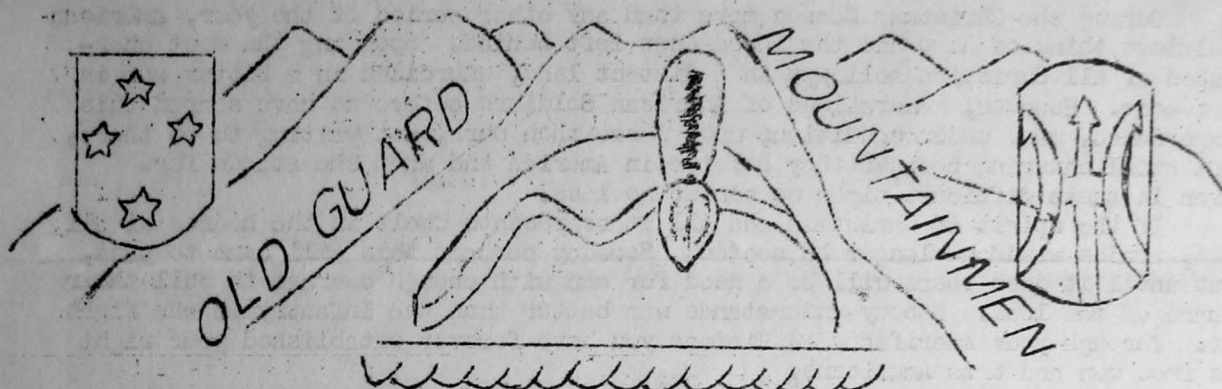


CAUTION DO NOT TAKE OR  
SEND TO THE FIELD



Vol. 1 No. 51

4th BATTALION 3rd INFANTRY

23 Dec 1970

## Charlie Rolls On

## "Thank God"

Action in the Old Guard AO continued at a fast pace during the first two weeks of December. Reliable Charlie Company proved their worth again, killing 6 VC/NVA and capturing an abundance of weapons, munitions and equipment since leaving standdown the beginning of the month.

Charlie Company's First Squad of the Second Platoon, while working the top of hill 607, ran into a Battalion size base camp. "The camp was large, containing 10 hooches, mess hall with stove, medical hooch with pills and bottles still on the shelf. A day room was built in one of the hooches with games still laying around," reported 1LT Robert Deverick (Roanoke, Va.). "There were no fighting positions but all of the hooches had tunnels in them. The camp must have been used as an R&R center for the NVA." Captured from the camp were medical supplies, and 2400 AK rounds still in their original crates. The camp was destroyed and the men moved on.

The First Squad returned to the same camp two days later to find it being rebuilt. Five NVA were spotted working, thus using fire and movement the men converged on the area killing one NVA and wounding another. One AK-47 was captured.

Charlie Company's 1st  
(Cont. on pg. 4 Col. 1)

"I'm thankful to God that the bullet didn't hit my head," Sergeant William Scott, repeated over and over again.

Sergeant Scott had an AK-47 round pierce his helmet, but he escaped injury when his squad from Charlie Company, 4th Battalion 3d Infantry, engaged four NVA northwest of Fire Support Base San Juan Hill.

"We were moving in on a basecamp we destroyed the day before and found four NVA trying to rebuild some

of the hooches," said Sergeant Scott who is from Richmond, Virginia. The Squad immediately maneuvered on them and a fire fight developed.

Three of the enemy made a hasty retreat but one stayed and poured AK-47 fire on the advancing element. That's when Scott felt a bullet go through his helmet. "I was just sort of numb after it hit and I laid on the ground," explained Sergeant Scott. "I didn't want to get up for fear of getting into the line of fire, and all I could do was keep feeling my head." A fellow 11th Brigade Mountainman had pulled him out of the line of fire right after he was hit.

Sergeant Scott can't remember why, but he said he put his helmet on and advanced on the NVA who was still quite active. "I got myself back together,"  
(Continued on page 4 Column 2)

# Christmas Message

During the Christmas Season more than any other period of the year, American Soldiers think of home and the loved ones left behind. Spending the most cherished of all Christian holidays in a distant land, embroiled in a bitter war is not easy. However, generations of American Soldiers before us have shared this experience, many under conditions much worse than ours, not wanting to be there, but still enduring because they believe in America and what she stands for. Even in these difficult times we can do no less.

If the spirit of Christmas and all it represents dwelt in the hearts of all men, armies would no longer be needed. Someday perhaps this will come to pass, but until it does there will be a need for men with enough courage to pull their share of the load. Nobody understands war better than the Infantrymen who fight it. Through your sacrifices in Vietnam you have forever established your right as free men and true Americans.

May God bless every man in this Battalion and grant each one of you the privilege of spending next Christmas with your families, in peace.

*Albert F. Coast*  
Albert F. Coast  
LTC Infantry  
Commanding

## Chaplain's Corner



*Peace  
on  
Earth*

Simon and Garfunkel, popular song stars, sometime ago recorded a version of the Christmas Carol, Silent Night. In this familiar song they sing of the birth of Christ and the hope of peace. In the background a newscaster describes the news of the day telling of spreading war and nuclear tests, of growing racial conflict, economic strife, and youth rebellion. Very graphically they spell out the difference

between the ideal Christmas and the actual conditions of today's world.

To be sure, there is a great discrepancy between the Christmas message given 2000 years ago, and the actual situation today. Because of this; some would tell us that the Christmas message is meaningless and should be abandoned. Others accept the myth of the season with the decorated tree, Santa Claus and tinsel giving no thought to the deeper significance of the holiday.

What is to be our attitude? Let me make some suggestions. First, let us accept the fact that Christmas is more than the giving and receiving of gifts, glitter and fantasy. It is remembering the significance of that First Christmas with the realization that here God entered into the affairs of man by sending his son into the world, not so we would get sentimental about a baby being born in a

(Continued on page 5 Column 1)

## College Anyone?

## A Time of Giving

Education is an important ingredient in today's race to enter the job-market. There is no question that a College degree can open doors to a better and higher paying job. This article and the one to follow next week are devoted to enlightening those in the 4th Battalion 3d Infantry on opportunities available, especially for Veterans on college admissions, and programs.

The National Center for College Admissions represents over 100 Colleges and Universities throughout the nation. Members welcome returning Veterans and actively seek their interest. The member Colleges are especially suited to the Veteran, in that many give a second chance to Veterans who may not have met requirements in the past.

When the center receives your application a condensed version is forwarded to all member Colleges and Universities. After reviewing your records those Colleges and Universities willing to admit you will correspond directly with you, placing you in a position of choosing the college or University that best fits your desires, needs and interests. Each College corresponding with you will supply all information as to, programs, and courses available in your field of interest.

After receiving the invitations to apply, you can then follow the normal admission process (application, fees, transcripts, scores, etc.) as requested by the institution.

(Cont. On page 6 Col. 2)

Christmas is a time of giving, and this was the spirit which guided the Medics of the 4th Battalion 3d Infantry to collect over 100 pounds of assorted goodies for the children of the Protestant Orphanage at Duc Pho.

Collection for the Orphanage began in the beginning of December, and through their efforts the Medics have collected over 100 pounds of candy, soap, cookies, sewing kits, and other sundry goodies from the men on San Juan Hill and in the rear.

Run by Mr. Daoug Pastor of the Protestant Church, the Orphanage takes in homeless children and destitute families who have no means of support. 300 children are cared for by Mr. Daoug and supported by the Village and Province Chiefs, who donate captured rice and food. The Orphanage maintains two teachers and housing for the orphans.

MEDCAP's are run three times a week to the orphanage headed by the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry's Medical Operations assistant LT Bruce Hannon (Mount Clare, N.J.). The Medics treat the children and advise the Pastor on sanitary conditions, and dietary requirements. Through the MEDCAP's and getting to know the Pastor and the children the Old Guard Medics decided to give them something for Christmas.

The gifts will be passed out in individual packages on the 24th of Dec. at which time a Christmas Service and Celebration will be conducted by Mr. Daoug.





## Charlie Nets 6 cont.

Platoon quickly got into the action when its third squad found an enormous cache which consisted of light and crewserve weapons, radios, and munitions. Working the bottom of hill 607 the squad entered an open area covered with clumps of broken trees, leaves, and torn down hooches. Searching the area the men found 5 French 7.5mm machine guns, 2 French 7.5mm automatic rifles, 1 French 7.5mm rifle, 1 NVA 7.62mm Submachine gun, 1 case 51. Cal. rounds, 3 mortar tubes, 2 radios with hand sets, Mortar rounds, and three other weapons were found. All captured items were evacuated to San Juan Hill. One kill was also recorded by the First Platoon before leaving the field for San Juan Hill.

Charlie Company's Third Platoon also saw a great deal of action. Patrolling the mountains west of the 516 Valley the Third Platoon's, Second Squad ran across an old base camp consisting of sleeping quarters, mess hall, and classrooms. In one of the hooches, 1 AK-47 was found, one magazine of AK ammunition and barrels of rice, were also in the area.

More munitions were found on the first of December when the Third Squad of the Third Platoon located 30 RPG rounds and 2-82mm Mortar rounds. Moving along the ridgeline of hill 607 the pointman PFC Weythmen (Monitor, Wa.) found 15 Chi Com casings in a small cave just off the trail. Further investigation revealed 2 RPG rounds, and 2-82mm mortar rounds. Continuing along the same trail the men spread out for a thorough search of the area.

"There were alot of caves hidden behind large rock formations," said Sgt. Daniel Gains (San Jose, California). Searching them we found 4 unopened cases containing 28 RPG rounds, boxes of acid fuses, and RPG boosters. No enemy soldiers were seen as the cache was evacuated to San Juan Hill. On the 9th of December an ambush was sprung by the same squad working in the same gen- (Continued on top of next column)

## Charlie cont.

eral area. While the stillness of early morning still prevailed the blast of a claymore broke the silence as the ambush was initiated followed by M-16's on full automatic. Checking the area, one VC was killed.

The Second Squad of the Third Platoon could not be kept out of the action when the element caught 5 VC swimming in the middle of the Song Ve River. Spotting the VC while moving down a trail, a hasty ambush was set up. The ensuing action resulted in 1 VC killed and 3 wounded. The wounded escaped through the brush which lined the river bank.

The 81 Mortar Platoon also saw action during their last mission killing one NVA and capturing one AK-47. Moving along a well used trail enroute to their night ambush position, the men of the Mortar Platoon came face to face with one NVA. The ensuing fire fight ended quickly as the enemy soldier lay dead to the Mountainmen's front. The AK-47 was captured with one magazine containing AK ammunition.

## "Thank God" cont.

he said, "and I wasn't going to let him get away."

And it was Scott who crawled to a position behind the enemy and killed him. After that he said, he really didn't think about the kill, but was just glad to be alive.

The day before the unit had discovered and destroyed what Sergeant Scott called an "RAR" center. It had nine hooches, a mess hall with stove, a game room with games in it and a dispensary. In addition, the men found 2400 AK rounds still in crates and 75 pounds of rice.

BY LLT John Peterson  
Brigade IO

## 4/3 Best Mess Hall

Being the BEST mess hall in the 11th Brigade and the 23d Infantry Division wasn't enough. Headquarters Company mess at the 4th Battalion 3d Infantry is now in the Philip A. Connely Award contest for the best mess hall World-wide. A team from XXIV Corps inspected the mess yesterday.

They first saw a bright Christmas display in front of the mess hall, and inside, a shiny clean facility. It was the third of five that the team has so far inspected in XXIV-Corps. The BEST picked out of the five will be submitted to USARV and pitted against mess halls Vietnam-wide. The USARV contest winner will be placed in the World-wide competition for the coveted award.

The evaluative eyes of the inspectors checked sanitation, food preparation, and administration. At first sight, the first two criteria appeared to deserve an excellent rating.

Characteristic of mess halls in fine condition, is a sign which hangs in the kitchen: "Clean as you work." The inspectors wouldn't let on how the mess hall fared in the evaluation, but did have some fine words for the cooperation they received from Brigade.

By the looks of things, the 4th Battalion 3d Infantry should be a top entry from XXIV Corps. BY Brigade IO

## Chaplain's Corner

barn, but that His purpose in redemption might be realized.

Second, let us realize that the infant of Christmas became the Christ of Easter completing in His resurrection what was begun at his birth.

Third, let us commit ourselves to Him receiving His gift of salvation so that we might know in ourselves the peace the angels sang about and have the hope of everlasting life.

Merry Christmas  
Chaplain Robert Belton.

## New CO for Charlie

On November 29th First Lieutenant Gregory Foster assumed Command of Charlie Company from 1LT Marcel Lettre, who has ended his tour in the Republic of Vietnam.

Charlie Company was proving its effectiveness to the Battalion under the Command of 1LT Lettre. The change of command however, has not effected the company's eagerness, as Charlie is leading the Battalion in number of kills for the month of December. Charlie Company also has uncovered an abundance of weapons, munitions and base camps under the leadership of 1LT Foster.

1LT Foster entered the Army in June of 1969 after graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point. There he received his degree as well as his Regular Commission into the Army.

Attending IOBC at Fort Benning, Ga. 1LT Foster also attended Airborne and Ranger School before being assigned to Fort Bragg, N.C. and the 82nd Airborne. Being reassigned to Vietnam, 1LT Foster attended Jungle School before coming.

Arriving in Vietnam 1LT Foster was assigned as a Platoon Leader in, Charlie Company. Reassigned to Echo 1LT Foster served as Platoon Leader of Recon before taking over Charlie Company as its new Commanding Officer.

1LT Foster is married and his wife resides in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

## WANTED

Male to fill very important position, Trainees will have the best equipment, advancement, good salary, job security, medical coverage, for employees and dependents, housing paid for, choice of duty station anywhere in the world, good working conditions.

If you are interested see your Career Counselor Sergeant Johnson in SL TODAY.

## Bravo Capture's One

Hand to hand? Well, maybe a slight variation from that which was taught in Basic Training was employed by the Mountainmen of the 11th Brigade. The Infantrymen captured one VC north of Fire Support Base San Juan Hill.

Set up in a day laager, the Second Squad of the Second Platoon of Bravo Company 4th Battalion 3d Infantry were waiting for new ambush locations to be received when one VC stumbled into the Mountainmen's location.

"The trail took a sharp bend where we were set up," reported Sergeant O.B. Brown (Reddick, Fla.) Squad Leader of the Second Squad. "I looked up from my position and there he was standing just as surprised to see us as we were to see him. Being only 5 feet away from the enemy soldier, the only thing I could do was jump up and grab him before he started running away."

Rendering the VC helpless the men quickly searched the enemy soldier and scoured the area for any cohorts of the captured VC who may still be in the area.

Confiscated from the prisoner was a sandbag rucksack containing AK ammunition, and a knife. A helicopter was called in and the captured VC was evacuated to San Juan Hill for further questioning.

## College cont.

Those applying to the National Center for College Admissions receive an average of 30 invitations to apply for admission. It is then a matter of choosing the College or University you would like to attend.

This helpful service is available to all Veterans at no charge. All Veterans whose future is important to them should look into the National Center for College Admissions. Here is your opportunity to be admitted to the College of your choice even before leaving Vietnam.

An application can be obtained by writing:

National Center for College Admissions  
Suite 212 Oakbrook Executive Building  
1301 W. 22nd St.  
Oakbrook, Ill.  
60521

## OLD GUARD

LTC ALBERT COAST  
1LT REED SIMMONS  
SP4 JAMES TABATA

CO  
SL  
EDITOR

MERRY CHRISTMAS..



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Telephone Pointer Rear SL

This publication is mimeographed



# PRESENTS

The following is a list of uncommon, curious, odd, abnormal, rare, exceptional, extraordinary, irregular, gifts which the men of the 4th Battalion 3d Infantry have so far received for Christmas.

## HEADQUARTERS

MAJ Jew	R&R to Taipei
1LT Prince	J.W. Dant Bourbon
WO2 Hudson	Shoe Horn
CPT Lizardi	Home Cooked canned food
2LT Hannon	Toy Doctor's Kit
SFC Mitchell	Electric Shoe Polisher
SGT Schultz	7 lbs. 12oz. Baby Boy
SGT Piper	Almost boy
SP5 Kincad	Toy Car
SGT Kapuniai	Mother Oats Comic Book
SGT Devins	Monkey back scratcher
SGT Vestal	Extension of tour
SGT Beitz	Bundle of sticks
SP4 Abramczyk	Peanuts
SGT Tice	\$5.00 Bill
SP4 Carl	Promotion
SP4 Geho	Unopened Box
SP4 Phillips	Toy Mustang that runs
PFC Little	Wife gave golf clubs away
PFC Walby	Baloney
PFC Voorchees	His 21st Birthday

## ALPHA

SSG Jones	Jiffy Pop
SP4 Cyrwus	Anchovy
SGT Timboe	Hair Pins
SGT Quenby	Flowered Panties
SP4 Bechdel	Frisbee
PFC Whittington	5 Lbs. Candy Cane
Kit Carson Scout	Getting Married

## BRAVO

SSG Johnson	Christmas Baby
SP4 Weber	SKS
PFC Carter	Electric Shaver
SP4 Johnson	3 Nips
SP4 Sparkmen	Beads
SGT Martin	Civilian Cloths
PFC Center	One light bulb

## CHARLIE

1SG Leonard	No F_____ Drop
SGT McDowell	Mandolin String
SP4 Jackson	Toy M-16
1LT Blanton	Blocks
SGT Barnes	On R&R to Hawaii...?
SGT Bell	Aftershave
SGT Roche	Cheese

## DELTA

SGT Temple	Moldy Popcorn
PFC Pfeifer	Yo Yo
PFC Fox	Rulet Wheel
PFC Matteson	Blow up Segrams 7
SSG Swisher	Fruit Cake
PFC Palmquist	Santa Claus
1LT Nelson	Puzzles
1SG Hancock	Playboy Calander
SGT Light	Cut out dolls
SP4 McElroy	Slide Viewer

## ECHO

PFC Gilmore	Bought himself a stereo
SGT Rich	Home for Christmas



POSTAGE

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