

# SYKES REGULARS

REPORTER



1ST Battalion



20th Infantry

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LZ LIZ, VIETNAM

25 May 1970

## COL BARLOW AND LTC FISCHER ATTEND DUC MY GRADUATION CEREMONY

"These children are absolutely beautiful," commented Colonel K.B. Barlow, commanding officer of the 11th Brigade.

His remark was part of a commencement address to forty Vietnamese school children who were graduated recently from the Duc My Village Primary School in Mo Duc District. After five years of study and after a thorough year-end examination, the twelve-year-olds received their diplomas and admission to High School.

Also in attendance with COL Barlow were LTC Arthur F. Fischer and Mr. Le Xuan Dinh, the Quang Ngai Province primary education chief. The ceremony was highlighted by the colorful pageantry of the school's 400 students, age six to twelve, as they received their visitors with songs of greeting.

For the past two years, the 1/20 has taken a special interest in the Duc My school, and with help from the 11th Brigade has sponsored programs to improve its facilities and render educational assistance. For the day's graduation ceremony, the battalion supplied such gifts as portable radios and volleyball sets to the school's top graduates.

"It's a privilege for me to be invited to such a fine educational ceremony," LTC Fischer said. "I sincerely hope that we can continue to do our part in furthering the education of these children who will one day be the leaders and citizens of the hamlets, the villages, and the Republic."

COL Barlow expressed his pleasure at having been invited to the day's festivities.

"I would like to congratulate you on the very fine appearance of your children and facilities here this morning. It brings a lot of memories of when I was a school child. I think we have a good relationship between the 1/20 and the people in the hamlets. Hopefully we can further the success of the pacification efforts in the area," he said.

COL Barlow added that the 11th Brigade will continue to offer its assistance to the Duc My school and its children.

## RECON SAILS THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

The Recon Platoon was involved recently in a night combat assault operation and sustained one casualty--a mild case of seasickness.

For weeks, the 1/20 had attempted unsuccessfully to clear a mobile VC stronghold in the Gaza Strip coastline north of Duc Pho. The VC had been hiding out along the Strip and posed a harassing threat to the battalion's pacification operations in the area. Ground sweeps and patrols, as well as helicopter airlifts into the beach area, failed to produce any significant results.

So the battalion tried a new tactic. Working with MACV in Quang Ngai City, two Vietnamese junks were acquired and during the hours of darkness Recon boarded the two small vessels and set sail for the Gaza Strip, twenty miles to the south.

For three hours, the infantrymen navigated the choppy waters of the South China Sea in the tiny, creaking craft. It was during their silent assault on the high seas that SGT Pete Smith (Orange, Conn.) got sick and proved to be less a seaman than a soldier.

In the eight-day operation that followed the beach landing, the platoon killed six of the scattered VC force.

## TO KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT

(AFPS) For the rest of your life you will be asked to produce records showing your military service. Too, these papers hold the key to benefits you, your family, or survivors may claim many years after you leave active service. You, therefore, have an important responsibility to yourself and to them in preserving these papers in orderly fashion through the years.

If you have not already done so, start your personal file record. The large envelope your discharge papers probably were or will be in can be used for this purpose, or any file folder will do the job. This personal file will save much searching as the years click away and will provide orderly safe-keeping for your service-associated papers.

Use the file to keep available and in good condition the following papers:

\*Your "shot record." You and your dependents should not only keep immunization records, but the immunizations themselves should be kept up to date. Continual immunity to typhoid, smallpox, and tetanus is especially important.

\*Your government insurance policies, together with premium payment records.

\*Papers associated with your active duty, such as orders to and releases from active duty, pay vouchers, warrants, commissions, diplomas, and citations.

\*All Veterans Administration forms and correspondence, including certificates of eligibility for loans, "C" (file) number records, and other papers related to administration of your rights as a veteran.

\*DD Form 214, Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge. A brief account of your service, this important form should, for your own protection be registered with your county recorder. Keep the original in a safe, fire-

proof place. Photostatic or certified copies in your personal file are valuable as ready references. Copies are required as evidence of eligibility for veterans benefits.

\*Certificate of Discharge. This form is the official record showing the nature of your service and separation. It, too, should be registered with your county recorder and the original kept in a safe, fire-proof place.

\*Certificate of Service. This is the official record issued instead of a discharge certificate to a person returned or transferred to the Reserve. Re-

gister it with your county recorder and keep the original in a safe, fireproof place.

\*Family records such as marriage licenses, birth certificates, death certificates, divorce decrees, guardianships or custody evidence, adoption papers, and other such documents are permanent records you are also obligated to care for properly and will probably need time and time again.

Never give the original copy of a permanent personal or family record to another person, even for business purposes. Certified copies have all the legal status of originals and insure that when the original is needed again it will be available.

### SYKES' REGULARS REPORTER

Battalion Commander LTC Arthur Fischer  
Adjutant CPT Boyd Harris  
Correspondent SP4 Toby Prodgers  
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Four days after Recon's C/A onto the beach via Vietnamese junk, the platoon initiated a series of engagements that was to leave six VC dead.

On their fifth day out, the men began sweeping north to Mo Duc where they were to assume a blocking position for tracks and engineers moving south in a landclearing operation.

The platoon had split up just east of Max and the Robin Hood and Little Al elements were breaking through a woodline to link up with the Will Scarlet element when they came up behind a VC who was observing the Will Scarlet element from his concealed position in the woodline. With a barrage of small arms fire, the men killed the VC as well as another of his comrades who attempted to evade into a hedgerow.

The next day after arriving at its blocking position near Mo Duc, the platoon spotted four uniformed VC about 50 meters away and moving through a thick woodline. The contact that followed produced one more VC killed.

Two days later, after returning to a location near Max, the men were checking out the area near their proposed ambush site. As they approached a spider hole hidden in the brush, a VC popped up and tossed a ChiCom grenade at them. The VC was killed immediately as the men retaliated with their own frags.

In its ambush location that night, Will Scarlet spotted and fired on two (RECON cont. page 4) -3-

A member of the Sykes' Regulars was honored recently by being placed on the rolls of the "Outstanding Young Men of America" for 1970 by the Outstanding Americans Foundation in Chicago.

Chaplain (CPT) Eugene W. Scott (Trenton, Mo.), who is currently serving in Duc Pho as chaplain for the 1/20, received word from Mr. Douglas Blankenship, chairman of the foundation's Board of Advisory Directors, that he had been selected for the honor.

The chaplain's career of service began in 1958 when he entered El Camino College in Los Angeles and began work in pre-medical studies. While there, he became president of the school's Xi Omega Pi fraternity. After two and a half years at El Camino, he went to the Minnesota Bible College where he earned his Bachelor of Theology degree. He then obtained a Masters of Arts and Divinity at the Lincoln Christian Seminary in Lincoln, Ill.

Soon after completing his formal education, he entered the Army, was commissioned in the Chaplain's Corps, and attended the Chaplain's school at Ft. Hamilton, N.Y. A year later he was married and went to Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., where he put together the largest choir in the 5th Army. After a tour in Long Binh, he returned to Ft. Lewis, Wash., and worked there with soldiers departing for Vietnam.

One of the chaplain's consuming hobbies is fishing. Six times the National Spin Casting Champion, he holds the Washington State records for Rainbow Trout and Brook Trout, using a lead weight fly he designed himself.

But more important, he is devoted to his ministry. Quietly serving his men wherever he can find them--in the chapel or in the mountains and rice paddies--he has made his greatest contributions during times of emotional stress whether in the field hospitals or in combat.

Chaplain Scott's explanation for his success as an Army chaplain and for being named one of America's most outstanding young men is a simple one: "If you go to where your men are, they'll go to where you are Sunday morning."

#### \*\*\*\*\* NOTES ON R&R--HAWAII

One of the prime attractions of Hawaii is its accessibility as an R&R meeting place for servicemen and their families. Understanding Americans in Hawaii and on the mainland have joined together to provide the means for making these reunions more pleasurable and, to some extent, less expensive.

Through an arrangement with MACV, all the airlines offer a special round-trip rate of \$165 (plus tax) for wives flying from the West Coast to join their husbands on R&R. This rate can be combined with other special travel plans offered by the participating airlines within the continental U.S. To insure that your wife is able to purchase the required tickets at the reduced fare, she will need her Dependent's ID card and three completed co- (HAWAII continued page 5)

The following men were presented awards during the Retraining periods held for Bravo, Delta, and Echo companies.

BRAVO

SP4 Abelardo T. Loya--Silver Star  
Purple Heart  
PFC Frank Garcia--Silver Star  
SP4 Donald S. Lunsford--Bronze Star "V"  
SGT Bruce Jones--Arcom "A"  
SP4 Larry L. Hunziker--Arcom "A"  
SP4 Darrell K. Smoot--Arcom "A"  
SP4 Glenn A. Hartely--Purple Heart

## DELTA

SP4 James H.W. Yeary--Bronze Star "V"  
Purple Heart (2nd)  
Oak Leaf Cluster

PFC Melvin L. Kelley—Arcom "V"  
SFC William McDonald, Jr.—Arcom "A"  
SGT Michael L. Henderson—Arcom "A"  
SGT Edwardo Jaime—Arcom "A"  
SGT David M. Martin—Arcom "A"  
SP4 Donald W. Dreyery—Arcom "A"  
SP4 Richard I. Frohreich—Arcom "A"  
SP4 James R. Hise—Arcom "A"  
SP4 Roger D. Nalls—Arcom "A"  
SP4 Herbert Wielenberg—Arcom "A"  
SP4 Jeffrey Wilson—Arcom "A"  
SGT Jack D. Craig—Purple Heart  
SP4 Jose Corcino—Purple Heart  
SP4 John W. Ewing—Purple Heart  
SP4 Richard E. Holt—Purple Heart  
PFC Granville E. Harewood—Purple Heart  
PFC Byron D. Rodd—Purple Heart  
PVT Larry E. Reeder—Purple Heart

## ECHO

LLT Warren T. Waterbury—Arcom "A"  
Purple Heart

SSG Cruz Vasquez—Arcom "A"  
SGT Jim D. Coker—Arcom "A"  
SGT Robert D. Gee—Arcom "A"  
SGT Carlos R. Martel—Arcom "A"  
SGT James E. Olinger—Arcom "A"  
SGT Dennis Shaw—Arcom "A"  
SGT Clyde C. Shirron—Arcom "A"  
SGT Robert Smith, Jr—Arcom "A"  
SGT Herbert M. Sorg—Arcom "A"  
SP4 Jerry L. Eastridge—Arcom "A"  
SP4 Melvin Jefferson—Arcom "A"  
SP4 David J. Kohn—Arcom "A"  
SP4 George J. Lewis—Arcom "A"  
SP4 Jackson P. Rogers—Arcom "A"  
PFC Dennis D. Gilliam—Arcom "A"  
PFC Truman Hall—Arcom "A"  
PFC Michael D. Helbert—Arcom "A"

PFC Hershel Jane—Arcom "A"  
PFC Mike A. Killian—Arcom "A"  
PFC Larry Webb—Arcom "A"

ННС

CPT Boyd Harris—Bronze Star "A" (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), Air Medal  
1LT Robert E. Lee, Bronze Star "A"

### RECON continued

VC walking through an open rice paddie, registering two more VC killed, and two pistols, a number of grenades, and pistol belts confiscated.

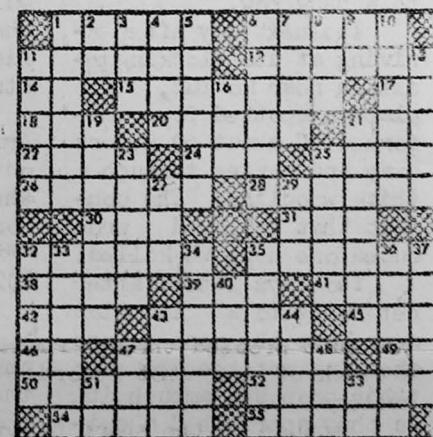
A decorative horizontal border at the bottom of the page, consisting of a repeating pattern of stylized floral or star-like motifs in a dark color.

### ACROSS

ACROSS	7-Is mistaken
1-Flexible	8-Dance step
6-Railroad	9-Hypothetical
station	force
11-Punctuation	10-Seasaw
mark	11-Couples
12-Turkish decrees	13-Heavenly bodies
14-Conjunction	16-European
15-Climbing	beetle
devices	19-More affected
17-Latin	by fits of
conjunction	depression
18-Doctrines	21-Takes
20-Crowd disorders	vengeance
21-Indonesian	23-Journeys
tribesman	25-Aflame
22-Underground	27-American
part of plant	essayist
24-Before	29-Greek letter
25-Declare	32-Pacific
26-Looks pungently	island
28-Puts off	33-March
30-Pair	pompously
31-Metal	34-More vivid
32-Steamles	35-Cavern
	36-Welcomes
	37-Chemical
	38-Compound
	40-Danish land
	division
	42-Standing room
	only (26s)
	44-Spoken
	47-Tropical fruit
	51-Symbol for
	teratulum
	53-Tuberculosis
	(Tbc.)



#### PRACTICE WATER SAFETY



pies of DD Form 1580 (printed on the reverse side of R&R orders). Your dependents must also make the return flight to mainland U.S. within 15 days of departure from the West Coast.

Another example of Hawaii's hospitality is the Special Privileges Card given to each serviceman during the arrival briefing. This card is good for your entire R&R stay and helps you obtain reduced prices in restaurants, hotels, and stores displaying a matching R&R placard.

For the travel minded there are car rental agencies which also offer special R&R rates. Some agencies are open 24 hours every day and will help you plan your R&R stay.

Even if you're not meeting friends or relatives, the people of Hawaii are sincerely interested in easing the strains of combat and the loneliness of the separation from your family.

Although most married men start discussing R&R in Hawaii with their wives as soon as they receive orders to Vietnam, the time to begin serious planning is as soon as you receive your R&R orders.

If you've planned ahead, you should find your arrival and inprocessing effortless. Your airplane will land at the Honolulu International Airport and taxi to the Foreign Arrivals terminal. There you must proceed through Public Health for a check of your shot records, and then to customs.

Because of the short period of time spent at the airport and the limited transportation facilities to Ft. DeRussy, we recommend you ask your wife or family to meet you at the Maluhia Service Club at Fort DeRussy. From the airport you'll be bussed to Ft. DeRussy where there will be time for a short reunion with families. All R&R personnel must attend a short orientation briefing at the Maluhia Service

Club. Once you have completed your briefing you're on your own.

There are two ways you can go about making hotel reservations for R&R in Hawaii. You can write ahead to the hotel of your choice and request reservations, once you have confirmed your R&R date. The second way is to write to the Officer-in-Charge, R&R Center, APO San Francisco 96558, and request his assistance for hotel reservations.

For those who want to be thrifty, several of the military installations in the area offer accommodations to servicemen and their families on R&R. Ft. DeRussy, right on Waikiki Beach, offers such accommodations and reservations are not required. The daily rates vary from \$2.50 to \$7.75 for enlisted men and \$3.50 to \$9.25 for officers, depending on whether you select a room or an apartment.

Belows Air Force Base, less than 25 miles from Honolulu, also offers excellent accommodations. Specifically reserved for personnel on R&R are 92 units consisting of two bedroom duplexes and one room efficiency type cabins. They can be reserved up to 60 days in advance for R&R personnel.

Typical of any American city, Honolulu has an easy bus system that can take you anywhere from Pearl Harbor to Waikiki. Car rentals are offered on Oahu, as well as the neighboring islands, from as low as \$6-\$10 a day to \$25-\$30 a day. One word of caution; Hawaii State laws require all persons under 20-years-of-age to have a Hawaii driver's license to operate any motor vehicle in the state. A person over 20 may use any valid out-of-state permit. Everyone must obtain a special Hawaii permit to operate two-wheeled vehicles if their permit does not specifically authorize it.

More on Hawaii's sightseeing, shopping, dining, and night life next week.

