



Vol. 2, No. 3

Recon Flush 7 From Cave

The versatile 4/21st Recon platoon, in a July 4th effort with members of S2, routed 7 Viet Cong during an encounter in an elaborate cave complex five miles south of Duo Pho. Subsequent investigation established that the individuals captured were members of a 19 man party organized for attack on Chi Trung, a fishing village two miles south of LZ Debbie.

Reliable Vietnamese sources supplied the information which led to an early - morning combat assault to the Pho Hiep hamlet area north-east of Debbie. "We departed at 0700 hours", recalled 1LT Brien DeMary (S2), Beaumont, Texas. "The second squad of Recon, led by 1LT Jerry Webster, (Eden, N.C.), established a blocking force due north of our position. SGT Kim, my interpreter, and I moved with the first squad toward LT Webster's location".

While pushing north to the blocking force the men picked up a government official of Pho Hiep who directed them to a suspected enemy encampment on the north-east slope of Hill 164. The guide led the small force up a dried stream bed studded with elaborate rock formations. "Here we found numerous caves which were ideal for concealment", continued DeMary. "We suspected one of them was occupied, so we called in for CS to drive

-continued on page 2

Charlie's Cash Cache

A small, highly efficient element from battalion S2 is meeting with continuing success in its efforts to neutralize small pockets of communist influence in the hamlet areas near Duo Pho. These "Jungle Warriors" are taking the guerillas closer to financial ruin, too.

S2 makes efficient use of the "mini-CA" to drop in uninvited on the Viet Cong. 1SG Cecil Zachary (Calispell, Mt) has been on 32 such combat assaults in the past four months. "We usually hear from the village chiefs when the unwanted visitors show up, and we can drop down on them at any time", said Zachary.

-continued on page 2

Commander Leaves 4/21

A very superior soldier has vacated the 4/21st commanders post fifty days prematurely. LTC Robert L. Harper narrowly averted death while conferring with members of Bravo Company in their "Rice Bowl" day laager. A well-aimed sniper round passed through his helmet and lodged in his helmet liner, leaving a five inch crease in the back of his head. The steel pot undoubtedly saved his life. "He was constantly preaching the use of them", commented CPT David Franson.

-continued on page 2

Commander -continued from page 1

In his four month tenure with the battalion, the ubiquitous commander consistently displayed the highest degree of combat leadership and bravery. This energetic period witnessed his participation in 170 flights, including 40 combat assault missions during which he personally directed troop movements.

His leadership produced successes unprecedented in the battalion. (See "Enemy Loss Status" page 4). Colonel Harper's conception and initiation of the daring "mini-CA" has significantly added to the list of the battalion's more conspicuous achievements. He is perhaps proudest of his role as architect of the "Rice Bowl Harvest", an undertaking which deprived the VC/NVA of more than 100,000 pounds of rice.

His profound understanding of the problems of the men in the field brought the respect and gratitude of all those under his command. Grateful troops now receive well-earned rests on LZ Debbie, thanks to the Colonel's prohibition of the burdensome detail on the hill. Support for "PFC Marvin C. Blivett" was his primary concern. "Before he would commit a force, he would make certain that everything was in their favor...that every advantage was there", explained CPT George Pejakovich.

"He is unquestionably the finest commander I've ever met", added CPT Franson. "He gives his undivided attention to the needs of the commanders in the field. He is the commander's Commander".

Cave -continued from page 1

them out. Soon after it arrived, SGT Kon Hurt (Lincoln, Neb) and SSG John Helms (Denver, Colo) slipped through the opening with the CS grenades. It was tight for them, uncomfortably so, since they expected to meet unfriendlys. They made a hurried exit after throwing the grenades, and three minutes later we could hear coughing and hollering from inside. The interpreter instructed the men inside to come out, and they would not be harmed".

The result: seven teary-eyed Viet Cong happy, more or less, to be in the open air once again.



LTC Robert L. Harper

Shortest of the SHORT

July 15-July 31

Headquarters & Headquarters Company

PV2 Cliffton E. Abraham.....19Jul
 SGT Ronald L. Adams.....15Jul
 SP4 Brett E. Brooks.....22Jul
 SP4 Jimmy C. Compton.....22Jul
 SSG Louis A. Frey.....27Jul
 CPT John W. Hawbaker.....20Jul
 SP4 Michael C. Miller.....30Jul
 MAJ Michael A. Moore.....18Jul
 SP4 Jennings Q. Parker.....28Jul
 CPT George C. Pejakovich.....17Jul
 SP4 Marvin A. Presley.....26Jul

Alpha Company

SP4 Wilfredo Caraballo.....20Jul
 SP4 Antonio Davila.....20Jul
 SSG Robert J. Selig.....13Jul
 SP4 John Sutton.....20Jul
 SP4 Vincent S. Vasta.....20Jul

Bravo Company

SP4 Virgil Archer.....24Jul
 SGT William Beard.....25Jul
 SP4 Roy Carroll.....20Jul
 SGT Sammy Ellis.....17Jul
 SP4 Charles Griggs.....19Jul
 SGT James Hamilton.....22Jul
 SP4 John Miars.....31Jul
 SP4 Phillip Sanders.....31Jul
 SP4 Ronald Schramm.....19Jul
 PV2 Eddie Shelton.....13Jul
 SP4 Eric Toledo.....27Jul
 SP4 George Troup.....13Jul
 SP4 Willie Wright.....18Jul
 SP4 James Adams.....20Jul

Charlie Company

SP4 Richard Avila.....25Jul
 SP4 Joseph L. Beiswenger.....19Jul
 SP4 John A. Brasch.....26Jul
 SP4 Jack J. Fakos.....20Jul
 SGT Richard A. Foos.....20Jul
 SP4 Bruce R. Gibson.....23Jul
 SP4 Jack R. Hallberg.....19Jul
 SP4 Danny L. Hanson.....24Jul
 SP4 Norbert J. Jensen.....26Jul

SP4 Barry L. Jones.....23Jul
 SP4 Vincent A. McNamara.....27Jul
 SP4 Douglas B. Malek.....22Jul
 SP4 Robert . Spencer.....19Jul
 SP4 Gle n A. Miller.....25Jul
 SP4 Gary E. Mosher.....26Jul
 SP4 Dennis Ryan.....23Jul

Delta Company

SP4 Hendrik M. Bakker.....13Jul
 SGT Monte H. Baldwin.....17Jul
 SP4 Ralph H. Bateman.....26Jul
 SGT Gerald W. Brock.....27Jul
 SP4 Herman Brown, Jr.....15Jul
 SP4 Stephen McCool.....13Jul
 SGT Richard D. Throm.....13Jul
 SP4 James E. Woodward.....13Jul

Echo Company

SP4 Walter L. Chandler.....16Jul
 SGT Ernest L. Davis.....20Jul
 SFC Ulyssess S. Freeman.....27Jul
 SP4 Theodore A. George.....25Jul
 SGT Terry G. Gieselman.....25Jul
 LSG Amos C. Green.....29Jul
 SP4 Floyd E. Rittenberry.....20Jul
 CPT John W. Yarborough.....19Jul

the Gimlet

LTC Robert L. Harper...Bn Commander
 CPT David C. Franson.....S1 Officer
 PFC Joseph F. Alward.....Editor

The GIMLET is published bi-monthly under the supervision of the S1 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

-continued from page 1

The excursions sometimes lead to something other than weapons captured, or KIAs. On a recent mission the S2 team landed near a fishing village three miles south - east of Duc Pho. Soon after the insertion the men met with the village chief and moved to a hootch known to be used by the VC. After a few minutes of digging the soldiers hit paydirt -- GOLD -- 32,000 piasters worth, and 5,000 piasters in cash.

The village chief stated that the money belonged to members of a local VC force, and it was retained by him for use in the betterment of the village.

18Mar-6Jul

KIA.....	111
Ambush KIA.....	27
Prisoners of War (VC/NVA).....	31
Chieu Hoi (NVA).....	1
\$CIA (piasters).....	466,400
Individual Weapons CIA.....	58
Rice (pounds).....	109,020
Salt (pounds).....	450

