

Military Leaders Think U.S. Ahead In Viet Nam

EDITOR'S NOTE: How goes the war in Viet Nam? What is the outlook? This a report from Washington and the third in a series of articles designed to acquaint Texas A&M students with issues to be discussed at the eleventh Student Conference on National Affairs Dec. 8-11. Another will appear soon.

By FRED S. HOFFMAN

WASHINGTON (AP) — Only four months ago, U. S. leaders feared the Communists had victory within reach in South Viet Nam.

This no longer is the case. These leaders, both civilian and military, believe the mas-

sive application of U. S. ground and air power has stalled the Red drive.

Some top military figures feel the United States and South Viet Nam have tilted the advantage their way and are now winning.

But most while encouraged by what they regard as a pattern of military success for U. S. arms — are stopping short of claiming a turn in the tide.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Cyrus R. Vance — reflecting a prevailing view at the topmost levels in the Pentagon — came close to this point when he said:

"Militarily, matters continue to turn toward a more favorable

side."

But Vance followed up this restrained optimism with a cautionary reminder that the struggle "is more than merely military — it is political; it is economic; and it is profoundly psychological."

In the view of most senior authorities, the basic problem is summed up in the somewhat worn phrase, "Winning the hearts and minds of the people."

According to certain key officials, progress toward capturing the allegiance of the population has been minimal so far.

Knowledgeable sources have said the regime in Viet Nam has

made some right moves in this direction.

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and others at the top are not minimizing such achievements as there:

— Foiling a Communist offensive aimed at cutting South Viet Nam in two at its midsection and at bleeding the South Vietnamese army so badly that its morale would be shattered.

— Inflicting such severe losses on the Communists that they had to pull back some of their forces to retrain, regroup, reequip and recuperate.

— Harrying the Communists

with intensified air strikes, including repeated bombings by B52 jets, so the Red guerrillas no longer are secure in some areas that once were their strongholds.

On several occasions, U. S. soldiers and Marines have hit sizable Viet Cong units hard. But all too often the Communists have managed to elude sweeps by large forces of Americans.

Some military experts have speculated that the Reds might revert to small hit-and-run operations as their main tactic.

This would not be good news. U. S. military leaders say they

are anxious to take on large formations of Communists, confident that American troops and fire power would make possible a clearcut military defeat of the Reds.

In the Mekong River delta, the one major region where the South Vietnamese army has been handling the fight by itself, the Communist Viet Cong recently have been taking the field in battalion-size units and mounting more frequent attacks. This could signal a new Communist offensive in a critical region where for a time the Reds have appeared to be contained.

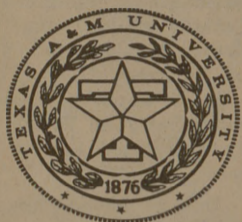
Although U. S. combat troops

have put strong pressure on the Communists, one essential gain has been lacking so far.

"We have not yet pacified any extensive area of the country," on official said.

He explained that an area will be considered pacified — and thus reclaimed from the Reds — only when democratic political institutions are organized, the economy revitalized and rehabilitated, and local security established so that regular Vietnamese and U. S. troops can move out.

"Until we do this," the official said, "I don't think you can expect the Viet Cong to conclude they can't win."



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Graff Outlines Official Policy For Bonfire

W. J. Graff, dean of academic administration, outlined Tuesday the official policy to be used for this year's Bonfire.

The arrangements, reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee of the Academic Council, are the same as last year.

Undergraduate students will be permitted to work on the Bonfire three days only: Nov. 20-22. All undergraduate classes will be dismissed on Nov. 22. However, graduate classes and classes for third year Veterinary Medicine students are not to be dismissed. The Bonfire weekend will not be considered a holiday for university employees.

In addition, juniors and seniors not having classes on the afternoons of Nov. 17-19 may perform preparatory work, including some wood cutting.

At the request of President Earl Rudder, the Office of the Commandant, the Accident and Fire Prevention Committee, and the Firemen's Training School of the Engineering Extension Service will participate in the safety aspects of the bonfire.

The "formal" opening of work has been set for Nov. 18 a week before the game the center pole is secured. Deadline for the completion of the Bonfire has been set for 5:30 p.m. Nov. 23.

Guarding of the bonfire will begin after the center pole has been erected.

The weatherman for the past week has been cooperating. After all what kind of a bonfire would it be without rain and mud?



HAND IN HAND

Knowing that social grace goes hand in hand with academic pursuits, Aggies turn out for dance lessons in the MSC. Pictured in the foreground are, from left, Candy Parker, Mike Shultz, Joan Phelp, Richard Adams, Jackie Dierr and Bob Myers.

Pentagon Says Young Men Banned From Viet Nam

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Defense Department decided Tuesday it no longer wants 17-year-old servicemen fighting in Viet Nam.

The reported reason: There is plenty of older military manpower available.

Another motivation for the decision appears to be that the Pentagon has been getting some questions and critical mail from citizens and from Congress since

a couple of 17-year-olds were killed in Viet Nam.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana, a former Marine, called the order "a good thing." And Rep. John Conyers Jr., D-Mich., issued a statement saying he had asked Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara for such action two months ago.

"Seventeen is just too young for someone to go fighting in war, although I admire and respect the courage of the American young men who volunteer at such an early age," Conyers said.

McNamara's new policy is effective immediately. He told the services they have between now and Feb. 1 to replace any personnel in Viet Nam who by that date still will be under 18.

A defense official told newsmen that it is estimated the Army has about 400 to 600 servicemen under 18 in Viet Nam, the Marines have 228 and the Navy has about 30 at shore stations in South Viet Nam. The Air Force has reported one man under 18 in the area so far.

The order does not affect personnel "on seat duty in contiguous water areas" which means aboard ships of the 7th Fleet operating off Viet Nam or to overseas assignments other than Viet Nam.

The armed forces are instructed to cancel or change orders for any 17-year-old presently destined for Viet Nam and to "divert them to other appropriate assignments." This can mean assignments to units in the United States or to overseas units in other places.

Industry Conference Draws Two A&M Men

Two Texas A&M representatives will participate in the "Area-Industry Conference" Nov. 17-18 in Atlanta, Ga.

They are James R. Bradley, head of A&M's Industrial Economics Research Division, and W. H. Allio, assistant research economist for the Texas Transportation Institute.

Dining Halls Close For Thanksgiving

Col. Fred W. Dollar, food service director, announced Duncan and Sbisna Dining Halls will be closed Nov. 26-28 for the Thanksgiving holidays.

The dining halls will be closed for the Christmas holidays following the evening meal, Dec. 18 to Jan. 3.

Memorial Student Center dining facilities will also be closed for the holidays from Nov. 26-28 and from Dec. 22-Jan. 3.

Ticket Setup Explained For Cash Performance

Betsy Fisher, Town Hall advisor, explained Tuesday the ticket setup for the Johnny Cash show Nov. 24 after the Memorial Student Center Council approved the concert Monday night.

"Because the Cash show is considered a Town Hall extra, all persons attending the performance must purchase advance tickets," Mrs. Fisher said.

The Cash show was strongly criticized Monday night by Joe Buser, former students representative on the MSC Council. Buser protested a decision by the MSC Executive Committee to allow Cash to perform here.

"The mention of Johnny Cash will give people something to talk about," Buser said "and the former students are against him appearing here."

Cash was released on \$1,500 bond Oct. 6 after being charged with smuggling and concealing illicit drugs. The country and western singer was arrested at El Paso International Airport after a flight from Mexico.

The Executive Committee asked the council's opinion on the show and the council voted to allow Cash to perform here despite Buser's protests.

Tickets for Cash's Town Hall performance will go on sale in the Student Programs Office in the lower level of the MSC at noon Monday, and at all Bryan-College Station banks Tuesday morning.

"What most persons will have to realize is that everybody must buy a ticket in order to attend the show," Mrs. Fisher emphasized.

"Even though they might have an activity book or a season ticket, they must still buy tickets."

Tickets will sell for \$3, for reserved seats; \$2.50, for general admission; \$1.50, for A&M students with activity books and

season ticket holders; \$1, for date tickets; and \$1.50, for public school students.

Students with activity books and season tickets holders will receive general admission tickets for the reduced price.

"Just because a person has a season reserved tickets, it doesn't

mean he will get a reserved seat," said Mrs. Fisher.

"If he buys the \$1.50 ticket he will only get a general admission seat. He will have to pay \$3 for a reserved seat."

Reserved seats will be sold on first-come, first served basis, Mrs. Fisher said.

Prof, Committee Study Pollution

Dr. John C. Calhoun, vice president for programs at Texas A&M, is a panel member of President Johnson's Science Advisory Committee which has proposed a tax for those who pollute man's environment.

The panel made the recommendation in a report submitted to the President Sunday. The other Texan was Norman Hackerman of the University of Texas. Calhoun also chaired an eight-man sub-panel for a study of solid wastes.

"One of the main functions of the panel is to assist in drawing public attention to the basic nature and seriousness of the pollution problem," Calhoun said. "We hope the public will come to recognize more readily the individual's right to have a clean, high quality environment."

Calhoun defined solid waste to include garbage, trash, demolition waste and junk autos.

"The panel was struck by the magnitude of the nation's solid waste problems," he said. "Each person accounts for four and one-half pounds of solid waste per day in the United States. And it costs the nation \$2.5 billion a year to handle."

Calhoun said the committee suggested more use of technology in finding new ways to reduce high costs of disposal.

"In our affluent society, we try to find things we can use up . . . we are salvaging less and less because it helps out economy," he noted, "but the result is bigger solid waste loads."

"We could possibly grind more materials like paper and plastics for disposal through sewage waste," he said. "This would cut down on collections but would enlarge the sewage waste problem."

The panel also suggested a tax on dealers to make it uneconomical to keep junk cars in storage. Another proposal was for research on recycling junk cars into steel.

Calhoun noted President Johnson seemed pleased with the report's thoroughness.

"The President said the administration will move rapidly along the way to a cleaner world," he said.

Ags To Observe Veteran's Day

Special observance of Veteran's Day will be held Thursday at Texas A&M.

Ceremonies in the two Corps of Cadet areas and at memorials at the west gate and Spence Park will commence at 12:10 p.m.

The event will be coordinated through the public address system at Kyle Field over which "Silver Taps" will be played.

Corps units in Sbisna and Duncan Dining Hall areas will present arms while wreaths are placed on the World War I Memorial at the West Gate and the Spanish-American War Memorial in Spence Park.

Cadet Colonel of the Corps Ralph B. Filburn of San Angelo and Deputy Corps Commander John D. Gay of Houston will lay the wreaths.

Following a brief commentary on the Veteran's Day observance, "Silver Taps" will be broadcast and national flags in the areas will be raised to full staff.

A campus-wide period of silence has been requested during the ceremony.

Operation Opportunity Continues To Grow

"Operation Opportunity" classes are growing at Neal and Anson Jones Junior High Schools. The classes increased from 136 Monday to 191 Thursday evening.

Registration of new students will be accepted at both places through this week. Classes meet from 7 to 9 p.m. on Monday and Thursday.

Farm, Ranch Credit School To Discuss Ag Finance

Texas A&M's 14th annual Farm and Ranch Credit School which opened today and runs through Friday will discuss problems and progress in the agricultural finance field.

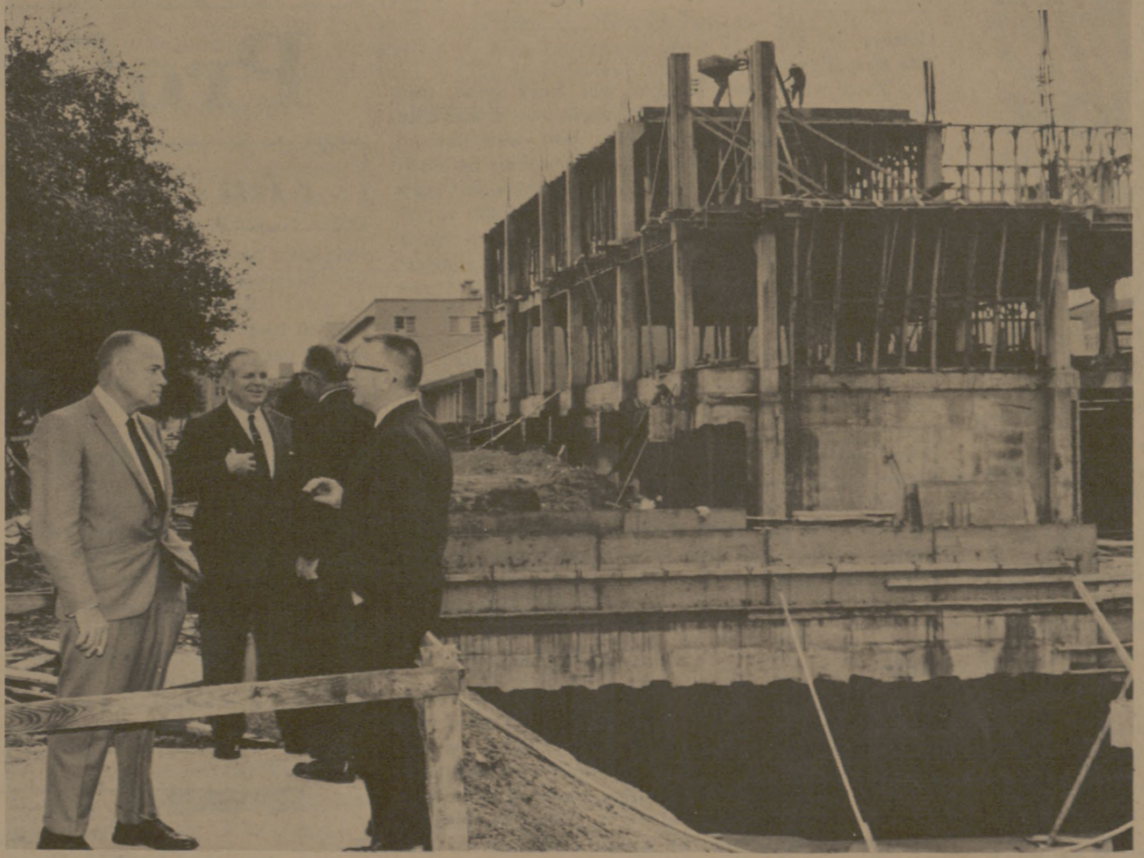
Rex P. Kennedy, economist in management in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Sociology, said the school is held to provide commercial bankers timely information to help them

AEC, NSF Award Grants To A&M

Combined Atomic Energy Commission and National Science Foundation grants totalling \$30,028 will support the 1965 summer institute in radioisotope technology at Texas A&M.

Fred J. Benson, dean of the College of Engineering said the institute is a cooperative effort of the Department of Nuclear Engineering, Nuclear Science Center and the Activation Analysis Research Laboratory.

NSF will contribute \$18,350, the AEC \$11,678 for the Institute in its fifth year at A&M. Dr. Donald E. Emon, Institute director, said 25 participants have been approved for the summer program.



NASA OFFICIALS VISIT SPACE CENTER

Two NASA research officials visited Texas A&M recently to inspect progress on the \$1.9 million Space Science Center under construction. Harry White, head of A&M's Space Technology Division, left, discusses

the building with Dr. Donald Holmes. President Earl Rudder talks with Dr. T. L. K. Smull, back to camera, director of grants and research contracts in the Washington, D. C., NASA office.