

# BATTLE-AX BANNER

3RD BATTALION

16TH ARTILLERY

AMERICAL DIVISION

VOL NO. 1 NO. 4

BATTLE-AX BANNER

May 26, 1969

## MEMORIAL DAY MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Memorial Day is an appropriate time for all members of our Armed Forces to reflect on the precious heritage of freedom bequeathed to us by our forefathers. For nearly two centuries—from Lexington and Concord to Vietnam — Americans have fought bravely to defend and preserve this heritage. In so doing, many gave their lives so that our Nation could maintain its freedom and integrity.

As America pays tribute to its war dead on this day, we must realize that only if we cherish our freedom and defend it against all assaults, can we hope to retain it. Our ultimate hope is for an enduring peace that will make the freedom protected by their sacrifice secure for all time.

It is only from gallantry, patriotism, and devotion to duty of those who have gone before that we, the living, can draw inspiration and dedication. We honor their memory with the promise that America will always remember their contribution to our security in times of peril.

Melvin R. Laird

NEW YORK (UPI)—The month of June is Fight The Filthy Fly Month, National Ragweed Control Month and National Seat Belt Month. June 7 is Freedom of the Press Day (take a reporter to lunch), June 14-15 is the Geauga Country Butter Churn Festival in Burton, Ohio, June 15 is Father's Day, June 21 Satan's Holiday Square Dance in Hell, Mich., and June 28 the Custer reenactment by the Crow Indians in Montana (but it doesn't say who gets to play Custer).



**HULLS EYE** — Your AFPS staff hit the target dead-center this week with their pin-up selection of Raquel Welch. Here she appears in one of her costumes from her latest picture "100 Rifles" produced by 20th Century Fox Studios.

## Remember DAD



FATHER'S DAY  
JUNE 15

ANF

Set backs and delays are common in most construction jobs and the new NCO Club on Arty Hill is no exception, however SFC Hulen L. Holt, Club Manager, can see an opening date in the near future.

The new 24X32 foot NCO club is completely separated from the present EM Club. It sets approximately four feet below the other club giving the complex a split-level design.

Plans call for a 20 foot bar, completely cushioned and a formica top. The floors will be tiled from wall-to-wall. Plenty of table space will be provided in the lounge area, and an inset lighting system in the ceiling will give the club indirect lighting. According to SFC Holt the walls of the club will be stained a shade of mahogany.

# FIGHTING AT TIEN PHUOC TURNS INTO A DUEL BETWEEN SSG HASSLER AND CHARLIE---

Rockets, mortars and recoilless rifle fire are common place at Tien Phuoc making every moment a tense one out there.

Gun section number four headed by SSG Charles Hassler did not let the hazards of war slow them down a bit as they showed Charlie a few rockets could not keep them from firing their 155.

It all started on the 12th of May when Tien Phuoc had it's first incoming rounds in over a month.

SP4 Arlan Jans, a member of the 4th Gun Section was the first to spot a muzzle flash on the hillside overlooking Tien Phuoc. Without running to cover, SSG Hassler, SP4 Jans, SP4 Paul Dierickx and PFC Ramon Granados along with 1LT David Neese fired direct fire on the position the muzzle flash was sighted, silencing the deadly 75mm recoilless rifle.

The following day saw much of the same kind of action only this time it was 122mm rockets pouring into Tien Phuoc. Again SSG Hassler and his April Best Gun Section Award winning team manned their gun during the onslaught of enemy rockets. The mighty number four 155 fired 12 Willie Peter and 43 HE rounds in a duel with Charlie that saw the "Battlin Bravo" warriors come out on top, no more rocket launcher. SSG Hassler mustered his whole section together for the days actions. Also in the section are SP4 Louis King, PFC Lenny Hagenhoff, PFC Robert Blevins, PFC Jerry Garrison, and PFC Lloyd Hamilton.

One other "Hard Core" humper was noted on the scene and that was Chief of Smoke, SFC Jack Cunningham.

The 14th of May found Tien Phuoc on the receiving end of more 75mm recoilless rifle fire. Not

wasting any time, SSG Hassler assisted by SFC Cunningham, Granados, Jans, Dierickx and SSG Roscoe Cox from the 3rd Gun Section and SGT Faustos Garofalo from the Battery Ammo Section layed effective fire on the enemy infested area just west of Tien Phuoc.

No enemy artillery fire has been recorded since the 14th of May making Hassler's duel with Charlie a forfeit in favor of the 4th section or a decisive victory for the men of "Battlin Bravo?" Time will tell.

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Battalion Headquarters was recently expanded to better accomodate the administrative nerve center of the 3-16th.

Construction began on April 18 when the old walls were torn down and a new plywood floor was installed. The framework for the new addition was put up and within 10 days the new office was occupied.

Directly in front of the new S-1 there is presently under construction a new flagpole memorial site. This memorial is being moved from it's original position behind Battalion EDC.

LAKE VIEW -- Two view of the area and beautiful lake is covered by an ever more beautiful view in the form of a very large willow tree and the old "Don't Just Stand There."



The BATTLE-AX BANNER is an authorized monthly publication of the 3-16th Arty. Information Office APO 96374. Diagrams and pictures used in this paper are received from Army News Features, Washington, D.C. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Distribution will be one copy per three men within the battalion.

Lt. Col Jack R. Pilk-----Battalion Commander  
CPT Terry L. De Phillips-----Information Officer  
SP5 Tom Maus-----Editor

The 3-16th Arty is happy to announce the arrival of five new officers in the battalion. Book Officer (FO) has been with us for a month.

Battalion FDC welcomed now. He transferred here CPT John J. Sullivan to from the 11th Brigade.

Replacing LSG Mike Seging out to Alpha Battery as XO is LIT Michael S. Moran,; and working with a recent change over moved the 1-1 Cav as an FO is LSG Buford F. McClure to another Moran, 2LT John H. Battalion S-3 and LSG Wil-

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#### CAREER COUNSELORS CORNER

The Americal Division Reenlistment Office recently passed out the April reenlistment standing for the Division showing the 3-16th in 5th place among the battalions in the Americal.

In April the 3-16th had 12 people DEROS, out of 12, three reenlisted for a 25 percent mark.

Three exciting reenlistment opportunities, available to those with less than four years of service for pay purposes, are the subjects of this month's column.

Two of the three options are in the area of cloak-and-dagger work--Army Security Agency and Special Intelligence duties--while the third option is for the Army's Air Defense Command. The Special Intelligence option, by the way, is available to members of the Women's Army Corps, too.

Let's take a look at the options and see what they can offer you in the way of training and assignment.

The Army Security Agency is the command with the mission of providing electronic communications security in support of our national defense effort. It is possible to reenlist for ASA if you are trained or qualified for training in electronics, languages, communications and other technical and administrative fields. Among some of the positions you might fill with ASA are field radio repairman, Morse "interceptor, fixed ciphony repairman, radio teletype operator, electronic warfare equipment repairman, general cryptographic repairman, data processing equipment operator, or foreign language interceptor. To qualify for ASA you must reenlist for 3-6 years, be an E-5 or below, a high school graduate or equivalent and have a GT score of 100 or higher.

The Special Intelligence duty option is certain to satisfy those with a desire for something different. These duties include the reading, searching, filing, translating and interpreting of all types of information.

Individuals choosing this option will be doing vital work to safeguard Army operations, as well as functions aimed at deriving information about the enemy's movements, his espionage, sabotage and subversive plans and activities.

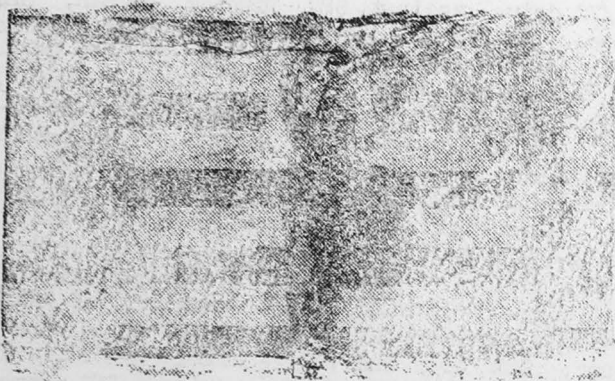
Personnel entering this field will be trained as a military intelligence specialist, area intelligence specialist or military intelligence coordinator.

Cont. on Page 4

liam T. Goins taking over as MHB "Top Shirt."

LIT Ermit Clark took over as XO and Ammo Officer at Service Battery.

Inter-battalion transfers saw LIT John J. Boudreaux go from Alpha Battery to FO with the 1-1 Cav and 2LT Raymond L. Meese from FO with the 1-1 Cav. to Charlie Battery as AXO.

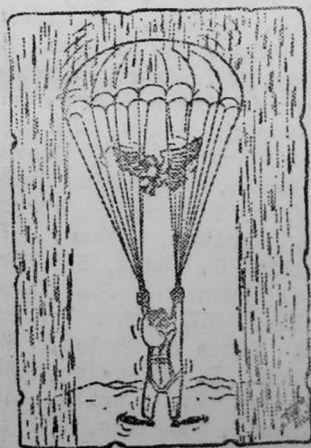


#### "BATTLIN BRAVO" AWARDED FOR HEROISM DURING OFFENSIVE!

One of the largest mass-awards ceremonies to date in Vietnam took place Friday, May 2 at Tien Phuoc.

A total of three Silver Stars, 29 Bronze Stars and 45 Army Commendation Medals all for valor were presented to the men of "Battlin Bravo" for acknowledgement of their heroic actions during the recent post-TET offensive. The men of "Battlin Bravo"

Cont. on P. 4





Cont. from P. 3  
gained the respect of all supported units by standing by their guns in the midst of incoming mortar and rocket fire and sending thousands of rounds hurtling into enemy positions and troop concentrations, thereby significantly contributing to the successful blunting of the NVA/VC drive against Tien Phuoc.

Presenting the awards at Tien Phuoc base camp were BG Wallace L. Clement Assistant Americal Division Commander; COL Leslie Hardy, Americal Division Artillery Commander; and LTC Jack R. Pilk, 3-16 Artillery CO.

Immediately following the awards ceremony at Tien Phuoc, COL Hardy and LTC Pilk flew to Hau Duc to present the awards to the three gun sections that were occupying that forward fire base.

Receiving the Silver Star for heroic actions were CPT Reginald P. Fontenot and LSG Ralph Lewis. Also receiving the Silver Star was 1LT Jimmy Kilpatrick for heroism while serving as an artillery forward observer with the Americal Divisions 1-1 Cav. 1LT Kilpatrick also received the Army Commendation Medal with V Device for his actions as Battery XO at Tien Phuoc.

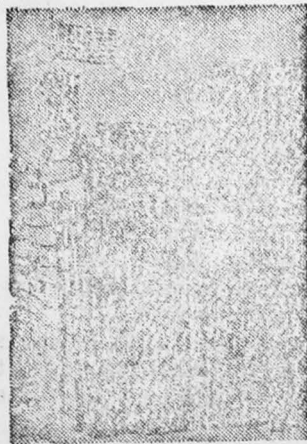
Presented the Bronze Star with V Device were 1LT Darrell W. Huck, 1LT Joe W. Trimble, SFC Alfred V. Walsh, SSG William F. Hardy, SGT Edward E. Beaudin, SGT Alton Roundy, SGT Frederick Biles, SP5 Albert Tenorio, SP5 Steven C. Bowen, SP5 Eugene Stanley, SP5 Francis Burns, SP4 Carlton Baker, SP4 William C. Beams, SP5 Michael Swenson, SP4 Larry Fuller, SP4 Arthur Ponder, SP4 James E. Sholes, SP4 Robert E. Letroise, SP4 William R. Curtis, SP4 James W. Ingalls, SP4 Alvin Merske, PFC Kenneth Deslatte and PFC John L. Black.

Members of Bravo to re-

ceive the Army Commendation Medal with V Device are as follows: SSG Charles Haseler, SSG Roscoe Cox, SSG Paul Elliot, SGT Alfred Aguirre, SGT Ernest Lopez, SGT Larry G. Vaughn, SGT Terry Smith, SGT Michael Green, SGT Rodney Brown, SP4 Milton Wilson, SP4 Juan Melendez, SP4 Arlan Jans, SP4 John Orvis, SP4 Timothy Keenan, SP4 David McNear, SP4 Jerome Butler, SP4 Paul L. Dierickx, SP4 Rodney Musick, SP4 Norbert Gonka, SP4 Robert Slaney, SP4 James Brown, SP4 Juan Santana, PFC Vincent Fernandez, PFC Richard Mest, PFC Milton Black, PFC Carl Bailey, PFC Daniel Dawling, PFC Ramon Granadoz, PFC Ralph McGuire, PFC Nile Beck, PFC Michael Arnold, PFC Jerry Adkins, PFC James Allen, PFC Donald Frawley, PFC Manuel Green, PFC Joseph Campana, PFC Edward Bielawski, PFC Robert Victory, PFC Richard Carroll,

PFC David Frayne, PFC Woodrow Spinks, and PFC Alfred Jappan.

The awards ceremony was followed by CPT Fontenot turning over command of "Battlin Bravo" to CPT Glenn E. Hulet. CPT Hulet comes to us from Ft. Sill and CPT Fontenot has been reassigned to Europe.



Cont. from P. 3

There is unlimited opportunity in this Special Intelligence area and men and women who show sufficient interest and ability may be selected as investigators or for technical and supervisory positions. Those with an aptitude for languages may also apply for special language training.

You'll not only find this option exciting but also challenging. It is open to men and women, E-5 or below, who reenlist for 3-6 years.

The Army Air Defense Command option doesn't deal in cloak-and-dagger work but it does involve an important aspect of national security. As a member of the Air Defense Command, you'll man one of the many Air Defense sites in the United States. These are the bases that protect the U.S. from air attack.

This option is open to men qualified for training as missile crewmen or fire control crewmen, Air Defense operations intelligence assistants, or fire distribution system crewmen. The option requires a reenlistment term of from 4 to 6 years and is open to men below the grade of E-5.

One of the bonuses of this option is that you may reenlist for one of the 21 metropolitan areas in the United States where Air Defense units are located. Not all areas are available but there are usually several areas from which to choose. In addition to selecting your area of choice, you will be guaranteed a minimum of 14 months of service in that area.

We just touched the surface on the ASA, Special Intelligence and Air Defense Command options. We'll be delighted to give you additional information and start you off on your reenlistment processing for one of these three exciting options.

If any of these options appeal to you, call me, SFC Kersh on Chu Lai 2172 or visit me at Battalion Personnel, I'll fill you in on the details.