

EDITORIAL

Real America found Behind the headlines

When you pick up a newspaper and glance at the headlines, a shocking picture of the United States confronts you. You wonder what can be done to rectify all the obvious wrongs and how long your country can continue on the downhill slide.

If you are only a headline reader, your picture of the United States must be grim. The real America is behind the headlines. On page 12 there may be a human interest story of how someone helped another in trouble. The same page may carry a story on why a talented athlete assumed a position in social work during his off-season instead of accepting a high-paying selling job.

Why don't articles like these make front page banners? They are just too frequent to be of real news value. You read the newspaper to find out what news is happening today; for instance, heart transplants were the big thing six months ago. But now readers have accepted the idea and have turned toward newer concepts. It is not that heart transplants have been stopped or perfected; it is that people know they will continue and will be perfected, so why read about them?

Articles of catastrophies have the same effect on Americans. Recently headlines read "Oil Slick Threatens West Coast". For West Coast dwellers, this was big news and was until the threat in their immediate area subsided. But in the East and Midwest it only warranted a two-day front page run, then it was crowded into the inside pages as snowstorms isolated thousands in the East and icestorms broke down communications in the Midwest. Features covering the aftermath of these catastrophies will be carried but they are no longer front page news. A new crisis or demonstration has pushed these events into the annals.

So if you're interested in what is being done to correct yesterday's or a year-ago's front page spreads, look beyond the headlines. See what is constantly being done to improve life. Then compare your standard of living with any other country in the world. You will find that the United States, with all its human faults, is "the Giant" in giving its people the life they want to live and deserve.

QM1 Paseur awarded Bronze Star Medal

Quartermaster First Class Ray M. Paseur, 25, of Fort Huachuca, California, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" for meritorious service in Vietnam at ceremonies on board the Jennington, Thursday, February 20.

The letter which accompanied the medal read in part: "For meritorious service while serving...in the Republic of Vietnam from 21 August 1967 to 14 August 1968. As a river patrol boat patrol officer of River Squadron 523, Petty Officer Paseur conducted over 250 combat patrols in the heavily contested Mekong Delta. ...He actively engaged the enemy; conducted timely medical evacuations of Vietnamese troops, participated in psychological warfare operations, and...pursued his primary job of maintaining control of the Delta waterways. Petty Officer Paseur's exemplary professionalism and outstanding leadership...were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

The medal was presented by Captain W.J. Barrow, Jennington's Commanding Officer.



Captain W.J. Barrow, Commanding Officer, congratulates QM1 Paseur after awarding him a Bronze Star Medal.