

DOD Revises Overseas School Eligibility

S&S Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Dependent schools in all overseas areas have received several eligibility revisions from the Defense Department, and officials here anticipate significant changes when classes resume next fall.

For the first time, U.S. dependents of government employees overseas are authorized:

— Attendance, to include completion of the current school year during which the sponsor is transferred or dies on active duty, at DOD schools or in tuition-free schools.

— Attendance, for as long as the dependent's sponsor is declared by a foreign power or is declared missing in action, at

DOD schools or tuition-free schools at government expense.

— Attendance at DOD schools by dependents of non-DOD, but government-employed sponsors, such as State Department personnel, on a space-required, tuition-paying basis. Formerly, they were enrolled when school space was available.

— Space-available, tuition-free education for military dependents, when the sponsor is serving an unaccompanied duty tour, and decides to transport his family overseas at personal expense. In effect, his children's schooling will depend upon specific school enrollment and capacity, as well as command policy.

Pentagon officials involved in the Overseas Dependent School Program reported that the new provisions came about after several incidents last year indicated new measures be enacted to ensure that U.S. youngsters overseas get adequate assistance from DOD.

In Germany, for example, the DOD schools at Wiesbaden last year appeared to be so overcrowded in the summer before the beginning of fall classes, that school officials could not confirm until late August whether children of State Department employees would be enrolled. Under the new directive, the children, even of non-DOD, but U.S. employed, parents, will get space-required, but tuition-pay-

ing, treatment from DOD schools.

In other cases, however, a serviceman on an unaccompanied tour, such as Thailand, Vietnam, Korea or Okinawa, may decide to bring his family overseas at personal expense. In such cases where the family was not authorized government travel, DOD formerly took no responsibility for enrolling dependent children, either in short-tour areas, or unaccompanied at other overseas locations, such as Europe.

Now, however, they can be enrolled free, if there is space available at the schools, and it doesn't conflict with command policy.

The Defense Department is continuing an earlier policy for foreign-based servicemen and families, where the children may remain in an overseas DOD school while the serviceman completes an assignment to Vietnam or some other overseas area where dependents are not allowed.

Besides military and civilian employees of the government, the dependent education directive, authorizing space-available, tuition-paying schooling, applies to dependents of American Red Cross personnel, employees of non-appropriated fund activities, contract technical service personnel and contract maintenance personnel.

Tiger Div. Kills 167 in Operation

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — The Korean Tiger Div.'s 26th Regt. has killed 167 enemy soldiers in a 10-day operation near Song Cau, about 190 miles southeast of Da Nang, ROK military spokesmen said here Friday.

The operation, dubbed Hae San Jin, was launched July 7 as troops of the 1st Bn., 26th Regt., were helilifted into the Ong La Mountains.

The aim of the operation was to smash North Vietnamese forces reported in the area. Intelligence captured from local VC said that some North Vietnamese soldiers were regrouping and strengthening their underground cell system in Phu Yen Province.

During the operation, 73 weapons, including four crew-served, were captured. Six Koreans were killed and 18 others wounded.

Dearduff Wins By a Shade

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — Bunkermates usually have a lot in common — the same jobs, the same hopes, the same gripes. But two 101st Airborne Div. soldiers have carried coincidence further yet.

Pfcs. McKinley Dearduff and Marvin Shade knew for months that they would become fathers at about the same time. The big question was, who would be first?

While on radio watch recently, Dearduff was notified that he was the father of a nine-pound, four-ounce daughter. Minutes later the radio buzzed again with word that Shade had just become the father of a seven-pound, 14-ounce boy.

Dearduff looked at Shade and grinned, "They must have rehearsed it."



Slipup on Ice Skates?

A Vietnamese boy smiles happily after departing U.S. Marines distributed gifts to village children at Quat Xa near the Demilitarized Zone. But he must also have been puzzled—because his gift was a pair of ice skates. Vietnam, a tropical country, has never seen ice, snow or an artificial skating rink. The Marines, heading for Okinawa, were part of the 25,000-man U.S. troop redeployment. There was no explanation for the skates. (AP)

Allied Teamwork Builds Viet Road

By PFC. STEPHEN WARSH

S&S Staff Correspondent

TAY NINH CITY, Vietnam — To the children of Tay Ninh City, the road was where one stood to flash the V for victory sign to passing GIs—it had been there for as long as any of them could remember.

But men making speeches and snipping ribbons under colorful banners proclaiming Vietnamese-American-Filipino solidarity took over the road Wednesday.

Something was different. National highway 22 was now completely paved, from its beginning 50 miles away

in Saigon to its present terminus in Tay Ninh. So functionaries gathered in celebration of the event before an audience of civil servants and school children who fidgeted and fussed and generally seemed to wish they were elsewhere.

Meanwhile, scissors in hand, Luong The Sieu, Vietnamese Minister of Public Works, eagerly took first whack at cutting the ceremonial red and yellow ribbon that stretched across a segment of the road.

Brig. Gen. Ceferino S. Carreon of the Philippine Civic Action Group took a very careful snip, handed the official scissors to Col. Harold R. Parfitt, commanding officer of the 20th Engineer Brigade, who followed suit. Finally, the minister's deputy administered the coup de grace and the ribbon fluttered to the ground.

Philippine Civic Action group engineers began work on improving the road over a year ago, surveying and then laying the road's gravel sub-base. In April, American combat engineers from the 554th and 588th Bns. of the 20th Engineer Brigade dug drainage ditches and paved the road.

India Studies VC Bid

WASHINGTON (AP) — India's Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh says the question of recognition of the Viet Cong's provisional revolutionary government in the Republic of Vietnam is under consideration by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's government.

Says Ship Was Unfit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Westchester Rep. Richard Ottinger says the U.S. cruiser Boston, which is operating off Vietnam, has been hit by mechanical failures while in the war zone. He contended last May the ship was not fit for combat duty. It sailed for Vietnam May 22 despite Ottinger's plea to delay the sailing date.

Ottinger said the Navy has confirmed that six men were injured recently when a defective shell exploded in a gun. And he said crew members told him one or perhaps two of the ship's boilers had broken down.

Ottinger originally charged that the boilers didn't work properly and missiles fired during a training exercise didn't function.

Destroyer Ends Gunline Patrols

SAIGON (S&S) — The destroyer Mullinnix Friday completed the third and final gunline patrol of her current trip to Vietnam waters, U.S. Navy officials said.

For 83 days, the ship harassed Communist targets from the Demilitarized Zone to Cam Ranh Bay. The targets were generally about 10 miles from the muzzles of her five-inch naval rifles.

Safer in Vietnam?

TULSA, Okla. (UPI) — Maj. Ervin A. Gogdell, 33, who spent 11 months as a B52 pilot in Vietnam without ever being scratched, was shot through both legs Wednesday by an unknown assailant. He was listed in satisfactory condition at a Tulsa hospital.

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4 Surgical Rooms Are Up to the Minute

SAIGON (Special) — Four spacious operating rooms with the latest in modern surgical equipment provide the staff at Saigon's 3rd Field Hospital with the facilities to treat all but the most delicate heart patients under conditions equal to or better than those in stateside medical facilities.

Opened early last September, the surgery complex with its combined material center — a unique feature which provides

supplies to the hospital wards as well as the operating room — is the best in Vietnam according to its director, Maj. Irene Bartholemey.

"We have a staff of 17 who work on a 24-hour-a-day schedule," she said. "Since the new complex was opened, we have had about 3600 surgical cases. We are very fortunate to have an outstanding staff here with very high caliber physicians. We also have an excellent staff of

Vietnamese assistants."

American and Allied military forces as well as U.S. and Vietnamese civilians are treated in the operating room. Every conceivable type of operation has been performed by specialists in all the surgical fields.

"Ours is the best equipped operating room in Vietnam," Maj. Bartholemey said. "Except for a heart pump, we have all the equipment one will find in any operating room."

An important feature of the operating room staff's task, aside from saving lives, is its complete and comprehensive training program. On a continuing basis, both Vietnamese army medical personnel and members of local hospital staffs are trained in operating room procedures by 3rd Field Hospital technicians. The results of this training will provide new and better techniques for use by the Vietnamese medical profession.