



OLD GUARD



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S-2 NABS S-2 (ALMOST)

Acting upon information given by a Chieu Hoi, the 4/3 S-2, CPT Charles Fields, with the aid of C Company's "SRP" team captured six VC, two enemy weapons, an other enemy equipment. One of the VC captured turned out to be a relatively high ranking 'C for she was the assistant S-2 in the area; however, CPT Fields' counterpart, the VC S-2 for the area, was able to elude capture.

The small patrol of CPT Fields and the "SRP" team as guided by the Chieu Hoi to a point way out on the peninsula, almost in the ocean. The Chieu Hoi pointed out the location of the hootch that contained the VC -2, his assistant, and five body guards. The Vietnamese Hoi Chanh called out for them to surrender but there was no reply, so two hand grenades were lobed into the hootch. Soon afterwards, seven Vietnamese

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CORDON TIGHTENS AS RUST-SELL BEACH NEARS END

The cordon line closing in on the VC is all but drawn tight as Operation Russell Beach rapidly approaches the end of its combat phase. The 4/3 has done more than its share in the multi-battalion operation. Close to half the total enemy body count is credited to the 4/3. The Battalion has also accounted for almost half the individual weapons captured and just about all the crew served weapons captured during the operation.

On one single occasion, six VC were killed and two individual weapons captured. Early morning last Wednesday, January 29, Charlie Company was attacked by a reinforced VC Squad. At 0005 that morning, the VC hit Charlie Company's NDP located two miles behind the main cordon line. The Company was hit with 15 82mm mortar rounds, a number of RPG rounds, heavy enemy small arms fire, and a ground attack. Besides C Company, elements of H Troop, 17th Cav., and B Company, 26th Engineer Battalion were also hit by the VC mortar and ground attack.

The combined efforts of C Company, the tracks, and the Engineers were successful in smashing the attempted VC attack. Six VC were reported killed and three enemy weapons recovered (two AK47s and one AK50).

After the sun came up that morning, Charlie Company's, Second Squad, acting upon information supplied by a Hoi Chanh,

ACTION HOT LIL STEAKS COLD

Bravo Company spent most of last week guarding the large number of refugees at CHIC (Civilian Holding and Interrogation Center). For a week the Company had 200 steaks on order for an outdoor barbecue but the steaks didn't arrive until Friday, January 31. On that day Bravo Company was called on to help locate and destroy a suspected VC/NVA position east of LZ Ruth.

About 0800 that morning, Bravo Company's first lift of the combat assault to the area, composed mostly of the Third Platoon, hit a hot LZ. By the time all lifts were landed, almost all of the enemy fire was smothered by Bravo Company's fire power. The Company's fire power was beefed up by a .50 caliber machine gun which was brought with them on the CA. The

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big machine gun and William Evans, was carried in parts distributed to men on the first and second airlifts. When the big machinegun jammed, SP4 Richard De Cristofaro and his assistant gunner PFC Ronald Peetzke of the First Platoon, brought their M60 over to the position to continue pouring automatic weapons fire on the enemy.

During the course of the fire fight, the man from the CP group, SP4 Thomas Guth, heard a dull thud and then felt a slight pain on the back of his heel. He looked down and there was a bullet hole completely through the heel of his boot. Luckily the bullet only grazed his foot, just breaking the skin. "This is definitely too close for comfort", he added after the fire fight, "Fortunately the only thing that needs repairing is my boot."

That afternoon, the Company rounded up three VC from the village that they had received fire from earlier. The three VC were identified by a 10 year old Vietnamese boy who was willing to tell everything he knew about the VC in the area because he resented the fact that the VC had stolen his bicycle. The Company also extracted nearly two and one half tons of enemy rice from the village.

The Company, tired and hungry from the day's action, arrived back at HIC just before dark and were waiting for them were 200 steaks that they had on order for so long. Unfortunately it was too late to cook the special "chop-chop".

One man remarked, "I ad been tasting those steaks all week. I was so hungry that I was ready to eat my steak raw. Oh well," he continued, "There is always "C" rations."

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R&R PENANG

Overshadowed by the more familiar R&R cities, the little island state of Penang located on the northern end of the Malacca Straits is often overlooked; but, as men who have been there will affirm, Penang is every bit as good as the "big name" R&R cities. A paradise in every sense of the word, Penang is the place for your R&R if you want to relax and enjoy exotic sights during the day and entertaining night life when the sun goes down. Being somewhat remote, Penang is exotic; yet it still offers the traveler all the conveniences he could possibly desire.



When you fly to Penang you will arrive at the Royal Australian Air Force Base at Butterworth (which is on the mainland of Malaysia). Within a half an hour you will be in Georgetown, the principle city of Penang. Your first stop will be the First National City Bank of New York, where you will be given a free cold bottle of beer compliments of Malaysian Breweries, be briefed by an R&R Officer, exchange your money (US\$1.00 equals \$M2.95), and select your hotel.

The list of hotels you will select from have all been approved by the R&R center. The hotels on the approved list are all guaranteed to be first class establishments. Past visitors to Penang particularly recommend the Hotel Ambassador, and the Eastern and Oriental Hotels. The Ambassador is the newest and most modern hotel in Penang. The Eastern and Oriental is the "classic" hotel of Malaysia. Despite its old heritage the Eastern and Oriental is the only hotel in Penang with a swimming pool. The International, Federal, Paramount, Town House, and Putau Pinang are also highly recommended. Rates vary between \$16.00 and \$40.00 per night.

Because of its location in the main trade routes of the east and because of the fact that it is a free port, Penang is one of the world's least expensive shopping centers. You'll find Swiss watches, Japanese and German cameras, Burmese, Ceylonese, and Thai jewels all at a fraction of their cost elsewhere. In addition, you can purchase Malaysian batik, pewter and wood carvings. But keep this in mind: for the Malaysians bargaining is a way of life and is expected. If you pay the "asking price" for even small articles, the seller will give you a disgusted look and a 5% discount anyway. He definitely enjoys the bargaining - the sales is secondary.

For camera "buffs", there is a number of interesting sights during your stay in Penang. For a \$1.00 the Penang Hill Railway takes you up to Penang Hill with its commanding view of the area and its oriental gardens. Another popular sight is Snake Temple. The temple gets its name from its occupants literally hundreds of snakes who nestle themselves throughout the beams, shrines, and altars.

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 For nightlife there are numerous bars that provide "hostesses" for the customers. The hostess charge varies from free to \$12.00 per hour to sit at your table and to dance with you. Unlike Vietnamese, just about all of the girls who act as hostesses speak English extremely well. They also wear the latest in modern clothing including short-short miniskirts. A lone recent returnee from Penang commented, "The girls are beautiful, abundant, friendly, and available."

When you go out at night dress is a great deal more informal than many other places including "the world". Normally evening attire in even the better establishments is long or short sleeve shirts with tie. Only in certain instances is a jacket required.

Dining in Penang is a pleasure. There is a wide variety of restaurants, from Chinese, Indian, and Malaysian to extremely fine Western-style establishments. Some of the Chinese restaurants you may wish to try are the Chopsticks in the Hotel Ambassador, the Mandarin Room on Jalan Road, and the Shanghai at the Hotel Pulau Pinang. Poshni's on Queen Street is highly recommended for Indian food. Western food is best at the Royal Steak House on Penang Road or the Steak Room at the Ambassador Hotel. Also don't hesitate to try Malaysian food at some of the numerous food stalls that are scattered throughout the city.

Anyone thinking about where to go on R&R or leave should keep Penang in mind. The fact that it might not be the most well known does mean it is not one of the best R&R cities. Everyone who has been there is quick to verify that Penang is truly a paradise.

Old Guard

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- You are still on your first pair of boots.
- You still remember all the various Squad and Platoon formations you learned in AIT.
- You haven't received at least one "Dear John" letter.
- You still reach for the handle to flush the toilet.
- You still believe you will get your R&R for the time and place you signed up for.

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uncovered a number of enemy weapons plus a large amount of enemy ammunition. The squad recovered two 30 caliber machineguns, 200 rounds of M60 ammo, and a 25 pound shape charge. SGT Austin Lawther and PFC Charles Darling dug up the big find of the cache. The two men uncovered a complete 60mm mortar tube. The weapons and the mortar tube were found in a graveyard; whereas, the ammunition and the shape charge were discovered buried near a nearby rice paddy dike.

One the same day, ARVNs working under the control of the 4/3 found 5 M-1 carbines in a tunnel located 7 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. The ARVNs also uncovered a BAR, a Claymore mine, and a 2.5" rocket launcher.

On Saturday, January 25, SP4 Norman Wilkins of the Third Platoon, Delta Company was on guard about 0400 when he noticed a number of heads bobbing in the water. A number of VC were attempting to wade across the shallow water separating the various sandbars from the mainland. The entire Third Platoon opened up on the fleeing VC. A search party composed of SP4 Jim Jones, PFC Roy Williams, PFC Jose Rodriguez, and SP4 Allan Royston confirmed that there was at least one VC killed. However, it was estimated that the number

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WHAT IS A SOLDIER?

much higher.

Before going to LZ South for a well deserved rest (D Company had been in the "boonies" almost two weeks) the Company found more enemy equipment and personnel. Included in the find were two VC KIA, 19 WGS, a gas engine, various documents, and a transistor radio.

Recon Plato accounted for two captured enemy weapons. IFC Sam Hill discovered an M-1 carbine hidden in a hedge row. Earlier IFC Erwin Sharper found another M-1 carbine. IFC Sharper found the weapon wrapped in a plastic covering. A full magazine of M-1 carbine ammo was also found nearby.

The same day, PFC J W Paris, also of the Recon platoon, nailed a VC while the platoon was in their N.D.P. PFC Paris was on first guard and about 0:15 that night he spotted a VC attempting to penetrate the perimeter. Paris cut loose with a burst from his M-16 and ended the career of one C. When the men of Reconound the dead VC they noticed that he was killed just as he was getting ready to pull the pin on Chi Com grenade.

The following day, SGT Arnold Sullivan of Recon went down an enemy tunnel and recovered a transistor radio, a pistol belt, medical supplies, 12 asserted light blue uniforms, various documents, and a M-1 clip.

The week ended when Company, Bravo Company, and the Recon Platoon came up with the tracks of H Troop, 17th Cav. to Hill 11 VC. Bravo Company had to their position on Company, Recon and the return on the tracks half of the cordon line. The area about an hour long.

After the security of childhood and before the insecurity of second childhood we find a soldier. Soldiers are found everywhere, in trouble, on leave, in love and in debt. Soldiers come in asorted sizes, weights, states of sobriety, misery, and confusion. Girls love them, mothers tolerate them, the U.S. supports them and somehow they manage to get along with each other.

A soldier is laziness with a deck of cards, a millionaire without a cent, brave with a grin, and the protector of America with a copy of Playboy in his possession. A soldier is sly as a fox, has the energy of a turtle, the brains of an idiot, the appetite of an elephant, and the aspirations of a Casanova.

He likes girls, women, females, and members of the opposite sex. He dislikes answering letters, wearing his uniform, his superior officers, and getting up at reveille, not to mention the Army chow, Army regulations, and the week after payday.

No he can write so seldom yet think of you so often. Nonone else can get so much fun from your letters, civilian clothes, and a sex magazine. Nobody else can cram into a small pocket a little black book, a pair of dice or a deck of cards, and the remains of last week's pay.

A soldier is a magical creature; you can take him for what he is, but you can take him off your mailing list and lock him out of your house, but you can't take him off your mind.

Though the author is unknown these thoughts are passed on to You... from the Chu Lai Red Cross Girls.

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figures were seen scurrying out of the hoochh. Four ran for a tunnel, two for a bunker, and one for a trench. The two VC in the bunker were quickly rounded up by the small "SRW" team.

Two of the "SRPs", SP4 Lynn Glenn, and SP4 Mike O'Daniel went down the tunnel after the four escaping VC. The two "SRPs" quickly nabbed the four hiding VC. In addition, they found an M26 and a Chi Com grenade, numerous documents, a VC flag, food supplies, sleeping gear, and a 9mm French submachinegun in the tunnel.

As luck would have it, the one VC who hide in the trench and the only one to get away turned out to be the head man, the VC S-2.

The following day C.T. Fields and the "SRR's" came back to try to find the escaped VC leader. In the area they found his weapon (an M1 carbine), several key documents, his clothes and his web gear, but they did

not find him. "The hood men might have gotten away", C.I.T. Fields said, "But I think we closed his office for awhile."