

Always First

# BRONCO TRIBUNE

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THE "ALWAYS FIRST", BRONCO TRIBUNE IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE S-1 3d BATTALION, 1st INFANTRY, 11th INFANTRY BRIGADE, APO SF 96217, AS AN AUTHORIZED ARMY PUBLICATION. VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

## COMPANY NEWS

### HHC "BASKETT'S BANDITS"

Headquarters and Headquarters Company would like to extend their congratulations to KENNETH G. BASKETT on his promotion to Captain this month. With his D-ROS speeding forward, CPT BASKETT has not once stopped to look back. He is always pushing forward in order to reach perfection in every area throughout the battalion. We would like to congratulate him on a job well done.

Another year of experience is added to the lives of the following personnel of Headquarters and Headquarters Company: SP4 JOHN J MAKAR of S-4, 1LT CARL R SKARIN LNO, SP6 JOHN D MORGAN, medic, SSG JAMES TRAVIS-mess personnel, SP4 WILLIAM G ANDERSON-commo, SP4 TOMMY A ELDRED-commo, SP4 WILBERT L GAUTHIER,mess personnel, PFC DAN W JACKSON,ammo, PFC BERNARD KELLY-medic, PFC BERNARD J LAVELL-mess personnel, PFC RONALD E PEPPER-communication personnel, and SP4 WILLIAM J CHAMBERS-company clerk. Best wishes go out to these men.

We offer our congratulations to the following men who have received the well deserved promotion to Specialist Fourth Class this month: THEODORE ABERCROMBIE, RUDOLF ASMAN JR., DORSEY D CAMPBELL, PASQUALE CAMPIONELLI, GLENN L CROWIN, JAKE FAVERMAN JR., DANIEL J LIDDY, RAPHAEL K MANUEL, TERRY R MONIA, ARTHUR D ORNELAS, THOMAS J MOHAN, BRUCE S MARTINDALE, JOSE I RIVERA, NICHOLAS C LOSS JR., PERCY MOORE, GREGORY L JACKSON, ROBERT B LOMBARDO, RICHARD A

STUART, VAUGHN J VANDERMEER, MICHAEL J PIAZZA, MICHAEL W LAFFERTY, LYLE G BEATTIE, ROBERT L BARTEL, LEO SANDERS, and RICHARD PRICE.

### Co A "DANZ'S DEVILS"

The "Devils" remained on LZ Cork this week. The "Devils" were busily remodeling their old bunkers where possible and redesigning new ones when necessary. They are doing a wonderful job in their beautification program. If ole Chuck attacks the place, he won't even recognize it. In fact if he even comes close, it will be his last look.

"EVIL DANZ" recruited 34 new members to his gang last week. The following men have joined the DEVILS in their plight against "Ole Chuck": SGT JAMES S ADAMS, SGT ROBERT R SWINDE, SGT RONALD L SAILORS, PFC FRANCIS ZLATES, PFC DAVID C EUBANKS, PFC DONALD H SMITH, PFC JOHN A JOHNSON, SGT DAVID E LAMBERT, PFC DAVID MILLER PFC GREGORY M HOWARDS, PFC CLINTON L PARSONS, PFC DONALD HALL, PFC JOSE M PEDRAZA, PFC DANIEL J FORDNESS, PFC EFREN A MARTINEZ, PFC JAMES H STEWART, PFC STEVE J BLANTON, PFC JERRY W OFSTEDAH, PFC ROBERT B TUFTS, PFC MICHEL H MATHIS, PFC LESLIE C PRESSLEY, PFC HAPPY D BRADLEY, PFC RAY L GOOD, PFC ROBERT B TYLER, PFC RICHARD B BROWN, PFC STANLEY D SMITH, PFC JOSE RIVERA, PFC JUAN M RAMOS, and PFC GERALD RUMPF. These men were welcomed by the older DEVILS.

There was good news for PFC JACK AUSTIN this week. On the morning of 27 January 1969, his wife gave birth to a 7 pound 12 ounce baby boy.

Congratulations JACK.

Co B "WILLIAMS'S RAIDERS"

The humping Raiders spent a relatively quiet week in the area of Quang Ngai province while working with the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade. They are thoroughly enjoying their humping, as always.

PFC THEODORE POSOVICH has happily returned from his P&R in Hawaii. He spent a glorious week with his wife, but gladly returned knowing that each day over here makes him one day closer to that long awaited DEPOS day.

SP4 CHARLES GRIFFIN has returned from a luxurious P&R in Tokyo with all those beautiful oriental girls.

Notice from the world of Chess. The Chess Champion of all times, SGT WILLIAM STONE, was beaten by a new comer to the Chess world. SGT RICHARD MACDOWELL, an amateur chess player unmercifully beat the all time champ, SGT STONE. SGT STONE has stated that SGT MACDOWELL was aided by beginner's luck and he definitely wants a rematch.

There is good news from the reenlistment office. PFC MICHAEL J BYRGE and PFC GEORGE F SCHIFFER have reenlisted for a burst of 3 years. No further comment.

PSG LOUIS ANDERSON is still recuperating at LZ Bronco. He is back here for rear echelon maintenance.

Co C "THE GOOD GUYS"

The Good Guys would like to welcome the following new replacements: PFC TIMOTHY SIMPSON, PFC STEPHEN ANDREWS, PFC PETER PAULSON, PFC WESLEY ICE, PFC JAMES BENGE, PFC JOHN MITCHEL, PFC LLOYD DECKER, PFC BENNIE BROWN, PFC DAVID WASHINGTON, PFC DONALD RACE, PFC CLARENCE EADES, PFC MICHAEL CAPUTE, PFC HARRY KUBE, PFC WINDSOR BEAN, PFC FRED KARAMAN, and PFC ADAM HADJIAN. "Happy Humping, fellows".

The Good Guys also extended their welcome to SGT ROBERT COMPTON and SGT CHARLES SMITH who were on leave in the World.

The Good Guys in the rear are losing 1LT TERRY W FULKS as their XO. He is going to be working for S-2 now. LT FULKS said he regrets leaving the company, but most of all, he regrets that he had to dispose of a certain growth on his upper lip.

The "humping" Good Guys are working with the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, in the area of Quang Ngai Province. They are breaking their new men in, the hard way. Humping all the way!

Co D "DELTA'S DRAGONS"

This week finds the Dragons working on and off LZ Cork. After 23 consecutive days in the field, they moved onto LZ Cork for a little rest. They have been working on the refortification of the LZ and they have been making daily operations in the area surrounding the LZ.

They have been chasing "ole Chuck" around as always. They managed to capture 2 AK-47, an NVA field pack along with poncho, poncho liner, and several NVA uniforms. Along with these captures, they had an NVA soldier turn himself in to them under the Chue Hot program.

Good going fellows!

During a day-time ambush this past week, the Dragons put a definite hurt on "Ole Chuck". The first platoon caught a group of ~~many~~ NVA soldiers sneaking down a trail when the Devils opened up on them. They chalked up five KIA for a good day's work.

Some of the outstanding Devils of the week were: SP4 ROBERT J TAORMINA, SP4 RICHARD J FEOLA, SP4 MICHAEL BELAFPI and PFC RAMON VASQUEZ. Their outstanding actions against the enemy merited them recommendations for awards this week.

Co E "JACKS OF ALL TRADES"

Echo Company spent a quiet week on LZ Cork. Their Recon platoon was working on daily operations in the area surrounding the LZ while the mortar platoon was working on the refortification of the hill. With all the work being done to refortify the hill, the hill should stand for

ever. Who knows! Maybe it will be the 98th wonder of the World.

Conratulations are in order for SP4 THOMAS JOHNSON of the Radar Section. Tom, more affectionately known as "Doc", recently received his well earned promotion to SP4.

Echo Company regretfully bids farewell to their Commanding Officer, Captain ROBERT D WILSON. CPT WILSON has been reassigned to MACV in Saigon. Good luck on your new assignment, Sir.

#### NOTICE!

Last report from the S-1 awards section reveals that there were 148 recommendations sent in for awards this month. This includes Purple Hearts, Army Commendation Medals, Bronze Stars, and Silver Stars. That means that this battalion is really up tight. Of course we know that we have an exceptional battalion, but it is time we let everyone else know about it. Let's keep up the good work, men.

#### "PRIDE"

When I walk up to any squad leader and ask him, "which squad is the best in the battalion, he will tell me his squad is best. This is the way it should be, but most times just in the way they say it, shows they don't really believe it. When I ask the men in his squad, the same question, I often get evasive answer or a sheepish grin as they say that their squad is best. In most cases, there is little or no feeling of pride.

For a squad to be effective, it must have pride. The squad must feel that it is the best squad in the unit. But how does it gain this pride? This responsibility rest on the shoulders of the squad leader. He must know his men, thoroughly. He must know the capabilities of his men and their shortcomings. He must know the men in his squad think. He must train his men to think along the lines that he desires them too, and he must see that his men are informed of every thing he knows. The better overall picture they have

of the job to be done, the more effectively they can do their part of the work.

You must also, give your jobs to do on their own. But after the job is done, check it. For instance, if you tell one of your men to install some claymores on the perimeter. He has done this in all probability, quite often, you understand he knows how to do it, but you must check the job when he finished it. Why? Because after a time, an American will get careless and try to take short cut or do the job any way he can to get it done quickly and easily. When you check it, if it has been done right, then compliment him, but if it has been done haphazardly or incorrectly, then you must make him redo the job under your direct supervision. If he knows you are going to check his work, he will soon learn to do a good job the first time.

From this, your men will begin to realize that they are good, and with that will come a feeling of pride in their squad.

As their pride and confidence increases, their efficiency will increase. They will try to do better all the time. In a short time you will find that you do have a squad that both you and your men can be proud of. Not only will you and your men be proud, but, also everyone in the chain of command will be proud of your accomplishments. Multiply this by the number of squads we have in the Battalion and you will have a Battalion that is the best in the Army. Remember, the Battalion's reputation rests upon the accomplishments of its squads.

SGM BROOKINS

This newspaper is published weekly for the officers and men of the Third Battalion, First Infantry by:

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## MEDITATIONS

(A contribution from the Battalion  
Chaplain, CPT RONALD W BENZING)

FOR MY PARENTS

Thank You for my parents, Father!  
I've never thought about them as  
much  
or appreciated them as fully  
as I do now,  
when I am away from home.

When you see them every day,  
you begin to take their love for  
granted.

It's just the usual thing-  
isn't that what parents are for?  
I remember making my bid for more  
freedom.

"Why do you treat me like a  
little kid?" I'd ask,  
and I'd resent it when I didn't  
get my way.

I can see it more now.

There are still some things  
on which I don't agree with  
them completely.

I don't think they were always  
right  
or even always fair.  
But I do know now,  
more than ever before,  
that whatever they wanted for  
me  
was only for my own good.

Father, I thank You for their love,  
for their showing firmness yet  
also trust,  
for their strong guiding and  
training  
yet letting me learn how to  
use my wings.  
I am thankful for the kind of  
home they provided-  
where their love for each other  
is just as evident  
as their love for me.  
Bless them, Father.

I know they are concerned about me  
and are thinking of me  
and praying for me every day.  
Don't let me forget how important  
it is  
that I keep writing to them  
and phoning them when I can  
to assure them everything is  
all right.

One more thing, Father!  
I am so thankful that they taught  
me to know You.

Their love has made it more possi-  
ble for me  
to appreciate Your love.  
Their willingness to forgive (even  
when I was a  
perfect stinker) helps me under-  
stand how  
You can forgive us sinners.  
Just having good parents makes it  
twice as meaningful  
when I can turn to You and call  
You "Father".

Thank You for my mother and father,  
Lord!

Taken from "ON ACTIVE DUTY"  
by Roy G Gesch

## HOT LINES

Presents from home are getting  
wilder and wilder. One man  
told us he received a wind-up  
battery.

They have bumper stickers in  
China. The most popular one  
reads: "We support our boys in  
Vietnam."

Once, the streets were safe,  
and you could call the cops any-  
time. Now, they're not so safe,  
and you can call the cops any-  
thing.



We are looking for something worthwhile to add to this newspaper, from the men in the field. If you have what you feel is an interesting story, or a cartoon you would think is a good one, that you would like to share with the officers and men of your Battalion, just write it down on this page and send it by re-supply chopper or hook to:

SGT EDWARD G. SILBER  
EDITOR - BRONCO TRIBUNE  
S-1 3d BN, 1st INF

If you don't have any paper, detach this page and write on here and send it down. All reports and stories we receive will be judged to be of sound nature and are not of the position of the Editor and Staff but will be of the respective individuals.