

AWARDS & Decorations

SILVER STAR

LTC Robert B. Longino, 196th Bde; CPT Kenneth R. Lamison Jr., 1st Cav; 1LT John L. Berns, 1st Cav; 1LT Philip L. Spackman, 11th Bde; 1LT Kenneth A. Zilke, 11th Arty; 11th Bde; 1LT Paul Yamada, 11th Bde; 2LT Jerry J. Josey, 196th Bde; CW2 Valentine Royal, 251st Rad. Det; CW2 Dennis J. Lord, 123rd Avn. Bn; WO1 John M. Blair, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 John I. O'Sullivan, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; PSG Jose J. Fernandez-Delgado, 11th Bde; SFC Neol P. Farmer, 1st Cav; SFC Charles E. Broadhead, 196th Bde; SFC Harold D. Winger, 196th Bde; SGT Johnathon A. Neil, 11th Bde; SGT Thomas L. Dreier, 11th Bde; SGT Ronald M. Olsen, Spt. Cmd; SGT James V. DeRosa, 1st Cav; SGT Carl M. Johnson, 196th Bde; SGT Michael J. Kollen, 1st Cav; SGT Gary L. Reynolds, 196th Bde; SP4 Gerald H. Penn, 196th Bde; SP4 John C. Stricklin Jr., 196th Bde; SP4 David A. Barnett, 11th Bde; SP4 Edward E. Floyd, 196th Bde; SP4 Joseph E. Meredith, 1st Cav; PFC Sammy L. Graham, 11th Bde; PFC Vincent Taylor, 196th Bde; PFC Michael J. Mills, 11th Bde.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

CW2 Gilbert W. Snow, 123rd Avn. Bn; SGT Charles G. Price Jr., 233rd Sig. Bn; SGT Steven M. Sherbundy, 11th Bde; PFC Dennis H. Lafcrest, 16th Arty.

SOLDIERS MEDAL

LTC Herschel E. Chapman, 11th Bde; LTC Richard M. Gecoma, 196th Bde; MAJ Ronald C. Metcalf, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; CPT John M. Henry, 1st Cav; 1LT Roger L. Mothersbaugh, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; 1LT Robert D. Tormey, 123rd Avn. Bn; 1LT William D. Bristow Jr., 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Jerry W. Herman, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Thomas Downs, 123rd Avn. Bn; WO1 David B. Haugen, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Robert J. Haynes, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Wayne D. Clark, (1st OLC), 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Phillip S. Lee, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Thomas G. Melin, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Richard K. McLean, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Glen E. Goff Jr., 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Robert Allison, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Antonio K. Taylor, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn.

BRONZE STAR WITH "V" DEVICE

CPT William T. Isaac, (2nd OLC), 11th Arty; CPT Jerry W. Lindsay, 196th Bde; CPT Foster W. Jenkins, 82nd Arty; 1LT George G. Beall, Spt. Cmd; 1LT David L. Rumsey Jr., 56th Arty; 1LT Edward P. O'Connor, 196 Bde; 1LT Loren C. Wardell Jr., 1st Cav; 2LT Robert J. Youngs, 11th Bde; 1SG Van B. Kadlec, (1st OLC), 196th Bde; SSG Darrel M. Pack, 82nd Arty; SGT Frank Yanez, 196th Bde; SGT Paul D. Bonnell, 14th Arty; SGT Rodney R. Dillman, 11th Bde; SGT George B. Edwards, 196th Bde; SGT Joseph Green, 196th Bde; SGT Michael W. Lewis, 11th Bde; SGT Donald L. Mann, 11th Bde; SGT Ronald C. Bleazard, 1st Cav; SGT Lawrence J. Ranek, 11th Bde; SGT Russell G. White, 82nd Arty; SP4 Robert R. Blanus, 16th Arty; SP4 Ernesto R. Borges, 196th Bde; SP4 Wilbert L. Croom, 11th Bde; SP4 Thomas Hall, 196th Bde; SP4 John K. Henning, 196th Bde; SP4 Alan T. Blado, 196th Bde; SP4 Clyde R. Rossin, (1st OLC), 1st Cav; SP4 Johnny M. Cruz, (1st OLC), 11th Bde; SP4 Zola R. Jones, 51st Inf. Spt. Cmd; SP4 Jerry W. Ferguson, (1st OLC), 11th Bde; SP4 Ronald Diotaiuto, 196th Bde; SP4 Robert M. Geissler Jr., 196th Bde; SP4 John E. Eads, 196th Bde; SP4 Robert E. Kool, 196th Bde; SP4 Alvin C. Merzke, 10th Arty; SP4 John E. Schultz, 75th Inf. Spt. Cmd; SP4 John J. Schwall, 196th Bde; SP4 Robert R. Sedlmeyer, 75th Inf. Spt. Cmd; SP4 Joseph L. Vann, 11th Bde; PFC Kenneth W. Tenney, 196th Bde; PFC Gary L. Bishop, 14th Arty.

AIR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

1LT William D. Bristow, (1st OLC), 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Thomas Bell, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; WO1 Walter E. Peck, (9th OLC), 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SSG Juan R. Rios-Rivera, 11th Bde; SGT Johnny Rome, (32nd OLC), 123rd Avn. Bn; SP5 Lawrence J. Silva Jr., (3rd OLC), 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP5 Phillip R. Varnum, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Alvin M. Fugate, (1st OLC), 123rd Avn. Bn; SP4 William E. Swinford, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Richard J. Conover, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Wayne E. Hawk, (1st OLC), 123rd Avn. Bn; SP4 Jerry L. Mitchell, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Richard C. Sear, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Dennis R. Potter, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Lee E. Haywood, (1st OLC), 123rd Avn. Bn; SP4 Steven R. Cundy, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 John C. Gruidl, (1st OLC), 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Tommy Hobbs, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn; SP4 Billy L. Parsons, (1st OLC), 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn.

Missing Kim Safe And Found

LZ BALDY — It will be a tearful homecoming for Kim Lunh Khanh.

The boy, kidnapped when VC terrorists assassinated his hamlet chief father, was rescued after weeks of enemy captivity by a joint effort of Regional Forces (RFs) and an American infantry unit.

At tiny Xuan Phu hamlet, 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky, everyone was enjoying the festivities of the annual Buddhist birthday celebration when three men walked unnoticed into the midst of the revelry.

They went quickly to the home of hamlet chief Luu Khanh and, in brutal contrast to the merry-making outside, shot the chief in the head with a pistol and spirited away his 10-year-old son, Kim.

The family was doubly grief stricken. Kim's uncle, Theu Van Khanh, an RF with the Moc Bai forces, swore vengeance and began checking rumors of the kidnapped boy's whereabouts. After weeks of following up fragmented bits of information and blind leads, his efforts were finally rewarded.

On a joint search and clear operation 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky, Moc Bai RFs and "Legionnaires" from 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., of the 196th Inf. Bde. were sweeping through the sandy floodplain just inland from the South China Sea.

As evening approached, the units suddenly began receiving fire from a range of dunes to their front. Dropping to cover behind rice paddy dikes, company commander 1LT Dwight D.

Regiment Observes Birthday

LZ DRAGON — The 4th ARVN Regiment celebrated its 7th Anniversary at LZ Dragon, where the regiment is stationed.

The regiment is part of the 2nd ARVN Division, and was established on July 1, 1962 at Than Ha, Quang Nam. The unit is presently commanded by LTC Le Ba Khieu.

Participating in almost all the operations organized within Quang Ngai Province, its soldiers have killed more than 12,500 enemy and detained another 1000.

During Operation "Quyet Thant," meaning "Strive for Victory," the ARVN unit and the 11th Bde. "Jungle Warriors" fought side by side killing 1496 enemy soldiers.

At the anniversary celebration, COL Jack L. Treadwell (Ashland, Ala.), the 11th Bde. commander, received one of the highest ARVN awards, the Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star, in recognition of the support he has given the ARVN Regiment.

LTC Richard A. Jacoby (Arlington, Va.), the senior American advisor to the 4th ARVN Regt., and his advisory team were thanked for the help they have given the Regiment in completing its mission against the Communist forces. (11th IO)



Rebuilding For Future

An elderly Vietnamese man notches logs to be used as support in his new home on the Batangan Peninsula. He is one of the many refugees returned to homesites cleared by the 26th Engr. Bn. as Operation Russell Beach began its final phases.

(Photo by 1LT Helmut Hebert, 196th Bde. IO)

Finds Haven In Jungle

Respite From Rigors of War

By SP4 BILL CRAWFORD

LZ WEST — A platoon from the 196th Inf. Bde. have found a sort of Shangri-la amidst the steaming jungles they constantly patrol.

The reconnaissance platoon of 4th Bn., 31st Inf., considers the small village of Phu Coc, located 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky, as a utopia and with good reason.

The men of the recon platoon have established a close rapport with the residents of Phu Coc. The close association began a few months ago when the platoon detained a military-age male near the village.

He was taken to brigade headquarters at LZ Baldy. After interrogation established he was not a VC sympathizer, he was returned to Phu Coc.

Several days later the unit passed through the village on a search and clear operation. Apparently their detainee of a few days before had enjoyed his glimpse of American civilization. He was wearing a new set of clothes and was listening to a shiny transistor radio.

New Friend

He proudly showed his new possessions to the men of the recon platoon and after this day Recon had a group of firm friends in Phu Coc.

The platoon conducted a series of MEDCAP operations in the village during the next few months. The Americans worked closely with the people, often joining them for a noonday meal. Soon the platoon and the villagers were calling each other by name.

Perhaps the most valuable friend the soldiers have in Phu Coc is a 10-year-old Vietnamese boy they dubbed "Honcho." He is the leader of the village children and has expressed his grat-

itude to the American troops for their kindness in an interesting manner.

It seems that "Honcho" is a skilled map reader. If a soldier points to a ridge line on the map, Honcho can point to the same ridge line in the surrounding countryside. He also has proved to be valuable in locating the elusive VC guerrillas who operate in the foothills near his home.

Recently the recon element questioned "Honcho" concerning VC activities in the area. Confidently he located nearby ridge line on the map and exclaimed, "VC here!" The platoon moved out along the ridge and captured 18 VC in the exact location pinpointed by "Honcho."

With all the good food and hospitality offered by the people of Phu Coc it has become a home away from home for the "Chargers."

"Recon's town" is also producing outstanding results from a tactical viewpoint. (196th IO)

Firemen Alert And Ready To Battle, Prevent Blaze

DUC PHO—Fire Station #1, operated by the Pacific Architects and Engineers Inc., had its work cut out fighting brush fires around the 11th Bde.'s perimeter.

The department has two missions: providing fire protection and prevention, and structural and crash rescue.

The men and equipment are located next to the landing strip, and they are able to give immediate rescue and fire control to aircraft utilizing the field.

This phase of their job increases during the monsoon season as bad weather up hazards to aircraft landing and leaving the airfield.

"The fire department is slowly growing in size and proficiency," explained Terry W. Hundt (Las Vegas, Nev.), the Fire Chief of 1 Corps Tactical Zone.

"We presently have ten Vietnamese Nationals working with us as trainee fire fighters, and by July we hope to be staffed with 30 trained Vietnamese Nationals working in 24-hour shifts." (11th IO)