, Ga.

Pfc. Johnson Minnite Jr., Atlanta, Ga.

Pfc. Michael E. Anfill, Huxley, Iowa.

Sgt. Kenneth Allen, Conway, Ky.

Sgt. Ronald M. Adams, Cascade, Md.

Sfc. Robert J. Hallett, Greenfield, Mass.

Sgt. James L. Mc Ilvoy, South Lyon, Mich.

Pfc. William N. Lockett, Detroit, Mich.

Spec. 5 Roger L. Henson, Kansas City, Mo.

Pfc. Scott H. Cook, Pacific, Mo.

WO Mark V. Schmidt, Leads, N.Y.

Cpl. Moses J. Lewis, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Spec. 4 Edward Rodriguez, New York, N.Y.

Pfc. Franklin Webster, New York, N.Y.

Sgt. Paul R. Maddox, Massillon, Ohio.

Pfc. Robert E. Murphy Jr., Euclid, Ohio.

2Lt. Richard W. Brooks III, Philadelphia, Pa.

Spec. 4 Thomas W. Malloy, Dunmore, Pa.

Pfc. Hopson Covington, Bristol, Pa.

Pfc. Wylie D. Phillips, Jefferson, S.C.

Sgt. Donald W. Richard, Houston, Texas.

Spec. 4 Dickey Chambliss, Queen City, Texas.

Spec. 4 John W. Shilley, Houston, Texas.

Cpl. Joe E. Kinsey, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Spec. 4 Cecil B. Jones Jr., Triangle, Va.

Pfc. Ernest D. Marcum, Crum, W. Va.

Navy

LCdr. Wilmer P. Cook, Lemoore, Calif.

Marine Corps

LCpl. Thomas J. Tingley, Fairfield, Conn.

Pfc. David F. Fisher, Largo, Fla.

LCpl. Bruce J. Roth, Park Ridge, Ill.

Pfc. Dave M. Bartholomew, Marrero, La.

Cpl. Ira H. Hulihan, Baltimore, Md.

Pfc. David A. Blough, Worcester, Mass.

Pfc. Kevin B. Hardiman, Brighton, Mass.

Pfc. Steven D. Munden, Minneapolis, Minn.

Pfc. Gerald W. Zly, St. Louis, Mo.

LCpl. Frank Florio, Queens, N.Y.

Pfc. Robert H. Mc Williams Jr., Canton, Pa.

Cpl. Henry L. Geddis Jr., Charleston, S.C.

LCpl. Carl E. Chamberlain, Nashville, Tenn.

Pfc. Wesley G. Tucker, San Antonio, Texas.

Pfc. Leo Menendez Jr., Spelter, W.Va.

MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE

Army

Spec. 4 James G. Whaley, Fair Oaks,

Calif.

Pfc. Francis D. Greenwood, Oxford, Ind.

Spec. 4 Dannie L. Johnson, Ypsilanti, Mich.

Pfc. Charles D. Mc Clurg, Benton Harbor, Mich.

Pfc. Dan T. Klindt, The Dalles, Ore.

2Lt. Ronald J. Slengo, Cornwallis Heights, Pa.

Air Force

1st Lt. Robert E. Bennett, Tucson, Ariz.

MISSING IN ACTION

Army

WO Larry R. Doyle

Sgt. David L. Drought

Sgt. Joseph L. Farmer

Spec. 4 Richard G. Godbout

Spec. 4 Jerome J. Mac Donald

Pfc. James A. Blankenship

Pfc. Clifton Henson

Pfc. Rogelio M. Martinez

Pfc. James E. Thompson

Navy

LCdr. John D. Peace III

Lt. Gordon S. Perisho

Air Force

Major Smith Swords III

Captain Carlos R. Cruz

Captain William J. Potter

1st Lieutenant Glenn A. Betcher

1st Lieutenant Murray L. Wortham

Sgt. Paul L. Foster

DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION

Army

Sgt. Frank H. Henderson, North Little Rock, Ark.

Pfc. Rollin E. Gollightly, Pensacola, Fla.

2Lt. Jon M. Cappaert, Columbus, Ga.

Spec. 4 Daniel L. Havens, Winchester, Ill.

Cpl. Guillermo Estrada, Gary, Ind.

PSgt. Joe L. Johnson, Hopkinsville, Ky.

Cpl. Robert O. Graham, Louisville, Ky.

Spec. 4 Michael A. Strohane, South Minneapolis, Minn.

Sgt. Gregory E. Werner, Hancock, N.Y.

WO Glenn C. Hopes, Waynesburg, Pa.

MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE

Army

1Lt. Daryl L. Ligans, Berkeley, Calif.

Spec. 4 Gerald L. Rowen II, Hermosa Beach, Calif.

WO Robert E. Woods, Treasure Island, Fla.

Pfc. David Antol, Dearborn, Mich.

Pfc. Jeremiah D. Mc Garry, Stillwater, Minn.

Pfc. Fathies Kelly Jr., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Pvt. Jonathan Blue Jr., Jamaica, N.Y.

Pfc. Charles Carpenter, Memphis, Tenn.

Spec. 4 Raymond S. Adams, Delta, Utah.

Maj. Willie T. Brickhouse Jr., Eastville, Va.

WO Joseph T. Clark, Davenport, Wash.

MISSING NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION

Army

Cpt. Frank Velazquez

WO William C. Cheney

WO Milton W. Smith

Spec. 4 David L. French

Spec. Thomas B. Griffin, Jr.

Pfc. William D. Holland



Time Out for Prayer in Battle

Robed in a camouflage parachute, Chaplain (Maj.) James A. Peterman of Milford, Del., holds mass for men of the 1st Bu. (Mech.), 5th Inf., during the 1st Brigade's Operation Yellowstone, 75 miles northwest of Saigon. (USA)

Viet Fighter Crashes Into Hamlet, Kills 11

SAIGON (UPI) — Vietnamese jet fighter-bomber crashed on take-off from Bien Hoa AB north of Saigon late Thursday and plowed into a hamlet, killing at least 11 persons, it was reported.

The victims included the pilot

and 10 Vietnamese civilians in the hamlet about two miles east of the sprawling airfield. Three other civilians were injured.

The jet, one of the new F5 "Freedom Fighters" the United States recently turned over to the South Vietnamese Air Force, had lifted off the runway when it faltered and plunged, according to reports.

No reason was given immediately for the accident. The plane was destroyed.

Westmoreland, Thieu Brief Ted

SAIGON (UPI)—Sen. Edward M. Kennedy on the last full day of his fact-finding visit to Vietnam Thursday paid a visit to President Nguyen Van Thieu.

The Massachusetts Democrat then called on Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker, Gen. William C. Westmoreland, commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam, and attended a briefings at Westmoreland's headquarters.

Electricians Strike

SAIGON (AP)—Saigon's 3,500 electrical workers, unhappy about the prospect of wage cuts by the government, declared a strike Thursday. But labor leaders reported negotiations with government officials were underway. Most workers continued on the job.



Coeds Wrapped Up in Work

These four pretty Virginia Polytechnic Institute coeds hold a 60-foot long list of names of those at the school who contributed gifts and cash totaling \$1,600 that was sent to Vietnam. The gifts and money were sent to the IV Corps Advisory Team

to be used as the unit saw fit during the holiday season. The girls are (from left) Ann Pepmeier, Nancy Abt, Karen Crouch and Sherri Baldwin. The gift and cash drive was to show support for U.S. servicemen.

Bad Round For Enemy

BONG SON, Vietnam (IO)—Second Lt. Robert D. White, Livonia, Mich., has gotten a second lease on life and the bullet to prove it.

White, mortar platoon leader for A Co., 1st Bn., 50th Mechanized Inf., 1st Air Cav. Div. was on a recent search and destroy mission near the Tiger Mountains in the highlands when two North Vietnamese soldiers were spotted.

Men of the 1st Platoon killed one, but the other ran into the thick underbrush.

White, searching through the bushes, ran smack into a rifle, with the Red soldier behind it looking up at him.

White jumped back and fired, but missed. He saw the enemy pull the trigger and heard a click.

Another GI fired at the enemy and killed him.

When White checked the enemy's rifle, he found the bullet still in the chamber. The firing pin had hit the round, but it had failed to fire.

"Someone up there wants me to get home," White said.

Bugs Blast Sampans

BONG SON, Vietnam (IO) — The sampan moved swiftly through the water with its load of ammunition and food for the North Vietnamese Army forces waiting on the river bank. As the boat hit midstream, a bright light from a helicopter made the boat visible.

Immediately, fire from a gunship hit the floating ammo dump and the ship blew, costing the NVA a large ammo supply.

The destruction of the enemy sampan was possible because of a lightning bug.

Not an insect, but an operation, Lightning Bug, run only at night by the 229th Assault Helicopter Bn. of the 1st Air Cav. D.V. Its mission is to find enemy sampans moving supplies.

River LST Wins Navy Battle E

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (PAO)—The San Diego-based tank landing ship Jennings County, serving in South Vietnam's Mekong Delta, has received the Navy's first "PBR Support LST Battle Efficiency" award.

A "PBR Support LST" is a tank landing ship which serves as "mother ship" to river patrol boat operations.

The LST earned the award for her performance as support ship for Operation Game Warden in the Mekong Delta from Nov. 11, 1966, through June 30, 1967.

Notifying the Jennings County of her award, Vice Adm. Francis J. Blouin, commander, Pacific Fleet Amphibious Force, remarked, "the excellence displayed by all of you is attained only through personal devotion and enthusiasm to all duties assigned."

Patrol Finds Medicines

DAU TIENG, Vietnam (IO)—While leading a patrol around the edge of a large VC base camp, Sgt. James Kaiser, Cambridge, Ohio, found what looked to be a rice cache, but turned out to be one of the largest medical supply caches found by the 3rd Brigade, 25th Inf. Div.

Kaiser, a squad leader in C Co., 2nd Bn., 12th Inf., was providing forward security as the remainder of the company was destroying the complex bunker system within the camp.

"We were out about 150 meters from the main camp when we came across the rice," Kaiser said. "Knowing that it could be booby-trapped, we tied a rope to it, backed off, and dragged it back a few feet."

The five man patrol returned to the rice and, instead, found the hole which led them to the medical supplies.

"It was barely large enough for me to get into, and when I found all those medical supplies in the bunker," Kaiser said, "I was really surprised."

VC Get Message Despite Rains; Kids Have a Ball

DA NANG, Vietnam (ISO)—An idea born in the 1st Marine Div. psychological operations office (PsyOps) during the heat of summer is now a bouncing success during the monsoons of winter.

PsyOps men knew that bad weather would prevent the dropping of leaflets during the monsoons. Even if the drop was possible the rain would ruin the writing before the leaflets could be found.

Man-Sized Problem for U.S. Navy

ABOARD THE USS IWO JIMA (PAO)—What's in a shoe?

When it's size 15W—there's a lot, as Fireman John Rietzke and the supply department of the amphibious assault ship Iwo Jima discovered.

Rietzke, a mess cook assigned to Iwo's storerooms and refcers, worked his way through all his shoes. He went to the ship's clothing store but his size could not be found, so he proceeded to the supply office for a special order.

Since his need was acute, Ship's Serviceman I.C. Freddie Long radioed messages to all ships in the area asking for a size 15W shoe.

None of the ships carried Rietzke's size in stock, but the Landing Ship Dock Comstock when in Da Nang, picked up a pair of the largest Marine combat boots available—size 14W.

So they started kicking the ball around for a new idea that would survive the rainy season, and that is just what they came up with—a red plastic ball, just a little smaller than a tennis ball.

Painted in yellow on one side and molded into the other side in Vietnamese is the message: "The road to freedom Chieu Hoi." Chieu Hoi is the program by which a Viet Cong can ask for asylum in South Vietnam.

"At first the thought was to drop thousands of the balls in the head waters of streams and let the monsoons work for us for once," said Maj. R. L. Payne, division PsyOps officer. "Then to our surprise," he continued, "we found that the children in all the villages delighted in playing with the balls."

Twenty-five thousand of the balls have been purchased, and will be distributed along with the normal candy and chewing gum that is such a familiar part of a Marine in the field.

"They have already become a Christmas present," said the major, "and at three cents a piece, the return they could be worth is unbelievable."

Sailor Awarded Medal

CAM RANH BAY, Vietnam (PAO) — Aviation Structural Mechanic 3.C. Albert R. Bueno was presented the Navy-Marine Corps medal for heroism in his courageous rescue of a drowning soldier May 28.

The incident occurred at the Navy beach near the southern tip of the Cam Ranh Peninsula.

Bueno was on the beach sunbathing, when he noted two swimmers caught in a rip tide about 150 yards off-shore. Clutching an air mattress, he made his way toward the two panic stricken swimmers.

Reaching the first swimmer, he found him barely afloat. He assisted him onto the air mattress.

Swimming to the spot he had last seen the second swimmer, who was no longer afloat, Bueno began to dive in search of him in the 10 foot water. Although nearly exhausted himself from fighting the rip tide, he continued to dive for some time before being forced to give up.

Then, with the air mattress containing the first swimmer in tow, he swam to shore.

VC Mine Kills 6

DA NANG (UPI) — A Viet Cong mine blew up a civilian bus Tuesday killing at least six Vietnamese and wounding 22, military spokesmen said.



Clean-Up Time After Battle

It was a hard night's battle and when morning came Spec. 4 William Rabbit gave his M-79 rocket launcher, which he had put to good use during the battle, a first-class cleaning. (UPI)

GIs Kill 47 Viet Cong In Mekong Delta Assault

SAIGON (AP)—Allied soldiers clashed with Viet Cong guerrillas and North Vietnamese regulars in a chain of battles Wednesday from the northern provinces to the Mekong Delta. Three major engagements were reported:

U.S. infantrymen, landing from river assault boats on the slippery banks of a Delta canal, ran head-on into a veteran Viet Cong battalion and killed 47 Reds in a fight that ended early Thursday. American losses—18 killed, 59 wounded.

Viet Cong infantrymen mortared and then charged the hilltop bivouac of a Vietnamese Army battalion Wednesday, killing 14 soldiers and 10 ammunition bearers and wounding 30 soldiers. Twenty-three Reds were killed and two captured.

A unit of the Americal Div., suffered 14 men wounded while

killing 28 North Vietnamese in a four-hour fight in the Que Son Valley 370 miles northeast of Saigon.

In the Mekong Delta action, a company of the U.S. 9th Inf. Div.'s Riverine Force dashed ashore from their armored landing craft and found themselves in the middle of the crack 261st Viet Cong Bn.

While the 150 infantrymen battled against 3-to-1 odds, the 9th Div. rushed reinforcements in with a series of helicopter assaults.

Gunboats, helicopter gunships, fighter-bombers and artillery hammered the guerrillas in the canal-laced rice paddies 54 miles southwest of Saigon. Shortly after midnight the Reds broke contact and fled, leaving behind 47 bodies.

The U.S. Command, meanwhile, said 184 Americans were killed and 1,132 wounded in action last week. The Communist death count was 2,868, the highest single-week enemy toll of the war.

Anti-Sub Planes Collide

HONOLULU (UPI) — Two Navy antisubmarine tracker planes from the carrier Yorktown collided over the Pacific Thursday and crashed. One crewman was killed and six others injured, one critically.

One of the planes ditched after the collision about 25 miles south of the island of Kauai. The other limped back to the island and crash-landed at a military installation.

A Navy spokesman said the two twin-engine planes were participating in antisubmarine maneuvers while the carrier steamed about 10 miles offshore.

Three survivors were taken from each aircraft. The more seriously hurt were from the plane that crashed at Barking Sands, an underwater training area on the southwest corner of Kauai.

Identifications were withheld by the Navy until kin are notified.

Poland Ousts U.S. Attache

WARSAW (AP) — The Polish Communist government announced Thursday that the Army attaches of the American and Canadian embassies were caught "carrying out intelligence activities" and one of them, the American, was ordered to leave Poland.

He is Lt. Col. Edward H. Metzger, 42, on assignment in Warsaw since May, 1966.

The Polish accusation said Metzger and the Canadian attaché, Lt. Col. Kenneth I. Jefferson, were "unmasked together by an army sentry as they attempted to photograph a military establishment on Jan. 4."

AID—

(Continued From Page 1)

after praising America's military men for their investment in the savings bond program.

The President presented a Minuteman flag to the Tactical Air Command's 12th Air Force in a ceremony at Bergstrom AFB in Austin. The award was for 90.2 per cent participation.

Before leaving the LBJ Ranch for his Austin office, Mr. Johnson talked on the telephone with British Foreign Secretary George Brown, who was leaving Washington for London by way of New York.

Brakeman's Shove Saves Girl's Life

CLINTON, Utah (AP) — Fourteen-year-old Dixie Steed of Clinton, Utah, was walking home from school between the railroad tracks. And Lowell Jenkins, a Union Pacific railroad brakeman from Newton, Utah, became a hero.

As engineer Robert Mudd of Salt Lake City tells it: He was moving along at 10 to 20 miles an hour when he saw Dixie between the tracks about 600 yards ahead. He says he tooted the whistle and rang the bell, but she didn't look back. So he set his brakes and shouted at Jenkins.

But the brakeman was already in action. He swung onto a step on the front of the locomotive and—leaning forward—pushed Dixie off the tracks. Then the railroad men helped her into the engine and radioed for a doctor. She said she felt fine except for feeling a bit sore in spots from the rough handling of her rescuer.

Dixie explained how it happened: She said she heard the whistle but thought the train was on another track.

6-Cent Mail Going Airborne

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Post Office Department plans to eliminate air mail as a separate service and send all first class letters by air at the new six-cent rate, Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien announced Thursday.

O'Brien said that for all purposes the Post Office already is sending nearly all first class mail by air.

"Very, very little of this is being handled by the railroad. We have what closely approximates a total airlift service now," he told a news conference.

O'Brien emphasized, however, that under the present system use of a 10-cent airmail stamp still guarantees air transportation until a new single class priority mail service is formally established.

Snake—

(Continued From Page 1)

by compression of its coils. The snake, a husky eight-inch caliber at its biggest section, wound around the commissioner. The snake writhed, and so did Tedesco. He grimaced and clutched at the big, cold body near his neck.

Sensing the commissioner wasn't enjoying his role, zoo attendants leaped in and tugged the 133-pound reptile loose. Tedesco remembered he had a city council meeting and hurried away.

World Weather

USAF Weather Central			
TOKYO AREA			
Friday Night:	Fair:	Low 20	
Saturday:	Fair:	High 50	
TEMPERATURES			
Jan. 11			
	H	L	H L
Bangkok	92	70	Naha 61 55
Chitose	27	9	Saigon 91 70
Guam	87	75	Seoul 35 16
Itazuke	52	32	Taipei 61 54
Manila	82	66	Tokyo 50 34
	H	L	H L
Albuquerque	38	19	Memphis 37 33
Amarillo	41	15	Miami 75 70
Atlanta	36	32	Milwaukee 26 05
Birmingham	45	40	Moscow 40 13
Bismarck	28	-10	N. Orleans 50 43
Boise	48	39	NYC 20 3
Boston	17	03	N. Platte 32 10
Chicago	27	14	Omaha — 05
Cincinnati	26	16	Paris 34 27
Cleveland	25	15	Phila. 27 18
Denver	44	07	Phoenix 59 45
Des Moines	20	04	Pittsburgh 25 16
Detroit	24	14	Port., O. 42 33
Duluth	16	-12	Reno 46 34
Fort Worth	38	30	Richmond 30 23
Honolulu	79	75	Singapore 85 75
Houston	43	38	St. Louis 22 12
Indianapolis	26	14	St. Paul 15 -12
Jacksonville	67	61	Salt Lake 42 32
Jakarta	85	72	S. Antonio 46 35
Kansas City	24	13	San Diego 64 54
K. Lumpur	89	74	San Fran. 55 47
Las Vegas	60	37	Seattle 38 34
London	37	28	Shreveport 38 33
L.A.	—	54	Sydney 72 68
Louisville	27	21	Tucson 62 44
Melbourne	74	59	Wash. 33 19



Crash Traps Trucker

Police work to free Paul Dornberg from his overturned truck near Hillside, N.J. Dornberg (seen through truck window in center) suffered only minor cuts. His truck turned over after colliding with an auto. The wreckage blocked all four lanes of U.S. 22 causing a major traffic jam on the big east-west north Jersey highway. Passengers in the car also escaped serious injury. (AP)

Israel and Egypt Agree To Exchange Prisoners

Compiled From AP and UPI
GENEVA — The governments of Israel and the United Arab Republic have agreed to a general exchange of prisoners of war, the International Red Cross committee announced Thursday.

The exchange will take place under Red Cross auspices within the next few days, it was announced.

Red Cross delegates had been mediating the prisoner exchange ever since the end of the June war between Israel and the Arabs.

The number of prisoners was not revealed in the committee announcement. But sources said the exchange will involve about 4,500 Egyptian soldiers held by Israel for the nine Israeli pilots who are held by Egypt.

The committee said the exchange was to take place at Ismailiya on the Suez Canal.

This would be the first mutual release of war prisoners since the six-day Israeli-Arab war

Humphrey Home From Africa Tour

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey said on his return Thursday from a nine-nation African goodwill tour that he was convinced the future of the continent depended on the United States meeting its world responsibilities.

The vice president and his party flew to Andrews AFB from Tunis, the last stop on the 26,500-mile trip. They made a refueling stop in the Azores.

Marines—

(Continued From Page 1)

shaped ravine near the top where the blackened hulk lay.

Forced down by heavy icing on its wings, the plane had crashed on its belly, then slid 400 feet backward into the depression and burst into flames.

Swanson and Corbridge confirmed earlier aerial observation that the craft was virtually intact but burned out.

"Everything on the plane was charred, and the black stood out against the white snow," said Marilyn Newton, photographer of the Nevada State Journal after flying over the wreck which was at the 8,600 foot level.

"The nose, the wings and the tail section look like they are still attached to the fuselage. It was burned completely."

The plane crashed within an hour after its pilot radioed at 1:50 p.m. Wednesday that icing conditions were forcing him down below the 10,000 foot level.

The C54 was enroute to Seattle, Wash., from Buckley Air Field in Denver, Colo. It was on a 10-day Western tour from Quantico Marine Base in Virginia. Quantico said 19 Marines, including a seven man crew, were on the flight. Denver said none left there.

The wreckage was found at dawn Thursday, after the blizzard subsided.

The pilot was flying on instruments because of the blizzard. At 1:50 p.m. Wednesday, in his last message, he told the Federal Aviation Agency in Salt Lake City that "I am losing altitude at 10,000 feet and at present time unable to maintain 12,000."