

20 Die, 600 Lost in Chile Quake

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—A violent earthquake rocked central Chile Sunday, killing at least 20 persons and injuring 155. The 600 inhabitants of a single town were missing.

Four provinces were hit by the full force of the quake.

According to the latest information received by the Interior Ministry, the earthquake caused great destruction and a number of deaths in at least 10 cities of Aconcagua, Valparaiso, Coquimbo and Santiago provinces, where more than 2.5 million Chileans live. The quake struck at 12:35 p.m. (1:35 a.m. JST), and was one of the most violent and prolonged recorded in Chile.

Authorities feared that the number of victims may soar as a result of the destruction of the 310-foot-high El Cobre dam, which sent a cascade of water and debris onto the valley below and swept away a town where 600 persons lived.

The national police said after an air inspection that no signs of life were seen in the 16-square-mile sector flooded when the dam broke.

The Interior Ministry said the quake was felt in an area 1,250 miles long and that its epicenter was in the area of Llay-Llay, Quillota and San Felipe, about 75 miles north of Santiago.

The earthquake had an intensity of 10 degrees on a 12-degree scale in the Llay-Llay sector, said the Seismological Institute of the University of Chile. In Iliapel, La Serena and Santiago it had, respectively, intensities of 9, 8 and 7 degrees.

(The Interior Ministry said 100
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Klan Asks For Talks With LBJ

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — Klan leaders from Georgia and Alabama telegraphed President Johnson Sunday requesting a conference to discuss the President's attacks on the Ku Klux Klan.

Calvin F. Craig, Georgia grand dragon of United Klans, said the telegram asking the conference was dispatched shortly after noon. It was signed by Craig and Robert M. Shelton Jr. of Tuscaloosa, imperial wizard of the United Klans.

The request followed angry denunciations by the President of the Klan leaders after Johnson declared war on the order Friday. The president served warning to Klansmen when he announced the arrest of four Alabama Klansmen in the night-riding slaying of a white civil rights worker.

This was the telegram: "Representing the true feelings of millions of Americans, we desire personally to confer with you concerning your statement
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Weather

Tokyo Area Forecast
Tuesday: Partly cloudy; Min. Mid. 50, Max. Mid. 60
Wednesday: Fair; Min. Near 40, Max. Near 60
Sunday's Temperatures: Min. 29, Max. 45
(USAF Weather Central, Fuchu AB)

STAR AND STRIPES

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PEKING TO BOOST AID TO VIET CONG



Marine SSgt. Steve Stilbrens' photo of a Special Forces advisor in the Republic of Vietnam has been selected as The President's Choice for March. The photo of MSgt. Evans H. Johnson was taken by Stilbrens while in South Vietnam for Pacific Stars & Stripes.

LBJ Honors Former S&S Staffer

S&S Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON — President Johnson has picked a former Pacific Stars and Stripes staff member's photograph of a grizzled American infantryman in Vietnam as The President's Choice for March.

Johnson, seeking pictures that illustrate "the history of our times and the efforts of this Administration
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Lightning Touches Off Mines, Kills 14 at S. Vietnam Camp

Compiled From AP and UPI
SAIGON—Lightning struck a claymore mine protective screen around a U.S. Special Forces camp in the Republic of Vietnam's central highlands Saturday, resulting in 14 persons killed and 74 wounded, a U.S. spokesman reported.

One U.S. Special Forces enlisted man was among the wounded. The spokesman said 40 claymore mines were ranged around Plei Do Lim Camp's inner de-

TOKYO (AP)—Communist China declared Sunday it "will exert every effort" to send arms and other war material to the Republic of Vietnam and is ready to send Chinese forces "to fight shoulder to shoulder" with the Viet Cong.

The pledge was made by Foreign Minister Chen Yi in a letter sent to north Vietnam's Foreign Minister Xuan Thuy. The text of Chen Yi's note was broadcast by the official New China News Agency heard here.

In his letter, Chen Yi branded the U.S. air strikes on north Vietnam since Feb. 7 as "a serious threat to peace in Indochina and Southeast Asia."

Chen Yi's stand indorsed a similar China threat made by the official party organ, People's Daily, last Thursday.

"Disregarding the repeated warnings by the government of the Democratic Republic of (north) Vietnam and the strong opposition of many peace-loving countries and people, U.S. imperialism is expanding its war of aggression in South Vietnam step by step."

"The entire Chinese people are extremely indignant at the way" the United States is committing "aggression against Vietnam," Chen Yi said.

The U.S., however, has repeatedly stated that communist aggression in South Vietnam is coming from the north.

Chen Yi said China and Vietnam are closely related like "the lips and the teeth and share each
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Outlook Better: Taylor

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ambassador Maxwell D. Taylor returned from the Republic of Vietnam Sunday, reporting that "things are turning for the better" in the long campaign against communist guerrillas.

Taylor arrived for what he termed a periodic consultation on the progress of the war. He is to confer with President Johnson and other officials for about a week.

In a news conference at Andrews AFB, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff gave a generally optimistic picture, although he declined to go into details on what further actions he might recommend in Vietnam.

Asked whether there was more optimism now about winning the war in the Southeast Asia country, Taylor replied: "I would say
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

fensive perimeter. A freak accident caused by lightning set the mines off, blasting pellets into the housing of mountain tribe soldiers located between the inner and outer defense perimeters of the camp, the spokesman said.

One Vietnamese Special Forces soldier was killed and two wounded. In addition, 13 mountain tribe soldiers and dependents were killed, and 71 wounded.

The American enlisted man was reported in serious condi-

tion at an Army field hospital in Nha Trang with fragment wounds in the head, abdomen and left shoulder.

U.S. helicopters airlifted 40 of the most seriously wounded to a Vietnamese Army hospital at Pleiku. Many of the wounded were women and children.

In other action Sunday, an American Marine helicopter pilot and a Vietnamese Air Force pilot
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