



OLD GUARD

4th BATTALION 3rd INFANTRY



Volume II, No. 3

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AWARD CEREMONY FOR CHARLIE CO

During Charlie Company's stand-down period, an award ceremony was held at Chu Lai to decorate those who earned Silver Stars, Bronze Stars and Purple Hearts. Colonel Jack Treadwell, the Brigade Commander, presented the awards.

PSG Samuel Knight, now on TOC, received a Silver Star for gallant action while in Charlie Company on February 4. PSG Knight ran 100 meters across rice paddies and dragged a dying soldier to the cover of a dike. After accomplishing this, PSG Knight ran another 50 meters and silenced an NVA automatic weapons position. Once again, through a withering hail of bullets, PSG Knight went to a badly bleeding man and carried him to where he could administer first aid.

Lt. Roger L. Fullon was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" device for valorous action on February 28. Charlie Company was conducting a reconnaissance in force mission when the company came under intense rocket and mortar fire followed by small arms and automatic weapons fire. Lt. Fullon, the Platoon Leader at the time, attempted to advance his platoon towards the enemy position and repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire in the effort to place effective fire on the source of the attack.

SP4 Lynn Glenn, PFC Tommy Birch and PFC Russel Sawyer all were decorated with the Bronze Star with "V" device for action committed on January 25, during the Russell Beach Operation. In a moment, the SRRPs, was combat assaulted into an area which intelligence sources stated to be occupied by VC. It didn't take long to discover that the area was saturated with mines and booby traps. While on the move, the men saw a VC

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WEEKLY WRAP-UP

This week the 4-3 Old Guard continued its search and destroy operations in the AO. The usual numerous sweeps, patrols, day and night ambushes which have been conducted have confirmed the obvious presence of the enemy but only little action has been reported.

On July 22, Alpha Company discovered various equipment which runs the whole gamut. Some of the things included on the long list are five mortar fuzes, three 57mm recoilless rounds, ammo pouches, NVA pouches, photographs, three bayonets and a gas mask. That same day, after Alpha Company set up their NDP, they reported seeing movement along a trail with a flashlight at the lead. Artillery and 81's were called in and the interlopers scampered off in a lot of commotion. Later that evening, a Warlord spotted three NVA with packs carrying bags of rice. Reported confident that the ensuing engagement resulted in three enemy killed.

On the 24th of July, on San Juan Hill, all hell broke loose when two NVA/VC were spotted 25 meters outside a bunker along the perimeter. The two succeeded in permeating through the wall of concertina and other obstacles but tripped a flare when they tried to come up behind a large boulder for partial cover. This brought the house down on them in the form of grenades and M-60 machine gun fire. The NVA/VC were instantly killed. Later, only a meager two chicom grenades were found on them. Flare ships were called in but no further movement was reported.

Elsewhere, Alpha Company was pounding the turf in the AO and found numerous fresh spider holes. That same day, Delta Company spotted red smoke. No (cont. on page 2, column 2)

(cont. of Award Ceremony)

camp not too far away and proceeded to draw considerably close to it. Once the team was in position, they opened up, wounding one and capturing four others.

PFC John Brightman was also decorated for action during the same operation on the 31st of January. His company came under enemy fire while on patrol. Immediately, PFC Brightman began to maneuver on the enemy, exposing himself to incoming enemy fire. By doing this, he allowed the rest of the platoon to zero in on the enemy and maneuver around them. He was awarded the Bronze Star with the "V" device. Lt. Ronald Pinson-schaum, SP4 Mauricio Finlinson, SP4 William Lamm, SP4 Michael Martin and PFC James Benson received Purple Hearts at the ceremony.

VISITORS GO GRUNT

San Juan received several visitors onto its bleak and blemished slopes recently, one of them not of the usual sort that frequent the Hill. His name-D. Brenton Rheault, Second Secretary of the Australian Embassy. Also visiting that day was Air Force Lieutenant Boier.

After the introduction in the briefing room, both made the circuit on the hill stopping along the perimeter to fire every assortment of weapon commanded by the 4-3 on San Juan. The list of weapons include: a flame thrower, M-16, 4.2 Mortar, .50 cal and .60 cal machine guns and 90mm recoilless rifle. After this introduction to our 'cortal', Lt. R. Boier decided to go grunt for half a day and joined a company humping in the field.

Upon leaving the Hill, they expressed their appreciation for the opportunity given them. D. Brenton Rheault mentioned the possibility of a visit by the Australian Ambassador himself sometime in the future.

TENTH MEDCAP

The Old Guard held its tenth Medcap (Medical Civilian Assistance Program) at Ba To, Special Forces camp, recently, in conjunction with the Montagnard village nearby. Battalion Surgeon, Capt. Fagin with the assistance of two clinical technicians and two medical aid men were involved.

Understandably, many of the medical problems are of a dermatological nature. No sweat, though. The 4-3 handles any of the problems that may crop up. The Medcap began with an active sick call (for which appeared about 100 people) with the use of an interpreter. From there, the patients are sent to the pharmacy for medicine or to the treatment room for dressing.

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friendly elements were in that vicinity. Later on, the company observed six NVA down in a valley below out for a stroll on a large trail. After the artillery was called in, it was reported that four of them were hit with shrapnel; the other two dragged them away. Two were said to be killed.

On the 25th of July, the LRRP team observed three people tracking them. The LRRP team was extracted after they successfully confirmed continuous movement in the area. During the day, they found an 81mm booby trap. Gunships were sent to the location and sprayed the area with rockets and mini-guns.

In the same vicinity, a Warlord sighted numerous bunkers and hootches in the process of being built on a hillside. The Warlord later engaged 15-20 NVA with weapons and in uniforms. Alpha Company tripped a 105 booby trap which fizzed and smoked but failed to go off. That evening, the company called in artillery after a trip flare went off on the perimeter.

On the 26th of July, a Warlord spotted several tunnels, 40 fighting positions and camouflaged bunkers. One NVA was killed and a secondary explosion reported when the Warlord fired on the position. In the afternoon, Alpha Company pinned down two to four NVA and called in artillery but with negative results.



Recently, engineers put an end to one immediate danger in Ba To. An old, crumbling masonry tower was threatening the Medcap building (a dispensary which handles the local medical problems in the district). The tower, which stood almost 40 feet high, was being used as an Observation Post and fortified position. However, the enemy had also successfully found a use for it. The tower served as a good reference point for mortar and rocket fire during attacks.

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IG INSPECTION

The IG inspection is rapidly approaching. Specifically, it will be on August 4 but may last anywhere from 1 to four days. Certain guidelines are listed below as regards each individual, his weapon and bunker:

I. Uniform and Clothing:

- (a) Boots should be marked on the inside with the name and SSIN and also shined.
- (b) No cut-down or altered jungle fatigues are to be worn.
- (c) Helmet liners should be marked on the right inside of the sweat band.
- (d) Web belts are to be marked six inches from the tip of the belt. Use your name and SSIN.

II. Weapons:

- (a) Make sure your weapon is clean and free of dust.
- (b) No ammo should be chambered.
- (c) Keep close to your weapons and don't leave it unattended.

III. Ammunition:

- (a) Should be clean and serviceable
- (b) Grenades are to be stored in boxes.

IV. Bunkers:

- (a) Maintain a high state of police in and around your bunkers.
- (b) Plumb bobs should be in each to determine serviceability.

V. General:

- (a) Haircuts strictly military—mustaches neatly trimmed
- (b) No earrings, nose rings, beads or baubles are to be worn.
- (c) Three ID tags should be on your person and last but not least, you should have the following cards:
1- ID card 2- shot record 3- Enemy in Your Hands 4- Standing Orders—Rogers Rangers 5- VC Mines, Booby Traps 6- Tips on Your M-16 7- Geneva Convention Card 8- Ration Card 9- Code of Conduct 10- Nine Rules—11- MACV form 5.

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CHAIN OF COMINT

Commander in Chief	-Richard Nixon
Secretary of Defense	-Melvin Laird
Secretary of the Army	-Stanley Resor
Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff	-General Earle Wheeler
Army Chief of Staff	-General William Westmoreland
USARV Commander	-General Creighton Abrams
Commander of Americal Division	-General Lloyd Ramsey
11th Brigade Commander	-Colonel Jack Treadwell
4-3 Battalion Commander	-LTC. Robert N. Fernandez
Executive Officer	-Major George Inglewright

AROUND THE BATTALION

The 4-3 Old Guard welcomes Captain Edwin Wilson and James L. Schwebach, both recent arrivals to the Battalion. Captain Wilson was stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama and served in Korea in the G-2 air slot for 13 months. He is now HHC Commander.

Captain James L. Schwebach went to NCO academy, then to OCS and later Airborne and Rangers School. This is his third tour in Vietnam. His first tour was with the 1st Air Cavalry Division; his second with Special Forces. Captain Schwebach is going to relieve Captain Ambrus Carnes of Alpha Company, who is soon to DEROG.

Other changes in the Battalion: Lt. George Kenney III, once with Echo Company, received a fortuitous 20 day drop and consequently, is however bound (I wish I were). Although an infantryman, Lt. Kenney has been attached to an Air Defense Artillery unit. Replacing him in Echo Company is Captain Farinelli while Lt. Meyer shall act as Executive Officer of the company.

- 1) KEEP YOUR SLEEVES ROLLED DOWN
- 2) USE INSECT REPELLANT
- 3) TAKE THE PILL

HELPFUL HINTS

Taking for granted his M-16 was on safe, the grunt picked up his weapon by the grip grasping the trigger at the same time. The bullets lashed out at full automatic nearly cleaving off a buddy's leg. This actually happened and fortunately, no one was in the line of sight. There may not be a next time.

Another case in point: A man loaded his M-79 with a canister round while he was walking down a trail. He slammed the barrel shut. With the safety off, the round vent its fury on the tough bark of a tree. Could have been a buddy. It has happened.

Be careful. Check your safety, especially after going through thick underbrush.

Echo Company, on July 27, departed from the 11th Brigade stand-down area located at Chu Lai. Thus, the stand-down was officially concluded. During the three days set aside, each company was able to make use of the USO facilities, the Post Exchange, exotic China Beach, not to mention the beer and steak that flowed freely, frequent movies and boxing tournaments and infrequent floor shows.

The next stand-down period, which all are particularly looking forward to with relish, will probably come up again in 60 to 70 days time.

Need counseling?
Thinking of reenlisting?
Career in the Army?

Drop in anytime at S-1, 4-3. The Old Guard now has a permanent Career Counselor on its staff, a SSG Rubin Rodriguez, who is willing to answer any and all questions regarding re-enlistment.

OLD GUARD

LTC Robert N. Fernandez	CO
1Lt. Thomas J. Klein	S1
PFC John Calderonillo	Reporter

This newsheet is published weekly under the supervision of S1, 4-3 Infantry, Americal Division APO 96217, as an authorized publication. Views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Department of the Army. AFPS, ANF, and command information material used.



The southeast heli-pad at Duc Pho has been in state of hustle and bustle during the hectic week from 18-24 of July. Last week the pad handled almost 100,000 pounds of resupply alone plus about 400 men leaving the LZ for points west. SP4 "Shrimp" McCall is the man in charge of the operations here, better known as Shrimp's resupply and passenger terminal. He insures that there is a uniform trans-ferral of men and supplies to the field. The "Shrimp" and his six men handle about 1/2 ton of resupply a day for each company in addition to the men who are anxious to get to the field.

OLD GUARD

WHERE ARE YOU

This battalion is designated the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry (Old Guard). However, what many people do not realize is that the 3rd Infantry is comprised of not one battalion but eight, four of which are still active. All of these units also use the Old Guard as part of their official Army title. Listed below are our sister battalions and their locations.

- 1 Bn. - Washington, D.C.
- 2 Bn. - Vietnam
- 3 Bn. - Ft. Snelling (RES)
- 5 Bn. - Ft. Campbell, Ky.
- 6 Bn. - Reactivated Feb 1
- 7 Bn. - deactivated
- 8 Bn. - deactivated