



CHARGER

196TH INFANTRY BRIGADE



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Bn CO compliments unit on job well done

By SP4 Bill Simpson

LZ LINDA—Lieutenant Colonel Clyde J. Tate, commanding officer of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf., is scheduled to DEROS from his second Vietnam tour this month. A career-long infantryman—(24 years), he is quite outspoken, both about the infantry in general and the battalion which he has commanded over the past 12 months.

The following are his comments in answer to questions posed by the *Charger*.

The interview was conducted at LZ Linda.

Editor's Note: This issue of the Charger accents combat units. A special four-story feature includes an interview with a battalion commander and company commander, both appearing on page one, a first sergeant story, appearing on page two, and a photo feature on pages four and five.

QUESTION: Why do you command an infantry battalion in particular?

"I guess it's more a matter of responsibility than anything. The greatest honor to a career officer is to give him a command. He starts with a squad or platoon and then builds up over the years to command a battalion.

I've commanded infantry because that's what it's all geared toward—in the Army the grunt is the ultimate weapon. Of course, as a commander

you have to take all the responsibility—the good and the bad times and every unit has both."

QUESTION: How has the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. compared with your idea of what an infantry battalion should be?

I'd like to say that commanding the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. has been a double honor—I've felt honored to have such a fine group of men and they've brought honor upon themselves. I give the credit to every man in the battalion because it was them who made it go. There isn't a CO alive who can accomplish anything without cooperation from the troops. In fact, I like to refer to myself as a member of the team which has comprised the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. rather than the commanding officer.

"In the last year we've always tried to keep our mission foremost in all of our plans and I believe that, for that reason, we have accomplished that mission. We have interdicted the enemy lines of supply in our area of operation, resulting in reduced rocket attacks on the city of Da Nang.

"The men have really earned the right to call themselves the 'Professionals.' To me, the greatest compliment you can pay a man is to say that he's professional; he does his job, whatever it is, in a professional manner. I'd say that the greatest part of the men in this battalion are professionals.

"Our officers and NCOs have given us great support too. I've tried to impress on each supervisor what you might think is old-fashioned hard-line leadership, but I think it still works.

"Leadership is very basic. You must establish a standard for the men and let them know what it is and they also must know that you won't accept any less. If every man knows what's expected of him and performs up to that standard because he knows you won't accept less, then the mission will be accomplished. I believe that a mission accomplished is the greatest morale builder going."

QUESTION: Then you don't believe there is more apathy among the troops now than there was back in, say 1967?

"No, I don't. A lot of people seem to think we're just sort of packing up over here. Well, really we're still out on those firebases and some of the men are still in the field. We're conducting a dynamic defense of Da Nang, dynamic in the sense that we're forward of the city limits and cutting off the enemy before he gets close enough to rocket the city. Today I think the men are doing an outstanding job of making our defense dynamic.

"We wouldn't be doing as well as we are if everybody was apathetic. Every one of my men would go home today if he had the chance, but while he's here he's doing the best he can.

"I would compare the soldiers in this battalion today with any that have ever fought here.

"One program instituted in our battalion is, I think, especially good to keep interest high and apathy low. At regular intervals we send a support soldier—I don't like the term REMF—out onto a firebase to watch for a couple of days, attend the briefings, and maybe even fly on one of the birds out into the field for a few hours. It helps him relate his job in the rear to the overall mission of the

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COOL HEAD—This traveling ice men, a soldier of the 196th Infantry Brigade at LZ Gunfighter, quick-steps with a glassy cube after a resupply chopper dropped the ice at the LZ. (US ARMY PHOTO)

Company CO views his job

By SP4 Ed Buckley

LZ LINDA—On a small hill somewhere near this landing zone, protected from the rain by his poncho-made hooch, Captain Thomas M. Hayes, Commanding Officer (CO) of Company D, 1st Bn., 46th Inf. sat on his rucksack and related his views toward his job.

A 1969 West Point graduate and the son of a Brigadier General, the young captain is on his first tour in Vietnam. When he first arrived, Hayes was a platoon leader in the same company he now commands. He

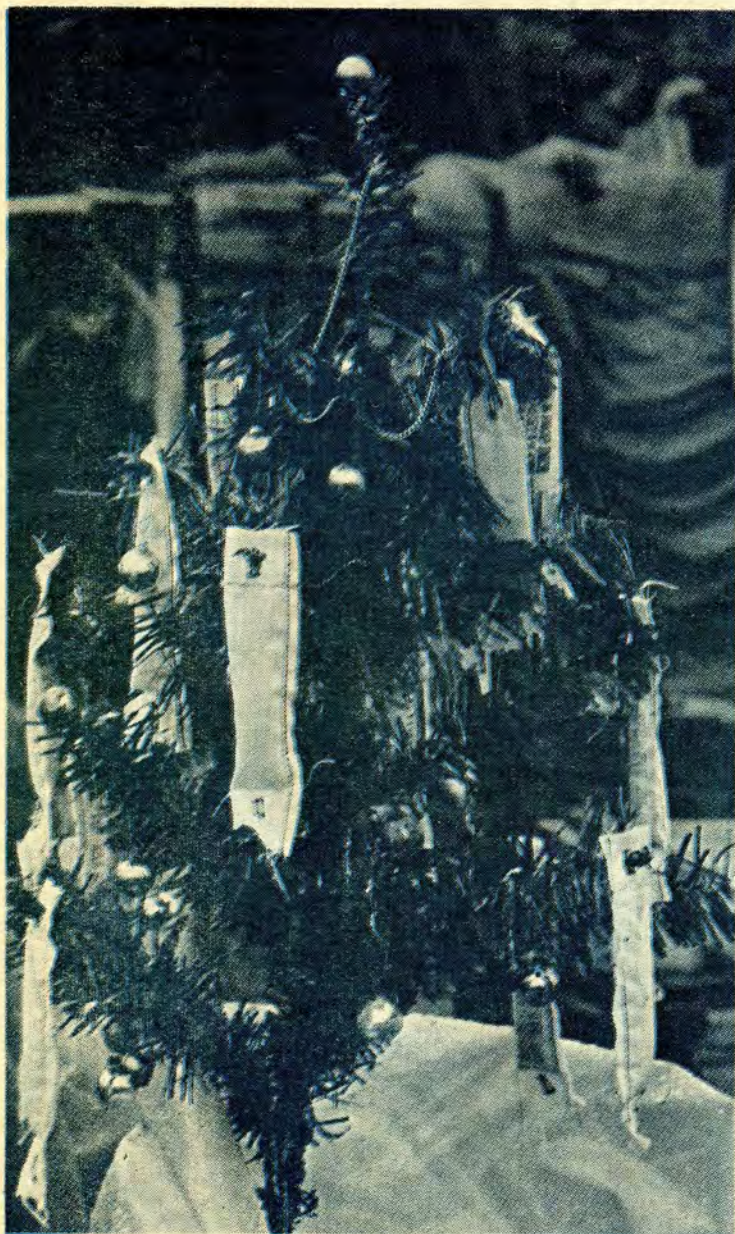
then took command of a Blue Ghost rifle platoon, during which time he received his captain bars.

"When I ask a man to do something, I want him to do it for me, not for what's on my collar," commented Hayes.

He explained that in order to get this cooperation a CO had best be a good leader, have the respect of his men and have good men under him.

"If you have good platoon leaders," said Hayes, then the

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CHARGED TREE—When in the 'Nam, soldiers come up with original holiday reminders like this two-foot artificial Christmas tree hung with mortar charge bags at LZ Linda. (US ARMY PHOTO)

Army releases grow

WASHINGTON (ANF)—The Department of the Army has announced the expansion of several early-release programs which are already in effect.

The increased releases will be completed by June 30, 1972, and apply to Army (US) and first-term Regular Army (RA) enlisted personnel.

The expanded early release program set up for Vietnam returnees will also be effect through June 30, 1972.

US and first-term RA personnel who, upon arrival at a state side overseas-returnee station between now and June 30, 1972, and have 179 days or less to their normal separation date will be released upon arrival at the port.

In addition, US and first-term RA personnel returning from the Republic of Vietnam who have more than 179 days but less than 12 months until ETS may request voluntary release upon arrival at the port.

Those eligible under this option must sign a statement that they understand that it takes 18 months or more active-duty time to qualify them for the full 36 months of veterans' educational benefits (less time gets one-and-a-half months credit for each month).

Vietnamese kill 56 during recent action

Editor's Note: Below are three recent actions by Republic of Vietnam forces who share the fighting role in Quang Nam Province with the 196th Chargers.

The 51st Regiment is one of the principal ARVN units operating in Quang Nam Province. On Oct. 29 the 4th Bn., 51st Rgt., while conducting operations in Antenna Valley, made contact with an enemy force and after an intense firefight accounted for eight enemy killed and eight captured.

Two days later, the same battalion engaged an unknown size enemy force with similar success. Nineteen enemy were killed and 15 enemy were captured along with three AK-47's and two SKS's.

The 1st ARVN Ranger Group, consisting of the 21st, 37th and 39th Ranger Battalions, also operates in Quang Nam Province.

These Rangers are veterans of Lamson 719 and have successfully fought against professional NVA forces.

A Ranger operation occurred on Nov. 3 when the 21st ARVN Rangers made contact with an enemy force, resulting in 10 enemy killed and the capture of five AK-47's, one B-40 rocket launcher, one M-18 mine and assorted ammunition.

On Oct. 10, the 110th Regional Force (RF) Company, operating in the vicinity of the Que Son Mountains, engaged and killed 10 enemy and captured four more.

Three days later, the 707th RF Company killed nine enemy and captured one AK-47, four B-40 rockets and one field radio in Antenna Valley.

Jews light candles for Hanukkah days

DA NANG--At sundown Sunday, Dec. 12, Jewish soldiers in the Republic of Vietnam joined other Jews the world over in lighting the first candles in celebration of the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah.

For those Jews who could attend, a retreat was conducted at Cam Ranh Bay Religious Retreat Center to celebrate Hanukkah, meet other Jews, and meditate.

Hanukkah is a religious holiday celebrating the defeat of Antiochus IV--a king of Syria--in the year 195 B.C. by Jewish Revolutionaries.

But a military victory is not all that is celebrated. The revolt against Antiochus was not merely the overthrow of a tyrant, but the first recorded war for religious freedom in the history of the world.

Antiochus was a king who tried to make the people believe he was a god. He also tried to impose other gods on the Jewish people--notably the Greek god Zeus.

Eventually, at the town of Modin, the spark of revolt burst into a firestorm when Mattathias Maccabbe--angered by the slaughter of Jews who refused to submit to false gods--killed one of the murderers, who had just killed a woman and her seven sons for not bowing down.

After he struck down the Syrian soldier, Mattathias cried out "Whoever is for the Lord, follow me!"

Jews from all over rallied to the cause, which was led by Mattathias and his five sons--among whom Judah (who eventually led the rebels to victory) towered in military prowess and courage.

The struggle took time, but in the end Antiochus was routed. During his reign, the Temple in Jerusalem had been defiled. It had become the scene of pagan rites, dances and orgies.

The victorious Jews symbolized their triumph by cleansing their Temple and rededicating it exactly three years after its defilement. Sacrifices were offered and lights were kindled. This celebration lasted for eight joyous days and it was decreed that an eight-day festival be observed annually.

Legend has it that a small flask of oil was found in the Temple after the Syrians were driven out. Containing sufficient oil for only one day's burning, it miraculously lasted for eight days, the length of the present-day religious festival. For this reason, at sundown every day during the Hanukkah season, candles are lighted.

Commander's conference held

4-point plan outlined

CAMP CHARGER--Brigadier General Joseph C. McDonough opened the Dec. 4 Brigade Commander's Conference with a forceful explanation of the four-point mission program that the brigade will follow in the coming months.

First, according to the general, the brigade's primary purpose in existing is to accomplish its assigned mission, and that mission is to defend US installations and activities in Da Nang. BG McDonough explained that untold millions of dollars of equipment paid for by American taxpayers is in the Da Nang area, particularly in the airfield complex, and that the 196th, in conjunction with ARVN units, bears full responsibility for seeing to it that this equipment does not go up in smoke as a result of rocket or sapper attacks.

Other equally important aspects of the brigade mission, the general pointed out, are the coordination of the internal defenses of US bases in the Da Nang area and the ongoing Vietnamization program in this area, which will eventually allow withdrawal of all American combat forces from Vietnam.

The second portion of the brigade's four-point action program as explained by the general is the elimination of the drug abuse problem within the 196th.

The general reiterated that exemption is a tool which is made available to the drug abuser and the commander alike to assist in the solution of the problem, and that any man who sincerely requests help should be granted exemption--ONCE.

An oft-repeated opinion heard in the command group of the 196th is that, just as in the

armies of Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar, 95 per cent of the brigade's soldiers are conscientious, hard-working and sincere. Regardless of their views on the war, they recognize the fact that they are here to do a job, and that if they shirk on that job then someone else is going to get hurt, not get fed, paid, or receive support.

The remaining five per cent of the soldiers are those who cause problems, get in trouble, and as a result, get written up in the news media as being representative of all the soldiers in Vietnam.

The third objective of the brigade's program is to reverse the trend--to get the 95 per cent of good soldiers credit for what they do, and to expose the five per cent for what they are--a minority of troublemakers.

In this manner, those soldiers who do come to this country and perform well will not have to feel shamed when they return

home because of the actions of a few.

This ties in directly with the fourth portion of the brigade's program as outlined by BG McDonough--to improve unit pride and esprit. The 196th Infantry Brigade is accomplishing significant jobs in a credible manner and its members should be aware and proud of the things they are accomplishing.

General McDonough also took advantage of the conference time to "read the riot act" on three additional areas in which he will be taking a personal interest in the coming months--personal appearance, of the individual soldiers, maintenance of vehicles and equipment, and property accountability.

Summarizing his comments in these areas, the general stated he was not going to publish reams of new directives--"the requirement is not for new regulations," he said. "The requirement is to enforce the regulations we already have."

4 Airlines Ease R&R Rule

Four major commercial airlines have announced a change in uniform procedures for military personnel assigned to Southeast Asia who request reduced rate military stand-by to the United States.

According to officials of the Military Traffic Management and Terminal Services (MTMTS), Delta, Eastern, National and Pan American Airlines will no longer require members to be in military uniform when requesting military stand-by while traveling on MACV approved 14-day leave orders. This will

allow R&R travel in civilian attire at reduced rates from Hawaii to CONUS points.

MTMTS stressed, however, that the four airlines are the only ones participating in this program so far, though other carriers are expected to follow suit in the future.

Military personnel on 14-day SEA leave attempting to fly military stand-by in civilian clothes on other than Delta, Eastern, National and Pan American Airlines may be required to pay full airline fare.

'First shirt' views job

By SP4 Sam Rouso

CAMP PURDUE--First Sergeant Franklin D. Bosheers' day starts before a lot of the 196th Infantry Brigade's "Chargers" even think of getting up.

Bosheers, (Loretta, Tenn.), the "first shirt" of Company B, 2d Bn., 1st Inf., works, as he says, "from 5:15 in the morning until the work has been done. Sometimes I'm through at 6 p.m., sometimes I'm through at 11 p.m.--it all depends on how much work there is to do."



ISG Bosheers

various types of paperwork. These and other tasks make up his day--and, sometimes, the night.

"A first sergeant is never off duty," says Bosheers. "There are problems at night as well as during the day."

Bosheers is on his second tour in Vietnam. During his first tour, in 1968, he was a platoon sergeant in the 101st Airborne Division

(Airmobile). As far as he's concerned, only his perspective on problems has changed--"I knew about them as a platoon sergeant, but there wasn't a hell of a lot I could do about it. There is now."

One of the problems, supposedly, is drugs. Not in a line company, says Bosheers. "First off, they don't get it because they can't get it." "The men take care of each other because they depend on each other. If they see someone using drugs, they'll speak up."

Morale and discipline, supposedly on the decline for various reasons, are not problems in Company B--"The Battling Bastard of the Legionnaires."

"These are fine young men--highly motivated and professional. There are no morale problems in this company... As to discipline, well, all I can say is these are normal young men with the normal problems of being here in Vietnam," he explains. "I think I'm as hard on these troops as any first sergeant in Vietnam, though."

In GI jargon, Bosheers is "short". He doesn't know yet where he's going in the states, or what he'll be doing when he gets there. But when he does arrive, he'll have to contend with that awesome new reality, the Modern Volunteer Army.

Bosheers commented on that by saying, "It will be a challenge... I really don't understand all of it because I've been over here since before a lot of it started."

Asked if he had any advice for his successor, or any other man in a leadership position, he replied, "Treat a man fairly and do what is required to see that he gets what is coming to him. In return, he won't let you down."



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Sergeant Mark A. Schulz . . . Editor



196th engineers help with floating bridge

By SP4 Ed Buckley

PHU BAI - Five miles east of Camp Agle, screaming type, on Route 547 can be found the Polh Bridge-or, the four pieces left of it-and its replacement since Typhoon Hester, a floating bridge.

The floating bridge, ferry to the layman, is operated by men of the Bridge and Tank Platoon, 196th Engineer Company (Prov.) and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam's (ARVN) 127th Floating Bridge Company.

These two engineer units combine resources to operate the ferry which has acted as a substitute for the devastated Polh Bridge-previously the only direct land route between Phu Bai and two firebases across the Song Huong River.

Torrential rains during Hester's short, yet wicked, life swelled the Song Huong River near Phu Bai to more than 50 feet above normal. The river's swift five-feet-per-second currents were getting the better of the bridge as logs and other debris collected against the handrails and supports.

101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) engineers used explosive charges to blow the handrails, hoping to relieve enough of the pressure to save the 500-foot bridge. However, shortly after the handrails were blown, a 30-yard section of the structure washed out.

About 100 yards down river two huge pieces of concrete and steel from the washed out section mark the location of the four-pontoon floating bridge brought to Phu Bai from Hue by the ARVN engineers. The 127th also brought two boats to operate the ferry-a 19-foot and a 27-foot bridge erection boat.

The operation, originally an all-ARVN venture, ran smoothly until tragedy struck. The 19-foot South Vietnamese craft sank, killing one man, while trying to clear debris from portions of the Polh Bridge that remained standing.

With only their 27-foot vessel still operating, it was evident that assistance would be necessary for the operation to continue safely.

A few days later members of Company A's Bridge and Tank Platoon and their two 27-foot bridge erection boats were working with the ARVN engineers.

Since the U.S. engineers arrived at Phu Bai on Oct. 30, they have been "Coordinating with the ARVN engineers on an equal basis," according to platoon leader First Lieutenant John H. Geisman. Each unit operates and maintains one of the two 90-horsepower boats used to operate the ferry. The 26th Engineers' second craft is used as a standby in case of emergencies or mechanical failures.

Geisman commented that the ferry makes as many as 100 trips

per day and easily handles huge vehicles, such as fully loaded oil-tankers weighing more than 60,000 pounds.

Moving the ferry from one side of the river to the other seems a lot simpler than it really is. The floating bridge has to be maneuvered across the river's swift currents in a complex figure eight type motion. The two boats push and pull under the direction of a guide who coordinates the vessels' movements in the usually smooth, yet delicate, operation.

TOP -- If Only Tom Sawyer had it so good. This 75-foot ferry may move up to 200 vehicles across the Song Huong River each day.

RIGHT -- Safely across the river, the trucks continue on their supply run, bringing vital supplies to the troops in the field.

BOTTOM -- A guide uses hand signals to direct the two 27-foot bridge-erection boats as they ease the ferry to the shoreline. (US ARMY PHOTOS BY SP4 ED BUCKLEY)





CAMP RED HORSE—The “Flying Red Horse”, the 3d Bn., 82d Arty., furnishes the big gun support for the 196th Infantry Brigade in the greater DaNang area.

Currently the mightiest artillery battalion in the United States Army, the 3d Bn., 82d Arty. has all the guns contained in the U.S. arsenal—the 105mm, the 155mm and the 175mm.

These weapons have been strategically set on four different hill-top firebases in the 196th Tactical Area of Interest (TAOI) to keep American forces operating in the area well-supplied with firepower. The artillery men deliver prep fire for the grunt companies and also back them up during combat assault missions.

It's also the task of the “Flying Red Horse” to help protect the city of DaNang from rocket or ground attacks.

In line with the objectives of the Vietnamization program, the 3d Bn., 82d

Photos by SP4s Bill Simpson and Mark Fischer

TOP LEFT—Innovation saves steps in getting rid of empty 105mm howitzer casings at LZ (landing zone) Maude. Here, Sergeant Mike Hempfling (Florissant, Mo.) stacks the empties onto the shoulders of Specialist Four Howard Smith (St. Johnsville, N.Y.) before Smith takes the long walk to the disposal point. Both men are members of Battery C, 3d Bn., 82d Arty.

BOTTOM LEFT—The ultimate in artillery firepower and projectory, the 175mm howitzer is one of the weapons contained in the arsenal of the 3d Bn., 82d Arty. Of course, it is also the ultimate in noise dispersion and one of the artillerymen in this photo gets set for the blast.



legs fire BIG guns

Arty. has as one of its foremost responsibilities the training of ARVN troops to handle artillery equipment. One of its attached batteries has been instructing ARVN in the use of the 175mm and eight-inch guns during the month of December. In the meantime, other artillerymen have been supporting ARVN troops in the field on fire missions, to include time on targets for intelligence locations.

From the Mexican War where it began as the 82d Artillery Regiment, through World War II, Korea and Vietnam, the men of the 3d Bn., 82d Arty. have provided support for American ground troops. They bolstered 11 separate campaigns in World War II and Korea, and since arriving in Vietnam 64 months ago have participated in Operations Cedar Falls, Junction City I and II, Frederick Hill, Lamson 719 and Caroline Hill.

Their array of awards includes the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, the Bravery Gold Medal of Greece and the Meritorious Unit Citation of the United States.



LEFT CENTER--Defense of Da Nang requires teamwork, especially when it comes to loading heavy artillery rounds. On the left, Private First Class Ted Ramano (Bessemer, Ala.) tightens a 175mm projectile onto the weapon's hydraulic loading tray while Private First Class Leon G. Doney (Billings, Mont.) checks the top portion of the round to make sure it's lined up straight.

TOP CENTER--Specialist Four Howard Smith checks the panoramic telescope of an M102 howitzer to make sure the barrel of the weapon is on line. Smith is a member of Battery C, 3d Bn., 82d Arty., and works at LZ Maude, west of Da Nang.

TOP RIGHT--Sergeant Mike Hempfling receives a call from the 3d Bn., 82d Arty. Fire Direction Center (FDC) to be on alert for a possible fire mission. At LZ Maude, "Big Red Horse" artillerymen rely on the FDC to supply them fire mission data, such as deflection quadrants and type of fuse charge to use.

BOTTOM RIGHT--Most of the time at the firebase is spent preparing for fire missions, making sure that enough rounds are ready to go if they are needed. One of the more tedious tasks is breaking open the shipping containers, turning the projectile around, and then installing the fuse. Here Specialist Four Howard Smith accomplishes step one, breaking open the container of a 105mm round at LZ Maude.



Here's how school outs happen

By SP4 Bill Simpson
DA NANG -- Don't understand the 179-day early out policy?

Neither did we of the *Charger* until recently when we interviewed Captain John McCall, chief of the 196th Infantry Brigade's Personnel Actions section.

According to McCall, the criteria for obtaining the new 179-day early outs are very clear cut. Regardless of how long you have been in-country, if your normal ETS is within the current fiscal year (on or before June 30, 1972) and you can prove that you are going back to school, or have a teaching or police force job or one that is seasonal in nature waiting for you, you're eligible to be separated from service as much as 179 days prior to your normal ETS.

However, to be granted the early out you must comply with the standards set down by the Department of the Army.

If your plans are in the area of higher education, the school which you anticipate attending must be accredited by the state in which it is located.

Second, you must have a letter from the school indicating you have been unconditionally accepted and that the courses in which you have enrolled lead toward an associate, baccalaureate or higher degree. There is also the stipulation that you must be a full-time student in most states that means a minimum load of 12 credit hours.

Third, the college or university must verify, preferably within the same letter, that the starting date for classes or the registration date falls within the 179 days just prior to your normal ETS.

At the same time you should also prepare a signed statement pledging that you are financially able to pay the tuition and fees incident to enrollment.

Next, take your acceptance letter and your affirmation of financial soundness to your company orderly room. The clerks there will type out a disposition form stating your reasons for requesting the early out and that you understand that if you do not attend school

as you have outlined, you are eligible to be reverted back to active duty and punished under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Your commanding officer will then add a conduct and efficiency rating to the request and approve or disapprove it. If approved, the paperwork climbs the chain of command to battalion and brigade level where final approval is made and orders are cut. You will be released from service about 10 days before the first day of classes, providing of course that date falls within 179 days prior to your normal ETS.

A 179-day drop is also authorized for those entering vocational or technical school, as long as the course offered by the school lasts at least six months. Again, the school must be accredited and the date of its accreditation must be included in its letter of acceptance to you.

Otherwise the requirements are the same as with the college or university. You must attend the school full time, the course you are pursuing must lead toward some type of degree or certificate, and the starting date of the course or latest registration date must be prior to your normal ETS. You follow the procedure outlined above.

Finally, a 179-day early out has been approved for three types of professions-teaching, police work and seasonal employment.

If you aspire to teach or do police work, you must have a copy of your signed employment contract or offer of employment. It is mandatory that it state the period for which you are to be employed and the first day you are to report for work. Also, the teaching or police position must be full-time and your primary source of income.

The early out for seasonal work is granted only when you can produce a notarized letter or statement on letterhead stationery to the effect that you have been hired to do seasonal work, seasonal work being defined as a job in which there is a three to four month period of total unemployment every year (farming, snow plowing, construction, etc.). It must be a

full-time occupation and your primary source of income.

Peak seasonal employment, such as working for the post office at Christmas time, does not constitute grounds for a seasonal employment early out.

Filing for the 179-day early

out on the basis of these three professions is the same as when doing so to return to school. A disposition form containing your reasons for desiring early separation and your commanding officer's signature

of approval sets the processing into motion.

In all cases, application for the 179-day early out will be accepted no earlier than 60 days before the applicant desires to be separated from the Army.



C.P. GOULASH -- Lunch is about to be served in the command post of Company B, 2d Bn., 1st Inf.--an element of the 196th Infantry Brigade--during a recent mission. The menu is

"C.P. Goulash", a delicacy made up of C rations and other goodies. (US ARMY PHOTO BY SP4 SAM ROUSSO)

Grunts face spare time

CHU LAI -- With all its troops in the rear, the 2d Bn., 1st Inf., was faced with an unusual problem for an infantry battalion--leisure time.

The problem could threaten the morale and physical condition of the "Legionnaires". With this in mind, Lieutenant Colonel Frederick H. Mitchell, commanding officer of the 2d

Bn., 1st Inf., initiated an athletic and recreation program for the battalion and the two cavalry units that were put under his control.

The Legionnaires were in Chu Lai as part of Task Force Americal. The battalion was given the duty of securing the base's perimeter during its last

days under American control.

"Whenever the colonel (Mitchell) and I inspected the bunkers we would have several men ask us when we were returning to the field," said Major Kenneth Smith, S-3 of the battalion and one of the designers of the program.

First Lieutenant Roger Peterson, athletic and recreation officer, organized the program. Volleyball, flag football, slow-pitch softball and basketball tournaments were set up. Also, horseshoes, chess sets and whiffle ball outfits were made available to the men.

Though the necessary playing equipment was supplied by Special Services, Peterson had to make some accommodations for existing conditions.

The playing uniform for the games was the standard government issue--tropical combat boots and fatigues. The football games were played on a genuine sand lot near the former Chu Lai USO. Volleyball was played by "Jungle" rules.

The program's success was attested to by attendance at the events. According to Peterson, the games drew between 70 and 100 men.

"Though the first prize was beer and soda, I think the biggest factor in the success of the program was the competitiveness of the men," observed Smith.

Miami team pinpoints enemy

By SP4 Mike Cassidy

CAMP REASONER -- "I like short missions," claims Staff Sergeant Rick Clendenin (Stewart, Fla.) of the 196th Infantry Brigade Ranger Platoon.

Team leader Clendenin and Ranger Team Miami were recently involved in a very short recon mission. In less than 24 hours on the ground, the six-man team pinpointed an area of enemy activity and surprised an enemy patrol, resulting in two enemy dead.

At dusk, the platoon began to set up its night defensive perimeter. Before settling in, patrols were sent out to assure that the security of their position would not be compromised by trails, tunnels or enemy emplacements.

One patrol, consisting of assistant team leader Sergeant George Hatcher (Carmi, Ill.) and Specialist Four Louis Silva (Norwalk, Calif.) spotted a likely avenue of approach, a tunnel with a freshly cut trail nearby.

In order to defend the perimeter, Hatcher began to set up a mechanical ambush near the entrance of the tunnel. Silva, meanwhile, kept watch while his partner's attention was on the exacting task.

Silva's efforts proved vital that evening when two enemy soldiers came down the trail. The patrol, with the element of surprise on their side, killed the soldiers.

The possibility of the two dead enemy soldiers being a lead element brought the patrol back to the perimeter. Once there, they

informed the team of the incident. The team then waited in force for the appearance of more soldiers.

When there was no indication of movement, a second patrol went to the area to investigate. Sergeant Keith Cunningham (Pike Bay, Ont.) walked point for Sergeant Bruce Blevins (Marion, Mich.) and Clendenin.

The patrol found the two dead soldiers with an AK-47 and a grenade launcher. Then an enemy element of 11 to 12 men appeared on the trail. Aside from small arms and fragmentation grenades, the element was in possession of a tripod-mounted machinegun.

Once again with the element of surprise on their side, the Rangers imposed their fire power on the enemy first. The patrol returned to the perimeter with point man Cunningham covering the return while trying to make his own way back.

Specialist Five General Jackson (Jackson, Ala.) and other men in the perimeter soon came under attack by the same enemy element. The hooch size boulders in the area provided cover from the heavy assault that the men were taking.

Within 10 minutes helicopter gunships arrived. With the aid of artillery illumination flares, the gunships were able to locate the enemy position in the night.

With contact broken but their presence in the area known, the team left their would-be night position for a suitable extraction area, having very exactly located an area of enemy activity.

Bn CO compliments

unit on job well done

continued from page 1

battalion. We also have support and grunt soldiers regularly sit in on our evening briefings at Camp Crescenzo.

"Again, if you keep the man informed of how he fits into the mission and that he's expected to do his part and no less will be accepted, the mission will be accomplished."

QUESTION: How well are the grunts being supported?

"That was one of the points I was a little apprehensive about when I came over here this time. I know that when you're on this thin line between peace and war, dollar-wise it's a little harder to keep the troops supplied."

"However, the men in the rear have really come through on the supply end. Right now a grunt in this battalion can receive as many as four hot meals in the course of a seven-day mission and at least every third day he'll get clean, dry clothes and morale items like newspapers, mail, and beer and soda."

"I've had men come to me personally before they left the battalion to say that while they were with the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. They were well taken care of. That's a compliment to the support soldiers, not myself."

QUESTION: In your opinion, how has the war changed?

"For one thing we have a different mission. When I was here in '67 it was to search out and destroy the enemy; now we're ambush-oriented and we're sticking closer to the main basecamp areas. It's strictly a defense mission now and it's our responsibility to interdict the enemy lines of supply."

"I really think 'Charlie' is avoiding contact with us now but that's not to say that if we let our guard down he wouldn't strike—I still feel that he would. Each platoon leader has to keep his men on top of the situation at all times. Just a little slack is dangerous."

QUESTION: Have the Vietnamese troops changed too?

"Without a doubt they are more willing to participate than they've ever been and they're beginning to show the results of training that we've given them."

"On several occasions this

year we coordinated with the local RF's and PF's (Regional Forces and Popular Forces) in setting up ambushes and exchanging intelligence information. In every case they've been quite competent. I can speak only for the ones we've worked with up here around Da Nang—they've come a long way."

QUESTION: What advice would you like to leave with your men?

"Keep the mission always in your mind. When you're in the field stay dispersed, and take your time. Never think you've got it made, because as soon as you do you'll get smacked right in the face. Keep the rockets off the city and at all times be professional."

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company will run smoothly."

Although he is the commander of the whole company, Hayes can not possibly be with all the platoons at the same time. He has to rely on his platoon leaders to carry out his orders in the proper manner.

"Leadership," according to Hayes, "is getting your men to do what you want."

But Hayes realizes that, as composer, writer Bob Dylan put it, "The Times They Are A Changin'" and his men may question some of his actions. He feels he should be able to answer them with a sound reason. By doing so he thinks he will gain the respect of his men.

With the war winding down, Hayes feels that it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep up the morale of the men in the field.

"If the could only find something out there," remarked

the young Captain.

He explained that because of the defensive posture we are operating under, action is light. When a unit hasn't seen action or even found a decent-sized cache after long weeks in the bush, it is difficult to prevent the men from slacking off and adopting an apathetic attitude.

To counter this problem Hayes keeps security and safety precautions tight and sends men out on frequent partols, hoping they'll come across a cache of some kind.

In the rear, problems arise that are mainly due to the increased emphasis on things which are far less important in the field, such as the neat appearance of hair, boots and uniform and the movement from one section of the Da Nang area to another.

As Hayes said, "Grunts like to walk around in their dirty boots. They (the boots) tell everyone, 'I'm a grunt'."

When asked what he thought was the big difference between working in the rear and in the bush, Hayes commented that, "You're on your own out here. You have no one to fall back on except yourself."

In the rear, he explained, the commander can check up on you all the time; they can't do that out in the bush.

When he takes his men into the field, Hayes is the man who makes the decisions on how to carry out the mission assigned the unit. He has to decide which route to follow, which men are to go where, to do what and when. But he's also the man who takes on the responsibility for the safety of his men and the completion of the mission.

As the commander of an infantry company, Hayes probably has one of the hardest, yet most gratifying; demanding, yet rewarding; lonely, yet inspiring jobs the Army has to offer.



The *Charger* staff received this photo and it was indicated that it was the third in a series. We reviewed the first two, but we can't seem to find the last one. We wonder if this

unidentified beauty could reveal it to us. (Photo Courtesy A1 Addington)

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Medic serves as Viet teacher

By SP4 Sam Rousso

CAMP FAULKNER -- Most American soldiers in the Republic of Vietnam come here, do their jobs, put in their time and happily go home.

Specialist Four Patrick Horay (Kansas City, Kan.), a soldier in the 196th Infantry Brigade's 1st Sqd., 1st Cav. is an exception.

Since September, Horay--a medic--has been teaching English to Vietnamese orphans at the China Beach Protestant Orphanage, located next to the Officers' R&R Center, in an area called My Khe.

Horay was inducted as a conscientious objector in November 1970, and applied for a conscientious objector discharge in June, 1971.

"When I was inducted, I thought that as a medic, I could maintain neutrality--be uninvolved in the destruction of war. Soon after I arrived in-country, I found this to be impossible," he stated.

Horay is a former Peace Corpsman. He served on Wotje Atoll in the Marshall Islands from June 1967 to June 1969. He was working on a Master of Arts degree in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Kansas when he was drafted.

Horay arrived in Vietnam after training at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., and was soon assigned to a line unit--F Troop, 17th Cav., an element attached to 1st Sqd., 1st Cav. It was here that he became disillusioned.

"I felt I was encouraging destruction, even though I was a medic...I rejected the feeling of 'enemy', and I couldn't be depended on to always act in the best interests of my unit," he says of his time in the field.

After he applied for his discharge, he was, so to speak, out of a job. "I was trying to find something I could put my heart into...I made a few trips out to the orphanage with the former squadron chaplain and I thought that maybe I could do some work there similar to the work I had done with the Peace Corps. I asked at the orphanage, and they said they thought it was a fine idea."

After that, Horay got the permission of the squadron surgeon, squadron chaplain and squadron commander. Soon he was teaching English at the orphanage.

"I go there every day except Sunday," says Horay. He teaches twice a day, for two hours in the morning and one hour in the afternoon. The classes are made up of fifth, sixth and seventh graders, "Who are very appreciative and anxious to learn," he says.

Because he speaks very little Vietnamese, Horay has had to think up some of his teaching methods. He uses the "Aural" method, which is based on listening and repeating syllables, words and phrases.

"It's a situational learning type class. I teach them songs, which they really like. Some of them I made up myself, but most are old songs like 'You Are My Sunshine'. Currently, I'm teaching the children Christmas carols," he explained.

Presently there are 325 children at the facility, 241 boys and 84 girls, ranging in age from five months to 16 years. Two-thirds are ethnically Vietnamese, the rest are Montagnard children. They come from the central and northern parts of the Republic of Vietnam.

Horay feels that his real job is "sharing feelings and just being with the children. There is so much more to be learned than to be taught here...I've been exposed to new personal relationships with the Vietnamese. It's been very satisfying--mutually," he says. "I am glad I have the opportunity to see the real Vietnamese people."

"For a soldier in Vietnam, a program like this holds a potential for a person-to-person contact instead on a person-to-enemy contact so typical over here," he asserted. "It's one kind of tie that can last long after you leave Vietnam."

"We wish there were more GIs like him," says Miss Diana Read (London), a missionary nurse at the orphanage.

Athletics to photography

Programs gain momentum

CAMP CROSS -- A concentrated program to occupy the minds and bodies of off-duty Chargers is under way and rapidly gaining momentum, according to the 196th Infantry Brigade Special Services officer, First Lieutenant Charles T. McGeehan.

The program will range from intramural athletics to a bookmobile to a photo lab, with other programs in the planning stage. According to McGeehan, the reason for the acceleration of the Special Services program is very simple.

"The 196th has been denied for so long... it's time to change the situation, and it's up to my men to do it," he stated.

As part of the program, a mobile photo lab has been set up near the brigade's PX. "Now a soldier can buy his film in the PX, take his pictures and develop them in the same day," said McGeehan.

Photographically-inclined Chargers will be able to develop and print black and white negatives, with a limited capacity for developing color transparencies.

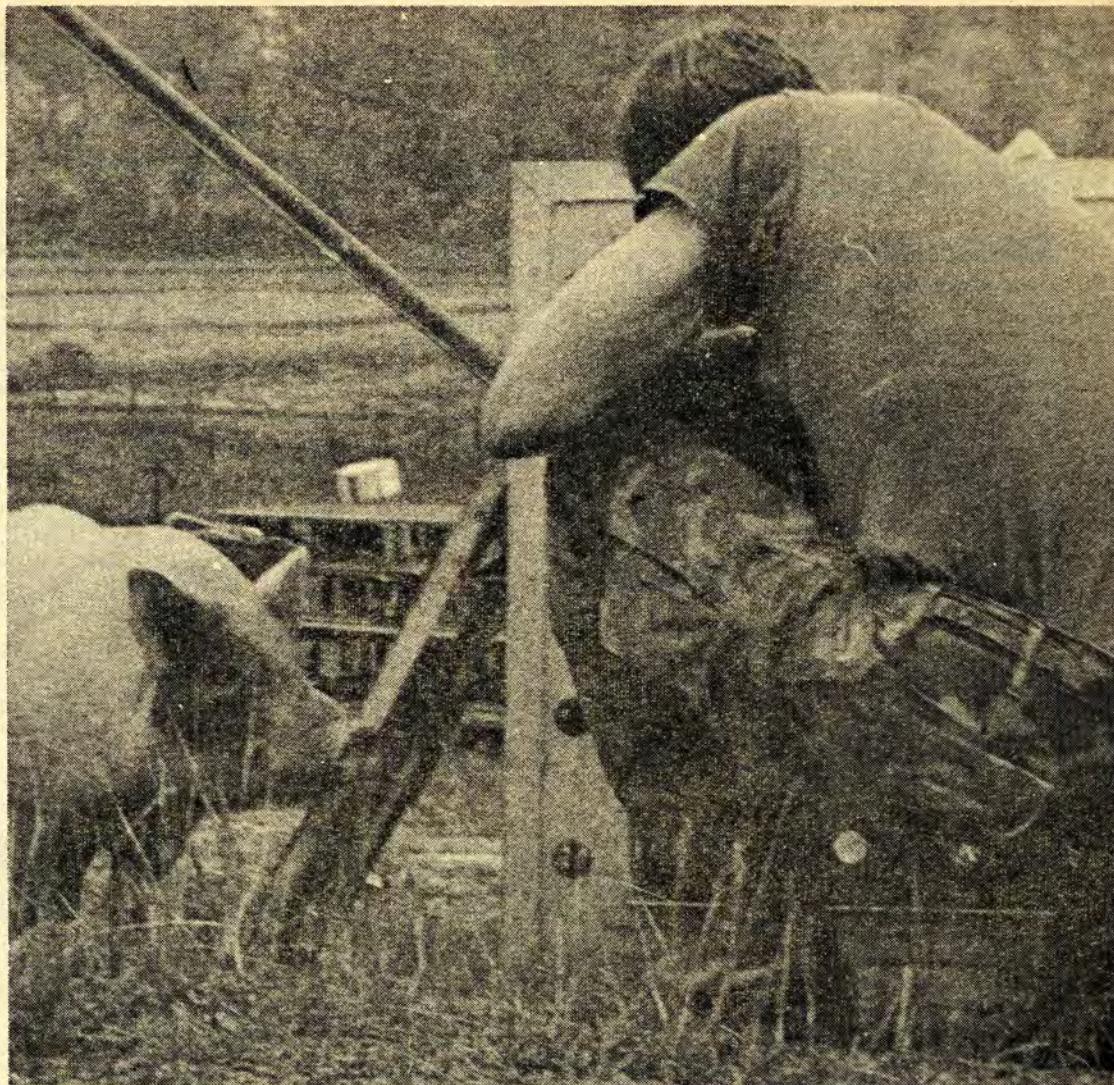
In addition, a bookmobile--one of only five in the Republic of Vietnam--will soon begin plying the brigade area, loaning books to all the Charger bibliophiles.

For all the competitive sports buffs, an intramural program is being established, including a 32-team bowling league, which will compete at the Freedom Hill bowling alley.

Those units that lack Category I or Category II sports equipment--footballs, basketballs, boxing gloves and the like--and have an account at the brigade's self-service store may purchase the equipment there, according to McGeehan. "This is an innovation," he added.

Gymnastics enthusiasts will be happy to know that the Special Services section of the 196th has been given the responsibility of managing the gym at Freedom Hill.

In addition to gymnastics, we can have basketball and volleyball tournaments there--maybe even wrestling matches," says McGeehan.



UNSUSPECTING BOAR -- Staff Sergeant Elmer D. Mondon places some scraps into a cage to entice the unsuspecting Arnold in the cage for transportation to an orphanage where he will be among friends. (US ARMY PHOTO)

Drinking pig moves on

By SP4 Ed Buckley

DA NANG -- With a boot to the butt and an indignant squeal Arnold the pig was in his cage and on his way to his new home at a local orphanage.

Since he was a little piglet Arnold has lived with American GI's. His first owner, a mess sergeant with the 23d Infantry Division (Americal) in Chu Lai, only had Arnold and his sister for a short while before the two piglets moved in with the marksmanship cadre at the Americal Combat Center.

Shortly after moving in with the ace marksmen, Arnold's twin sister fell ill and succumbed. However, the untimely death of 'sis' didn't get OI' Arnold down; he held right in there and kept

growing, Growing, GROWING.

When the Americal stood down, Arnold made the move to the 196th Infantry Brigade's marksmanship unit with two of his closest buddies, Staff Sergeant Elmer D. Mondon (Columbus, Ga.) and Sergeant First Class James A. Nettles (Columbus, Ga.)

During his formative months with the GI's, Arnold not only expanded his circumference--to about 40 inches--and his weight--about 225 pounds of solid pork--he increased his mental and social horizons as well.

"He's a smart pig," commented Mondon, "He appreciates the finer things in life--good whiskey and cold beer."

Only nine months old, Arnold is quite capable of holding his own in the liquor department. I wouldn't say he's a lush or a drunkard, but he definitely likes his brew. As Mondon says, "He'll drink a beer in a minute; whiskey too."

With this overt taste for the spirits, Arnold finds himself confronted with a problem which occasionally gets the best of most of us who like to imbibe.

"Arnold will drink 'til he konks out." When this happens," continued the sergeant, "I give him a push and yell to him, ARNOLD!" The boar's--though not a social bore--reply is an undeniably drunken snort, "HHRRK".

Although his social drinking was a bit hard to explain, it was not a determining factor in Arnold's separation from the Army. In addition to the problem of getting enough food

to sate his appetite, Arnold was becoming more and more unmanageable. A 225-pound hog does pretty much as he pleases.

"I came out one morning and there was OI' Arnold by the flagpole," remarked Mondon. Referring to another incident exemplifying Arnold's precarious situation, the sergeant recalled, "I saw MPs making 'eyes' at him (Arnold) one day."

Fearing the MPs might get the wrong idea about Arnold, Mondon saw that the pet pig was kept safely out of the way. But the fact remained that OI' Arnold was becoming more of a problem each day, and that something would have to be done with him before something ELSE was done TO him.

The "What to do with Arnold" predicament was solved with the help of two officers from 3d Bn., 21st Inf., which, as part of its civil affairs program supports the Phuoc Thanh Orphanage. Captain Carl D. Sather (Coon Valley, Wis.), battalion civil affairs officer, and Chaplain (Captain) Morris F. Wells (Hampton, N.H.), the battalion chaplain, heard that the men at the marksmanship unit were trying to find a new home for this pig named Arnold. They got in touch with Arnold's owners and made arrangements to pick up the mundane boar.

So, on an overcast day recently, Arnold was enticed into a pen with the aid of a bucket of scraps loaded on a deuce-and-a-half and sent off to the Phuoc Thanh Orphanage.

Now Arnold's at his new home among plenty of friends--they have some 30 pigs at the orphanage. Under the supervision of the nuns, perhaps Arnold will mend his ways, sober up and maybe even fall in love with a real live sow.