

The Professionals



1st Battalion

46th Infantry

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15 MAY '69

ANOTHER BIG HAUL

The Professionals started off this month like they ended the last one, harassing the enemy by digging up Charlie's caches.

Bravo Company's men had their eyes open on the first of the month. At mid-day, Bravo unearthed four large vases which were hidden in a hedge-row. The vases were found to contain one ton of rice. About a half hour later, while searching among seven hootches, Bravo Company found one NVA canteen, 4 NVA uniforms, one NVA first aid pouch, one ammo pouch, 2 PRC 25 batteries, 3 gallons of kerosene, and some assorted documents.

The same day, Alpha Company found a NVA hospital. It was comprised of 13 hootches, one appearing to have an operating table. Alpha may have interrupted something because fresh blood trails were found in the area.

C element of Recon also wanted to find something, and they did. They found one NVA soldier, who turned into one KIA. 200 small arms rounds were taken from him. They also found seven bunkers and a small quantity of military equipment, all of which was destroyed. Blood trails were also noted in the area.

On May 2, Recon uncovered an old enemy base camp consisting of 20 camouflaged, brick-type bunkers and hootches. No movement was observed and it was seemingly deserted. Air strikes were called in on it when all friendlies were clear of the area.

(Con't Pg. 2 Col.1)

THE CHOICE IS YOURS

Is it really worth all the trouble it can cause to have "pot" in your possession? You may not be aware of all the consequences you face if you are caught with pot, so think of this next time you reach for that "joint".

The Department of the Army and civilian lawmakers have laid out some very stringent laws concerning drug abusers. If caught with pot, your name is kept on permanent record by the United States Government. If you ever apply for a government job upon your return to civilian life, this record is made open for scrutinization.

Many large companies and employment agencies also have access to this record.

Of course if no one will give you a decent job, you can go down and apply for your passport. You might have a little trouble getting it but finally they'll let you have it, and on it they will stamp "drug abuser". Remember that if you think you'll ever have the occasion to use a passport, many countries will not let you enter, and the ones that will, require you to check in with local authorities every 24 hours.

Getting back to the consequences of smoking pot while serving in Vietnam you can and may get "busted" to an E-1, forfeit all your pay, receive a dishonorable discharge, and then spend your next five years in Leavenworth thinking about how much one "joint" can cost you.

(Con't Pg. 4 Col. 1)

First and third platoons of Bravo Company, playing finders-keepers, again uncovered enemy equipment. This time small amounts of military equipment were found along with small amounts of small arms ammunition. Four bunkers were also destroyed. Later that day Bravo engaged four NVA resulting in two NVA KIAs. One detainee was also extracted.

The next day, Bravo Company, keeping up the good work, wounded one VC carrying documents.

Later on that day second platoon of Delta Company found a hootch complex which was suspected to be an NVA HQ base camp.

High noon, on the third of May, was bad for a few would be NVA ambushers. After firing at elements of the third platoon of Alpha Company, the NVA ambushers found out what it was like to be on the wrong end of an assault. After the smoke had cleared, one NVA KIA was found along with an AK 47.

Delta Company, meanwhile, after receiving sniper fire, sent elements into search the area from which they had been receiving the fire. Found in the area was an old carbine and some documents.

On May 4th, Delta Company found what seemed to be a training site among 12-15 hootches. The site also was deserted. Later on however, while checking through some other hootches, Delta saw a NVA soldier with a weapon, evading. The NVA was engaged and killed. Delta also recovered the AK 47.

Toward evening, Delta had their work done for them, as they found one dead NVA in a body bag. He was found along a trail and was found to have died from small arms fire.

The 5th of May started early for Charlie Company. At 06:45, Charlie Company engaged and killed one VC.

Later that same day, Delta found 11 of Charlie's 122mm rockets. Delta did a fine job in uncovering these rockets, as they were well camouflaged.

Charlie Company and Recon continued to turn up enemy equipment. While searching through 15 hootches, the two elements found a typewriter, rucksacks, two carbines, one MAS 36, and 200 lbs. of documents.

(Con't Pg. 3 Col 1)

The following men have received awards for their service while with the Battalion for the month of May.

ALPHA COMPANY

Sgt. Ernest J. Carrillo-Bronze Star
Sgt. Robert L. Johnson-Bronze Star
Pvt. Alfred Gutierrez-ARCM
SP/4 Dennis Lackey-ARCM
Sgt. Melgilds Hernandez-ARCM
Sgt. Rodger T. Denny-ARCM

BRAVO COMPANY

Sgt. David Hunter-Bronze Star
Sgt. Pascual R. Ledesma-Bronze Star
SP/4 Stephen Kromery-ARCM
SP/4 Rodney D. Meadows-ARCM

CHARLIE COMPANY

Sgt. Ronald G. Elerson-Bronze Star
Sgt. William T. Lambert-Bronze Star
Sgt. Timothy J. O'Toole-Bronze Star
Sgt. Robert J. Coladana-Bronze Star
SP/4 William A. Roth-ARCM
SP/4 Elwin Young-ARCM
SP/4 Terry L. Fruett-ARCM
SP/4 Alexander J. Nemchek-ARCM
SP/4 Paul J. King-ARCM
SP/4 Larry B. Goetze-ARCM
SP/4 Donald C. Crane-ARCM

DELTA COMPANY

SP/4 Joseph D. Hayden-Bronze Star
Sgt. Gary L. Wells-ARCM
Sgt. Allen E. Williams-ARCM
Sgt. Clifford A. Cornelius-ARCM
SP/4 John B. Brewer-ARCM
SP/4 Victor J. Norris-ARCM

ECHO COMPANY

Sgt. George Taylor-Bronze Star
Sgt. William Watson-Bronze Star
SP/4 Roger L. Armstrong-ARCM
SP/4 David L. Tucher-ARCM
SP/4 Henry Tufts-ARCM
SP/4 Willie V. Bowles-ARCM

HHC COMPANY

SP/5 Richard F. Pfeil-Bronze Star
SP/5 Louis D. Chapman Jr.-Bronze Star
Ssg. Earl T. Williams-Bronze Star
Sgt. Charles O. Graham-ARCM
Sgt. Edgar E. Bennett-ARCM
SP/5 David J. Shauer-Bronze Star
SP/4 Thomas Young-ARCM
SP/4 Alfred J. D'Ambrosio-ARCM
SP/4 Columbus L. Isabel-ARCM

Recon ended the long day into the evening by capturing two enemy packs and accounting for one enemy KIA after engaging four NVA.

The following day, Delta's 4th platoon was checking out an area from which they were receiving sniper fire when they spotted two VC. They were engaged at close range and both were stopped dead in their tracks.

Charlie Company came out on top in a game of hide and seek with the enemy on the 7th of May/ Company C found one of the largest weapons and ammunition caches yet. Found in the caches were: two carbines, 10 SKS rifles, 28 cases of AK ammo, 52 Chicom grenades, 3 land mines, six claymore type mines, 420 feet of det. cord, seven sticks of TNT, one case of blasting caps, eight 82mm mortar rounds, several mortar fuses, one 122mm rocket, two cases of 30 cal. rounds, 12 RPG-7 charges, and 13 81mm mortar rounds.

Charlie Company hardly had time to catch its breath when they found another large cache. This time they were searching around an old hootch, when Company C found: 55 foreign recoilless rifle-rounds, 35 cases of Chicom grenades (a total of 1,680), one M-16, 29 SKS rifles, one Swiss submachine-gun, two M-1 rifles, 19 82mm mortar rounds, 93 60mm mortars, 10 cases of blasting caps, one homemade rocket launcher, 20 Bangalore torpedos, a tool kit for a 82mm mortar including a sight and bipod, 3 AK magazines, eight M-16 magazines, 26 cases of AK ammo, 72 cases of 30 cal. ammo, two cases of 51 cal. armor piercing rounds, and one shape charge.

The men of the 1/46th are very proud of Charlie Company for a fine job.

Bravo Company pulled all the stops on the 8th of May. First of all, second platoon of Bravo Company surprised six NVA by engaging them at close range and dropping three of them. Three individual weapons were also taken. Shortly afterward, seven more NVA were engaged. One was killed and six were taken prisoner along with a nurse. Two more weapons were captured along with other assorted military equipment.

The 9th of May Recon found: three French Mausers, one Chicom 53, and two French 7.52 light machine-guns.

The same day Bravo Company detained

four VC males who were extracted.

May 10th Bravo Company showed the compassionate side of the Professionals by helping relocate 57 refugees.

Thus ending a busy ten days for the Professionals.

A GOOD RECORD

According to Americal computations the Professionals are "high" in the division for re-enlistments. A letter of congratulations is expected from the Commanding General and we now have a solid head-start toward the Commanders Trophy.

Col. Underhill is very pleased and proud of his men for honoring him in this manner and would like to see his men keep up the good work.

If you haven't thought of reenlistment as of yet, maybe now would be a good time to consider it. The Army offers many advantages to those who decide to Re-Up. As an example; if you are an E-4, who has been in the service for less than two years, when you Re-Up for six more, you will be given \$3,423. as a VRB (Variable Reenlistment Bonus). An E-5 doing the same would pocket \$4,571.60, so as you can see it is very profitable. A bonus is not the only advantage the Army offers either. You may be able to attend MOS producing schools, be guaranteed assignment to a specific CONIS station, get in-country assignment choice, and change of MOS.

These are still not all advantages the Army offers to reenlistees. If you are interested and want to know more about the opportunities offered, make an appointment to see the Career Counselor. He will see that you take the right steps in considering a career in the Army.

THE NEXT TO SEE THE WORLD

ALPHA COMPANY

Sgt. Ernest J. Carrillo
SP/4 Dennis Lackey

CHARLIE COMPANY

Sgt. William T. Lambert
Sgt. William A. Roth
SP/4 Elwin Young

THE CHOICE IS YOURS (Con't)

All you short timers, who are getting ready to go home, are taking the chance of involuntarily extending your tour in Vietnam every time you have pot in your possession, smoking it or staying around anyone who is smoking it.

Your orders will be flagged to allow you to spend a little more time in Vietnam. If you like Vietnam so much, extend, don't smoke pot.

As you have found out, smoking pot can be a very expensive hobby. In the world, besides taking the chance on a stiff prison term, you will be fined \$100 an ounce for any pot you are caught having in your possession.

After reading this, if you think smoking pot is worth all the fines, prison terms plus the humiliation you subject your family to, then that's probably exactly what it will take to smarten you up. Use common sense. It's just not worth it.

Information concerning the three most awarded metals in Vietnam:

SILVER STAR. The Silver Star, established by act of Congress 9 July 1918, is awarded to a person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, is cited for gallantry in action that does not warrant a Medal of Honor or Distinguished Service Cross while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force, or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

BRONZE STAR METAL. The Bronze Star Metal, established by Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944, is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the Army of the United States after 6 December 1941, shall have distinguished himself by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against an armed enemy; while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

ARMY COMMENDATION METAL. The Army Commendation Metal established by the Secretary of War on 18 December 1945, and amended in Department of the Army General Orders 10, 1960, is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Army after 6 December 1941, shall have distinguished himself by heroic, meritorious achievement or meritorious service.



THE PROFESSIONALS
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