

12,000 Americans Fighting Many Years War in South Viet Nam

(Editor's Note: Twelve thousand American troops are fighting determined Communist Viet Cong guerrillas in South Viet Nam. How soon will it end? What are the prospects for victory, or defeat? In the following dispatch, a veteran UPI correspondent who covered the war in Viet Nam three years ago, now returns and tells why he thinks the fighting will never end with a decisive military victory.)

By ARTHUR J. DOMMEN
United Press International
Saigon - (UPI) - Americans, who are now deeply involved in South Viet Nam, are accustomed to thinking in terms of short, decisive wars.

But the Vietnamese peasant, who has watched continuous troop movements and heard sporadic gunfire around his bamboo hut for the past 20 years, knows that ending the struggle between the pro-Western government of South Viet Nam and the pro-Communist Viet Cong guerrillas is a matter of years, not months.

Viet Nam, once part of Indo-China in the mighty French empire of Southeast Asia, is a violent land.

The Vietnamese peasant knows that the Communist government of North Viet Nam sympathizes with the insurgents fighting against the regime of South Viet Nam President Ngo Dinh Diem. He may be only dimly aware, if at all, that North Viet Nam secretly directs and supports the guerrilla fighters in the south.

The struggle has more the semblance of an insurrection than an invasion, in any case. And the North Viet Nam government in Hanoi is careful to keep it that way.

Violent by Night
Today, as eight years ago in the fight against the French, the black-clad peasant in his ricefield is peaceable by day but often violent by night. And, again as in the Indo-China war, it is the peasant who forms the raw material of the struggle, and is its chief victim.

He has thrown in his lot with neither the Diem government, nor the shadow administration established in his village by the Viet Cong. His lack of uniform and insignia permits him to be a soldier without commitment. He can play one side against the other, or both against the middle, in order to save himself and his family from destruction.

The Vietnamese peasant, thus caught in the middle, may be disillusioned with Diem's promises of land reform, or the actions of the government-appointed district chief.

His support for the guerrillas may consist only of a discreet tipoff to the local Viet Cong about government troop movements.

May Feed Agents
On the other hand, he may have lost a relative in a government "mopping up operation," and may feed, clothe and hide Viet Cong agents in his house. More often, the Viet Cong holds some compelling element of blackmail over his head which forces him to collaborate with them.

This is the kind of soldier on which the clandestine political coordinating body of the insurrection depends. The national liberation front, formed in December, 1960,

has no leading figure of any wide international reputation. It is unified by common opposition to President Diem. Its leaders are not tongue-tied functionaries of North Viet Nam—because the Viet Minh learned during the long fight against the French that success in guerrilla warfare depends on an unshakable popular support. The insurrection must take root among, and stem from, the local inhabitants.

Make Own Guns

This is why, eight years after France's defeat at Dien Bien Phu, Vietnamese insurgents are still fabricating crude rifles and pistols from scrap iron in the swamps and jungles of the Mekong Delta. This correspondent inspected a variety of such weapons, the best that crude materials and tools could produce. But each was a far cry, indeed, from American or French firearms that North Viet Nam could furnish by the truck load.

In their propaganda sheets distributed in South Vietnamese villages, the insurgents avoid the use of Communist jargon, far too complicated and remote for the average peasant to understand. Instead they stress two major themes comprehensible to every one: liberation and unity.

It is liberation from the tyranny of Diem's palace police and his sometimes corrupt henchmen in the rural areas. It is liberation, above all, from the Americans who they say are unlawfully occupying the land of the Vietnamese people, just as the French did before the Japanese war.

Unity of People

It is the unity of the common people against the so-called American-Diem collaborators, the unity of the uneducated masses in the face of the privileged few of Saigon.

The idea that the struggle against Diem must be a long drawn-out one, and the people must wage it in the face of terrible difficulties, is well illustrated in a captured document made available to this correspondent by an American source. It is a progress report on winning the support of a particular village in the Mekong Delta.

"In the simplest terms, the party's political line must be based on the needs and interests and rights of the people," the report said. "These are concrete and plain to see. On these needs and interests we must build, educating the people, mobilizing them to rise

Commercial-Free TV Claims Viewers

London - (UPI) - The British Broadcasting Corporation claimed today it has won more viewers than its commercial rival for the first time since 1955. BBC forbids commercials.

The corporation said that in the period from October through December last year owners of sets able to pick up both BBC and the commercial element of black-and-white television had spent 52 per cent of their viewing time watching BBC.

The BBC said it had surpassed its commercial competitor without cutting serious programs.

and join the revolution." There is a big difference between merely obtaining a man's passive acceptance and winning over his loyalty so he is ready to risk death against the well-armed soldiers of Diem's army, the report states; and the Viet Cong can never claim success until the masses are fully mobilized in their political outlook.

LEGAL NOTICES

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Earl M. Miller
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E. H. Taylor
County Commissioner
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County Commissioner

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Sealed bids will be received by the Jackson County Court at the Courthouse at Medford, Oregon, on or before 10:30 A.M. on the 25th day of January, 1963, for the furnishing of furnace oil and Pacific 200 fuel oil to the County Road Department for the period of February 1, 1963, to January 31, 1964, inclusive. Instructions to bidders and specifications can be obtained at the office of the County Clerk or office of the County Engineer.

JACKSON COUNTY COURT:
Earl M. Miller
County Judge
E. H. Taylor
County Commissioner
Donald E. Faber
County Commissioner

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER FOR SALE
SOUTH FISH LAKE
Oral auction will be received by the Forest Supervisor, or his authorized representative at the office of the Forest Supervisor, Post Office Building, Medford, Oregon, beginning at 10:30 A.M., February 18, 1963, for all merchantable timber marked or designated for cutting on an area embracing 200 acres, more or less, within Sections 1, 2, 11, T. 37 S., R. 4 E., W.M. 1, surveyed in the Rogue River National Forest, Jackson County, Oregon. The estimated volumes are: 1,115 M board feet of Douglas-fir and pine species; 1,152 M board feet of white fir and other species. The minimum acceptable bid per M board feet is as follows: Douglas-fir and pine species, \$18.45; white fir and other species, \$20.75. This includes the following rates: M board feet for stumpage including deposit for sale area better than \$2.00 base rate plus an additional \$12.90 for Douglas-fir and pine species; \$2.00 base rate plus an additional \$2.20 for white fir and other species and \$2.35 for slash disposal for all species. The stumpage rates payable for each species will be increased by the amortization rate in effect for that species when the unamortized estimated cost of the main haul roads has been amortized by timber sales. The unamortized estimated cost is \$21,674.74. Amortization rates are: Douglas-fir and pine species, \$11.10 per M board feet; white fir and other species, \$4.77 per M board feet. Amortization of estimated main haul road costs is computed on 80 per cent of the estimated timber volume. The purchaser may request that the contract provide for more rapid amortization of the estimated cost of roads which must be constructed before normal logging operations will be possible. The prices bid for stumpage shall be considered as tentative rates subject to quarterly calendar adjustment upward or downward by 0.5 of the difference between the average of the monthly Douglas-fir Region Index, as calculated by the Forest Service or the Western Price Association Lumber Price Index for the three previous months, and the following base indices: Douglas-fir and pine species, 100.15(C); white fir and other species, 92.80(A). Such adjustments in the price for stumpage shall be applicable to timber sales during the three-month period following the quarter for which the adjustment is computed. In no event, however, shall the payment rates for each quarter be less than the base rates as stated above. When the adjusted rates by species are lower than the base rates, the difference between the total dollar value of the timber cut at adjusted rates and at base rates will be recorded for each species. The stumpage rate for any species will not be increased above the base rate until the subsequent adjusted rates above the base rate for all species develop an accumulated total dollar value in excess of the total recorded unamortized difference for all species. Sealed bids will be publicly opened and posted at the office of the Forest Supervisor, at 10:30 A.M., on February 18, 1963. All those who submit a satisfactory sealed bid will be permitted immediately to continue auction bidding. A money order, bank draft, cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$3,000.00 must accompany each bid to be applied to the purchase price, refunded, or retained for application to any claim for damages, according to the conditions of sale. If requested by the purchaser contract terms will permit felling of timber in advance of payment up to the value of the performance bond. If an oral bid is declared to be high at the closing of the auction, the bidder must immediately confirm the oral bid by submitting it in writing on a Forest Service bid form. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Forest Service bid forms for use in submitting sealed bids and full information concerning the timber, the conditions of sale and the submission of bids should be obtained from the District Ranger, Ashland, Oregon, or the Forest Supervisor, Medford, Oregon before bids are submitted.

ESTATE OF JOHN J. KENNEDY
NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT
No. 11-412
In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, For the County of Jackson, Probate Department.
In the Matter of the Estate of John J. Kennedy, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, as Executor of the Estate of John J. Kennedy, deceased, has filed his final account in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Jackson County and that Monday the 18th day of February, 1963, at the hour of 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of said day and the court room of said court has been appointed by said court at the time and place for the hearing of objections thereto and settlement thereof.
Dated and first published January 24, 1963.
J. W. COWLING
Buhlinger & Dressler
Attorneys at Law
2321 S. E. 122nd Avenue
Portland, Oregon

SUMMONS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR JACKSON COUNTY.
MARGARET LOU DAVIS-MARCELL, Plaintiff,
vs.
VICTOR CULLEN DAVIS-MARCELL, Defendant.
To VICTOR CULLEN DAVIS-MARCELL, the above named Defendant:
In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit within four weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, and if you fail to so appear and answer, said complaint will be taken as confessed and judgment will be rendered thereon in favor of the plaintiff and against you. A decree of this Court forever dissolving the bonds of matrimony now existing between plaintiff and defendant and granting plaintiff a divorce from defendant, with decree awarding plaintiff sole and permanent care, control and custody of the minor children, namely: Ricky Davis-Marcell, aged 13, and Terry Davis-Marcell, aged 11.
The date of the order for publication of this summons is January 2, 1963. The time prescribed for publication of this summons is once each week for four consecutive weeks. The date of the first publication of this summons is January 3, 1963.
JOHN PATRICK COONEY
Of Attorneys for Plaintiff
1005 E. Main
Medford, Oregon

NOTICE OF HEARING UPON FINAL ACCOUNT
No. 11-412
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR JACKSON COUNTY.
Probate Department.
In the Matter of the Estate of HARVEY K. WHALEY, SR., Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that Jeneve Taylor Bray, administratrix with the will annexed of the Estate of Harvey K. Whaley, Sr., Deceased, has filed in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Jackson County her First and Final Account and Report as such administratrix with the will annexed of said estate, at the Courtroom of the said Court at the Courthouse, Medford, Jackson County, Oregon, has been fixed as the time and place for hearing of objections to said First and Final Account and Report, and all persons having objections thereto are hereby required to make or file the same on or before said time, hereinafter specified.
DATED January 3, 1963.
Jeneve Taylor Bray,
Administratrix,
with the will annexed
Robert D. Danneis, Attorney
Medford, Oregon.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Jackson.
In the Matter of the Estate of WINIFRED C. HARNER, deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the undersigned has been appointed and qualified as Executor of the estate of Winifred C. Harner, deceased, and all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same, with proper vouchers, at the office of Donald R. Demman, 1005 E. Main Street, Medford, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof.
Dated this 17th day of January, 1963.
John W. Brenner, Executor
Donald R. Demman, Attorney for Executor

At the very beginning of the Viet Cong cadres' political work among the villagers, they found that they had to forge weapons and lay booby traps by themselves. Later, after months of patient indoctrination, the local inhabitants helped them.

This is how it is told: "The people thought that the laying of naily boards (metal or bamboo spikes set in marsh land to pierce the shoes and feet of army troops) was illegal and would result in terror and reprisals by the soldiers."

"In light of this, the party members laid the naily boards themselves, while endeavoring at the same time to educate the people."

Soldier Injured

"The party laid more naily boards than ever. Once, during a terror sweep, one of the government soldiers was injured by a naily board. This caused the soldiers to withdraw. Party members correctly regarded this as a success and held a mass meeting at which it was explained that laying of naily boards had prevented the entry of the enemy. The cadres declared that if the people did not lay naily boards the enemies would come to collect land rents, levy taxes, impose corvee labor, and draft young men into the army. The party then introduced the slogan: 'One naily board for each ricefield.'"

According to the report, the

people were eventually convinced to lay down naily boards themselves to keep the government troops out of their village. As a result, the army troops found the villagers less and less cooperative and, after several instances of getting spikes through their feet, they left the village completely alone.

Abandon Village

The village, in effect, was abandoned to the Communists. By methods such as these, the Viet Cong village and district officers enlist the support of the peasants, exploit-

ing their class, professions, and even individual grievances. Because the Viet Cong live inside the villages, they know each villager by name and they know his habits and what he is thinking.

This is why the harsh and-fro struggle for loyalty is comparable more to a cancer than to a frontal war which can be won by driving the enemy into the sea or across the 17th parallel into North Viet Nam. The enemy is within, and South Viet Nam today

is deeply afflicted with this cancerous infestation.

Pressed by the success of American arms against their elusive but lightly equipped units, the Viet Cong face a choice. They can either make an all-out, win-or-die fight to overthrow the Diem government, or else disappear, temporarily at least, like fish into the murky depths of the sea of peasants and await a more favorable moment to reappear on the surface, as the anti-French Viet Minh did in 1954. The latter seems likely.

The cancerous infection can only be permanently eradicated by cutting its roots. The roots of the Viet Cong lie in peasant discontent, distrust and fear.

As long as the Viet Cong can make use of the old Viet Minh "mystique" which impelled fifteen-year-old youths to fight French infantry and tanks with bamboo spears, then all the American assistance in the world short of outright occupation of the country will not put down the rebellion.

Where the expensive arms can make their mark in South Viet Nam is by giving the peasant the confidence to refuse to help the Viet Cong in his village when they come to him.

The answer is not in the mud fort, barbed wire mentality (3,000 tons of barbed wire were strung at Dien Bien Phu). Nor is it in armed repression alone, even by the best of modern methods. The answer lies in the relationship between the peasant and the government.

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VIET NAM BATTLEGROUND—Saigon's Viet Nam is battleground for 12,000 American troops fighting elusive Communist Viet Cong guerrillas. Dispatch by Arthur J. Dommen describes that battleground and tells why fighting may never end with a sharp, decisive victory. (UPI)