

# VC Regiment Hunted Near Tan Son Nhut

SAIGON (AP) — Armored cavalymen of the U.S. 25th Inf. Div. are playing a deadly game of hide-and-seek with a Viet Cong regiment in the villages and rice paddies just 7 miles west of Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Air Base.

The Communist force, which could number up to 3,000 men, is believed to be shielding gun-

ners who have fired nearly 150 mortar rounds and 122-millimeter rockets into Tan Son Nhut since last Sunday.

Soldiers of the 3rd Sq., 4th Cav.—known to the infantrymen as the three-quarter cav.—have fought repeated battles with the Communists and also discovered what amounted to a rocket graveyard.

"Three days ago we dug up what we thought were some fresh graves," Lt. Col. Glenn

K. Otis, commander of three-quarter cav., said. "Instead, we uncovered 16 rockets."

The cavalymen also are keeping close tabs on straw-stacks from the rice harvest.

Otis said some days the straw stacks would not be in the same place they had been the day before, "and when we checked them we uncovered rocket sites."

Two days ago, the unit fought

a pitched battle and after it was over they counted the bodies of 80 North Vietnamese regulars and Viet Cong guerrillas. They also found 16 antitank rocket launchers and rockets and 50 bunkers.

Otis believes the Communist troops have been using the area northwest of Saigon as an assembly point for attacks on the capital but now, with American troops maneuvering through—they're digging in to fight.

**6 Pacific Stars & Stripes**  
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