



# OLD GUARD

## 4th BATTALION 3rd INFANTRY



Volume I, No. 14

December 5, 1969

### DELTA CO AWARDS CEREMONY

It's November 30 and stand-down time for Delta Company. The men are milling around, shouting, drinking and awaiting the official start of stand-down. The Brigade and Battalion Commanders briskly march into the room suddenly evoking the call "ATTENTION!" from the 1st Sergeant. A rushing of feet and rasping of chairs is quickly followed by the Adjutant's call to orders.

"By provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918..."

The men stand at attention, visions of the three days of hard-earned revelry to come dancing wildly in their heads. They look to the front and in their strained silence offer approval and pride for those in the Company about to receive recognition of their deeds on the battlefield.

There is much to be proud of on this day for a total of 32 awards were to be presented to men of Delta Company: two Silver Stars, nine Bronze Stars, one Air Medal, one Army Commendation Medal and 21 Purple Hearts. Most of the awards were for action which occurred on June 3 in the vicinity of LZ Liz. The Silver Star and eight Bronze Stars for valor were presented by Brigade Commander Colonel Hugh Hoffman to members of Delta Company for that action. On that unforgettable day, Delta Company made an air assault about five miles west of Duc Pho. Elements of the 1-20th Battalion and APCs from E Troop had already made heavy contact with entrenched NVA when the Company was called in to lend a hand. Delta Company made a sweep through an area virtually littered (cont. on pg. 2, col. 1)

### BATTALION SUMMARY

#### November 20

The LRRPs observed 18 NVA while on reconnaissance mission five klicks northeast of San Juan Hill. Ensuing contact resulted in four enemy killed and two AK-47s captured.

At various times during the day, Alpha and Bravo Companies sighted a total of seven NVA which resulted in one enemy killed by Alpha. Bravo Company engaged several other enemy soldiers with 82mm mortar and artillery.

#### November 23

Charlie Company, located four klicks southwest of San Juan Hill, succeeded in downing one NVA and capturing an AK-47.

#### November 25

Delta Company spied a group of VC herding water buffalo. The VC evaded into a woodline. Delta Company pursued them and later managed to kill one of the enemy.

On San Juan Hill, Charlie Company discovered one claymore and trip flare cut by sappers.

#### November 28

In the only other significant action to occur during the week, Alpha Company's 2nd Platoon opened up on two NVA/VC with M60s and small arms fire while on patrol. No results were reported.

## THE VIETNAM SOLDIER

(Delta Co. Awards-cont.)  
every hole in sight. times the NVA were flushed out; other times the men would be pinned down by a lone and suicidal NVA holed up in a hut or behind a brick wall. It was the sort of close in-fighting which every grunt dreads and hopes will never arise. The battle lasted for several hours and was considered by some to be the fiercest fighting anyone has seen in a long time. The battle ended with nine NVA killed and a mess of weapons captured.

Silver Star was awarded to Captain John Stolfi (who commanded the Company at the time of the action). The seven Bronze Stars for valor were to be awarded to SP4 Johnnie Jones, SSG Ron Maruska, Sgt. Richard Miller, SP4 Steven Clifton, Sgt. Birl Frazier, Pfc Gary Gruber, and Pfc Steven Hunt.

The second Silver Star was awarded to SP4 Johnnie Jones for action occurring on April 30 while a Bronze Star for valor was received by Pfc William Gordon for the same action. On April 30, a squad was conducting a clover leaf sweep when it ran into an NVA ambush. The pointman was killed and second man seriously wounded at the outbreak. SP4 Jones heard the cry for help from one of the wounded and came running up. He arrived in time to see an NVA standing over the man rifle poised and ready to shoot. Jones shot first. The men pulled to cover and awaited the arrival of another platoon. A Bronze Star was received by Pfc William Gordon also involved in the April 30 skirmish.

The average age of the combat soldier in many units in Vietnam is under 20 and what a man he is! A pale-cheeked, bushy-haired, tight-muscled fellow, who under circumstances would be considered by society as half-man, half-boy, not dry behind the ears, a pain in the unemployment chart. But here and now is the beardless hope of the free man. When he walks by "Old Glory", he salutes it. Doing so he is honoring the many brave fighting men before him who have fought bled, and died that our nation might continue to be one nation under God. He also respects those of higher rank and those who are his elders. He does not demonstrate or carry a poster in front of his commander's tent during off-duty time. He does not throw rocks at jeep windows or fellow GIs when he does not get his way. He listens.

He has heat in the day and accepts mortars at night. He probably graduated from high school within the last year, received so-so grades, played a little football and had a girl who broke up with him when he went overseas or who swears she is still faithful.

He has seen more suffering than he should have in his short life. He has seen his buddies lose arms and legs. He has wept in private and in public, and he has not been ashamed because his buddies have fallen in battle and he has come close to going with them. Under twenty years of age - what a man he is! He is true America!

by the late Carl Dean, Bravo Company medic

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### EARLY DISCHARGE LESSONS SCHOOL ENTITLEMENTS

WASHINGTON (AFPS) - Some servicemen who are discharged early may be losing part of their G.I. benefits, the Veterans Administration warns.

Servicemen who are separated after 17 months of service are entitled to only 25 months of educational assistance, the VA said, while those who are separated a month later are entitled to the full 36 months.

VA has asked each service to insure that a serviceman leaving active duty understands the 18-month qualification for full VA educational benefits.

(continued on adjacentcol)

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Education assistance eligibility is spelled out in Subchapter II of Title 38, United States Code, Section 1661, which states:

"...each eligible veteran shall be entitled to educational assistance under this chapter for a period of one and one-half months (or the equivalent thereof in part-time educational assistance) for each month or fraction thereof of his service on active duty after January 31, 1955. If an eligible veteran has served a period of 18 months or more on active duty after 1955 ...he shall be entitled to educational assistance under this chapter for a period of 36 months..."

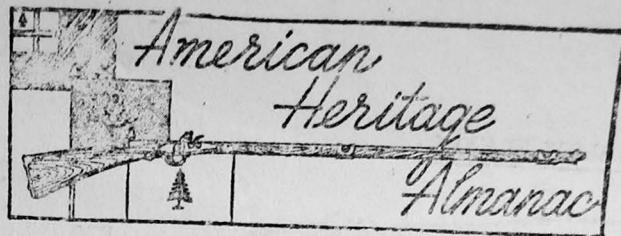
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CHARLIE CO.  
AWARD CEREMONY

Charlie Company's award ceremony was held on November 28 at Chu Lai and attended by Colonel Hoffman and Major William McLaughlin, Brigade Commander and Battalion X-O respectively. At the ceremony a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, and three Purple Hearts were presented. The Silver Star for gallantry in action went to SP4 James Farmer while one Bronze Star was awarded to Captain Jude Shea (both for the same action). On August 15, the NVA had downed a chopper engaged in an assault in the general vicinity of Charlie Company. SP4 James Farmer received the Silver Star for his part in killing two NVA. Captain Jude Shea assumed the command of the Company when Captain Small was wounded at the very start of the operation. The Bronze Star for service was awarded to Sergeant Richard Skeie while Sgt. Raymond Hoit, SP4s Eli Collier and Francis French received the Purple Heart.

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DOC'S CORNER

Rusty nails do not, by themselves, cause tetanus ("lock-jaw"). You can get tetanus from sparkling new nails or from a thorn for that matter. It is the tetanus germ which is on the rusty nail or thorn, etc. which causes "lock-jaw." Wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water and try to make the puncture wound bleed freely in order to flush out the germ-laden debris. See a doctor. You may need a tetanus toxoid booster. Keep your routine tetanus shots up to date. (AFPS - by J.D. Faulhaber).



December 2 - Dateline 1823 - President Monroe announced the "Monroe Doctrine," warning European powers "against the extension of their systems to any portion of the Western Hemisphere, as dangerous to the peace and safety of the United States."

December 6 - Dateline 1884 - Army engineers completed construction of the Washington Monument.

December 10 - Dateline 1898 - The Philippines, Guam and Puerto Rico were ceded to the United States by Spain for \$20 million, ending the Spanish-American War.

December 15 - Dateline 1791 - The first ten amendment to the Constitution, "The Bill of Rights," became effective.

December 17 - Dateline 1903 - Orville Wright flew his plane 120 feet in 12 seconds at Kitty Hawk.

December 21 - Dateline 1620 - The Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock.

December 25 - Dateline 1776 - General Washington crossed the Delaware River with his troops prior to a surprise attack on British forces at Trenton.

December 26 - Dateline 1799 - Henry Lee said during a eulogy of George Washington, "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

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PROMOTION BOARD RESULTS

Below is a list of those who have been promoted this month in the order of grade and points scored upon appearing before the board.

TO E6

Travis, R; Petrillo, D; Ott, J.; Lebeck, R.

TO E5

Ziemer, G.; Gonzales, A.; De Paola, A.; Gray, W.; Hellfin, R.; Lewis, A.; Richardson, F.; Gaines, R.; Karpinski, S.; McLaughlin, J.; Williams, D.; McAdams, M.; Currington, D.; Brown, B.; Cooch, J.; Elfrink, S.; Brown, C.; Yates, B.; Erickson, T.; Liedel, J.; Pelle, J.; Rice, W.; Farmer, J.; Frazier, B.; Hinshce, W.; Judd, M.; Chestnut, C.; Wallace, A.; Burnette, P.; Wirtenson, W.

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TAKE YOUR MALARIA PILL,

COMMUNIST BLOCK WEAPONS:



NVA 7.62mm SUBMACHINEGUN  
K-50

This weapon is an NVA model of the Soviet PPSH-41 and the ChiCom Type 50 submachinegun. It has a high cyclic rate of fire and can fire either on full or semi-automatic depending on the position of the selector lever located in front of the trigger. Full-automatic is with the lever forward. This weapon is fired from open bolt position. The metal stock is identical to that used on the MAT-49 French machinegun. This weapon is used extensively by the VC.

Caliber ————— 7.62mm, Soviet pistol cartridge, Type 2.  
 Operation ————— blowback, full or semi-automatic  
 Magazine type ————— curved box, 35 rds.  
 Overall length ————— 29.5 inches  
 Weight with magazine ————— 8.4 pounds  
 Cyclic rate of fire ————— 700-750 rounds/min.  
 Muzzle velocity ————— 1,640 ft/sec.  
 Maximum effective range ————— 200 meters.

The "art" of tattooing is roughly 4,000 years old, as is evidenced by the appearance of tattoo on some Egyptian mummies. It has absolutely no redeeming cosmetic value when it is (rarely) used in conjunction with plastic surgery. It is responsible for spreading hepatitis and many other serious diseases. It has even been implicated as a causitive agent in skin cancer. Tattooing is outlawed in many states and countries.

(J. D. Faulhaber - AFPS)

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

HHC

BRONZE STAR-1st clc  
Schlegal, Wesley

PURPLE HEART  
Allender, Rudolph

ALPHA AIR MEDAL  
Durbin, D.; Johnson, W.

BRAVO BRONZE STAR-S  
Gradillas, G.; Unruh, D.; Collins, W.

CHARLIE

SILVER STAR  
Martin, G.; Richards, L.; Sylvester, W.;  
BRONZE STP-VALOR

Temara, S.; Jung, ?.

BRONZE STP-S  
Gianella, R.; Myers, G.; Clark, P.

AFM COMENDATION-V  
Maslowski, W.; Arnold, B.; Malina, B.;  
Johnson, G.

DELTA BRONZE STP-S

Faircloth, J.; Falston, W.; Miller, R.;  
Hunt, S.; Sklover, S.; Vecci, R.; Walker  
L.; Zelle, J.; Barnowski, T.; Mincey, J.;  
Ericson, T.; Elfrink, T.; Dean, L.;  
Davidson, J.; Dailcy, L.

ECHO BRONZE STP-S

Cultice, J.; Eckel, T.; Davenport, J.;  
Cunnington, P.; Bream, B.; Tefft, J.;  
Calender, F.

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\* UNMANNED PLANE PROPOSED

\* TO SUPPLY COMBAT TROOPS

\* WASHINGTON (AFPS) -

The Army has proposed a remote controlled unmanned aircraft to supply troops in combat zones.

The aircraft would fly into battlefield areas at altitudes below 300-feet guided by ground stations. It would carry a half ton of cargo.

Other roles for the aircraft, according to the Army's Combat Developments Command, Fort Belvoir, Va. include laying wire, dispensing smoke, or relaying radio communications.

R&R POLICY

Since implementation of six nights on ground at all R&R sites, many R&R participants have exhausted their funds prior to completing their R&R period. Effective 1 December 1969, personnel departing on R&R must have a minimum of \$250.00. This requirement is waived for personnel going to Tokyo who plan to spend their R&R at Camp Zama.



#### PROJECT TRANSITION EXPLAINED

Every year thousands of U.S. Army personnel return to civilian life - all seeking different types of employment. In 1968, a program known as PROJECT TRANSITION was established by the Department of Defense to provide these returnees with further education or skill training that could help them obtain meaningful employment.

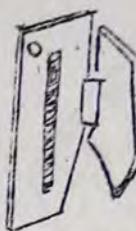
PROJECT TRANSITION is designed to assist servicemen who need more formal education or do not have civilian job skills. The objective of the program is to enable servicemen to compete for gainful employment after separation by providing them with counseling, academic and vocational instruction and job placement information.

PROJECT TRANSITION training is available at major Army installations in the United States. It is provided by the Army, federal, state and local government agencies, business and industry.

Training is given in many different skills. Among these are auto and aircraft mechanic, electrician, draftsman, television repairmen, welder, salesman, carpenter, mason, meat cutter and many more.

Details on PROJECT TRANSITION are available at major Army education centers throughout the U.S. and soon will be available at education centers throughout the world.

Whether the soldier is a two-year draftee or a 20-year retiree, PROJECT TRANSITION could be the key that opens many doors - a key to success.



P-38 Can Opener Championship

LONG BINH, RVN

(AFN)--Sp5 Homer (Tinslasher) Meier Jr. (Milledgeville, Ga.) has issued a blanket challenge to Army units in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) to beat his team in an "All-Vietnam P-38 Championship Contest."

The P-38, known to all, is the famous Army can opener that carved its way through World War II.

"We practice daily, and frankly, I don't think there is a team in Vietnam that can touch us," said Meier.

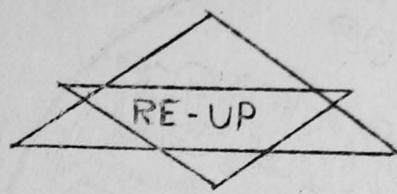
Interest in the contest recently zoomed with the news that the Army is experimenting with flip-top ration cans which would make the P-38 obsolete.

"That would be a real shame," said Meier. "This ancient art is part of Army heritage and should not die."

Specialist Meier, the current P-38 world champion who ripped open a B-1A unit in 7.9 seconds of furious tinslapping during last summer's championship matches, contains a five-man team called "The 1st Log Sharpies." Meier formed and trained the team when he arrived in Vietnam.

All would-be challengers may contact Specialist Meier at Headquarters, 1st Logistical Command (PAC), APO San Francisco 96368.





If you have a General Maintenance score of 100 or more and two areas over 90 you qualify for Reenlistment under Army Career Group 51 (General Maintenance). If interested in any of the categories listed below, drop in and see your Army Career Counselor today, at S-1, LZ Bronco.

**FOOTBALL SCORES**

**\*\*NFL\*\***

LOS ANGELES	24	ST. LOUIS	47
WASHINGTON	13	PITTSBURG	10
CLEVELAND	28	GREEN BAY	20
CHICAGO	24	NEW YORK	10
BALTIMORE	13	NEW ORLEANS	27
ATLANTA	6	PHILADELPHIA	14

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**\*afl\***

OAKLAND	27	BUFFALO	16
NEW YORK	14	CINCINNATI	13

**\*\*\*STANDINGS\*\*\***

**NFL**

<b>CENTURY DIVISION</b>		<b>CENTRAL DIVISION</b>	
	W-L-T		W-L-T
CLEVELAND	7 2 1	MINNESOTA	10 1 0
ST. LOUIS	3 6 1	DETROIT	7 4 0
NEW YORK	3 7 0	GREEN BAY	5 5 0
PITTSBURG	1 9 0	CHICAGO	1 9 0

<b>CAPITOL DIVISION</b>		<b>COASTAL DIVISION</b>	
	W-L-T		W-L-T
DALLAS	8 2 0	LOS ANGELES	10 0 0
WASHINGTON	5 3 0	BALTIMORE	6 4 0
PHILADELPHIA	5 1	ATLANTA	3 7 0
NEW ORLEANS	3 7 0	SAN FRAN.	2 7 0

**afl**

NEW YORK	8 3 0	OAKLAND	9 1 1
HOUSTON	6 4 2	KANSAS C.	10 2 0
BOSTON	3 8 0	SAN DIEGO	5 7 0
BUFFALO	3 8 0	CINCINNATI	4 6 1
MIAMI	2 8 1	DENVER	4 6 1

**51A-CONSTRUCTION AND UTILITIES WORKER**

**51B-CARPENTER**

**51C-STRUCTURES SPECIALIST**

**51D-MASON**

**51E-CAMOUFLAGE SPECIALIST**

**51F-PIPELINE SPECIALIST**

**51G-SOILS ANALYST**

**51H-CONSTRUCTION FOREMAN**

**51I-HEATING AND VENTILATION SPECIALIST**

**51J-PLUMBER**

**51K-REFRIGERATION SPECIALIST**

**51L-FIRE FIGHTER**

**51M-WATER SUPPLY SPECIALIST**

**51N-UTILITIES FOREMAN**

**51O-TERMINAL ANALYST**

**OLD GUARD**

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