



HOAI AN DISTRICT HOOTBEATS



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2/12TH AID MARINES

The 2d Battalion 12th Cavalry is again operating with the 3rd Brigade. The 3rd Brigade is OPCON to the newly formed American Division made up of elements of the 101st Airborne, 196th Light Infantry Brigade and the 1st Armored Cavalry Regiment.

There is never a dull moment in the new area of operation. Snipers have harassed the battalion from the day they arrived at Landing Zone Ross. After the 3rd time the sniper fired, a squad size patrol from Company D was sent out to locate the sniper. Sergeant Joseph Rains, leading the patrol, spotted and ARVN who told them where the fire was coming from. Sergeant Rains then called in a fire mission consisting of 81mm mortar, 155mm artillery and ARA before the patrol moved into the area. A thorough search of the area turned up probable positions for the sniper but the enemy was not located.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

CAPTURE 44 WPNS

153 ARTY KILL 58

On 11 Oct, Delta Company 7/5th Cavalry, led by CPT Alvin B. Johnson, air assaulted south of the 506 Valley in the Hoai An District.

At 745 hours the Skytroopers landed and by 0830 were on the move. The 1st platoon split off from the company and resumed operations on a steep mountain side. At the base of the cliff a NVA s'laier was spotted complete with field pack. After killing the NVA the 1st platoon found his AK-47 near his body. The AK-47 had been torn up by the artillery and air strikes from the previous day.

LT COL LOVE COMMANDS

2/5TH

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph B. Love assumed command of the 2d Battalion 5th Cavalry, 27-0915 September 1967 from Lieutenant Colonel Joseph C. McDonough, now Commanding officer of The Black Horse Brigade.

In a talk to the men of his Headquarters Company and Company D on 5 October, LTC Love introduced himself to a part of his command with a combined policy statement and historical review of the life of the 5th Cavalry Regiment and its place on the FIRST TEAM. Following the class, Love greeted each man personally. The Bat-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

The 1st platoon joined up with the other elements and continued the search and destroy mission.

BUNKERS FOUND

Ten minutes later Delta Company came across month old bunkers and 47 NVA bodies credited to the air and artillery strikes.

During the completion of the day and the morning of the 12, Delta Company accounted for 10 more enemy dead.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

CAV WINS CITATION:

In awarding the Presidential Unit Citation to the 1st Air Cav Division President Johnson not only paid tribute to the Division's heroic performance in the Ia Drang Valley of Vietnam during the fall of 1965, but he also took advantage of the occasion to praise three men who are not members of the 1st Cavalry.

Each of the three—the late President Kennedy, Secretary of Defense, Robert S. McNamara, and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Maxwell D. Taylor—contributed, the President said, to the development of the Airmobile concept.

Until the men of the Division actually moved into combat, in their first test of arms, the concept of air cavalry—with its mobility and potential for surprise on the battlefield—was "promising", as the President noted, but still "untried." In the Ia Drang Valley, the Air Cav troops proved its validity.

NEW WARFARE

What they did there, the Chief Executive observed, "demonstrated that the new kind of warfare could be met and could be mastered. They dealt a hard blow to the Communist belief that freedom can be destroyed piece by piece."

The cavalrymen "showed that America could meet its responsibilities in fact as well as in theory," the President said.

In awarding the citation to the Division, the President noted that "America's history books are filled with the names of places that are far removed from America's shores, where it triumphed.

"We know most of those places very well—the Argonne—Anzio—Okinawa—the Pusan Perimeter.

"Now they will add the Ia Drang Valley in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam."

"In one critical month there in the fall of 1965, American troops were locked in major combat with regular forces from North Vietnam. When that

month was over, the emerging shape of what we now know to be a certain truth could be seen: the enemy can never win Vietnam by armed conquest."



"UNCOMMON VALOR"

THE FIGHTING CAVALRYMEN OF THE
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)
RECEIVE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

The Commanders who have led the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) since it was initially formed as the 11th Air Assault—LGen Harry W.O. Kinnard, MGen John Norton and MGen John J. Tolson—can be proud of the Division's outstanding performance.