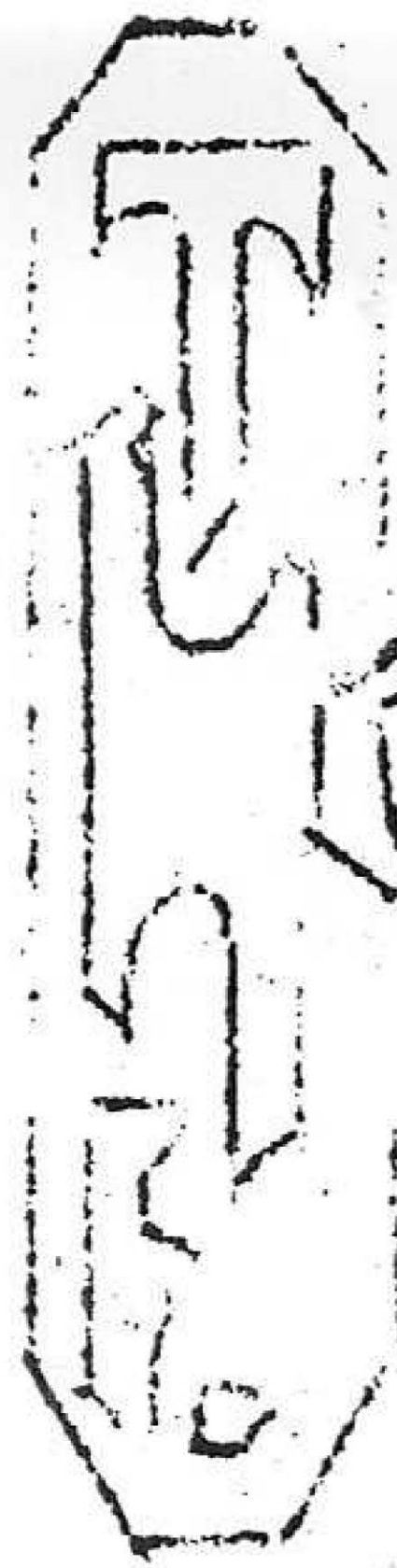
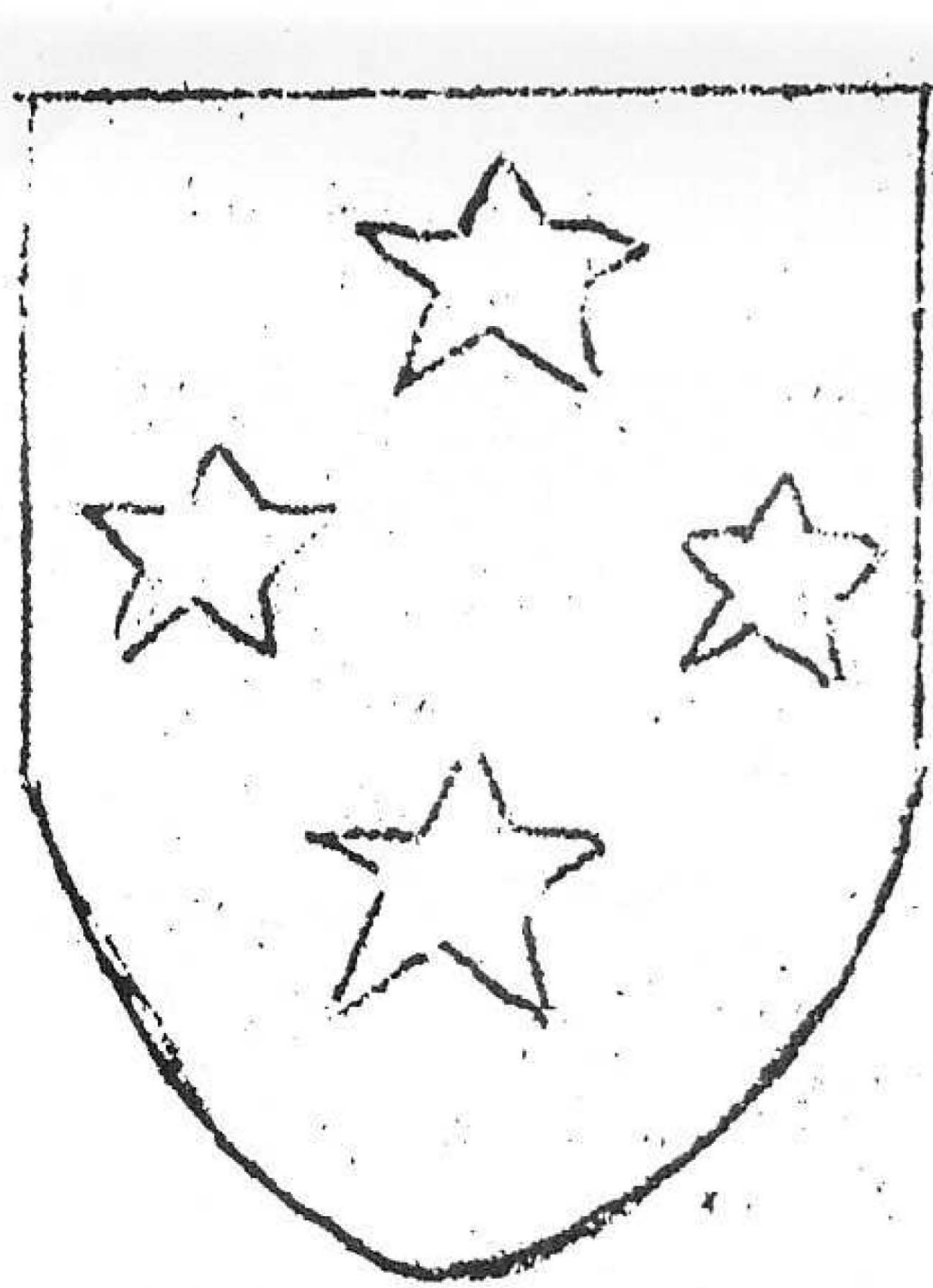
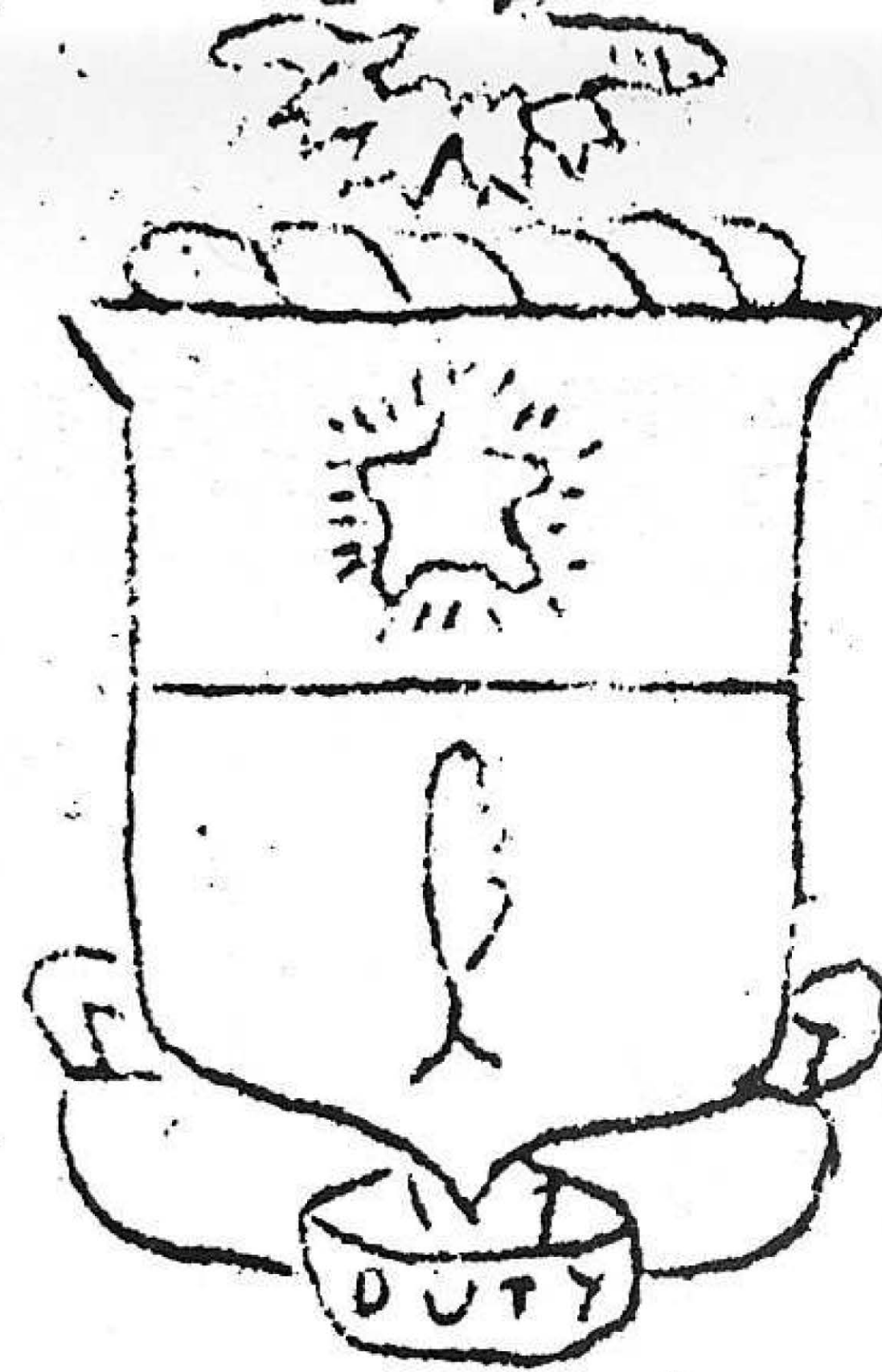




GIMLET NEWS



Vol. 2, No. 6

3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry

April 30, 1970

HISTORY OF 3/21 ; PART 1

Beginning in this issue of THE GIMLET NEWS is the first of a two part historical sketch of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry. This first part recalls the actions of the unit from the time of its inception through the period of the Korean War. The second part will deal with the activities of 3/21 in Vietnam.

The 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry was first constituted during the early part of the American Civil War by proclamation of President Abraham Lincoln. The unit, designated at that time as Company C, 2nd Bn, 12th Inf, was formed on the 28th of May 1862 at Fort Hamilton, N.Y. as part of the regular Army.

Major battles in which Co C, 2/12 was involved are Peninsula, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and Chancellorsville.

Following the conclusion of the Civil War Co C, 2/12 was reorganized as Co. C 21st Infantry on 7 December 1866.

During World War I the 21st Infantry Regiment served along the Mexican border helping to keep peace in that part of the world where bandits like Pancho Villa were creating trouble.

The 21st Infantry Regiment was assigned to the 16th Division in 1918, was demobilized in 1919 and reactivated in 1921 as part of the Hawaiian Division. From then until World War II the unit was garrisoned in the Territory of Hawaii. It was during this period that the nickname "Gimlet" came into being. "Bore brother bore" was the unofficial motto of the Regiment. A gimlet is a hard tipped boring tool, hence the nickname "Gimlet."

The first real fighting for the 21st Regiment- now a part of the 24th Division as of October 1941- came in World War II when they were sent ashore in New Guinea, spearheading an assault against the Japanese at Tanahmerah Bay. The date was 22 April 1944.

Then came the invasion of the Philippines. The 21st Infantry landed at Red Beach on Leyte in October. Heavy fighting occurred on Leyte, Luzon, and other islands in the Southern Philippines. That the Regiment did its job well is reflected in the Presidential Unit Citation awarded by a grateful Philippine Government.

During the Korean War the "Gimlets" helped hold the line in the Pusan Perimeter and fought both Chinese and North Korean forces. Eight streamers were added to the colors and the unit was awarded two US Distinguished Unit Citations and two Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations.

Next issue of THE GIMLET NEWS: 3/21 in Vietnam.

NEW BRIGADE COMMANDER

In Change of Command Ceremonies held at Hawk Hill on 1 May, Colonel Edwin L. Kennedy assumed command of the 196th Infantry Brigade, thus relieving Colonel James M. Lee.

Colonel Kennedy (Gulfport, Miss) is

a graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point and has served in World War II, the Korean Conflict and in the Republic of Vietnam.

Colonel Lee is now the G-3 Officer in XXIV Corps.

PROMOTIONS

The following individuals have been selected for promotion to SSG E-6/SGT E-5.

Staff Sergeant

Charlie Co: David R. McKeon.
Delta Co: Milton S. Eidson.

Sergeant

Alpha Co: David M. Murray; Sylvester Rogers.

Charlie Co: Gerald Pruonto.

Delta Co: Roger L. Bennett.

Echo Co: Ivan E. Odle; Kenneth E. Kloss; Jon F. Wolfe; Ernest I. Larum; Gerald L. Nance; Noe A. Rodriguez.

HHC: Gary D. Stavac; Harold Williams
Paul D. Snodgrass.

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BANDAID SHOP

On April 10 SP6 Dennis Allison left the Battalion Aid Station and LZ Center after eleven months of remarkably able and spirited work. SP6 Allison came in country after graduating from a 40 week course at Letterman General Hospital in San Francisco, a course which trains the Army's equivalent of a civilian licensed practical nurse. Of course many more duties are expected of the Army's "Super Medics," especially of those stationed in forward aid stations, than are expected of their civilian counterparts, and SP6 Allison did considerably more than was expected of him. For example, after one or two months' experience with sick call, he was making accurate diagnoses and prescribing therapy for conditions more complicated than the jungle rot and colds which are the usual medic's province. And he was quick to learn and anxious to perform such minor surgical techniques as suturing and removing ingrown toenails. Whenever someone was wounded on the hill, SP6 Allison could always be expected on the scene with his first aid bag.

In addition to his work on the hill, he served as the medic on several Headquarters Company patrols, and conducted an average of one MEDCAP a week in Nui Lac Son, where he is still referred to fondly as "Tee-tee Doc." He won the villagers' affection by his sincere concern with everything from their cuts and scratches to illnesses requiring him on at least two occasions to spend the night at their bedsides.

SP6 Allison returns to the world to serve until April of next year at Fitzsimmons General Hospital in Denver. After that he will start college, probably near his home in Fresno, California. Each of our Battalion Surgeons, to whom SP6 Allison was an invaluable helper, has encouraged him to go on to medical school, but he felt that it is too early to say whether or not he'd like to be Doctor Allison someday. We are sure that whatever career he pursues, he will make of it the same outstanding success he made of his year on Lima Zulu Center.

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FAREWELL TO 1LT COX

The Editorial Staff of THE GIMLET NEWS would like to extend a fond farewell to 1LT William T. Cox, senior duty officer in BTOC, as he rotates in mid-May.

1LT Cox in addition to his taxing duties as senior LNO has given of his time and energy unselfishly to serve as an occasional editorial consultant. It has been his desire to remain in

President Nixon signed into law a measure increasing by 34.6 percent the benefits available to veterans of the Vietnam War.

The measure would increase from \$130 to \$175 per month the allowance for full-time single veteran students.

Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler said the measure, retroactive to 1 February would cost an estimated \$132.4 million during the current fiscal year and \$275.5 million during fiscal 1971.

Persons with more than six months service in the Armed Forces since 1964 would be eligible for the benefits. There are currently some 736,000 veterans taking advantage of the GI Bill.

the background all these months and to accept no credit for himself. But as he is departing this location, his anonymity need no longer be classified.

His smiling face will long be remembered in BTOC, as will the kind words he had for all who worked with him: "You're not at attention yet?"

Certainly BTOC's loss will be CONUS' gain. FAREWELL.

GIMLET SCORE			
Apr 1-15		Apr 16-30	
Enemy killed.....15	28.....	Enemy Killed	
Prisoners of War.....0	1.....	Prisoners of War	

LTC JOHN M. MISCH.....Commanding Officer
 CSM EDWARD J. OLENDER.....Command Sergeant Major
 SSG DAVID R. MCKEON.....Editor-in-Chief

THE GIMLET NEWS is an authorized biweekly publication of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

CORRESPONDENTS

From time to time civilian correspondents may be seen on fire support bases or in the field interviewing individuals. You may answer questions, but common sense and good judgment must be used.

A good rule of thumb is that you as an individual should discuss only those matters of which you have first-hand knowledge.

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CIGARETTE LIGHTERS

The VC reportedly are in possession of two thousand cigarette lighters containing plastic explosives. The lighters are an imitation of the "Zippo" lighter and are set to explode when the flint wheel is turned.

The charge is sufficient to kill one or two persons at close range. The plan is to distribute the explosive-filled lighters along roads and in public places frequented by US personnel, giving the appearance that the lighters were left by accident. Exact country-wide distribution is unknown at this time.

The enemy has been known to make use of such booby-trapped lighters in the past to inflict casualties upon unsuspecting individuals.

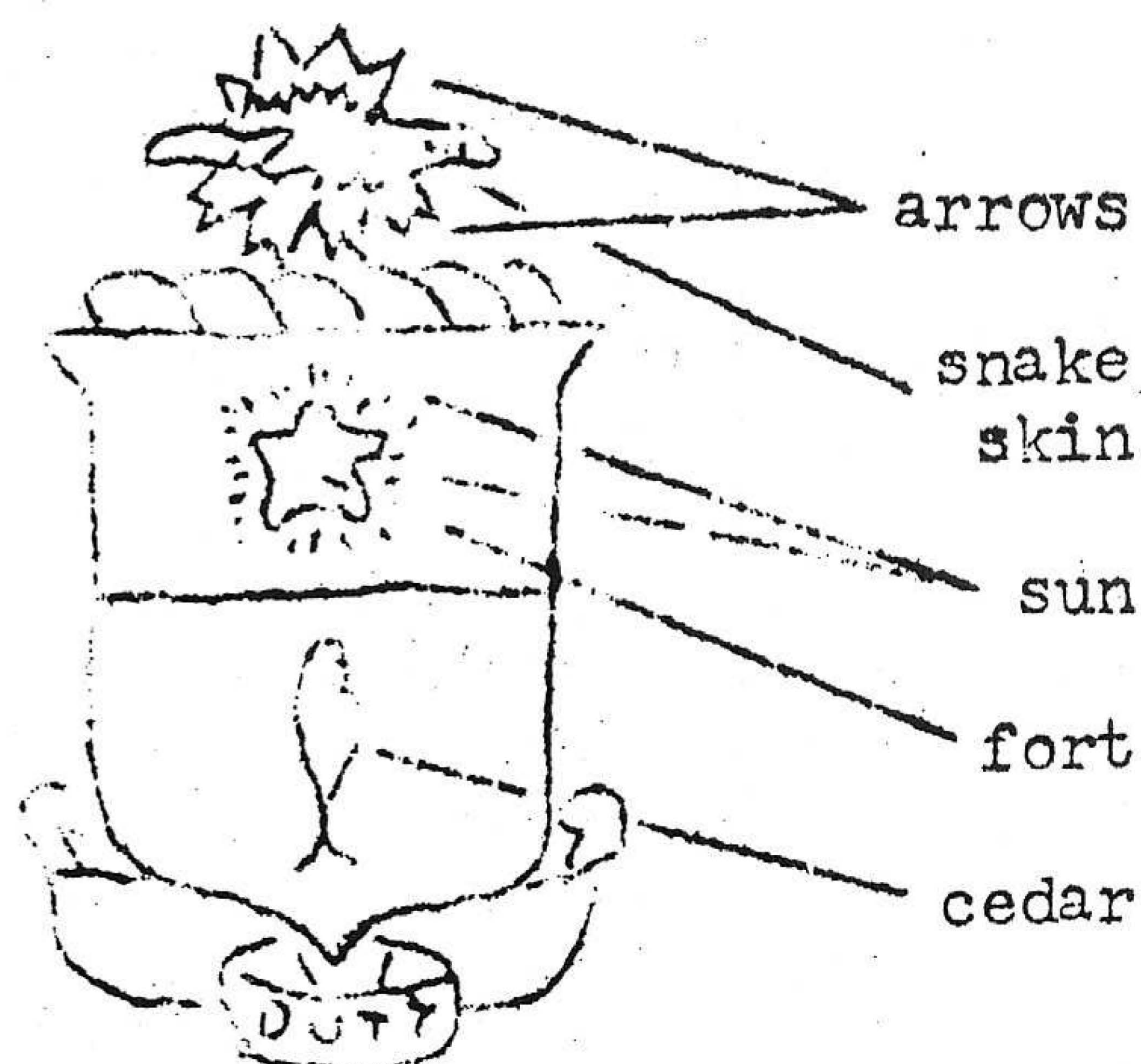
Any lighters "found" should not be tampered with or moved. The nearest EOD unit should be contacted at once.

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AMERICAL DIVISION PATCH

The Americal Division shoulder patch is in the form of a shield and has four white stars on a blue background. The blue represents the infantry and the stars are in the arrangement of the Southern Cross--a group of fixed stars in the Southern Hemisphere--indicating the organizational area of the Division.



THE GIMLET CREST: a gold background with blue and white depicting the colors of the Infantry. Four arrows represent the 4 Indian campaigns fought by the Gimlets. The snake skin is an Indian symbol of war; the katipunan sun indicates the unit's participation in the Philippine insurrection in the 1930's. The five bastioned fort at the top of the crest recalls the Gimlet's participation with V Corps during the Spanish/American War. The green cedar tree represents the unit's baptism of fire during the Civil War on 9 Aug 1862 at Cedar Mountain. And the motto of 3d Bn, 21st Inf. is "DUTY."