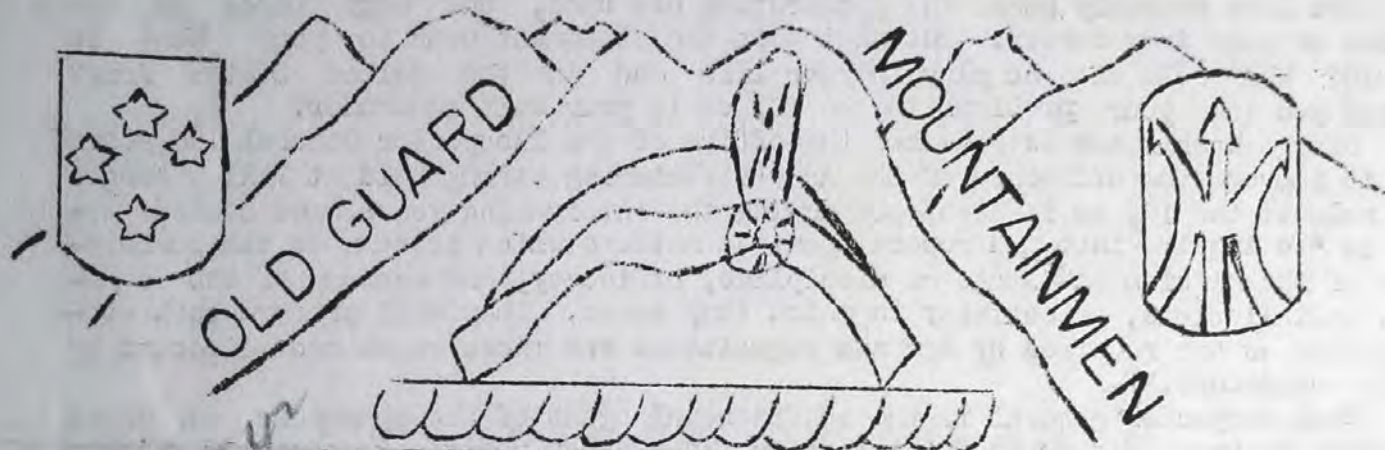


CAUTION DO NOT TAKE OR
SEND TO THE FIELD



Vol. 1 No. 41

4th BATTALION 3rd INFANTRY

26 Sept 1970

ALPHA FINDS MORTAR ROUNDS DELTA MEETS VC

The remains of an old Base Camp recently yielded the Infantrymen of the 11th Brigade twelve 82mm Mortar rounds as the Mountainmen made the late afternoon discovery while on search and ambush operations two miles southeast of Fire Support Base San Juan Hill.

Spending most of the day reconning night ambush locations on a fairly large ridgeline the men of Alpha Company 4th Battalion 3d Infantry, came across an old abandoned base camp on the 12th of September. The base camp looked recently deserted, with fire pits and large holes which once supported bunkers. Nothing was found in the base camp area itself however, one hundred meters further down the trail, the point man of the First Platoon Specialist Four Gary Benedict (Birmingham, Mich.) came across an unusual pile of rocks. Upon investigation the men uncovered twelve 82mm mortar rounds buried beneath the rocks. "The whole pile of rounds looked like it had been put there recently because the plastic, it was wrapped in wasn't worn, also there was enough room in the hole for a mortar tube to fit." reported Specialist Four Gary Benedict.

Searching the area thoroughly the platoon found no trace of the tube or any other form of enemy (Cont. on Pg. 41 Col 1)

A relaxing period of mail from home and a hot meal after accepting resupply ended as the word came down to saddle up from the Platoon Leader. As minds again concentrate on the situation at hand and the hazards which are always present, the platoon slowly but adeptly progressed down the trail each man separated from the next by an imaginary "combat interval". Some are bent over under the added weight of a radio or M-60 machine gun or a few extra claymores.

To themselves some curse, most pity themselves, pack animals rather than human beings.

In an instant the column is halted, silence is understood as eyes and ears strain to the brush and ridgelines around them. By some manner of communication, a combination of hand signals and a whisper, "movement to the front", as passed back from the point.

Then the wait, "How many are there?" "What did we walk into?" Those forward seek clues, further back the men wait for a clearance sign or the sound of automatic small arms fire. Then it came, the unmistakable sound of M-16 firing on full automatic. The men immediately hit the ground and scrambled for fields of fire while trying to find out what (Continued on page 2 Column 1)

THE IG IS THERE TO HELP

I'm going to see the IG!

You have probably heard the declaration not once, but many times in the course of your Army career. But what does the statement mean to you? What is the IG? What role does he play in your life and in the United States Army? Should you take your problems to the IG, or to your unit commander?

George Washington established the office of the Inspector General 188 years ago to improve the efficiency of the Army's flatering strong hold at Valley Forge. The role of the IG, as it developed during the intervening years, and stated today is "To inquire into and report upon the matters which pertain to the performance of the mission and state of discipline, efficiency, and economy of the command, installations, or activity in which they serve. They will perform such other duties as are required by law and regulations and those which are directed by their commanders."

Each inspector general is the confidential agent of the commander on whose staff he serves. His area of interest embraces every phase of activity within the responsibility of his command.

Your CO like every commander of every unit in the U.S. Army, is charged with the responsibility of seeing to the welfare, training, and employment of the men under his command. He knows that individuals with personal problems and grievances cannot and do not contribute their full share to the unit effort and that to resolve these problems and grievances is to improve his units efficiency. If your complaint, request for assistance, or grievance is of such a nature that it can be corrected or resolved by your Company Commander--then present it to him first and give him a chance to clear the matter up. In most cases, the matter usually ends up right back in the hands of the unit commander anyway, and he is (Continued on page 3 column 1)

DELTA MEETS VC

happened up front.

This was the scene which netted Infantrymen of the Americal Division's 11th Brigade one VC in a surprise meeting while on operations four miles southeast of Fire Support Base San Juan Hill.

The Third Platoon of Delta Company 4th Battalion 3d Infantry was moving in a valley between ridgelines after being resupplied. The two squads were ready to split up into their own respective areas of operation when the point heard movement to the front. "We came to a clearing in the trail when the movement was heard. Suddenly the point spotted one VC entering the clearing so the men immediately opened fire," reported Specialist Four Samuel Latta (Phil. Pa.). As the firing cleared one VC lay dead. The VC wore green fatigue shirt and green shorts he carried nothing of value.

THE DIFFERENT PEOPLE

Live Music and cute girls help to change the atmosphere and break up a hard days work. The men of the 4th Battalion 3d Infantry were recently treated to the music of the Different People, one of the many bands that tour the bases of South Vietnam.

The Different People is a band made up of members born in Singapore however comprised of different nationalities. The members include a Chinese an Indian, a Malaysian, one of Portuguese decent, and Australian, and the three girls who are Korean. The band was formed in Singapore where they played in night clubs before coming to Vietnam to entertain the troops. The band has made one other tour in the Republic of Vietnam which lasted 15 months and is currently back for a second six month tour. Working throughout the country the Different People have (Cont. on page 4 Column 2)

THE IG

normally the one person who will correct conditions or circumstances contributing to the situation which is causing the problem.

If after presenting your problem to your commanding officer, you do not consider his actions to be adequate or the problem is of such a nature that he cannot resolve it, then contact your acting IG or Division IG for assistance in the matter. If your complaint is justified he will accept it, inquire into the matter, and provide you, orally or in writing, with an appropriate reply. If the IG considers your complaint is unjustified and does not accept it, he will advise you of other means of recourse.

Currently there is a problem vital to the interests of every member of the U.S. Army in Vietnam. A portion of the personnel serving here are not taking advantage of the command and IG channels and are presenting their grievances directly to members of Congress and to the President of the United States. Eventually, such complaints end up on the unit commanders desk for resolution and the end result is the same as if it would have been, had the matter been presented to the commander or the IG to start with. When you by-pass the commander or the IG, you also cause unnecessary paperwork and delay in the initiation of the corrective action which you desire.

Under our democratic system of government you have the undeniable right to communicate directly with any member of our government. However, you will find that your problems can normally be solved more quickly and easily and with a great deal more efficiency if presented first to your unit commander and then to your local IG, if you are not satisfied with the actions of your unit commander.

Help yourself, help the Army, and help your country by consulting your Commanding Officer first and then if necessary, any of the Inspector Generals.

(Command Information Fact Sheet)

THE FUTURE IS YOURS

What will your future be and what do you plan on doing to improve yourself for the future?

The Army can help you decide if you are interested and qualified.

Just what are some of the things the Army has for the people who stay?

1. Medical care
2. Dental care
3. Periodic pay raises
4. Schooling-even college degrees
5. Variable reenlistment bonuses
6. Advancement
7. If married-housing
8. Travel
9. Legal counseling
10. Extra cash for special Assignments

You have over 200 different fields from which to choose.

You can get a skilled education if qualified and be payed for your education.

What are some of these skills?

1. Air Traffic Controller
2. Aircraft Maintenance
3. Over 100 Service School courses

See your career counselor for full details. Your career counselor is SFC Baxter at Battalion SI

OLD GUARD

LTC PHILIP GRIMM
LLT REED SIMMONS
SP4 JAMES TABATA

CO
SI
EDITOR

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ALPHA FINDS MORTAR ROUNDS

munitions. Leaving the mortar rounds hidden the platoon moved to their ambush location for the night. Early the next morning, after a comparatively quiet night the Mountainmen moved back to the location where the rounds were left. A LOH was called in with demo equipment aboard so the rounds could be destroyed. Completing the job the Platoon moved out again in search of new ambush locations and other signs of enemy activity.

DELTA AMBUSHES VC

Becoming experts of the ambush, the members of Delta Company 4th Battalion 3d Infantry's 11th Brigade recently showed their skills by netting one VC while the company was on search and ambush operations four miles southeast of Fire Support Base San Juan Hill.

Working the top of a large ridge-line the men of Delta Company's First Platoon spent most of the day trying to find good ambush locations to set up for the night. Finding a well used trail which contained fresh Ho Chi Minh sandal tracks the men moved away from the sight to break for evening chow. When darkness approached the men moved back to the chosen location; setting out claymores the men settled back into the brush just off the trail to await any unsuspecting enemy soldiers arrival. The wait was long as the night passed slowly however, just before dawn the next morning movement was heard on the trail advancing in the direction of the awaiting infantrymen. Alert and ready the men waited quietly from their concealed position until the enemy soldier entered their kill zone. Suddenly the detonation of a claymore broke the stillness of the early morning as the men immediately moved out to check the detonation area.

Lying face down, the men found one VC dressed in a green fatigue shirt and green shorts. The VC carried nothing of value. Setting out another claymore close to the body of the dead VC the men again moved back into the brush in hopes that more would be using the same trail.

THE DIFFERENT PEOPLE

performed from Saigon to as far north as Phu Bai. The tours are not easy ones giving two or three shows a day with very few days off.

"We enjoy performing for the American troops especially those on stand-down from the field." reported Sonny Bali, (Singapore), the base player of the group. Asked about his home country Singapore and how it compares to the United States, Bali replied, "It is very similar to the United States in that it is made up of people from all over the world, there is no one dominant race, we are made up of people from all over as is seen from what our band is made up of. The country is going more and more westernized all the time, with English as its second language."

The sounds of music help the moral of the troops a great deal and being in Vietnam we are lucky to have groups such as the Different People coming to entertain us.

AWARDS

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

HEADQUARTERS

1LT Kim Goodpasture
PSG Cornell Johnson
SP4 Ronald Meier
SSG Ordell Good
SGT Craig Pangburn
SP4 Glenn Combs
SP4 Raul Bonavita
SP4 James Warren
PFC Lemore King
PFC Ronald Franke
PFC Fredrick Davidson
PFC Alvarez Sanjurjo
PFC John Heide
SP5 Frank Ridener
(Continued on page 5)

BS"S"
BS"S"
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ACM"A"
ACM"A"
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BS"A"

AWARDS

HEADQUARTERS CONT.

SP4 Alexander Ceserano
SP4 Joseph Newman
SP4 Dennis Maddox
SP4 Kenneth Magyary
SP4 John Mishler
PFC Davila-Morales

ALPHA

SGT Steven Burnett
SP4 Larry Adams
SP4 Melvin Crocker
SP4 John Conroy
SP4 Michael Geldmacher
SP4 Jerry Murphy
SP4 John Shipley
SP4 Jon Riley
SP4 Stephen Watson
SP4 Thomas Brewington
PFC David Robb
PFC Bill Downing
PFC Maucie Harvill
PFC Gary Benedict
SGT Walter Foley
SGT James Rippl

BRAVO

SGT Aron Baker
SGT Mark Christiansen
PFC Roberto Medrano
SP4 Phillip Girardin
SP4 Norman Merrill
SP4 Michael Pulido
SP4 John Wagner
PFC Cecil Carter
PFC Michael Paterson
PFC Robert Schlitt
PFC Charles Schnakenberg

CHARLIE

SGT William Webster
SP4 Clifton Dalton
SP4 Carl Guffee
SP4 Kenneth Kaczmarek
SP4 Neil Potter
SP4 Adin Bailey
SP4 Michael Bockwith
SP4 Harry Faulkner
SP4 Onis Carpenter

CHARLIE CONT.

| | | |
|--------|----------------------|--------|
| ACM"S" | PFC William Bell | ACM"S" |
| " | PFC Robert Caplan | ACM"S" |
| " | PFC John Carpenter | " |
| " | PFC James Jackson | " |
| " | PFC Robert Sauve | " |
| " | PFC Billy Carrigan | ACM"A" |
| | PFC Gary Kociss | " |
| | PFC Roy Peavy | " |
| | PFC Steven Secare | " |
| | PFC Earnest Schler | " |
| ACM"A" | PFC Danny Snider | " |
| ACM"A" | PFC Raymond Thompson | " |
| ACM"S" | PFC Donald Steffen | " |
| ACM"A" | PFC Paul Macie | " |
| " | PFC Larry Croster | " |
| " | PFC Larry Lowrance | ACM"A" |
| ACM"S" | PFC William Amen | " |
| ACM"S" | PFC Jody Duffee | " |
| " | PFC Dwayne Hosha | " |
| " | PFC Paterno Zante | " |

DELTA

| | | |
|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| | SP4 John Kilberg | BS"S" |
| | SP4 Randall McDonald | BS"S" |
| | SP4 Larry Young | " |
| | PFC Raymond Frost | " |
| | SGT Terry Barber | ACM"A" |
| | SGT John Cavanaugh | ACM"A" |
| BS"S" | SP4 Jerry Allard | " |
| " | SP4 Joseph Curtin | " |
| " | SP4 David Niemerg | " |
| ACM"S" | SP4 Earl Hill | " |
| ACM"S" | SP4 William Tester | " |
| " | SP4 Michael Fathauer | ACM"S" |
| " | PFC Ralph Ricciardi | ACM"S" |
| " | PFC Charles Alexander | ACM"A" |
| ACM"A" | PFC Danny Lane | " |
| ACM"A" | PFC Ira Russell | " |
| " | PFC David Bradshaw | " |

ECHO

| | | |
|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| ACM"S" | SGT Dennis Esterline | BS"A" |
| ACM"S" | SGT David Garrett | BS"S" |
| " | SSG Wayne Campbell | ACM"A" |
| ACM"A" | PFC Vernon Biard | " |
| " | PFC Christopher Corallo | " |
| " | PFC Harold Leonard | " |
| " | PFC John McCall | " |

