

Westy Backs Abrams as Successor

SAIGON (AP)—Gen. William C. Westmoreland said Saturday he hoped that his four-star deputy, Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, would be named to succeed him as commander of the more than half a million American troops in Vietnam.

"I have absolute confidence in the ability and leadership of Gen-

eral Abrams," Westmoreland said in an interview after President Johnson announced that Westmoreland is returning home to become Army chief of staff.

The talk in Saigon centered on Abrams as the heir apparent, but the President's deferment of the selection of a successor raised speculation in Washington that

Johnson might pass over Abrams in favor of a fresh face with new ideas.

Abrams has been Westmoreland's deputy for nearly a year.

Westmoreland said, "I regret to leave this war-torn land before the battle is over and before peace is restored."

Westmoreland arrived in Saigon

just before noon at Tan Son Nhut Airport from the Philippines where he had been paying a brief visit to his family.

In a talk with newsmen, he noted that he has been in Vietnam 4½ years and said, "I had anticipated I probably would be moved this summer. I'm proud to be

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)



Gen. William C. Westmoreland is greeted at Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Airport Saturday by his deputy, Gen. Creighton W. Abrams. Westmoreland flew back to South Vietnam from the Philippines, where he had been visiting his family, after learning that President Johnson had promoted him to Army chief of staff. (AP Radiophoto)

'The Last Hurrah' Author Dies at 50

BOSTON (AP)—Pulitzer Prize-winner Edwin O'Connor, author of "The Last Hurrah," died Saturday at New England Baptist Hospital. He was 50.

O'Connor, a native of Providence, R.I., suffered a heart attack Friday, a spokesman said.

He won the 1962 Pulitzer Prize for fiction for his third novel, "Edge of Sadness," the story of an Irish-American priest in a poor parish.

But his greatest popularity and

critical acclaim came for another novel dealing with Irish-Americans, "The Last Hurrah," a story of an Irish-American political regime in a large East Coast city. It was published in 1956.

The novel was popularly accepted as a fictional account of the career of colorful James Michael Curley, a former Massachusetts governor and Boston mayor. Curley dismissed the (Continued on Back Page, Col. 4)

2 Tons of Opium Seized in Saigon

SAIGON (AP) — Vietnamese customs authorities seized a plane load of opium when it arrived from Laos Friday at Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Airport, the government news service reported Saturday.

Vietnam Press said the opium weighed more than two tons. It was one of the biggest opium hauls on record in Saigon.

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—An ordinary cardboard box mailed from Australia surprised U.S. customs officials Friday when they peeked inside and found three deadly poisonous live snakes.

A herpetologist was hastily summoned. He took one look at two of the writhing serpents and announced: "We are looking

into the face of the deadliest snake on earth."

After quickly popping the creatures into a coffee can, Karl Switak of Steinhart Aquarium added, "drop for drop, their venom is the deadliest of any snake known in the world." He said they were Australian tiger snakes.

The box, mailed from Monly,

Australia, to an Ohio snake farm operator, was marked "souvenirs" with a declared value of \$12.80.

Because the value was over \$10, customs inspector Ted Annunciation slit open the box and found a cloth bag tied with shoestrings. Then a bulge in the bag began to move.

The inspector carefully untied

one of the shoestrings, caught a glimpse of a live wiggler, and telephoned the aquarium.

The tiger snakes, along with their companion, an Australian brown cobra, are now technically in the custody of U.S. Customs.

"But it's good to know they are at the aquarium," said the inspector.

PACIFIC STAR STRIPES

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Vol. 24, No. 83 ★★★★ EDITION Monday, March 25, 1968

After Big Snow

Cold Wave Hits South, Midwest

By Associated Press

A record spring cold wave moved into much of the southern United States Saturday in the wake of a record spring snowstorm that left about a foot of snow from Mississippi to the Great Lakes.

At least nine deaths were attributed to the storm, which left drifts up to 3 feet in Memphis, Tenn. Motorists and cars were stranded from Mississippi to Ohio.

Record low temperatures were recorded early Saturday at Nashville and Evansville, Ind. It was freezing at Pensacola, Fla.

Snow fell early Saturday from the Mississippi Gulf Coast to the Great Lakes, with freezing temperatures recorded over much of the same area.

Temperatures dropped more than 50 degrees in less than 24 hours in the Virginia-Washington, D.C. area, as record cold struck from the Florida Gulf Coast to Indiana.

A hard overnight freeze, threatening early-blooming spring blossoms, was forecast in Dixie as far south as northern Florida.

In the northeast, a section of Connecticut Highway 17 was under water as flooding followed recent heavy rains—with more rain in sight. Other flooding was reported throughout New England. Rain and fog delayed planes up to an hour at New York City airports, and rain at (Continued on Back Page, Col. 4)

Powell Ends Exile, Surrenders in N.Y.

NEW YORK (UPI) — Adam Clayton Powell, the fugitive congressman, gave himself up to the sheriff of New York late Friday night. The Negro member of Congress from Harlem has a contempt of court sentence facing him.

DENVER, Colo. (AP) — LBJ easily defeated Bobby Thursday. The occasion was the annual burro race around the Colorado capitol, sponsored by Colorado School of Mines.

Republican Gov. John Love, riding a burro named LBJ, won the race when another named Bobby ran the wrong way. (Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)

Political Preview?

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Fang Mail Shakes Customs Agents

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"But it's good to know they are at the aquarium," said the inspector.

Brutal Assault on Marine Base

1,100 Red Shells Hit Khe Sanh

SAIGON (UPI) — Communist gunners hammered the U.S. Marine camp at Khe Sanh with 1,100 rounds of rockets, mortars and artillery, marking a resurgence Saturday of heavy attacks on the base.

The U.S. Command sent seven waves of high-flying B52 Stratofortresses against Communist positions around the camp during the concentrated shelling, one of them within 2,000 yards of the perimeter, spokesmen said.

UPI correspondent Robert C. Miller reported from Marine headquarters at Da Nang that the Khe Sanh base took 1,100 rounds between 6 p.m. Friday and noon Saturday.

It was the most brutal attack since 1,300 rounds fell on the isolated northwestern outpost in the 24-hour period on Feb. 23, the U.S. Command said.

The shelling marked a resurgence of heavy attacks on the Marine base occupied by 6,000 Leathernecks and government Rangers. Casualties and damage were described as light.

Only recently, the camp had been receiving as few as 100 to 200 rounds per day; and U.S. intelligence officials had felt the 16,000-man Communist siege had been beaten.

Khe Sanh took the spotlight in the ground war once more as light, scattered actions of little significance to the U.S. Command marked the war map.

U.S. Marine, Navy and Air Force pilots slashed into the Khe Sanh area to support the Marines under attack with 248 bombing sorties.

Rusk Going To SEATO

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Dean Rusk will head U.S. delegations to the annual meetings of the Southeast Treaty Organization (SEATO) and the Australia-New Zealand-United States defense pact next month, the State Department announced Saturday.

Both the SEATO meeting (April 2-3) and the Anzus meeting on April 5 will be held in Wellington, New Zealand.

Leonard Unger, U.S. ambassador to Thailand, will join Rusk on the SEATO delegation. Members of the U.S. delegation to both meetings include William P. Bundy, assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs, and Adm. U.S. Grant Sharp, U.S. Pacific commander-in-chief; political adviser Robert A. Searcy, and Richard E. Steadman, deputy assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs.

Brazil Newsman Wounded in Viet

SAIGON (UPI) — Jose Hamilton Ribeiro, a Brazilian journalist who had been working in Vietnam less than three weeks, has been seriously wounded in Vietnam's northernmost province.

Ribeiro, 32, of Sao Paulo, was accompanying a U.S. 1st Air Cav. Div. patrol in Quang Tri Province on Tuesday when he stepped on a booby trap. He lost his foot and the lower part of the same leg.

6 Pacific Stars & Stripes
Monday, March 25, 1968



Troops of the 1st Air Cav. Div. run for cover as Communist rockets hit the airstrip at Camp Evans, north of Phu Bai. The troops were replacements just arrived at the camp. (UPI)

Catching VC in Own Net

1st Inf. Uses Red Ambush Plan

By SGT. MAJ. WALT CORD
S&S Vietnam Bureau Chief

LAI KHE, Vietnam — The 1st Inf. Div. has turned Red ambush tactics into a weapon of its own to catch the Communists in their own net, Maj. Gen. Keith Ware, new division commander said Saturday.

Ware, a Medal of Honor winner in World War II, made the statement in his first meeting with the press since assuming command of The Big Red One on March 8. "We've figured out their tactics and have been very successful in turning their ambush sites into sites of our own," he said.

He cited an example which occurred recently along a road

VC Routed In 8 Villages

S&S Vietnam Bureau

LAI KHE, Vietnam — Three battalions of the 1st Inf. Div. conducted "search and seal" operations in the Loc Ninh area north of here Saturday, turning up small caches of arms, a few admitted VC and several suspects.

Eight villages surrounding Loc Ninh were sealed off from outside Viet Cong influence after word was received that VC cadre had moved into the area, distributed some arms and appointed village officials.

During the operations all eight villages were returned to government control and the "officials" appointed by the enemy captured along with their weapons.

"It was a very successful operation," said Maj. Gen. Keith Ware, 1st Div. commander. "We proved that the VC lie when they tell villagers the government can't protect them."

in the division area much traveled at night by convoys and much hit by VC ambuses.

"We figured out where they were most likely to be, then set up our ambush right across the road.

"The plan was a good one because it turned out that the Reds were sited right across the road. When the VC fired their first shot at the convoy we cut loose on them. We've been very successful in our counterambush operations. We don't kill many

at any one time but we keep killing them. This month we killed 373 by body count."

Commenting on recent operations in his area, the general said that contact had been light but that was expected. He went on to explain that no major contact with the enemy was expected in his area and that the small units which his men were running into were being systematically destroyed with extremely light casualties to 1st Div. men.

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 Jimmy R. Pierce, Prichard, Ala.
1LT Daryl W. Crum, Whittier, Calif.
SGT Benji Yamane, Oakland, Calif.
1LT Kosmas P. Kepetanopoulos, Neptune Beach, Fla.
PFC Hermann Doelger-Landivar, Coral Gables, Fla.
1LT Roy B. Cochran, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.
SP4 Theodore L. Zowisza, Posen, Ill.
PFC Kenneth E. Willard Jr., Syracuse, Ind.
PVT William D. Price, Burdstown, Ky.
SGT Lawrence A. Grahams, Quincy, Mass.
SP4 Earl C. Minard, Hyde Park, N.Y.
SP4 Walter A. Williams, Salsbury, N.C.
PFC Richard R. Lynn, Bethlehem, Pa.
SP4 Jonas H. Beaver, Hiltonhead, S.C.
1LT Larry L. Fitzsimmons, Houston, Tex.
PFC David W. Kinney, Moquah, Wis.

Navy
HN Edilberto D. Macagba, Albany, Calif., Marine Corps

SGT William T. Rogers IV, Montgomery, Ala.

SGT Kenneth T. Robey, Orange, Calif., Marine Corps

LCPL Dale A. Griffin, Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.

PFC David L. Gilliam, Greensboro, N.C.

SGT Billie O. Keon, Alexandria, Ohio.

LCPL Thomas R. Fleming, Arlington, Va.

LCPL Ralph L. Washington, Portsmouth, Va.

PFC Kenneth R. Wells, Portsmouth, Va., Air Force

SSGT Eduardo Garcia, San Antonio, Tex.

MISSING TO DEAD—HOSTILE

Army

PFC John A. Virgano, Largo, Fla.

SP4 Donald E. Kidd, Pleasure Ridge

PFC Paul L. Bigelow, Grand Rapids, Mich.

1LT James M. Stone, White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

PFC Gary O. Holsinger, New Boston, Ohio.

SP4 Robert Smeal, Dubois, Pa.

SSG Jehovah Graves, Columbia, S.C.

SP4 Dennis L. Cunningham, El Paso, Tex.

SGT Leon M. Phillips, Green Bay, Wis.

BMI Edward J. Hegl, Bozeman, Mont.

SP4 Dennis J. Medelros, San Lorenzo, Calif.

CPL Ronald R. Ryan, Sacramento, Calif.

CPL Stanley G. Strong, Covina, Calif.

LCPL Winford McCeser, Bell, Calif.

PFC Thomas H. Williams, Golden, Colo.

PFC Robert J. Horvath, Rockvale, Colo.

LCPL John H. Clark Jr., Tampa, Fla.

LCPL Robert L. Vickers, Atlanta, Ga.

MSGT Howard B. Waldron, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.

PFC Dennis M. Mead, South Bend, Ind.

LCPL Joseph P. Brigato, Gonzales, La.

SP4 Samuel P. Robinson, Baltimore, Md.

LCPL Thomas MacMillan, Leominster, Mass.

PFC Wills Beauford Jr., Dorchester, Mass.

PFC Donald R. Bumstead, Brimley, Mich.

PFC James O. Taylor, St. Louis, Mo.

PFC Charles G. Boyer, Billings, Mont.

PFC David G. Anderson, Billings, Mont.

PFC David R. Wlenckaski, Linden, N.J.

CPL Vic M. Pizzaro, New York City.

LCPL Louis G. Taylor, Cleveland, Ohio.

LCPL Hollis Williams Jr., Columbus, Ohio.

PFC Thomas J. Moss, Shelby, Ohio.

PFC Stephen A. West, Dayton, Ohio.

LCPL Kenneth A. Stanciu, Verona, Pa.

PFC Ronnie C. Presley, Lebanon, Tenn.

PVT Domingo Rodriguez Jr., Fall River, Mass.

PFC John M. Russell Jr., South Burlington, Vt.

SP4 George L. Elliott III, Norfolk, Va.

A6 Jets Rip New Red Plant

SAIGON (UPI) — Carrier-based U.S. Navy A6 Intruders bombed a chemical plant nestled between Hanoi and Haiphong Friday for the first time in the war, the U.S. Command said Saturday.

The Hai Duong chemical plant, 21 miles northwest of Haiphong, was another previously unhit target now taken off the U.S. restricted list in the intensified bombing of North Vietnam.

"I saw three bright orange flames just after we dropped our bombs," said Lt. (j.g.) Daniel Shields, 25, of Chicago, a bombardier-navigator on the pre-dawn raid into North Vietnam's heavily defended heartland.

In 82 missions in clearing skies over the North, U.S. Air Force, Marine and Navy pilots reported moderate to heavy anti-aircraft fire, with no MIG interceptors or surface-to-air missiles spotted, spokesmen said.

U.S. Air Force pilots went to within 18 miles of the China frontier and, guided by radar, dropped 500-pound bombs on the Lang Giai railroad yard on Hanoi's northeastern rail link with Red China.

Because of bad weather, the announcement said, the pilots were unable to assess the damage they wrought on the oft-hit railroad marshalling area and storage point.

Reds Shell POW Camp, Kill 2 VC

SAIGON (AP) — The Viet Cong shelled a prisoner-of-war camp housing Viet Cong captives with 10 rounds of mortar fire, a South Vietnamese military spokesman reported Saturday.

The spokesman said the camp near Can Tho, about 80 miles southwest of Saigon, was hit Friday night. Two Viet Cong prisoners were killed and 23 wounded, he said.

Captured Or. Interned

Army

SP4 Young D. Ogletree.

SP4 Wilbert R. Barber.

SP4 Charles L. Bonner.

SP4 Henry J. Serven Jr.

PFC Lawrence J. Le Donne.

Navy

CDR Donald R. Hubbs.

LTG Lee D. Benson.

AX2 Randall J. Nightingale.

ADRN Thomas D. Barber.

Marine Corps

PFC David W. Erickson.

Air Force

Captain Howard K. Williams.

CORRECTIONS

Navy

LCDR Dale W. Doss.

LCDR Edwin A. Sherman III.

DIED NOT AS A RESULT OF HOSTILE ACTION

Army

PVT Richard A. Rutledge, DeRidder, La.

CPL Robert L. Berry, Kennebunk, Me.

SP4 David L. Graves, Dupont City, W. Va.

Marine Corps

CPL William Murphy, Pittsburgh, Pa.

LCPL Bobby L. Weathers, Longview, Tex.

MISSING TO DEAD—NON HOSTILE

Army

PFC Michael L. White, New Berlin, Wis.

CORRECTIONS

PFC Steven F. Freeman, USA, Change Status from missing to dead—non hostile to missing to dead—hostile.

PVT Salvador T. Molica, USA, Delete from list, not a Vietnam Casualty.

SP4 Robert S. Miller, USA, Delete from list, not a Vietnam Casualty.

PFC John M. Russell Jr., South Burlington, Vt.

PFC George L. Elliott III, Norfolk, Va.

'Meanest Dog in AF: 'Bite Worse than Bark'

CAM RANH BAY, Vietnam (IO) — The fury of an Air Force sentry dog would make even the bravest man cringe. Especially if that dog was Hieno, "the meanest dog in the Air Force," according to his handler, A1C Morgan C. Hess, 22, Milford, Ohio.

Hieno, a 99-pound German shepherd, and his handler patrol the perimeter of Cam Ranh Bay AB. They are assigned to the 12th Tactical Fighter Wing's security police sentry dog section.

The team first met when Hess volunteered for sentry dog training. Hieno had established a reputation as being overly aggres-

sive. Hess, a novice but determined trainee, took command and won the dog's confidence, then his respect.

"Like all sentry dogs," comments Hess, "Hieno has a mind of his own. He is very individualistic but he works for me with no problems because I have treated him kindly and I never show him fear."

The team trained together and the 3-year-old sentry dog completed the obedience, scouting, post utilization and obstacle course training without a single misfortune.

Hess received orders for Vietnam Policy states that sentry dog handlers, when transferred

to Vietnam, will refrain a new dog. Since Hess had been the only man able to work Hieno, the dog was to be put away.

Hess wrote Tactical Air Command headquarters requesting permission to have Hieno shipped with him to Vietnam.

"There weren't too many problems with shipping," said Hess. "I fed Hieno prior to taking off from McChord AFB, Wash., and the airlines placed him in the baggage compartment of the same plane I was aboard."

The two arrived at Cam Ranh Bay and immediately went to work on the outer perimeter of the base.



HIEENO'S FIGHTING FACE

Lieutenant Flattens Enemy With 'Hand-to-Jaw' Combat

CAMP FRENZELL-JONES, Vietnam (IO) — An unarmed 199th Light Infantry Brigade lieutenant recently charged from where he swam in a canal to flatten a Viet Cong. He used the ultimate weapon . . . a right hook to the jaw.

First Lt. Joe Lowke, Ft. Worth, Tex., led a reconnaissance platoon of E Co., 2nd Bn., 3rd Inf., when it ambushed a group of motorized Viet Cong sampans four miles south of Saigon. After the ambush, the U.S. patrol captured 23 Communist AK-47 assault rifles, 10,000 rounds of ammo, 82mm mortar equipment and grenades.

The patrol had been in position along the Kinh Song canal for about two hours. "We heard

motorized sampans, and got ready for the VC," said Sgt. Charles Sandberg of Philadelphia. "As they entered our killing zone, the VC shut off their engines, and we opened fire on them." Three Viet Cong were killed instantly.

The fire quickly emptied the four sampans, which were carried by the current to the opposite bank, 30 feet away.

Platoon Leader Lowke and Sgt. Francis Murphy of New Port, County Mayo, Ireland, swam unarmed across the strong current to recover and search the sampans. Their platoon covered them with machine gun fire as close as three feet from where they were swimming.

"I had just looked into one of the boats, when I saw a VC jump up from the canal bank," said Murphy. "I yelled to the lieutenant, and he charged the VC and belted him." The Viet Cong was held for interrogation.

Supporting light fire teams and artillery blasted the area where the other VC had fled.

An early morning search by the reconnaissance platoon resulted in one detainee, several sandals and hats and a bloody sampan.

In addition to the weapons cache, the "Old Guard" infantrymen recovered two enemy sampan motors.

There were no U.S. casualties.

Puts Bam In Bamboo

DAK TO, Vietnam (IO) — Perhaps one day S.Sgt. Howard Townsend of Guntersville, Ala., will be acclaimed as the perfector of the bamboo bangalore torpedo. But history wasn't his first consideration when the Co. A, 4th Eng. Bn. squad leader rigged up the field expedient device recently at the 1st Bn., 8th Inf. firebase near Dak To.

The hasty bangalores are four-foot sections of bamboo.

"Using bamboo bangalores recently took care of two problems at the same time," Townsend pointed out.

"I used them to demonstrate expedient methods for field operation," he continued, "and later put together a few more and used them to clear a 'hook' pad at the firebase. They worked great!"

Search for a Cross: GI Success Story

DAK TO, Vietnam (IO) — The luck of a 1st Brigade "Hawkeye" and the concern of a 1st Brigade chaplain have solved the pressing spiritual problems of five Montagnard villages near Dak To.

Over 80 per cent of the five-village complex is Catholic. The people have never had their own chapel and attend Mass only on infrequent occasions. An elderly French missionary from Dak To who has been making the rounds by bicycle for the past 18 years manages to visit one of the five villages only once every nine weeks.

"Hawkeye" S.Sgt. James N. McCoy of Elizabeth, N.J., a 4th Div. long range patroller, has been a familiar figure at the local complex since last November when he began visiting the villagers and treating them for disease and illnesses in his

spare time. It was no wonder that one of their primary requests was that he help them build a chapel, but first they would need a crucifix for the altar.

"I was on a mission north of Dak To when I spotted two NVA soldiers and began following them south," explained McCoy. "I came through the abandoned village of Dak Tong and during a routine inspection found a small hooch which appeared to have been a chapel at one time. I began removing some of the rubble and there it was — a large, shiny crucifix flanked by a weather-scarred picture of the Blessed Mother and a portrait of Christ in some old French woodcarved frames. I strapped the crucifix to my rucksack and left."

McCoy cleaned up the tarnished crucifix, stained the mahogany base and mounted it on a board to be placed in the newly-erected Montagnard chapel.

Finger on Trouble, GI Saves His Copter

VUNG TAO, Vietnam (IO) — The Dutch have their hero who put his finger in the leaky dike to save the town; the 147th "Hillclimbers" Assault Helicopter Co. has Spec. 4 William A. Lee, from Seattle, Wash.

Lee, a Chinook flight engineer, was in the rear of a Chinook recently as it pulled out of a pickup zone (PZ) after recovering a downed OH-23 Helicopter. As it pulled away, the Chinook received two rounds of automatic weapons fire. One round hit a forward rotor blade;

the other round came up through the ramp and pierced a hole in the aft transmission housing causing hot oil to gush out.

Reacting quickly to the emergency, Lee put his gloved finger into the hole and stemmed the flow of 180 degree oil from the housing. Although he didn't save a whole town from disaster like the little Dutch boy, he did give his Chinook enough extra time to complete its mission before stopping for repairs.

After Day's War, He Hunts Snakes

VUNG DAT AM, Vietnam (IO) — "I only skin the big ones," grinned Sgt. 1.C. Don Nelson as he told of his unusual taxidermic exploits during leisure moments in the Highlands war.

When not busy supervising roadway construction, the 4th Eng. Bn. platoon sergeant favorites snake hunting.

His prized kills include a 15-foot long python and a huge king cobra, killed earlier this year and placed in the sergeant's large collection.



USAF Photos

A1C HESS AND HIEENO

Sweden Offers To Arrange U.S., Hanoi Contacts

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sweden is ready to arrange contacts between the United States and the Communist regime of Hanoi, Hubert de Beche, Swedish Ambassador to the United States, says.

Sweden, a neutral country but strongly critical of U.S. policies in Vietnam, is not offering its services as a mediator. However, it would act as a go-between if both sides sought such an arrangement, the diplomat said in an interview.

Swedish-American relations have been so strained recently that Washington recalled its ambassador. There have been a number of anti-American Vietnam demonstrations in Sweden and members of the government have made statements strongly critical of U.S. policy.

Meanwhile, in Bern, Switzerland, a report of an alleged secret meeting between United States and North Vietnam officials, in the Swiss Foreign Ministry Friday night, was categorically denied Saturday morning.

A high official of the U.S. Embassy termed the report "pure invention, pure speculation, nothing else." A Swiss government spokesman also denied the report.

The report claimed a U.S. Embassy official met with the North Vietnam envoy to Paris, Mai Van Bo, before his departure from Switzerland Friday evening. The meeting was supposed to have been arranged by the Swiss President.

What really happened, Swiss officials said, was that Mai Van Bo made his farewell visit to Swiss Foreign Minister Willy Spuehler at the same time that a U.S. Embassy official called on the ministry to pick up a copy of the Swiss Government's communique on Mai Van Bo's visit published earlier in the day.

Army Yields To Mustache

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The mustaches sprouted by flying ace Brig. Gen. Robin Olds and many of his admirers in the Air Force may have influenced Army policy.

Army regulations are being revised to state that "a neatly trimmed mustache will pose no medical disadvantages and will not restrict wearing of the gas mask."

EDWIN O'CONNOR

Author—

(Continued From Page 1)
book's protagonist, Frank Skeffington, as a "pale carbon copy."

Curley sought to ban the motion picture version of the novel, but the issue was settled out of court.

O'Connor first came to Boston in 1946 after graduation from Notre Dame and three years of World War II service with the Coast Guard.

He was a writer and producer for a radio network for a year before quitting to devote his time to writing. He sold his first magazine article to the Atlantic Monthly in 1946.

For the next 10 years he wrote magazine articles and short stories and contributed television columns to the defunct Boston Post and old Boston Herald.

His first novel, "The Oracle," a satire of a radio announcer, was published in 1951. It sold well in Great Britain, but slowly in the United States.

"The Last Hurrah" was his second novel.

Another novel dealing with the Irish-American scene, "All in the Family," came out in 1966. He also wrote a play, "I Was Dancing," which opened on Broadway in 1964.

Animal Disease Reappears in U.K.

CHESTER, England (AP) — Officials Friday night confirmed a new outbreak of foot and mouth disease, bringing fears that the scourge which cost 400,000 cattle is on the way back.

The new outbreak is at Tarvin, near this northwest England town, and outside the previously infected areas. More than 120 animals were slaughtered and strict control of animal movement ordered in the area.

24 Pacific Stars & Stripes
Monday, March 25, 1968



Adam Clayton Powell delivers a message to supporters who jammed the basement of his Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem Saturday. Powell told his followers that he would give a sermon in the church on Sunday morning.

(AP Radiophoto)

Powell—

(Continued From Page 1)

of the announcement that he had decided to seek reelection.

Powell would have lost his 22 years' seniority in Congress if he returned to Washington on the basis of the election. He has been trying to win his seat back through the courts, with his seniority intact.

The U.S. Court of Appeals early this month refused to rule on Powell's action against Congress, but his attorneys reportedly are taking their arguments to the U.S. Supreme Court.

After his release, Powell put in an appearance at a dance party in the heart of Harlem. He threaded his way through a mob of supporters, kissed some girls, and made his way to the stage.

He spoke a few minutes and roared his famous, "Keep the faith, baby," phrase at about 200 happy constituents. He said he would hold a giant "good to be back home" rally in Harlem at 1 p.m. Saturday and tell of his plans.

Saturday, Powell toured Harlem in a driving rain and told cheering crowds "the non-violent days are over."

"They've never seen a scene like they're gonna have if they try to touch Big Daddy," said Powell, tie-less and with rain running down his face.

Cold Grips U.S.

(Continued From Page 1)

Washington, D.C., where temperatures dropped 55 degrees since Friday, was rapidly turning to snow.

The storm left nine dead, all in Tennessee and Kentucky, in its wake. Seven persons in the two states were killed in traffic accidents attributed to hazardous road conditions. A Memphis man died while shoveling snow and a Paris, Tenn., man died in northwest Tennessee of carbon monoxide poisoning after his car became mired in foot-deep snow. Many other motorists or their cars were stranded in both states.

While much of the South and Midwest worried about more snow, the peril in New England was floods.

The UPI reported:

The Army Corps of Engineers distributed 200,000 sandbags to brace for flooding in Rhode Island and Massachusetts—already declared disaster areas—and in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. Rain continued to beat down in Boston before dawn. The Connecticut River edged closer to a 16-foot flood stage, which it was expected to surpass by a foot today, and the Concord River edged over its banks and drove some 400 persons from a low-lying area north of Boston.

The big snow caused much more surprise than damage,

shooting through the Southlands at spring fever time and leaving behind five inches of snow at Jackson, Miss., 13 at Dyersburg, Tenn., 7 at Nashville, Tenn., 12 at Louisville, Ky., and 11 at Hopkinsville and Bowling Green, Ky.

Freezing rains fell east of the snow area today, and freezing rain warnings were posted for Eastern Ohio, western Pennsylvania and western New York. Travelers warnings were extended eastward from Tennessee and Kentucky across western and southern West Virginia and extreme southwestern Virginia.

East of the snow and ice belt—in which lower Michigan was plastered with five inches of snow since Friday afternoon—showers and thunderstorms developed in warm air from Florida to the Carolinas. Fog and drizzle spread over the North Atlantic states, and showers were scattered along the Pacific Coast.

The sun peeked through across much of the western half of the nation. The mercury registered 76 at Key West, Fla., before daylight Saturday and at the same time read 9 at North Platte, Neb.

Weather

Amen Weather Central

TOKYO AREA

Sunday Night: Cloudy Rain: Low: Low 40s

Monday: Cloudy: High Mid 50s

TEMPERATURES

March 23

	H	L	
Bangkok	75	80	Saigon
Chitose	39	23	Seoul
Manila	93	75	Taipei
Naha	66	59	Tokyo
	91	77	
Albany	44	41	Melbourne
Albuquerque	57	24	Memphis
Amarillo	48	26	Miami
Atlanta	70	41	Milwaukee
Birmingham	46	34	Moscow
Bismarck	24	4	N. Orleans
Boise	46	33	NYC
Boston	41	38	N. Platte
Chicago	22	29	Okla. City
Cincinnati	25	21	Omaha
Dakota	52	37	Dayton
Des Moines	26	14	Phila.
Detroit	34	20	Phoenix
Duluth	25	13	Pittsburgh
Fairbanks	20	9	Port. O.
Forgo	27	11	Rapid City
Fort Worth	52	30	Reno
Hong Kong	72	63	Richmond
Honolulu	82	69	Singapore
Houston	57	34	St. Louis
Ind polis	30	29	Soit Lake
Jakarta	95	77	S. Afric.
Kansas City	35	23	San Diego
K. Lumpur	30	22	San Fran.
Los Vegas	72	44	Sydney
London	54	45	Tucson
L.A.	77	58	Wash.
Louisville	32	29	

Westmoreland Backs Abrams

(Continued From Page 1)
selected to assume the job as chief of staff of the Army."

Asked if President Johnson had informed him personally by telephone of the new appointment, Westmoreland said, "Negative. I received the information in a personal call from General Wheeler."

He was referring to Gen. Earle Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Westmoreland said he received the news about 7:30 a.m. Saigon time Saturday.

Westmoreland arrived in Saigon at 11:45 a.m. from Managua in a T39 jet plane.

Abrams was waiting at the airport to greet him.

As Westmoreland started

down the stairs of the plane, he spotted Abrams and called out, "Hey boy," with a wide smile on his face.

Abrams snapped to attention and saluted. Then they shook hands.

When a reporter first asked Westmoreland for some comment, the general said: "I will have no comment at this time," and started to head for the black sedan that was waiting to take him to his "Pentagon East" headquarters at the air base.

When pressed again for comment, he relented, walked away from the car and answered a few questions.

Meanwhile, in Washington,

Pentagon officials said it was common knowledge in defense quarters for the past year that Westmoreland would leave Vietnam this summer after more than four years in the demanding post.

Friends of Westmoreland, seeking to counter any impression he is being sacked, argued the job of Army chief of staff can hardly be rated a demotion.

They noted that as Army boss, Westmoreland will be on the Joint Chiefs of Staff and will have a major voice in formulating future Vietnam military policy.

It also was pointed out that Westmoreland will be left to run the war for three more months.