



# BLACKHORSE HOOBEATS



ISSUE #23

LZ UPLIFT, RVN

13 JAN 1968

KILL 201 NVA

## TWO 2/12 LZ'S HIT

Elements of the 21st and 31st NVA Regiments supported by anti-aircraft, mortar, heavy weapons and suicide Sapper companies hit LZ Ross and LZ Leslie occupied by the 2/12th Cavalry. It was a simultaneous effort to overrun the Skytroopers positions and knock out their artillery support.

At approximately 0130 hours on Jan 3 the first mortar rounds fell on LZ Leslie. Lt Richard Maragni, 24, from Scotch Plains, N.J. was duty officer in the Tactical Operations Center on LZ Ross. As he was receiving word from Leslie of the attack, a 122 mm Rocket hit within 15 feet of the TOC. "The whole bunker shook and I knew we were going to be hit hard," he exclaimed. Reports of the incoming rounds came in from elements on the perimeter, but Lt Maragni was already busy calling for illumination and scout ships for both LZs'.

Generators and power lines were damaged with the first rounds. Auxillary commo equipment was utilized while SPl Guy Milkovick, from Houston, Texas, repaired the damaged equipment as mortars fell around him. Commo was never lost at any time.

LTC Bob L. Gregory, from Monett, Missouri, moved from his covered sleeping bunker to the TOC dodging the incoming rounds and co-ordinated support for his elements at both LZs'.

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1/50 HAS  
GOOD TIMES

What is a week like with Battling Bravo Braves of the 1/50th Infantry? It is not exactly like a weekend camping trip you might go on back in the world, but believe me a more exciting week you'll never have. During the period 2 thru 7 Jan the BravoBraves completed several missions, all of which were highly successful. The week started with the Braves in the Crescent area, south of the town of Bong Son, where they had been operating since the unit's arrival in Vietnam about 4 months ago. This area had proven to be very exasperating hunting grounds for the Braves, as they had only bumped noses with Charlie on rare and sporadic occasions.

On the morning of the 2d, the Braves received word to move to An Lac, a beach hamlet on the China Sea, where the Delta Devils of the same battalion had made contact with an estimated enemy force of 2 companies plus of NVA. As the contact continued Bravo and Charlie Companies of the 1/5th Cav were called into the operation. Under the command of LTC Albert Hut-

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UPLIFT AGO-AGOENTERTAINMENT  
AND STARS  
TO UPLIFT

The Christmas holidays saw several entertainers come to LZ Uplift to bring the seasonal spirit to Blackhorse Brigade Skytroopers. The Pussycats, a female band from Australia, brought a little rock and roll to the LZ on the 24th. On the 26th the sun brought Diane McBain and Melody Patterson, TV stars from "Surfside 6" and "F Troop" respectively. The closest the Bob Hope show got was Phu Cat AFB but some Skytroopers managed to get there. Shortly after New Year's the Army's own Sinister Soul Set flew in for a rocking one hour performance. All in all the LZ came close to celebrating the holidays in a fine style!

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

How good are you at predicting the future? Can you qualify as a crystal ball gazer? If you were given a chance to look into the new year to witness the future events for your life would you take it?

There are several things about the new year that can be expected, without resorting to crystal gazing or mystical interpretation.

We can expect new responsibilities and possibilities in the new year. This is to be expected if we are growing, changing individuals. Our Lord calls upon each of us to use every experience as a stepping stone to growth and maturity. As we are responsible individuals, we are also faithful to our Lord. As we grow in knowledge, strength, love, we are fulfilling His demand that we be faithful in the application and use of our time, talents, and abilities. New possibilities of enlargement and advancement are ours as we use our God-given talents to the utmost. May none of us rate the epitaph of one who was buried in a Cornish churchyard. "Here lies a nobody, who set out to go nowhere, and got there."

We can expect heartaches and conflict in the new year. As the scripture relates, "The sun shines on the just and the unjust alike." Pain, sorrow, and heartache is a part of life. The apostle Paul suggested that these were to teach patience and bring hope. As there are hills there are also valleys and it is man's portion to travel both. As Christians, God walks with us and shares the burden, the conflict and the hurt.

We can expect our portion of joy in the new year. Our joy may come through a sense of accomplishment. It may come as we find our selves within the circle of family and friends once again. It may come as we find a renewed faith in Christ. The law of life rightly suggests that our joy is commensurate to our use of possibilities and acceptance of responsibility.

One thing is for certain. We have begun a new year. One question remains. Have you begun this new year with God? Much that happens this year hinges upon your answer.

CHAPLAIN (CPT) JOSEPH P. DULANY  
1ST BN (M) 50TH INFANTRY

## A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

A combat medic can expect some wild, exciting, and many times frightening experiences. When the bullets are flying and everyone else is hugging the ground, he is usually running to the hottest spot to treat a wounded buddy. If asked to recall his most frightening experience, he will probably talk about a fierce fire-fight, unless he is in C Company 2/12 Cavalry.

"It was the most frightening experience I have ever had," exclaimed SP4 Gerald Bolden, 21, from Fairfield, Calif. "I was so shook-up I didn't know what to do," added SP4 Wayne Owings, 21, from Oak Grove, Mo. All of this was caused by a little baby less than one day old. In fact not even born yet. That was the problem. How do

you deliver a baby out in the boonies?

Charlie Company was rounding up a group of 146 refugees to be lifted out of a village in the Que Son District. It became very apparent to the Skytroopers that at any moment the number of refugees would grow to 147. One of the women refugees was beginning to have labor pains.

The two medics were informed and decided that they had better talk this situation over,

### NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD HAPPEN TO US?

The 2/12th Cav. had been working with refugees a lot the last 2 months. The medics had noticed that many of the women were in a family way, and talked over the possibility of having to deliver a baby. "We never really thought we would actually have it happen though" remarked Owings. "I didn't have any idea of what to do. It's just good that Bolden knew a little bit."

Bolden had received some training on how to deliver a baby and watched a baby being born. "Watching is a lot different than doing it yourself," explained Bolden. "We were both nervous and shook-up but we kept the woman as comfortable as possible."

A helicopter arrived on the scene and carried the woman to the town of Que Son where a doctor finished delivering the baby.

"We were sure glad to see her leave" said Bolden. "We were doing our best to help the baby along but we were so nervous to even think what we would do if the baby ever arrived. I would rather go through a fire fight than go through that again".

# TRUCE INCIDENT

Was the Christmas truce broken? SPl Glen Butler of D Company, 2d Bn, 5th Cavalry thought that it was, in the late evening hours of Christmas Eve at LZ Uplift.

SPl Jim Peterson of HQ Company 2/5th Cav, had not yet gained his night vision after leaving a brightly lit chapel where he had attended Christmas Eve carol services. While attempting to find his own bunker in the pitch black dark, Peterson accidentally wandered to the outer edge of the defensive perimeter and set off a trip flare. The surprised Peterson, realizing where he was, turned to reach for safety amid the glare and smoke of the fire.

Butler, equally surprised by the flare, immediately opened fire on the moving figure 100 meters in front of his bunker. Scanning the area for more possible invaders, Butler noticed the fallen figure still moving, apparently seeking cover. Once again Butler opened fire, but a pause in the fire allowed Peterson's yell to penetrate the night. "I'm Peterson from HHC, I carry an M-16, the same as you. I'm hit. Don't shoot anymore".

The entire 2/5 camp was now alert and heard Butler ask him to repeat his name and unit. Having been convinced that Peterson was a US soldier and not a VC, Butler immediately obtained medical aid and led the way to Peterson.

Peterson's skillful use of cover enabled him to escape with three minor grazing wounds to the face and back.

When interviewed on the matter, 1SG Hershel Mullins stated, "I don't know whether to commend Peterson for digging the world's most instant fox-hole, or to chew out Butler for not being able to shoot straighter."

## A LONG, SCARY NIGHT

When LZ Leslie was hit by a large NVA attack, 3 men from D Company 2/12 Cav, manning a listening post outside the perimeter, were completely cut off from help. They held their position and fought off the NVA until help arrived after day-break.

"I thought it would be my last night alive," exclaimed SPl Ronald Story, 2L, from Pleasant Hill, Calif. They didn't hear any movement until the mortar rounds began hitting the perimeter. Then they found cover in a opening between some boulders. "We

could see the NVA fighting all around the perimeter and they had us cut off and surrounded," he explained.

They kept the NVA away with small arms fire, frag grenades, and ARA support.

"We held them off real well all night but we were really worried about how we would get back to the perimeter in the morning," began PFC Jerry Eaton 20, from Marion, Ill. The third man on the LP was wounded and they had to carry him along with them.

The NVA were still firing into Leslie and were sniping at the LP when 3 Skytroopers came to their aid.

"We started moving towards the perimeter but a sniper zeroed in on us and we headed for cover behind a boulder," continued Eaton.

Then they saw 3 NVA crawling towards them from the direction of the perimeter. "Things were getting bad by then," remarked Eaton. They shot the NVA but didn't kill them. Frags were thrown from perimeter positions and finished the enemy off.

More reinforcements arrived and brought the group up to 12 men. They silenced the sniper and set up a perimeter in a small rice paddy near by and brought in a chopper to evacuate the wounded.

They then maneuvered back to the perimeter.

## MORTARS LIGHT THE WAY

It's a proven fact that the men of the mortar platoon of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, have proven themselves in combat time after time, after time, not with a fight, but with "lights".

One of the main jobs for a mortar platoon is to supply the company with illumination, the on-the-spot lights up suspected movement. So be it for Charlie Company indirect weapons.

When all ambushes and CP's are in place, the Fire Direction Center (FDC) plots all locations for "lights", plus defensive targets. Things then only take a matter of seconds to get rolling. From the sound of the first shots the words fire mission ring throughout the FOB. Within minutes, the "lights" are on and everyone feels somewhat better. After the site is observed, the most likely escape route is shattered with the most highly explosive an 81mm mortar can pack.

A good weapons platoon should be treated with the greatest respect, just as Charlie Company 1/5th weapons platoon is.

## CLOTHES TO VIETNAMESE

Almost all GIs have witnessed the result of soap thrown to Vietnamese children. After the initial scramble and scuffle, usually the largest but quite often the most agile child has the coveted item in hand or mouth.

Chaplain J.P. Dulany, Battalion Chaplain with the 1/50th Infantry has found this to be the case with clothing as he has attempted to distribute it to the Vietnamese families in the AO. After several disheartening attempts to distribute clothing on an individual basis a new plan of action was devised.

The clothing which is sent by former parishoners and families in the U.S. is now distributed through the combined efforts of the Chaplain, a Vietnamese interpreter, Sgt Thanh supplied by 2 Bde S-5 and the officials of a refugee hamlet south of LZ Uplift which is the group receiving continued support through the program.

The Chaplain, his assistant, PFC Sublett, and Sgt Thanh carry the clothing to the hamlet office where the village officials discuss and determine the neediest families. The clothing is then distributed. During the past two months more than fifty families have received adequate clothing through this program of distribution.

The most recent innovation was the purchase and distribution of cloth to the needy families of the hamlet. Men of the 1/50th donated the funds that allowed the purchase of more than 175 meters of cloth to be distributed to the Vietnamese. The cloth was purchased on the local economy and distributed in the same manner as the clothing.

Chaplain Dulany states that the clothing distribution is a continuing program as he receives boxes of clothing from the U.S. every few weeks.

## IT WAS A DUD!

Booby traps are feared by Skytroopers more than anything else and Charlie is a master at setting them up. They are almost impossible to detect, until you step on them. Then it is usually too late, unless you are lucky like Lt George Ring, 24, from Union, New Jersey.

Charlie Company 2/12th Cav was searching for enemy mortar positions near LZ Ross. They moved slowly—meth-

odically searching the area. Frequent stops were made to blow deserted masonry houses that would provide shelter for the enemy. The day went smoothly and the 40lb. shape charges totally destroyed 6 structures.

Late in the afternoon they were instructed to move to a near hilltop to be extracted and flown the 2000 meters back to LZ Ross.

It was good news to the Skytroopers who had been moving almost exclusively by foot power for the last three months.

"We reached the hilltop and I began to place my men to secure it, when I felt the ground give way under my foot," explained Ring. "I wanted to freeze, but it was too late". He had stepped on a booby-trapped 105mm round. It was set in a small hole covered with interlaced bamboo strips covered with soil. The round did not explode and he moved far away from it and let an E.C.D team check it out.

"They told me that the only thing that saved me were a few grains of sand caught in the firing mechanism," added Ring, "A thing like that could ruin a guys whole day".

## NO REST FOR VC

When the enemy is observed, the triple threat attack of the 2/12 Cav goes into action. ARA and gunships chase Charlie into his holes. Artillery keeps him there, and the Skytroopers move in to dig him out.

The three-pronged attack is fast and deadly. Within 15 minutes after being alerted C Company, 2/12th Cav was in the air moving in on the enemy who were pinned down by gunships.

The enemy had been spotted by helicopters supporting an air assault by Delta Company. The artillery and gunships scattered the VC into hiding while killing four.

The Skytroopers hit the ground, fanned out, and searched the area to finish the job. They uncovered numerous concealed bunkers and hooches used by the Cong. Explosions ripped the air and flames crackled as they destroyed everything. Two bodies were in one hole blown apart by ARA. Another was found and destroyed. Also a map with travel routes marked on it was discovered and added to the growing amount of captured information that enables the 2/12th to stay ahead of the enemy.

# STOP NVA RE-SUPPLY

The Skytroopers cautiously closed in on the small group of Vietnamese. The people were chatting as they worked. Quick movement in the nearby brush betrayed someone sneaking away, and D Company, 2/12th Cav went into action.

Delta Company surprised the people while moving along a trail on a search and destroy mission. The day before, they had found numerous caves and tunnels. Rice and other supplies were stored in them, but the enemy was not around. Now the Skytroopers were hoping to catch Charlie as he made a trip to his caches for supplies.

"I noticed fresh footprints in the trail" said SP4 Chris Jensen, 20, from L.A., Calif. "Then we heard voices ahead of us." They moved quickly but cautiously toward the noises.

The Vietnamese were caught by surprise. The people were packing rice in small packages for the VC to carry. They were also putting supplies into the pouches on webgear. The webgear was loaded with 70 rounds of small arms ammo, and had cleaning equipment and other supplies attached to it.

They noticed a woman trying to escape into a tunnel. She was brought out of the tunnel and searched. Then PFC Roger L. Blanco, 24, from Questa, New Mexico, and PFC Ronald Story, 21, from Pleasant Hill, Calif., searched the tunnel. They retrieved an AK-47 rifle with a full 30 round banana clip, and other supplies.

A quantity of anti-war propaganda was also found in the area. There were two or three different leaflets urging the Skytroopers to give up the "hopeless, unjust war." "These people must be nuts passing out this garbage," remarked Jensen. "Who do they think they are kidding?"

# 2/5 HARDCORE GET ATTACKED

Back in the 30's an Orson Welles' radio program led half of America to believe that we were being attacked by outer space. Recently, a peculiar set of circumstances played a similar practical joke on some fifty-odd soldiers of 2d Bn, 5th Cavalry at LZ Uplift.

For two days prior, reports had been trickling in of mortar attacks at LZ's Baldy, Ross and Leslie, and Camp Radcliff. For two days, practice

alerts had been held at Uplift to ready the troops for an attack. The word was "We're due to be hit" and everyone had the word. To top it all, it was the eve of Independence Day for Indochina, an especially appropriate time for a Communist attack.

Friday night at the movies featured "The Million Eyes of Sumuru", and the new chapel (sans altar) was packed. This class B diversion gradually led up to its dismal climax with Robin, played by Frankie Avalon, attacking Sumuru's Hong Kong palace to save Batman from his vicious female captors, lobbing grenades and firing his pistol 60 times without reloading.

Suddenly, the chapel was shaken by an explosion. As if someone had yelled "Charlie" or "Fire", every man leaped to his feet and began pressing for the door trying to get to the fighting positions and bunkers. No one was trampled severely.

Once outside, a second explosion rocked the night but was easily identified as the nerroy 8" tube artillery firing on a seldom used southeast azimuth over the 2/5 camp. Fifty odd hardcore soldiers sheepishly returned to their movie.

# PSG TRAINED HIS OFFICERS

When PSG Sharkey Price came to D Company 2/12th Cav, he had a re-union with some of his students. Price taught recoilless weapons at Ft. Benning OCS, Officers Candidate School.

His new CO, platoon leader, and 2 other officers had gone through his class at Benning.

Price, 39, from Columbus, Ga., didn't recognize his former students but they remembered him. With a little reminiscing, they recalled the days at Benning. "Instructing in OCS was a challenging but very rewarding experience," remarked Price, "The men wanted to learn and get ahead in the Army."

Now he is glad for the hours of work he and other instructors put in to train these young officers, because they are the leaders he follows in combat.

SGT Price also has the distinction of being the oldest man in the company. "I really have to keep on my toes to stay ahead of these young guys," said Price. "As long as they see this old-timer making it through the rough days, they figure they can make it too".

↓ READ

# FO GOES "BLIND"

Lt Jack E. Tingley, A Battery, 1/77 Artillery, is presently attached to Company C, 2/5 Cav as forward observer. He is also a staunch advocate of a Combat Artilleryman Badge for FO's. "We can't get a CIB, even though we deserve it as much as any combat-seasoned infantryman".

2/5 Cav Bn Arty Liason Officer, Cpt John Scobie, backs Tingley up and to take his point, offers the following story on Tingley:

On New Years Eve, Charlie Company conducted a search and clear operation in thick jungle on a hillside west of the Sui Ca. Dusk was busy stealing what little light filtered through the canopy, but since the mission of finding Chuck was not yet complete, C Company continued on. An afternoon air strike had left deep craters and reduced to rubble much of the target, a large enemy bunker complex, and led by Lt Tom Nesterak's 1st platoon, the column silently snaked their way through the area to police up any survivors before the 1800 truce and total darkness gave the enemy their chance for leisurely escape.

Earlier in the day, when examining and pumping Lt Kopaczewski's shotgun, an insubordinate shell leaped out and broke Tingley's glasses. All he had left were prescription sunglasses, and now, as night set in, his vision began to fail.

Now C Companys CO, Cpt Jim Estep, received the order to return to the valley floor as the truce was in effect. Tingley, with Estep, was in the center of the column moving one of the deep craters when, from the 1st platoon point came the sound of a grenade explosion followed by the chatter of M-16's. The report of possibly 3 NVA KIA's was radioed back, and Tingley said to himself, "I'm in for it now."

Suddenly another NVA regular appeared above the crater, and SP4 Talamantes and Tingley opened up on him. Down he went. But in the meantime. Tingley's rifle had jammed. Almost simultaneously heavy firing opened up near the creek in the valley. PFC Dodson, point for SSG Furedi's 3d platoon had gunned down one of two bushwackers.

That did it. Fate had reduced Tingley to a jumble of jangled nerves and created a scene which no man in Charlie Company is soon to forget: Lt Tingley with an M-16 club slung on his back, a useless pair of glasses perched on his nose, waving a pistol with his right hand, gripping his RTO's

shoulder with his left hand, and shouting, "Lead me off of here, I can't see."

"It's comical now," says Lt Tingley, "but not then. Now, don't I deserve the CIB?" To this, 1SG Ed Funkhouser adds, "He'd make a great infantryman, but we save the CIB for those who want to enjoy those wonderful and exciting experiences during a lifetime career. Join the Infantry".

## REDLEGS ATTACKED

On 24 December, Battlin Bravo, 1st Bn, 77th Arty was probed in their position at An Khe. About 10 minutes after the probe, the vicious attack came. Bravo met the attack which only lasted a short while. The attack came from the north and was proceeded by the ringing of bells and laughter, which the enemy was obviously using to demoralize the battery. The counter attack was led by Bravo's brave leader, Cpt. Nolte. The executive officer was directing the direct fire and the lethal beehive round. Because of this direct fire the enemy was repulsed. Immediately the intrepid officers of Bravo went out to assess damage. What was found is hard to believe but here is the list: they found a modified jeep, eight animals and a fat bearded man in a red jump suit.

— BODY COUNT —		
OPERATION		
— PERSHING		
11 FEB - 18 DEC 67		9 JAN 68
KIA	962	1112
FN	938	961
INDIV WFNS	367	405
CREWED WFNS	56	57

# HORSE CAVALRY

The gallery of cavalry greats is packed with famous faces. Julius Caesar, Ghengis Khan, Attila, King Arthur, Napoleon, Lee, Stuart, Forrester, Sheridan, Sherman, Custer, Cooke, Geronimo, Crazy Horse, Pershing, Villa, Teddy Roosevelt, Patton and countless others all galloped into history on horseback. Though the horse is now gone, this heritage lives today in cavalry designations and traditions.

The Black Knights of the 2d Bn, 5th Cavalry, formed in 1855 by the honorable Jefferson Davis, U.S. Secretary of War, led first by Col Albert Sidney Johnston and later by Col Robert E. Lee, retain many cavalry traditions.

In the field, "saddle up" is the command to get ready to move. And the Vietnamese "Kit Carson's" are of course, reminiscent of that tireless old cavalry guide.

At LZ Uplift, the Black Knights hold officer's call at 1800 hrs and at a Round Table. A bugler with the unlikely name of Grant, SPL Jay Grant, begins each day with reveille and ends each day with taps. A favorite past-time is pitching horseshoes. Fondness for the ladies, an old cavalry tradition, is as strong as ever. Red Cross girls are eagerly received, and especially Margie Holt, a great niece of Robert E. Lee. Another trooper born of cavalry blood is Lt Bill Kehoe, HQ Co Commander, a very distant cousin of Cpt Kerugh, whose horse was the sole survivor of the Garry Owen disaster at Little Big Horn.

One could add, of course, that the spirit of cavalry is ever present; aggressiveness and the desire to be on the move. One could also liken the mobility of the chopper with the mobility of the horse. Although the flesh and blood variety are not right here, the mechanical horses of the FIRST TEAM show the world the best cavalry every assembled for combat.

When asked if there is a place for the old horse cavalry in Vietnam LTC Joseph B. Love, 2d Bn, 5th Cavalry Commander, replied, "Hell, yes! There is always a place for horse cavalry. Here in the Uplift area we could use mounted troopers for reconning the McDonough Trail, searching the less-vegetated dry areas, increasing troop mobility at night, and increasing the element of surprise on cordons. If we didn't have birds or tracks, we'd love the horse. Logistics and money are the

only points against it. How could you feed both the horses and today's young Skytroopers? Still, we ought to have a few horses around just to train the officers and sergeants. If a man knows how to handle a horse, he'll be a better leader of men."

2/12

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"Within 4 minutes after the attack began defensive counter mortar fire was zeroed in on the enemy positions only a few hundred meters north of Ross," stated SFC Richard Keefe, from Houston, Texas, duty NCO in the TOC. Although the perimeter defensive wire was cut the NVA were kept from breaking the perimeter.

LZ Leslie was hardest hit. It was defended by D Company with one attached platoon of A Company. "The NVA were already through our barb wire when the mortars started," explained Cpt Richard Kasprzyk, from Chicago, Ill., D Company's CO. "When the illumination went off we could see them slithering along like snakes with wire cutters making a path through the wire."

The first attack came from the east, followed by one on the north, then the south.

Sappers spear-headed the attack throwing sachel charges at bunkers from as close as 15 feet.

"They seemed to know where all our positions were and went straight for them," said Cpt Kasprzyk. "I could see one NVA officer standing on a rock directing his men until we killed him."

The NVA pushed inside the perimeter and hit the Skytroopers from all sides. They stayed well spread out so that area type weapons such as alaymores and beehive rounds were not effective. It was a close, hard fought hand to hand battle.

"My men did an outstanding job," emphasized Cpt Kasprzyk. "Their discipline and marksmanship were outstanding." The Skytroopers held their positions, retook damaged bunkers and evacuated their wounded while the fierce fighting raged all over the LZ.

One Skytrooper killed an NVA in his damaged bunker with a pocket knife when his weapon was empty. Another wounded man played dead while an NVA stripped off his watch and ring, then killed the enemy as he turned to leave.

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son CO of the 1/50th, all four units operated like clockwork together with the supporting elements from the Redleg Battery, ARA, Spooky and the Air Force throwing in an occasional bomb or two.

As the hostilities came to an end about 1200 hours on the 4th, the findings totaled 97 NVA dead and a large number of captured enemy weapons; including SKS's, AK-47's, B-40 rockets, and the best prize a Russian made RPGK 50 Rocket Launcher which was in excellent shape. It was quite a field day for the Braves, but all was not over.

On the morning of the 5th, the Braves went out to search and search the village of Xuan Thanh. Again look was with them, working with the National Police they discovered a NVA bunker, result; one NVA prisoner of war and three very stubborn, but very dead NVA who chose to die in their bunkers.

On the 6th, Captain Dennis, CO of the Braves decided everything his Braves touched turned to gold. As Lt. Pike, 2d platoon leader kept the winning streak alive as his platoon discovered a VC coming out of a spider hole trying to escape. The VC haven't yet learned that you don't outrun an APC, especially one belonging to the Braves. The subject was policed up quickly and was found to be an excellent collaborator.

At the end of the day, the 2d platoon had picked up 8 confirmed VC POW's.

Would you believe that the Braves had a few more 7s left in the dice. The Battalion S-2, Cpt John A. Topper had reported a suspected NVA base camp in the south-eastern Tiger Mountains; the following morning at 0700 hours the Braves make a combat assault on the area with the aid of 3 air strikes, artillery support and two young Vietnamese boys who had volunteered to lead the Braves to the area. When they reached the suspected area, the Braves to their surprise walked right into the underground hospital, which had been laid wide open by the air strikes and artillery fire. The Braves picked up 3 more NVA POW's from this area and destroyed the NVA base camp.

As the week ends, some of the Battling Bravo Braves have taken time out from the war to grease up their "Monstrous Machines", while the rest continue the search for Charlie, all hoping that the "Good Times" continue for at least one more day.

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The NVA fired 35 12mm rockets, 200 82mm mortar rounds, 100 60mm mortar rounds, 25 51 recoilless rifle rounds, 90 75 recoilless rifle rounds at LZ Ross alone. LZ Leslie had recoilless, mortars and .50 cal fire from all directions.

The Skytroopers had a confirmed enemy body count of 201 KIA. Two complete 82mm mortars, numerous rocket launchers, AK-47 assault rifles, ammo and flame throwers were captured plus webgear, grenades and other equipment.

According to Major William Scudder, from Biloxi, Miss., 2/12 executive officer. "The coordinating and directing of the support for the 2/12 by LTC Gregory kept the Skytroopers organized to fight effectively."

During the battle LTC Gregory was in command of his battalion, 4 artillery batteries, 1 attached mechanized infantry troop, and 2 attached infantry companies from 1/7th Cav. He moved around LZ Ross during the attack, carrying his own radio so he would not endanger an RTO, to assess damages and deploy his resources to best advantage. At first light he flew to LZ Leslie and directed their defense. He landed while the LZ was still under attack. He then returned to Ross to prepare his units to defend against further enemy attacks.

BLACKHORSE	
BRIGADE COMMANDER	HOOVER BEATS
COL. JOSEPH G. McDONOUGH	
DEPUTY BRIGADE COMMANDER	
LTC JAMES B. VAUGHT	
BRIGADE EXECUTIVE OFFICER	
LTC ARTHUR J. LEARY JR.	
1/5TH CAVALRY COMMANDER	
LTC ROBERT L. RUNKLE	
2/5TH CAVALRY COMMANDER	
LTC J.B. LOVE	
2/12TH CAVALRY COMMANDER	
LTC RICHARD S. SWEET	
1/50TH INFANTRY COMMANDER	
LTC ALBERT L. HUTSON	
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