

AMERICAL AIDS ARVN DIVISION

For those American soldiers who spend most of their time in and around Americal Division Headquarters in Chu Lai, it is a little hard to tell that the South Vietnamese are also involved in the war effort.

But get out into the country and this isn't the case.

You constantly encounter members of the 2d ARVN Division, which is sandwiched among the Americal's three infantry brigades and operates under the I Corps commander in the southern portion of the tactical zone.

Organized roughly along the lines of a U.S. Army division, the 2d ARVN consists of the 4th and 5th

Regiments headquartered in Quang Ngai City and the 6th Regiment which operates out of Tam Ky.

Each regiment has three infantry battalions which in turn have four companies apiece. They are further divided into three infantry platoons and a weapons platoon.

The heavy firepower for the ARVNs comes from a 105mm artillery battalion and a 4.2-inch mortar battalion which are scattered throughout the three regiments. They also have an armored squadron.

The 2d ARVN is one of 10 infantry divisions in the Vietnamese Army and one of two operating in the I Corps

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1ST BN., 82D ARTY.



CHU LAI, VIETNAM

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WORLD NEWS SCENE

LONDON--Moscow and Peking staged a battle of words Sunday after another border clash along the Russian-Red Chinese demarcation line.

Both nations claimed the other attacked first in the Saturday battle, the second outbreak between the two in 15 days.

NEW ORLEANS--Twenty-eight crewmen abandoned a Liberian freighter Saturday when the ship caught fire 150 miles south of the Mississippi River Delta.

A British freighter, the first ship to reach the scene, reported it had picked up at least six men. Two U.S. Coast

World Scene--
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INFUSION CONTINUES FOR 1/82 PERSONNEL

The continuing parade of new faces into the 1st Battalion, 82d Artillery, will last for at least two more months.

Battalion Adjutant 1Lt Roger L. Close reports that at least 80 more men with July DEROS dates will depart the unit before late May.

This means that approximately 100 soldiers or about 20 percent of the original unit will finish out their Vietnam tours with the 1/82d.

During the remaining two months, the emphasis will be placed on infusing non-commissioned officers and "soft-skilled" personnel.

These individuals will be reassigned to other units within the Americal Division area.

Close reports that infusion of personnel carrying cannoner MOSs have already been completed.

The latest infusion, completed last week, saw four members of the Fire Direction Control Center depart for new assignments.

The late May deadline for infusions was established to avoid transferring men in the final 60 days of their tour.



"COME NOW, SGT. HERKIMER-- THIS FEAR OF HIGH PLACES IS JUST IN YOUR IMAGINATION!"

IT'S HAPPENIN'

BY SP4

Dick Shearer

You remember those "before and after" advertisements you used to see in the newspapers?

The 1/82d has its own walking advertisement for weight reducing in 1SG George Williams, the former first shirt at Alpha and later Headquarters Battery.

Williams just returned from nine weeks in a military hospital in Japan where he went through a crash diet.

He was limited to 800 calories a day (which isn't enough to get most of us through breakfast) and before long he had shed 45 pounds.

"I've never felt better," remarked Williams who will be staying in the Chu Lai area to undergo periodic medical checkups.

* * * *

NEW ARRIVALS--The tension around the Battalion Personnel Office has decreased somewhat since 1Lt Roger L. Close, battalion adjutant, learned that his wife Judith gave birth to an eight-pound girl last week.

For the previous two weeks, the office had been operating under a "Condition Red" status while Close waited for word from the states.

Sp5 Salvatore Condello, a member of the Battalion Survey Section, also became a father the same day.

It took three telephone calls to Charlie Battery, where he was working at the time, but Condello finally learned that a 4½-pound boy joined the family.

* * * *

PEOPLE AND THINGS--Alpha Battery picked up a new mechanic in SP4 ROBERT FOR-ESTER of Ft. Worth, Tex. He comes to

ARVN UNIT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Tactical Zone.

Originally formed in 1955 in North Vietnam the men of the unit left their homes and property and were determined to establish a working democracy in South Vietnam.

Since that time they have been tested and proven in many battles, distinguishing themselves in such victories as Phuoc Son, Don Ro, Thoc Nuoc and in campaigns in An Son, Bin Chau and Dan Chien.

The 2d ARVN also combines forces with the Americal Division on many occasions. Most recently they participated in Operation Russell Beach on the Batagan Peninsula and in heavy fighting in the Tam Ky area.

The division is under the leadership of Brig. Gen. Nguyen Van Toan.

the unit from the 62d Engineers stationed in Vicenza, Italy (the one-time home of the 1/82d Artillery)..... PFC GILBERT HAYS of Lockburn AFB in Ohio joined Headquarters Battery as a field wireman after being stationed with the 523d MP Co. at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland..... Two new additions to the Fire Direction Control Center are SP5 FRANCIS CORBETT and SP4 BRUCE D. HECK, both infused from the 6/11th Artillery. Corbett, a graduate of the State University of New York, worked as an auditor for Montgomery Ward in Albany before coming into the service. Heck, a Groton, Mass. native, is a graduate of Parsons College in Iowa and was employed as a production manager of an ammunition company.

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(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

A POEM FROM BRAVO

(The following poem is offered by Sp5 Laddie Hamilton of Bravo Battery.)

BRAVO BRAVES THE BOONIES
OR

SEE YA LATER LZ GATOR

The nomads of Battery B
Left Gator last February--
Another two-week operation
(A hazard of our occupation).

We came to a southern LZ
To spoil Tet for the VC,
And set up the culvert-half helves
To protect the picks and shovels.

But then came a dastardly blow,
A foul-smelling trick you know:
Dear Gator is now an ARVN LZ
And we belong to a place called Snoopy.

The Engineers hate us on sight
Cause our guns keep them up all night.
And they've acted decidedly cool
Since we blew down their motor pool.

But their revenge is really complete,
You should see the food that we eat.
The gun pits aren't too grand
But at least they're not full of sand.
And they have a lovely view
Of a VC battalion or two.
We never fire contact, fuze UT or quick
Cause a stray intel round just might do
the trick.

And we treat the enemy nice
And never fire the same intel twice.
We keep our perimeter safe and fit
With fighting bunkers at each parapet

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

THE ENEMY SERVES FOR MANY REASONS

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a two-part series on the recruiting organization and motivation of Viet Cong and North Vietnamese soldiers.)

The equipping of North Vietnamese soldiers is rather complete although hardly in the same class with the supplies distributed to allied troops.

The average NVA soldier is given two sets of khaki uniforms, two sets of underwear, one pair of sandals, a canteen, a pack, an initial issue of rice and sometimes a few malaria pills. If he is lucky, he will also get a weapon.

A medic, assigned to each company, is responsible for carrying the entire medical supply for the company.

Medicine usually consists of vitamin supplements and liquid antibiotics. Field telephones are available normally only to company-sized units. Battalions usually have one radio.

Once he is in South Vietnam, the enemy must rely on a complex logistical system which has many primitive elements--dirt roads, trails, cache sites and depots.

Because of the discovery of many large caches, the enemy is becoming increasingly dependent upon out-of-country support for his supplies.

Arms, ammunition and equipment are transported by rail, water and road from North Vietnam to the Ho Chi Minh Trail and from there to South Vietnam.

WORLD SCENE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Guard cutters were speeding to the scene.

WASHINGTON--President Nixon told members of the press that his administration plans to introduce "new features" into the disarmament talks scheduled to resume this week in Geneva.

He declined to specify what the "new features" were.

* * *

WASHINGTON--Chief Justice Earl Warren claims that Congress has hindered the battle against crime in the United States by not directing enough money toward the judicial system.

* * *

NEW YORK--City Police continued their search for the murderer of a Penn-Central Railroad conductor who was shot in the chest at the 125th Street Station.

Whenever possible, VC forces live off the land. In some areas they have been known to grow their own food. Hidden "factories" produce some crude weapons, explosives and other items.

The enemy has several reasons for fighting.

Some honestly believe the Communist propaganda which they hear every day from their unit political officer.

The NVA regular frequently serves primarily because it is considered a social disgrace to refuse to bear arms. In North Vietnam "draft dodging" is cause for severe loss of "face" and many captured NVA say that this factor was even more important than the threat of reprisals against themselves or their families.

The Viet Cong is more affected by these threats and serves out of fear. Viet Cong officers and NCOs have been known to summarily execute those who do not "stay in line."

Morale is a constant problem for the enemy. He is quite often far from home, poorly prepared and supplied, outnumbered by Free World Forces and in constant fear of Allied air strikes.

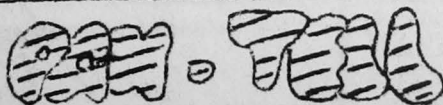
Numerous defeats and staggering casualties add to the problem. The enemy knows that if he is wounded, he may have to wait for agonizing hours before he receives medical treatment for his wounds--if he receives any treatment at all.

To try to combat these morale problems, his superiors rely heavily on political indoctrination sessions.

The enemy soldier is constantly reminded of his mission and 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 almost immediately a critique with no holds barred. This gives every man a chance

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



BATTALION COMMANDER... LTC JOHN J. LUXEMBURGER JR.
INFORMATION OFFICER..... 1LT ROGER L. CLOSE
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A POEM FROM BRAVO

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

Too bad they have no field of fire--
You can't even see the perimeter wire.
Down in the gully sits FDC land
Praying a dry spell sweeps over the
land,
Cause if it rains one little drop
Their comex will flood right over the
top.

Battalion came down with a new SOP:
"No man's upper lip too hairy shall be.
Trim it right down so we can't see
it
If you'd rather shave it off, so be it!"

We have it on such good authority
That every man quite safe will be
From mortars, rockets and such as that
If he remembers to wear his hat.

Now from on high comes another decree:
"Blouse your pants immediately!"

IT'S HAPPENIN' FROM PAGE 2

NEW ARTIST--In case you're wondering
about the cartoon that appears in
the lower right corner of this page,
it was contributed by Capt. David
Allison, the battalion medical officer.
He claims that he isn't Lichty
or Herblock but we appreciate his efforts
just the same.

* * * *

NEW PROJECT--The PAN-TELL is now in
the process of trying to assemble a
battalion scrapbook, a project that
is proving a little more complicated
than we expected.

We've found that photographs of
the unit, both here and back at Ft.
Lewis, are in short supply. If you have
any pictures of the 1/82d that you consider
suitable for the album, how about
sending them along to the S-1 Office?

COL. HARDY JOINS DIVARTY

Col. Leslie A. Hardy
has become the new commander of
Artillery at a change of command ceremony
Sunday.

He assumed command
from Col. Lawrence M.
Jones, who led the unit
since March, 1966.

Members of the 1st
Bn., 82d Artillery, including
Lt. Col. John
J. Lamonica Jr. participated
in the ceremony.

SERVE your country. Meet
the challenge.....
STAY ARMY!

To polish your boots is surely a must
But we can't find our feet in the
inches of dust.

They say this will be our new home
We'll stay here and build and never
will roam.
Our two guns at Dottie can sit there
and grin
We doubt that we'll ever see them
again.

So here we sit a little chagrined
Wondering where this all will end.
Across the paddies and verdant plain,
"Curse you Red Baron" is our refrain.

THE ENEMY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

to let off steam and at the same time
lets superiors know what their men are
thinking.

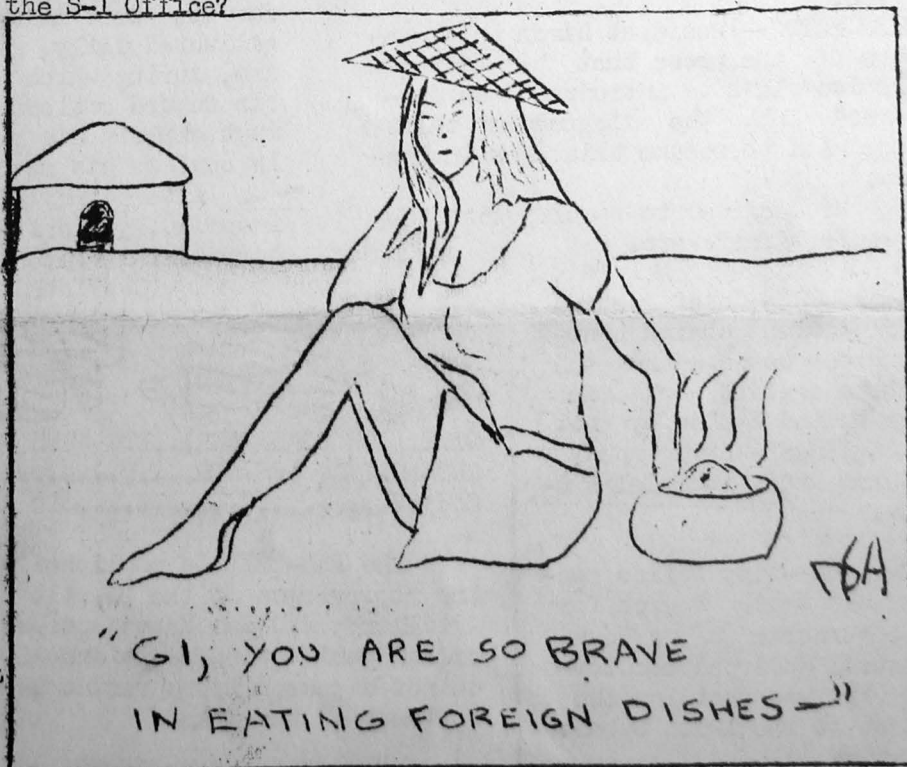
In summary, the enemy's strengths
stem largely from effective unconventional
tactics, discipline and intimate
knowledge of the terrain.

Masters of living off the land, the
enemy is able to hide among the people
in the jungle or in the rural landscape.

A major weakness is that he is losing
increasing numbers of skilled and
dedicated soldiers and replacements are
hard to find. Another weakness is that
many of the rank-and-file soldiers are
essentially captives recruited and involuntarily
held in the armed forces.

A formidable enemy who must not be
under-estimated, the Communist soldier
is becoming increasingly hard-pressed
and desperate in his war in the South.

How long he will remain as an effective
fighting force is anyone's guess.



"GI, YOU ARE SO BRAVE
IN EATING FOREIGN DISHES--"