

ALWAYS 3 FIRST 1 BRONCO TRIBUNE

* Vol III No 15

* Friday August 7, 1970

BATTALION NEWS

ON THE UNEXPECTED

On 1 August, while operating just north of the Song Tra Khuc River, Bravo Company's 3rd platoon uncovered two booby-trapped Chicom grenades. Destroying them in place, the troopers soon discovered the explosion had also demolished 300 lbs of rice which had been concealed beneath the trap.

On 4 August, 2nd platoon, Charley Company was dispatched on a routine patrol near the Son Dong ville to check out a small tunnel complex which had been spotted there. The three "tunnel rats" who searched the complex, PFC Charles Callahan (Woburn, Mass), PFC David Smith (Mpls., Minn) and PFC Terry Williamson (Det., Mich) had negative findings and were crawling out when they came across a partially covered 500 lb bomb. The dud round had apparently been concealed for later use by the enemy. An EOD team was called in to destroy the ordnance.

VIETNAM GIFT PAC

"Everything in the pac can be used, including the plastic bag."-- PFC Rex Morris (Duncan, Okla). Such was the enthusiastic reaction of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry soldiers to the Vietnam Gift Pacs which were distributed to the companies during the week. The "care packages" contained an assortment of items including medicated foot powder, WD-40 lubricant, stationary, candy, even a chromed P-38. The following is an extract from a letter sent by Roger Chapin, Executive Director of the V.G.P. corp:

More than 325,000 Gift Pacs have now been sent by our organization to American fighting men in Vietnam. (Some 1896 have gone to the 11th Bde.)

The Pacs are donated by concerned citizens from all over the United States. Contributions now exceed \$1,800,000. The assembly and packing of the Pacs is all done in San Diego by volunteers who have devoted some 70,000 hours to the project.

Within each pac is a card addressed to an individual donor who has taken the time to think of us. A small expression of our gratitude would probably be much appreciated.

OPERATION JUBILEE

Supported by the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry, over sixty personnel from the National Police Force and two companies from the 30th Regional Force Group launched a two day search and pacification operation in the Son Tinh district north of the Song Tra Khuc River.

The mission's twofold purpose was to identify and detain suspected VC while rallying the people in support of the government. The former objective was of immediate importance and entailed a brief interrogation of the villagers, who had been directed to a nearby site, followed by a thorough search of the ville. Since the latter goal was of long range significance, the principle efforts of the government were directed toward providing the people with both information and services. Temporary shelters were provided, food and water were distributed and medical attention was made available thru a joint VN-US MEDCAP. This approach in addition to the festive atmosphere which it created resulted in the operation being tagged "County Fair."

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Cordon and Search

Early on the morning of 5 August companies from the 3rd Battalion and the 30th RF Group moved into position to secure the area around the hamlets, Minh Than 1 and 2. Shortly afterward, SGT Cruz and his squad of six engineers from Charley Company, 26th Engineers began sweeping with mine detectors the site selected for the "County Fair". Their intensive search, conducted over an area 400 meters square, uncovered a booby-trapped 82 mm mortar round which was immediately destroyed. Later that day, a partial search of the ville conducted by National Police teams revealed false floors in some of the hootches as well as several tunnels. The following day, the police teams assisted by Bravo Company, two scout dog teams from the 59th Platoon and the squad of engineers uncovered three 55-gal drums of rice and one 55-gal drum of maize.

Interrogation and Information

During the two day period, over 300 villagers were screened by Vietnamese military intelligence teams. Out of these there were twenty-two VCS and five VCI detained. In all, there were 1000 people, mostly women and children, involved in the Vietnamese Information Service program. With the aid of a public address system, an entertainment format was utilized to broadcast messages encouraging the people to denounce the VC and come to the support of their government. An Americal Division Psyops team including several projectionists provided equipment and assistance to the VIS personnel and general information as well as pro-government movies were presented.

Although the long range effect of such activity may be difficult to determine, its immediate impact encouraged two VC to Chu Hoi.

Accomodations

It was primarily the 3rd Battalion's responsibility to provide logistical support as well as security for the operation. Before noon of the first day, personnel of the Support Platoon from FSB 4-11 had stockpiled 400 cases of C-rations, 500 lbs. of polished rice and 2000 gal of water. In addition, nine general purpose tents, several generators and numerous medical supplies were delivered. The people had brought nearly all of their possessions which included cooking utensils as well as livestock.

MEDCAP

Six Vietnamese medical personnel the 3rd Battalion's surgeon, CPT Kuglar, assisted by four US medics and 1LT Randall of the Medical Service Corps treated 105 villagers during the operation. The Vietnamese personnel handled most of the routine cases which consisted primarily of skin disorders and infections, referring the more serious patients to the US staff. Five medical evacuations were necessary. One of these probably saved the life of a 17 year old girl who had suffered severe multiple fragmentation wounds to the back after having tripped a booby trap. Commenting upon the overall success of the MEDCAP, 1LT Randall said, "the working relationship between the VN and US medical personnel brought about a more effective patient treatment."

Coordination

Under the supervision of MAJ Goci Quang Ngai Deputy Province Chief,

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and LTC Perkins, Senior Advisor for the province, the multiple phases of the operation were effectively coordinated. Perhaps its most noteworthy accomplishment was the easy cooperation sustained between the various units of the Vietnamese government working in conjunction with US personnel.

**PROJECT TESTS EMERGENCY AID
FOR TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS**

(Washington--ANF)--A joint test program to determine the value of helicopters in providing medical assistance to auto accident victims and other persons needing emergency medical care has been announced by Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird and Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe.

Called PROJECT MAST (Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic), the program began in the San Antonio Tex. area July 15 and will run thru Dec. 15, 1970

Army helicopters and medical corpsmen provide medical assistance to civilians involved in emergency situations utilizing medical aid and evacuation techniques developed during Korean and Vietnam wars.

Rapid evacuation by helicopter has been determined as one reason for the survival rate of wounded soldiers increasing from 995.5 per 1,000 in World War II to 997.7 per 1,000 in Vietnam.

Most assistance is expected to be for victims of highway accidents and the test also provides transportation for doctors needed by critically injured or ill persons especially in remote or rural areas

The Army's 507th Air Ambulance Company, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, is maintaining one UH-1 "Huey" helicopter and crew on constant alert to respond to emergency calls. The UH-1 can transport three stretcher and four sitting patients plus flight crew and medical personnel. "Without knowing the force of words it is impossible to know men."

NEW PERSONNEL

HHC	
<u>PFC</u>	Teddy L Alexander (Cleveland, Ohio)
PFC	Alfred W Ellinger (Columbia, S.C.)
PV2	Carl E Lyons (Tulsa, Okla.)
PFC	Anthony J Palmer (Vicksburg, Miss)
PFC	Robert Perry (Natchitoches, La.)
PFC	Jose A Roman (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
PFC	James E Sollars (Chillicothe, Ohio)

Company B

<u>CPL</u>	Randall W Scrum (Madison, Ill.)
<u>PFC</u>	Robert M Hambly (Pico Rivera, Ca.)

Company C

<u>SP5</u>	Rodney D Loffelmacher (McHenry, N.D.)
PFC	George W Berry (Memphis, Tenn.)
PFC	Larry J Brown (St. Bernard, Ohio)
PFC	Malone Davis (Prentiss, Miss)
PFC	Richard E Fryer (L.A., Ca.)
PFC	Larry G Moore (Mt. Vernon, Ill.)
PFC	Gerald R Purtell (Little Meadows Penn.)
PFC	Larry D Thomas (Dermott, Ark.)
PFC	Ralph J Winter (Chagrin Falls, Ohio)
PFC	Edward Zaniboni (Kingston, Mass.)
PV2	Phillip C Tinkle (Pasadena, Ca.)
<u>PV2</u>	Thomas A Toledo (Jemez Pueblo, N.M.)
PV2	Kenneth E Warren (Tucson, Ariz.)
PV2	Dale E Wilson (Reno, Nevada)

Company D

<u>SP4</u>	Leonard E Nicholas (Henderson, Texas)
PFC	Kenneth W Cawthra (Sparta, Mo.)
PFC	John C Davis (Austin, Texas)
PFC	James E Doby (Hammond, Ind.)
PFC	Billy W Doyle (Luray, Tenn.)
PFC	Thomas R Rainbolt (Shreveport, La.)
PFC	Frank J Reynolds (Joplin, Mo.)
PFC	Willie L Twine (Tyner, N.C.)
PV2	Steven R Brinkman (Wyoming, Iowa)
PV2	Jack W Mervis (Peoria, Ill.)
PV2	Chester E Morawski (Chicago, Ill.)
PV2	Richard L Nelson (Lake Park, Fla.)
PV1	Robert J Weidle (Cornwell Hts, Pa.)

Company E

<u>SP4</u>	Billy J Creed (Parsons, Kansas)
<u>SP4</u>	John H Milbourne (Hampton, Va.)
PFC	James L Robin (New Orleans, La.)
PV2	Leo O Parker (Pawhuska, Okla.)

Mail the "Bronco Tribune" home
(Fold along dotted lines)

3rd Bn, 1st Infantry
11th Brigade
APO SF 96217

Name _____
Number _____ Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

