

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
37TH INFANTRY PLATOON (SCOUT DOGS)  
3RD BRIGADE 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION  
APO San Francisco 96228

SUBJECT: History 37th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog)

TO: Brigade S-3 AITB—Brigade Historian

Since arriving in-country 26 January 1969, the 37th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog) has supported the 3rd Brigade 82nd Airborne Division on a continuous basis. The unit was deployed from Ft. Benning, Georgia with 2LT Robert R. Crowder as commanding officer and SFC E-7 Vincent Daye as platoon Sergeant.

The first unit of the Brigade to be supported was the 1/505 on the 19th of February. On 21 February, SP4E4 Brunson and his dog "Bodo" made contact with the enemy while supporting Co A 1/505—results, 1 KIA.

On 20 February, the 37th IPSD started supporting the 2/505 and has continued to do so since. The 21st of February, the 37th IPSD began supporting 1/508.

The 37th IPSD has supported the Infantry Battalions in the "Hobo Woods," "Iron Triangle," "Pineapple Region," "Hoc Mon District," "Parrot's Beak," "An Son Valley," and the Cambodian Border. The 37th IPSD has been awarded the COMBAT INFANTRY STREAMER for its role in the Brigade's mission.

The Platoon also has supported "B" Troop 1/17 Cav, and Company "O" 75th Rangers, to include supporting local ARVN forces on a request basis.

The 37th IPSD has over 1500 support days in the field. During this time, there has only been one man killed in action. PFC E-3 KUEFNER was killed during his support of Co D 1/508 on 14 August 1969. In giving his life, PFC E-3 KUEFNER saved the lives of the rest of the men of the patrol.

Brigadeer General Dickerson has presented two Impact Awards to this platoon. One ARCOM w/"V" Device to then PFC E-3 HANCOCK for his actions with Co D 2/505 on 1 April 1969. The other Impact Award, ARCOM w/"V" Device, was presented to SP4E4 Johnson for his actions while in support of Co A 1/508.

One of the 37th IPSD's Scout Dogs has also been presented an award by Brigadeer General Dickerson. Scout Dog Prince (Brand #762M) was presented with the WOOF-WOOF award for wounds sustained in the "Hobo Woods."

There are also two members of the 37th IPSD who have received the BRONZE STAR MEDAL w/"V" DEVICE.

PFC E-3 RAYMOND MYNHIER, while on a mission with Co E 1/508 west of Saigon was working his dog "Ranger" when he gave an alert. Obvious of any danger to himself, PFC E-3 MYNHIER shouted a warning to the people around him, arousing the enemy's attention to his location. Still, he advanced toward the woodline encouraging his dog to seek out the exact location of the enemy. Suddenly an enemy grenade exploded and severely wounded PFC E-3 MYNHIER and his dog. The dog, crazed by his wounds, attacked the radio telephone operator. PFC E-3 MYNHIER tried to beat the dog off, but was bitten several times. The dog was finally destroyed by the platoon sergeant. Though severely wounded, PFC E-3 MYNHIER refused medical aid until the wounded RTO had first been treated.

SSGE-6 FRED H. STEVENS, JR. was also awarded the BRONZE STAR with "V" DEVICE for exceptionally valorous actions on 31 March 1969 while supporting Co A 1/508 infantry.

Of Human Interest, the AHERN KENNELS were named in honor of ROBERT P. AHERN who was killed in the Republic of Vietnam on 30 March 1969. *File*

*2-05  
RWB*

SP5E5 AHEEM was well liked and respected by the men of the unit as well as the Support Battalion. His death was a real blow to the platoon.

2LT RICHARD D. BRUCE took command of the 37th IPSD on 2 August 1969 when 1LT CROWDER was transferred to WAR DOG HEADQUARTERS, USARV. Since that time, the platoon has continued to support the Infantry Battalions of the 3rd Brigade 82nd Airborne Division.

To add to the support for the 3rd Brigade, WAR DOG HEADQUARTERS, USARV assigned a Combat Tracker Detachment to the Brigade. Since becoming operational in September, the Trackers have been on several missions with the infantry battalions adding even more support to the war effort.