

3 ALWAYS 1  
FIRST  
BRONCO TRIBUNE

Vol III No 17

Friday August 21, 1970

BATTALION NEWS

ON THE FIRING LINE

Action in the 3rd Bn, 1st Inf AO:

August 14

While on patrol north of Phu Lam Dong, Delta Company engaged an enemy personnel who was perched in a tree. Their heads-up alertness resulted in one VC KIA.

Working west of OPI, 1st platoon of Charlie Company received small arms and grenade fire from a nearby treeline. Before taking cover, the element's pointman, PFC Richard Buchholtz (St. Thomas, N.D.), fired several rounds at an enemy grenadier who had exposed himself. A later sweep of the contact area revealed one VC KIA w/pistol belt, canteen and seven grenade rounds.

August 16

Charlie Company had an ambush net one VC KIA with AK-47.

August 17

While operating along the Song Tra Khuc River, SP4 Earl T. Mason (Park City, Ky.), a rifleman with Delta Company, engaged three VC in a sanpan his element had spotted over 600 meters away. The action resulted in one confirmed KIA; the other two enemy personnel had jumped out of the sanpan on the opposite side of the river and evaded into a treeline.

Patrolling NW of the Song Tra Khuc River, the 1st platoon of Charlie Company found 300-400 lbs. of unpolished rice in a 55-gal drum which was in a burned out hootch.

Operating near Nghia Hanh, Popular Forces Platoon #118 was attacked by a platoon of VC. Turning the tables on their foe, the PF's killed five of the VC and captured one AK-47 and twenty Chicom hand

grenades without suffering a single casualty.

During a search and clear operation north of Thi Nghia, Bravo Company acted as a blocking force for a Regional Forces Company. The RF's captured 3 VC, 5 VCI, 10 VCS and destroyed four tunnels. Discovering a mine field in the same area, they destroyed eleven mines and captured thirteen others.

August 18--HORSESHOE

Having detected movement just outside their perimeter during the night, Delta Company decided to leave a surprise for any scavengers who might enter their NDP after their departure. Four men from 2nd platoon, SSG Fidel Serrano-Burges (Chicago, Ill.), SP4 Danny D. Hindley (American Fork, Utah), SP4 James R. Isom (Raytown, Mo.), and PV2 Robert A. Gilbo (Potsdam, N.Y.) remained behind, concealed in the high grass, while the remainder of their platoon went some distance down the trail to wait.

Shortly afterward, a VC armed with an AK-47 approached to within twenty feet of the foursome. A safe distance behind the first, a second VC appeared. At this point, the four man ambush opened up on the enemy. The firing immediately brought assistance from the remainder of the platoon. The patience and courage of four men resulted in 2 VC KIA with 2 AK-47's, 39 rds. of AK ammo and various documents CIA.

August 19

For the past several months, the companies of the 3rd Battalion operating near the Song Tra Khuc River have been plagued by one or more enemy snipers with grenade launchers. Assuming that it was one ubiquitous sniper, the men had dubbed their evasive antagonist the

cont on page 2

On the Firing Line cont from page 1

"Mad Thumper". Several companies had even considered offering a bounty for his weapon.

The "Thumper" may have been brought to bay by "Shark" gunships from the 174th Aviation Company just south of the river. The gunships' fire downed a VC/NVA with pack and weapon. After sweeping the area, Bravo Company's 3rd platoon captured the wounded VC along with his pack and grenade launcher.

August 20

For the past week, two medics from Charlie Company, PFC Jan J. Sulesky (Sharon, Pa.) and PFC Roy F. Almony (Baltimore, Md.) have conducted a MEDCAP in which over 70 children and adults from the Dien-Nien hamlet were treated.

#### A SALUTE TO THE SUPPORT PLATOON

Happiness to an infantryman in the field is a utility ship loaded with resupply. Blade time and the company's position permitting, Romeo Sierra might arrive in the morning as well as the afternoon. Logistical support is, of course, a voluminous task which involves a coordinated effort on the part of many specialized units. However, the "nitty-gritty" of day to day resupply of line companies is the primary concern of one particular unit, the Support Platoon. For the 3rd Battalion, this is the little recognized but highly motivated corps of men most visible on the helicopter pad at FSB 411.

It is the primary responsibility of the individual working on the pad to help insure that his respective company's needs are met. Nearly every member of the platoon has served with his particular company in the bush. Such an arrangement serves a twofold purpose. First,

it provides a few "short-timers" with rear jobs. Secondly, having been in the bush affords the individual both a sharper awareness of a line company's resupply priorities and a greater incentive to see that these requirements are filled. The following is a list of the Support Platoon personnel according to the companies they serve:

HHC  
1LT Michael E. Verdun (Long Beach, Ca.)

SFC Robert L. Brown (Petersburg, Va.)

SP4 Desmond Westerkamp (Chicago)

SP4 Kenneth H. Riley (Chicago, Ill.)

PFC Kenneth C. Helderlein (N. Versailles, Pa.)

Co A  
SP4 Darrell H. Husted (Sacramento, Ca.)

SP4 Clifton C. Sivadge (Greenfield, Iowa)

Co B  
SP4 George J. Slanovich (Pittsburg)  
SP4 Edward J. Taylor (Waterbury, Conn.)

Co C  
SP4 Michael W. Troup (Torrance, Ca.)  
PFC Ronald G. Otterness (Sherburn, Minn.)

Co D  
SGT Lawrence S. Olson (Minneapolis)  
SP4 Gerald A. Tolsdorf (Posen, Mich.)

Co E  
SP4 Ralph E. Campbell (Monona, Iowa)

#### NEW OPERATIONS CHIEF

Replacing CPT Robert J. Graham (Columbus, Ga.) as Operations Officer for the battalion is MAJ Robert E. Burns (Barnesville, Ga.). Prior to his present assignment MAJ Burns had briefly served as Operations Officer to the 11th Brigade. CPT Graham was assigned to the Infantry School at Ft. Benning.

THE "ALWAYS FIRST" BRONCO TRIBUNE IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE S-1, 3RD BATTALION, 1ST INFANTRY, AMERICAN DIVISION, APO SF 96217, AS AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION. VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY. THIS PUBLICATION USES MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN FORCES PRESS FILE.

LTC ROGER A. CULBERTSON, COMMANDING SP4 KENNETH B. PERRY, Editor

The following have been recommended for promotion during the month of August:

To be SGT

HHC Vincent Phillips  
Co A James L. Watters  
Donald W. Cameron  
John R. Conte  
Michael Lomelino  
Ronald D. Dostal  
Danny Kelley  
Co B Desmond Westerkamp  
Edward J. Taylor  
Edward C. Taylor  
Co C Olevia Helaire  
Co D Danny D. Hindley  
Bush Hemingway  
James B. Clark  
Donald W. Pace  
Bradley J. McLain  
Co E Thomas H. Coppinger

To be SP5

HHC William White  
Jerry R. Mays  
Bobby J. McElwain  
Perez J. Rodriguez  
Co C Braulio Nieves-Roman

Ed. Note: At least seven allocations for E-5 still remain with recommendations still being considered

To be SP4

HHC Hiram Brewer  
Co A Fred E. Katz  
Douglas W. Shaffer  
Jackie K. Johnson  
Larry W. Lorange  
Co B Charles Williams  
James E. Hollerman  
Nathan Powell  
Bryan L. Ergang  
Co C Thomas Skotarzak  
Robert M. Frost  
Paul S. O'Kula  
Wesley D. Misemer  
Co D Donnie L. Cranford  
Fred H. Boyd  
Co E Frederick H. Wagner

## ARMY DEVELOPS HYBIRD ENGINE

Washington (ANF)--To combat automotive air pollution, the U.S. Army's Tank-Automotive Command (TACOM) has developed the HYBIRD engine.

The new engine controls combustion within the cylinder itself and uses no "add-on" pollution control devices.

## NEW PERSONNEL

HHC

SP4 Jose E. Moran (San Jose, Ca.)

Co A

SGT Luis D. Ayala (Bavano, P.R.)  
PFC Michael A. Brown (Bronx, N.Y.)  
PFC James C. Cain (Hamshire, Texas)  
PFC Henry L. Fillio (Col. Sta., Texas)  
PFC Robert C. Yeager (Columbus, Ohio)  
PV2 John D. Barrett (Wichita Falls, Texas)  
PV2 Jack C. Brown (Pittsburg, Pa.)  
PV2 David G. Cruz (San Antonio, Texas)  
PV2 Celso R. Curet (Santurce, P.R.)  
PV2 Robert A. Grayeski (Downers Grove, Ill.)  
PV2 Angel Gutierrez (Yauco, P.R.)  
PV2 George K. Haley (Ft. Lauderdale Fla.)  
PV2 Ricky L. Winchester (Sharonville Ohio)

Co B

PFC Timothy J. Hafner (Huntington Beach, Ca.)  
PFC Raymond Hayes (Newnan, Ga.)  
PFC Mitchell D. Perkins (Carrollton Ky.)  
PFC Johnny R. Price (Yreka, Ca.)  
PFC Michael Statlander (Paterson, N.J.)  
PV2 Jacob W. Freudiger (Ft. Worth Texas)

Co C

SSG Michael E. Eyler (Gettysburg)  
SGT Herschel D. Stacey (Pensacola, Fla.)  
PFC Stanley D. Buckley (Atlanta, Ga.)  
PFC James K. Dunn (North Bend, Neb.)  
PV2 George S. Flournoy (Warsaw, N.C.)

Co D

PV2 Timothy S. Suggs (Florence, Ala.)

Unlike the conventional spark ignition engine which uses a carburetor to deliver the proper air-fuel mixture to the cylinders, HYBIRD features a fuel injection system similar to that used on a diesel engine.

Fuel injectors at each cylinder inject precisely the amount of fuel needed to operate the engine at any given horsepower output requirement. This results in a lower combustion air-fuel mixture and lower exhaust emissions at low and intermediate engine loads than can be achieved by the same engine equipped with a carburetor.



John E. Murnan (Sac Jose, Cal.)

6	Michael Steinhilber (Pawnee)
7	Jebony R. Price (Yreka, Cal.)
8	Mitchell S. Perkins (Gardnerville, Nev.)
9	Raymond Hayes (Hawman, Cal.)
10	Emothy J. Weiner (Huntington Beach, Cal.)

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

City	State	Zip Code
101	101	101
102	102	102
103	103	103
104	104	104
105	105	105
106	106	106
107	107	107
108	108	108
109	109	109
110	110	110
111	111	111
112	112	112
113	113	113
114	114	114
115	115	115
116	116	116
117	117	117
118	118	118
119	119	119
120	120	120
121	121	121
122	122	122
123	123	123
124	124	124
125	125	125
126	126	126
127	127	127
128	128	128
129	129	129
130	130	130
131	131	131
132	132	132
133	133	133
134	134	134
135	135	135
136	136	136
137	137	137
138	138	138
139	139	139
140	140	140
141	141	141
142	142	142
143	143	143
144	144	144
145	145	145
146	146	146
147	147	147
148	148	148
149	149	149
150	150	150
151	151	151
152	152	152
153	153	153
154	154	154
155	155	155
156	156	156
157	157	157
158	158	158
159	159	159
160	160	160
161	161	161
162	162	162
163	163	163
164	164	164
165	165	165
166	166	166
167	167	167
168	168	168
169	169	169
170	170	170
171	171	171
172	172	172
173	173	173
174	174	174
175	175	175
176	176	176
177	177	177
178	178	178
179	179	179
180	180	180
181	181	181
182	182	182
183	183	183
184	184	184
185	185	185
186	186	186
187	187	187
188	188	188
189	189	189
190	190	190
191	191	191
192	192	192
193	193	193
194	194	194
195	195	195
196	196	196
197	197	197
198	198	198
199	199	199
200	200	200

