

U.S. Pilots Fly Jungle Run To Supply Laotian Army With Equipment

Vientiane, Laos — (UPI) — Perhaps the key men in the Laotian civil war are a group of American civilian pilots flying chartered planes and helicopters to supply the Royal Laotian Army.

They are costing the United States government an estimated \$30,000 a day, according to informed U.S. officials here. The Programs Evaluation Office (PEO), America's military advisory group in Laos, refused to disclose the exact cost.

The PEO people said this affected the security of the Laotian government.

The pilots and planes actually have been flying in Southeast Asia for several years. The pilots describe the flights as their "milk runs."

The tag came after they began flying a considerable amount of food, liquor and other supplies from Bangkok to American installations in Vientiane and more remote places of Laos. The pilots also make "milk runs" to other parts of Indo-China.

But they have a dangerous job today, flying World War II vintage planes, mostly C46's and C47's, to hot spots in this jungle kingdom.

Old Hat
War is old hat to these pilots who usually bivouac in Bangkok's plush air conditioned hotels every night and

take off each day for Laos about the time the banks are opening.

Some of the pilots can relate first-hand tales of the Flying Tigers of pre-World War II fame. And most could boast, if they were boastful types, of flying in World War II and in Korea — or perhaps of the more dangerous days at Dien Bien Phu and in the Indo-China War when they flew unarmed planes on daring missions just as they are doing today.

The pilots shun publicity and the last thing they like to see is their name in a newspaper. They just like to fly their planes and collect their money — not a large sum considering the risks they are taking.

It is just another flying day for most of them whether they are maneuvering through some of Laos' rugged mountain peaks to drop "ammunition" to a beleaguered royal army unit while shells from rebel guns whistle too close

Emergency Surgery Fails Medical Worker

Tokyo — (UPI) — Lois Boyce, 32, American medical worker who was stricken by a brain tumor while she was serving needy Indonesians, died Wednesday despite emergency surgery following a 5,600-mile airlift.

Miss Boyce, who left her friends in Ames, Iowa, and Berkeley, Calif., to work aboard the American mercy ship Hope in isolated eastern Indonesia, was stricken aboard the vessel last Thursday.

for comfort or whether they are bringing in coffee for the

American embassy commissary in Vientiane.

They like this life. And despite the dangers, some of

them often find it dull.

One of those who found those "milk runs" dull was Allen Lawrence Pope, who is now sitting in an Indonesian jail facing the prospect of a firing squad for participating in a 1958 rebel uprising

against the Jakarta government.

Pope, a B26 bomber pilot during the Korean War, gave up the "quiet life" flying the Southeast Asian "milk run" three years ago to temporarily join up with the Indonesian rebels. He was shot down and sentenced to death for his alleged participation in the uprising.

The pilots do not participate in any combat operations here, although occasionally one of them flies a Laotian army officer over rebel positions so he can direct the artillery fire when forward ground observers are unable to do so.

They don't talk about it much, but most of these fliers have had more than their share of narrow escapes. Some have just gotten their planes off the ground in remote villages as the rebel forces attacked. Some have had their engines shot out while swooping in low to air-drop gasoline or ammunition to Laotian army troops.

When the rebels attacked and captured Ban Nam Boe, some 40 miles northeast of Luang Prabang, one pilot was getting his plane loaded as

FRIENDLY TYPES
Oxnard, Calif. — (UPI) — Burglars stole between \$300 and \$500 Tuesday from the safe of the Ventura county animal shelter without arousing a bark from any of the 100 dogs there.

"Not a watchdog in the bunch," a sheriff's deputy sadly observed.

The first cotton mill in the United States was founded at Waltham, Mass., about 1814.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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CHILDREN OFFERED — Darrell Barr, 32, en away" the other two. The children are, from left, Archie, 4; Mary, 7, and Clayton, 8. The other two are boys, aged 2 and 5. (UPI Telephoto)

Use of Santo Hall To Be Restricted

Use of the new Army reserve center, Santo Hall, 701 North Columbus ave., Medford, will be restricted to a one-time basis, Maj. Ray E. Stewart, Medford subsector commander, has announced.

The decision to restrict use of the hall was made because of increased use by non-profit organizations.

Organizations now using the facility include the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Medford Home Extension unit, the Southern Oregon chapter of the National Association of Retired Civil Employees, Blue Star Mothers club, and the Navy Mothers club.

Major Stewart said requests for use of the hall must be submitted in writing to the Medford subsector commander, 701 North Columbus ave., for consideration by a reserve center board of officers.

School News

Howard School

In Mrs. Dorothy Arney's first grade room we have a new girl, Janice Hickey, who moved here from California.

Our room mothers, Mrs. Trueblood and Mrs. Madden, gave a Valentine's day party for us.

We are getting ready for the PE demonstration at the PTA meeting for March. We will do a story play.

In Mrs. Evelyn Winninghams room, we have been studying a b o u t community helpers in social studies, and weather and machines in science. We have seen study films, read stories and performed experiments.

We went to the Medford weather bureau and airport to see different machines used there. We also went inside a United Airlines plane. We are writing and reading many stories about our trip. We have made pictures showing what we learned.

We have had many extra activities during February in Miss Mary Klocker's first grade room.

We heard stories about Abraham Lincoln and built a cabin with Lincoln logs which Terry Steinmetz brought to school.

On Valentine day our room mothers, Mrs. Moser and Mrs. Steinmetz, gave us a party.

We have heard stories about George Washington and the making of our first flag. We colored pictures of our first flag and made little hatchets with candy stick handles.

The hyacinth bulbs we each planted in milk cartons are beginning to bloom.

Our class is rehearsing for our part in the PE demonstration.

In Mrs. Flossie Murray's room in the fourth grade children have spent some time studying famous people born in February. We studied Lincoln and Washington and we also learned some things about Edison, Lindbergh and Longfellow.

Our room mothers, Mrs. Burns and Mrs. Marshall, gave us a Valentine party. They brought decorated cookies and cupcakes to each with jello and whipped cream.

We made paper mache snow men and dressed them. We also made paper mache dishes over heart shaped clay molds. We painted them with red enamel and give them to our parents for valentines.

Jane Burns is our room representative to Student Body Council for the second semester.

The third graders in Mrs. Huldah Fisher's room have been studying "Messages We See and Hear" in social studies. James Dusenbury brought a "walkie-talkie" to school. He had made it himself from two coffee cans, two nails and a piece of string.

We used fingerprint in art. We will use our fingerprints to make some pretty flowers.

In Mrs. Audrey Berry's third grade we have been learning a lot about the earth, moon, sun and stars. Our weekly reader science supplement was about the moon too.

We have all learned our four's in multiplication.

In Mrs. Alina McDaniel's second grade we have been studying about machines. We found out that a small child can lift a heavy weight with the use of a lever. Judy Pierce was able to lift the largest boy in the class with the use of a lever.

We have our room freshly painted.

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It's nice to know your legs can look so neat for so little—with full-fashioned 15-gauge, 60-denier nylon hosiery... and you can save your budget too! Flattering dull finish that complements every costume. Sizes 8½ to 11 in shades of gala and confetti. Proportioned for perfect fit. Hurry... don't miss!

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Penney's Mezzanine Floor



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