

both in base camp and in the field. Of these 732 services, 470 were conducted in the field. This marvelous effort did much to sustain the morale of the battalions at a high level. The chaplains were always available for counseling and gave freely of their time whenever asked. Time and again they were on hand to give spiritual guidance to the men during contact with the enemy, always sacrificing for the good of the men of this command. Through their efforts, the Roman Catholic Church at Lap Dien was completely restored after being razed. The chaplains also participated in many MEDCAP operations contributing greatly to the efforts of local pacification program. The chaplains were instrumental in the operations of orphanages at Hoc Mon, Duc Hoa, and Bac Ha. Time and again the chaplains have been a source of food, clothing and religious items for the needy and have selflessly given of themselves.

→ 9. 44th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog): The 44th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog) was attached to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Brigade on 2 March 1970. Throughout March and April 1970, the 44th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog) consistently supported the OPCON battalions in a superior manner making significant contributions to the entire brigade's combat operations. Members of the platoon demonstrated, on all occasions, a thorough knowledge of their work, exceptional dependability, true professionalism and resoluteness of purpose. During this period the platoon accumulated 356 support days in conjunction with 3d Brigade combat operations. This superlative support was provided by the 20 operational scout dog teams available throughout the period. Both men and dogs participated in 68 ambush patrols, hundreds of bushmaster operations which resulted in the discovery of numerous booby traps, tunnels, snipers and enemy bunkers. In addition to the enviable combat record the platoon further displayed its effectiveness and combat readiness by receiving a satisfactory score in all areas of interest during its first Annual General Inspection.

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