

CAUTION DO NOT TAKE OR
SEND TO THE FIELD



Vol. 1 No. 35

4th BATTALION 3rd INFANTRY

4 August 70

KNOWLEDGE + SKILL = RESULTS BRAVO NETS 3

Luck, knowledge and skill of ambush techniques were combined to help Infantrymen of the Americal Division's 11th Brigade net one VC while working 8 1/2 miles north of Fire Support Base San Juan Hill.

Working on the base of a hill along the Son Ve River, the First Platoon of Bravo Company 4th Battalion 3d Infantry had set its ambush along a dried creek bed. Early on the morning of the 24th of July the men were greeted by the blast of an exploding claymore. "We knew that the enemy was in the area because a couple of days prior we found a recently abandoned base camp with RPG's and about 2000 lbs. of rice and corn still left behind. There were also alot of signs of recent activity along most of the trails in the area," said PFC Charles Roop (Washington D.C., Dist. of Columbia). Setting up on top of a small hill where the abandoned base camp was located the company CP sent its platoons down each side of the hill to set up their ambushes. A dried creek bed was found by the first platoon containing, fresh Ho Chi Minh sandel tracks. It seemed like an ideal spot for an ambush.

At first light the ambush was sprung and the area was immediately checked out. "As we entered the area, groans could be heard coming from the ambush site. We moved in very cautiously in hopes of (Cont. on Pg. 2, Col. 1)

Alertness, quick thinking and a little luck were the magic ingredience which helped Infantrymen of the 11th Brigade net three NVA while working 9 miles south west of Duc Pho.

The First Platoon, CP, and the 81 Mortar Platoon of Bravo Company 4th Battalion 3d Infantry was moving into a new area of operation where its ambushes were to be set up when the action took place. Trying to avoid the main trails because of possible booby-traps the company moved

along a ledge contouring the side of a mountain with its First Platoon at the point. Not more than 100 meters away, off to the left through the thick woods, a small valley and river could be seen. The word came up from the CP to stop and break for chop chop. "We had just finished eating and were getting ready to move out again when the word came back that LT. Riggs (Wilton, Conn.) had spotted four NVA walking along the river in the valley below. I remember how quiet everybody got as we moved the 60's up front to find an open spot to fire from," said Specialist Four William Goode (Whiteland, Ind.).

The men waited for the unsuspecting enemy soldiers to move in closer to their position. suddenly the firepower of M-60 machine guns, M-16 rifles and m-79's were unleashed. After the firing had ceased three bodies could be seen along the river bank below. "It was raining hard at the time so it was (Continued on Page 3, Column 2)

KNOWLEDGE + SKILL = RESULTS

taking a live prisoner." said PFC Roop. Lying on the ground in the middle of the trail was one VC, wounded and still alive, security was quickly put out and the medic was called. Dressed in gray fatigue shirt and pants and carrying only food and no weapon the wounded VC was carried on a litter back up to the top of the hill where the company CP was located. After a short period of questioning a LOH was called in and the wounded VC was extracted to the rear for treatment and further questioning. With a good mornings work behind them the platoon again saddled up in search of another location.

AN ACCIDENT

An unfortunate accident recently occurred in the rear, causing the daily routine of a few individuals to be broken when a dud white phosphorous round exploded in the back of a truck containing other dud rounds.

A truck with EOD personnel aboard was making it's usual stop at Andy's Bullets and Bombs after coming from Quang Ngai City when the incident occurred. "We were separating dud rounds when all of a sudden a member of the EOD team dropped a box on a dud white phosphorous round causing it to explode in the truck." says Specialist Four James Warren (La Porte, Tex.). First Sergeant Richard Price (Eugene Oregon) viewing the explosion from his orderly room immediately ran to the ammo dump to see what could be done. Specialist Four David Pesante (Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico) also on the scene attempted to put out the white phosphorous with a fire extinguisher but was evacuated when his hand was severely burned.

Seeing the smoldering rounds in the back of the truck and sensing the immediate danger to other personnel First Sergeant Price jumped into the truck driving it away to a safe area.

Thanks to the quick thinking of First Sergeant Price and others, the remaining dud rounds did not explode and casualties were held down to a minimum.

A BLACK BELT HELPS

Everyones background is different and probably very interesting. Some times it helps to know about the people each of us come in contact with while working either in the rear or in the field. Such is the case involving an Infantryman of the 11th Brigade's 4th Battalion 3d Infantry.

Delta Company's Sergeant Taroo Mason (New York City, N.Y.) is such a person. Sgt. Mason holds a First Degree Black Belt in the Martial Art of Karate. At the age of 14 he began his studies of Karate with the father of a neighborhood friend who held a 5th degree Black Belt. After seven years of study practicing five times a week between classes at New York University and a part time job, Sgt. Mason eventually received his Black Belt and teaching credentials. While serving as an instructor of Karate at Queensborough College Sgt. Mason was also employed by the New York Body Guard Association as a professional body guard. At the age of 22 Sgt Mason enlisted into the Army; coming to Vietnam he served with the Special Forces Group before coming to The Americal Division's 11th Brigade.

Among the many Championships and awards won during his association with the Martial Arts are a first place in the 1968 Orient vs. America Karate Championships, first place in the 1964 Olympic Karate championships, second place in the 1967 Universal Karate Championships, and a third place in the 1967 U.S. Karate Championships.

Asked why he took up Karate Sgt. Mason replied, "Living in New York is very conducive to self defense, but once you begin to study Karate you learn that it is more of an art than a weapon. Karate develops character in a person more than anything else, it strives to build a good man first and a strong man second."

Sergeant Mason enjoys helping people so an occupation in the Police Department is foremost in his mind. Says Sgt. Mason, "With Karate you have more than a weapon to protect yourself and in the future the police will have to get away from the use of a gun."

PROJECT TRANSITION

Some men are born into wealthy families and never really have to worry about earning a living. Most men, however have to work hard to make ends meet to get ahead in the very competitive industrial world of today. To obtain even these goals most can use what ever help they can get or thats offered to them.

Project Transition is the Department of the Army's "helping hand" to a man who can use more education and wants to learn a trade. It is designed to give the individual, while serving his country, some of the assistance he may just need to move ahead to success. While in the U.S. Armed forces most men become better prepared to work toward the bigger and better things in life.

This unique program is open to all enlisted men including those who are retiring after 26 years or more of service.

Here's how it works. Servicemen with up to six months remaining before their scheduled ETS and who do not plan to reenlist, can enroll in a variety of special on the job-training or educational courses. These courses are designed to train the individual for specific jobs in areas of their own interests. Most jobs will be performed either on or off post and either during duty hours or after, depending on the job. For those personel on DEROS, from Vietnam you must contact the Educational Center or the First Sergeant at your new duty station for full information and an application.

Project Transition services are available at 55 Army Installations in the United States. If you are one of those who wants to go through life as best you can, why not begin now and help yourself with this voluntary program. It is established especially to give YOU that helping hand.

TAKE MALARIA PILL
YOUR

BRAVO NETS 3

rough making our way down the hill. We were happy because we knew we had gotten at least three of them, but we were also cautious since we originally spotted four and there were only three bodies below us." said Spec Four Goode.

The First Platoon was sent down to check out the area while the CP and 81 Mortar Platoon remained behind on the side of the hill. Setting out security to the sides and rear the First Platoon slowly moved in. Three dead NVA lay on the side of the bank of the river. Beside two of the bodies, a AK-47's were found. No blood trail of the forth member of the group was found, however with the heavy rain it is very conceivable that any trail would be washed away. Confiscated from the scene were two AK-47's, two magazines of AK ammunition, one chicom grenade and a sack containing two knives and one NVA pancho.

GRADES E-1 THROUGH E-9 CAN RE-ENLIST FOR CONUS STATION OR AREA OF YOUR CHOICE.

If you have 90 days or less to ETS you may reenlist for either CONUS duty station or Overseas area of your choice without any restrictions on time in the service.

GET YOUR "BENNIES" NOW - SEE ME, TODAY SFC RENOLDS BN. RE-UP NCO

OLD GUARD

LTC PHILIP GRIMM	CO
LLT REED SIMMONS	SI
PFC JAMES TABATA	REPORTER

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AWARDS

Below is a list of Achievement and Service awards that have been approved, during the month of July. (A - Achievement, S - Service)

ALPHA

SGT Robert Boyer	ACM"A"
SP4 Alton Carr	ACM"A"
SP4 Kenneth Inman	ACM"A"
SP4 James Jennings	"
SP4 Dale McEwen	"
PFC Russell Chamberlain	"
PFC Louis Dunlap	"
PFC Jeffery Dummum	"
PFC Donald Etienne	"
PFC Steven Graham	"
PFC William Harris	"
PFC Richard Kelton	"
PFC Gary McMillin	"
PFC Andrew Mozal	"
PFC David Nowak	"
PFC Gordon Pooley	"
PV2 William Burr	ACM"A"
PV2 Mark Bukter	"
PV2 Mark Fellows	"
PV2 Richard Holmes	"
PV2 Alan Pickutowski	"
PV1 Thurman Allen	"
SP5 Paul Childs	ACM"S"
SP4 Richard Daniels	"
SP4 Terry Clark	ACM"S"
PFC David Henderson	ACM"A"
PFC David Henderson	BS"S"

BRAVO

LLT Charles Fitzgerald	BS"S"
SP4 Stephen Willardt	BS"S"
SP4 Roger Williams	BS"S"
SP4 Joseph Tilch	ACM"S"
SP4 David Crabtree	ACM"S"
PFC Kenneth Childress	BS"S"
PFC John Walts	"
PFC David Mercer	"
PFC Larry Chalmers	ACM"S"
PFC Michael Wojciechowski	"

CHARLIE

CPT William Mynatt	ACM"S"
SFC Donald Delap	ACM"S"

CHARLIE CONT

SP4 Lance Nelson	ACM"S"
SP4 Steven Lacourse	ACM"S"
SP4 Harry Cizinski	"
SP4 Larry Brown	"
SP4 John Bonzek	"
SP4 Richard Miller	"
SP4 Johnny Haag	"
SP4 William Cox	"
SP4 George Boykin	"
PFC Daniel Ward	"
PFC David Hefner	"
PFC Jacobe Avemaia	"
PFC William Pearson	"
SSG Gerald Armstrong	BS"S"

DELTA

SGT Donald Peterson	BS"S"
SP4 Robert Fenner	BS"S"
SP4 Frank Demke	"
SP4 Paul Woods	ACM"S"
SGT Larry Dickerson	BS"S"

ECHO

SGT Jeremiah Haines	BS"S"
SP4 Dennis Anderson	BS"S"
SP4 Gonzalez Soto	"
SP4 Dwight Roell	"
PFC Richard Anderson	"
PFC Timothy Bradley	"
PFC Richard Dunlap	"
PFC Larry Taylor	"
PFC Ramon Saldana	"
PFC Stephen Leithleiter	"
SGT Stephen Stoutenburgh	BS"A"

HEADQUARTERS

LLT David Sheehan	BS"S"
OW2 Carroll Williams	BS"S"
SGT Phillip Tarry	"
SP4 Perry Perciful	"
SP4 Glen Lacy	"
SP4 Tracy Hyatt	"
SP4 Paul Beaudoin	ACM"S"
SP4 Johnny Walker	ACM"S"
SP4 Lindley Hoopes	"
SP4 David Burton	"
PFC Gary Lafave	ACM"A"
PFC Gerald Miller	"
PFC Norman Landry	"