

# Captain Describes Vietnam Tour

By Earl Davis  
Register City Editor

Maynard — Que Nhon, a Vietnamese city not too far from the battle lines where American and Allied men are dying each and every hour scared Captain Sandra Alshouse, Army Nurse Corps, when she first arrived for duty in that area.

"I wasn't too concerned with the idea of going over there, being in or near the war, or treating the wounded until I lost my girl friend," Captain Alshouse commented.

"But when we were separated at Saigon and I climbed aboard that big-bellied troop carrier, and then landed at Que Nhon, I began to get scared when I had to sit on an old wooden table at an airfield in an unknown land where no one knew what was going to happen next," Sandra explained.

Sandra Alshouse was born, raised, educated, and well thought of in the Maynard area. She graduated at West Central and after many talks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Alshouse, and her one sister, Phyllis, she decided she was going to become a nurse, but she didn't know she would make a career out of the Nurse Corps, or even join it when she entered training at Freepport Memorial hospital in Illinois in 1962.

"I enlisted as a nurse April 1, 1966, received a direct commission, and was shipped to Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., where we went through five weeks of basic army procedure," she said. Basic army procedure, even for a woman in a world of men means marching, marching, night and day everywhere she went.

Sandra, then Lieutenant Alshouse, completed basic, came home to Maynard for two weeks, and was then assigned to the 85th Evac (Evacuation) Hospital at Que Nhon where she arrived June 1, 1966, and where she found

for the first time in her life that she was a little bit scared facing an unknown future.

"Que Nhon," Sandra explained, "is located about half way between Saigon and Da Nang, and the 85th Evac, a 400-bed hospital operated by some 30 army nurses lies just outside of the city.

"When I actually arrived at the quonset-type hospital, with permanent barracks, I began to lose some of my fear, but not all of it," she said.

"I really thought it was all a big deal, going to Vietnam, being assigned, and climbing into that big plane camouflaged and all; it was very impressive, until I happened to look around and note that our compound was surrounded by machine-gun towers," she said.

"That's when I began to get the idea a real war was going on, and that this was a field hospital for men returning from battle," she added.

The captain explained that each hospital quonset was "something different": "There was an operating room, a place for admittances, and one for disposition of cases.

"The minute I checked in I was assigned to emergency and prep; there was no fooling around because there was too much to do," she commented.

Sandra explained that the hospital was not "all for the wounded," that many civilians—especially children—were treated for such things as appendix removal or just shots.

"The 85th was basically an 'in-between' hospital: at the lines there is an aid station, for initial treatment of GIs who are wounded, then a battalion-aid station further back from the lines for surgery, the 85th Evac," she explained, "and we would determine whether the wounded would remain there, be sent to Japan or the Philippines, or directly to the U.S."

"While I was assigned to the

85th, I ran into John Harrison, (also of Maynard) twice," she said. "John is also from Maynard and the second time we met, he was wounded while fighting near the South China Sea and was then sent to the 67th Evac just five blocks from the 85th. He was sent to Japan and then home," she said.

How does this 23-year-old captain feel about the situation over there, her work and the future?

"The best way to explain it is to say that American GIs are the greatest, and we feel we can't do enough for them—they give so much and never complain," she answered.

"I was over there 12 months; it was the most rewarding experience I've ever had. The spirit among Americans is unbelievable, you just can't believe it," she added. "The nurses and children of the orphanages also had close relationships. We used to spend our spare afternoons — when we could get them—helping care for little kids whose parents were either killed, or left them. One or two sisters would be responsible for 40 or more children; some were hurt, or sick or sort of lost, and we'd do what we could to help," she commented quietly.

"But you must understand that I have to base my opinions on the ones I worked with, and I thoroughly enjoyed working with them," she said.

"You don't stop to think about a person being an enemy when he is brought in for treatment; you take care of him or her because the person is ill or wounded," she commented about meeting North Vietnamese.

"And you work under condi-

tions Americans just aren't used to: the monsoons arrive and it gets cold and rainy. When it reaches 60-degrees, it feels like 20 below and you put on stretch-pants and keep right on treating the sick, the wounded and the children," she explained.

Highlights of Captain Alshouse's visits outside Que Nhon were Hong Kong and Bangkok: "I spent five days' R & R (rest and recuperation) in Hong Kong, and seven days' leave in Bangkok, and if I ever get the chance, I'll go back to Hong Kong; I loved it," she said.

But Captain Alshouse will not get the chance for quite some time. She signed up for a two-year tour of duty in Europe and will work at a hospital in Bad-Kreuznach.

Regarding the war, she said: "Once you've been there and see what's going on, you know there is a purpose; it's hard to define, but there is a purpose."

Welcomes Australian Head WASHINGTON — President Johnson welcomed his Australian ally, Prime Minister John Gorton, formally today with a pledge that the United States' aim in Vietnam is to "achieve a peace with honor."

"We have never sought anything else and we will not accept anything less," Johnson told the 56-

Two passengers in the car, Steve Bawek, 14, and Bill Trebon, 14, were treated and released at a Waterloo hospital. Another passenger, Michael Doering escaped without injury.

Bawek was charged with speed restriction by the Buchanan County sheriff office.

INDEPENDENCE (Special) — A one car accident resulted in minor injuries to two of the four occupants of a vehicle which went out of control one mile north of Jesup Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

Thomas Wawek, 27, Waterloo, lost control of his car near the Robert Perkins farm, hit the shoulder and swerved across the road and turned over into the left ditch, shearing off a telephone pole.

Two youths injured in one car crash

## MYSTERY

No. 8003

VOL. 61—NO. 173

MONDAY, MAY 27, 1967

Per Copy 10c

Oelwein, Iowa 50662

# The Oelwein Daily Register.

## Russian Anti-Aircraft Guns Boom In Viet War

SAIGON (AP) — The enemy command stepped up the pace of battle over the weekend and for the first time introduced Soviet long-range anti-aircraft guns to its beefed up air defenses just north of the demilitarized zone. A U.S. spokesman said 16 of the guns were spotted and air strikes destroyed or damaged them all.

Allied forces reported killing more than 1,000 enemy troops in a weekend of savage fighting from the outskirts of Saigon to the demilitarized zone.

In keeping with Hanoi's proclaimed "fight and talk" policy, the Communist command's push came as North Vietnamese and American negotiators prepared for their fifth meeting today in the Paris cease-fire talks.

American casualties were reported as 54 killed and 192 wounded in the series of battles. South Vietnamese losses were termed light.

Sharp fighting continued on three sides of Saigon today. The Viet Cong was believed moving 500 to 1,000 troops toward the capital.

The heaviest fighting over the weekend came in the northern sector, where North Vietnamese troops renewed their pressure on the U.S. Marine headquarters at Dong Ha, and in the central highlands, where a massive campaign may be shaping up.

U.S. spokesmen said superior allied firepower led to enemy defeats in most of the clashes, but American troops appeared to have been set back in at least two places.

About 800 North Vietnamese overran a section of the perimeter and four bunkers at a U.S. 4th Infantry Division patrol and

artillery base 11 miles west of Dak To in the central highlands. In more than seven hours of fighting, 14 U.S. infantrymen were killed and 56 wounded. U.S. fighter-bombers joined the battle and the enemy retreated in thick fog.

About 400 Viet Cong troops attacking with grenades, mortars and small arms killed five infantrymen of a U.S. 25th Division unit in night defensive positions on the northwestern outskirts of Saigon, six miles from the center of the city. The enemy withdrew early today.

As in the first two weeks of May, heavy fighting raged again around Dong Ha, headquarters of the U.S. 3rd Marine Division, 11 miles below the demilitarized zone.

## REGISTERLAND

Weather and River Stages

Mostly cloudy Monday night. Clouds breaking Tuesday. Otherwise not much change in temperatures. Lows Monday night middle to upper 40s. Highs Tuesday lower 60s. Chances of measurable rain in percent: 10 Monday night and Tuesday.

RIVER STAGES  
DAVENPORT (R)—River Stages:  
Guttenberg—10.30, fall .20  
Dubuque—12.50, fall .10  
Dubuque—9.20, rise .30  
Keokuk—6.80, rise .30

Riley Refused Audience  
DES MOINES (AP) — The State Executive Council refused Monday to grant an audience to State Sen. Tom Riley, R-Cedar Rapids, until the lawmaker further explains his plan to save millions of taxpayers dollars.

## Kennedy Sweeps More Than Half Of State's Delegates

DES MOINES (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy walked away with more than half of Iowa's Democratic National Convention votes Saturday and his state organization predicts he'll inherit more by August.

Backers of the New York Senator claim 28 of the state's 46 votes. Iowa City attorney William Suplee, head of the New York-er's state efforts, says Kennedy is likely to inherit the five votes now committed to Minnesota Sen. Eugene McCarthy at the August National Convention in Chicago.

State Sen. George O'Malley, chairman of the state organization for Vice President Hubert Humphrey, says he is "very much satisfied" by Saturday's state convention balloting. Twelve votes are claimed by Humphrey delegates.

## O'Brien Named Demo Delegate

DES MOINES — M. S. O'Brien, Oelwein, has been named a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Chicago, from the second district.

O'Brien, an attorney from Oelwein, was elected at the state convention in Des Moines over the weekend.

## Prom, Graduation Set At Senior High

Oelwein Community High school Principal Herbert Haas has announced that the junior-senior prom will be held Tuesday evening in the school gymnasium.

Commencement exercises at OCHS will be at 8 p.m. Friday, May 31, in the school gym.

Report cards for both Junior and Senior High students will be mailed from Iowa City as soon as grades have been compiled.

## Warn Elderly Of Overwork

Public health officials in Oelwein have issued a warning to the elderly residents of the community to beware of strenuous exercise in cleaning up debris.

Officials report indications have already been received that many of the elderly have attempted physical work that they are not accustomed to doing. The stress can cause serious and possible fatal heart attacks.



CAPTAIN SANDRA ALSHOUSE, army nurse corps looks over some of the many pictures both she and John Harrison, 21, Maynard, took while they served their country in Vietnam. John was wounded while fighting in an area near the South China Sea and was taken to the 85th Evac Hospital where Miss Alshouse was stationed. They enjoyed a reunion in Que Nhon, and again last week in Maynard.



STATE FOOD INSPECTOR Donald J. Neumann, Elkader, stood by while Oelwein youths emptied truck load after truck load of condemned beer at City Dump Saturday morning. In all, 17,367 cases of beer had to be destroyed by burial because of contamination during the May 15th tornado. Neumann stated that he observed a few crocodile tears while the merchandise was being dumped.

## Shootout, Near Riot In Fort Dodge Sunday

FORT DODGE (AP) — One Fort Dodge man was in a Des Moines hospital Monday and another in the Fort Dodge City Jail following what police called a shootout and near riot in a predominantly Negro section of the city Sunday.

Jacob Clayton, 30, was reported in satisfactory condition in a Des Moines hospital with two gunshot wounds in the leg and injuries to the head.

Police said Melvin Brown Jr., 24, was in jail charged with assault to do great bodily harm. He had suffered a flesh wound in the stomach from a gunshot before being jailed, police reported.

The three policemen on street duty in the city Sunday said when they arrived at the scene of the alleged shootout, streets were blocked with cars and about 75 persons were fighting.

The three officers, one armed with a submachine gun and the others with riot guns, said they summoned help from the Webster County sheriff and the Highway Patrol, but had the situation under control before aid arrived.

Police said when they arrived they spotted two armed men running between buildings, but were unable to give chase.

They said witnesses told them the trouble began when two men stood in the street shooting at each other. Witnesses said one was armed with a .38 caliber revolver and the other with a .25 caliber automatic. They said 12 shots were fired and when the pair ran out of shells, one began

beating the other with a brick. Police said Brown was jailed on a complaint which had been filed earlier by Clayton.

\$2,000 Collected Sunday: 6,000 Cars In City

Explorer Scouts collected approximately \$2,000 Sunday afternoon from sightseers visiting the Oelwein community in their automobiles.

The Explorer Scouts were in charge of the donations received. Police Chief James Fortsch estimated 6,000 automobiles passed through the community during the day viewing the devastation.

The city police received assistance in traffic direction from members of the fire department, Jaycees, Legion, Lions, and Iowa Highway Patrol.

Making List Of Residents Who Need Help

City officials are attempting to obtain a list of Oelwein residents who need help in cleaning up debris left from the May 15 tornado.

Residents who need help or are aware of other citizens who need assistance in cleaning up areas should call 283-1662 or contact the City clerk's office at the City Hall



CLEANUP STRAWBOSS — Mrs. F. H. Dewees was one of the many women who, according to the Rev. Melvin Roy, was the strawboss who told people where to go during the cleanup of the tornado-ravaged Baptist church. More than 70 persons joined in the cleanup Saturday, arriving from cities and towns as far away as Waterloo.

## Present Check To Red Cross

The American Red Cross Monday received \$13,783 in private donations to help victims of killer tornadoes in Charles City, Oelwein, Maynard and Elma.

The money was presented to Red Cross disaster Chairman W. Earl Hall by Lew Van Nostrand, general manager of the WMT Stations.

Van Nostrand said 919 persons contributed to the disaster relief fund in amounts ranging from \$1 to \$500, and he said donations continue to come in.

Meanwhile, the Iowa American Legion, Iowa American Legion Auxiliary and National American Legion each contributed \$500 for use in Charles City, Oelwein and Maynard.

And the Iowa State Building and Construction Trades Council, meeting in Burlington, voted to donate \$1,000 for recovery work in Charles City, Oelwein, Maynard and Elma.

## Postpone JC Installation Banquet

The Jaycee and Jaycee Elite installation banquet scheduled Tuesday, May 23, has been temporarily postponed until further notice according to officials planning the event.

Jaycee members hope to reschedule the program for a later date.

## Candidates Eye Delegate Count

By The Associated Press

Sen. Robert F. Kennedy has won the bulk of Iowa's Democratic National Convention delegates and Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey holds the lion's share of Vermont's.

And Humphrey has 63 1/2 of Pennsylvania's 130 convention votes, an Associated Press survey showed today, to 19 for Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy and 2 1/4 for Kennedy.

A meeting of the Pennsylvania delegates has been scheduled today at which it is possible state organizational leaders, who have tried to maintain official neutrality, may throw support to Humphrey.

Newsweek magazine meanwhile said Humphrey appears favored for 1,279 1/2 of the 1,312 delegate votes needed for nomination. Newsweek said Kennedy appears favored for 713 1/2 votes and McCarthy for 280.

Iowa Democrats gave 18 convention votes over the weekend to Kennedy, 5 to Humphrey and 2 to McCarthy. Humphrey got 10 Vermont delegates, Kennedy 7 and McCarthy 5.

The Iowa and Vermont delegate selection came just before the third crucial primary confrontation between Kennedy and McCarthy, this one in Oregon Tuesday.

undecided vote in Oregon and McCarthy said "every sign" now points to a good showing for him.

Republican candidate Richard M. Nixon, predicting he will get 55 per cent of the GOP vote in Oregon, said supporters of California Gov. Ronald Reagan and New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller are working in tandem to try to block his drive for the presidential nomination.

Reagan, a California favorite son who says he is not a presidential candidate, is on the Oregon ballot. Rockefeller, an announced candidate, is not.

Nixon was considered sure to win Oregon's 18 GOP convention votes in the primary and the Democratic winner will get 35 convention votes.

Leaders of organized labor, in an effort to help Humphrey, have waged a telephone campaign for votes for President Johnson, who announced he was not a candidate after his name already was on the ballot.

Name Parsons President

FAIRFIELD — A new president was named Monday for Parsons College, long troubled by financial and accreditation problems. Named to head the 93-year-old private college in Fairfield was Dr. W. Kreslin, 39, a member of the school's education faculty.

**MYSTERY NUMBER TODAY Is Good For \$12**

Number in upper left hand corner of page one of this issue is your Mystery Number. See if you find an "X" number in an ad in this issue exactly the same as the number on page one.

Eligibility for a prize is limited to subscribers of the REGISTER prior to the time contest was announced. A subscriber who has the correct Mystery Number cannot transfer the paper to another person.

No Register employee or carrier or their family may enter. Bring your full paper to the REGISTER office no later than 10 a.m. Wednesday.

**If unclaimed, \$3 is always added.**

Friday's Mystery Number was MN-8755 in Service Center (classified ad). Now check back, would you have won?

Shop In Oelwein Stores This Tuesday Night Till 9 P.M.