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## ENEMY BLOWS UP 4 U.S. HELICOPTERS

### 5th Is Damaged in Predawn Raid North of Saigon

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Wednesday, July 28 (AP)—Enemy demolition men stole into an allied base 30 miles north of here in predawn darkness yesterday, blew up four American helicopters and damaged a fifth.

Reports from the base, at Laikhe, said no one there even saw the attackers, who hurled satchel charges into the helicopters and then escaped.

"They came right through the wire," one sergeant said. He reported that two American servicemen were slightly wounded in the attack. According to the Saigon command, there were no South Vietnamese casualties.

The attack reportedly wrecked aircraft valued at more than \$2-million.

The Laikhe base was turned over to the South Vietnamese last year, but it is used also by American forces. The helicopters there support allied troops in the 11-province Saigon region and South Vietnamese operations inside Cambodia.

A new South Vietnamese operation was reported under way in eastern Cambodia yesterday, aimed at trying to keep North Vietnamese forces from infiltrating into South Vietnam.

Reports from the field said the sweep, in which 1,000 men were participating, began on Monday, with another 1,000 infantrymen in reserve. No enemy resistance has been reported so far.

The operation was reported centered 10 miles inside Cambodia and 90 miles north of Saigon in the area near Seoul, from which the South Vietnamese were driven two months ago with heavy casualties.

More than 12,000 South Vietnamese troops are now said to be in Cambodia, and officials in the field indicated that they would be used for brief drives.

Meanwhile, in the northern part of South Vietnam, just to the east of the Ashau Valley, 1,600 South Vietnamese infantrymen continued a new hunt for enemy troops for a third day, with still no significant contact reported.

The United States command reported no ground action involving American troops but said five B-52 raids were flown against suspected enemy positions in the northern part of the country.

The command said three United States storage barges were sunk early Monday in Quinhon harbor on the central coast by mines believed placed by Vietcong frogmen. The 100-foot-long craft, usually used to store ammunition or field rations, were empty. No casualties were reported.