

Sarge says — Viet victory

by Sgt. Gregory Young

The war in Vietnam is about to enter its seventh year and there is still no sign of it coming to an end in the near future. The Paris Peace talks have proved utterly useless. The United States is facing the same type of stubborn, practically fanatical opposition to any serious negotiations that it encountered at Panmunjom in 1953 during the Korean Conflict. Once again the Communists are buying their time with blood in order to gain a vantage point from which they can bargain with their mighty foe. Large scale operations such as the Tet offensive or the besieging of the Marine base at Khe Sanh are attempts either to secure heavily populated southern cities (e.g. Hue) or to defeat a large U.S. force in the field as a sort of instant replay of Dien Bien Phu. A victory of either or both types would most certainly add weight to their demands in Paris.

But the Commies have met with constant defeats and no matter how much one opposes the U.S. position, one would have to be a moron to envision a major American defeat. However, on the other hand, the war cannot be won by the US if it continues its present restricted military policy. Warfare with the elusive VC and NVA in such a guerilla's paradise as Vietnam is both frustrating and futile. Let us not pause in an idealistic argument of why the US should or should not be in Vietnam. The cold hard fact is that they are there and the war is very real. Therefore let us discuss how to

end it by means of a military campaign that could end the hostilities in about one year.

A military victory in the non classical sense of the word is a possibility if the following measures are adopted by the US. In one phrase - step up the action! First, the air war is the only way the US carries the war to the enemy homeland. Thus all areas in North Vietnam would become potential bombing targets as the

would be given the right to "not pursue" in order to deny fleeing NVA units rest sanctuaries in nearby Laos or Cambodia. Then the superior armed and supported US troops would be able to increase the effectiveness of their "search and destroy" missions. The results - heavier enemy losses. This step would be supported by increased aid to the forces of Laos and Cambodia so that they could carry out their

landing would be similar to MacArthur's at Inchon, North Korea, in both purpose and execution. Without heavy coastal defences and air support the North could not possibly repulse such an attack. The Americans with their fire support and air superiority would establish a firm beachhead and then knife into the Northland. NVA combat troops in the South would have to be recalled to defend the North thereby relieving pressure on the South. During their absence the

South could be secured and consolidated.

The NVA would be forced into a major engagement with the invading forces which definitely gives the US the advantage. The elusive enemy would now be forced into the open and certain death. After heavy losses they would be steadily pushed farther north until the inevitable happened. The Chinese Communists alarmed by the US victories would pour troops into the North to aid their failing ally. Com-

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Dis here is de Sarge.

present restricted bombing policy decreases the effect of the air war. Industrial areas, communications, ports, agricultural areas and infiltration routes must be destroyed. Also, the B-52's which are now restricted to targets south of the DMZ would be unleashed upon the North.

Secondly, the US ground forces

own counter insurgent campaigns.

The next step would be the major phase of the plan as it calls for a massive invasion of the North. It is essential that the war be carried to the enemy. An amphibious assault by at least one entire Marine Division along the coast north of the DMZ. This

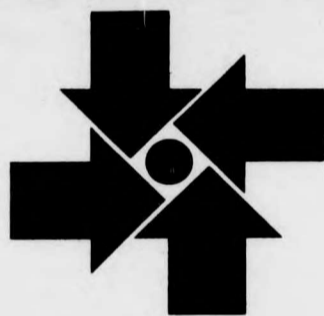
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on Police Brutality (defended by a Police Chief), on The Pill (a Bishop defending The Pope's standing on contraception), and on Betty Friedan