

TROPIC LIGHTNING NEWS



Ready To Strike.... Anywhere. Anytime

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January 15, 1968

25th Div Needs Artists

The 18th Military History Det has a requirement for a limited number of artists to work in the 25th Inf Div Combat Artist Program. Talented personnel interested in performing as combat artists should submit through channels three samples of their work to the Division Adjutant General.

MASSIVE TUNNEL FOUND

2ND BDE—U.S. Army tunnel rats aided by members of the Vietnamese Province Reconnaissance Unit (PRU) have uncovered what 25th Div intelligence officials believe to be the main Viet Cong underground infiltration route through the Iron Triangle centered 48 Kms north-northwest of Saigon.

The tunnel complex was uncovered during the land clearing portion of Operation Atlanta. According to 1LT Thomas Seitzinger, a 4th Bn, 23rd Inf, platoon leader, his team of tunnel rats have searched some five miles of the tunneling which generally runs in a north-south direction.

The exact length of the tunnel network is not known, however the PRUs stated that it takes three days and nights to travel its length.

At several points the main

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ARVN Work With Recon Plt

3RD BDE—As part of a 25th Div program, two Vietnamese soldiers have recently been assigned to the reconnaissance platoon of the 2nd Bn (Mech), 22nd Inf.

Nguyen Van Thanh and Nguyen Van Ton were selected to attend the Quang-Trung Military School in Saigon, after which they were attached to the 3rd Bde, 25th Div, for duty with American units.

Their assignment to the reconnaissance platoon of the 2/22nd at first brought some mixed reactions from the members of the platoon. The men felt that the language barrier would prove too great, and were hesitant about having the two Vietnamese with them. They couldn't have been more mistaken.

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800 Pound Patient Just Too Heavy For Dust-off

2ND BDE—A dust-off was out of the question—the patient weighed 800 pounds. They could have put him out of his misery—and faced the reaction of the half-angry, half-curious crowd of Vietnamese.

So the men of Bravo Co, 1st Bn, 27th Inf "Wolfhounds," did the only thing possible: they called for the doctor to come to them.

While the soldiers eyed the farmers and the farmers eyed their wounded ox, CPT Clark A. Gwin from Centralia, Mo., and an assistant hopped aboard a helicopter for their first "house call" in Vietnam.

Moments before, a Wolfhound

BULLETIN

Elements of two Viet Cong regiments tried unsuccessfully to overrun the 25th Inf Div's fire support base Burt on the evening of Jan. 1 and morning of Jan. 2. More than 355 communists of the 271st and 272nd VC regiments were killed in the 10-hour truce-shattering battle. See next week's Tropic Lightning News for details.

