

AMERICAN FORCES **afvn** VIETNAM NETWORK

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2 NO. 7

SEPTEMBER 1969

DEAR MOM,

Just a short note from the old Saigon Flash to let you know that all is well here at the war. Believe it or not, AFVN Headquarters is still on the air, even after we lost our great leader, LT George C. Lawrence. He's going back to pick up his Master's degree. He took his flack jacket, helmet, M-16 and some C-Rations, I guess he's looking for trouble from the 17-year old hippies there at Syracuse University. Our new man in the hot seat is LT Larry Brown from Detachment Seven. We are really looking forward to having him here at "Fun City East."

The people in the film library have really been wailing the time away with their big inventory, they requested both a shipment number and title of the films from the up-country stations, but so far Mom, not many have come in. Yes, we did tell them that we will provide a list of titles, locations, and number of hours to all detachment OIC's. I trust that they will come in soon.

The people you sent the apple pie to would like to thank you. They have been toiling with the Video Tapes and Kine's of the Command Information Spots, trying to get them all produced and sent to the stations up-country. All Dets should be groovin' with this new filler material by the time you receive this note. The video tape people also said that they wanted all stations with "V" tapes, to please return them to Saigon and in the same box they receive the tape in. The Chaplain's show is now being aired every Sunday afternoon.

I've received a few post cards from SP5 Paul Baldrige. He's really enjoying himself on his 30-days extension leave to Europe. SP4 Walter LeRiche is also on leave, enjoying the good old USA. Our "Oldest Old Timer", James R. Miller departed (PTS) for the world this month. SP4 Wood is taking Jim's place as news director.



MISS FUTURISTIC — Lovely Sunken Gardens model Becky Hall has been named "Miss Futuristic" for 1969. The shapely blonde, 36-23-35, certainly has a promising future with or without her king-size crystal ball. She is from St. Petersburg, Fla.

As for promotions this month, our Program Director, Dave "Boy Sergeant" Kramer is now a Staff Sergeant, and Charles Kinney made E-5. Nice going fellows. However, Mom, I still feel a little sorry for the other guys here, those two seem to be dropping everyone down for 50 push-ups.

Well, we now have a new NCOIC, with Senior Master Sergeant Kraus up at Tuy Hoa, MSG McNeese is here and really enjoying himself. He's the only guy I know that takes his own tea ... to the bars.

Well, that's about it from this side of the world, see you next month when I write again.

KEEP THE APPLE PIE COMING

NETWORK RADIO BRANCH ***

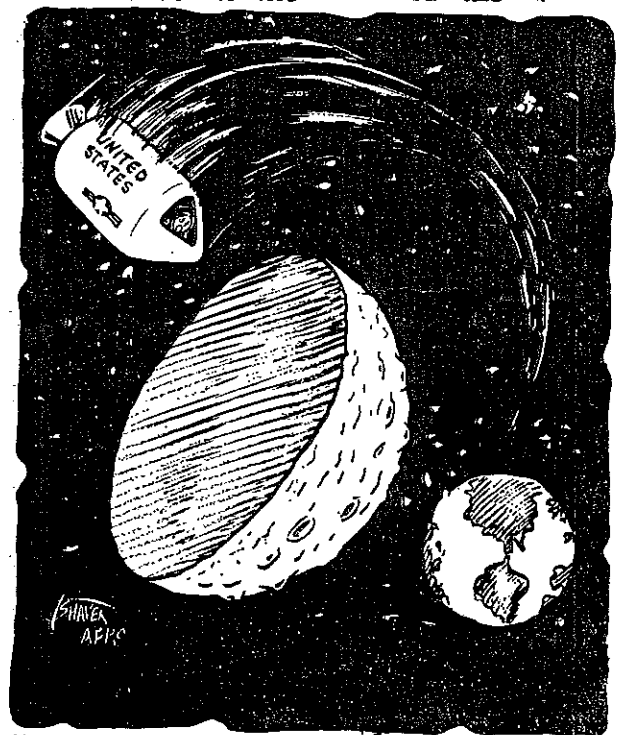
This past month has certainly proved to be a busy one. We finally realized the completion of our music library, which is now sparkling clean and white and much more spacious. It makes working conditions a little better for the men in radio, who, by the way, were responsible for doing the work.

The month of August has shown some personnel losses in SP5 Rick Bednar and SP5 Scott Manning. We wish them both the best of luck. In ceremonies recently held at headquarters, Rick and Scott were awarded the Joint Service Commendation.

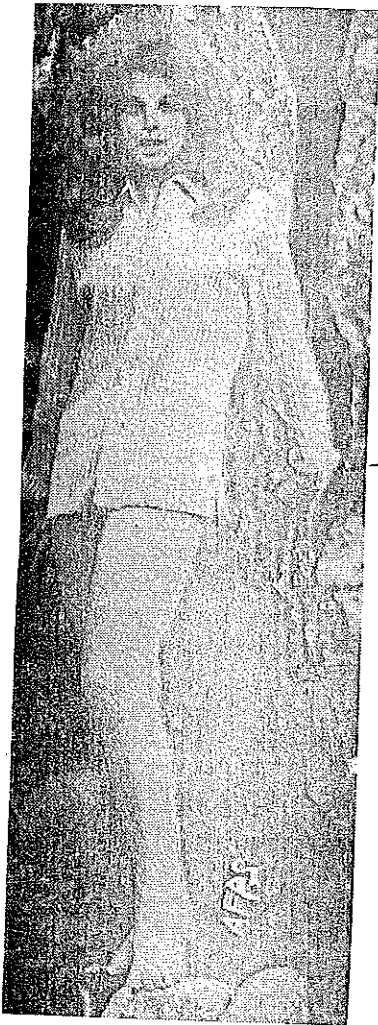
SP5 Mike Halloran recently enjoyed a 30-day special leave in the "Land of the Blarney" (That's Ireland in case you didn't know). Our Program Director, SF6 Raul Rodriguez is currently basking in the sun in his homeland of Puerto Rico. Raul reenlisted in July and is also on special leave. Speaking of special leaves, SP4 Paul Bottoms just got back from the world after a 30 day jaunt. SP5 Larry Green recently spent a glorios R&R "Down-Under." Congratulations are in order for SP4 Randy Stone, SP5 Larry Green, SP5 Pat Sajdak, and SP4 Tony Lyons who were promoted last month. Keep those old stripes comin' in Army.

In connection with AFVN's Seventh Anniversary celebration on August 15th, Network Radio put together a 25-minute AFVN special which was aired that evening.

AM Master Control went through a complete renovation conducted by Chuck Hapes,



"HOUSTON - YOU'RE NOT GONNA BELIEVE THIS!!"



CHARMER—Tina Louise plays a barefoot charmer in "The Good Guys And The Bad Guys".

Favorable Asset

Our signal strength from Cat Lo (540 KHz) has increased by an overwhelming margin. Favorable reports have filtered in from many areas. Our ERP (effective radiated power) is now 42 kilowatts at 100 percent modulation. Many thanks to the men at Cat Lo for a job well done.

Detachments are encouraged not to discard their malfunctioning carts. Please send them to Saigon for maintenance and rewinding. We have had much success in this area, so now we ask for your cooperation.

NETWORK SUPPLY ***

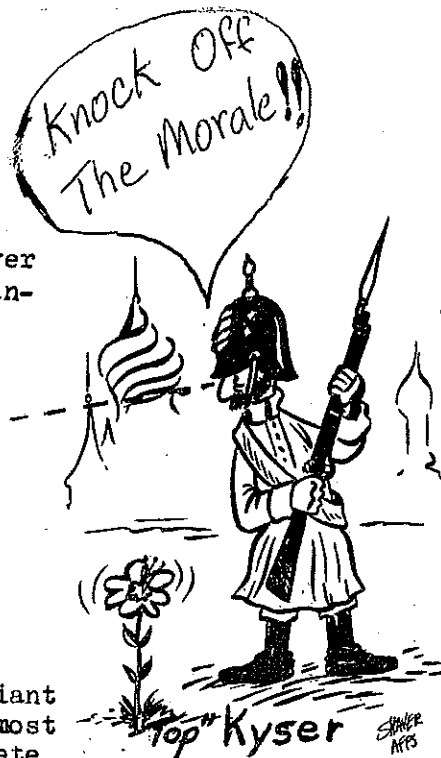
The month of July reflected the following supply status:

Demands Received	1,191
Demands Filled	923
Demands D/O	268
Request Forward	534
Request Received	337

Bob Chase and Lee Lefiles. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of our engineering section here, the job was done as quickly, smoothly, and as effective as any job could have been done. AM operations were switched over to production studio "B" during the interim with no "air time" lost in the transition. Our hats off to a great engineering staff at AFVN.

NETWORK ENGINEERS ***

This month has marked several giant steps in the forward direction. Our most significant achievement was the complete rewiring and modification of the equipment in AM Master Control. This virtually eliminated the R.F. problem that has plagued this area for years. Both manufacturers and in-house modification were made on tape decks, turntables, and the audio console. All equipment is operating at optimum efficiency with no crosstalk or R.F. Beware of infiltrating engineers. We are preparing for the news department next. Preliminary wiring and framework are being accomplished at the present time. No date has been set for completion.



Stringent preventive maintenance measures have decreased our workload by more than 50 percent. P.M. is now performed with a minimum amount of down-time for any given facility. Bravo men! Keep up the good work.

Request D/O 786
June items inventoried 4,693

A complete inventory of Whse #2 has been completed and we are starting on Whse #3. When complete, this inventory will greatly improve our operations. The weekly courier flight has helped considerably on delivery of parts and equipment; however, only items that can be hand carried are handled on this flight so the requirement still exists for escorting of same cargo.

NETWORK ADMINISTRATION ***

We are still experiencing difficulty with personnel from detachments not reporting to Admin. when visiting Saigon. All detachment personnell will be instructed to report to Admin. upon arrival and departure.

NETWORK NEWS BRANCH ***

Things are back to a reasonably normal situation in Network News after the hassles involved in coverage of Apollo and President Nixon. A slight change in TV News programming has brought the Evening News back to one-half hour (much to the delight of Gunny Carter) and expanded the Late News from 15-minutes to one-half hour. This gives the viewers two major TV news-casts in the prime time block. AFVN News

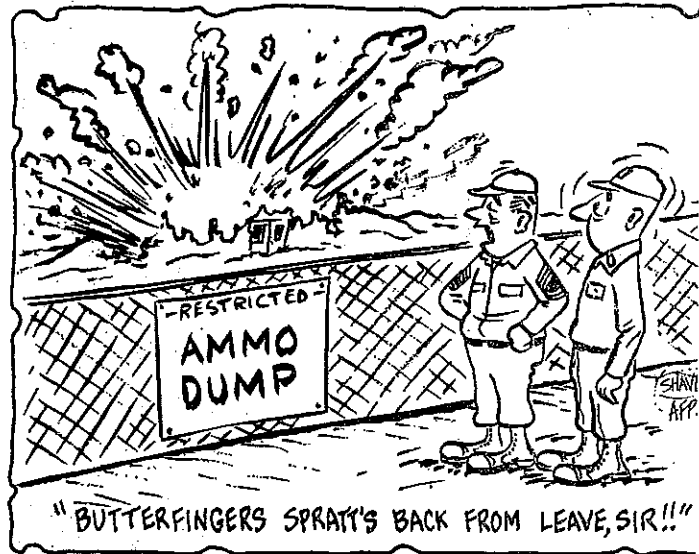
has also started a weekly wrap-up for TV, similar to World Week on AM radio. SSGT Nick Palladino is hosting the new show named "Dimension 7".

Newsfilm deliveries to Detachments have undergone a slight change in timing and, where possible, Detachments are receiving daily film shipments. If it continues to function smoothly we hope it will make things easier for Detachment newsmen to put their daily shows together.

Speaking of Detachments, SGT Bob Wilford and the Pleiku "grunts" rate a "well done" for the special they put together on the Apollo launch and mission. We had an opportunity to look at it down here when the VTR was returned and it was a good solid job.

Air Force SGT Hugh Morgan left this month for the good life at Hon Tre. He'll spend a few weeks there doing news and enjoying life before returning to Saigon.

Our resident hippie, SP5 Dave Burford, departed for Washington, D.C. and duty at Ft. Leslie J. McNair. Dave's hard work and sincere interest were of great value to the news operation and his humor helped keep everyone in a reasonable frame of mind. Dave will be joined shortly by SP5 Bruce Dadd, the holder of the world's record for taking



news actualities from the AFRTS-W audio line. Bruce will soon find that traffic in Washington, D.C. is only slightly better than Saigon's.

The guiding, if somewhat palsied, hand of the Sports Department, TSGT Ray Williams zoomed off into the wild blue yonder for duty at Keesler AFB, Biloxi, Miss. According to usually reliable sources, Ray will be rewarded for his hardship tour with all-male AFVN by an assignment with a section overflowing with pulchritude.

Joining the AFVN news staff this month was Army SP5 Jim Allingham from Headquarters, Fifth Army, Ft. Sheridan, Illinois. Aside from breaking in on the regular news operation, he'll be handling the films, slides and VTR's in Network News Service while SSGT Norm Garrett is improving U.S. - Okinawan relations on leave. Army SSGT Wayne Cannon also made the Okinawa trip to renew old friendships --- and keep an eye on Norm?

Top Kyser signed on the dotted line for the last time August 24th and left the 26th for 30 days reenlistment leave in beautiful northern Virginia. Gunny Carl Carter will be handling Marine problems and queries during September.

DETACHMENT ONE ***

The time has come once again for Detachment One to issue a hearty farewell to the members who are returning to the "Land of the big P.X.", and also to welcome a couple of newcomers to the "Nam"!

LT. William "Bill" Bozarth recently went home to pick up his discharge after ETS'ing ... and a crack at the civilian way of doing things. Taking over the boss's slot at Det One is LT. Phil Papworth, who just came in from a MACV team out of the boonies. He hails from Utica, New York. MSGT Steve Rost has left AFVN for another job with MACV somewhere in-country, but right now ... we're not sure where he's located. The NCOIC slot is now being filled by MSGT George Warde, who comes to us from AFN, Europe.

The news department is turning over now. SP5 Terry Loughrey arrived a couple of weeks ago and has become established as news/sportscaster. Terry hails from New Jersey, with his last duty station being Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. TSGT Bryant Canada, our news director, is going home in a few days. He'll be berthed at the Air Force Hometown News Center at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. Our thanks to Bryant for his outstanding contribution to the Det One news/sports department. SP4 Neal Peterson is also getting S*H-O-R-T, but so far, has no assignment or orders. The other addition to our staff is SP4 Steve Bellamy, who also comes to us from Ft. Sam. He's been assigned to the engineering section as a 26T. Both Steve and Terry have an extensive background in drama and a little in theater work.

Our thoughts right now are with SP5 Ray Miller who is back in the U.S. under tragic

Are You Ready?



BOATING, ANYONE? — With Cristina Ferrare aboard, you're bound to have an eventful trip!

circumstances. Ray is on emergency leave due to the death of his elder brother last week. Although there is nothing any of us can do, our thoughts remain with him.

SP5 John Smear took off for the states today on special leave for his recent extension. SP5 Ralph Carlisle will take off for England next month for the same "bennie" of extending here in the Nam.

We're still suffering from expansion plans up this way. Our new TV/FM building has now been approved and it's supposed to be completed within 90 days. When that's completed, we can look forward to getting some new equipment, and it's rumored there's a new VTR included in that package, as well as new cameras and some new audio gear. That's gonna make our engineers ecstatic.

SP5 Bob Butts of "Happiness Is" fame rounded out the extension picture this week when he signed the dotted line for another 90 days with us.

DETACHMENT THREE ***

Detachment #3 was honored to have as its guests the network OIC, LTC Adams, and the Network Sergeant Major, Sergeant Major Eyre. Following a tour of detachment facilities, LTC Adams met with detachment personnel in the newly completed dayroom, and hung the plaque that officially dedicated the club to the memory of Photographers Mate "Bud" Hudgins. LTC Adams also presented the 4th Infantry Division Information Office with an appropriate plaque expressing appreciation for the work and support their office has given the detachment.

* Tragedy came to Dragon Mountain on July 25th, when a helicopter with ten men aboard crashed into the hill. Marine 1LT H.S. Cutlip, Detachment OIC, was one of the first men to the scene. He helped extinguish the burning clothing of several of the crash victims, and braving the intense heat of the flaming aircraft and its exploding ammunition, began administering first aid, after having carried other men to safety. LT. Cutlip also helped supervise the safe medical evacuation of the victims, and assisted in supervising the men present in extinguishing the flaming aircraft. His heroic actions and quick thinking brought praise to himself and the detachment, and he was credited with saving the lives of at least five men. Other detachment personnel who assisted in the evacuation included MSG Chester McNeese, Station NCOIC, Marine Staff Sergeants Bill Buck and Bob Wilford, and Army SP4 Fred Horst

During the month of August, Det. 3 will experience quite an extensive personnel turn-over. A great loss to the detachment and the network will be our OIC, LT. Cutlip. LT. Cutlip has dedicated himself to the detachment in the fullest degree, both in time of tactical crisis, and through the problems that come up in commanding a radio and television station. He has personally built and supervised the building of most of the structures of the detachment, including a new AM-FM studio building, a new news set, dayroom, and latrine. He erected the FM tower and mast, and was responsible for new water facilities, workshops, and general living and working quarters. It is with deep regret that we of Det. 3 say good-bye to LT. Cutlip, and with the sincerest of best wishes that we wish him luck and good fortune at his new job in the 6th Marine Recruiting District in Atlanta, Ga. We also say farewell to MSG Chet McNeese, who is going to Saigon to assume duties with the TV production staff. ET1 Dave Larsen is joining the headquarters engineering staff, and SP5's Rich Brooks and Jim Beamer are DEROS'ing. Det. 3 is also losing three personnel who

came to us from the 4th Infantry Division; SP4 Larry Crider, who has been a tremendous help to the detachment for the past several months. Larry has been our Admin Clerk, AM and FM radio announcer, and has helped out in the areas of TV news and production. We also say thank you and so long to SP4 Ron Berry, who has been an engineer and an FM announcer, and SP4 Kelley Clark, who has been working in AM and FM radio. Good luck to all these men who have helped so much in making Det. 3 what it is today. Along with the good luck, we also offer congratulations to newly-promoted SP5's Rich Brooks and Jim Beamer.

In the areas of TV production and news, Det. 3 has expanded news broadcasts to three casts each day; aside from the 1930 Evening Report, we now also do Sign-on and Sign-off news. Sign-on comes at 1200 daily!

DETACHMENT SEVEN ***

After two months of becoming acclimated to AFVN and beautiful Chu Lai-by-the-sea, the detachment's new OIC, LT. Larry Brown, wishes to offer an initial contribution to the newsletter with an informal howdy to kindred spirits elsewhere and a special note of recognition to Det. 7's Marine Master Sergeant NCOIC Frank Almeida. From nothing back in February, Top has superbly guided Det. 7 through its birthpangs and helped establish it as a going concern well on its way to becoming an important factor in the everyday lives of troops in Chu Lai and its environs. Top's getting so short now that he's practically forgetting to color in the daily designs on a dutifully hoarded collection of short-timer calendars, some of which are too racy for him to get through customs anyway!

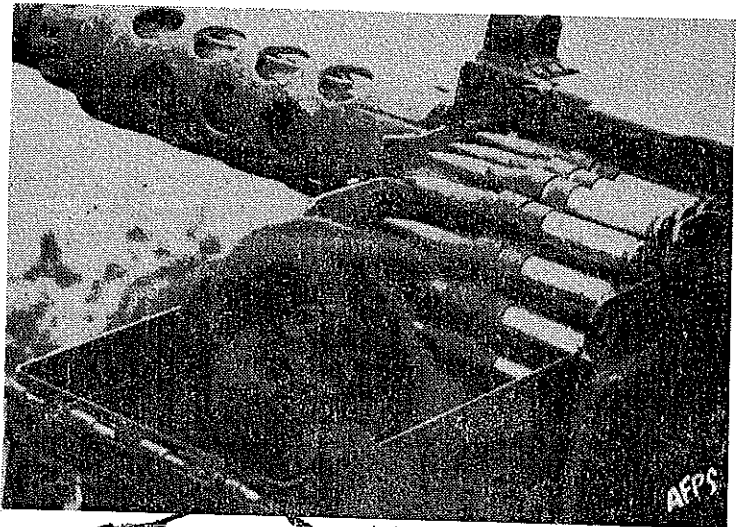
Come September, the detachment will have undergone even more personnel changes as SP5 James Van Riper follows recently departed SP4 Pete Halperin and soon to leave SP4 Jim Havens towards the friendly shores of the USA.

SGT Larry Rogers, who cut the detachment news room's population in half when he left last month for leave in Alaska (how's that for a climate change?), is expected back shortly to begin a third six months of service with the network.

Air Force Sergeant Duane Collison is still wandering around the engineering hooch softly humming "Aloha Oe" to himself after recently enjoying a well-deserved R&R with his wife in Hawaii.

On the side of recent accomplishments, Navy Chief Ray Lucasey, the detachment's resident "cumshaw" artist, and his programming department are spreading extra hours of fun, frolic and information throughout the greater Chu Lai area with Det. 7's expanded broadcast schedule.

The detachment is also looking forward to a new news look and enhanced production capability as conversion of a recently scrounged "portacamp" into a TV studio nears completion.



What's this "Good Morning Vietnam" Business???

NOTES FOR AFVN MARINES *** **



Many of you might receive a brown manilla folder in the mail from the MarCorPersSect containing copies of your original assignment orders to AFVN, ComRats request, copies of correspondence, etc. Don't panic. They are no longer maintaining these folders and are sending them to the individuals rather than deep-sixing them.

All married Marines are required by regulations to file a dependency certificate each year, during the month of October. Send a note along with the weekly reports sometime this month letting Top Kyser know who needs the certificates. He'll compile the info, get the forms, and send them to the Detachments early in October so they can be completed and returned to MarCorPersSect by the end of October.

It is the responsibility of all SNCO's and SGT's to insure they have a fitness report made out on them when they are transferred or when there is a change of reporting senior. When you leave your Detachment for DEROS, be sure you bring a correct, completed fitness report with you and turn it over to MSG Kyser. By the way, Item #2 on the report, "Organization", should be as follows: MarCorPersSect, NAVFORV, Rox 15, FPO San Francisco 96626 (du/w MACV, AFVN, MCC N42).

New Marines in the network this last month are CPT Louis Chatelle, who joined from 12th MCD Headquarters in San Francisco, and has been assigned as OIC, Det. #5. 1LT Mike Pitts joined from DivInfo, HQMC, and relieved CPT Leonski as OIC, Det. #2. CPL Hans "Chief" Ahasteen reported aboard from MCRD, Parris Island, as a TV illustrator, relieving SGT Jim Offenbacher.

-- Semper Fi --

A NOTE FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR Response from the Detachments for this month's newsletter picked up, but not quite enough. If you'll notice, we still have some missing Detachments. We would like to suggest that everyone send along a short blurb weekly with the weekly report, and specifically marked for the AFVN Newsletter. This would save us a lot of deadline blues. Thank You.

AFVN NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL POLICY

The AFVN Newsletter is an informal communications medium published monthly as a means of exchanging views and ideas between Headquarters AFVN and Detachments. News items from Detachments should be included as attachments to weekly operations reports. Items not received prior to the 15th of the month will be included in the Newsletter for the following month. All items must be typed, double-spaced, on 8 X 10 1/2 bond paper.