

Cong Commandos Blast Two U.S. Airfields

Raiders Destroy 20 Aircraft, Damage 22



Associated Press Wirephoto

A Fighter At 12

This is 12-year-old Rmah Del who is a member of the elite "Red Cap" platoon of tough mountain fighters at the Montagnard camp in Plei Me,

Viet Nam. He weighs 60 pounds and is four feet, five inches. He's been on jungle patrols and has fought in several battles against the Viet Cong.

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (AP) — Viet Cong mortar and suicide squads destroyed 18 helicopters and damaged 22 in a daring midnight raid Wednesday at the U.S. Marine Marble Mountain air base near Da Nang, a U.S. military spokesman said. A simultaneous Viet Cong commando strike at the Chu Lai air base destroyed two A-1H Skyhawk jet bombers. The base is 25 miles south of Da Nang on the coast of the South China Sea.

The Marines said Thursday they killed at least 13 raiders while suffering only light casualties themselves. Seabees at Marble Mountain also suffered light casualties from mortar shelling. In other fighting Wednesday, Vietnamese raiders and U.S. Marines wrecked a heavy guerrilla assault on a ranger camp only 20 miles northwest of Saigon.

American troops were out in force at the same time, hunting Viet Cong in the Plei Me and Qui Nhon sectors farther north. The Viet Cong commando raids appeared to be similar in previous strikes against Da Nang, 300 miles northwest of the capital. The Chu Lai air base was hit about 11:30 p.m. with mortar fire and by six-inch mortar rounds causing explosive anti-aircraft chaises. About 20 minutes later, a field east of the base Da Nang field was hit by mortar fire. It is a base for about 45 helicopters. The Viet Cong struck for a

second time at the 'chopper' base about 1:30 a.m. Thursday, again with mortar fire. The Marines reported with 100mm howitzers, mortars and automatic weapons while planes and a destroyer standing off Da Nang fired flares to light up the area. There was no report of Viet Cong casualties. The Marine spokesman said at least two Viet Cong were confirmed killed at Chu Lai and three were reported dead at Qui Nhon. (Continued on Page 21, 5th Col.)

Congressmen Urged

Secure Bath Project, Says AIM

AUGUSTA (AP) — The Associated Industries of Maine urged the U.S. Maritime Commission members from Maine and the state members of Congress Wednesday to nail down a Bath Iron Works project the buyer is trying to cancel.

Bath Iron Works was low at about \$51 million on building three or four cargo vessels for American Export-Isbrandt Lines. The line has asked the Maritime Administration for permission to reject the bids and advertise for construction of eight ships including those three or four. Rudolph T. Greep of Westbrook, president of the AIM, sent a message to James V. Way of Kennebunk, a member of the Maritime Commission. Sen. Margaret Chase Smith and Edmund S. Muskie, and Reps. Stanley R. Tupper and William D. Hathaway,

for building three or four commercial cargo ships, gained momentum Wednesday. Bath and Brunswick officials Wednesday dispatched messages to members of Maine's Congressional Delegation protesting the move. The Bath Area Chamber of Commerce and Maritime Administration to honor B.I.W.'s bids. President Victor Leask of

Continued on Page 21, 5th Col.

FCC Orders Probe Into Phone Rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Communications Commission ordered Wednesday an investigation of telephone and other rates charged by American Telephone & Telegraph Co. The investigation will help decide whether the FCC should prescribe maximum charges to the public, the commission said. The commission called for the probe after studying an AT&T report on costs and earnings of its services.

In New York, Frederick R. Kappel, board chairman of AT&T, said in a statement: "The action taken Wednesday by the FCC is totally unwarranted and unnecessary, and in the final analysis the telephone public will be the loser. There are no interstate problems confronting the FCC that could not be resolved faster and with far less expense by means other than the sweeping action taken by the commission. Without resorting to such a patently slow and costly investigation, the commission over the years has effected rate reductions which now amount to savings of about \$1 billion annually to the American public. The latest reduction of \$100 million was made only a few months ago, and interstate telephone rates are at a historic low."

Continued on Page 21, 5th Col.



Associated Press Wirephoto

Supporting U.S. Policy

Students from the Educational Institute of Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh display signs supporting the U.S. policy in Viet Nam Wednesday at a rally on the Pitt campus.

About 1,500 turned out for the rally, which started with a chant expressing wholehearted backing of the American forces in Viet Nam.

Year-Round Head Start Program Planned Locally

By WILLIAM H. WILLIAMSON Staff Reporter

Another effort to establish a year-round Project Head Start here will be made this week. Assistant School Superintendent Frederick A. Halla said such a program could be under way this winter if it is approved.

Although the Portland School Committee has declined to apply for a year-round program so far, Halla revealed Tuesday he's secured agreement from the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington to keep the door open for a full-time program in Portland. Hall will confer Friday with Mrs. June Gridley, chairman of the school panel's exceptional students committee, in an effort to get full committee approval for an application now.

The school panel decided in June to hold off on any year-round program application until it could see the results of the summer program conducted here.

HALLA PRESENTED those results in a recent report to the school panel. On the basis of this report, the panel referred it to Mrs. Gridley's committee. After the meeting with Halla, she'll report at the next meeting of the full committee.

Although the summer program here was scheduled to handle about 70 preschool

children, the final number enrolled was 124. Halla said he envisions a year-round program with about 150 pupils if it's limited to Portland.

If the year-round program should be undertaken on an area basis, through the auspices of the Portland Regional Opportunity Program (PROOP), Halla estimated that as many as 400 youngsters might be involved.

In order to qualify for the program, a child must come from a family with less than \$3,000 yearly income. In some cases, that figure can be flexible. Halla said one family with 14 children and an income of \$4,000, was considered to fall within the acceptable range.

Mrs. Sumner Bernstein, one of several volunteers who assisted in the summer program, told the school committee Monday every effort should be made to establish a year-round program here.

SHE SAID the culturally deprived children enrolled in the program turned out to be "as bright, as engaging and as capable of learning as any children I've met."

But without the kind of help provided by a program such as Head Start, these children would enter formal schooling with two strikes against them, Mrs. Bernstein said.

Continued on Page 21, 5th Col.

Castro Exit Offer To Cubans Smokescreen, Ex-Aide Charges

Fidel Castro will never permanently open the floodgates to allow the exit of Cubans to the United States, a former Castro supporter said here Wednesday.

Instead, Ernesto F. Betancourt sees Castro's offer to allow Cubans to leave their homeland as a smokescreen to momentarily distract Cubans from the serious economic problems of the regime. "He may allow them to leave for a time," said Betancourt, who broke with Castro in 1962 as the nation moved swiftly toward Communism. "But then he'll stop it," he declared.

BETANCOURT here to address the Portland Committee on Foreign Relations, said the offer of allowing anti-Castro Cubans to leave the country not only serves to distract attention from the country's economic problems, but allows Castro a method of getting rid of many people who are opposed to and a burden to Castro as well as providing a method of attempting to restore some contact with the United States.

BETANCOURT also said it was not conclusive that the refugees offer came at the same time that Castro was announcing the formation of



Ernesto F. Betancourt

a 104-member Central Committee that may eventually limit Castro's personal power. "This committee will serve as a check on Castro," Betancourt said, "and in the next few weeks will assume a policy-making body." He said it was the first step that Castro's iron grip on the regime might finally be loosened.

Betancourt in 1957 and 1958 represented Castro's 29th of

July Movement in Washington and later served under Castro as the first managing director of the Cuban Bank of Foreign Trade and a director of the Cuban National Bank. Since breaking with Castro he's become a coordinator of economic affairs within the Organization of American States.

Betancourt said the current U.S. policy of containment and isolation toward Cuba "is the only logical one at the moment." He said he doubted that any effective action could be taken to overthrow Castro.

Continued on Page 21, 7th Col.

Prayer For Today

Almighty God, inspire our hearts to search for truth and enable us, through Thy Holy Spirit, to live by it where it is found. Take from us the faulty reasons that bind us and remove the prejudices that enslave us. Let Thy truth change our hearts and make us free. This we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

—V. Neil Strain, Carmel, Ill., minister, Holy Cross of the Neumans.

News, Features On The Inside

The Weather
Cloudy, breezy, cool today. Fair, not quite so cool Friday. Full report on Page 15.

FACED WITH A BALKY CONGRESS and economic troubles, the Brazilian government abolishes political parties and grants new powers to President Humberto Castello Branco. Page 3.

THE SPLIT BETWEEN President Sukarno and Indonesia's anti-Communist army widens. Page 29.

GUEVARA is believed victim of an ideological tie of war with Castro. Page 29.

HIGHER COSTS from farmer to grocer are partly to blame for rising food bills. Page 7.

CBS Thursday Night Movie
"MARY, MARY"
starring Debbie Reynolds
9:00 P.M.
Channel 13

House Panel Investigates Klan 'Underground' Unit

WASHINGTON (AP) — House investigators probed Wednesday at a mysterious Ku Klux Klan unit, known as "the underground."

It was brought out as the House Committee on Un-American Activities questioned William D. Williams, identified as having headed the unit in South Carolina until last month. He refused to answer when asked if its members were "trained in the use of rifles, explosives and are advocates of violence."

Chairman Donald T. Rostenkowski suggested that this group — "known in Klan circles as the 'underground' — was somehow an offshoot of the United Klans of America's Klavern in Gaston, S.C., known as the Cherokee Sportsman's Club.

Williams, a stock market analyst, said he was not sure whether there were similar units associated with other Klaverns.

But after Williams was dismissed and the hearing resumed for the day, committee Chairman Edwin E. Willis, D-La., said the subject of the "underground" was "far from closed."

Robert E. Bennett may be questioned Thursday before the committee turns its attention to KKK Georgia racism.

Williams was ordered to re-appear on the stand Nov. 15 — the speaker said after he was dismissed. But a statement to newsmen said he had a statement to newsmen saying:

"I have seen, before God Almighty, to Gravel in the high at Wednesday's hearing, as a code of ethics and morality that full well that would I oppose it. George Franklin Dorett, an I would risk eternal damnation identified as the Imperial Wizard of my moral soul. I am a member of the United Klans of America, N.C. a Klavern of Greensboro, N.C. a Klavern of America. I refused to answer where he was questioned." (Continued on Page 21, 5th Col.)

Strong Man Kills 2 Deer With Only One Bullet

STRONG — It was "one-for-one" for Herbert Neil of Strong, when he went hunting Tuesday at Freeman's Neck, where he practices club supervision for the Portland Ski Club. At Wilton, he got two deer with one bullet about 3:30 p.m.

Neil said he was walking along a wood road in Freeman's Neck when what appeared to be one deer stepped across the road. Neil fired one shot and the deer, straggled. When he got up to the fallen animal, there were a buck and a doe downed by the same bullet. Each animal weighed about 55 pounds.

Since the law frowns on persons shooting more than one deer in a hunting season, Neil contacted warden supervisor Jack Shinn. Shinn, who checked out the unusual hunting experience, said kept one of the deer and the other was given to the family of a person hospitalized with burns in the mill fire at Strong on Monday.

Neil, using a .44-40 rifle, said both deer were shot in the neck. He has been hunting for about 15 years.

Today's Chuckle

Next to the wound, what women make best is the bandage.