

3 EARN SILVER STAR

LZ STINSON — Two infantrymen from the 198th Brigade's 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. and another soldier from the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. were awarded the Silver Star last week at ceremonies on LZ Stinson and LZ Gator.

Brigadier General Wallace L. Clement, assistant Americal Division commander, presented the nation's third highest award for valor to SP4 Stanley C. Paige (Wilmette, Ill.), Charlie Company, and Sgt. Philip G. Savoy (San Antonio, Tex.),

Delta Company, at this 1/52 forward firebase.

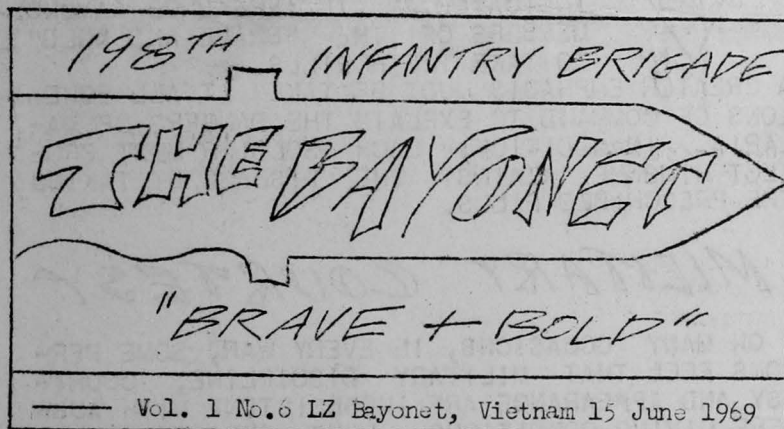
The next day Sgt. Edward E. Floyd (Morristown, Ind.), Bravo Company, was presented the Silver Star by Col. Jere O. Whittington, brigade commander, at 5/46 headquarters at LZ Gator.

Sgt. Savoy, the son of a retired Army chief warrant officer, was cited for his actions when elements of his company deployed as a blocking force were attacked by a large North Vietnamese group.

Although suffering from fragmentation wounds, he took command of his company after his company commander was pinned down by enemy fire. The 23-year-old sergeant, who had earlier received the Bronze Star, continued to call in artillery and air strikes, forcing the enemy to withdraw.

In a separate action, SP4 Paige was credited with laying down a heavy volume of fire from an exposed position after the patrol of which he was a member was caught out in the open. The suppressive fire put out by Paige enabled other members of the patrol to take cover.

Though Paige suffered
(Cont. page 6)



'READY RIFLES' KILL 43
~ USE AERO-SCOUT ATTACK ~

LZ STINSON — They came by air, approaching the enemy like huge metallic insects speeding to the kill.

With their guns barking like hounds bent on bringing down the elusive fox, aero-scouts of F Troop, 8th Cavalry teamed with elements of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. recently to account for 43 enemy dead in some dozen separate engagements near LZ Stinson.

The "kangaroo" tactics used by the gunships and "Ready Rifles" infantrymen routed both NVA and Viet Cong forces from trenches near the village of Cay Thi (2).

"The gunship fire support was great, the element of surprise shocked the enemy, and we had beaten him even before he knew what was happening," said Maj. John F. Lehmann (Frankfort, Ky.), acting commander of the 198th Brigade element. "These aero-scout tactics are
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7/6TH CAPTURES ROCKETS

FAT CITY—"We saw the backblast not more than 700 meters away," explained SP4 McKinlyn Turner (Yazoo City, Miss.), the squad leader of a roving night ambush element which was operating in the "rocket pocket" five miles west of the Americal Division basecamp at Chu Lai.

The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry patrol immediately moved toward the light flash.

The enemy fled before the patrol arrived, leaving behind five rocket launchers aimed at the division basecamp and seven 122mm rockets in the bush nearby.

The flash which the "Regulars" of Turner's squad had seen were five rockets being fired toward the division enclave. One of the rockets slammed into the hospital, killing an American nurse and a Vietnamese civilian and injuring 24 other Vietnamese. Only nine of the 34 civilians in the hospital's Vietnamese ward were uninjured.

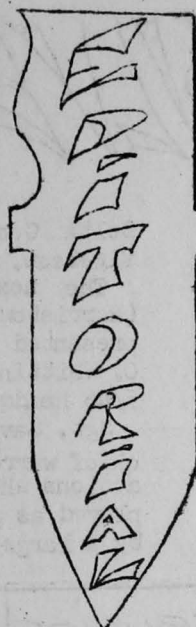
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NEW FOX (20th Century-type)—Unfortunately, this species...



AFPS PICK—This week's pin-up pick by the AFPS staff is the lovely Miss Monica Peterson.

...of wildlife is not found in the 198th area.



MALARIA RATE RISES

THE MALARIA RATE IN THE 198TH INFANTRY BRIGADE FOR THE MONTH OF MAY HAS BEEN THE HIGHEST IN RECENT MONTHS.

IN ALL, 56 PERSONS CONTRACTED THE DISEASE LAST MONTH. AND IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT THE MOST SECURE PREVENTION FOR MALARIA IS TAKING THE PRESCRIBED PILLS.

THE BRIGADE SURGEON REPORTS THAT 54 PER CENT OF THE CASES WERE OF THE VIVAX VARIETY WHICH INDICATED AN INDIFFERENCE AMONG MEMBERS OF THE "BRAVE AND BOLD" TO TAKE THEIR PILLS.

A GREATER EMPHASIS MUST BE TAKEN AT ALL ECHELONS OF COMMAND TO EXPLAIN THE DANGERS OF MALARIA. IN ADDITION, EACH SOLDIER MUST PROTECT HIMSELF AGAINST THE DISEASE BY TAKING THE PRESCRIBED PILLS.

MILITARY COURTESY

ON MANY OCCASIONS, IN EVERY WAR, SOME PERSONS FEEL THAT MILITARY DISCIPLINE, COURTESY AND APPEARANCE ARE INCONSISTENT WITH AUSTERE LIVING CONDITIONS, LONG AND IRREGULAR WORKING HOURS AND VICIOUS FIGHTING.

IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND THAT THIS IS NOT THE CASE. IN FACT, A DISCOURTEOUS OR DISARMED SOLDIER IS A SYMBOL OF POOR ESPRIT.

MALARIA! = MISERY!

By Capt. Roger W. Browne
198th Brigade Surgeon

Behind my aid station at LZ Bayonet there is a large tin contraption which can be found lit up and making a humming noise during the night. It is a mosquito hop.

Every day someone empties the machine and examines the contents. What their inspections show is that there are as many malaria-carrying mosquitoes on LZ Bayonet as there are in the jungle.

In fact, we had four cases of malaria on Bayonet last month. I'm not going to tell you stories about what malaria can do to your health because many of you would be skeptical. If you want to know how miserable you will be with malaria, just ask someone who has had it. On the other hand, I know of two individuals in this brigade you won't be able to ask because they are dead from malaria.

This is the worst time of the year for malaria. Last month the 198th Brigade suffered 56 cases of the disease. Many of these could have been prevented if only the soldier had taken his pills, rolled his sleeves down at dusk and used his mosquito net and repellent.

Malaria is not good "sham time." It is not a "onetime" disease. Symptoms can reappear many times even after you have been discharged from the Army. Why take the chance? Why take up a bedspace when you can prevent malaria with a pill?

No one should need a sergeant or an officer to tell him to take his pills. They can only help you. The pill and proper protective measures on everyone's part can reduce the brigade's 56 malaria cases of last month to zero.

'WRONG-WAY CHARLIE' MEETS 1/52

LZ STINSON—An embarrassed North Vietnamese soldier surprised both himself and Alpha Com any of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. recently when he wandered up to their perimeter, thinking it was a friendly encampment.

The confusion was the

result of a surprise move by the "Ready Rifles" earlier that night.

"We were receiving sniper fire while setting up our night laager that evening, so I knew they had our position plotted," explained Captain Claude Smith (Donora,

Pa.), Co. A commander. "After it got dark we decided to move a little further down the trail, just to be safe. While we were moving one of the men spotted an NVA and fired at him, wounding him. We looked but could not find him, so we went on down to our new night laager."

Shortly after this, the NVA began dropping mortar rounds on the old campsite and the wounded NVA began making his way toward the Americans' new night laager—not knowing it was full of "Ready Rifles."

The 20-year-old veteran of 18 months of fighting for the communists spent the night near the perimeter, complaining about the Americans who had wounded him.

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TULLY DINING HALL OPENS

LZ BAYONET — Men of the 198th Brigade Headquarters Company ate their first meal in the new Tully Dining Hall at noon Sunday.

The new dining facility is divided into three sections with separate areas for officers and senior NCOs.

The spacious new building was constructed to relieve the overcrowded conditions so prominent in the old mess hall.

The mess hall was named in honor of Col. Robert B. Tully, former brigade commander.

The new TOC, scheduled for completion in the near future, pending the arrival of construction materials, is expected to become operational this week.

OLD TRAIL BECOMES NEW ROAD

By PFC Bill Eftink
198th Brigade PIO

TRA BONG—The bushy foot trail winding alongside the Tra Bong River nine miles southwest of Chu Lai was too narrow for jeeps in many places, serving as an easy spot for communist ambushes.

That was before Company B, 26th Engineers, supporting the 198th Brigade, began working the old trail over.

They pushed westward toward a CIDG camp 17 rugged miles away with the confidence that comes from past experiences with and faith in the might of their giant 60-ton Combat Engineer Vehicle, three 23,000-pound bulldozers, five sandbagged special 3/4 ton dump trucks and other smaller support vehicles.

Their mission was to build a road capable of safely handling convoys loaded with equipment and supplies for the CIDG camp.

The road would also give local civilians a better transportation route for bringing out their rice and cinnamon, staples of the native economy in this

part of Southern I Corps. In this way it serves as a big step forward in the pacification of the area.

To turn the long-time French foot trail into a road with a 40 to 100 foot right-of-way on each side and to install culverts in the numerous tributaries of the Tra Bong River was a major operation.

At times the slow progress got a bit discouraging, noted one engineer. After a section of the road was completed, it was still susceptible to communist tampering. Each morning the portion of the road built the previous day had to be searched for mines.

Five days after the start of the project the Viet Cong blew up a large culvert near the beginning of the freshly constructed road. CPT Warren W. Sullivan (Fredericksburg, Va.), Co. B commander, explained that this really was not that much of a setback.

"We use culverts in roads of this type instead of bridges because if the VC knock out a culvert my men can have it replaced in an hour. With a bridge it

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Malaria...ever talk to anybody who's had it? They'll give a straight answer as to how bad it is. It's the worst thing they have ever had, and they never want to go through it again. They don't exaggerate when they talk about it. With malaria you don't have to.

What does malaria do to you?

It can give you chills that creep into the marrow of your bones and make you feel like you're freezing to death. That can be followed by high fever and you feel as if you're burning up. It can also cause headache, chest pain, heavy sweating, and in advanced cases blood in the urine.

It will put you in the hospital for three or four weeks. If you're not hospitalized, the damage it could do to your brain and kidneys might be fatal.

Malaria is not something to be played around with--nobody will argue about that. But is there a way to prevent it? The answer can be found in every mess hall or tent in Vietnam in the form of a small white and a large orange pill.

There are two types of malaria in the brigade area. Their technical names are vivax and falciparum--complicated names for something carried by a small mosquito. But this mosquito can cause you all kinds of trouble. It bites mostly at night, and on any exposed area of skin.

Vivax usually occurs in coastal lowlands and falciparum in the higher, rugged interior. Falciparum is the more dangerous, but both are serious and both are found in the "Brave and Bold" area of operation. And basecamps are as susceptible to malaria as the field.

The medics have a pill to fight each kind of malaria. The small white tablet (Dapsone) that you take every day is for falciparum, and the larger orange pill (Chloroquine-Primaquine) works against vivax. If for any reason you can't seem to find them sometime, see your nearest medic and he'll give you a handful of each.

Another important thing for you to know is that you must continue to take the pills while on R&R or leave, and for a short period of time after DEROS. The problem is that malaria can lie dormant in your blood and not flare up until after you've gone home. In fact, a man in this brigade recently told of a friend of his who had to go home on an emergency leave and forgot to take a supply of pills with him. He never came back. He came down with malaria and died from it. Another individual in the "Brave and Bold" extended earlier this year and went home on a 30-day leave. He was gone more than 60 days. A good part of the time was spent in the hospital because he didn't take any pills with him.

The way to avoid malaria is to take the pills regularly while in Vietnam and on R&R or leave. And continue to take them after DEROS—one white pill every day for 30 days, and an orange one every week for two months.

A few other good things to remember are to roll your sleeves down at night, use a bug-bomb (the insecticide spray) and mosquito repellent, and sleep under a mosquito net.

The most important thing, though, is the pill.

THE BAYONET

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If necessary, cut this information out of "The Bayonet" and put it in your wallet so that you won't forget it after you've gone home:
WHITE PILL—every day for one month
ORANGE PILL—every week for two months

THE LENS IS MY WORLD

BY PFC A.R. NOEL JR.

When the beginning photographer has taken his shiny new camera out of its case enough times, fiddled with the exposure adjustments, focused and refocused several times, cleaned the dust off his precision piece of machinery, a time comes when he is ready to load it with film and come face to face with the subject of his art.

Obviously the best test for the beginner is to see the product of his camera. It is the only way he can know for certain how well he deals with the ~~x~~-factors involved in photography. An important one of these variables is the often overlooked matter of composition.

A perfectly exposed photograph with no consideration of composition is likely to be a poor photograph.

The easiest way to study the graphic art of picture-taking is to look at what the professionals do. Pick up a copy of Life, Look or Playboy. These periodicals are full of professional quality photos. If these magazines are not available, a copy of Stars and Stripes is a good substitute.

In most of these photographs you will notice that the man who held the camera had a mental picture of the photograph before he pressed the shutter. This is most essential in taking slides where cropping is out of the question in most cases.

Another basic rule is to look for pictures which show the subject in a natural or relaxed position. The next time you take a picture of a friend get him to relax. Talk to him or have him look off at an angle from the camera. Often the best pictures are those "candid snapshots" of one friend talking with another.

In addition to the subject, the background often can be vital in your getting a good photograph. Become acquainted with "selective focus" (which was discussed several weeks ago) and remember not to take pictures with telephone poles or some other distracting object directly behind your main subject. Too often your key subject may have a telephone pole "growing out of his head" in your poorly composed photograph.

Train your eye to see the finished photograph when you are looking through the viewfinder. You can be in command of your camera just as the professionals.

1/6 CAPTURES ROCKETS

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ed. The other four rockets landed in the sea or in open areas.

"I guess we stopped them from firing any more rockets," one of the infantrymen said. "But I wish we could have found them before they fired those first five."

The men of Charlie Company were conducting roving ambushes throughout the night and were in their last ambush site when they saw the rocket flashes amidst heavy underbrush about 700 meters away, according to 1st Sgt. George K. Reed (DeRidder, La.) of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company

1/52ND OPENS NCO-EM CLUB

LZ BAYONET — Lt. Col. Reed E. Davis Jr., commander of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., cut the ceremonial ribbon last week to open the newly-remodeled battalion consolidated EM-NCO Club at LZ Bayonet.

Located in the "Ready Rifles" headquarters rear area, the new club seats 50 persons. SP4 Eric W. Epling (South Pasadena, Calif.), club manager, reports that the club is open from 6 to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 to 10 p.m. Sundays.

Most of the remodeling work was done by the men of Headquarters Company. However, personnel of the other 1/52 companies also worked on the club whenever they were back in the basecamp area.

READY RIFLES

KILL 43

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new to us, but they are an effective aid to an already highly developed fighting ability as a combat-hardened unit."

During the day light observation helicopters and small patrol units were sent out to search suspected enemy locations, while a reinforcement group was standing by at LZ Stinson, ready to be flown in wherever contact was made.

South of Duyan Phuoc (3) village, along the Tra Khue River, the enemy was cooking rice out in the open, and got a deadly surprise when the 1/52 troops stopped by unexpectedly for chow.

Other times the battalion's reinforcement platoon landed and flushed the enemy out of hiding and into open terrain where the "Blue Ghosts" brought them down quickly.

1/46 RECEIVES NEW COMMANDER

3 EARN SILVER STAR

LZ PROFESSIONAL—In change of command ceremonies here Saturday, the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. received a new commander.

When Lt. Col. Craig G. Coverdale (Manasset, N.Y.) accepted the colors from the outgoing commander, Lt. Col. George R. Underhill (Pulaski, Ill.), it marked the second time in his current tour in Vietnam that he has been presented battalion colors.

Formerly the commander of the 11th Brigade's 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., Col. Coverdale was wounded and evacuated to Japan Feb. 17, 1969.

In an earlier Vietnam tour in 1966, Col. Coverdale was with the 101st Airborne Division.

Col. Underhill left the 198th Brigade's 1/46 (presently OPCON to the 196th Brigade) to become commandant of the Americal Division Combat Center at Chu Lai.

fragmentation wounds in the initial encounter, he then rallied a force which routed the enemy from its position, making it possible for helicopters to evacuate the wounded men.

Sgt. Floyd was cited for maneuvering through an enemy mine field to rescue a number of his injured infantrymen after

"WRONG-WAY CHARLIE"

(Cont. from page 3)

As soon as it was light enough to see, the NVA soldier was taken into the encampment, surprised to find men of the "Brave and Bold" manning it.

After sending the wounded prisoner back to 198th Brigade Headquarters at LZ Bayonet for treatment, the men of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. continued on their way.

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his company had come under heavy fire. Although he had been wounded, he gave medical aid to his more seriously wounded comrades. When his company came under heavy fire from the rear, he directed his squad's return fire, and then helped carry the wounded to safety.

Bronze Stars were awarded to two "Ready Rifles", SFC Anthony P. Sunnekalb (Madina, N.Y.) of Echo Company and PFC Vincent J. Sitoski (Pittsburgh) of Alpha Company, as the result of valorous action in the defense of LZ Stinson one month ago.

In the ceremonies at the 5/46 Capt. Wayne D. Seacrest (Ravenna, Ohio) received the Bronze Star for Valor, and nine other "Professionals" were awarded Army Commendation medals, all for valor.

OLD TRAIL BECOMES NEW ROAD

(Continued from page 3)

would take considerably more time."

Finally the goal loomed before them—the small CIDG camp. After arriving, the engineers spent some time in Tra Bong before beginning their journey back toward Highway 1, where the new road had begun.

In many ways the trip back was easier. There were no bushes to be cleared and no culverts to be laid. But "Charlie" still loomed as a threat and he didn't like what the newly constructed road would do to the area, knowing that the first step toward pacification was communications.

Platoons of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry were airlifted by helicopter to different points along the road as the convoy was to leave Tra Bong. And so the first trucks to travel the new road moved east toward Highway 1, bringing with them much of the heavy engineer equipment which had been used to build the road some weeks before.

The first 12 miles were uneventful. Then just six miles from Highway 1 it became obvious that something was wrong.

"There was a punji pit in the road, so we had to make a bypass. The lead ve-

hicle in the convoy had just gone over the bypass and returned to the main road when we first knew for sure that Charlie was around," recalled ISG Edward Robinson (Bainbridge, Ga.).

SSG Hoyt Ailes (Lima, Ohio), who was aboard one of the trucks, added: "Right then my truck hit a mine that was buried too deep for the mine detectors to find. It blew the load off, and the rear dual tandem wheels about 100 meters away."

Next an RPG round hit the second truck and sniper fire began coming from all sides. The "Professionals" of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. and the engineers started returning small arms fire, called for gunships and opened up with fire from the potent 165mm gun mounted on the Combat Engineer Vehicle.

The attempt by the Viet Cong to close Highway 529—as the new road has been named—was short-lived as the convoy continued on its way to the junction of Highway 1.

This marked the opening of the second major road inward in the Americal Division area, as the engineers continue to open new arteries of transportation and commerce in the Southern I Corps area.