

# Edge 4/21 Grounder

August 15, 1970

Vol 2, No 5

## Recon Kills Two

For the second time in as many weeks, elements of the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry moved to drive persistent Viet Cong from their retreat in the elaborate tunnel and cave complexes on the eastern-most slopes of LZ Debbie. Two VC were killed in the action and one AK-47 was confiscated.

Members of the Recon platoon, accompanied by 20 ARVN soldiers, made a late - morning march to the base of Hill 164 to engage a reported reinforced squad of well-armed guerillas.

There the ARVN troops established security for the eight-man  
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## 4/21 Wrap - Up

31 July: The Recon Platoon killed two Viet Cong while on a search and clear operation near Pho Trung. One individual KIA was the Pho Trung VC village security chief. Grenades and an M-1 carbine were confiscated in the action.

3 August: Bravo's SRRP team engaged three individuals in the act of setting hand frag booby traps. Result: 1 VC KIA, 2 NVA KIA; M-16, binoculars and grenades CIA.

7 August: Bravo Company, 4th squad, 1st platoon discover 400 pounds of rice wrapped in plastic buried inside hootch.

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## Bravo Cleans Out Base Camp

An August 4 th search and clear mission conducted by elements of Bravo Company uncovered a platoon-size NVA base camp in the foothills three miles south - west of LZ Debbie. Medical supplies and an M-60 machine gun were confiscated during the operation in the heavily canopied sanctuary.

An early - morning trek from Bravo's valley night laager brought the 1st platoon and Company CP to the recently occupied base camp.

"It appeared as though it had been

hastily abandoned , " recalled PFC William J. Frisby. "Supplies were laying all over"

Added PFC Daniel S. McQueen, "We found medical equipment in ammo boxes near a hootch which had been used as an aid station. We also picked up an M-60 wrapped in a plastic poncho.

In addition , Bravo Company found 75 feet of "dot" cord 25 pounds of salt, 200 rounds of M-16 ammunition and several ChiCom grenades.

"It was a nice haul ." Frisby concluded.

## Band Visits Bronco

42 flak-jacketed members of the AMERICAL Division Band came to town August 10. Arriving in trucks from Chu Lai, the brass band unpacked their instruments and treated the men on Gimlet Hill to rousing renditions of current pop tunes.

Conducted by MSG Francis J. Barnes, the musicians rocked through seven uplifting tunes in rapid-fire fashion. Among the many sounds were Age of Aquarius and Gentle on My Mind, followed by Hey! Look Me Over, By the Time I Get to Phoenix and Bill Bailey Won't You Please Come Home

"We normally only play at change of command ceremonies or official military functions," explained MSG Barnes. "We usually don't have time to entertain the men on the firebases. But business has slowed down this past month, so we have been hopping from one fire base to another in the I Corps."

## Recon

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Recon squad moving up the heavily vegetated terrain.

"We had advanced only 25 meters when Sp/4 Jack Rice (Kearns, Utah) spotted a pair of Viet Cong carrying AKs," explained Specialist 4 Kenneth D. Hurt, Lincoln, Nebraska. "They saw us and began moving out at great speed. Rice, though, got off a couple of rounds before they jumped behind large boulders."

Squad leader Robert M. Gilman, Keweenaw, New Jersey, added, "We were pursuing in and around the heavy brush and rock formations when we noticed frantic movement in the brush on our left flank. We began to draw a considerable amount of AK fire from that area and we put the MAX on them."

The Recon team pounded the area with grenades, M-79 and small arms fire until



"It's a little recipe of mine, sir... cream sauce with little chips of beef in it, poured over biscuits."

the movement and the firing ceased.

"We pushed through the thicket and found one of them we had wounded," stated Hurt. "He was laying on his back in the brush with a weapon at his side. We approached him to investigate and he rose suddenly. I shot him as he lifted his AK-47."

Recon then followed a recently broken trail and discovered blood trails and a pair of sandals.

"There the trail ended," commented Sergeant Gilman, "so we ended our search. An ARVN sweep the following day uncovered the freshly dug grave of the second VC."



## Getting Along (USARV) In Vietnam

If you work in a headquarters area, you will more than likely have frequent day-to-day contact with the same Vietnamese people. There are several good points to bear in mind in this sort of situation.

Don't look down your nose at Vietnamese working at menial jobs, and don't under-estimate their intelligence. Remember that some of these people have gone through extremely difficult times. Always try to be pleasant with these people and try to pick up some of their language. They will probably be flattered to see that you are interested in learning.

In a permanent area, you will probably have minor business dealings with the Vietnamese people. For instance, you may have a woman working in your hootch who takes care of

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## Why Does He Fight?

The enemy has a number of reasons for fighting. Some honestly believe the propaganda which they hear every day from the unit political officer. Some may have personal reasons. The NVA regular serves primarily because it is considered a social disgrace to refuse to bear arms. In North Vietnam draft dodging is cause for a severe loss of "face".

Morale is a constant problem for the enemy. He is often quite far from home, poorly equipped and supplied. To combat these morale problems, his superiors rely heavily on political indoctrination. The enemy soldier is constantly reminded of his mission, and the reasons for it. Unit

indoctrination sessions, conducted daily, include self-criticism, during which each man is told what his future actions must be. Then he must explain his reactions and publicly confess his shortcomings.

After every fight there is an almost immediate critique, with no holds barred. This gives every man a chance to let off steam, and at the same time lets superiors know what their men are thinking.

Discipline and courtesy are maintained in much the same manner as in other military organizations, with minor punishment for minor offenses. After every battle, too, there is always an awards ceremony which gives recognition to outstanding soldiers.

(USARV)

## Enemy Loss Status

8 July-14 August

Killed in Action.....	28
Killed in Ambush.....	7
Vict Cong/NVA detained..	8
Individual Weapons.....	8
Rice (pounds).....	4570
Salt (pounds).....	75



10 August: Alpha Company, 1st platoon, during search and clear operations near Lam Binh, three miles north of LZ Debbie uncovered 6-8 tons of polished rice in 55-gallon drums; 2 detainees.



The GIMLET welcomes literary offerings from the field (from REMFs, too)-- poems, short-short stories, cartoons... whatever you have, for publication. The contributions may be mailed to the GIMLET, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry.

to SGT Donald Johnson (Bravo Company)  
from his wife

I never knew how wonderful  
My life could really be,  
Until I fell in love with you  
And knew that you loved me.

When you're in love and happy  
The days just come and go,  
But when you're in love and lonely  
The days move by so slow.

And now you're needed elsewhere  
Although I love you so  
So I asked you not to leave me  
When I knew you had to go.

The tears I cry are deeply felt  
And shared by many others.  
But the suffering does not stop there  
There are also all you soldiers.

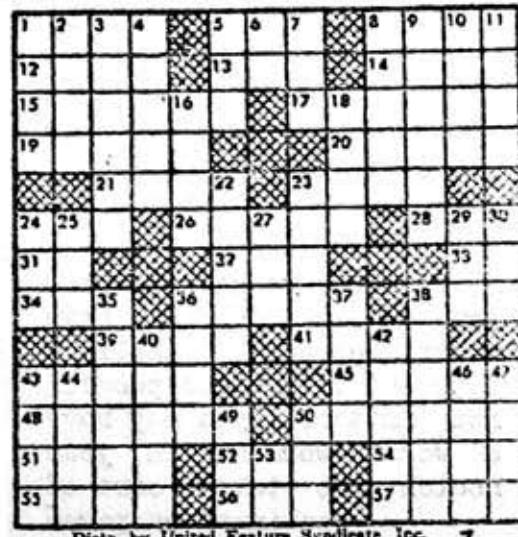
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answers on Page —

1-Business organization (abbr.)	3-Tell
5-Hit lightly	4-Piece of dinnerware
6-Withered	5-Definite article
12-Son of Adam	6-Three-toed sloth
13-Hasten	7-Footlike part
14-Equal	8-Trail
15-Assuage	9-Weird
17-Retail establishments	10-Female ruff
19-Puff up	11-Formerly
20-Elevate	16-Coin
21-Temporary shelter	18-Unfreeze
23-Peel	22-Number
24-Reverence	23-Part of flower
26-Tossed	24-Likely
28-Uncooked	25-Tiny
31-Hebrew letter	27-Soak
32-Soak	29-A state (abbr.)
33-French article	30-Marry
34-Afternoon party	35-Confirm
36-Substance	36-Intervene
38-Inane	37-Tibetan priest
39-Pintail duck	38-Interfere
41-Tardy	40-Appoints
43-Fertile spots in desert	42-Taut
45-Ancient Persians	43-Man's name
48-Principles	44-Dry
50-Grip	46-Hebrew month
51-Wary	47-Observes
52-Time gone by	49-Posed for portrait
54-Twist about a fixed point	50-Torrid
55-Poems	53-Proceed
56-Small child	
57-Lampreys	

### DOWN

- 1-Crate  
2-Ancient Greek coin



help  
us  
help

You are witnessing starvation,  
Being wet for six months straight,  
And yet all through the nation  
We watch and wait and pray.

You are fighting for your country  
And for all of mankind too.  
Away from home, away from friends  
And away from those who love you.

So darling in a years time  
As your plane soars through the blue  
I'll be waiting as I always have  
And together we'll start anew.



# Shortest of the SHORT

## Headquarters and Headquarters Company

SGT Kenneth B. Crowley.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Lloyd A. Klaren.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Larry S. Nye.....25Aug  
 Sp/4 Michael Stewart.....25Aug

## Alpha Company

Sp/4 Ronald Barbito.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Keith Childress.....3Sep  
 Sp/4 Melvin Jones.....2Sep  
 Sp/4 Joseph Johnson.....10Sep  
 SGT Daniel Quebedeaux.....31Aug  
 Sp/4 Albert J. Robinson.....31Aug

## Bravo Company

CPT Robert L. Hagelberger.....4Sep  
 SGT Larry Hardin.....30Aug  
 SGT Ronald Herd.....30Aug  
 Sp/4 Randy Howard.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Charles Johnson.....26Aug  
 Sp/4 Norman Nichols.....31Aug  
 Sp/4 James Scumaci.....31Aug  
 SGT Johnny Shelton.....6Sep

## Charlie Company

Sp/4 Luther Curry, Jr.....31Aug  
 PSG Wade Jackson.....30Aug  
 Sp/4 Donald E. Vandecoevering.....8Sep

## Delta Company

PFC	Glen L. Allen.....	31Aug
SGT	Paul W. Bixby.....	8Sep
Sp/4	Thomas W. Cannon.....	30Aug
Sp/4	Michael P. Erwin.....	31Aug
PFC	Larry G. Ester.....	31Aug
Sp/4	James W. Fannin.....	31Aug
Sp/4	Michael J. Fobbe.....	31Aug
Sp/4	Deimar McGlothin.....	1Sep
Sp/4	Thomas A. Gary.....	1Sep
Sp/4	Thomas Wackerman.....	8Sep
Sp/4	Michael Williams.....	1Sep
Sp/4	Yuzo Yoshida.....	31Sep



## Echo Company

SGT	Thomas B. Binkley.....	7Sep
SGT	Paul W. Dobie.....	3Sep
Sp/4	Billy G. Layne.....	3Sep
Sp/4	Michael L. Maslan.....	1Sep
SGT	Donald E. Nafis.....	10Sep
PFC	Jorge L. Nieves.....	10Sep
Sp/4	Joseph D. Porter.....	1Sep
SGT	Larry B. Presnell.....	7Sep
SGT	John R. Raibley.....	28Aug
Sp/4	Dennis D. Singleton.....	9Sep
Sp/4	Michael A. Trewella.....	2Sep



# The Gimlet

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

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## Vietnam continued from page 1

your laundry and boots. If you will just take the time to be polite to these people, treat them as equals, you may be surprised at how clean your clothes come back.

Even if in fun, never joke around and say something to the effect that you think your cleaning lady is a Viet Cong. This would hurt her very deeply, and she would resent you for it. Remember, it is not unheard of for a woman to be killed by the VC for doing nothing more than working on an American post as a laundry maid. These people are sometimes placed in serious danger because they work for Americans.



## Classics of Combat Cuisine

Soldiers of the U.S. Army are the best fed soldiers in the world. They are also some of the most ingenious and creative chefs around when it comes to making the most of combat rations.

Yankee ingenuity demonstrated in battlefield kitchens by Army troops can stagger the imagination. Not unexpectedly, a few "classics of combat cuisine" have resulted.

In recognition of the many contributions to soldier morale being made daily by the Army's most innovative soldier-chefs, some culinary classics are described below.

One favorite is called tanker's stew. Sometimes dubbed hobo's stew, ingredients for this tongue-tingling delicacy vary with what's available and taste preferences. Generally, this curiously-named mixture is nothing more than ham

and eggs and rice from "LURP" rations. Seasoned Experts in brewing tankers stew enthusiastically suggest adding tomato sauce and franks for increased dining enjoyment.

Another C-ration delight is easily prepared by blending melted cheddar cheese with beans and franks.

Heating blackberry jam and turkey loaf together adds variety to any foxhole menu.

Beef and potato juices mixed with water and salt and pepper boils to a now yet-unnamed soup.

And, finally, that old sentimental favorite ...the All-time palate-pleaser -- Grunt Gumbo-- results when ham slices and pineapple fruit is thoroughly mixed with a crumbled fruit cake. (Armed Forces Press Service)



# Awards Granted

In a mid-morning ceremony at the Retraining Area on Fire Support Base Bronco twelve members of Charlie Company received medals for achievement and wounds received. LTC Robert A. Witter presented the awards.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
4th BATTALION, 21st INFANTRY  
Amical Division

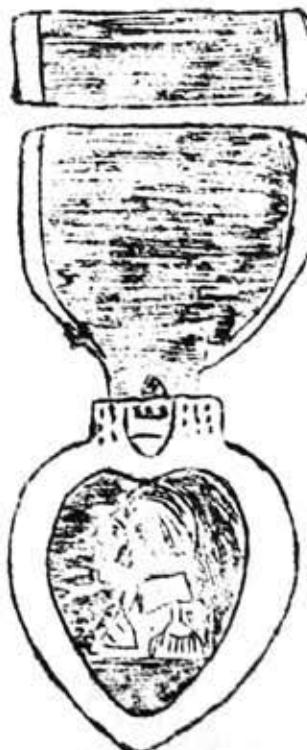
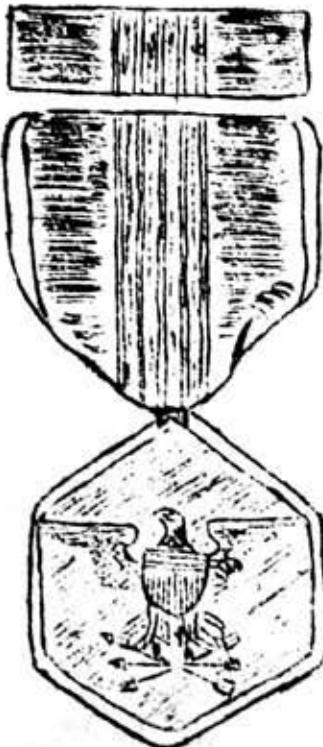
"BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT..

"...the Bronze Star is awarded to:  
Wade Jackson  
Gordon L. Loverink  
Marvin Van Curen  
Paul S. Moran

"...the Army Commendation Medal is awarded to:  
Gordon L. Loverink  
Marvin Van Curen  
Paul S. Moran

"...the Purple Heart is awarded to:

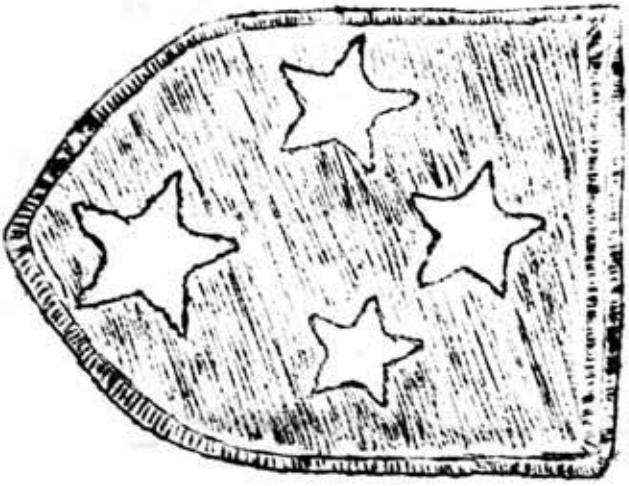
Albert Vasquez  
Thomas Pyle  
Gary Popp  
James Kendrick  
Gary Brown  
David Drake  
Jon Green  
Steven Karpel



"...for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam."

"...for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam."

"...for wounds received in connection with military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam."



SSAN  
4th Bn, 21st Inf  
11th Brigade  
APO SF 96217

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