



# the CHARGER



196th LT INFANTRY BRIGADE (SEP)

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Tay Ninh Vietnam

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## CLARA WARD SINGERS TREAT "CHARGERS"

"That sure was a terrific show, wasn't it?"

"Men, they sure can sing."

These, and similar comments could be heard throughout the Rice Bowl recently, as the "Clara Ward Singers" put on a show that will never be forgotten by the men of the 196th Lt. Inf. Bde.

Led by director-singer Clara Ward, the "Singers" included Sammie Colbert, Mildred Means, Marilyn Simpson, Madeline Thompson and pianist, Alton Williams.

Clara Ward and her Gospel singers were drawing audiences of 20,000 nearly 20 years ago, and many of today's good gospel singers were trained under Clara Ward. She started singing in a choir of Philadelphia's Ebenezer Baptist Church when she was only five-years-old. Soon she was singing in a trio with her mother and sister. In 1941 she formed her own group and became famous all over the United States Europe and Japan.

## Guardians First To Adopt Orphanage

The "Guardians" of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf., 196th Light Infantry Brigade scored a first in Operation ATTLEBORO when they uncovered huge stores of the VC supplies. In keeping with their tradition, they have scored another first. On Nov. 30 they adopted 59 Vietnamese children of the Co Nhi Vien Orphanage in Tay Ninh, thus laying claim to becoming the first unit in the brigade to adopt an orphanage.

Major Lawrence Lavato (Salina, Kansas) suggested to former battalion commander, Lt. Col. Charles E. Weddle

(Fayetteville, N. C.) upon their arrival in the Province of Tay Ninh that they consider the possibility of adopting an orphanage. LTC. Weddle was enthusiastic over the idea, and plans were immediately taken into consideration. Later, when Major Stephen E. Nichols (Gulfbreeze, Fla.) took over the command of the battalion, the idea was introduced to him, and his reaction was "all for it".

There was the problem of finding an orphanage for adoption. This was soon solved when the local U.S. Aid Office recommended the Co Nhi Vien Orphanage. Many visits followed, and the men were pleased with the children of the orphanage.

Maj. Lavato, accompanied by 1st Lt. Howard D. Wiley (Warren, Maine), civil affairs officer, CPT. C. Keith Grant, Jr. (Wayne, Pa.) and others continued frequent visits to the orphanage.

Finally, on Nov. 30, a ceremony was held at the orphanage, marking the official adoption by the battalion. The children presented their new "par-

(Continued on back page)

## Sen. Jackson Visits Tay Ninh

Senator Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, recently visited the 196th Lt. Inf. Bde. for a "general briefing and review of military posture of the U.S. troops."

Senator Jackson was greeted by Brigadier General Richard T. Knowles, 196th Brigade commanding general, who accompanied Senator Jackson on a tour of the 45th Surgical Hospital where the Senator spoke with patients and offered words of encouragement.

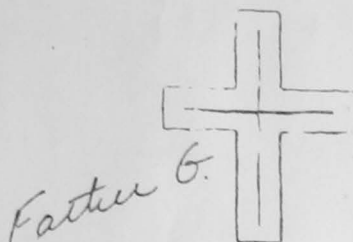
Senator Jackson then departed for the forward command post, located five miles from the Tay Ninh base camp, for a briefing of the brigade's activities there.

Senator Jackson also visited the forward area of the Brigade's 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty.

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# Chargers Praise Tropic Lightning Ambush Academy



WHO ARE THE REALLY BIG ONE'S?

Chaplain (Captain) Nathaniel Gianttasio

A platoon from Company C, 4th Bn., 31st Inf. 196th Lt. Inf. Bde., was recently graduated from the 25th Div's Lightning Ambush Academy.

Two of the 48 men in the platoon, Sgt. Allen K. Russel (Bethlehem, Pa.), and PFC John F. Berchak, Jr. (San Antonio, Tex.), recieved letters of commendation citing their "personification of the academy's motto: 'Ingenuity, Skill, Aggressiveness, and Discipline.'"

In the five-day course, the men were taught a variety of subjects devised from actual combat experiences. It included ambush formations, fundamentals of counter-ambush, map and compass reading, and friendly line coordination.

The conclusion of the course was the establishment of an actual ambush in the field.

Lt. Warren Waltz (Medina, Ohio), the platoon leader, commenting on the training, said, "The school is going to help my men a lot. It is a fine school with excellent training."

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It was Abraham Lincoln who remarked: "God must have loved the little people very much. That's why He made so many of them."

In this world in which we live there is not room for a great number of big people. We have only one President of the U.S., one Brigade General, one CO. In order that this one big person can exist, there must be a lot of little people supporting him. And the "big" man becomes bigger in direct proportion with the number of little people he has behind him.

Because you happen to be one of the little people, don't ever make the mistake of thinking you're unimportant. The two words are not synonymous.

Often we find the little person with help can do great things. He can even overcome the strong.

David proved long ago that God with a slingshot was more than an equalizer for the giant. Goliath was foolish enough to put all his trust in personal power.

That's why the little

person who realizes that he can use the power of God understands what it means to be powerful.

For example: Anyone can flip a light switch and flood a room with light. Even a 3-year-old who can climb a chair to reach the switch can do this.

First it took centuries to discover the principles of electricity. Somewhere near you there are hugh turbines and dynamos which generate electricity. There are thousands of poles supporting miles of wires with other equipment needed to transmit this power into our home. Crews of men are on duty 24 hours each day. All this is necessary so that when we walk to a wall and flip the switch, light will come into the room. We have all this power at our fingers' tips.

And so do we have the power of God to use as long as we go according to his laws. We may be the little people, but let's remember to use the power of God and we can also be of the mighty-almighty!

## "THE CHARGER"

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# Free World Doctors Save Infant

When one Filipino and two American doctors pooled their resources to save the life of a tiny Vietnamese baby, it marked just another time that Free World Forces have shown their willingness to come to the aid of the other.

The baby boy, Nguyen Thi My, was born with a rare condition known as "imperforate anus." He had already reached the critical stage when his mother brought him to the Tay Ninh Province hospital and pleaded hysterically with Dr. Manuel Reyes to save her dying child.

Dr. Reyes, a member of the 1st PHILCAGV medical team stationed at Tay Ninh hospital, knew that time could not be spared in getting the child to Saigon.

Instead, he placed a hurried call to the PHILCAGV base camp a short distance away, hoping to find the proper equipment to operate on the child. The equipment was not available. A second call was placed, this time to

the 45th Surgical Hospital located at the 196th Lt. Inf. Bde. base camp which adjoins the PHILCAGV camp.

CPT. William C. Elston (Spartenburg, S.C.), chief of surgery at the hospital had seen similar cases of this rare condition during his school days at St. Louis University and residency at the University of Mississippi. He, too, realized the immediate necessity of operating if the child were to survive. He informed Dr. Reyes to rush the child to the 45th Hospital where facilities could be improvised.

Dr. Elston remembers first seeing the child:

"He was very weak, and his abdomen was badly distended. Another five hours and the poor little fellow would have been beyond hope."

Another doctor, CPT. David R. Barton of Riverside, Calif., joined Dr. Elston in the delicate one-hour operation.

When it was over, young Nguyen was placed in an incubator improvised by the hospital staff. It con-

sisted of a cardboard box lined with blankets and hot water bottles to keep the baby warm. A drinking cup, punctured at the bottom and inserted with a tube served as an oxygen mask. A coffee pot, resting on a hot plate served as a humidifier, while bottles of glucose and dextrose hanging overhead, completed the makeshift incubator.

Dr. Elston, who practiced general and thoracic surgery in South Carolina, later commented, "The baby is now out of immediate danger, except for the usual complications of premature birth. If his parents had waited a few hours longer, his chances of survival would have greatly diminished."

The next morning little Nguyen was drinking sugar water, and appeared well on the road to recovery. He was returned to the Province hospital that afternoon where his smiling parents thanked the doctors for saving their boy's life.

## "GUARDIANS" TRADE POSITIONS

Several officers took new posts during recent change of command ceremonies at the 2d Bn., 1st Inf., 196th Lt. Inf. Bde.

Captain Arthur Llorea (Onalaska, Wis.), former Company D commander took over Company B from CPT. Joseph Czuberki (Bronson, Mich.) who has now become the battalion S-2. Replacing CPT. Llorea at Company D was CPT. Marshall L. Hinton (Chesapeake, Va.). CPT. Keith Grant (Wayne, Pa.) turned over Headquarters Company to 1st Lt. Donald H. Haag (Security, Colo.) for a post as battalion S-1.

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## RED CROSS GIRLS BRING OLYMPICS, BASKETBALL, SPORTS QUIZ TO ARTY.

Two Red Cross girls from the 25th Inf. Div., brought sparkle back into the battle-weary eyes of the men of the 3rd Bn., 82nd Art., 196th Lt. Inf. Bde.

Misses Gloria Kral and Kaki Lundy visited the artillerymen stationed at Tay Ninh, and provided a afternoon of sports, questions and games.

The girls set off a "battle" between two groups of soldiers. It was a battle of wits, to see which group could answer the most

sports questions the girls threw at them.

Miss Kral, 25, hails from Cleveland, Ohio, and works as a program director with the American Red Cross. Miss Lundy, 22, of Davenport, Iowa, who has been in Vietnam only a month, is a recreational aide.

The girls presented a talk on the Olympic Games along with pictures. A discus throw and a basketball game followed the questions and games.

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# Howitzer Christened "Attleboro" Honors Battery's Excellence

Amidst the noise and action of Operation ATTLEBORO, one of the 105mm howitzers of the 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty, 196th Lt. Inf. Bde., stood out from the rest as it poured deadly and accurate fire on the harried VC.

In memory of the job that was done by the Infantry and Artillery in one of the most significant battles of the Vietnam war, the howitzer of Section 2, Battery A, 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty., has been awarded the name "ATTLEBORO".

Brigadier General Richard T. Knowles, commanding General of the 196th Lt. Inf. Bde., stated at the christening ceremony:

"This is a tremendous tribute to the skill and professionalism of the men of Section 2. They have proven themselves to be the best section in the best battery in the best brigade in the Army, and a inspiration to all the crews of the 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty."

Section 2 of Battery A is headed by SSgt. Paul T. Joiner (Paragould, Ark.), section chief. The gun crew consists of SGT. James G. Brown, Jr. (Hartshorne, Okla.), gunner; Cpl. Earnesto Naranjo (Houston, Tex.), assistant gunner; Sp4 Emmette Clark (Lawrenceburg, Ind.), PFC Max L. Davis (Peoria, Ill.), PFC Kenneth W. Walters (Morris-

Ill.), PFC Herbert Smith (Patterson, N.J.), and PFC Steven Raver (Groveport, Ohio).

"ATTLEBORO" is the first howitzer in the 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty. to be awarded a name. As CPT. David S. Jackson (Detroit), commanding officer of Battery A, explained, "Howitzers are awarded names only when it is felt they merit them. Section 2 proved itself to be the outstanding crew in all areas of performance. Their excellence earned them the privilege of being the first to name their gun."

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## ARTY. S-2

### EARNs CPT. BARS

# BRIGADE S-2 TRADES TRACKS FOR GOLD LEAVES

Captain Cedric L. Blackwell, Jr., (Baton Rouge, La.), 196th Lt. Inf. Bde. S-2, was promoted to major Nov. 22, 1966.

Major Blackwell entered the Army in 1955, receiving his commission from Infantry Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga., in March of 1958. His first assignment was as an officer was as a platoon leader with the 2nd Bn., 12th Cavalry.

After serving as an instructor in the Ranger School at Fort Benning for three years, Major Blackwell became a company commander in the 1st Bn., 14th Inf., 25th Inf. Div. He served with the 25th Div. in various capacities until joining the 196th Lt. Inf. Bde. The major arrived in Vietnam with the 2d Bn.,

25th Inf. "Wolfhounds," in January, 1966.

Major Blackwell studied at Louisiana State University and worked for the U. S. Forestry Department in Montana as a smoke jumper before joining the Army. He also attended the Staff and Tactics School in New Zealand.

Among Major Blackwell's decorations are the Silver Star Medal, the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device, The Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Purple Heart Medal with oak leaf cluster.

Major Blackwell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cedric L. Blackwell, Sr., of Baton Rouge. His wife, Susan, and son, Michael, currently reside at Scholfield Barracks, Oahu, Hawaii.

1LT. Paul M. Brown, S-2 of the 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty., 196th Lt. Inf. Bde., recently became the first junior officer in the battalion to earn captain's bars since the war arrived in Vietnam in August.

An attorney at law in civilian life, CPT. Brown (Omaha, Neb.) attended Iowa State University where he quarterbacked the school's football team. He was also a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Graduating in 1962, he went on to study at Creighton Law School, earning his degree in 1965. He joined the Army in Sep. that year, after working for the law firm of Gainer, Spittler, Neely, Otis and Moore, in Omaha.

The captain's wife, Djel Ann, resides in Omaha, as does his mother, Mrs. Marion Brown.



# Cavalry Gets Bugle

## PUPIL MEETS FORMER D.I.

What's a Cavalry troop without a bugle?

It's for sure Troop F, 17th Cavalry, 196th Lt. Inf. Bde., won't get caught with its guns holstered on this one. The newest addition to the rusty relics of "Fort Courage," home of Troop F at the brigade's base camp, is a gift from listeners of radio station K-I-N-G in Seattle.

It happened this way.

Mrs Lucille Kachelmeyer, wife of SSgt. William E. Kachelmeyer of Troop F was listening to radio station K-I-N-G which at the time was playing "Themes from TV Comedies," a record album popular in Seattle. The theme of the popular TV series, "F Troop," was heard several times and prompted the sergeant's wife to call the station. She wanted a copy of the "F Troop" theme.

Talking with disc jockey, Bob Swanson, live over the air, she mentioned that there really was an F Troop, and that it was stationed in Vietnam. She further told Swanson and his listeners that her husband was serving with

the unit, and that the men of the real life troop had even adopted the TV show, naming their two mascots dogs Sergeant O'Rourke and Corporal Agar. Finally, she told them of Troop F's exploits in Vietnam.

After the conversation, Swanson appealed to his listeners to send in a bugle, having learned that Troop F was void one.

A few days later, Mrs. Kachelmeyer received a letter from the disc jockey. "Thanks for your call of about a week ago," he wrote. "I've had a lot of fun with this on the air. I'm sending you the album and the bugle.....couldn't come up with any feathers."

To all of this SSgt. Kachelmeyer was reported to say, "Well, now that we've got a bugle, I guess somebody is going to have to get up real early in the morning to play reveille for us." CPT. Clyde W. Roan, Troop F, commander, has bigger ideas for the bugle. "I'm going to get a bugler, and have him ride with me on our operations."

## BROTHERS REUNITED IN RVN

The two men walking together at the 196th Lt. Inf. Bde. base camp were about the same height, with nearly the same facial features.

What was different about them was their uniforms and rank.

But rank probably didn't mean much to the two men. They were brothers, both serving some 65 miles apart from the other in Vietnam.

Air Force Major John S. Roosma, Jr., older of the two, is stationed at Tan Son Nhut Air Force base with the flight section of Headquarters, 7th Air Force, and happens to "drop in" from time to time on his brother sta-

CPT. William A. Roosma, assistant S-3 for the 196th Brigade, has one thing over his older brother—he's been in country almost five months.

The two Verona N.J., brothers were long influenced with the military by their father, a retired Army colonel.

Major Roosma has been in Vietnam for a little less than two months, but already has flown 36 combat missions.

"We both volunteered to come here," said Captain Roosma, who was a member of the brigade's advance party. Major Roosma summed it up by saying, "You might say we support one another."

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"We're like two brothers...he "kids" me all the time," explained Sp4 Paul C. Heffner, of Shickshinny, Pa., a light truck driver with the S-1 section, 196th Lt. Inf. Bde.

Heffner was talking about an old acquaintance, Sgt. Richard G. Campbell of Louisville Ky.

Sgt. Campbell had been Heffner's drill instructor in basic training at Fort Knox, Ky. The two men recently met once again, when Campbell was assigned to the S-1 office as administrative supervisor.

Like old friends, the two men talked over old times. "Heffner was a little slow learning hand to hand combat," said Sgt. Campbell, a registered Judo instructor "I kept having to teach Paul how to throw a person in fact, I remember I had to help him quite often."

"I learned it fast after Sgt. Campbell kept throwing me," said Heffner.

Almost a year had passed before they met again, this time it was in Vietnam.

When Campbell learned that Heffner was a driver for S-1, "I didn't trust him for a while, because of what I did to him in the sand pit back in basic training," said Campbell.

They have the greatest respect for each other and are "getting along fine."

"Sergeant Campbell taught me now to be a soldier, now as a soldier I am working with him," conceded Heffner.



# Twice-a-Month Pay by 1969.

WASHINGTON (A N F)--The Office of the Chief of Finance reports that paychecks will be handed out twice a month to all Army personnel by the first of 1969.

The announcement followed the release of a Department of Defense directive that all Armed Services adopt the twice-a-month pay policy by July 1, 1969. The DoD program, called the Joint Uniform Military Pay system

(JUMPS), would establish equal pay periods ending on the 15th and on the last working day of each month.

The JUMPS program differs from the Army's experimental Centralized Automated Military Pay System (CAMPS), which authorizes pay twice a month but allows personnel to choose what portion of their monthly pay they want every two weeks.

Some 60,000 Army sold-

iers around the world who now receive pay under the CAMPS experiment will be incorporated under JUMPS on July 1, 1969. The remaining personnel receiving checks once a month will be phased into the JUMPS program by Dec. 31, 1968.

Other Armed Services currently have pay programs whereby personnel are paid equal amounts twice a month.

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stay  
ALERT  
stay  
ALIVE

(Cont. from page 1)

ents" with a program of Vietnamese songs and dances.

"The kids were just great," complimented CPT. Grant. "They seemed to know their songs and dances to a tee."

A band from the 1st PHILCAG, Vietnam, entertained the Vietnamese and the Americans after the ceremony was over. They played instrumentals and sang songs. The children, having already proven their talent as singers, joined the group in their songs.

Asked what the future plans would be concerning the orphanage, Lt. Wiley commented, "each month the men will be asked to donate a dollar to the orphanage. The money will go to the orphanage as funds so the kids can be provided with more food and clothing. The attitude of the men towards the idea of contributing for such a cause is "favorable."

THEY  
CHOSE FREEDOM



Thomas Paine and Patrick Henry came from very different backgrounds, but they shared one thing in common—a love for freedom.

To them, this freedom was worth as much as life itself. It is often worthwhile for Americans of this day and age to reflect on the contributions our forefathers made in order to preserve the ideals many of us now take for granted.

Thomas Paine, an Englishman by birth and the son of a poor family, fled to America in 1774 to escape the tyranny of King George III. Early in 1776, Paine wrote a pamphlet, "Common Sense," which had a tremendous effect in crystallizing colonial opinion and bringing about the Declaration of Independence.

Throughout the war, Paine wrote inspiring newspaper pieces which he titled "The American Crisis," or simply the "Crisis" papers. These two are a potent force in the cause of freedom. Paine's writings sustained morale and created hope when American fortunes were at a low ebb.

Patrick Henry, on the other hand, was a wealthy trial lawyer and land speculator just prior to the Revolution. Largely self-educated, he quickly became a leader among the citizens of Virginia and spoke out for individual freedom on every occasion available.

As an orator, he had no equal. His words, "Give me liberty or give me death," are familiar to all Americans.

Today, we can learn much from these two men and the countless thousands like them. Our forefathers showed us the necessity of preserving our own freedom and sharing it with others.

As advocates of freedom, Thomas Paine and Patrick Henry never faltered in the belief that their cause was just and their duty clear. Their choice was freedom, and they stuck to it.