

Fighting Flares Around Saigon

From AP and UPI Dispatches

SAIGON — Fighting flared around Saigon late Tuesday and early Wednesday as allied forces probed the jungles and rice paddies in an operation called Complete Victory, described as the biggest offensive of the Vietnam war.

And near Khe Sanh, a U.S.

Marine patrol was mauled by North Vietnamese hidden in bunkers. At least 17 Marines were killed and 35 wounded in the four-hour fight.

American spokesmen said nearly every man in the patrol was killed or wounded.

It was the heaviest setback for the Marines since 21 men on patrol were killed while the 77-day siege of Khe Sanh was raging.

Marines inside Khe Sanh's barbed-wire perimeter reported they received more than 300 rounds of artillery, rocket and mortar fire during a 24-hour period ending at 6 a.m. Tuesday.

Military spokesmen said that the Americans suffered 19 killed and 56 wounded, and that 14 Marines were missing in the action in and around Khe Sanh. Twenty North Vietnamese were reported dead.

Early Wednesday enemy gunners fired more than 100 mortar rounds on two government installations only five and six miles north of Saigon. First reports said four Vietnamese were killed and 30 wounded.

In the Mekong Delta 15 miles southwest of the capital, a Vietnamese company ran into a strong enemy force, and two companies from the U.S. 199th Light Infantry Brigade were rushed in to reinforce the Vietnamese. Fighting lasted almost an hour before the enemy broke contact, leaving behind 11 dead.

Headquarters reported three Americans and 14 Vietnamese soldiers were killed.

Operation Complete Victory involves about 100,000 Allied troops working mainly in their own areas of responsibility in 11 provinces around Saigon.

Thirty-one miles east of Saigon, an element of the U.S. 9th Inf Div engaged an enemy force in a 10-minute fight that left 12 enemy dead, spokesmen said. U.S. casualties were two killed and two wounded.

Heavy Action

In the curtailed bombing campaign over North Vietnam, U.S. pilots stayed below the 19th Parallel for the 13th consecutive day in raids Tuesday, military sources said.

The heaviest action around Saigon Tuesday came when South Vietnamese army troops came under mortar and automatic-weapon fire as they swept through an area 16 miles from the capital.

U.S. helicopters and tactical fighter-bombers were called to support the government force and the enemy broke contact after about an hour of fighting.

Twenty-six enemy bodies were reported left behind, while the government force lost only one man wounded.

A short time later, another clash broke out 26 miles northwest of Saigon, where South Vietnamese forces ran into an estimated two enemy companies. Contact was broken after about five hours with five South Vietnamese soldiers killed and 36 wounded.



EASIER TERM — The commanding officer of Marine Mary Burns, 21, Tuesday lifted a 45-day restriction to barracks for the woman, who was convicted last week of refusal to wear her uniform and for ignoring orders. A \$20 fine and reduction from corporal to private were left standing. —AP

2 Cabbies Identify Sketch of Galt

ATLANTA (UPI)—An Atlanta taxicab driver identified for the FBI Tuesday a sketch of the elusive Eric Starvo Galt and said the mystery figure in the search for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassin rode in his cab the day after the slaying.

A second taxicab driver working for the same company said he, too, gave the man a ride the day after King was shot by a sniper in Memphis, Tenn., April 4.

Both drivers said the trips were in Atlanta's "hippie" neighborhood around Peachtree Street and 14th Street. The area is about seven miles from the public housing project where a white Ford Mustang, registered to Galt, was located by FBI agents last Thursday.

The FBI has pored over

the records of taxicab firms in the city in an attempt to trace Galt from the time he apparently abandoned the white Mustang, which was found in the Capitol Homes Housing Project.

The first driver told the FBI he picked up the man at the intersection of Peachtree and 14th Streets. He drove his fare only two blocks—a fact that made him remember the trip—and then the man demanded to be let out immediately.

The driver said he had gone two blocks south on Peachtree to 12th Street, and there the man got out, paid his fare and walked quickly down 12th Street toward the west.

The second taxicab driver told the FBI he recognized the man in the sketch as the same man who rode in his cab to the address of a modern two-story apartment building.

The second driver did not recall if the man entered the apartments or walked off in another direction. The location is at the intersection of 13th Street and Crescent Avenue, one block west of the 14th and Peachtree Streets intersection where the first driver said he picked up the same man.

Sheriff Comments

In Birmingham, where Galt once lived, Jefferson County Sheriff Mel Bailey said he thinks the assassin may have originally planned to kill King in the Alabama steel city.

Bailey, who threw a tight security net around King when he was in the city last October to serve five days in jail, said he thinks a conspiracy existed to murder the civil rights leader.

The sheriff said his theory is only conjecture, but that "it is based on the evidence uncovered so far in the case."

Bailey noted that Galt, who has been identified by fellow boarders in a rooming house in Birmingham as being the same man shown in FBI sketches of the suspected assassin, lived in the city when King was serving his jail term.

"He could have laid-in-wait with that sniper rifle on many occasions, waiting for a shot at King," the sheriff said.

Japan Auto Record

TOKYO (UPI) — Japan produced a record 3,406,265 four-wheeled cars during 1967, the Automobile Manufacturers' Association said Tuesday. Passenger cars accounted for 44.9 percent of the total of 7,528,951 vehicles.

Weather

U.S. Temperatures

H	L	H	L		
63	36	Albany	75	55	Las Vegas
74	60	Albuquerque	63	56	Los Angeles
83	53	Amarillo	65	39	Louisville
66	38	Atlanta	78	46	Memphis
77	38	Birmingham	88	68	Miami Beach
57	44	Bismarck	65	39	Milwaukee
48	25	Boise	70	48	Mpls.-St. Paul
60	43	Boston	78	48	New Orleans
61	32	Buffalo	66	43	New York
37	30	Casper	80	56	Oklahoma City
61	48	Chicago	78	55	Omaha
65	37	Cincinnati	67	42	Philadelphia
61	32	Cleveland	84	57	Pittsburgh
65	34	Columbus	57	44	Portland, Me.
64	39	Denver	52	36	Portland, Ore.
70	49	Des Moines	48	39	Rapid City
62	34	Detroit	40	46	Reno
71	48	Duluth	65	43	St. Louis
80	63	El Paso	62	38	Salt Lake City
42	18	Fairbanks	82	67	San Antonio
66	45	Fargo	62	58	San Diego
74	67	Fort Worth	66	47	San Francisco
82	72	Honolulu	50	35	Seattle
78	65	Houston	61	51	Shreveport
65	39	Indianapolis	46	21	Spokane
77	52	Jacksonville	78	57	Tucson
78	57	Kansas City	68	43	Washington

Big Nuclear Blast Planned In Nevada

PAHUTE MESA, Nev. (UPI)—The largest underground blast in history will be detonated in Nevada next week.

The Atomic Energy Commission Tuesday said "an underground test of low-megaton yield" was scheduled for April 24.

The AEC has never before announced a low-megaton nuclear explosion during its underground testing program. "Low megaton" means one megaton or more. One megaton is equivalent to one million tons of TNT.

Scientists said persons within a 250-mile radius probably would feel an earth tremor.

The United States touched off one-megaton devices during its atmospheric testing program in the Pacific.

Russian scientists conducted an atmospheric test during the early 1960s which was 50 megatons or more.

A spokesman for the commission said that the nuclear test would be triggered at the bottom of a 3,800-foot shaft which would be sealed with sand and gravel. The Pahute Mesa area is mostly composed of volcanic rock.

The AEC spokesman said the test would be a "weapons-related test." The nuclear device will be lowered to the bottom of the drilled shaft, which has an inside diameter of four feet.

Munich Riot Claims Life Of Newsman

MUNICH (AP) — AP news photographer Klaus Frings, 32, died Wednesday from a head injury he received Monday night while covering violent student demonstrations against a newspaper printing plant here.

Frings was hit by a cobble stone when demonstrators and police clashed. Doctors at the neuro-surgical clinic of Munich University performed an operation Tuesday, but Frings' condition worsened during the night.

Frings, who was married, is the first to die in the wave of riots which broke out in West Germany after the attempted assassination of leftist student leader Rudi Dutschke April 11 in Berlin.

Mistake in K.C.

Cop, Not Sniper, Killed Negro

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Police confirmed Tuesday that one of six Negroes slain in last week's racial disturbances was shot by an officer and not by a sniper as previously thought.

Meanwhile about 650 members of the Missouri National Guard remained on standby alert in the city.

Police Captain Sidney Harlow announced an investigation showed Julius Hamilton, 38, was killed by Patrolman Steve Barfield the night of April 10 when Barfield mistook Hamilton for a sniper.

Barfield reported another policeman was behind a building where a fire was burning and there was sniper fire. He called to policemen in front that he was coming out into the street and not to mistake him for a sniper. Barfield and others, Harlow said, called to him to "come on out." Hamilton, inside the building,

Williams To Be Envoy To Manila

HONOLULU (AP) — President Johnson announced Tuesday he will nominate G. Mennen Williams, former Democratic governor of Michigan and State Department official, as ambassador to the Philippines.

Williams, 57, would succeed William McCormick Blair Jr., who resigned.

Elected governor of Michigan six times, Williams served as chief executive of his native state from 1949 until 1960.

President John F. Kennedy named Williams assistant secretary of state for African affairs in 1961 — a post he held until March 1, 1966.

Oregon Flags to Honor GIs Fighting in Asia

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — The flags at the Oregon Capitol will fly at half staff one day each month for Oregon servicemen killed in Vietnam.

"Lowering our flags in front of the Capitol one day a month is a small thing to do, but it may serve to remind Oregonians of the great sacrifices our boys are making in Southeast Asia," said Secretary of State Clay Meyers.

The British Bridge the Export Gap

LONDON (AP) — London Bridge, this one built in 1831, will soon make a transatlantic journey to the United States, with an American picking up the tab.

The bridge is the victim of London's increased flow of traffic. It is too narrow and it has to be replaced.

The City of London Corp. declined to name the buyer, but said Tuesday night the 10,000 tons of granite over the River Thames would be pulled down and shipped to the United States.

Britons, who are getting used to the idea of well-loved heaps joining the national-monument drain, quipped, "How much for

Buckingham Palace?" The 136-year-old bridge joined the liner Queen Mary, her sister ship Queen Elizabeth and sundry churches and castles on the one-way, transatlantic journey.

"If it keeps up this way we'll soon have to go over there to look up our heritage," said another Briton.

A London Corp. spokesman said the buyer and price—an estimated \$2.4 million—would be revealed in a joint London-New York announcement.

A London Bridge has spanned the Thames in one form or another since Roman times 2,000 years ago.