

# The



# Gimlet

September 1, 1970

Vol 2, No. 6

## The Civil Defender

Viet Cong stand in awe of the man; his exploits as a Civil Defender in southern Quang Ngai Province approach the legendary. Fifteen scars earned in encounters with insurgents give testimony to his contempt of danger.

Endangering himself countless times in his 3 years service with the 11th Brigade, Nguyen Phao, 31, from Dien Truong has worked closely in ground combat operations with the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry and can personally account for 49 Viet Cong KIAS since 1967. In addition, Phao has been instrumental in the elimination of approximately 500 guerillas since 1965.

-continued on page 2

## 4/21 Wrap-Up

11 August: While sweeping an area near La Van the First Platoon of Delta Company discovered a 250 pound bomb laying in halves. The bomb's insides had been removed.

A continuing search by the CP and Second Platoon uncovered a 12 foot tunnel beneath a hootch containing several mortar round cases and a battery. Near the hootch was found a cemetery of 17 graves.

An Alpha Company search & clear operation 3 miles southwest of LZ Debbie netted 10,000 pounds of unpolished rice. 128

-continued on page 2



## Fishing Hamlet Dedicated

Viet Cong terrorism drove fishermen, rice farmers and their families from their ancestral homes in 1965. Waste and ruin was to be seen where once was a prosperous fishing hamlet nestled comfortably in the lowlands by the Sea.

Aided in their efforts by MACV and Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, the former residents returned five years later to the village site, 1 mile east of FSB Bronco, to rebuild.

Working cooperatively, several dozen families mass produced the bamboo frames which were to

-continued on page 3

## Wrap-Up -continued from page 1

bags were extracted to FSB Bronco.

Shortly after dusk, Alpha's night laager received 20-30 rounds of small arms and rifle grenade fire from the northeast slope of Hill 70. Enemy fire ceased immediately following intensive retaliatory fire.

13 August: Members of the Recon Platoon uncovered a well-fortified base camp consisting of 30 camouflaged bunkers and 70 fighting positions. A further search netted 6 pairs of camouflage uniforms.

14 August: While searching and clearing a proposed NDP site near LZ Alice, 35 clicks west of LZ Debbie, members of Alpha Company found two punji pits. The pits were one foot deep containing 4-6 stakes each. 25 additional well-camouflaged stakes coated with a yellow substance were also found in the vicinity.

## Civil

## Defender -continued from page 1

Formerly with the 4th Division in Pleiku, Phao began his close association with the 11th Brigade in 1967. He quickly won the confidence and respect of the Battalion and his assistance proved invaluable on search and destroy missions with Recon and SRRP teams.

A veteran of 40 heliborne assaults, Phao's imagination and resourcefulness has led to successful conclusions of many close combat operations against the enemy. Nguyen Phao's dependable service with the ever-successful 'mini-CA' is not the least of his outstanding contributions to the Battalion.

"Phao and the 12 men of his squad of Civil Defenders form the nucleus of the 'mini-CA'," explained First Sergeant Cecil L. Zachary, Kalispell, Montana. "They've been present on virtually all of our missions. Mr Phao has been on at



## Grunt of the Week

least 70 combat operations with me in the last six months alone. His understanding of the ways of the Viet Cong has been extremely helpful to us."

On one occasion, information gathered by Mr Phao led to a mid-morning insertion into the coastal plains near Chi Trung, 7 miles south of Duc Pho. Ensuring action resulted in 8 Viet Cong KIAs and 4 detainees. "Phao commandeered a boat from one of the detained VC," recalled Zachary. "The last two were fleeing in a boat by sea and Phao and another CD took out after them. Both VC were killed before they could get very far."

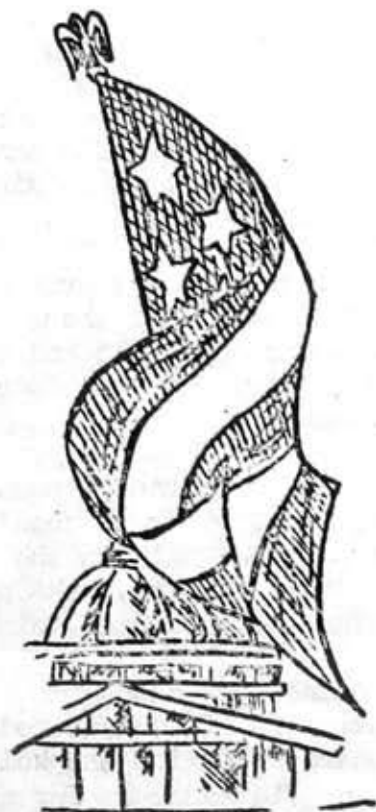
Nguyen Phao is the holder of the American Bronze Star Medal for Valor, presented by the 11th Brigade, and the Vietnamese equivalents of the Silver and Bronze Stars for Valor.

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# Zachary Wins Valor Award

By direction of the President the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to First Sergeant Cecil L. Zachary for heroism in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Sergeant Zachary distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 21 June 1970 while serving with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry. On that date, Sergeant Zachary and several comrades were inserted into an enemy-infested area in the vicinity of Pho Khuong to conduct a reconnaissance patrol. While moving along a treeline, Sergeant Zachary alertly spotted an enemy soldier preparing to throw a hand grenade at two members of the friendly element. Reacting immediately to the urgency of the situation, he drew the insurgent's attention away from his comrades and quickly eliminated him with a highly accurate burst of rifle fire. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he assaulted the hostile position to intercept any additional enemy soldiers. Through his timely and courageous actions, Sergeant Zachary was instrumental to the success of the operation and saved the lives of two fellow soldiers. His personal heroism, professional competence, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.



## Hai Mon—continued from page 1

signal the genesis of an all-new, Americal-subsidized village. 100 tin-roofed dwellings soon dotted the reclaimed acreage, and Hai Mon was nearing completion.

On August 19 Hai Mon was officially reborn. The months of construction culminated in an elaborate dedication ceremony headed by Major Nguyen Van Tuong, District Chief of Duc Pho.

Regional Force 147 assumed a prominent role in the village inauguration. Presented in a company-size formation to Brigade personnel, RF 147 listened as Major Tuong gave his congratulations for their performance in maintaining the security of the village in its embryonic

stages.

RF members, many of whom were pre-teen-aged when they were driven from their village, stood proudly at attention as VIET-NAM, VIET-NAM! was played. Following their National Anthem, Tuong outlined the past months' achievements and praised the effective cooperation between the villagers and AMERICAL soldiers which led to Hai Mon's long-awaited rebirth.

Guesting the ceremony were Brigade Commander Colonel K.B. Barlow, Lieutenant Colonel Nguyen Van Binh, Quang Ngai Province Chief, Major William F. Ward, District Senior Advisor MACV, and Major Roy E. Lindquist, XO, representing 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry.



# Some Small Points

Most of us serving in Vietnam find ourselves "in a foreign country for the first time. Here, the people look, act, talk and think differently than we do. How well we get along with Vietnamese depends not only on trying hard. It is essential to learn something of the customs of the people, and learn their do's and don'ts.

In any of the many dealings you may have with the Vietnamese, it is always wise to bear in mind a few simple points.

First, don't ever cross your fingers in front of them. This is a common American habit and harmless to us, but is seen as an obscene gesture in Vietnam.

If you want someone to come to you, wave goodbye. Don't use one finger as you would in the United States. In this country, the people use this gesture to beckon to animals.

Another thing to watch is your feet. It is considered extremely bad manners to point the sole of your boot at a Vietnamese. For example, if you happen to be sitting with one leg over the other, be sure the bottom of your foot isn't pointed at a Vietnamese.

Don't pat children on the head. In fact, don't pat anybody on the head. The Vietnamese consider the head the most important part of the body and think of it as sacred.

If you are introduced to a Vietnamese, don't reach out to shake his hand. Let him take the lead. If he wishes to shake hands with you, follow his lead, but don't be the one to initiate it.

Be sure that you never stick your tongue out at people. In the United States, this is impolite and an insult; in Vietnam it is an obscene insult.

Some of these don'ts stem from the traditions and customs of the people, while others originate in the Buddhist religion. The important thing is to make sure that you observe them. USARV INFORMATION OFFICE

## Enemy Loss Status

8 July-25 August

|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Viet Cong/NVA Killed in Action..... | 30     |
| Viet Cong/NVA Killed in Ambush..... | 7      |
| Weapons Confiscated.....            | 8      |
| Rice Confiscated (pounds).....      | 14,025 |
| Salt Confiscated (pounds).....      | 75     |
| Viet Cong/NVA Detained.....         | 8      |



## the Gimlet

LTC Robert A. Witter.....Bn Commander

CPT David C. Franson.....S1 Officer

PFC Joseph F. Alward.....Editor

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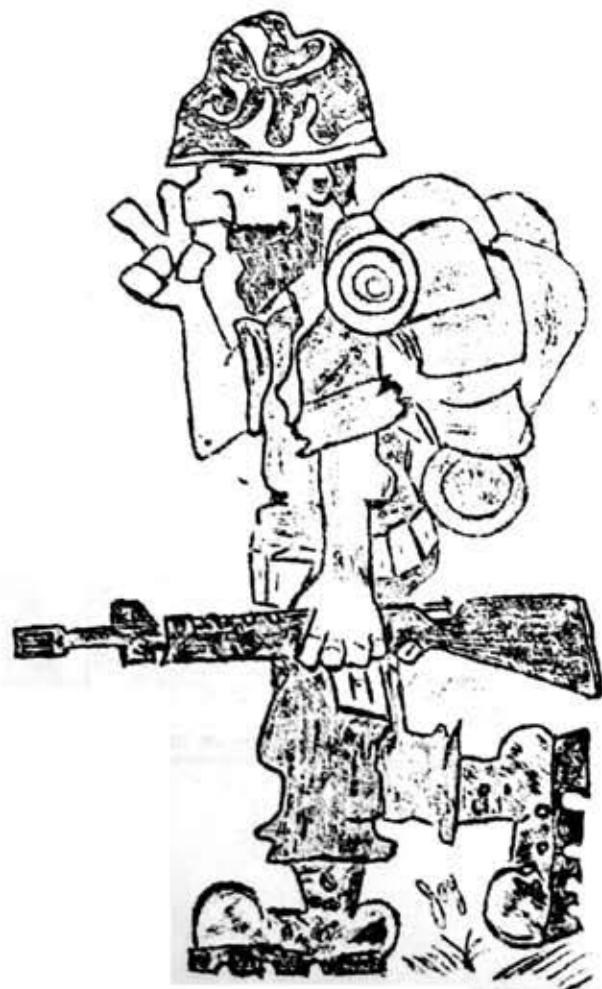


### Headquarters and Headquarters Company

SGT Kenneth B. Crowley.....10Sep  
 CPT David C. Franson.....14Sep  
 Sp/4 Lloyd A. Klaren.....10Sep  
 SGT Emmett A. Pins.....15Sep  
 PFC James R. Randle.....14Sep  
 SGT Calvin Hunt.....10Sep

### Alpha Company

Sp/4 Ronald Barbito.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Thomas Bernhard.....17Sep  
 SGT Thomas G. Dowdy.....17Sep



## Short and Safe

### Alpha Company—continued

Sp/4 Joseph Johnson.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Mark E. Kelley.....15Sep  
 SGT Kenneth Klanica.....15Sep  
 PFC Thomas Kuhn.....10Sep  
 SGT Steven Mitohley.....10Sep  
 SGT Viki Oxner.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Marshall Russell.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Barrie Skipper.....10Sep

### Bravo Company

1Lt Sherman Eisner.....12Sep  
 1Lt David Harris.....12Sep  
 Sp/4 Randy Howard.....10Sep  
 Sp/4 Timothy Kelley.....14Sep  
 Sp/4 Lawrence Robertson.....20Sep

### Charlie Company

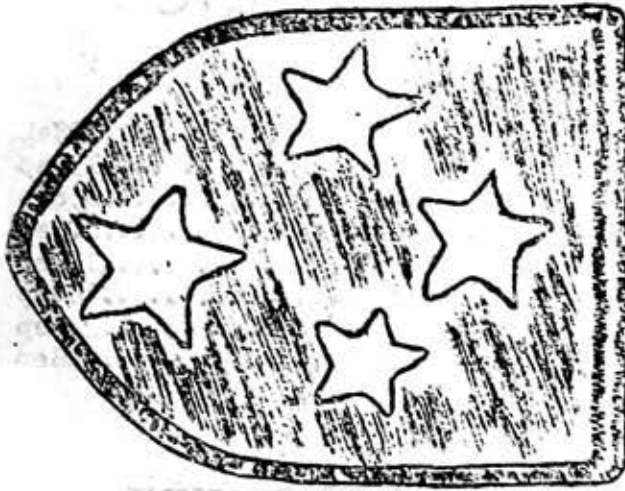
PFC James E. Bloodsaw.....20Sep  
 1LT Robert M. Ericcsen.....12Sep  
 Sp/4 Emil S. Flandera.....20Sep  
 Sp/4 James K. Gannon.....15Sep  
 PFC Kenneth G. Henry.....12Sep  
 Sp/4 Edward M. Martin.....13Sep  
 Sp/4 Robert J. Weirich.....12Sep

### Delta Company

Sp/4 Rodney Moyer.....20Sep  
 SGT Raymond Olsson.....12Sep  
 Sp/4 Burnell E. Sammons.....20Sep  
 Sp/4 William H. Tyler.....10Sep

### Echo Company

1LT Michael Flint.....12Sep  
 Sp/4 William Gore.....13Sep  
 Sp/4 Larry W. Hardin.....19Sep  
 SGT Steven L. Jensen.....10Sep  
 SGT Donald E. Nafis.....10Sep  
 PFC Jorge L. Nieves.....10Sep



SSAN  
Co, 4th Bn, 21st Inf  
11th Infantry Brigade  
APO San Francisco 96217

Name

Street

State

Number

City

Zip Code

"SAD SACK"



"EMBARKATION"



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