

Flier Rescued Under Heavy Fire

S&S Vietnam Bureau
SAIGON—A downed navy pilot with a broken arm was rescued from the Tonkin Gulf Sunday. An Air Force HU-16 Albatross crew picked up the pilot amid a hail of small arms fire from nearby junks and antiaircraft fire shore batteries. The rescued pilot was one of two navy men flying a reconnaissance mission over north Vietnam

in a RA-5C Vigilante which was hit by antiaircraft fire south of Haiphong. They reached the gulf before bailing out and hit the water about half a mile offshore. One of the men was picked up by a Navy rescue helicopter that had to abandon the second rescue because of mechanical trouble. Air Force Col. Allan R. Vette, 47, of Gulfport, Miss., pilot of

the Albatross, put the aircraft down on the water for four minutes while A2C Charles Hanson, 21, of Brainard, Minn., pararescue-man, jumped into the water, freed the pilot who was tangled in his parachute, and brought him to the plane. "We were drawing fire all the time," said Vette. "We could see the muzzle flashes and the bullets hit the water so we got in and

out quick." Capt. Samuel L. Hall, 28, of York, Neb., Navigator, and A1C George V. Walkner, 24, Takoma, Wash., flight mechanic, helped pull the pilot into the aircraft. Other members aboard the Albatross were 1st Lt. Charles G. Rapp, 26, Columbus, Ohio, copilot, and A1C Dale F. Tupper, 34, Sacramento, Cal., the radio operator.

Air Strike Kills 14 Reds

S&S Vietnam Bureau
SAIGON — U.S. and Free World forces reported only light, scattered actions throughout the Republic of Vietnam Monday.

Fourteen communists were killed after an air observer spotted an unknown number of enemy and called in air strikes which caused a secondary explosion 12 miles south of Da Nang.

In Binh Dinh Province, seven Americans were killed and four wounded when a friendly artillery round landed in their area during an artillery mission Monday. The incident occurred when a company from the 2d Brigade, 1st Cav. Div. was engaged with an unknown size enemy force 53 miles northwest of Qui Nhon City, and called for the support.

An investigation is under way, a spokesman said.

Sunday, one American was killed and 14 wounded in two incidents in Tay Ninh Province. During an air strike in support of the 3d Brigade, 4th Inf. Div., 24 miles northwest of Tay Ninh City, one bomb did not follow a normal course and landed near the friendly troops.

A claymore mine was detonated in the same area just before the bomb drop.

Operation Gatling II in Lam Dong Province was announced Tuesday, involving elements of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Div. The operation, which began Feb. 5, has had only light contact in a mountainous region 98 miles east-northeast of Saigon.

In Long An Province units of the 1st Brigade, 25th Inf. Div., ended Operation Lanakai Monday according to military spokesmen.

Since the operation began Sept. 15, 94 enemy have been reported killed. Cumulative friendly casualties are light.

Also in IV Corps Monday, Vietnamese troops reported killing 11 Viet Cong while capturing four others, including a woman cadre, during two separate actions 80 miles southwest of Saigon.

Eight individual weapons were seized along with mines, grenades, ammunition and documents. Overall Vietnamese casualties were reported as very light.

Vietnamese spokesmen reported a civilian killed in Quang Tin Province while he attempted to remove a booby-trap from a Viet Cong flag.

Pilots Batter Rails, Highways In North

S&S Vietnam Bureau
SAIGON—Rail facilities and highways in the panhandle were among the first targets hit by U.S. pilots Tuesday in a resumption of air strikes against north Vietnam.

The strikes ended earlier speculation on a possible extension of the bombing pause caused by the 4-day New Year Truce.

U.S. Ships Fire On N. Viets

S&S Vietnam Bureau
SAIGON — Two U.S. Navy destroyers joined the action Tuesday when U.S. military activity in north Vietnam was resumed.

The first reported action occurred when the destroyer Alfred A. Cunningham sighted three logistics craft near the mouth of the Song Giang River, north of Dong Hoi.

The Cunningham fired on the craft and left them burning.

Later, the USS Straus was fired on by two shore batteries on Ho Nieu and Hon Matt islands. The fire was returned and the shore batteries ceased firing.

There was no damage to the Straus.

Spare Viet Crops, Experts Ask LBJ

WASHINGTON (UPI) — More than 5,000 American scientists asked President Johnson Tuesday to end use of riot gas and anti-crop chemicals in Vietnam.

They said in a petition that use of such weapons by the United States "sets a dangerous precedent, with long-term hazards far outweighing any probable short-term military advantage."

Flying in poor weather and using radar to pinpoint most targets, air force pilots accounted for 12 of the missions flown in the north. One of the targets, a highway bridge seven miles south of Dong Hoi, was hit by two air force F-4C Phantoms.

Navy A-6 Intruders struck rail facilities at Dong Phong Thuong, Thanh Hoa, Phu Ly and Nam Dinh.

Enemy base camps, infiltration routes, fortifications and water traffic were hit during 535 sorties flown in South Vietnam Monday.

Of the total, air force pilots flew a record 378 sorties, including 181 in support of ground operations.

Damaged or destroyed were 80 fortified positions, 16 sampans, two gun positions and numerous other targets.

Out of 157 sorties, Marine pilots flew 33 in support of Leatherneck ground operations, including Operation De Soto in Quang Ngai Province. The pilots destroyed or damaged 71 structures, 18 fortified positions, a trenchline and gun position and cut four infiltration routes.

AC-47 Dragon Ship crews supported a special forces unit in Phu Yen province and units of the 11th Armored Cav. Regt. 39 miles southeast of Saigon with mini-gun fire and flares.

B-52 crews struck three times in South Vietnam late Monday and early Tuesday. Targets included a base camp 16 miles southwest of Da Nang, a suspected headquarters complex north of Kontum City, and an enemy camp area 12 miles south of Hue.



Marine Watches His Step

A heavily-loaded American marine, on patrol near Dong Tam, Vietnam, uses a fallen log to cross a small stream in the jungle-covered area. (UPI Radiophoto)

Over 60,000 Volunteers In Vietnam, Army Says

S&S Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON — The Army reports that more than 60,000 soldiers of all grades have gone

Steinbeck Asks For Hanoi Visa

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP) — Author John Steinbeck applied here Tuesday for visas to visit Hanoi, Peking and Cambodia.

He appeared hopeful that these may be granted but no acceptance is possible until the embassies consult their foreign offices.

Steinbeck, who is accompanied by his wife, plans to remain in Laos until about Feb. 21.

to Vietnam under a volunteer program since mid-1964.

This indicates the high level of morale in the service, the Army said.

In the same period, 6,797 officers and 59,834 enlisted men have volunteered for Vietnam duty.

Last year, the Army assigned more than 41,000 officers and enlisted men to Vietnam.

Reds Shell Quemoy

TAIPEI (AP)—The Chinese communists Monday night fired 95 shells at the Quemoy Islands, the Chinese Nationalist Defense Ministry in Taipei reported Tuesday. It was the first attack on the islands in the new lunar Year of the Sheep which began five days ago.

NUI DAT, Vietnam (UPI) — A booby trap killed and wounded several Australian soldiers Tuesday during the search of a small village.

The accident occurred after Bn. 50, Royal Australian Regt., had surrounded the village of An Nhut, five miles southeast of Nui Dat.

Two officers nudged the barbed wire that surrounded the village, setting off the booby trap, believed rigged from an 81mm mortar round.

Two Australian helicopters evacuated the wounded to Vung Tau.

The Australian troops suffered no other casualties during the two day operation which ended Tuesday.

"We walked through really thick jungle — we cut our way through," said photographer Frank Johnson, who went along. The Australians never used any of the existing trails, he said.

By late afternoon, the battalion

had reached the final staging area and after several hours rest they began to surround the village.

"We moved about 2,000 meters across rice paddies, a couple knee-deep in water, but most pretty dry," said Johnson. Everyone wore white ribbons in their floppy hats so they could see the man in front in the pitch dark.

It was the first time that Johnson had been with the Australians, and he was very impressed.

"It was the quietest I've ever heard a whole battalion move," he said. "Everything moved like clock-work. Everyone knew his job."

"And there was never any talking—that's what I really thought was great."

'To Contribute'

Jayne Lands in Vietnam

SAIGON (UPI) — American actress Jayne Mansfield flew into Saigon Tuesday wearing a silver mini-skirt, a brown long-sleeved sweater and black shin-high boots.

The somewhat voluptuous Jayne will be tripping around Vietnam for four days visiting American fighting men.

"I just want to make them as

happy as I can and contribute as much as I can," she said.

Vietnam is new to her but she has met many of its soldiers.

"I visited quite a few hospitals, like Walter Reed in Washington, where the boys were being returned from Vietnam. Then I decided I wanted to come here and contribute what I can," Jayne said.