



## **Collection Information:**

**Folder:** Civic Action Program activities: Press and correspondence regarding Montagnard crossbows, 1967-1968.

**Series:** Vietnam War Service.

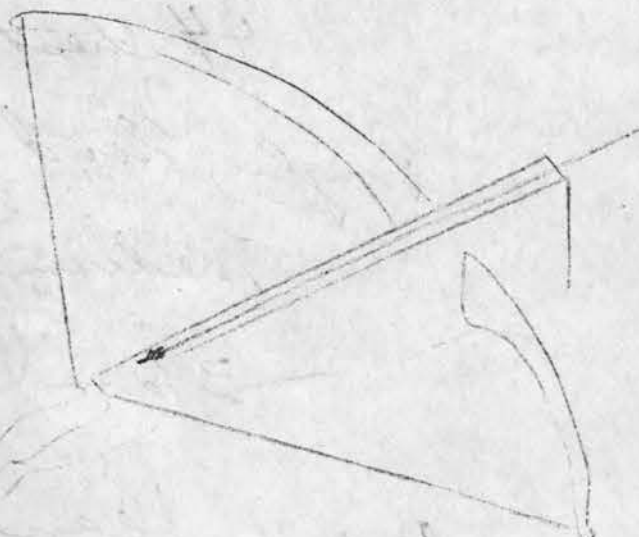
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This is an authentic Montagnard crossbow, made by the Jarai people who lived in the Central Highlands for over 2,000 years. The bows have been made in Plei Brel, Plei Sor, Plei Phuong, and Plei Kep, villages located close to the Pleiku Air Base perimeter.



The wood in these bows is a type of mahogany similar to the Luan wood of the Philippines. Each bow is perfectly balanced and it takes one sun up to one sun down to cut and carve each bow. The string is hand woven from the fibers of the taro plant which have been shredded and dried in the sun.

The arrows are made from

selected bamboo

and the "feathers"

are fashioned from palmetto leaves. The individual carving on the stock are not of religious significance, but are rather the bowmaker's style of decoration and identification.

When you buy this bow, or any bow made by members of a newly formed cooperative group of Jarai, you are directly helping the Civic Actions program achieve better relations between the American and Montagnard peoples. The price you pay will realize a profit for the Montagnard bowman of approximately 100-150\$VN. With this profit, the people of these villages supplement their supply of rice, other food and clothing. The profits from these sales also go to buy soap, lanterns and other commodities the Montagnard can not readily obtain.

This is in no way a give-away program. It is rather a self help program by which the Montagnard learns the fundamentals of business, develops small industry and begins to pull himself above a hand to mouth existence. It is hoped that this program will prosper into a more diversified one as time goes on.

The Montagnards are a very industrious and honest people who work and fight very hard. From their support and friendship will come eventual peace in this very troubled land.

As the Jarai say, "Bóni Kó ih" - Thank you.

Montagnard Industries  
Pleiku Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

Art Arbumer

36 in waist short

44 Chest - medium regular

Rugh, Floyd

Medium regular

36 in waist long

Owen Kean

Medium regular short

36 in waist long

Jack Luse

Medium regular

31-35 waist long

Lynn Bechler

36 in waist long

42-45 Chest large medium regular

DAN

(209)

HERE is my EPISTLE, I  
STOLE most of the material from  
YOU. What in the Hell is yours.  
WE RECEIVED the MANIFESTO on  
THE LOOMS. no LOOMS yet.

PAUL

220

MON. MAR. 4 1968

Dear Sirs:

I noticed the article in the February issue of The Airman, about the crossbows you are selling for your base's civic action project. I am very interested in obtaining some of these crossbows. Could you please send me some information on how I might order them; price, shipping costs, etc. Thank you.

Cordially,  
Sgt. Paul D Tuttle

SGT. PAUL D. TUTTLE  
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12TH SUPPLY SQ. BOX 625  
CAM RANH BAY AB  
APO S.F. 96326

