

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, 23d INFANTRY DIVISION, 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 "REICHART'S RACKETEERS"

Apparently Charles remembered, a little belatedly, his TET greetings for LZ Bronco. While keeping Charlie and Bravo Companies busy in the surrounding rice paddies, he still managed to drop sporadic mortar rounds and rockets inside the perimeter.

On Tues, the 25th he even took not shots at the 3d Bn mess hall during the noon meal. Fortunately his rounds were wasted on the hillside behind the Racketeers. And he earned a daily pounding by jet strikes and Shark strikes for his trouble.

A few of the Racketeers considered moving their cots to the HHC bunker, in order to avoid the midnight traffic. No one has yet been driven to do it, though. Meanwhile reaction forces and fire fighting teams have been kept in constant readiness.

The Racketeers were all stepping lively this week, as the CMMI team prowled around the area. Congratulations to Commo and Quartermaster who turned in the best scores.

SGT TIM WYMAN of the S-1 may claim an award for the most letters received in a day from different people. On Wed. the 26th he received 18, each from a different one of his many admirers back home.

Meanwhile everyone was licking his lips, as payday drew near.

BIRTHDAYS:

CPT JAMES HEWES will be 32 on 3 Mar
SP4 WILLIAM BOSWELL will be 22 on
3 Mar

Co A

"DANZ'S DEVILS"

The activities of Alpha Company's men for the past week can be easily

summarized in three words--hump, tired, frustration. "Up the hill, down the hill, all the way."

No, this isn't Basic Training revisited, but Danz's Devils feel as though they've been going through that hellish 8 weeks again. They have tramped over beaucoup hills and mountains in the past seven days and about the only results are lack of sleep, blistered feet, fatigued bodies, and interminable frustrations.

These were the fruits of the Devils' continued march from LZ Amy to LZ Cork--a march whose end is not yet in sight.

R and R:

SP4 MICHAEL W. CRADDOCK, Bangkok
SP4 LARRY ODEN, Hawaii

NEW ARRIVALS:

SP4 MORRIS BURGEUSS, HHC Security Plt
PFC GEORGE DAVIS, HHC Security Plt
SP4 DONNIE JORDAN, Portsmouth, Va.
A special welcome to SP4 Jordan who is here on his second tour of Vietnam.

BIRTHDAYS:

PFC S. DAVE SMITH will be 24 on 6 Mar

Our condolences to the following leap year babies who have no birthday this year:

SP4 JEROME DAVIS
SP4 WILLIAM KINAHAN

Both will be 21 between 28 Feb and 1 Mar

BIRTHDAYS:

CPT JAMES HEWES will be 32 on 3 Mar
SP4 WILLIAM BOSWELL will be 22 on
3 Mar

Co B

"WILLIAMS'S RAIDERS"

The Raiders came home to Bronco for most of this week. Working op con to the 1st of the 20th they patrolled the rice paddies surrounding the LZ in a change of scenery from the rigorous mountains.

Two Raider elements made contact with the enemy. 1LT GREGORY SMITH of

the First Platoon got one KIA. And 1LT ROBERT YOUNGS of the Second Platoon got another.

On Tues, the 25th, the Raiders moved out of Bronco for operations near LZ Dragon.

STORK STOPS:

1LT GREGORY SMITH, a baby girl

NEW ARRIVALS:

PFC ROBERT BACHAN, 11B
East Chicago, Ind.

PFC MARK W. WEMAN, 11B
Jackson, Wisconsin

PFC RICHARD P. OLSON, 11B
Minneapolis, Minn.

PFC BRUCE D. WALDT, 11B
Neenah, Wisconsin

PFC EDWIN V. CARRE, JR., 11C
Haventown, Pa.

PFC JOHN B. ALEXANDER, 11C
Lyndhurst, Ohio

PFC GLENN M. WESTMAN, 11B
So. Minneapolis, Minn.

24th, started walking off the hill to join their platoon.

Charles, not wanting any SRRP to escape unscathed opened up on them with intense automatic weapons fire as they reached the bottom of the hill. COL JOHN W. DONALDSON, the Brigade Commander, arrived on station in his Charlie, Charlie and gave the SRRPs good cover, though taking machine gun fire from two positions. Helix arrived on station soon after with beaucoup fighters, old Charles got pounded, and the SRRPs got away leaving ol' Chuck in a real strain.

On the night of the 24th, a patrol led by SGT KENNETH BRINKS had contact with 4 VC as they moved across a creek on the way to an ambush position. The VC were in the process of setting up an ambush, but got the worst of it. One of them was wounded when they ran.

NEW ARRIVALS:

1SG HERBERT ELLIOTT, Glen Burnie, Md.
SGT EUGENE DIXON, Brooklyn, N. Y.

R and R:

SP4 TERRANCE LAUTT, Tokyo

Co C

"THE GOOD GUYS"

The Good Guys spent another week keeping Charlie away from Bronco. Most of the action again centered on the SRRP teams.

On Thurs, 20 Feb, a team was again inserted on top of Hill 156, where they spent a quiet night. However, at about 2000 hrs on the 21st, they spotted 20 VC moving from NW to SE about 50 meters from their position. Again they called for Sharks, and as the Sharks arrived on station, the SRRPs took the VC under fire with M-16s, M-79s, frags, and claymores.

They were extracted once again and the next day a search of the area revealed one large pool of blood and many blood trails.

A tracker dog was put on the trails, and the chase began at break-neck speed. Unfortunately, after about 4 clicks the trails became confused and the Good Guys were unable to follow them any farther.

With the teams having such success it was decided to insert another (SGT MIKE LARION, SP4 MARK CALLAHAN, SP4 RON BUELOW, PFC WAYNE BRADLEY, and PFC MICHAEL J. CAPUTO) on the morning of the 22nd when Second Platoon, "Kelly's Killers" went with the dogs to search the area. They spent a quiet two nights and a Monday, the

SGT Dixon will be a squad leader in 1st Plt. We wish them both luck on their tour.

BIRTHDAYS:

SGT FRANCIS KANE will be 19 on 1 Mar
SP4 TIM HILL will be 21 on 7 Mar

Co D

"DELTA'S DRAGONS"

The Dragons spent the week luxuriating in the resort atmosphere of LZ Cork. Hot food, regular Class VI, and the stationary responsibilities of bunker line duty have been a welcome relief after a long stretch of humping the Northern Highlands.

R and R:

SGT LAWRENCE GOODRICH, Hawaii

SP4 CHARLES KARPIAK, Hawaii

SP4 MICHAEL WILKINS, Sydney

SP4 FERRY SMITH, Sydney

SP4 CHRIS VAVAK, Hawaii

The Dragons send special good wishes along with SP4 Karpak who plans to get married and have a Hawaiian honeymoon.

BIRTHDAYS:

SGT EDWARD NEWTON will be 21 on 3 Mar

SGT PEKKA SALO will be 21 on 5 Mar

PFC MICHAEL CHIPREAN will be 21 on 5 Mar

PFC JOHN DAVENPORT will be 21 on 6 Mar

PFC BILLY FRANKS will be 21 on 6 Mar

PFC FRANKLIN HORLBACK will be 20 on

6 Mar

Co E

"JACKS OF ALL TRADES"**MEDITATIONS**

Echo Company spent a busy week in the mountains last week. Recon saw their share of action atop Radar Hill, while the 4.2 Mortar Platoon had its "fun" shooting at Charlie from LZ Cork.

Saturday night and Sunday morning, 22 and 23 Feb, proved to be a tense period for Recon who had an estimated 20 "dinks" penetrate the perimeter. After a barrage of mortar rounds, grenades, and satchel charges, two enemy soldiers lay dead.

Sunday morning at 0900 the arrival of Charlie Charlie at Radar Hill brought another mortar attack, but the chopper was able to didi the area untouched.

Early the following morning, about 0400, two enemy were quickly eliminated from the barbed wire.

The "duce" guns were busy all weekend and by Monday the 4.2 platoon registered a total of six KIA's, pushing their overall total to 17 enemy kills since arriving at Cork.

Meanwhile, the entire company kept busy preparing for the CMMI.

NEW ARRIVALS:

SGT JOHN R. SMALLEY, JR., Recon
Byesville, Ohio

R and R:

SP4 FRANK MATYOKA, Recon, Bangkok
SP4 RAMON RAMIREZ, 4.2, Bangkok
SP4 ROBERT PIDCOCK, Radar, Hawaii

BIRTHDAYS:

SGT RICHARD BAKER, Radar, will be 25
on 28 Feb
PFC JOE BISHKO, assigned to S-1, will
be 20 on 3 Mar
PFC ROGER GORDON, Recon, will be 22
on 5 Mar

(A contribution from the Battalion Chaplain, CPT Ronald W. Benzing)

Psalm 34:7 reads, "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about those that fear him." It is a wonderful feeling to know that someone with great power and wisdom is watching out for you. Like the young boy or girl who says, "I'm not afraid of the dark if Daddy is with me," so our Heavenly Father is able to take away the fear in our hearts.

The Psalmist spoke these words many centuries ago, but I feel they are so applicable to us who are in Vietnam. What God has done is to establish a perimeter completely around those who fear Him. What other way could the Lord better describe His protecting hand around us than by the idea of a perimeter. Surely every man in this battalion is fully familiar with a perimeter.

Can God's perimeter be penetrated? Not hardly! Yes, it has been probed by the enemy Satan, but never penetrated. Though Satan may hurl all the fiery rockets, mortars, and explosives against God's perimeter, it will stand. Why? Because the angel of the Lord is the One who encamps.

Here is the question to ask, "Am I in the center of this perimeter?" Those who "fear" God have their lives encircled by the Omnipotent God. Fearing God means respecting and obeying Him. Have you obeyed the most important command of the Lord? It is trusting on His Son as your Lord. Those who really trust the Lord are those who truly fear the Lord.

For them victory is sure. Why? Because the "angel of the Lord encamps round about them." Whereare you today? In the center? I hope so. If there's any question, please see me, your Battalion Chaplain.

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

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