Israeli gunners shelled the city of Port Said Wednesday and air, Egyptian sources said.

Israeli planes also swung over Jordan Wednesday, striking at a suspected guerrilla base.

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Witnesses said several buildings and houses were destroyed or badly damaged in the Port Said barrage. There was no word immediately on casualties. While Israeli and Egyptian heavy guns blazed across the

# Laird Reports ease Cost Of C5A **Underestimated**

WASHINGTON (AP) - Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird said Wednesday a government investigating team has verified only about 25 per cent of the reported \$2.1 billion excess cost on the C5A aircraft.

Laird told a reporter the General Accounting Office team which has been studying the books of Lockheed Aircraft Corp. estimates the cost of the 120plane program exceeded advance estimates by about \$550 million.

This compares with an overrun of about \$450 million as comnt finding puted by Laird's Defense Department analysts and a \$350 million figure used by the Air Force, he said.

> "There is no \$2-billion overrun on this plane," Laird said. "Over-run" is a term used by the Pentagon to describe the amount by which a project exceeds estimated or budgeted

sh oils and The new figures could help quiet some of the controversy ized a secover the soaring expenses involved in Lockheed's construction of the world's biggest air-

> Laird said the numbers have been turned over to a congressional committee which is examining management of the multibillion C5A program.

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**LOUPOT'S** 

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS embattled waterway, Israeli planes tried to invade Egyptian strategic northern Suez Canal airspace above the port city but were driven off by Egyptian tried to attack the city from the fighter planes, these witnesses

> THERE WAS no confirmation of the Port Said shelling from Egyptian military headquarters or from Israeli military authori-

> Until this week, Port Said had been the only major Egyptian canal city unscarred in the twomonth artillery war between Israeli and Egyptian forces along the waterway

Israeli intelligence officers reported weeks ago that Egypt was evacuating residents from the city in preparation for a pessible thrust across the canal.

In the Israeli jet attack on a suspected Arab guerrilla base inside Jordan, authorities in Amman said six persons were

A SPOKESMAN in Tel Aviv said the planes attacked Tabaqat Fahl six miles across the Jordan River cease-fire line opposite the Beisan Valley settlement of Kfar Ruppin. He said the planes all returned safely after the 15-minute raid, fourth this month against suspected guerrilla bases in Jordan.

A Jordanian communique said the casualties were three men and three women, but that no military personnel were killed. There was no mention in the communique of any guerrillas in the target area.

IN A letter to the U. N. Security Council, Israel said Wednesday that the Jordanian government is financing "general terror warfare" in Israeli-occupied territory and "must, therefore, be held responsible for the consequences.

The Suez Canal fighting centered along the waterway's northern sector.

Egypt said Israeli commandos tried to cross the canal in rubber boats in the early morning hours, but were repulsed. In apparent retaliation for their failure to land on the Egyptian-held bank, the Israelis opened up with artillery, an Egyptian military spokesman said

TWO ISRAELI soldiers were killed and one was wounded in the day-long fighting that followed along a 20-mile front from of the canal, Israel authorities

The day's hostilities raised Israel's official toll in two months of cross-canal fighting to 31 dead and 60 wounded.

In the occupied Golan Heights shot and killed an Arab infiltrator suspected of blowing up a hut, Israel said. The incident occurred at Kfar Elma along the stopped for directions and was cease-fire line

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THE BATTALION

Thursday, May 15, 1969

College Station, Texas



VIETNAM HONOREES Special guests for the annual Parents Day review included Pfc. Lester Chadban, Spec. 4 Robert Scott and former Navy officer William R. Pechacek. Though wheelchair bound, the trio rose each time colors passed the reviewing stand. Army Maj. E. S. Solymosy (left) of the commandant's office remained with the special visitors and Charles W. Vail, senior of Alexandria, Va., served as their campus escort. Chadban and Scott are hospitalized at Brooke Army Medical Center. Pechacek (far right) visited from Coronado,

# Cadets Arrange Ceremonies For Disabled VN Veterans

Brooke Army Medical Center wheel chair victim was still in and a medically-discharged Navy officer were special guests for Mother's Day activities here.

Army Spec. 4 Robert Scott of Beaumont and Pfc. Lester Chadban of Trinidad were invited by President Earl Rudder to participate as guests of honor.

The two Vietnam returnees hospitalized in San Antonio were joined at the reviewing stand by William R. Pechacek of Coronado, Calif.

A 1962 A&M graduate later commissioned in the Navy, Pechel Qantara to the northern end acek had visited in Tyler and decided to check in at A&M.

HE WAS severely injured several years ago when he and six enlisted men charged and captured a camp of 20 Viet Cong. He was hospitalized a year with a punctured lung and of Syria, an Israeli army patrol ear drums and head injuries that required a hand-sized fiberglass patch.

Pechacek drove on campus,

Because the Navy veteran and his car, John S. Brady, Squadron 1 freshman and education major of Palos Verdes, Calif., didn't Graviss.

realize he was disabled. The wounded serviceman, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" device for valor and the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with Silver Star, stayed with Brady overnight and was escorted around by the freshman.

PECHACEK is a "tremendous example of courage," an official of the Commandant's Office remarked. The totally disabled Navy officer has through his own physical therapy program learned to walk with crutches and to

"He is determined to gain complete mobility through a selfimposed program of swimming and weight lifting," reported Maj. E. S. Solymosy.

Formerly of Boerne, Pechacek. 28, studied zoology at A&M and was a diver on the swimming

Scott, 21, and Chadban, 26, at-Corps review other functions as a result of efforts by Lawrence P. (Larry) Graviss, Corps operation officer, of San Antonio.

IDEA FOR the visit bloomed while he was working in the Tower of the Americas at Hemis-Fair for William H. Holtzinger. The tower operations director had worked with Brooke patients previously and arranged their

Lt. Gen. Harry H. Critz, Fourth Army commander, supplied transportation.

Scott and Chadban were briefed on admissions, veterans affairs, student aid and student life at A&M.

They were guests for a luncheon attended by Col. Jim H. Mc-

Coy, commandant; Congressional Medal of Honor winner Clarence E. Sasser, Dick Bernard of the president's office, Solymosy and

AFTER VIEWING a previous Corps review, Holtzinger felt Vietnam returnees should have opportunity to visit A&M, view the Corps, perhaps become students and have further reason to realize their sacrifices for the U. S. are not unrecognized and unappreciated.

In a letter to Graviss, Holtzinger expressed regret he did not "become a proud member of the Corps of Cadets."

"Looking out over the parade field at the Corps, I had a feeling of great pride . . . that the future of our country, the preservation of our heritage and the bearers of our tradition was before me," he wrote. "I also felt anger to think that some of our society has the nerve to generalize that young men of our day are going sour, that they have no feeling of dedication to their country, no sense of direction, no values, no pride of themselves and that traditions are out of

"I say to those people," Holtzinger added, "go to Texas A&M and see the future of our country.'



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