

The



Gimlet

4 JULY 1970

HAVE A CAPT....



Franson Leaves A Co...

Cpt. David C. Franson, formerly the hustling commanding officer of Alpha Company, assumed the office of Adjutant on July 1. He replaces Cpt. George Pejakovich who is DEROS-ing July 17.

A back injury in the field led to the reassignment. Cpt. Franson, father of a 5-months-old boy ("Whom I haven't seen yet".), received the news of his impending reassignment on Father's Day, June 21.

Though a rear-echelon job is seldom found to be unrewarding-- and that isn't the case here, one almost gets the feeling that this man would prefer to spend his last three in-country months humping with his men in the field.

Of Alpha Company he says: "Working with them was a most rewarding experience. They responded to every assignment with a 'Can Do!' attitude. And

-continued on page 3

S2 BAGS ONE MORE

An ARVN-complemented "snatch team", led by battalion S2, recently combat-assaulted into a hamlet area harboring 7 Viet Cong. The combined team received ineffective small arms fire as they landed, and the following action cost the enemy one KIA Viet Cong squad leader.

The small force from 4/21 was inserted outside the hamlet, and immediately drew sporadic rifle fire from a hedgerow 50 meters from their position. The ARVN soldiers moved in to gain fire superiority as the American element, led by 1Lt. James J. Welch, Gainesville, Fla., maneuvered along the hedgerow. "AVC popped out of the brush with a grenade", said Welch. "He was approximately 15 feet from us, and 1SG Zachary dropped him right there with M-16 fire".

"Lt. Welch and Sgt. Kim, his interpreter, were moving along one side of a hedgerow, and I on the other", explained 1SG Cecil Zachary, Calispell, Mt. "I'm not sure what first told me that there was someone in the bushes. And there was, I know, no movement or sound. I'm

-continued on page two-



Early Out

Want to get away from it all? Tired of the same 'ole thing, day in and day out? Well, you may qualify for an EAR-

LY SEPARATION!

For those interested in separation from the service to return to school (or enter),

-continued on page 3

they WOULD do it—and do it well".

Cpt. Thomas L. Plunkett, Beloit, Wis., was previously with 4/3d, 11th Bde, and 1/6th, 198th Bde. Recently arrived in country on his second tour, Plunkett will lead the company for the 4/2nd. "Cpt. Plunkett is an extensively capable individual", commented Franson. "He is certain to perpetuate the esprit de corps within the company".

Funky P-38

The P-38 is one of the Army's more wondrous devices. Just one of these durable openers might faithfully serve the soldier for his entire 12-month tour in Viet Nam. But from the American Forces Press Service comes the following warning:

"There is nothing more dangerous than a dull knife or ax—unless it happens to be a dull can opener. While all can openers produce metal fragments, dull can openers produce larger fragments and more of them. The metal fragments which are produced.....can play havoc with your digestive tract."

So DX that battered, rusted P-38—you'll feel better about it.

sure I didn't see him, but I knew he was there".

Zachary's suspicions were soon confirmed: an arm appeared from the brush. "I saw his arm", he said, "and the grenade. As he stepped out, I fired".

The action, near Phu Long hamlet, three miles south-east of Duc Pho, was witnessed by a security element from Co A led by SSG Martin L. Kristo, DePue, Ill. The S2 team was preparing to sweep through the area when the security force arrived. "We dropped in just in time to see Top engage the VC in the bushes", commented Kristo. "After that, the ARVN charged in shouting and pitching hand frags all the way".

The remaining VC were scattered and the KIA was later proven to be a squad leader in the Phu Long hamlet area.



YOU'RE IN LUCK SOLDIER—HE'S IN A GOOD MOOD TODAY



HAVE YOU LOOKED INTO THE INCREASED G.I. BILL EDUCATION BENEFITS?



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AR 635-200, Section VIII, para 5-20 says:

1. Separation will be effected not earlier than 15 days prior to the first day of the school term

2. The application must include the following information:

a. A statement by an appropriate school official (Registrar, Dean of Admissions, etc.), that the applicant has been accepted for enrollment without qualification commencing with a specific school term. The course of instruction to be undertaken by the applicant must lead to an associate, baccalaureate or higher degree. This statement must also include the latest date on which the applicant must report to the school in person in order to meet the school's requirement for attendance.

b. A statement from the applicant that he has made payment of the entrance fee or that he is able and willing to do so.

3. Applicant clearly establishes that the specific school term for which he seeks release is academically the most opportune time for him to begin or resume his education and that delay of enrollment until normal expiration of term of service would cause undue handicap.

4. The date on which the applicant must report to school must fall within the last three months of remaining service.

This last requirement would preclude the possibility of receiving a three-month school drop on top of the 150-day early release now given to many enlisted personnel in Viet Nam.



Shortest of the SHORT

July 7-July 14

SSG: Duncan Blair, Calvin King.

SGT: Glen Allen, Alan Brinton, Tommy Dye, Herman Brown, Chester Boddy, Thomas Fackrell, Joseph McDonald, Timothy O'Donnell, John Troutman.

SP/4: Sylvester Lewis, Robert Drawl, Frederick Baird, Gregg Abert, Harould Dondanville, Ralph Gaebel.

the gimlet

LTC Robert L. Harper...Bn Commander
CPT David C. Franson....S1 Officer
PFC Joseph F. Alward.....Editor
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The average GI is a pretty intelligent person and usually he knows the score. We try to explain the why and wherefore of the war to him...but no matter how much instructional matter you hold out to him, he remains a realist. The conditions under which he lives makes him one necessarily. So his primary concern in action is indicated by his daily prayer: 'O Lord, distribute the bullets as You do the pay; let the officers get most of them.

Then there's the man who said, "I don't smoke, drink or gamble. I have absolutely nothing to do with women. I am hard working, quiet and obedient. I don't attend night clubs, movies or prize fights. I'm in bed early and rise with the dawn. I've been like this for 16 years, but just wait until next week when they let me out of here."

-Gen. Joseph W. Stillwell
1945

