



VOL. I NO. 3

SUNDAY
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"4/21 PROVIDES BUILDING AID"

Back in July 1969, the small village of Pho Hiep, Vietnam, lost its beautiful Pagoda due to mortars, and have been without one since. In a very short time the people of the village will once again have a new building for worship and social purposes, thanks to the help of Captain Claude Snead (Clarkston, Georgia) S-5, 4th Battalion 21st Infantry, Americal Division.

Several weeks ago Captain Snead was informed of the destroyed Pagoda and immediately began inquiring as to whether any attempts were being made to replace it. The people had attempted to rebuild it, but due to lack of supplies, were only able to construct a very small structure from scrap materials. Snead decided that as his job as Psychological Operations and Civic Action Project Officer, would be his duty to help the people in completion, and this he did.

The Vietnamese had designed a complete set of plans which were precisely accurate. It was now up to Captain Snead to obtain the needed supplies, which consisted mainly of bags of cement. Working through S-5, he obtained numerous bags of cement, and delivered them to the village people, who were very pleased, and began immediate construction of their new Pagoda.

It wasn't long before the tedious, but strong hands of the people had the framework and all sides completed. Next was needed tin sheets for the roof and the new Pagoda would be completed and ready for use by the villagers.

Captain Snead came through once again and brought the people enough tin to cover the building, making the Pagoda complete. The final touches would be the paint - their traditional bright colors. This the people had their own methods of creating. Before long the beautiful structure was completed, and the people once again had their place to worship.

The Pagoda and its holdings are very sacred to the Vietnamese people. The Americans have helped them regain some-

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"AWARDS & DECORATIONS"

The 4th Battalion 21st Infantry wound up its stand-down recently with Charley Company attending the final three days. During the entire Battalion stand down period, several award ceremonies were held, and 23 men in the Battalion were awarded. The awards ranged from Purple Hearts to a Silver Star, and the men received their metals from Lieutenant Colonel George R. Hovey Johnson, and when he was unable to attend; Major Billy R. Prestidge (Honolulu, Hawaii) Battalion Executive Officer, performed the honors.

Specialist Four William Crittenden (Kansas City, Kansas) D Company, received the Silver Star, the highest award of all the ceremonies. Specialist Four David Heiner (Bedford, Wyoming) and Specialist Four Robert Ramos (Macdonia, Texas), both from E Company, were awarded the Bronze Star for Valor with the First Oak Leaf Cluster. Men awarded the Bronze Star For Valor were: Specialist Five Ricky Brown (Norman, Okla) Headquarters, Sergeant Harvey Pace (Richmond, Virginia) B Company, Sergeant Charles Bush (Flint, Mich.) E Company, Sergeant Ernest Davis (Excelsior Springs, Missouri) E Company, and Specialist Four Larry Nye (Ogden, Utah) E Company. Men awarded the Bronze Star for Service were: Sergeant Steven Davis (San Bernadino, Calif.) E Company, Specialist Four Richard Masihmann (Washington, Missouri) C Company, Specialist Four Bernard Statz (Baraboo, Wisconsin) C Company, and Specialist Four Thomas Johnson (Star Prairie, Wisconsin) C Company. Awarded the Purple Heart were: Specialist Four John Neil (Marion, North Carolina) C Company, Specialist Four Robert Rich (Pamona, Calif.) C Company, Specialist Four Kenneth Boston (Dover, New Hampshire) B Company, Specialist Four Kenneth Henry (Compton, Calif.) C Company, Specialist Four John Zackery (Albany, Ga.) C Company, and Specialist Four Vincent McManara (Brookston, Mass.) C Company.

(Con't on page 6)

"FAREWELL"

LEAVING VIETNAM BEFORE 15 FEBRUARY 1970

SP4 George Barnes (Somerset, Ky.) HHC
 SP4 Donald Boettcher (St. Louis, Mo) HHC
 CPT Louie Corven (Indiana) HHC
 SP4 Jackie Collins (Martinsville, Va.) HHC
 SP4 Nicholas Hewitt (San Diego, Cal.) HHC
 PFC Thomas Mullen (Clarkston, Ga.) HHC
 SP4 Gerald Shermwell (Owensboro, Ky.) HHC
 PFC Larry Tamashiro (Honolulu, Haw) HHC
 SP4 Alonso Cardenas (Pasadena, Cal.) A
 SP4 Steven Carlson (Salt Lake City, Utah)
 SGT Percy Haggard (West Bond, Ky.) A
 SGT Robertus Hoonacker (S.L.C., Utah) A
 SP4 Jake Montoya (West Jordan, Utah) A
 SGT Gordon Oostine (Grand Rapids, Mich.)
 SP4 Kenneth Strampson (Buffalo, N.Y.) A
 SP4 James Wranitz (Allentown, Pa.) A
 SGT James McHair (Newburgh, N.Y.) B
 SGT Abriane Bonner (Tennessee) C
 SP4 Thomas Johnson (Star Prairie, Wis) C
 SGT James Kakes (Minocqua, Wis.) C
 SP4 Daniel Lawrence C
 SGT Richard Meschmann (Washington, Mo) C
 SP4 Carlos Muro (Willington, Calif.) C
 SGT Thomas Ohlson (San Diego, Calif.) C
 SP4 Michael Slomka (Utica, Mich.) C
 SGT James Smith (Akron, Ohio) C
 SGT Bernard Statz (Baraboo, Wis.) C
 SSG Herbert Cribb (Hemingway, S.C.) D
 SGT Zane Gadowski (Detroit, Mich.) D
 SGT Larry Lancelotti (Des Moines, Iowa) D
 SP4 Dave Elliot (Rumford, Maine) E
 SP4 Juan Luciano (Mayaguez, P. R.) E
 SP4 Roger Meredyck (West Seneca, N.Y.) E
 1LT Russle Vance (Burlington, S.C.) E

BEST OF LUCK FROM 4/21

"D.C.'s DEBUT"

As the Korean band performed for B Company 4th Battalion 21st Infantry Americal Division, the rhythm of each beat ran through the bodies of every man there. To some, it had real meaning, to others it was no different than any other sound wave. Some minds and bodies become very inspired by the sounds of guitars, drums, and voices. These are the people whose bodies move along with the beat, the ones who can feel the music in every bone. The music is stimulating, causing a rise in blood pressure, and movement of the body. It is a special feeling shared by few.

Looking at the happy faces of each man, as he interpreted the music to his own thoughts, it would be hard to detect the "Soul Music-Man", but there stood one. This man was unhot- (can't next col.)

THE
CHAPLAIN'S WORDS

I've been with the men of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry now for almost 7 months. It is a real joy to serve with young men such as we have. Sometimes when a man tells me he is soon to DEROS, it causes me to be a bit depressed. I know that I will miss his face among those that I try to serve.

I am reminded in this of the teachings of the Book of Hebrews, Chapter 13, Verse 2: "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

Every person with whom we come in contact should be the object of our consideration. Everyone should be "somebody" in our sight. I've not yet seen a person who did not respond to concern and kindness.

If I can help anyone, please call on me.

Clyde J. Wood
 Chaplain (MAJ), USA

(DEBUT con't)

iced by most, but he could be seen if one really knew what to look for. His friends knew his condition, and how he was aching to get his hands on the microphone and express himself in the way he knew best.

Why not? Why couldn't he get out there and share his feelings with the rest? This is what he did. Private First Class "D.C." White (Winston Salem, North Carolina), better known by his buddies as "D.C.", stepped onto the stage and as the band backed him up, expressed himself through an old Smokey Robinson favorite entitled, "My Girl".

The men who share their field experiences with him, requested that he sing once again. This time D.C. shared a song that he himself wrote. A title was not given, but it expressed what it's like for a grunt, humping in the field. His frustrations and anxieties, the thoughts that are constantly rushing through his mind. These words he put into soul sound, expressed the way a soldier in Vietnam looks forward to that day when he will return home once again.

Men serving in Vietnam have many ways of expressing their feelings. For some it may be through letters home, or talking to friends, or even complete silence. But to PFC Sterling White, expression comes through his singing...

"RAT PATROL"

You may hear frequent boasting about a unit and it's number of enemy K.I.A.'s, but none can compare to those Captain Michael Moore (Dallas, Texas), and Captain David Fleming (Huntington Station, New York), both from the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry, accounted for one night in their own sleeping quarters on Fire Support Base Debbie.

It was a cold rainy night as the two courageous officers had just completed a routine rugged day on the hill and decided to retire for the night.

As the men were under the warm covers of their soft bunks, Captain Fleming, with his keen hearing, noticed tiny footsteps prouncing about the room. "A ground attack", he thought, and hurriedly awoke Captain Moore. As they both fully awakened and secured weapons and ammunition, Captain Fleming came up with an outstanding idea. The enemy troops were far enough off he and Captain Moore could set a hasty ambush, or better yet, "booby traps". "Yea", said Captain Moore, "we'll get them with a little of their own medicine".

One of the men checked supplies while the other stood watch. There was no time to waste, both men must work quickly. Finally Captain Fleming came up with the answer. A "spring-action trap". Just the thing, but supply was low and only one was available. So now what? This made no difference, Captain Fleming

***** (Con't) *****

volunteered to set the trap for the enemy point-rat, and reset it each time it was tripped. Being that the patrol was so well spread out, this could be easily accomplished.

So the men set the trap, using a small portion of a tootsie roll from last week's S.P. Pack as a lure. "OK you dirty rats, come on and get it", said Captain Fleming, as Captain Moore sat waiting patiently for the first K.I.A.

Sure enough here they came and the first victim, the point-rat, fell for it, tried taking the bait, but instead got a healthy rap of iron across the neck, killing him instantly. Captain Fleming immediately reset the trap and disposed of the lifeless corpse.

This procedure continued for nearly 45 minutes, with Captain Fleming resetting the trap each time, never changing the bait. Captain Moore suggested gun ships for support, but the two decided they were unnecessary.

Finally the two men decided that the entire patrol had been wiped out and they could now get back to some pleasant sleep. Within only 45 minutes these two Officers of 4/21 had accounted for four enemy kills. Their formula, as disclosed by Captain Fleming, was this:

| |
|-----------------------------|
| 1 US RAT TRAP (OD) |
| + 1 TOOTSIE ROLL CHUNK (SP) |
| 4 RATS (VC) |

** COMBAT LEADERS **

During the first part of January, five men from the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry, successfully completed Combat Leadership School, in Chu Lai. The men representing 4/21 were: Private First Class John Holland (Mary, Louisiana) E Company, Private First Class Jorge Nieves (Bronx, New York) E Company, Private First Class Terry Gieselman (San Antonio, Texas) E Company, Private First Class Roy Victorina (Laton, California) E Company, and Specialist Four David Hauck (Imbler, Pennsylvania) D Company.

Congratulations men, from LTC George R. Hovey Johnson and the entire 4th Battalion 21st Infantry.



" WELCOME-REPLACEMENTS "

KMC

PFC Darryl Tollefson - Austin, Minn.
SSG Gary Geroux - Tacoma, Washington
PFC Leroy Lemphear - National City, Cal.
PFC Luther Carter - Sylacauga, Alabama
PFC Claude Roebuck - Springville, Ala.
SFC Henry Randall - Ewa Beach, Hawaii
PFC Salvador Rodriguez -
PFC Michael Wright - Dunsmuir, Calif.
PFC Danny Tongate - Hawesville, Ky.
PFC Jimmie Hives - Baton Rouge, La.
PFC Linnie Boothe -

ALPHA

PFC Gerald Anderson - Birmingham, Ala.
PFC Torrey Bird - Phillipsburg, N.J.
PFC Thomas Bottoifson - Minneapolis, Minn.
PFC James Bousquet - San Bruno, Calif.
SGT Ronald Chant - Bloomington, Minn.
PFC Gregory Digesu - Bronx, New York
PFC John Gibson - Chicago, Illinois
SGT Michael Goblet - Aurora, Illinois
SGT Keith Harwell - Memphis, Tenn.
SSG William Hicks - Jackson, Alabama
PFC George Holmes - Melbourne, Fla.
PFC Glen Hughes - Conway, S. Carolina
SGT Loveless Jones Jr. - St Louis, Mo.
PFC Michael Kelly - N. Weymouth, Mass.
PFC Emanuel Kinsey - St. Louis, Mo.
PFC Monroe Lawrence - St. Louis, Mo.
PFC Daniel Reinold - Hightstown, Pa.
PFC David Patterson - Canby, Oregon
PFC Dennis F. Flanning -
PFC Michael Petersen - Lorain, Iowa
PFC Wayne Ridge - Richlands, Virginia
SGT Edward Szymoniel - Danbury, Conn.
PFC Kyle Waddell - Greeneville, Tenn.
PFC William Walls - Paw Paw, W. Va.
PFC Haze Watters - Marion Jnt., Ala.
PFC Brian Wilson - Amity, Oregon

BRAVO

PFC Michael Peterson - Lorain, Iowa
PFC Victor Pelusco - Baldwin Park, Cal.
PFC Kinsey Toliver - Kingsport, Tenn.
PFC Richard Wilt - Lindenhurst, N.Y.
PFC George Borinski - Los Angeles, Cal.
PFC Barry Labor - Statesville, N.C.
PFC Samuel Etakson - Arcadia, Wis.
PFC Kenneth Ebert - Covina, California
PFC David Bunch - Leavittsburg, Ohio
PFC James Bridwell - Woodruff, S.C.
PFC Spm Hustler - Branch, La.
PFC Ronald Bralango - Coffeyville, Kan.
PFC Frank Gaddara - Jersey, New York
SGT James Smith - Springfield, Tenn.
PFC Thomas Hall - House Springs, Mo.
SGT Charles Aggott - Ashland, Ill.

CHARLEY

1SG Naymon Stone - Columbia, S. Carolina
PFC Robert Ingole - Chicago, Illinois
PFC John Garcia - California
SSG Keith Moore - R.O., Michigan
SGT Paul Vissman - Prospect, Kentucky
PFC Harvey Halloway - Madison, Virginia
PFC James Conbs - San Jose, California
SGT Michael Holland - Story City, Iowa
PFC Arthur Stevens - Rowan, S. Carolina
PFC Milton Schwartzentrub - Morton, Ill.
PFC Patrick Rogan - Costa Mesa, Calif.
PFC James Shreck - Omaha, Nebraska
PFC Lonnie Whittington - Wellsville, Ohio
PFC Rich Wilcox - Marion, Ohio
PFC James Kendrick - Waterford, Calif.
PFC Albert Vasquez - Rosemead, Calif.
PFC Larry Ziehl - Menomonie, Wisconsin
PFC Arnulfo Romero - Los Angeles, Calif.
PFC Larry Backes - Bonnets Hill, Mo.
PFC Donald Roberts - Winchester, Ohio
PFC George Kelly - Bellaire, Ohio
PFC Michael Huston - Johnston, Pa.
PFC Jerry Singleton - Dunlap, Tenn.
PFC Gary Brown - Southfield, Michigan
PFC Robert Williamson - San Diego, Cal.
PFC Edward Vanderhan - Wayzata, Minn.
PFC Abel Garcia - San Diego, California

DELTA

PFC Roger Catherton - Selinsgrove, Pa.
PFC Robert Ostendorf - Hudson, Wis.
PFC Jerome Morrow - Minneapolis, Minn.
PVT Isaac Hall - Los Angeles, Calif.
SGT Ronnie Smith - Tallapoosa, Georgia
SSG Donald Roberts - Winchester, Ohio
SGT Thomas Hunter - Swope, Virginia
PFC Miguel Solis - Yabuco, Puerto Rico
PFC Patrick Lantzy - Latrobe, Pa.
PFC Laurence Rooks - Los Angeles, Calif.
PFC John Kuhn - Bucyrus, Ohio
PFC Walter Thomas - Lima, Ohio
PFC Charles Smith - Oklahoma City, Okla.
PFC Linwood Stephens - Norfolk, Virginia
SGT Lee Dugas - Houston, Texas
PFC Floyd Strouse - Miro, N. Dakota
PFC Frank Solimine - Brooklyn, N.Y.
PFC William Price - East Point, Ga.
PFC Harold Anderson - Wittsbyville, Tenn.
PFC Rafael Martinez - Grand Jet, Colo.
PFC Richard Meyer - Aberdeen, Idaho
PFC Joaquin Pasterna - Jersey City, N.J.
SGT Curtis Wood - Carbonhill, Alabama
PFC James Adams - Mobile, N.C.
PFC Lovard Atwood - Spanish Fork, Utah
PFC George Fairman - Rosemead, Calif.

ECHO

SGT Paul Dobie - Hampton, Virginia
SGT Odelle Means - Galluda, S.C.
SGT Claude Ford - Knoxville, Tenn.



"BRONCO BASKETBALL"

Times may be hard while serving in the Republic of Vietnam, but there are occasions when the men can pull away from their work and participate in various extracurricular activities. For the men of the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry, Americal Division, activities such as this now include an interbattalion basketball team.

With the approval from the Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel George E. Hovey Johnson (Kentia, Ohio), the men of 4/21 took it upon themselves to recruit 24 men from the different sections in the Battalion, and came up with two teams to represent the Battalion in the 11th Brigade Basketball League.

The players are divided into two teams, team #3 and team #6. Specialist Four Daniel Atkins (Indianapolis, Ind.) HHC, is the player-coach of Team 3, and the members of the team are as follows: Sergeant John Chambers (Sopville, Cal) A Company, First Lieutenant Percy Laube HHC (Chicago, Ill.), Specialist Four Ronald Brown (Newark, N.J.) HHC, Specialist Four Gerald Albeck (Danville, Pennsylvania) B Company, Specialist Four Nathaniel Jones (Dallas, N. Carolina) C Company, Specialist Four Glendon Roberts (Alexandria, Louisiana) E (Don't)

Company, Specialist Four Fargo McCann Jr. (Chicago, Illinois) HHC, Specialist Four George Barnes (Somerset, Kentucky) HHC, Specialist Four Willis Bradley (Century, Florida) A Company, Specialist Four Robert O'Connor (Chattanooga, New York) A Company, Specialist Four Benny Lambert (Borden, Arkansas) D Company, and Specialist Four Lee Bowman (Salina, Kansas) B Company.

Team #6 is Player-Coached by Specialist Five James Mitchell (Cleveland, Ohio) B Company, and Sergeant Joseph Johnson (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) E Company. The team members are as follows: First Lieutenant Larry Hackman (Fulton, Missouri) HHC, Specialist Four Melvin Kirkland (Newark, New Jersey) B Company, Specialist Four Robert Shepard (Timpson, Texas) C Company, Sergeant Lovett Solomon (Ecorse, Michigan) HHC, Specialist Four Carmile Brown (St. Louis, Missouri) HHC, Sergeant Edwin Cyr (Van Buren, Maine) A Company, Specialist Four Kenneth Sadecki (Medford, New York) B Company, Specialist Four Samuel Harris Jr. (Tucson, Arizona) C Company, and Sergeant Clarence Harris (Chicago, Illinois) HHC.

The two teams hold practice on off days, between a heavy game schedule. Team 6 played its first game Saturday 17 January, and were defeated by the men of 11th Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters. The final score being 32 to 43, with Specialist Four Frank Darden and Sergeant Lovett Solomon high scorers for 4/21, each netting 10 points. Top rebounder for the game was Specialist Four Melvin Kirkland, snatching 16 from the Headquarters Team.

The teams will compete in five games each before beginning tournament in February. Games are played nightly beginning at Five P.M. sharp, on the 26th Engineers Court, directly behind the M.P.s station. Everyone is welcome to attend and anyone interested in playing may contact Specialist Five James Mitchell, B Company, for information....



- THE AIDING TRIO -

It was shortly before midnight as the mortars, rockets, grenades, and small arms fire began landing atop steep hill 285. One element from the 11th Brigade, Americal Division, was under a heavy attack by a large force of NVA Sappers. The American Troops had suffered somewhat heavy casualties, a few of these being medical personnel.

As the dust-offs brought the wounded into B Med at FSB Bronco for treatment, and the resupply ships hauled emergency loads of ammunition out to the men, it was decided that an emergency medical crew would be needed at the Hospital and three medics on the battle field. The team chosen for the job was from the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry Medical Platoon. The individuals chosen to be flown into the battle were Staff Sergeant Ernest Parker (San Antonio, Texas), Specialist Five Antonio Sanchez (Tarzana, California), and Private First Class John Dimuis (Everett, Washington).

The men received the word to gather medical supplies and get on the chopper pad, and it wasn't minutes before they were sitting on crates of ammo and on their way to the hill.

As the chopper guided onto the Landing Zone, the hill was still under heavy attack. The men were met by the Commanding Officer, and led to the wounded,

(Con't)

(Con't Building Aid)

thing that was destroyed, and the Vietnamese are very grateful for this.

Captain Sneed and S-5 are helping the people of the villages rebuild many destroyed buildings, their next project possibly being an old cement schoolhouse, destroyed some time ago.....

THE GIMLET

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The GIMLET is published bi-monthly under the supervision of the S-1 4th Battalion 21st Infantry APO San Francisco 96217, as an authorized publication. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Department of the Army.

needed, where they immediately began treatment.

Parker, Sanchez, and Dimuis were busy the entire night running from one man to the other, as the Communists continued their furious attack. They seemed to be located in the right area each time a round exploded, or a communist rifle opened up.

The team of medics treated numerous injured men throughout the night, and were endangering their lives the entire time. As the battling continued their job became heavier, and they became fatigued, but never did it show. They continued treatment of their fellow men until almost daybreak.

As the fighting lessened and the dew of morning fell, Staff Sergeant Parker and his team of two, found that the hardest part of their job was over, but not entirely. They now set up a temporary first aid station on the hill where the minor injuries could be taken care of and they would have facilities in the event of another attack.

The trio of medics remained on the hill for several days before once again returning to their home in the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry. Their job was at no end, for a medic's job has no end, his nights are seldom undisturbed. But whether it be a runny nose, or a fractured leg, it's all a major part in the life of a medic.....

(Con't Awards)

Three Army Commendation Metals were awarded: Specialist Five Jerry Barker (Whitehall, Ohio) HHC, Specialist Four Joe Wallace (Milton, Florida) D Company, and Private First Class Jeff Cruttenden (Berkeley, California) HHC.

ONLY RUMOR

For those of you who may be anticipating from a 5 to a 60 day drop, you may revert back to your original DEROS date. There has been no word of any such plan, that is besides the nice rumor floating around the Battalion.....