

BEE'S BUZZ 'READY RIFLES'

By SGT Alfred A. Anthony
198th Brigade PIO

LZ STINSON--A platoon of "Ready Rifles" of the 1st Bn., 52d Inf. got bees in their bonnets recently--working in an area they are likely to remember with a sting.

While participating in a cordon operation in the rugged mountains west of here, Alpha Co. had a platoon hidden in the triple canopy forest for security when a swarm of hornets assaulted them.

"We had just been resupplied on the side of a mountain," said the assistant RTO, PFC David Herring (Mobile, Ala.),

"and we were fixing to move out when they hit."

"A man somewhere in the back sat right down on them," explained Herring, as SP4 Douglas Cole (Dallas, Ga.) added: "They were bees--we call them 'NVA hornets' out here." Cole was stung seven times.

In seconds the regiment-sized force of buzzing warriors had the platoon dangerously scattered and running for cover.

"Words can't describe it," said Herring who, thinking fast, headed into some heavy brush to set up some security against a possible attack by the larger enemy--"Charlie".

(continued on page 3)

198TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

THE BAYONET

BRAVE & BOLD

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MG RAMSEY TO ASSUME
COMMAND OF AMERICAL
DIVISION ON SUNDAY

CHU LAI--Major General Charles M. Gettys will relinquish his command of the Americal Division June 1st and return to the U.S. for assignment at the Department of the Army.

Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey, present Deputy Commanding General of the 1st Logistical Command at Long Binh, will become the new division commanding General.

MG Ramsey, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 1940. Three years later he was a major and aide-de-camp for General Alexander, the ground commander under General Eisenhower in North Africa.

In the sixties, MG Ramsey served in a variety of positions, including Deputy Chief of Information at Department of the Army and Third Army Chief of Staff at Ft. McPherson, Ga.

MG Gettys, the Americal Division's fourth commander since the division arrived in Vietnam, served here for 11 months. During that time the division directed 15 combat operations against NVA and Viet Cong forces in southern I Corps.

SCOUT DOGS UNLEASHED FOR VIETNAM DUTY

LZ BAYONET--Pointmen who scout as far as 500 meters ahead of their units are working with the 198th Brigade.

They are canine members of the 57th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog), and are among the vanguard of a group of off-leash dogs headed for duty in Vietnam.

According to 2LT Mark P. Zirngibl (Chicago), leader of the 57th Platoon, the three off-leash dogs assigned to his unit are among the first 22 to arrive in Vietnam. Having been here only a few months, the dogs have not yet had a chance to prove their capabilities under actual combat conditions, but they show great potential, 2LT Zirngibl said.

He pointed out that one of the advantages of the off-leash dogs is that they can be sent across rice paddies and other open areas to check out

(Cont. on page 3)

5/46TH WINS IT AGAIN
IN 198TH "BEST MESS"
MONTHLY COMPETITION

LZ BAYONET--For the second time in a row the "Professionals" of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. have been awarded the 198th "Best Mess of the Month" honors. The award, now in its second month, is symbolized by a traveling trophy and a permanent certificate presented to the winning mess hall. The 5/46 Hq Mess will receive another certificate--this one for the month of May--and retain for another month the trophy won in April.

WEAPONS SAFETY

A BEAUTIFUL GIRL
IN VIETNAM WEARING HER
NATIVE DRESS, THE AO DAI



In her country she will grow into a woman who earns a position of high respect in the family. In Vietnam it is said a husband and wife treat each other as guests in the same household.

IN THE AMERICAL DIVISION, 627 MAN-HOURS HAVE BEEN LOST DURING THE LAST TWO MONTHS. AS THE RESULT OF ACCIDENTS DUE TO THE MISHANDLING OF WEAPONS.

MAN-HOURS ARE NOT ALL THAT'S BEING LOST; MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE L. MABRY JR., CHIEF OF STAFF, U.S. ARMY, VIETNAM, SAYS, "ACCIDENTS INVOLVING THE MISHANDLING OF WEAPONRY WERE AMONG THE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATHS AND INJURIES IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF THE 1969 FISCAL YEAR."

THIS IS WHY JUNE, 1969, HAS BEEN DESIGNATED WEAPONS SAFETY MONTH BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY. IT IS HOPED THAT BY FOCUSING ATTENTION ON THE PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVING THE MISHANDLING OF WEAPONS THERE WILL BE AN INCREASED SAFETY CONSCIOUSNESS AT ALL ECHELONS OF COMMAND.

AMERICAL DIVISION COMMANDER MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES M. GETTYS SAYS, "MOST ACCIDENTS INVOLVING WEAPONS ARE CAUSED BY GROSS CARELESSNESS AND CAN BE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED THROUGH PROPER TRAINING AND CLOSE SUPERVISION."

COL JERE O. WHITTINGTON, 198TH BRIGADE COMMANDER, CITING THE SUBJECT AS BEING "OF PERSONAL INTEREST TO ME", SAYS:

"IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT COMMANDERS AND SUPERVISORS TAKE EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO INSTILL IN THEIR SUBORDINATES AN AWARENESS OF THE RESPONSIBILITY BORNE BY EACH INDIVIDUAL IN THE MATTER OF WEAPONS SAFETY."

THE FINAL SAFETY MEASURES CAN ONLY BE TAKEN BY THE INDIVIDUAL SOLDIER HANDLING HIS WEAPON.

EVERYONE SHOULD BE SAFETY CONSCIOUS AND RESPECT ALL WEAPONS AND AMMUNITIONS NOT ONLY DURING "WEAPONS SAFETY MONTH" BUT ALSO THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

CLOUDS TO COOL JUNE

By SFC Herb Nesmith
198th Brigade PIO

Mark Twain once remarked, "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." "The Bayonet" will talk about it, too, but admits it can't do anything about it either.

Since the temperature steadily climbed during the month of May, it makes us wonder what this month will be like—mainly, how hot is it going to be?

The Americal Division Staff Weather Office has given us an idea of what to expect in June, but points out that there are many variables that could alter the forecast.

The tentative answer to the big "how hot" question, however, is not as bad as you would expect. While the daily temperature will slowly rise, and on clear days pass the 100 degree mark, the

month should see increased afternoon cloudiness and thundershowers to cool things down somewhat. Occasional light showers should push the temperature down to the low 90s, and some nights might reach a low in the 70s.

A wide variation in rainfall can be expected between the coastal lowlands and the interior highlands. The most rain will be over the rugged higher terrain, with as much as 10 or 12 inches in 15 days. Along the coast the forecast is for only two to four inches and less than five wet days.

The cooling thundershowers will normally occur in the late afternoon, and last only a few hours. They are seldom violent, but can be accompanied by strong surface winds.

Relative humidity is usually high throughout Vietnam, necessitating extra

(continued on page 3)

16TH PRESENTS AWARDS TO TEN 'REGULARS'

LZ BAYONET—In an awards ceremony here recently, 1st Bn., 6th Inf. Commander LTC Albert J. Dombrowski (Douglaston, N.Y.) presented medals to ten infantrymen of the "Regulars."

Nine of the awards were Army Commendation Medals, while a Purple Heart was awarded to SP4 Tony Bradalucco (N.Y. City) of HHC for wounds received in a sapper attack on Bayonet in February.

Awarded the ACMS for meritorious service were 1SG Rodney Washburn (Warminster, Pa.) and SP4 Mel Vogt (Grundy Center, Ia.) of Co. D.

Others receiving the medals were: SFC David Cox (Clarksville, Tenn.), Co. E; SP4 Bobby Mellena (Shepherd, Mich.), Co. B; SP4 Harvey Wittrock (Ward, S.D.), HHC; and SP4s Kenneth Shook (Newcastle, Wyo.), Edward Sukala (Ashland, Wis.), Charles Isenberg (Fullerton, Calif.), and Arthur Buxton (Wilmington, Mass.), all of Co. C.



THE BAYONET

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BUZZ "READY RIFLES" (Cont. from page 1)

"We started popping some smoke, thinking it would keep some of the hornets away," he said. "Some of us jumped into the smoke and sat real still. We watched one guy running past with a big cloud right behind him—he was getting stung all along."

The soldiers had an added problem in that they had to remain silent during the entire attack. Deep in enemy territory, they could not chance making noise. Their position had been compromised already by the smoke, and they had to try to leave the area.

There was evidently no way to rout the enemy. The "Ready Rifles" troops were at the hornets' mercy until someone got the idea to call back the resupply helicopter.

When the chopper dove down to pick the platoon up its powerful downwash proved to be just what it took to blow the NVA hornets away.

And the "Ready Rifles" infantrymen were glad to see them go.

dicate to the dog that he wants him to move to the right or left, faster or slower, or to advance or return to the main body of the unit.

Researchers at the Army's dog training school at Fort Benning, Ga., are trying to perfect a miniature radio transmitter which can be attached to the dog's collar and will send signals to a receiver on the handler's helmet to let him know whether the dog is moving or has stopped.

This, say dog handlers, would allow for even more freedom for both the animals and their handlers, and might solve some of the problems now encountered in thick undergrowth where visual contact is minimal.

THE LENS IS MY WORLD

BY PFC A-R-NOEL JR

REGULARS STAGE
'LUAU' FAREWELL
FOR OUTGOING CO

LZ BAYONET—Men of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry bid a fond farewell to their commander, LTC Albert J. Dombrowski (Douglaston, N.Y.), who will leave June 4th for his new post at Headquarters, Americal Division as G-5 Civil Affairs Officer.

The new battalion commander will be LTC Thomas J. Ambrose (Morristown, N.J.), the present 198th Brigade S-3 Operations Officer.

LTC Ambrose will assume command of the battalion Monday in change of command ceremonies at the 1/6 area.

The officers and men of the 1/6 presented an engraved, disarmed "Chicom" hand grenade to their departing commander as a token of their appreciation.

Highlighting the farewell at the battalion's basecamp was a luau of roast pig prepared by SFC Joe ("da Pineapple") Ko (Moiliili, Hawaii), the "Regulars" medical platoon sergeant.

Here's a note for enthusiastic photo-bugs of the 198th Brigade. The crafts section of Special Services is sponsoring their 13th Inter-Service Photography Contest, open to all U.S. Army personnel assigned or attached to the Americal Division.

All photos entered must be borderless and a minimum of 70 square inches in size. The work, including processing and printing, must be that of the entrant.

Pictures taken since Dec. 1, 1967 are eligible for entry and will be judged in the following categories: People; Babies and Children; Animals and Pets; Action; Scenic; Military Life; Still Life; Experimental. Any number of prints may be submitted up to July 15, 1969, which is the closing date for entries.

Since no official U.S. Army photos are eligible, this leaves competition on a level for the enthusiastic amateur. Awards will be made to the top three winners of the overall contest. Honorable mention awards will be made to the best entry in each category. The top two winning entries will be submitted to USARV for command level competition.

Unfortunately, the Special Services Photo Craft Center located at the 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery at LZ Bayonet is not presently in operation. Therefore, eager participants can do their processing at the photo craft centers located at Artillery Hill, near Bayonet, or 523rd Signal Battalion, right across from the entrance to Americal Division Headquarters at Chu Lai.

Additional information and entry blanks can be obtained from the Photo Craft Center at the 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery Headquarters Battery area.

CLOUDS TO COOL JUNE

(Cont. from page 2)

care against mildew and corrosion. Variations will run from a low of 50% to 60% in the day up to a high of about 90% at night. The humidity in this area decreases toward a mid-summer minimum while increasing in the rest of the country.

In case you were wondering about typhoons, they are possible but the odds appear to be against them affecting this area. Between 1947 and 1968 there were 13 tropical storms which either formed or moved into the South China Sea in June. Of these 13, just eight reached typhoon intensity, and only three came close enough to Vietnam to affect coastal areas with one or two days of heavy rain.

THE FACs OF LIFE

