

PREVENTITIVE MEDICINE and Immunization

Immunizations have been brought very near the 100% level throughout the Battalion. This has been accomplished by establishing a "shot" line at the pay line each payday, and has proved to be very effective. The weekly program of malaria chemophylaxis of USARV has been complied with. A peak incidence of falciparum malaria in the infantry units stationed at Camp RANIER, DAU TIENG, RVN, occurred during late November and December. The malaria was known to have been inoculated during these units' operations in the field. As a result, there was a directive by the 25th Infantry Division, which this Battalion supports, concerning malaria chemoprophylaxis which obligated the 188th Assault Helicopter Company, located at DAU TIENG, to initiate and terminate a 28 day period of Dapsone chemoprophylaxis for malaria. Venereal disease remains at a moderate level. A news-letter educational program on VD and other preventive medicine subjects has been initiated by one of the Battalion flight surgeons. Aviator flying fatigue continues to be a significant problem. During the month of December 1967, two companies of the Battalion flew over 5000 aviator flying hours, one over 4500 hours, one over 2500 hours, one over 1500 hours and the last, 700 hours. It is the opinion of the present incumbent of the Battalion surgeon's office that the number of hours is not the significant factor in the control of fatigue. Aviator fatigue is a complex of mission type, flying hours, hours waiting, and a period of rest. The aviator fatigue problem could be alleviated somewhat by adding a goal-directed rest period with the control of the number of hours flown.

RANIER

FLIGHT FATIGUE

148th
Jan 68