

SYKES REGULARS



REPORTER



1ST

Battalion



20TH Infantry

Volume 2, No. 21

LZ LIZ, VIETNAM

2 June, 1970

CHARLEY COMPANY HAS A NEW BAG --- "RICE"

Operating under frequent harrassment from VC snipers, Charley company soldiers recently uncovered one of the largest enemy rice caches ever found in the I Corps Tactical Zone. They conducted an intensive nine-day search operation that produced 107,000 pounds of enemy rice in the Gaza Strip coastland, ten miles north of Duc Pho.

Initially, Co. C had been combat assaulted two miles east of the village of Mo Duc, on intellegence that a large unit of VC was operating in the area. Engineers from the 26th Engineering Battalion had reported several instances of enemy sniper and mortar fire as well as a number of booby traps.

The infantry company had been sweeping through an area of flat, open rice paddies, interspersed with hedgerows, mangrove swamps and small oasis-type villages, when a short-range, six-man patrol from the mortar platoon was sent out to check one of the hamlets.

A routine search failed to yield any significant results until sergeants James E. Balcarczyk (Lackawanna, N.Y.) and Alen P. Denucci (North Ste. Paul, Minn.) entered an old church fallen into disuse. Once inside, the two men discovered rice hidden in coffin-like boxes. Intensifying their search, they found almost two and a half tons of enemy food staple and sparked a company sized search operation that lasted for the next nine days. Operating in four small hamlets, the men found hidden caches in almost every hooch.

"At first we found simple caches hidden under woodpiles, haystacks or in bunkers. As the time went on we found them buried in gardens covered with fertilizer spread over the rice. It'd be in a pig pens, too, under the mud, straw and dirt. Ninety percent of it was in plastic bags," explained Staff Sergeant John G. Moore (Oxford, Ala.)

In one instance, a man poked a stick through the floor of one hooch and exposed a subfloor full of rice. Up to two layers of caches were discovered in some of the hooches.

The night of the first find the (Rice continued page 3)

"GRUNTS" ROUND UP VC

Tipped-off by a Vietnamese boy, a "six foot eight" Charley company soldier armed only with a bayonet recently detained seven armed VC guerrillas during a rice hauling operation on the "Gaza Strip".

While transporting rice from a large enemy cache, a chinook received heavy sniper fire. Captain Edward J. Mullen (Youngstown, Ohio), commanding officer from Co. C, directed the first and second platoons in a search of a dense mangrove swamp where the shots came from. "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aviation Company prepped the area with rocket and minigun fire before the advance.

Specialist Four Jimmie L. Dubose (Pachuta, Miss.), heralded as the tallest point man in Vietnam, inched his huge frame through the thick vegetation and found a small hamlet. Immediately an eight year old boy began pointing at a fortified bomb shelter whispering "VC". Dubose called to Specialist Four Elwood Vincent (Sulphur, La.) for assistance be- (DUBOSE continued page 3)

FOR YOU: A D.C. POLICE CAREER

A CAPITAL ASSIGNMENT



WASHINGTON (AFPS) --- Between now and June 30, the District of Columbia Police Department seeks to add 1,200 former servicemen to its rolls.

The Department of Defense is assisting the D.C. Police Department in its recruiting effort by handling some of the paper work and authorizing early-outs up to 150 days for some servicemen.

The Army is executive agent for the recruiting program for all of the services and employment details are maintained by the personnel offices and Project Transition offices.

Here are some of the basic requirements set by the District Police Department, along with salaries and some of the benefits.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

U.S. citizen 20-years-old (by June 30) through 29-years-old.

Height: 5 feet 7 to 6 feet 5 without shoes.

Weight: 144 pound minimum.

Vision: No less than 20-60 correctable to 20-20 with glasses.

Health: Excellent condition

Education: High school diploma or certificate or equivalency issued by a recognized department of education, or GED certificate with scores no lower than 35, with combined score of 225.

COMPENSATION

Appointees receive full pay (\$8,000) while serving probationary year. Periodic increases for privates are given for satisfactory service until \$10,300 is reached.

Sergeants: \$10,175 to \$12,215

Captains: \$13,852 to \$16,527

Lieutenant: \$11,710 to \$13,850

Detective: \$9,570 to \$11,610

Overtime and compensatory time given for performance of duty or court appearances beyond the basic 40-hour week.

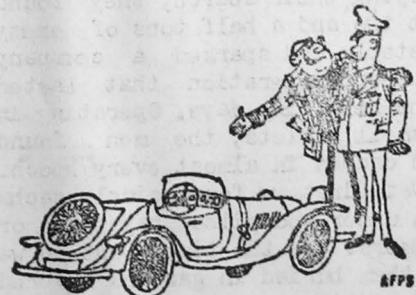
SPECIAL ALLOWANCES

A dislocation allowance is paid for movement of household goods to Washington D.C. and travel expenses are paid.

LIGHTER COMBAT LOAD

Lighter-weight clothing and equipment adopted by the U.S. Army Cavalry Command cuts the load of the combat infantryman in Vietnam by more than nine pounds.

Weights of ponchos, intrenching tools, and hot weather sleeping gear have already been reduced. Other load-lightening efforts underway involve armor (body), helmet and rucksack equipment, combat footwear and machete and sheath.



0 TO 100 IN 24...

Hospital Care

Not really! That's how fast you can pile up hospital bills once you're out. Hospital costs in some areas of the country are approaching \$100 a day!

What can you do about it? Plenty! See your Personnel Officer about short term health protection available to discharged servicemen.

fore checking the bunker.

With his bayonet in hand the giant soldier crawled into the bunker and retrieved a trembling VC.

Dubose continued to cautiously search the area and upon four 100-pound bags of rice. He sensed trouble and his young Vietnamese friend began pointing frantically at another bunker.

When he bent down to peer into the bunker Dubose found himself face to face with an enemy soldier. The VC refused to surrender forcing Dubose and Sp4 David Bowell (Sioux Falls, SD.) to toss two grenades into the hole.

Brandishing his bayonet once more Dubose squeezed into the bunker for the surprise of his life! Inside were six armed VC soldiers who had been protected from the blasts by a grenade sump.

With as much bravado as bravery, he pushed the enemy from their hiding place and into the surprised arms of his squad waiting outside the bunker. "I only took a few shoves and pokes from my bayonet to persuade the VC to leave," said Dubose.

While gingerly searching the bunker Bowell found a hidden SKS rifle, a carbine and three Chicom grenades.

Finding and detaining enemy soldiers is nothing new to Dubose. So far during his seven months in Vietnam he has personally detained six other VC for a total of 13.

3rd Platoon was setting up outside one of the hamlets for security, when Specialist Four James M. McCord (Holly Hill, Fla.) hit a 300-pound cache while he was digging out a foxhole.

Later, First Lieutenant John P. Grice (Jackson, Miss.) stepped outside to dig a sump and the company executive officer struck a 1,300-pound cache.

During the entire operation enemy harassment was frequent and often intense. Sniper fire came principally from the mangrove swamps in the area. Suspected enemy basecamps were located in three of the outlying swamps. Two days after the search operation had begun, a chinook was hovering above a load of rice being extracted when it took a heavy volume of enemy machinegun and automatic weapon fire from one of the nearby swamps.

After Shark and LOH gunship preparation of the enemy position, the 1st and 2nd platoons reacted by moving into the swamp with the LOH pointing out bunkers below. During the ensuing contact, the men killed one VC and detained seven hamlet guerrillas and five Viet Cong suspects. The men also confiscated an SKS assault rifle, a carbine and a large quantity of ammunition, hand grenades and explosives. One of the guerrillas detained admitted to having fired on the chinook and that it was his. The men confiscated.

The company kept aside some of the rice to distribute to the civilians in the area and the rest was sent to MACV for wider distribution in Quang Ngai.

The enemy's failure to retain the mammoth supply of rice will almost certainly have its effect on the main force NVA and VC units operating in the mountains in the western part of the province.

***** NOTES ON R&R---HAWAII

Honolulu, the capital of the state, is said to be the "Crossroads of the Pacific." The city offers every activity you could possibly desire, from bikini-watching on the beaches to a zestful and colorful nightlife that includes Hawaiian Luau's and top name entertainment.

Tourist attractions include fishing, swimming, surfing on some of the biggest "curls" in the Pacific, glassbottom boat trips, neighboring island air tours and a tour of night clubs. At sunset, a graceful catamaran flaps its sails and pushes off from Waikiki, loaded with vacationers bound for a 110-mile trip about the island.

You can take the Pearl Harbor cruise, down "battleship row" to the majestically serene USS Arizona Memorial. This marble edifice, dedicated in 1962 on Memorial Day, rests offshore over the sunken hulk of the USS Arizona. The walls of the museum are draped with historical artifacts recounting the morning of (HAWAII continued page 5)

The following men were presented awards during the retraining periods held for Alpha, Bravo and Charlie companies.

ALPHA

LT Charles R. Wiley--Arcom "A"
SSG Thomas J. Walters--Arcom "A"
SGT Wyndel G. Gowan--Arcom "A"
SP4 Thomas G. Elmore--Arcom "A"
SGT James W. Brown--Purple Heart
CPL Elmer D. Bennett--Purple Heart
SP4 Earl R. Blackwell--Purple Heart
SP4 Robert L. Gray--Purple Heart

BRAVO

SP4 Walter D. Linn
PFC David M. Snyder

CHARLIE

CPT James J. Mullen--Arcom "A"
1SG Albert Hundley--Arcom "A"
SFC Donald P. Patton--Arcom "A"
SSG John G. Moore--Arcom "A" (1st Oak Leaf Cluster)
SP4 James A. Hansen--Arcom "A"
SP4 Larry E. Lindsey--Arcom "A"
SP4 Stephen R. Carlisle--Purple Heart
SP4 Terry A. Piper--Purple Heart
SP4 Harry Rhine Jr.--Purple Heart
PFC George A. Deboer--Purple Heart

DELTA

SSG Joseph R. Knuesel

HHC

LT Delmar E. Shephard--Arcom "A"
LT Ronald J. Szurek--Arcom "A"
SFC Clifton E. West--Arcom "A"
SSG Clayton Griffen--Arcom "A"
SSG Bradford C. Johnson--Arcom "A"
SSG Charles Whitlock--Arcom "A"
SP5 Dennis F. Healy--Arcom "A"
SP4 Cecilio R. Bernal--Arcom "A"
SP4 Robert L. Darnell--Arcom "A"
SGT Douglas J. Baker--Arcom "S"
SP4 Robert F. Helmey--Arcom "S"

WAD GAMES PUT
AGO ARISE ASA
RELATE TESTED
LIE REMIT
SLAM FOR LEAS
HER FIN MODEL
AM ROT RAS SA
ROGUE LET DIM
ENID BAD MARS
RENEW RAM
PADRES FARMER
OWE STRAY ELA

NCO OF THE WEEK

Sykes's Regulars is spotlighting Sgt Charles Smith as its NCO of the week.

Smith hails from Willoughby, Ohio and has been in Vietnam for eleven months. He has a wife and infant daughter.

He is currently the leader of the third squad in the 4.2 mortar platoon. He previously served as a forward observer for Alpha, Bravo and Charlie companies for a period for two months each.

Prior to entering the Army he was a designer of custom cars and restored classic cars. He plans on pursuing a career in Diesel engineering when he completes his service obligation.

SERGEANT MAJOR RETURNS

The battalion is happy to welcome back Command Sergeant Major Jeremiah Lewis after returning to duty after a six week bout with bronchitis.

The CSM was "dusted off" to the 27th Surgical Hospital in Chu Lai where he received nine days of treatment. The illness had progressed from a minor cold in December and culminated to near emphysema by mid April.

"I was told I wouldn't be back by the doctors in Chu Lai, but they used different medicine in Tokyo," commented CSM Lewis.

He had been taken to the 249th General Hospital at Camp Drake, Tokyo on April 21 where he recovered in a month to complete the remaining five months of his tour.

"Words Worth Repeating"

"The most distinguishing characteristic of the military profession is not the activities it undertakes or the military hardware it oversees; rather, it is the profession's sense of personal responsibility and allegiance to the government--the people. Thus the military is not a profession in the same sense as law and medicine. The military can only be defined as the servant of the people, with an unlimited obligation to serve."

---Major General Clarence J. Lang.

(Hawaii continued)

December 7, 1941. At the altar of the Shrine Room are inscribed the names of the 1,177 men from the Navy and Marine Corps who died on the ship that day.

Also on the top of the sightseers list is the Iolani Palace, former royal palace of the last Hawaiian king, recently the center of governmental activities. The hauntingly mysterious upside-down water falls and the "Blow Hole," a spouting ocean geyser, are a must for the avid tourist.

Our 50th state is a shopper's paradise. The Ala Moana is the largest and most diversified shopping center in the world. There are shops with arts crafts from the Philippines, silks from ancient Thailand, modern European furniture, and pottery, lanterns and lacquer from Japan.

Not to be forgotten is the International Market Place, in the heart of Waikiki, with booths and shops that offer almost everything imaginable. Some of the best buys are Hawaiian perfumes, native jams, coral jewelry, jade and oriental goods, all of which can be purchased at a reasonable price.

Dining out is limited only by the size of your wallet. Honolulu's finest restaurants offer a great variety of exotic foods from all over the world. All top hotels have several dining rooms and serve excellent food. There are also several picturesque tea houses. Be sure to attend a Hawaiian Luau for a combination of the best native dishes and Polynesian entertainment.

Many R&R families having reported saving money on meals cooked in their own hotel room where kitchen facilities are available.

There is a tremendous variety of night life in Honolulu. At most night clubs you can see a good hula show with many places featuring Polynesian, Tahitian or Samoan entertainment. The legal age for drinking in public bars is 20 years, for both men and women.

Only U.S. currency is used in Hawaii. MPC is not valid and must be converted to U.S. dollars at the air terminal prior to departing Vietnam. For large amounts of money use travellers

checks. Personal checks with a magnetic coding in the lower left hand corner will be honored at local PX and Officer and NCO Messes.

Service clubs, snack bars, beverage and retail stores, barber shops, U-Drive concession, post office, laundry and dry cleaning and religious services are all available at Ft. DeRussy.

Overseas telephone service is provided for the convenience of R&R personnel. Details and the hours of operation will be given to you at the arrival orientation.

Upon arriving in Hawaii, the first thing checked is your shot record. Make sure its up to date before departing S. Vietnam.

The average temperature in Hawaii is 75 degrees. Casual sportswear, colorful Hawaiian shirts (worn outside the trousers) or short sleeves are recommended.

Ocean riptides are swift, channelized, outward movement of water coming from the shoreline toward the sea. As these tides enter the open ocean, they dissipate and usually move parallel to the shoreline. Swimmers are advised to ride the riptide until it dissipates or changes direction, and then swim diagonally toward the shore line. The important action is to keep your head and keep afloat---don't exhaust yourself fighting a riptide.

If you need additional information or assistance while on your R&R in Hawaii contact the R&R Center, Maluhia Service Club, Building 275, Fort DeRussy. (Telephone 543-2673)

OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED !!!!

See SFC Patton for information concerning new pay increases and over 200 reenlistment options, if you qualify.

Pick the job, duty station and training of your choice! In addition to a bonus, you qualify for a 30-day reenlistment leave to be taken at your discretion providing you have six months remaining on your foreign service tour upon returning from RVN.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answers on Page —

34331 - JULY 13 REPORT

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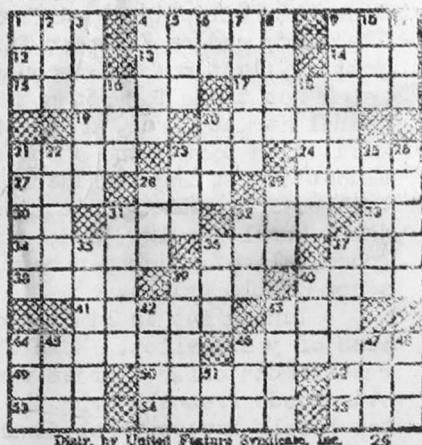
ACROSS	4-Opening in fence
1-Small lump	5-Exist
4-Contests	6-Note of scale
9-Place	7-Chemical compound
12-Time gone by	8-Appear
13-Get up	9-Striked
14-Man's name	10-Employ
15-Tell	11-Youngster
17-Tried	12-Goal
19-Falseshood	18-Storage bins
20-Forgive	20-King Arthur's lance
21-Bridge term	21-Portion
23-Preposition	22-Citrus fruit
24-Meadows	23-Suit
27-Pronoun	25-Horse gods
28-Fish limb	26-Shuts
29-Pattern	noisily
30-Part of "to be"	28-Enemy
31-Decay	29-Snail rug
32-Ethiopian title	31-More impolite
33-A continent (abbr.)	
34-Permit	

**SPEAK OUT...
FOR FREEDOM**



TO: FREEDOM'S FOUNDATION
VALLEY FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA, U.S.

32-Community	46-vegetation
33-Steel beam	47-roof load
36-Obstruction	45-Resonance
37-Obstructed	46-Distortion
39-Debris	47-Man's Name
40-Defense	48-Tattered
32-Child's name	cloth
43-Beams	51-Sun and



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