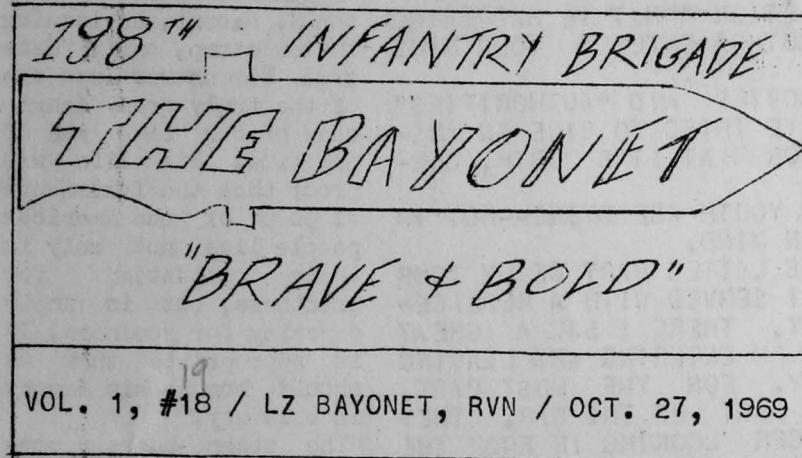


# BDE, DIV. CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES; 198TH WELCOMES 4-STAR VISITOR



## USARPAC CHIEF SEES BN. LZs

LZ BAYONET--GEN Ralph E. Haines Jr., Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Army, Pacific (CINCUSARPAC), visited the 198th Bde. area Thursday for briefings on the tactical situation and an up-to-date look at the "Brave and Bold."

GEN Haines was given division-, brigade- and battalion-level briefings at LZ Gator, then flown to LZ Stinson for an inspection tour.

Resembling a small combat assault by four slicks and two Cobra gunships, the CINC's party landed at Gator to meet the commander and staff of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. and review a 16-man honor guard.

Haines was accompanied by BG Howard H. Cooksey, acting commander of the Americal Div., and COL Jere O. Whittington, brigade commander.

The CINC listened intently to the almost two hours of information that  
(Cont. on Page 6)

## BDE. BEGINS "3RD TOUR" IN VIETNAM

LZ BAYONET -- Two years ago Thursday more than 3,000 soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. first set foot on Vietnamese soil at Chu Lai. This marked the end of five months of building a brigade and started what has been two years of accomplishments on the battlefields and in the villages of Vietnam.

On May 10, 1967 the Department of Defense announced that a new infantry brigade would be sent to the republic. The new unit, the 198th Inf. Bde., would be formed from elements of both the 1st and 2nd Armored Div.'s at Ft. Hood, Tex.

Although referred to as a "new" brigade, the 198th has a rich history dating back to the 1920s.

Formed June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as HHC, 198th Inf. Bde., the unit was an element of the 99th Inf. Div. In the Second World War it received campaign credit for operations in the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe. Awarded the Belgian Fourragere, the company was cited by the Belgian Army for action at Elsenborn and in the Ardennes.

After a series of conversions and redesignations, the unit was inactivated Sept. 29, 1945, and again assigned as a reserve component of the 99th Inf. Div.

Reactivated in May 1967, the brigade was to be organized along stronger lines than the two light infantry brigades already serving in Vietnam (the 196th and 199th). In addition to having 1800  
(Cont. on Page 5)

## AMERICAL ENDS 2ND YEAR IN RVN.

CHU LAI--The Americal Div. Sunday completed its second year in Vietnam. In ceremonies at division headquarters here, it was recalled that a change of colors on Oct. 26, 1967 made the newly activated unit the seventh Army division serving in the republic.

The Americal was formed from the elements of Task Force Oregon, a multi-brigade force under control of III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF), which had covered the area between Chu Lai and Duc Pho in its six months of operations. Making up the new division were the 196th Bde.; 198th Bde. (which had arrived in Vietnam only three days earlier); 3rd Bde., 4th Inf. Div.; and 3rd Bde., 1st Air Cav. Div. The 11th Bde. joined the division on its arrival Dec. 20.

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# Youth Are Dying

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This editorial was written by CPT Wallace P. Brown while he was serving in Vietnam as a platoon leader with the 101st Abn. Div.)

TEENAGERS, THE GENERATION GAP--HAS THE QUESTION "WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR YOUTH?" ENTERED YOUR MIND RECENTLY?

BOOKS, MOVIES AND "AUTHORITIES" ON YOUTH HAVE TRIED TO GIVE AN ANSWER. BUT FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, CONSIDER MINE.

I SAY OUR YOUTH ARE DYING--NOT IN BODY, BUT IN MIND.

DURING THE LATTER PART OF MY TOUR IN VIETNAM I SERVED WITH A REPLACEMENT COMPANY. THERE I SAW A GREAT MANY YOUNG MEN ENTERING AND LEAVING THE COUNTRY. FOR THE MOST PART, THEY WERE A PART OF THE WAR. THEY WERE NO LONGER LOOKING IN FROM THE OUTSIDE.

THE YOUNG TROOPERS' FIRST REACTION WAS THAT THE WAR WAS NOT AS THEY HAD IMAGINED. THEY REALIZED THAT FELLOW SOLDIERS DID NOT RANDOMLY KILL CIVILIANS; THEIR EFFORT WAS OF AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

FOLLOWING THIS REALIZATION THEY NEEDED LITTLE HELP IN STANDING ON THEIR OWN FEET. THEY WERE ANXIOUS THE FIRST FEW MONTHS, THEIR EYES AND EARS ALWAYS OPEN. THEY ACCEPTED ADVICE FROM THOSE WHO HAD BEEN IN COUNTRY LONGER. THEY LEARNED THAT THE COLOR OF A MAN'S SKIN DOES NOT AFFECT HIS BRAVERY OR COMPANIONSHIP. WHO WOULD QUESTION THE COLOR OF HANDS CARRYING ONE TO SAFETY?

SHARING THEIR FOOD WITH VIETNAMESE CHILDREN, THEY SHED TEARS OF FRUSTRATION AND LEARNED THE MEANING OF COMPASSION. WITH PRIDE IN THEIR HEARTS, THEY STOOD TALL.

AS I WATCHED THE YOUNG MEN'S TRANSFORMATION, MY ANSWER BECAME CLEAR:

OUR YOUTH ARE DYING AT AN ALARMING RATE, AND ARE REBORN MEN.

COL. GORDON R. DAVIS, RECENTLY A UNIT COMMANDER WITH THE 101ST ABN. DIV., TOOK TIME TO TALK WITH THE DIVISION'S YOUNG TROOPERS:

"YESTERDAY I TALKED TO A GROUP OF OVER A HUNDRED REPLACEMENTS. STANDING IN FORMATION I COULD SEE THEIR YOUTH. TODAY AS I TALK TO YOU GOING HOME, IT SADDENS ME TO SEE NO YOUTH AMONG YOU. WHILE SOME OF YOU ARE NOT YET 20, ALL I SEE IS MEN."

THE TYPICAL SKINNY "BOYS" ARE DYING AND FROM THAT MASS OF BLOOD AND FLESH EMERGE MEN, PROUD AND STRONG. WHETHER OR NOT THEY HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY THEY WILL CARRY OUR BANNER AS HIGH, IF NOT HIGHER, THAN THE "OLD MEN"--THE "OLD MEN" WHO ONCE THEMSELVES BATTLED THE CHARGING ENEMY AND GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR FREEDOM.

LET US GIVE THANKS AND BE PROUD OF OUR YOUTH, AND CRITICIZE LESS, FOR OUR YOUTH CAN STAND AS WELL AS ANY MAN.

## STAMP HONORS GEN. EISENHOWER

WASHINGTON--A six-cent commemorative postage stamp honoring the late Dwight D. Eisenhower was issued this month at Abilene, Kan.

Postmaster General Winston M. Blount, in issuing the new stamp, said, "General Eisenhower was one of the truly great Americans of our time and of all time. His life was proof that the fundamental power of the American people lies not only in their potential for greatness, but in their capacity for goodness. It is appropriate that we should honor his memory in this way.

The stamp bears a portrait of the late General of the Army and former President of the United States. (AFPS)



# EX-SAPPER SOCKS IT TO NVA

By SP4 Rich Egertsen  
198th Brigade PIO

I2 STINSON--The cry, "Fire in the hole" shattered the air and sent 198th Bde. infantrymen sprinting for cover as PFC Wayne Lowry (Pittsburgh), Bravo Co.'s demolitions man, touched off the charges

that ripped apart yet another section of the NVA recuperating station and training site located in the mountainous terrain 15 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Nguyen Trong Thu, a former NVA soldier and now a Kit Carson Scout, guided the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf.'s Recon Plat. and Bravo Co. to the station where he recovered after being wounded when leading the May 12th sapper attack on I2. Stinson.

Hacking their way through double canopy foliage, the infantrymen had suddenly stumbled into a 13-bunker complex, and their long, hard trek was rewarded.

Probing the bunker interiors, they dug up 15 AK-47 rifles, a .30 caliber machinegun, an SKS carbine, 10 rounds for an 82mm mortar, two field telephones with an estimated 1200 feet of communications wire, a radio transmitter-receiver and a Chinese 9mm pistol. The contents were similar to those of another cache found in the battalion area by Charlie Co. the day before.

Thu, previously publicized as 'the sapper demonstrator' for the 1/52 in the Stars and Stripes, Southern Cross, and other military publications, had now established his worth in both firebase defense techniques and field operations. The members of Thu's platoon voted to award him the 9mm pistol for his role in uncovering the cache. As PFC Richard R. Peeler (Keller, Wash.), Bravo Co. rifleman, said, "The camp probably wouldn't have been discovered if he had not led us to it."

While searching cleared areas around the complex the infantrymen found enemy training grounds.

Vines strung to simulate concertina wire were used to train sapper teams, and wooden silhouette targets were nailed to trees for marksmanship classes. Using carved wooden models, the NVA

(CONT. ON PAGE 5)



MISS FUTURISTIC — Lovely Sunken Gardens model Becky Hall has been named "Miss Futuristic" for 1969. The shapely blonde, 36-23-35, certainly has a promising future with or without her king-size crystal ball. She is from St. Petersburg, Fla.

## THE BAYONET

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INFORMATION OFFICER....1LT ROBERT R. KRESGE  
PIO NCOIC.....SFC HERB NESMITH  
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# It Only Takes Once

.....TOLD SIMPLY, WITHOUT DRAMATICS, THIS IS THE STORY OF HOW ONE MEMBER OF THIS BRIGADE WON HIS COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE. REPRINTED FROM THE 5TH BN., 46TH INF. UNIT NEWSPAPER-- "THE PROFESSIONAL"--IT IS IN REALITY THE STORY OF EVERY MAN WHO TAKES THE TRIP TO THE 'BOONIES' OF VIETNAM.....

By SSG M. W. James  
Co. A, 5th Bn. 46th Inf.

What is it to be a veteran of combat? How am I going to react to enemy fire? These are questions a soldier asks as he catches his first chilling glimpse of Vietnam from the tiny window of his "reverse freedom bird." Only time will tell. And there will be plenty of time to find out.

For some the questions are never answered. For others the answers spring into life in a matter of seconds. Whether it be at Cam Ranh Bay, Long Binh or another port of entry, the omnipresent bunkers, wire and enemy mortars are a way of life. But is this combat?

No. To run at the blast of a siren or to hit the dirt as a mortar round detonates into a ball of flame is instinct. One must wait until he is face to face with the elements--and the enemy.

You may have to wait for a dark, overcast day in late July. It is like many days before and many still ahead. The unit is moving to cordon a village and conduct a sweep. The same maneuver had been effected the previous day without a shot fired. Then over the horn it comes: "Bravo Company has made contact to the south. Birds will pick you up in 15 minutes. Be ready."

As the unit consolidates in the pick-up zone, the platoon leader briefs you. It is brief, too. He jabs a finger at the map. "Once we get there we'll group up and make our plans."

The chopper ride lasts only a moment. There is time to light up, take a puff,

glance at your buddy and find him glancing at you. Time to realize you're sweating, even though the rotor blades are whipping cold air around like a huge air conditioner. Time to close your eyes and then yank them open again, seeing the grass and mud and yellow hooches come spinning toward you.

Then suddenly rockets are exploding, M-60s spit and the ground races up to you. Jump. Stumble for cover. Peek up to get your bearings. Regroup the platoon. Then move out.

Things grow quiet as you spread out and begin to move south, toward Bravo.

Then automatic small arms fire cracks out to the front. Someone yells "Medic!" --the point man is hit. Impossible to move forward. But you move forward. Flank to the right. Move up. People around you are blurs as they move in front of you and beside you, working their way toward the fire. A sergeant yells to take cover; people jump and dive and press into the clay earth. A grenade goes off; no one is hurt. Heavy fire is put out by the infantrymen. You start pulling the trigger yourself.

Continuing to fire, you find yourself set in a hasty perimeter, waiting for the dustoff bird. It arrives. It's gone.

## BAYONET ESSAY

Then it's over. Questions are answered. Now there are new ones, and they, too, will need answers. (5/46 PIO)

MAKING A MARS  
CALL? REMEMBER--



## THOUGHT POWER

GOOD TIP: Turn off your vehicle radio before you start or stop the engine.

A power surge from the alternator can burn out the radio and leave you without communications.  
(AFPS-Washington/Hq 198th Gamma Plat.-1Z Bayonet.)

FRIDAY!





# 198TH INF. BDE.

## SAPPER SACKS NVA SHACKS

(Cont. from Page 3)  
troops had been instructed in methods of firing at helicopters and tossing hand grenades.

"From the looks of their training facilities, it could have been mistaken for an old-fashioned U.S. training center," said PFC David M. Kaponen (Sault St. Marie, Mich.), a member of Bravo's 3rd platoon.

When the two 1/52 units left the area, it was with the satisfaction of knowing that this once-secure NVA encampment would no longer serve to train enemy soldiers.

## BEGINS "3RD TOUR" IN VIETNAM

(Continued from Page 1)

more men, the 198th would be quipped with more armored personnel carriers, heavier guns, and more support.

A week after the DoD announcement of reactivation, training began at Ft. Hood. The emphasis was on air mobility. Five months later the "brigade" boarded the Navy's Military Sea Transport Service ships USS Gordon and USS Upshur at Oakland, Calif. Arriving at Da Nang 15 days later, the "Brave and Bold" the following day were carried by Navy LSTs to Chu Lai. Three days after the arrival, the 198th witnessed the first Americal Div. change of colors since the division's inactivation in December 1945, less than four months after World War II ended with the Japanese surrender aboard the battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

Soon the green troops were split up for further training in Chu Lai and Duc Pho. Completing their in-country training early in November, 2,300 men of the 4,000-man brigade were airlifted to Duc Pho. The remainder stayed to defend Chu Lai and its strategic Marine air base. At that time the 198th consisted of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf.; 1st Bn., 46th Inf.; 1st Bn., 52nd Inf.; 1st Bn., 14th Arty.; H Troop, 17th Cav.; and the 555th ('Triple Nickel') Engr. Bn. (now Bravo Co., 26th Engr. Bn.). The 5th Bn., 46th Inf. arrived in late March of 1968. (The 1/46 later--after several months under the operational control of the 196th Bde.--was reassigned to the 196 on July 1, 1969.)

With the arrival of the 11th Bde. Dec. 20, 1967, the 198th elements at Duc Pho returned to Chu Lai, relieving the 196th at LZ Bayonet.

In a short time reports which had appeared in newspapers as "Ft. Hood, Texas--On the second day of the three-day exercise, the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. made an aerial assault on the Mayberry Park area south of the main post," would soon be reading "Ye Nen, Vietnam--Less than 48 hours after it had been landed by helicopters from Chu Lai, the 1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde., was counting its confirmed NVA and Viet Cong kills in the hundreds."

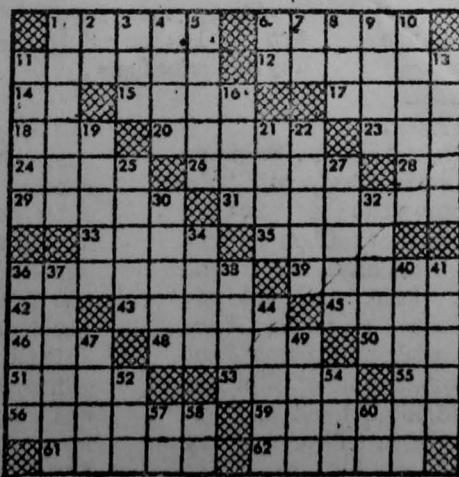
In its impressive two-year history in Vietnam, the 198th has accounted for over 3,600 enemy killed and participated in several operations, including the pacification of the Batangan Peninsula in early 1969 which brought more than 12,000 Vietnamese farmers and fishermen previously dominated by the VC under GVN control.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

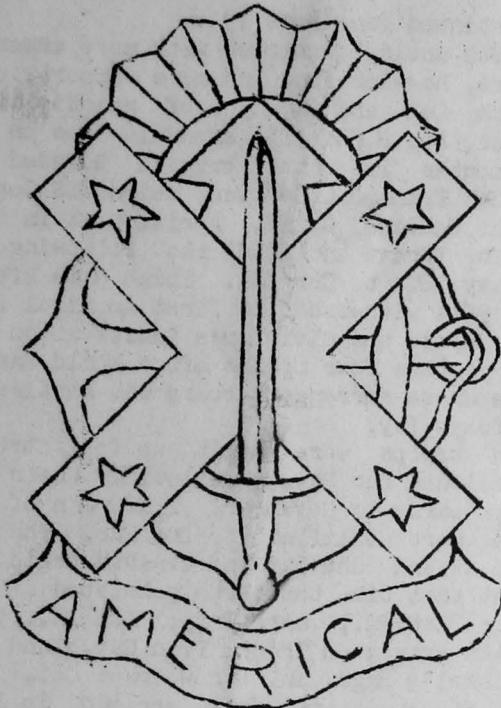
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YEAR	DEED	BA

36-Platform	52-Danish land
37-Fruit	division
38-Sprint	54-Everyone
39-Scoff	40-Likenesses
41-One borne	55-That is
42-Sharpen	(abbr.)
43-Earn	44-Vapor
44-Bristle	47-Real estate map
	50-Latin
	conjunction



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## AMERICAL ENDS 2ND YEAR IN RVN.



(Continued from Page 1)

The organization originally began early in 1942 as Task Force 68th, formed to defend the island of New Caledonia in the South Pacific, 500 miles east of Australia. It sailed from New York on Jan. 23, travelling via Panama and Australia to land at Noumea, capital of the French island, on March 12. In May the "American Forces in New Caledonia" became the Americal Div. (derived from "America" and "Caledonia"), the only U.S. military unit formed south of the equator.

The division was the first Army unit to take the offensive in the war, joining the Marines in action at Guadalcanal. It later assumed the defense of the main island of Viti Levu in the strategic Fiji Islands, a British colony, then staged a landing against the enemy on Bougainville. A part of GEN Douglas MacArthur's famed island-hopping team, the Americal struck next at Leyte, then Samar, Cebu, Bohol, Negros and Mindanao in the Philippines.

It was training on Cebu for the proposed invasion of Japan when the war ended in 1945. Less than a month later the division landed in Japan and took part in the occupation of the Yokohama-Kawasaki-Yokosuka area.

Elements began to depart for the United States in late November, and at Ft. Lawton in Seattle the Americal Div. was inactivated on Dec. 12, 1945.

Its decorations included a Presidential Unit Citation (Navy), Phillipine Presidential Unit Citation and a Distinguished Unit Citation (to Co. E, 182nd Inf. Regt.). It was credited with participating in the Guadalcanal, Northern Solomons, Southern Philippines and Leyte Campaigns.

The Americal Div. crest or badge, worn on epaulets of the Class A uniform, is symbolic of division history. Approximately an inch in length, it has a gold background, blue lettering and cross, white stars with red arrow and markings.

The "saltire" (cross) of St. Andrew alludes to New Caledonia where the division was activated. The blue (for infantry) and four white stars refer to the Southern Cross of the organizational patch and the area in which the Americal first served.

The stars also stand for the four campaigns of WWII in which the division participated, and the anchor represents the Presidential Unit Citation (Navy) for Guadalcanal. The red arrowhead and Philippine sun symbolize the assault landing in the Southern Philippines and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

The unsheathed sword with point to the top refers to service in Vietnam.

PACIFIC ARMY CMDR.  
(Cont. from Page 1)  
brought him up-to-date on events in the brigade Tactical Area of Operational Responsibility (TAOR) since his last visit in May of this year.

Americal staff officers provided background on the intelligence situation, operations and civil affairs in the division area, and COL Whittington briefed the general on the status of the

### 198th TAOR.

LTC Julian F. Wagner, 5/46 commander, and his staff provided a picture of their battalion operations, emphasizing the hamlet team project now in effect at three targeted hamlets in Son Tinh District south of Chu Lai.

The USARPAC head and his party then flew to LZ Stinson, a 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. fire support base.

LTC Arthur E. Brown Jr., battalion commander, led

him on a tour of the LZ, where he paused briefly along the way to talk with the riflemen and b.2 mortarmen in the area.

As he left Stinson and the 198th area, the Pacific Army chief told COL Whittington and LTC Brown, "This is the way the war will be won--when we can keep the VC and NVA off the people's back and let the GVN (Government of Vietnam) carry out its pacification programs"