



Volume I, No. 16

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## NIGHT PATROL NETS 3 NVA

With a lightening one-two combination of accurate artillery fire and an infantry patrol, Charlie Company, 4-3 Battalion, 11th Infantry Brigade, killed three NVA while on operations ten miles northwest of LZ Bronco.

The action unfolded at 1830 hours; the descending night cast a blanket over a scene which would suddenly vibrate and shake with the powerful crash of projectiles from howitzers on firebase San Juan. The men of Charlie Company were busy setting up a laager position when someone spotted an unmistakable, tell-tale flash of enemy soldiers on the prow 300 meters away. Four NVA had unwittingly stumbled into a trip flare left behind by the Company in its old NDP.

In two quick thrusts of firepower and men the Company went into action. Even while a patrol gathered its forces, artillery fire was directed by the FO into the midst of the enemy. The entire 3rd Platoon quickly followed suit - the file of wary men made its uncertain way through the murky night towards the old NDP site.

Crossing a small river bed, the men finally arrived at the NDP. SP4 Albert J. Furey commented that, "it was dark, pitch dark. The guys were really on their toes." The 60 man (M-60 machine-gun man), Pfc Larry MacHart spotted three to four NVA in the NDP. He shot a quick burst of fire. Immediately, one of the enemy was downed. The NVA returned the fire. In the pitched battle, two more NVA joined the first. Pfc Richard Borders (Jacksonville, Ala.) received credit for one kill at the initial (Cont. on page 4, Col. 2.)

## ALPHA KILLS NVA

On December 24, Alpha Company, 4-3 Infantry, 11th Brigade, encountered several enemy soldiers at the base of the rock-strewn hills known as Iron Mountain. In the skirmish which ensued one NVA lay dead and one was seriously wounded.

The action was precipitated at 0900 hours when two NVA were spotted by Pfc Robert A. Frazier (Sacramento, Cal.) as his squad departed from a river bank. Frazier immediately opened fire with his M-16 wounding one as the two enemy soldiers darted for cover and disappeared amidst huge boulders nearby.

The first squad of the second Platoon doggedly pursued the two, following a conspicuous blood trail. "We were progressing up a slope about 25 meters on the other side of the river bank," said Pfc Peter Dempsey (N.Y., N.Y.). "Sergeant Dennis was on point. One of the enemy was concealed under a boulder. He popped out and opened up before we had a chance to get down."

The rest of the squad pulled back, spraying the area with small arms fire. "The second Platoon Leader, Lieutenant Steven Riggs (Wilburton, Conn.) told me to advance and check it out," continued Dempsey. "I went in, spotted the enemy and succeeded in killing him."

Approximately an hour later, while on patrol, the first platoon sighted more NVA traveling up a draw. The platoon engaged the enemy with machine gun and small arms fire. The results are unknown.

At the end of the day the Company had captured one Ak-47, two chicoms, and in the process, had let known that their presence was to be reckoned with.



Editorial:

A RESOLUTION TO REMEMBER

Traditionally, New Year's eve is the time for resolutions. And just as traditionally, New Year's day is the time for forgetting them. It would seem a silly practice--making promises to ourselves only to break them--but perhaps the ritual serves to prove that we know "there's room for improvement."

Let us suppose, just for the sake of argument, that this is the year we decide to begin work on that degree, take out that USAFI course or look into educational benefits in general. These are fine resolutions, each recognizing a need for improvement and each directed at doing something about it.



This particular New Year is perhaps more appropriate than most for making such pervasive, long-range resolutions. We are, after all, about to embark upon not just a new year but a new decade. And if the decade past is any guide to the future, education will be of increasing importance in the '70s.

It has become trite to say "Education is the key to the future," yet the axiom is so true that it warrants repeating. It cannot be said often enough if only because time and technology make it increasingly meaningful and increasingly true.

Each individual owes it to himself to keep pace with the tremendous advances in technology and human goals. This is particularly true of those who serve in defense of democracy's birthplace, because freedom depends on education. As Thomas Jefferson put it, "If you expect a nation to be ignorant and free, you expect what never was and never will be." (AFPS)

## BATTALION SUMMARY

Action in the AO increased slightly over the past week. The 4-3 was credited with seven NVA/VC and two AK-47s captured.

### 21 December

While on patrol in the Iron Mountain area nine clicks northeast of San Juan Hill, Alpha Company came across an enemy NDP complete with foxholes - big enough to accommodate 85 to 100 people.

In the early afternoon, the SRRPs found several tunnels and huts while on a short-range patrol. In one of the tunnels, a 105 round, a buffalo pen and hitching post were discovered.

### 22 December

Charlie Company's 3rd Platoon was credited with two NVA kills while encamped six to seven clicks north of San Juan Hill. Three to four NVA set off a trip flare left behind by the Company in the old NDP site. The Company quickly responded with artillery and a patrol.

### 23 December

Delta Company killed one NVA and captured an AK-47 while on a mission three clicks east of San Juan. Delta Company's FO, Lieutenant Richard Lane, originally spotted the NVA who stood rigidly behind cover not far from the Company's position as it marched towards its destination. Lt. Lane opened fire on the lone NVA who dropped his weapon and rucksack and dashed for safety.

### 24 December

At 0900 hours, Alpha Company made contact with an unknown-size enemy force while patrolling seven clicks north of firebase San Juan. During the course of the day, the Company succeeded in killing one and wounding another of the enemy.

### 26 December

Bravo Company was involved in all of the action which occurred during the day and which resulted in two enemy killed. (Cont. on page 3, Col. 1)

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# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answers on Page —

## ACROSS

- 1-Plunge
- 4-Titleholder (colloq.)
- 9-Davaured
- 12-Exist
- 13-Repulse
- 14-Click bottle
- 15-Having cull finish
- 17-Clothesmakera
- 19-Periods of time
- 21-Hawlian wrath
- 22-Chastless
- 25-Satiate
- 29-Note of stale
- 30-Repasts
- 32-Stunted person
- 33-Man's name
- 35-Apothecary's weight (pl.)
- 37-Cry of sheep
- 39-Withered
- 40-Bog down
- 42-Note of scale
- 43-Puff up
- 45-Fell as rain and hail
- 47-Catch
- 49-Shakespearean king
- 50-Lawmaker
- 54-Small bottle
- 57-Hasten
- 58-Puff up
- 60-Mature
- 61-Skill
- 62-More recent
- 63-Parcel of land

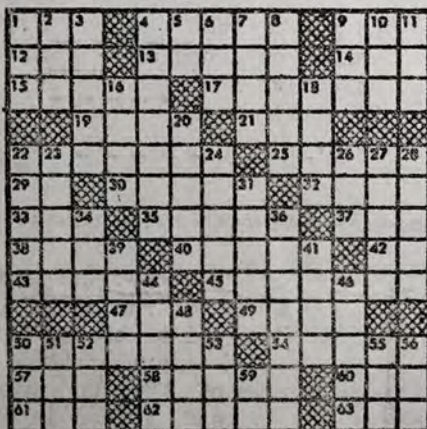
## 8-Works at one's trade

- 9-Fuss
- 10-Rocky hill
- 11-Bitter vetch
- 16-English streetcar
- 18-Falsifier
- 20-Scorches
- 22-Having one's taste dulled
- 23-Artist's stand
- 24-Narrow, flat boards
- 26-Vet
- 27-Growing out of
- 28-Sociata
- 31-Tiny
- 34-Macarr
- 36-Railroad car
- 39-Sicilian volcano



- 41-Girl's name
- 44-Consumed
- 46-Test
- 48-Tree trunk
- 50-The oriel
- 51-Goddess of healing

- 52-Openwork fabric
- 53-Uncooked
- 55-Time gone by
- 56-Permit
- 59-Symbol for tellurium



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## DOWN

- 1-Obstruct
- 2-Man's name
- 3-First Pope
- 4-Invented
- 5-Promont
- 61-Hilly
- 7-Repeat

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ed. Twenty minutes passed when the Platoon attracted more enemy fire. Warlords arrived on station to lend a hand.

## 27 December

Alpha Company downed its second enemy for the week while three clicks NNW of San Juan. The action got off to a start when a NVA/VC was spotted and fired upon while he evaded into a woodline. The enemy soldier abandoned his rucksack and sped away as fast as the wind could carry him. At 2000 hours, the Company was alerted by enemy probes 20 meters outside the perimeter. Small arms fire, .-79's and 81mm mortar fire shattered the relative but deadly calm of the night. However, no sign of the enemy was found the following day.

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Mistletoe berries are deadly if eaten. Some other poisonous plants are: wisteria, iris, lark spur, narcissus, castor beans, rosary pea and daffodil. That the ancient Greeks used hemlock for a suicide potion is well known. But did you know that the Delaware Indians used mountain laurel for the same purpose? The rhubarb stalk, of course, is safe to eat but the rhubarb leaves are poisonous. They contain oxalic acid.

(continuation of BATTALION SUMMARY - from page 2). later reported that a green smoke was popped in the vicinity of the LZ. It wasn't a Bravo Company smoke nor were there any friendlies in the area. Several hours later, the Company collared two VC/NVA who fled into a tunnel. The duo turned down numerous entreaties by the interpreter to Chieu Hoi. Consequently, a grenade was tossed into the tunnel, followed by SP4 "Doc" Dunsmore and SP4 Tanner Brown. The two tunnel rats found that one of the enemy had been killed and one seriously wounded by the blast.

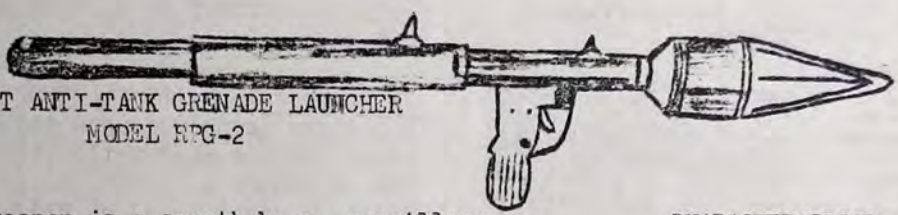
Later in the day, the 1st Platoon received enemy fire while crossing a river. Four armed NVA were soon spotted on the run approximately 200 meters from the Platoon's position. Artillery was immediately request-- (continued on adjacent column).

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COMMUNIST BLOCK WEAPONS:

SOVIET ANTI-TANK GRENADE LAUNCHER  
MODEL RPG-2



This weapon is a smooth-bore, recoilless anti-tank grenade. Tactically, this weapon is of the same value as the US and British anti-tank rocket launcher. When loading, place the stabilizing fins of the projectile in the muzzle of the gun. A stud on the projectile matches a slot in the muzzle of the launcher thereby correctly positioning the round. A gas port is located on the right side of the gun near the pistol grip. This weapon, therefore, cannot be placed on the left shoulder for firing. Half of the grenade launcher is covered with insulation to protect the gunner's face and shoulder from heat. This weapon is used by NVA and Viet Cong.

CHARACTERISTICS

Caliber of launcher	40mm
Caliber of grenade	82mm
Operation	Loaded into muzzle and with head of grenade protruding
Length of tube	4.7 inches
Weight of launcher	6.2 pounds
Effective range	150 meters
Penetration of armor	six to seven inches



(CHARLIE COMPANY -continued from page 1, col. 1) point of contact. After MacHart spotted the group of NVA, he swoveled to and joined in the fray. The Platoon soon returned to the fold of the awaiting Company after the skirmish subsided.

The following morning a sweep of the area turned up one NVA killed by artillery and two by small arms fire.

OLD GUARD

LTC Robert N. Fernandez CO  
CPT. Felix J. Ciarlo Jr. S1  
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ADVANCE AND BE RECOGNIZED---CLOSE.