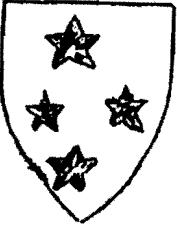


AMERICAL

 news sheet

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June 2, 1968

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL 10) -- action tapered off yesterday as Americal Division forces killed 12 VC and nine NVA and captured two individual weapons in their area of southern I Corps.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry accounted for 16 enemy killed in an area 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

An element of the 1st Cavalry killed seven NVA and three VC and captured 500 pounds of rice and 1,000 pounds of potatoes during a sweep yesterday in the Operation Brllington Trail area. "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed two NVA and two VC in the same area. The 3d Battalion, 16th Artillery accounted for one VC when it fired in support of the 1st Cavalry.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, a 1st Cavalry element killed one VC two miles north of Thang Binh.

Americal's 196th Infantry Brigade reported light action yesterday as "Chargor" units killed five VC and captured two individual weapons.

Infantrymen of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Robert E. Corrigan (Arlington, Virginia) engaged and killed two VC and captured two K-44s during action six miles southwest of Hoi An. Later, another unit of the battalion killed one VC in the same area.

An 11th Infantry Brigade unit from the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry operating in the 196th Infantry Brigade's tactical area killed one VC and captured one hand grenade and equipment during a sweep 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Soldiers of the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT Ronald Welte (San Francisco, California) uncovered five holes containing 1,500 pounds of rice.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry killed one VC yesterday during a sweep eight miles northwest of Tien Phuoc.

In a brief change of command ceremony held at LZ Baldy COL Fredric J. Kroesen (Tronton, New Jersey) assumed command of the "Chargers" replacing COL Louis Gelling (Carlisle, Pennsylvania) who led the brigade for the past seven months.

Elements of the 11th Infantry Brigade apprehended 13 suspects during operations in Quang Ngai Province yesterday.

Infantrymen of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Fred H. Mowry

(San Gabriel, California) swooping mountainous terrain three miles southwest of Duc Pho, uncovered 2,500 rounds of small arms ammunition and three tons of rice. Other "Ginlet" units detained nine suspects.

No contacts were reported in the 198th Infantry Brigade's area.

Division forces suffered four soldiers killed and 34 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

The Americal Division recently celebrated Unit Day, the anniversary of the Division's original activation on New Caledonia in 1942.

Moving from one tropical area to another, soldiers of the Division have never failed to give an outstanding account of themselves in battle, be it against Japanese commandos or North Vietnamese regulars.

The following letter, dated 25 May, sent by LTG Bruce Palmer is intended for all officers and men of the America Division.

On behalf of the officers and men of the United States Army, Vietnam, I extend best wishes to the members of the America Division on your Organization Day.

The combat record of the Americal date back to 1942 when the Division made its first bright mark on the pages of American military history. The Division's campaigns in New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Bougainville and Leyte are a combat background second to none. Soldiers of the Americal have continued to uphold this magnificent record in Vietnam. The gallantry in action of your officers and men in the southern half of I Corp Tactical Zone during some of the most bitter fighting in Vietnam has won accolades from all sides. Time and again the Americal has defeated the 2d NVA Division reinforced by Viet Cong Mai Force and Local Force units. Particularly noteworthy were the battle successes of the Division which smashed the enemy's 1968 Tet offensive.

I know that you and your men in the year ahead will add new laurels to your record. Good luck and best wishes.

Warm regards,
 Bruce Palmer, Jr.,
 Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
 Deputy Commanding General, USA

DATELINES — UPI

SEOUL—North Korean soldiers intruded into the south of the Demilitarized Zone Friday night and killed one South Korean soldier and wounded another, Army headquarters announced yesterday.

ITINERARY FOR "THE MERCY ROCK SOUNDS"

From 2 June to 6 June, "The Mercy Rock Sounds", a popular jazz band will be appearing in the Chu Lai area.

2 June

0830	Arrival from Saigon
0900-1000	Meeting with AG, G1
1030-1230	Show Div Arty
1230-1330	Lunch Div Arty
1400-1600	Show 2nd Surg Hospt
1700-1900	Dinner Americal NCO Mess

3 June

0830-1030	Show LZ Baldy
1100-1230	Show Hill 29
1400-1600	Show Bunker Hill, D Co., 26th Eng Bn
1640-1730	Dinner 176th AVN, 14th AVN Bn area
1800-2000	Show 176th AVN, 14th AVN Bn area

4 June

0930-1130	Show USO
1200-1330	Lunch C Btry, 2d LAAM
1400-1600	Show C Btry, 2d LAAM
1630-1730	Dinner HHC 39th Eng Area
1800-2000	Show 39th Eng Bn Area

5 June

0930-1130	Show 23rd Med Bn Area
1200-1330	Lunch 23rd Med Bn Area
1430-1630	Show Duc Pho
1630-1730	Dinner Duc Pho
1830	Return to Chu Lai

6 June

0930-1130	Show 198th Area
1200-1330	Lunch Americal NCO Mess
1400-1600	Show 723d Maint Area
1630-1730	Dinner Americal Combat Center
1800-2000	Show Americal Combat Center

