

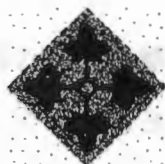


BRAVO REGULARS

BRAVO COMPANY 3RD BATTALION 22ND INFANTRY

NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 1999 - M.C. TOYER, EDITOR

DEDICATED TO THOSE WHO SERVED



4th Infantry

VIETNAM 1966 - 1971



25th Infantry

GI'S BEAT BACK REDS, KILL 351

This is the headline that appeared in the "TROPIC LIGHTNING NEWS" on Jan. 4, 1968. The following is a reprint of that article:

SAIGON (UPI) -Firing artillery pointblank into their attackers, U.S. soldiers Tuesday turned back elements of two veteran Viet Cong regiments who partially overran their jungle position in the waning hours of the bloodiest holiday truce of the Vietnam War.

U.S. spokesmen said the men who defended fire support base Burt, 60 miles northwest of Saigon and a mere eight miles from the Communists Cambodia sanctuary, killed 351 Viet Cong in 10 hours of fighting.

But they paid heavily - 23 Americans killed and 153 wounded - in by far the most serious of the 177 violations U.S. and government spokesmen claimed the Communists initiated during the 36 hour New Years truce which ended at 6 a.m. Tuesday.

Early reports, which proved erroneous, had said that 75 Americans were killed.

A total of 27 Americans were killed and 205 wounded during the so-called truce, while 44 South Vietnamese died and 132 were hurt. U.S. and Saigon government spokesmen claimed 549 Communists killed and 11 captured.

This compared with 111 incidents reported in the 48 hour New Year's truce a year ago in which 14 Americans, five South Vietnamese and 40 Viet Cong were killed.

The attack near the Cambodian border began shortly aftersunset, after elements of two 25th Inf. Div. battalions had settled in for the last night of the second of three holiday truces. The third, for the Lunar New Year, is scheduled for 72 hours later this month.

First came 350 mortar rounds, then the first of two ground assaults.

American planes were quickly overhead, sweeping the Communist positions with bombs and cannon fire within 100 yards of the U.S. perimeter.

The brunt of the attack was aimed against a platoon of four armored personnel carriers commanded by 2nd Lt. Gordon F. Kelley, 26 of Northwest Harbor, Maine. Communist rockets hit all four tracked vehicles, but the men inside kept pouring out machine-gun

fire at the flicker of Viet Cong muzzles.

At one point, Communist soldiers swarmed through the perimeter and occupied one section of bunkers from which they fired their hand-carried bazooka-style B40 rockets.

Then the American artillery began to take effect. Firing "beehive rounds," shells filled with hundreds of tiny darts that spew over a wide area when fired, artillerymen leveled their 105mm guns and cut loose with 100 rounds.

At dawn the combined air strikes and artillery caused the Communists to break and flee, UPI correspondent Robert Kaylor reported.

BRAVO REGULARS Newsletter is published quarterly by an association of former members of Bravo Company 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry who served in Vietnam from 1966 to 1971. Send comments, suggestions and items for submission to:

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LOCATERS COLUMN

By John Otte

The locaters job is getting tougher with each passing day. Not only is it becoming more difficult to locate new people, but with each newsletter mailing, we seem to loose contact with two or three guys that we had previously located.

One way that you can all help in locating our fellow Bravo Company veterans is to contact me with any names that you remember from the company, and who do not appear on our mailing list. In addition to the names, if you have information, such as hometown or home state that go's with the name, this can be very helpful. Recently I found Dennis Earwood, who was a 4th platoon original. I located Dennis by determining that his home state was Nebraska. I called every Earwood in Nebraska with a listed phone number, luckily there was only one and it turned out to be our guys brother Kevin. Talked with Dennis's sister in law, and she gave me his phone number in Virginia. Called Dennis, spoke for about forty five minutes. Dennis asked about a number of guys, but was particularly interested in a Brian Betters who was the original medic for the 4th platoon. I had been asked on several occassions about Brian Betters, but Dennis was able to give me a home state for Betters, Virginia. I checked one of the internet national phone directories and found one Brian Betters in Florida, but several people named Betters in Virginia but no Brian. Since I had the info about Virginia, I started calling the Betters listed in

FINANCIAL REPORT

BEGINING BALANCE APRIL 1, 1999	\$2582.72
Income	12.16
Expense	.00
ENDING BALANCE APRIL 30, 1999	\$2594.88
BEGINING BALANCE MAY 1, 1999	\$2594.88
Income	40.00
Expense	467.64
ENDING BALANCE MAY 31, 1999	\$2167.24
BEGINING BALANCE JUNE 1, 1999	\$2167.24
Income	60.00
Expense	.00
ENDING BALANCE JUNE 30, 1999	\$2227.24

Virginia. About the third call I made was to Brian's cousin. She said that he now lived somewhere in Florida. Called the phone number that I had found for a Brian Betters in Florida, and spent the next hour or so talking with a Bravo Company original. The smallest piece of information can set a chain reaction in motion that can lead to many Bravo vets being located.

The following is a list of new finds since our last newsletter:

CHARLES ARCHER
P.O. BOX 595
CANTON, TX 75103
903 848-1228

BRIAN BETTERS
10017 LEAFWOOD DR.
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32312
850 668-7428

ARTHUR COOK
317 JONES ROAD
CEDAR CREEK, TX 78612
512 332-0616

DENNIS EARWOOD
31 RIDGEWOOD PKWY.
NEWPORT NEWS, VA 23608
757 877-2415

GARY HAYES
2625 EIGHT MILE AVE.
ATHOL, ID 83801
208 683-2105

MICHAEL HUTCHISON
1315 S. MEADOW LN. #266
COLTON, CA 92324
909 824-7313

GARY HYMES
675 TEN POINT DRIVE
ROCHESTER, MI 48309-2550
248 651-7938

GEORGE HARDIN
1010 CHELMSFORD DR.
MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055
717 732-3032

DONALD KEISTER
1336 PARADISE DRIVE
YIGO, GUAM 96929-1234
671 653-9788

JOHN KYZAR
2004 HWY. 84W
LAUREL, MS 39440

KENNETH MARSH
32 PARK STREET
OXFORD, MI 48371
248 628-4149

GEORGE MC DONALD
22 DIANE DR.
MEDWAY, MA 02053
508 533-69091

GORDON STOREY
P.O. BOX 1142
FALL CITY, WA 98024
425 222-7021

GARY SOMERS
BOX 234
TRYON, OK 74875
918 374-2348

RICHARD SWAISGOOD
4541 157TH AVE S.E.
BELLEVUE, WA 98006
425 747-7736