

15 Sep 69

Lt Anderson

Sorry - in the delay in answering but I've been jumping around quite a bit with spending 3 to 4 days in the bush with the company and 3 to 4 days in the rear pushing our sick lame & lazy back out.

Not remembering just when you left and being too lazy to look it up I'll bring you up to date on the company. On 14 Aug the company left the bridge and biked out to another ridge northwest to Song Ha mountain for search & clear operation.

Around the 23rd while the company was sitting on top a ridge they spotted approx 200 NVA down in the valley and called arty & air. The skipper wanted to go down the next morning but was told to stay put and they would send Charlie company in but by the time they arrived from over 800 meters everything was picked up and no one accounted for - number killed or captured any weapons.

On the morning of the 28th the enemy ran into 2d Platoon lines and Lt Hammerbeck was killed almost instantly.

upon hearing the attack & that the Lt was killed Capt Sampson headed down towards their position with Schaffer and McPherson the two radio men. Captain Sampson was killed by an RPG and Schaffer shot in the chest. McPherson escaped injury. The company also sustained 9 WIAs, 8 MIA's & 1 Congressman NIEMEYER. The WIAs were ⁽¹⁾ KUBAL - lost 2 foot; ⁽²⁾ Reynolds - F/w back & legs; ⁽³⁾ Williams - lost 1/2 arm; ⁽⁴⁾ Oglesby - F/w back of head - the doctors took part of his brain out and the part was nerve cells to his sight and he will be blind for the rest of his life; ⁽⁵⁾ James - minor F/w to arm; ⁽⁶⁾ HUDAK - F/w top R/eye if it had an inch lower he would have lost his eye; ⁽⁷⁾ Martin - F/w to 1/2 arm; ⁽⁸⁾ ECHEAVARRIA - F/w Thighs and concussion; ⁽⁹⁾ NIEMEYER - GSW R/upper arm.

It was hard to realize Capt Sampson as been dead and his loss was felt by all.

The company has had other skirmishes and have accounted for 19 NVA confirmed dead since 14 August. Yesterday the company was pulled out & return to Dong Ha where they will run patrols and ambushes

Southwest of Lang Ha between Quang Tri for about two weeks.

You asked about Navy Achievement Medal as end of tour awards for a couple of your men. Be assure they have already been submitted and everyone is being submitted for an award of one type or the other depending on their activities while here. In fact each month we work 3 mos in advance on personnel rotating home.

Glad to hear you are enjoying your duty station and your Med-cruise. After 13 months over here and they send you to Europe. Good luck.

Regards
Walt Brantley

1st Sgt Carl W. Brewster
B Co, 1st Bn, 3d Marine

Free



1st Lt C. R. Andersson 0105003
F Co, 2d Bn, 6th Marine, 2d Det
2d Marine Division FMF
Camp Lejeune, N. C. 28540