

DUC PHO, VIETNAM

LTC TILLER TAKES COMMAND



High on a hill overlooking the area of some of the 3rd Brigade's fiercest battles, Lieutenant Colonel Norman L. Tiller assumed command of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry from Lieutenant Colonel Clinton E. Graner, the aggressive, highly successful commander for the past five months.

The ceremony at LZ "Liz," was attended by the Brigade Commander, Colonel James G. Shana-

han and the Commanding General of the 4th Infantry Division, Major General William R. Peers. Colonel Tiller takes over the "Cacti Blue" Battalion after three months as the Brigade Executive Officer. Upon accepting
(continued on page 2)

SILVER STARS AWARDED TO FIVE

Five members of the 3d Brigade were recently awarded Silver Stars by General William B. Rosson, commanding general of Task Force Oregon.

General Rosson took off on a whirlwind tour of the 3/25th's battalion fire bases, presenting the awards to the infantrymen in brief, informal ceremonies.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions, 35th Infantry won major victories from NVA forces in the Duc Pho District of Quang Ngai Province giving the five troops the opportunity to display the courage that earned them our nation's 3rd highest award for valor.

(continued on page 2)

Change of Command Silver Stars

CONT

Continued

the Battalion Colors, Colonel Tiller officially assumed command of the "Cacti Blue" with, as he expressed, "A feeling of deep humility and great pride to be associated with such an outstanding, truly outstanding combat unit."

Colonel Granger, after a leave in the States, will be returning to Vietnam to take over as Operations Officer (G-3) of Task Force Oregon. The 18-month Vietnam veteran received a Silver Star and Air Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster during the ceremony for gallantry in action.

Colonel Granger earned his Silver Star for a March 12 battle near the Cambodian border that engaged his entire battalion. Directing the fighting, and endangering himself, in his low flying helicopter, Colonel Granger later landed in the thick of the action to command his forces from the ground.

The 2/35th, under his command and control, engaged in many bitter battles from the Cambodian border to the Communist-infested lowlands of Quang Ngai Province, building a name for itself that ranks with the best in Vietnam.

In bidding farewell to the men he has fought with and commanded, Colonel Granger stated, "There is no finer group of soldiers than those that were "Cacti Blue," every single one. I'm proud to have been a member of this battalion, proud to have been with it through some of the hard times and some of the good times that we have had.

"I will miss you all more than I can tell you--God bless all of you."

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Captain Lanning, commander of C Company, 2/35th was responsible for the safe evacuation of his wounded men and the defeat of an entrenched NVA force during a bitter battle.

With dustoff impossible due to the heavy fire his company was receiving, Captain Lanning crawled a hundred feet under fire to summon an APC to evacuate the wounded. When they were safely on their way, he organized and led a flanking assault on the Communists.

Knocked off his feet once by a grenade, Captain Lanning continued the assault. Counter-attacking with a grenade assault of his own and following through with his rifle and bayonet, the CO and his men routed and killed 17 enemy.

A week later, 1st Lieutenant Homel Krout II was leading his Recon Platoon, 2/35th to the aid of another unit when the platoon was hit by automatic weapons fire from a larger enemy force.

After directing one element of his platoon to maneuver against bunkers to the rear, Lieutenant Krout led his platoon in the destruction of enemy automatic weapons positions to the front.

Lieutenant Krout crawled into the bunker, and with grenades destroyed the position and captured two weapons. Rejoining his other squad, he began moving from position to position to direct fire and hurl grenades into more bunkers to silence the enemy.

Another was Specialist 4 Kenneth R. Stevens. Specialist Stevens, an RTO with the 3rd Platoon of B Company, 2/35th (continued on page 3)

This is the story I wrote about (happened the day I was sick)

BROTHERS REUNITE UNDER GVN

A Vietnamese National Policeman reported to Duc Pho District Headquarters that he had convinced a Viet Cong Lieutenant into returning to the GVN but needed help in arranging an escape plan.

The policeman seemed very anxious to bring the VC in safely and, on further questioning, revealed that the lieutenant was his brother.

There was a catch, however. The lieutenant traveled in the company of a VC sergeant who carried the only weapon between the two and was unwilling to "Chieu Hoi."

A plan was worked out where a helicopter would swoop down and pick up the lieutenant and carry him safely back to District Headquarters. ~~1st and 2nd platoons~~.

To provide security for the chopper, two platoons of infantrymen from the 3rd Brigade moved into the area. The surprise of seeing the American ground troops, frightened both the lieutenant and the sergeant and they fled.

His brother, the policeman, and a popular forces troop were not about to give up. Waiting at the home of the lieutenant's sister, the two Vietnamese
(continued on page 6)

Silver Stars

took over his platoon's communications when a mortar seriously wounded the B Company commander and executive officer.

Specialist Stevens moved to the perimeter line and, communicating with the forward observer

sergeant, made all artillery adjustments and kept them informed of the situation.

Controlling the entire battle until the executive officer was able to take command, Specialist Stevens' courage and determination were the primary reasons the enemy was defeated.

Rushing to rescue an injured comrade on a listening post 75 meters beyond the perimeter earned the Silver Star for PFC Herman D. Logan of the 1st Platoon, A Company, 2/35th.

Leaving his weapon behind so that he wouldn't have to carry it and the wounded man, PFC Logan ran the 75 meters under heavy fire from the larger force. Administering first aid to his friend, Specialist Nagen-gast, PFC Logan moved back through the vicious cross-fires, carrying the injured man inside the perimeter.

When Company A, 1/35th entered a small village on a search and destroy mission, the lead element came under intense automatic weapons fire and PFC Thomas M. Harris moved with his machine gun 100 meters across open terrain to return the fire.

PFC Harris, by keeping continuous fire on the enemy, allowed the lead element to move to a safe position and a second element to set up and protect the company from getting flanked.

VC Booby-traps Backfire

One of the favorite tactics of VC guerrillas has been booby-trapping areas of American movement, but occasionally their plans back-fire.

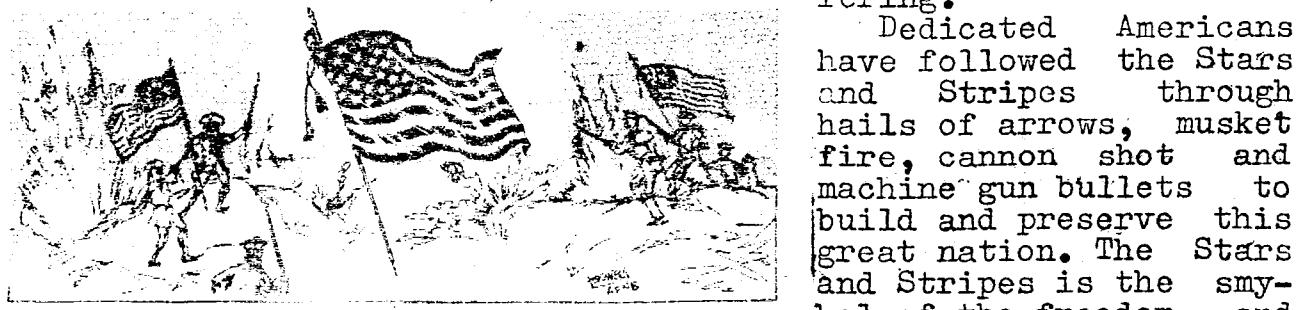
Troops at LZ "OD," the fire base of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, were startled one
(continued on page 4)

National Symbol

Flag Day commemorates the adoption of a resolution by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777, making the Stars and Stripes the flag of the United States.

Since that time, the nation symbolized by that flag has grown from 13 small states crowded along the eastern coastline into a mighty nation spanning the continent from east to west and stretching more than 1,500 miles north to south.

The 13 stars in the first flag have grown to 50, reflecting the growth, progress and determination of a people who would not be stopped by mountains, rivers, hardship or suffering.



all, bought with the blood and sweat of dedicated patriots throughout our history.

First observed on a national scale in 1877, Flag Day is now recognized by presidential proclamation. It is a day that should be celebrated by displaying the Colors on public buildings and private homes by patriotic programs throughout the land.

The Stars and Stripes represents the principles, history and strength of the greatest nation in the world.

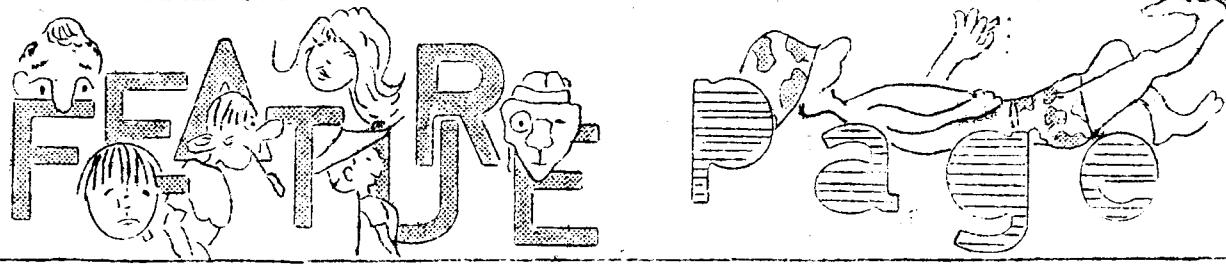
BOOBY-TRAPS

CON'T
afternoon by a blast near their perimeter.

A patrol was sent to investigate the explosion at the base of the hill about 500 meters from "OD." The infantrymen found a dead Viet Cong who had had his hands blown off, along with detonating cord, blasting caps and the pin and handle from an American grenade.

3 guys (2 from Miami - 1 Major + 1 Sandwell) were hurt. Further search of the area revealed a second Viet Cong body in a nearby well. The man had apparently crawled into the well with his last bit of strength to avoid discovery.

The VC were in the process of setting up one of the hundreds of booby-traps that have plagued troops of the 3rd Brigade in the Duc Pho area, when it exploded.



TEST FACTS YOUR

1. When folding the AT-271 antenna always start from
 (a) The middle of the antenna. (b) The base end. (c) The small end.

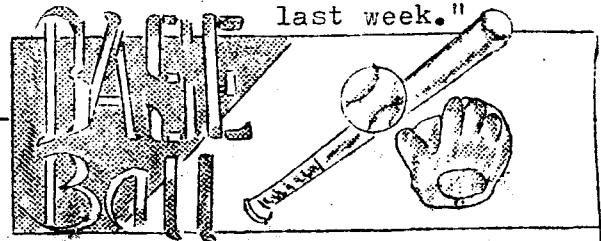
2. The AN/PRC-25 radio has a power requirement of
 (a) Six BA-30 batteries. (b) One BA-386 battery. (c) Four BA-200 batteries.

3. When operating the AN/PRC-25 radio in dense foliage and not moving, it is best to use

(a) The short antenna. (b) The long "fish-pole" antenna.
 (c) Either antenna.

4. The rated range of the AN/PRC-25 in kilometers is
 (a) 8 kilometers. (b) 10 kilometers. (c) 15 kilometers.

(answers on page 6)



MAJOR LEAGUE

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cincinnati	38	21	.644	---
St. Louis	32	21	.604	3
San Francisco	31	24	.564	5
Pittsburgh	29	23	.558	5½
Chicago	29	24	.547	6
Atlanta	27	28	.491	9
Philadelphia	26	27	.491	9
Houston	22	35	.386	15
Los Angeles	21	35	.375	15½
New York	17	34	.333	17

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	31	21	.596	---
Detroit	31	23	.574	1
Baltimore	28	25	.528	3½
Boston	28	26	.519	4
Minnesota	28	27	.509	4½
Cleveland	28	27	.509	4½
New York	25	29	.463	7
Kansas City	26	31	.456	7½
California	25	33	.431	9
Washington	24	32	.429	9

PFC has foot trouble

PFC Leslie Thomas has had a problem with his feet for years. The problem is that they will not quit growing. The young soldier, of B Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry has had trouble fitting his size fourteen feet since his entrance into the military service. In civilian life he was able to get shoes by having them custom made but in basic training this was not the case. The only shoes that they were able to fit him with in basic were low quarter dress shoes. These had to suffice for the six-foot-five soldier until he was into his second week of advanced infantry training.

When PFC Thomas reached the 3rd Brigade he was required to exchange his stateside combat boots for jungle boots. The young mortarman's feet once again gave his supply sergeant headaches.

The best pair of boots that he was able to come up with were a pair of size 13's.

This pair of boots has served PFC Thomas, after considerable breaking in, for the last seven and a half months. As all good things must come to an end so once again he is faced with the problem of acquiring a new pair.

The big-footed PFC has not been surprised that they haven't arrived as yet. Said Thomas, "If they don't send me some size 14's soon, they had better send some 15's."

BROTHERS

government troops ambushed the lieutenant, the sergeant, and a third VC and with enough facts on the "Cheiu Hoi" program they convinced all three to return to the government.

Valuable information was obtained from the former VC officer who had been educated in North Vietnam and served for ten years with the Communists forces.

TEST YOUR FACTS

ANSWERS

1. (c) The small end.

2. (b) One BA-386 battery.

3. (b) The long "fish-pole" antenna.

4. (a) 8 kilometers.

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