



4th BATTALION, 3rd INFANTRY

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LZ JOHN THREE DAY OP

Bravo and Charlie Companies in conjunction with Echo Company's 4-21 mortarmen and Delta Company, 4-21, conducted a three day operation, May 19-22, ten clicks west of LZ San Juan Hill for the purpose of searching areas bombed from recent air strikes.

For closer fire support, LZ John was erected. Delta Company, 4-21, under the operational control of 4-3, secured the temporary firebase, while Bravo and Charlie Companies conducted the search operations.

Bravo Company on May 20, searched an area that contained several sniper positions. The company found an excavation where a cache was being set up.

On May 21, the company found a base camp which contained five huts, several bunkers, a trench line, terraced bleachers, a mess hall bunker, an aid station, a CP bunker, and a few articles of field gear. During a search of the camp, some members of the company killed an NVA soldier carrying an AK47 who tried to escape.

Also during the three-day operation, both Bravo and Charlie Companies found several hundred pounds of rice and some documents.

29 ENEMY KIAs, 13 WEAPONS SINCE APRIL

Since the battalion moved to the San Juan area in April, it has compiled an excellent record. Battalion S-2 figures show 14 NVA killed-in-action, 15 VC killed-in-action, two NVA wounded-in-action, one NVA apprehended, and one NVA Chieu Hoi. Weapons captured were: seven AK47s, one shotgun, one M1 carbine, an M1, a Browning automatic rifle, an RPG launcher, and an AK44.

Delta Company working a few clicks north of LZ San Juan Hill, received several rounds of AK47 fire on May 21. Return fire wounded one of the enemy snipers. Near blood-trails, Delta's second platoon found an AK47 rifle, three AK47 magazines, 20 loose rounds of AK47 ammo, three RPG7 rounds, 15 chi com grenades, an M26 grenade and three bangalore torpedoes. Other equipment found included 20 NVA canteens, 20 NVA gas masks, 20 hammocks, three pith helmets, two entrenching tools, first aid dressings, gun powder, a pair of bolt cutters, clothes, and rice.

Bravo Company on May 23, found a cluster of five hootches, and three huts, with sleeping quarters for approximately 35 men. The company uncovered two caches of rice totaling 750 pounds.

Bravo's first platoon observed an armed VC evading into a tunnel. After the VC was killed

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by a hand grenade, Sgt. Ronald Peetzke retrieved the AK47 he was carrying.

Charlie Company observed ten VC evading to the west of their position late on the afternoon of May 23. The VC were wearing camouflaged uniforms and carrying packs and weapons. The company fired 81mm mortars, M60 machine guns, and M16 rifles, killing at least one of the VC.

Charlie Company on May 24, found five well used trails with fresh footprints. As the company moved forward, they found two .50 caliber machine gun positions with expended .50 caliber and AK47 ammunition on the ground. The company also found 12 well camouflaged two-man fighting positions.

Charlie Company at their night defensive position saw two VC with weapons, 100 meters out from their perimeter. After firing several 120 and machine gun rounds, they observed one of them fall, and the other escape.

SECURITY belongs to those who plan for it.

Buy and Hold US Savings Bonds and Freedom Shares.

WHAT IS AN AMERICAN

He is the fellow who yells for the government to balance the budget, then takes the last dime he has to make the down payment on a car.

He whips the enemy, then gives him the shirt off his back. He yells for speed laws that will stop fast driving, then won't buy a car if it can't make 100 miles per hour.

He knows the line-up of every baseball team in the American and National Leagues - and doesn't know half the words of the "Star Spangled Banner."

He'll spend half a day looking for vitamin pills to make him live longer, then drive 90 miles an hour on slick pavement to make up for the lost time.

He ties up his dog, but lets his 16-year-old son do whatever he wants.

He will work hard on a farm so he can move into town where he can make more money so he can move back to the farm. He couldn't fight his way out of a paper bag, but spends 20 bucks for ringside seats, and tells the professionals how to fight. We're the country that has more food to eat than any other country in the world and more diets to keep us from eating. We're the most ambitious people on earth, and we run from morning until night trying to keep our earning power up with our yearning power.

We're supposed to be the most civilized Nation on earth, but still can't deliver payrolls without an armored car.

But we're still pretty nice folks. Calling a person "A Real American" is the best compliment you can pay him. Most of the world is itching for what we have, but they'll never have it until they start scratching for it as an individual. (By LOR A. D. Anderson)



The Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) is a means for military personnel to make long distance calls from Vietnam, China, Japan, or Europe. The system comprises a number of small radio transmitting and receiving stations that relay calls between foreign-duty countries and the United States. Once contact with an affiliated station in the states is established, the call is then connected to a commercial telephone center for final link to the person being called.

The greatest benefit of the system is the reduced rate charged for such calls. The only charges are those from the nearest relay point in the states to the party you are calling. The called party will be charged for the call from the relay point. (point of entry into the commercial telephone system) to the requested number.

MARS began operations during World War II, but its full value, especially as a morale factor among military personnel, was not realized until recent years in Vietnam.

The MARS station located on Montezuma is scheduled to receive calls from the rear area on:

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday of each week.

Thursday is the appointed day for calls from 4-3 forward, 1st San Juan Hill.

Because communication lines are needed for mission type traffic during the day, calls from forward firebases are restricted to the hours, 7 pm to 8 am.

Calls will be processed according to the following priorities: wounded in action or hospital confined, Red Cross emergencies, and normal traffic.

Calls are limited to three minutes. The calling party must remain close to the telephone while his call is being processed. Except for priority calls,

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NEW BATTALION SURGEON

Cpt Joseph Fagin (Long Beach, California) joined the battalion recently replacing Cpt Lawrence Nasser, as the battalion surgeon. Well seasoned in treating combat wounds, Cpt Fagin has been in Vietnam for approximately six and a half months. Previously, he served with the 16th Medical Company in Phu Bai, the 312th Evacuation Hospital in Chu Lai, and the 10th Surgical Hospital at Camp Evans near Quang Tri.

Cpt Fagin graduated from the University of California City College of Medicine in Los Angeles. He interned in Philadelphia prior to entering the service. After his tour with the Army, Cpt Fagin plans to specialize in internal medicine.

Cpt Nasser, who came to the battalion in November, is now assigned to the 43rd Medical Group in Nha Trang.

Graffiti seen on helmet recently:

General Custer to his men --

Come on men! I wouldn't ask you to do anything I wouldn't do.

POEM FOR THE INFANTRYMAN IN VIETNAM

Here I sit on a mountain top,
 Writing People I haven't forgot.
 While over here in this hostile land,
 We often sleep on rocks, trees or sand.
 Often we go without a meal,
 And wonder if all this is real.
 Sometimes to us our water is dear,
 Oh! What we won't do for an ice cold beer.
 For weeks on end we never bathe,
 I can't remember when I last shaved.
 When we find Charlie on the jungle hill,
 He better have hoped he made out his will.
 After a day's battle and we sit alone,
 We always look for that mail from home.
 Often there are days when we feel pain,
 Because of our buddies who have been slain.
 But though our buddies may be gone,
 In our minds they live on and on.
 For those who wonder why we are here,
 It's for our country we love so dear.
 Only the Infantrymen know what war is like,
 For the world knows we've done our share
 for what is right.
 For many a man will still come here,
 And often for some the end is near.
 For the Infantry guys who have passed the test,
 They know in their minds they are the best.

Infantry Guy in Viet Nam

The poem above was written by Sph Alan Miller
 (Jersey City, New Jersey), a member of Bravo Company.

Old Guard

LTC Jack C. Davis,	CO
1Lt Thomas J. Klein,	S1
Sph Edward Burchell,	Reporter

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**HIGH MALARIA
 RATE IN 4-3**

During the past two months, the incidence of vivax and falciparum malaria in the battalion has greatly increased.

There are two basic reasons for this: first, it is the season with the highest rate of breeding for the malarial carrier; the mosquito; secondly, effective preventive measures are not being used.

Although infection by malaria means temporary removal from the field, it can be the most miserable experience of one's life. Malaria, especially falciparum, can be a life-long disease. Once infected, the disease may lie dormant for months or even years. Its recurrence is a strong threat to health in later years.

DROS personnel are strongly urged to continue taking anti-malarial pills; the daily dapsone tablet (anti-falciparum) for four weeks, the weekly chloroquine-primaquine (anti-vivax) for eight weeks after DROS.

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 it is requested that MARS be used no more frequently than every 30 days.

MARS stations also send and receive MARS-GRAMS, which are similar to telegrams and can be sent to any destination in the continental United States or Hawaii.
