



Soap Box Derby Champion Tom DeRigo is kissed by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin DeRigo, after winning the 28th Greater Cleveland race.
Plain Dealer Photo (Dudley Brumbach)

After Diet, 4 Losing Tries

Boy Coasts to Derby Victory

Tom DeRigo is a very determined youth.

Yesterday his determination helped make his five-year-old dream of winning the Greater Cleveland Soap Box Derby come true.

The local derby is sponsored each year by The Plain Dealer and the Greater Cleveland Chevrolet Dealers.

Tom coasted his racer to victory, defeating 182 other boys to become the 28th Cleveland Derby champion.

TO DO IT, the 15-year-old youth had to go on a diet and overcome the jinx of four earlier losses.

In heat after heat yesterday he consistently ran a full second faster than the average time of most of the other racers. Twice, including the last heat, he crossed the finish line in 29.2 seconds. His slowest time was 29.4 seconds.

A happy, cheering crowd, estimated as high as 10,000 by police, watched the boys race down the Inner Belt Freeway 800 feet toward the E. 22d Street finish line.

The day, sunny and not too warm, was perfect for racing. Many in the crowd spread out blankets on the grassy embankment overlooking the course and opened picnic baskets.

SEVERAL THOUSAND others hugged the guardrail on the freeway to get a good view. More than 1,000 jammed the E. 22d Street bridge over the freeway to watch the finish.

A mishap marred the day when Martin Lemmen, 8, of 21111 Sydenham Road, Shaker Heights, fell out of a truck while waving to his mother, Mrs. William Lemmen. He was treated for a bruised head at St. Vincent Charity Hospital. His brother, Pax, 12, had competed in the derby.

Young DeRigo first swept the Class A division for boys up to 15 and then had to beat the Class B winner, William J. Miller, 12, of 24929 E. Oakland Road, Bay Village. Class B is for boys up to 13.

Bill Miller also was last year's Class B winner. Son of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Miller, Bill built a new, low-slung black model for this year.

"I lost the championship by six lengths last year. This year I lost it by only a half-length," he said. "I'll make it next year."

The DeRigo youth said he had made up his mind to win the championship the day he lost last year.

"The next day I started to build a new racer," he said.

TOM'S DETERMINATION was partly to win family honors for four older brothers, all ex-derby racers, and four sisters. His father, Alvin, is a foreman at Munson Bag Co. The family lives at 7616 Big Creek Parkway, Middleburg Heights.

"It took a whole year to build and rebuild," Tom said. "I used the porch off the kitchen and mom was very kind about that."

"I also wrote a letter to the national grand champion who lives in Tacoma, Wash. I asked his advice. He told me to build it big enough to be comfortable in and to design it for low

air resistance. I did and it paid off."

The only problem came a few months ago when Tom's weight rose. To qualify in the derby the combined weight of the racer and driver cannot top 250 pounds.

AND A DIET is no mean feat for growing teen-agers, most of whom can drink a quart of milk at one sitting.

"I had to lose 15 pounds," he said. "I'm glad the derby is over." Tom said. "I'll only have to stick to it until the national derby is run."

Tom doesn't look overweight. The brown-haired, brown-eyed youth stands in at 5-feet, 11 inches and weighs 128 pounds.

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'Big Red One' Troops in Viet

Peking Claims U.S. Jets Fly Over China

SAIGON, Viet Nam (AP)—U.S. warplanes hammered north of Hanoi yesterday and Communist China charged four of them flew over into its Yunnan province.

Today the first full-sized U.S. infantry unit arrived for duty in Viet Nam. A reinforced battalion of about 1,000 men of the Army's 1st Division, famed in World War II as the "Big Red One," put ashore at Cam Ranh Bay, 180 miles northeast of Saigon.

U.S. spokesmen said 3,000 more infantrymen will land elsewhere in the next few days.

A Peking radio broadcast said the four planes made a "direct military provocation" by flying over Hok'ou, a Chinese town near the north Vietnamese border, and then turning back to bomb and strafe Lao Cai on the Vietnamese side.

THE RADIO WARNED that the Red Chinese army is now "in full battle array."

A Pentagon spokesman in Washington said "There is no basis in fact for the charge." The Texas White House and the State Department declined to comment.

The Chinese said the incident occurred at 2:45 p.m. Sunday.

A U.S. spokesman reported that planes hammered north of Hanoi, pounded famed Dien Bien Phu and installations at Yen Bai.

He said pilots of four Air Force phantom jets sighted two unidentified aircraft near Yen Bai, 77 miles northwest of Hanoi, but the planes turned tail and headed for Communist China, 90 miles northwest.

IN THE GROUND WAR, a strong Viet Cong force loomed up in supposedly secure territory and smashed a South Vietnamese military convoy on the road between Saigon and the St. Jacques sea resort.

The attack, 25 miles southeast of the capital, held up the flow of Sunday bathers who whiled away the day with beer and sandwiches.

Using recoilless cannon, mortars and machine guns, the Viet Cong guerrillas killed 16 government troops, wounded 17 others and captured 15 more, a U.S. military spokesman said. He added that the guerrillas destroyed a tank and damaged six other vehicles. There was no mention of American troops being involved.

AT THE SAME TIME, the guerrillas lobbed mortars into a government post near Phu My, apparently to stall off a relief force. Relief troops reached the scene five hours after the start of the attack but the government column was shattered and the Viet Cong nowhere to be found.

The U.S. spokesman said the enemy force contained perhaps 200 men.

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Indians Drop Fifth in Row

The Indians' losing streak reached five games yesterday as the Angels concluded a four-game sweep over the Tribe at Los Angeles, 2-0.

Dean Chance extended the Indians' scoreless inning streak to 30, while going the distance for the first time in two months.

The skidding Tribe dropped five games behind Minnesota, which defeated the Yanks, 6-5.

See Sports Pages for Details

U.S. Shedding Adviser Role to Take Main Burden in Viet

By JACK RAYMOND
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SAIGON, Viet Nam—The United States is viewed here as definitely on the road to taking over the main burden of combat in the war against the Communist guerrillas.

The South Vietnamese government forces, wracked by a crisis in leadership, defeats in battle and sheer physical depletion after years of war, are considered by those here in a position to know to be unequal to a decisive struggle

against the strongly reinforced Viet Cong.

THE CHANGE from what is still ostensibly the advisory and supporting role of the U.S. forces to outright offensive operations on a wide scale will not be announced.

But U.S. troops — many more of whom are due to arrive shortly, including sizable elements of the 1st Infantry Division — will be sent out to "meet and defeat" main Viet Cong and North Vietnamese army units in South Viet Nam.

Conventional battles are

anticipated, rather than hit-and-run ambushes and sometimes aimless "search and destroy" patrolling of the recent past.

INCREASED U.S. casualties also are foreseen here, although there is an undercurrent of doubt in some quarters whether the U.S. public has been adequately prepared for such heightened conflict.

Details and timing of American combat deployments are expected to be the main subject of discussion here when U.S. Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara and returning Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge arrive Wednesday for several days of consultation with retiring Ambassador Maxwell D. Taylor, South Vietnamese government leaders and the head of the U.S. Military Assistance Command, Gen. William C. Westmoreland.

There is no evidence that Taylor's resignation is related to the heightened U.S. military combat commitment.

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Radar Plane Down; 19 Aboard

BOSTON (AP)—An Otis Air Force Base spokesman said last night an EC121 radar picket plane carrying 19 crewmen ditched at sea about 100 miles northeast of Nantucket Island.

The plane went down about 10:20 p.m. EDT. Shortly before midnight search planes sent out from Otis reported receiving a signal similar to that emitted by homing devices used in aircraft emergency.

The Federal Aviation Agency in Boston said visibility at the crash scene was poor, with fog and rain. But the FAA said there is considerable air traffic over the area where the plane went down, and that several ships

were in the general area.

THE CARRIER U.S.S. Wasp was steaming to the scene and was expected to arrive at about 5 a.m. this morning.

The crew of the \$2.5 million plane radioed its first distress call about 10:20 p.m. (EDT), saying that one engine was on fire.

Shortly afterward came word that a second of the plane's four engines had had to be stopped and the propeller feathered. About five minutes after the first call came the report of ditching.

The plane said at first it would try to reach Nantucket, which was shrouded in fog and drizzle.

THERE WAS NO word immediately on whether the crewmen had survived. Pan American Airways Flight 114 out of New York was in the area of the crash and was reported circling where the Air Force plane went down.

In New York, the airline reported its plane had searched for 20 minutes without success, and then had continued toward Paris.

The Coast Guard and the Air Force dispatched rescue craft. Otis officials said they diverted two other radar picket planes to search the area.

AN AIR FORCE spokesman said the plane was on a normal 12-hour radar surveillance mission. He said it

had completed about half the mission when the engine caught fire.

The plane was described as the military version of the Lockheed Super-G Constellation. It is fitted with a huge radar dome, and is used as part of the Distant Early Warning system.

Inside Information

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- LOCAL collector tells about his horde of Indian wampum, the world's largest. See Coin Page 20.
- PD's Tom Place reports on golf as she is played in the moorlands of Scotland, Page 33.
- PD lensmen click Soap Box Derby fun and thrills. See Picture Page.
- HOW much cash should be set aside for clothing, ask Mary Feeley in her budget column, Page 29.



'Saucers' Seen Over Portugal

LISBON, Portugal (AP)—Strange objects moving through space were reported sighted in two widely separated areas of Portugal yesterday. The Azores weather bureau said interference from one stopped its electromagnetic clocks.

Descriptions of the objects were strikingly similar to official Argentine and Chilean military reports of sightings in the Antarctic last week.

The first reported mysterious flying object appeared in Motosinhos, near the northern city of Oporto, where Manuel Fernandes and his wife at first saw "some sort of luminous flattened balloon."

Fernandes, an employe of the fishermen's union, said, "The strange object at first sight looked like a flattened balloon, but then as we both watched, it looked like a plate turned over.

"The thing was very luminous, and had orange coloring and was nearly red at times," the couple said. "The saucer stopped at

rather high altitude, near the coast, for about three minutes. Then, with an incredible velocity, it sped towards the north."

SOME SORT of interference stopped the electromagnetic clocks of the Villa Do Porto weather bureau in the Portuguese Azores archipelago, a spokesman said.

He added a "cylindrical white object" circled around in the sky.

The spokesman said the object was moving slowly north-east at an altitude of 24,000 to 30,000 feet.

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Found in Romania

Here's an Oddity: Modest Reds

By JOHN P. LEACACOS
Staff Correspondent

BUCHAREST, Romania—Found: a rarity — some modest Communists, with common sense, here in Romania.

With most proletarian politicians addicted to a special braggadocio of half-truths or worse, the Romanian Reds are unique in keeping claims low and realism high.

Alexandru Sobaru, general secretary of the State Planning Commission, told The Plain Dealer:

"There are Socialist countries with less resources (Romania is one of the richest of the lot in this respect) who have been more clever. We started at the bottom. We have a lot to do to reach the level of the advanced countries."

SOBARU MEANT East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland — all ahead of Romania in industrialization.

Even salted down, the Romanian economic record is impressive: a 14.8% annual rise in industrial expansion, production and trade more than doubled since 1959, national income up 65%.

In the new five-year plan, to be ratified at the fourth party congress July 19, Romania's Communist command will cut back the expansion rate to 10.5%. The idea is to consolidate and modernize in this period.

By 1970, the reasonable expectation is that Romania will have a respectable capital infrastructure in chemicals, machine tools, power and steel—in short, a modern state.

CONTRARY to the hope of wishful Willies in the West, however, Romania's trade will still be mostly with the Soviet Union and the other Commie comrades.

Though trade with non-Communist states shot up from 14 to 38% in recent years, Romania depends heavily on Russia for key metals and iron ores, which the West finds uneconomic to supply.

But these economic land mines could blow up this rosy future: lack of trained manpower and too miserly a doling out of adequate consumer goods.

As late as 1962 Romania had 65% of its labor force in agriculture. Yet farming was neglected until recently, a common Communist failing. The result is an



Heman Institute Dedicated

Mark Wolff, a poster child for the Cleveland Society for Crippled Children, presents flowers to Mrs. Harold H. Burton as his mother, Mrs. Robert Wolff, left, looks on, at dedication of Heman Rehabilitation Institute yesterday. (Details on Page 16)

Plain Dealer Photo (William G. Tapp)

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