

## General's Aide

**CAMP ENARI** — Specialist 4 Robert S. Walden of Charlie Battery, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery, was honored by being named the enlisted aide to Major General Donn R. Pepke, 4th Division commander.

The 22-year-old North Platte, Neb., native said, "I used to think generals were as hard and cold as their stars, but General Pepke has certainly changed that opinion. He is serious, but when a joke comes along, he laughs along with the rest of us.

"He has made this honor a worthwhile experience and I am just sorry that everyone doesn't get a chance to spend a week with him."

Prior to entering the Army, Specialist Walden was a student at Kearney State College in Kearney, Neb.

2-16-69  
Fuy Leaf

## Ration Postcards

**BAN ME THUOT** — Running out of writing paper is a perennial problem for 4th Division troops in the field.

However, Specialist 4 Spencer J. Kreiser of Lorain, Ohio, a radio telephone operator for Company A, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, has come up with a field expedient for the problem.

He makes postcards from the tops of individual C ration cartons.

"I just tear off the top, draw a line down the middle, put the address on one end and the message on the other. Instead of a picture, whoever I send it to gets a description of the meal I just had," he smiled.

# Firefights Badger NVA Troops

**CAMP ENARI** — Combat activity increased measurably this week throughout the Famous 4th's wide-ranging area of operation as Ivymen were credited with 25 enemy kills.

Attention remained focused, however, on an area 28 kilometers north of Plei Djereng, where two companies of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry initiated and remained in contact with the enemy for most of the week.

On Jan. 18 Company D, penetrated a hastily-evacuated enemy base camp in the thickly jungled area north of Plei Djereng. It was estimated that the camp quartered at least a platoon-sized unit. Twenty-five fortified sleeping positions and a hut were destroyed and 20 60mm mortar rounds were evacuated.

The following day Company A, exhumed one NVA body in the area, while nearby Company C, following a blood trail, discovered a large cave complex housing numerous documents, 31 field packs, 50 NVA uniforms, an undisclosed amount of machine gun ammo, two NVA pistols, over a ton of rice and several photos.

On Jan. 21, Company D reported itself engaged in a heavy, day-long contact with an enemy of unknown size. NVA small arms and mortar fire was countered by US gunships and artillery throughout the day.

On Jan. 22, Company A linked with Company D in an effort to crush the enemy. Fighting continued through Jan. 23 as two companies expended a withering volume of fire against an apparently well-entrenched enemy force.

Two incidents were reported approximately 25 kilometers northwest of Kontum on Jan. 18.

In the early morning hours, Company C, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry's perimeter was probed by a VC force of undermined size. Two platoons reacted immediately, killing one VC on the wire and destroying one B40 rocket launcher.

Later that morning Company B, conducting a sweep in the same general area, discovered an enemy medical aid station. The sweep yielded a find of six large huts, each structured with a large, winding tunnel complex beneath, assorted medical supplies including needles and bandage, and an NVA gas mask.

One hundred meters to the west, spider holes for a company-sized unit were also found and destroyed.

During the afternoon of Jan.

19, about 15 kilometers north of Plei Djereng, elements of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, unearthed graves containing bodies of five NVA soldiers. Nearby, Company C found a quantity of NVA propaganda leaflets.

Seven kilometers northeast of Pleiku, guards at the 62nd Motor Transport complex spotted two enemy soldiers moving through the perimeter wire on the night of Jan. 19. Employing jeep headlights for illumination, the guards killed the intruders.

On Jan. 23, 35 kilometers east of Camp Enari, elements of the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry discovered two caves, one 30' x 50' and the other 29' x 30'.

A more extensive search revealed another natural cave 50' x 60' x 30' containing five large huts capable of sleeping two companies of troops. It was estimated that the cave had been used about four hours prior to its detection.

Famous 4th Division LRP's also remained active throughout the week, playing havoc with small enemy units.

On Jan. 20, 23 kilometers north-east of Kontum, a LRP employed a Claymore mine to kill one of the two enemy soldiers spotted. A pack containing two grenades and documents, along with an SKS, were captured. The following day the patrol made contact with 14 Viet Montagnard Cong (VMC). Small arms fire was exchanged, and when contact was finally broken, the LRP's counted four dead VMC.

On Jan. 23, north of Kontum, five enemy soldiers fell victims to another alert LRP patrol which engaged them with a heavy volume of small arms fire and grenades.

2-9-69  
Fuy Leaf

## General's Aide

**CAMP ENARI** — Specialist 4 James R. Follabout of St. Clair Shores, Mich., a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, was named enlisted aide to Major General Donn R. Pepke, division commander.

"This has been my best week in the Army," remarked Specialist Follabout, an M60 machine gunner in the 3rd Brigade for the past 10 months. "For being selected general's aide I will receive a three-day R&R at Vung Tau and I am really looking forward to it," he added.

Specialist Follabout, who has extended his tour in Vietnam, was chosen as the enlisted aide through competition with other men on the platoon, company and battalion levels.

A hockey enthusiast and coach of a junior league hockey team in St. Clair Shores before entering the service, Specialist Follabout plans to work toward a college education on his release from the service.

## Veterans' Info

**CAMP ENARI**—Famous 4th Infantry Division soldiers can obtain information concerning the Veterans Administration from VA representatives here in Vietnam.

Representatives said they can be contacted for personal interviews, or mail can be addressed to them at the installation nearest to or most convenient for the inquirer or writer.

Locations and APOs are as follows:

Tan Son Nhut—Care of 377 Combat Support Group, APO 96307.

Bien Hoa—Care of 3rd General Support Group, APO 96227.

Long Binh — Care of 90th Replacement Battalion, APO 96491.

Cam Ranh Bay — Care of 22nd Replacement Battalion, APO 96377.