



FROM 18 SEMI-FINALISTS these six valentines were chosen as finalists last night for the title of 1968 Mil Ball Queen. They are, left to right, Lee Smith, Donna Jean Deeter, Amy McDonald, Bea Pallman, Mary Thornton and Ann Herd.

Faced Final Selection Committee

Six Mil Ball Queen Finalists Named

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, six coeds were named finalists last night in the 1968 Military Ball Queen competition. The finalists, selected by vote of the cadets and midshipmen, are evenly distributed between the services. Army finalists are Donna Jean Deeter (10th-fine arts-Pittsburgh) and Mary Evelyn Thornton (6th - elementary education-Pittsburgh). Navy is represented by Ann Herd (5th-education-Bangor) and Bea Pallman (5th-home economics education-Altoona) Air Force candidates are Amy McDonald (2nd-liberal arts-Bethel Park) and Lee Smith (4th-education-Pennington, N.J.).

These finalists last night faced the final selection board, consisting of Donald H. Ford, Dean of the College of Human Development, Laurence H. Lattman, Professor of Geomorphology, Joseph Paterno, Head Football Coach, and their wives. The Queen and runner-up will be announced at the Military Ball Saturday night in the Hetzel Union Building ballroom.

The other semifinalists were Mary E. Gebler (5th-journalism-Perkiomenville), Kay Regan (8th-elementary and kindergarten education - Yardley), Susan Roland (5th-science-Bethel Park), Irene Zielinski (5th-secondary education-Cranford, N.J.), Diane Hoffman

(8th - housing administration - Bloomsburg), Lydia Leech (5th-consumer service-Millertown), Gerry Lucent (9th-secondary education - Monongahela), Evelyn Routi (2nd-liberal arts-Media), Joan Slusser (11th - speech - Beaver), Elizabeth Brucillo (9th-French-Sheloc), Diana Hutchings (6th-Microbiology-Beech), Kathryn Jo Mayes (2nd-human development-Newtown Square), Ann S. Mundo (8th-Science-State College), and Linda Reich (8th-English-York).

Gail Madison (2nd-art education-Rydal) represented Ogontz campus Army Reserve Officers Training Corps and Suzanne Gelty (5th-elementary education-Schuylkill Haven) was the candidate from Schuylkill campus.

And Here's the Rest...

Table listing various student organizations and their members, including Socialology (SOC), Religious Studies (RL ST), Rural Sociology (R SOC), Russian (RUS), School Psychology (S PSY), Secondary Education (SEC ED), and Speech Pathology and Audiology (S P A).

eyewitness account

Student Analyzes City Attack

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of student reports from Vietnam by two students from New York City's Queens College. The student, Ralph Paladino, supports the presence of the United States in Vietnam. The other, Lee Dembart, does not.

The Daily Collegian is running the series in cooperation with the Queens College newspaper, The Phoenix.

By RALPH PALADINO Special to The Daily Collegian

SAIGON, Feb. 4 — The Communist attack on the capital of South Vietnam began on the second day of the Chinese New Year. Simultaneously, dozens of major government and American installations in and around Saigon were attacked by small bands of well-armed Viet Cong with orders to capture and hold until relieved. The relief never came. Within 72 hours, two-thirds of the attackers were dead or captured, the rest routed.

Within seconds of one another, troops attacking the Presidential Palace were spotted by Korean guards in front of the nearby Ambassador's home, a powerful explosion damaged the Philippine Embassy, a 18-man suicide squad breached the outer wall of the American Embassy and was able to capture a portion of the building, the Vietnamese radio station was destroyed, numerous police stations were attacked, and Tan Son Nhut Airbase, a few miles outside the city, was fired upon. Throughout the entire South, similar attacks were in progress with varying degrees of success.

It seems clear that there were three purposes in carrying out this concerted attack on most of the major population centers of the country: to score enough significant military victories as possible to force a coalition government on the South; to demonstrate to the people of the large cities, who are losing their fear of the Communists, that the Viet Cong are still around and powerful enough to strike anywhere; and to score as many propaganda points as possible against the U.S. at home and the rest of the world. They had some failures and some successes.

There is little doubt that the Viet Cong failed to achieve any significant military victories. In Saigon, only the attacks on the radio station and the American Embassy were successful. Captured areas of the city were retaken almost immediately. Military and police installations beat off the attackers without exception. Snipers were only a scattered inconvenience.

In the remainder of Vietnam, captured areas of the provincial capitals were regained within hours, air bases continued to operate with only one field damaged seriously. Over 12,000 Viet Cong were killed and 3,000 captured, a ratio of 12 to one over allied killed. Militarily, in fact, it was a complete rout.

It had been over six months since any of the major cities of the South have come under Viet Cong attack. Since the last major offensive, the government has strengthened its hold on the provincial capitals and through them, the people, it has legitimized its rule through elections, and instituted some badly needed reforms throughout the country.

While only a small step, the people in the cities are for the first time being approached by government agents other than tax collectors. Some of the remoteness and apathy is breaking down, and the cities are not secure places for the Viet Cong. Suspected VC are regularly informed upon in the large cities today, while a year ago this was unheard of. And most important, the Viet Cong have not been able to retaliate in force against the informers.

The new radio and television nets that blanket Vietnam have played a large role in creating a sense of national identity — not as Vietnamese, but as South Vietnamese. For the first time, national heroes, popular actors and singers are creating some community in the

South. The Viet Cong attack on the Saigon radio station and on a number of local radio stations in other parts of the country underlines the fact that the Viet Cong realizes the threat the airwaves pose to them. American radio and TV, heard and watched by as many Vietnamese as Americans, are helping our national image and making more and more untenable the Viet Cong picture of Americans as imperialist oppressors.

Cholon in Saigon is populated by Vietnamese of Chinese extraction, and in an attempt to infiltrate successfully without fighting, the Viet Cong employed their members of similar ethnic background. Almost to a man they were identified by resident Chinese.

When ARVN and American troops entered the city in force, the fiercest fighting in Saigon broke out. With the help of the local citizens, all the VC infiltrators were routed out and hundreds killed in battle. Hundreds more attempted to infiltrate in sampans and barges. Snipers in Saigon were captured or killed with the help of the Vietnamese who pointed out escape routes and building entrances to the police. General Weyand, Commander of the III Corps, estimated that ARVN carried 70% of the fighting load throughout the South, and accounted for 700 to 1,000 casualties.

The Viet Cong killed and wounded thousands of civilians in the three days of fighting. In Saigon there were two reported cases of Viet Cong using women and children as shields to make their escape out of the city. In Cholon they captured a children's hospital and used it as a stronghold. They overran a military compound outside of Saigon and executed the wives and children living in it. Snipers shot at civilians and soldiers alike.

Whatever else the Vietnamese feel about the Viet Cong, it is not fear. When the curfew was lifted for a few hours in the secure parts of the city, people and traffic cluttered the streets within minutes. While the Viet Cong may still be around, they seem to have lost their credibility. It is difficult to terrorize a people that simply does not take you seriously anymore.

Much has been made of the VC ability to attack and hold the American Embassy in Saigon, if only for a few hours. Banner headlines throughout the world press proclaim the lack of security that this indicates. Is it possible that with a half million troops in Vietnam, the United States cannot even protect its own Embassy from attack? The answer is that we did not try.

Only seven men guarded the Embassy on the night of the attack. The Viet Cong had no trouble approaching the grounds and blasting a hole in the wall surrounding the compound. The counterattack which occurred within minutes was slowed because of a lack of heavy weapons that might have destroyed valuable papers and buildings. But in a few hours, and without extensive damage (bullet holes in the walls and damage to the roof was the worst of it), the Embassy was recaptured and 19 enemy killed.

Militarily, then, the attack on Saigon and the rest of the nation failed to meet its objective. The present government is still functioning and is in control as much as before the attack. What successes the Viet Cong did have were temporary and pyrrhic.

It is difficult to conceive that the United States can possibly be winning a war in which it cannot even protect its own Embassy from enemy attack. But it must be conceived, if the engagements of last week are any indication, the United States is winning.

It should be more difficult to accept than the fact that at the height of the battle, planes were still using Tan Son Nhut Airbase, Americans and Vietnamese were walking the streets, Vietnam Radio stayed on the air from auxiliary transmitters, and the battles were watched from rooftops and windows. Vietnam was attacked, but it was never under siege.

Fraternity Celebrates Golden Anniversary

The Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity last week celebrated 50 years of fraternal living at the University.

Members of the fraternity commemorated their chapter's founding in conjunction with their pledge formal held last weekend. Arrangements for the formal, the "Golden 50," were made by Pledge Class President Ed York.

A banquet was held at the fraternity as a part of the festivities. Alumni attended some of the functions and those who were unable to attend wired their congratulations to the present brotherhood.

Eric Frystowsky, fraternity vice-president, said that the weekend was a "total success." He and fraternity president, Lee Marraccini, were both satisfied with the events of the weekend.

Armenara Coiffure 131 Sowers St., State College. Phone 238-8481. Across From South Halls.

The Sisters of Iota Alpha Pi warmly welcome their new initiates. Shelley Blum, Marcia Kaplan, Hilary Kulman, Penny Levine, Marti Lyons, Cindy Sheyman, Janet Strauss.

Kappa Phi Christian Women's Service Club Rose Tea. All Interested Women Are Welcome. February 21 at Wesley Foundation 7:30.

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ARTIFAX Alpha Phi Omega Professional Service Fraternity. Congratulations to its new initiates: Robert Anson, Don Ashton, Ethan Coane, Dave Gill, Clark Krewson, Dave Mack, Ron Matthews, Robert Reitz, Justin Schmidt, Larry Smukler, Ray Trimmer, Jim Wellington, Richard Orr. Leadership Friendship Service.