

# BLACK HORSE



— Find the Bastards — Then Pile On —

Vol. 1, No. 3

BLACKHORSE

AUGUST 1969



FROM ON HIGH

Like Thor with his mighty hammer, the Cobra gunship delivers a terrific blow to the enemy. This photo of a Cobra pilot's view was taken by Specialist Four Rex Saul, using an 18mm "bird's-eye" lens, while First Lieutenant Thomas D. Mott handled the controls.

## 114 Killed, Caches Found

by SP4 Raymond Waldrep  
Troopers of the First Squadron killed 114 enemy soldiers and captured numerous caches of supplies during seven weeks of operations with the 1st Infantry Division near Lai Khe.

The operations began on 11 June when the squadron, led by Major John C. Bahnsen of Rockville, Ga., was ordered from Bandit Hill north to Lai Khe. The first enemy contact came more than a week later as ACAVs and Sheridans from C Troop swept an area of jungle near the K-4 woods.

The fierce battle left 19 members of the Viet Cong Dong Hai and captured numerous caches of supplies during seven weeks of operations with the 1st Infantry Division near Lai Khe.

C Troop again entered an enemy base camp on July 2, taking two enemy prisoners who left an enemy bunker just before it was crushed by an armored vehicle. Those two enemy had the right idea, as was revealed the following day when the troopers dug into the ruins of the bunker and found 30 enemy dead. "The find was quite a surprise to us," said Captain Arthur West of Ar-

lington, Va., C Troop commander. "We had thought the two enemy we captured were the sole occupants."

A Troop got into the action on July 5 when they killed 10 enemy during a hard-fought battle near the site of C Troop's encounter. Then, the next day, both troops teamed up with D Company tanks to kill 22 enemy in jungle north of the Saigon River.

Oncom elements of L Troop joined in the fighting July 8 when they teamed up with elements of the 1st Division's

## ARVN-CAV Join Forces

By SGT Leonard Boscarine

FSB Fanny—A four-day operation designed to give the 1st Bn., 9th ARVN Regiment, a front-seat look at how the Third Squadron fights this war was concluded here recently with both sides profiting from the unique experience of working together at battalion level.

The highlight of the combined operation came when the ARVN infantrymen caught the enemy inside their (the enemy's) base camp July 15. While the ARVN engaged the enemy, Blackhorse choppers flew medevacs, reinforcements and supplies to the embattled soldiers. Blackhorse and ARVN artillery lent support to the allied thrust.

"The most unique facet of this operation was these two battalion-sized units working together with a single objective," explained Lieutenant Colonel David Doyle, Third Squadron commander. "This way, both ARVN and U.S. units in our area of operations (near An Loc) have the advantage of being able to draw from the assets of both forces. Previously ARVN forces received support from ours. We have shown that we can combine our functions with no ill effects suffered in the transition."

## Ambush Backfires

by SP4 James Klahn

A North Vietnamese ambush backfired July 9 when enemy soldiers struck against a Second Squadron convoy between Loc Ninh and An Loc.

Twenty-three enemy were killed and one detained in the initial battle after the estimated two-battalion NVA force sprang the trap against the armored vehicles of the Second Squadron and Third Platoon, 919th Engineers, while the convoy was moving south of Highway 13.

Quick action and cool heads among the men of the Blackhorse Regiment managed to turn the tide quickly against the large NVA force which had set up on both sides of the road and fired a volley of RPG rounds into the column.

"We were momentarily stopped by the ambush," said Sergeant First Class Carlos Sanders of Evansville, Ind., the

(Continued on Page 7)

Captain Khoa Bui Xuan, 1st Bn. commander, directed and evaluated his troops' performance from a command and control helicopter with Lt. Col. Doyle. Capt. Khoa said, "Working together with these men of the armored cavalry was a great experience, not only for me as a commander, but for my men as well. Armor and infantry working together create an effective war machine, and we have shown here that we can work very well in a combined allied operation."

"Although what we have done out here was merely what both sides have been doing on their own for some time now," said Lt. Col. Doyle, "it could have long range effects in 'Vietnamization' of the war. By showing the ARVN's different methods of fighting we are bringing the day closer when they can effectively take our place in the war effort."

During the operation, U.S. 155 mm howitzers from Third Squadron Howitzer Battery teamed up with a platoon from the 5th ARVN Div. Artillery.

"We split everything down the middle, firing together on missions approved by the commanders of both units," explained Captain Patrick Garmon of Atlanta, Ga., 3rd How Battery commander. "The U.S. and ARVN tactical operations centers were set up side by side as were the artillery pieces. We even shared the same water ration," said Capt. Garmon.

## APOLOGIES

Due to our press deadline BLACKHORSE was unable to cover the ceremonies of Aug. 7, when the Presidential Unit Citation was presented to First Squadron and the attached First Platoon of the 919th Engineers. At the same time the Valorous Unit Award was presented to the Regiment and Third Squadron and the Regiment also received the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Balm. The presentation story will be covered fully in the September issue.

(Continued on Page 7)

# Editorial: 11 Ds, Es Need Combat Badge

A recent article in Armor Magazine mentioned an issue which has long been a popular topic of discussion in the tank companies of the Blackhorse Regiment. Its author, Captain Ronald M. Cross, made an extremely strong case for establishing a Combat Armor Badge to recognize the feats of men of armor in combat. We agree wholeheartedly with his arguments.

By virtue of their 11D MOS, troopers manning the Regiment's ACAVs are eligible to receive the Combat Infantryman Badge, even though they are not infantrymen. And tankers, who often lead attacks and receive the brunt of ambushes in heavy jungle, are not awarded the distinction of any combat badge.

It is our opinion that cavalrymen, be they 11D or 11E, should receive a Combat Armor Badge. Capt. Ross points out in his article that the modern trooper in an armored unit has been indoctrinated in the cavalry tradition and is expected to share in its esprit de corps. It seems a bit inequitable that the recon troopers who are direct descendants of "Old Bill" should receive a CIB, rather than an award more fitting to their job.

Troopers of the 11th Cav have demonstrated that they can utilize armor to the highest degree of perfection in finding and destroying the enemy. They deserve their own distinctive badge.

## Commander's Column

# Working Together Works

Both old and new concepts used over the past month by the Blackhorse Regiment have helped bring this war a little closer to its termination. Traditional fast reaction by armor and aero-rifle troopers in tight situations, notably the ambushes on Highway 13, helped turn the tide from the enemy's favor and brought us out on top in the ensuing battles. The willingness of our troopers to work with and aid the ARVN soldiers of the 9th Regiment, a new concept in III Corps, not only showed us the unlimited ability and courage of our allies, but helped them to gain new insights by observing our actions on the battlefield as well.

On the ninth of July the enemy sprang an ambush they were later to regret on a 2nd Squadron armored column of our 919th Engineers north of An Loc. Although the engineers, for the first few moments, were in the "eye" of the killing zone, cool heads prevailed and in a daring move, the tenacious and alert

engineers swept through the enemy, bringing maximum firepower against him. Blackhorse troopers, air cavalrymen from the "1st team," and tankers deployed throughout the area were immediately brought into play, along with the 1st and 4th Battalions, 9th ARVN Regiment, squeezing the enemy in a large pincer movement from north to south and east to west. In the end, more than 23 North Vietnamese regulars were dead and five captured. Why was this possible? Our speed, mobility, and our readiness to meet the challenge made it possible — but most of all, because of the cool heads at the moment when it is easiest to panic — you were able to turn a potential enemy victory into defeat. Yes, on the 9th of July we held thumbs up and the "V" sign aloft. The day was ours.

On yet another occasion "G" Troop, receiving a fire-call, sped 136 miles from Loc Ninh to Song Be in Phuoc Long Province to thwart an anticipated enemy buildup. This was a record march through hostile territory — and not without a fight — again alongside the "First Team's" Air Cavalry. Speed of the Cavalry was again dramatically demonstrated, showing

that the Blackhorse deserves the reputation as an ever ready unit, willing and capable of answering the call to arms.

Realizing our commitments to the people of Vietnam, the Bandits of the 3rd Squadron in mid-July joined with the "Elephants" of the 1st Battalion, 9th ARVN Regiment for the first combined operations of major-sized units in III Corps. We worked with our ARVN allies on all levels — this was a combined operation in all respects. Captain Khoa Bui Xuan, commander of the 1st Battalion, flew right along with LTC David K. Doyle, the Bandit Commander, in his command helicopter to direct the combined operations. ARVN and Blackhorse artillery working from a common fire base and coordinated from US-RVN plotting tables fired into enemy firing zones as Vietnamese and U.S. troopers working side by side on the field of battle accomplished all missions.

For me, this was one of the most satisfying moments of my command. Whereas our predecessors in the Quan Loi area worked apart from our allies, we found the "allied" cooperation and spirit of the offense an experience extremely gratifying to everyone. For us, we were able to judge the RVN soldier from a close vantage point and found him to be an able and high-spirited trooper, dedicated to his commander and mission. For the ARVNs, a chance was presented for them to work with a unit long respected for its ability to effectively come to grips with the enemy.

Yes, this has been an inspiring month for both the troopers of the Blackhorse and Elephant Regiments. We have again proven our effectiveness not only as a great fighting force, but as friends with close ties to our Vietnamese comrades in the fight against those who would limit their freedom. You have met and overwhelmed all challenges.

Troopers of the Blackhorse, I salute you. Allons!

James H. Leach, Colonel, Armor  
40th Commander  
11th Armored Cavalry  
The Blackhorse Regiment



"But Sir, we don't have torpedoes in our basic load"

## Cav Helper at Air Base

## Psyops Team Gets a Fan

Although they don't feature the top ten hits on their show, a helicopter-mounted loudspeaker team from the Regiment's civil affairs section recently found a willing listener in a local force guerrilla.

The 27-year-old enemy soldier showed up at a 9th ARVN Regiment outpost to Chieu Hoi after hearing the broadcast message north of Loc Ninh.

"He told us that it was the message that made him surrender," said Major Michael V. Barnes of Little Rock, Ark., civil affairs officer. "He said he was afraid of the men that wore the Blackhorse on their shirts and that there were a number of others in his 27-man unit that were eager to give up their present way of life."



# BLACK HORSE

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**Chaplain**

# Heaven Can Go With You

By Chaplain (Lieut. Col.) William P. Trobaugh

In a magazine I was glancing through the other day I saw an advertisement for a deed to forty acres of heaven or hell. The purchaser was to specify in which place he wanted his forty acres.

Naturally this started this preacher's head buzzing with ideas — though I didn't rush out and order the deed!

The advertiser had more to offer than he realized, I think, because whether we get a deed to it or not, we do have our heaven or hell. And we get it here and now as well as after death.

I'm sure you've seen people who really had it made who looked like theirs was the worst lot in the world. You've also seen those whose plight in life should have made them miserable but who were the happiest and most carefree.

I once witnessed a blind man meeting a man paralyzed from his waist down. The thing that impressed me was the sorrow each felt for the other's situation. Each could have lived in hell, but chose heaven instead, despite a very real handicap.

The soldiers you meet here who are miserable and grumpy are not that way because they're

here; they are that way because they selected forty acres of hell as their place and will be miserable and grumpy wherever they happen to be.

Those happy ones have selected forty acres of heaven and take it with them everywhere they go.

The apostle, Paul, toward the end of his life could say that he had found the thrill of being content whatever the external situation might be. And for him it



CHAPLAIN TROBAUGH

was often bad; prison, beatings, shipwreck and finally execution.

He chose his forty acres in heaven, and with Christ he had it.

And so can you.

**Chaplain (Lieut. Col.) Trobaugh became Regimental Chaplain in early July, replacing Chaplain (Lieut. Col.) Robert H. Hawn. Like Chaplain Hawn, Chaplain Trobaugh spent some time as an enlisted man in military service, then returned as a chaplain.**

In 1943 Chaplain Trobaugh went into the Navy and was discharged three years later. After completing college and seminary he was ordained and rejoined the military in 1957 as a chaplain.

Chaplain Trobaugh was raised in Zolfo Springs, Fla.

# Valorous Deeds Cited

Blackhorse troopers cited for their heroic actions over the past month were:

## SILVER STAR

Colonel James H. Leach, Regimental Commander.

Lieutenant Colonel David K. Doyle, 3rd Squadron Commander.

Majors James W. Braden IV, Air Cavalry Troop Commander

(2), Andrew P. O'Meara Jr., former Regimental Intelligence Officer.

Captains Theodore A. Duck, Headquarters, 1st Squadron, Robert D. Hurt, H Company, John C.F. Tillson, former A Troop Commander.

First Lieutenants George A. Greene Jr., 919th Eng Co., Dennis J. Reardon, Regimental Headquarters.

Staff Sergeants Donald A. Larson, A Troop, William H. Lister, Headquarters, 1st Squadron, Ronald L. Murphy, 919th Engineers, Eugene Paradiso, G Troop, Edward Sandobal, H Company, David W. Stout, A Troop.

Specialists Five Kenneth Brooks, H Company, Glenn M. Clark, D Company.

Specialists Four Arlester A. Dennis, 919th Engineers, Dennis M. Driessen, Air Cavalry Troop, Donald F. Southwell, Air Cavalry Troop, Daniel Stocki, 919th Engineers.

Private First Class Russell Hires, Jr., E Troop.

## DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Lieutenant Colonels James H. Aarestad, 2nd Squadron Commander, Lawrence S. Wright, Regimental Executive Officer.

Major John C. Gilbreath, 2nd Squadron Executive Officer.

First Lieutenant Thomas D. Mott, Air Cavalry Troop.

Warrant Officers Vito Bukel, Air Cavalry Troop, Audra R. Stern Jr., Air Cavalry Troop.

## BRONZE STAR FOR VALOR

Lieutenant Colonel Grail L. Brookshire, Regimental Operations Officer.

Captain Doug Starr, 1st Squadron.

First Lieutenants Wayne L. Ball, H Company, Horace Carrigan, H Company, Stephen E. Du Bravac, G Troop, Robert C. Myers, L Troop, John P. Ryan, G Troop.

Command Sergeant Major Donald E. Horn, Regimental Command Sergeant Major.

Sergeants First Class Otis Bradley, 919th Engineers, John R. Kisner, M Company, Frederick X. Rabin, 919th Engineers, Carlos A. Sanders, 919th Engineers, Platoon Sergeant Robert C. Hammock, G Troop.

Staff Sergeants Daniel A. Carrizales, G Troop, Michael F. Gaughan, L Troop, Aron Hernandez, G Troop, Kendall L. Hunter, L Troop, Donald Lundin, Regiment, Darol Marcum, H Company.

Sergeants Larry E. Dungey, A Troop, Kenneth L. Gardner, L Troop, Patrick N. Miller, Regiment.

Specialist Five Sammy L. Dublin, Air Cavalry Troop.

Specialists Four Kenneth R. Craig, 919th Engineers, John D. Cunningham, 2nd Squadron Headquarters, James Dodd, G Troop, Max C. Less, A Troop, Daniel C. Mullins, Air Cavalry Troop, Jose A. Hernandez, 919th Engineers, William B. Simpson, A Troop, George D. Ward, L Troop, Lance K. Wheeler, 1st Squadron Headquarters.

Private First Class Joseph Buttice, 2nd Squadron Headquarters, Jerry C. Cottrell, L Troop, Kenneth Ferris, G Troop, Charles L. Grady, L Troop, Larry J. Jones, 919th Engineers, William M. Make, Regiment, Dennis E. Webb, L Troop.

## ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Warrant Officers Raymond J. Lanclos, Air Cavalry Troop, James A. Noe, Air Cavalry Troop.

Staff Sergeants Carl A. Gorman, 3rd Squadron Headquarters, Glen Jackson, 1st Squadron Headquarters.

Specialists Four Donald E. Anderson, A Troop, Anthony DeNicola, 919th Engineers, Gregory English, 919th Engineers, Donald E. Monaker, L Troop, Michael R. Pasquan, 1st Squadron Headquarters, D.S. Peppers, L Troop, Phillip E. Rush III, B Troop.

Private First Class Richard L. Perry Headquarters, 3rd Squadron.

## AIR MEDAL

Captain George R. Fischer, Regiment.

Warrant Officer Robert D. Strawbridge, Regiment.

Specialist Four Johnny Lamontia, Regiment.

## We Remember

First Lieutenant Thomas A. Ceres  
First Lieutenant Dennis E. Newman  
First Lieutenant Carl D. Shirley  
First Lieutenant Robin K. Wetzler  
Staff Sergeant Jimmy D. West  
Sergeant Larry H. Johnson  
Sergeant Herbert V. Phelps  
Sergeant Jimmie C. Scrogum  
Specialist five John B. Cornwell  
Specialist four Brent L. Arveseth  
Specialist four Thomas J. Barnes, Jr.  
Specialist four Kurtis A. Berry  
Specialist four Earl L. Cook  
Specialist four Ambrose Gassaway  
Specialist four Roger R. Pangan  
Specialist four Raymond L. Firman  
Specialist four Gary W. Reed  
Specialist four William F. Riden  
Private First Class Richard A. Cutler  
Private First Class David Schaffner

And Someday may man realize  
That all the earth, the seas and skies  
Belong to God who made us all,  
The rich, the poor, the great, the small,  
and in the Father's Holy Sight  
No man is yellow, black or white  
And Peace On Earth cannot be found  
Until we meet on common ground



Regimental Chaplain (Lieut. Col.) William P. Trobaugh conducts religious services from a makeshift altar for the men of First Squadron near Lai Khe.

# ARPs Celebrate First Anniversary



FOUR OF A KIND—Air Cavalry Troop Huey "H" model helicopters transport the Aero-Rifle Platoon during a recent mission near Loc Ninh. The ARPs are a small deadly force designed to make contact and hold it until Blackhorse armor can destroy the enemy.



First Lieutenant Douglas Rich listens to instructions from the Air copter circling overhead. Specialist Four Marshall Moffett carries



"Friend or foe?" an ARP wonders as two villagers approach. The air-mobile unit often goes into villages that can only be reached by air to search for suspected enemy.



For ARPs Specialists Four William chance to check a buddy's equipment.

# Y of Service to the Blackhorse

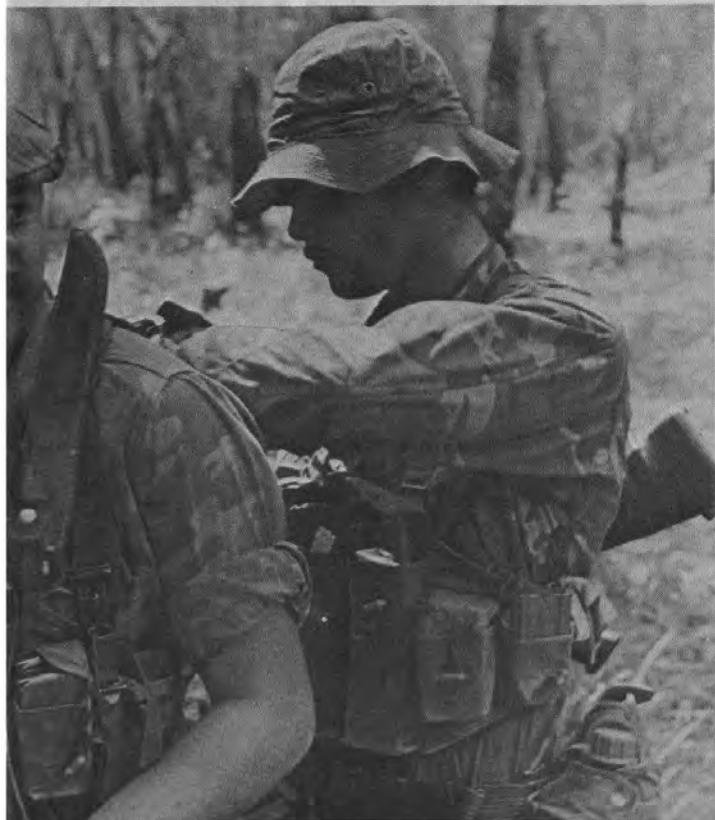


try Troop Command and Control helicopter radio.



After the ARPs have found and fixed the enemy armored elements of the Regiment are brought in to carry the battle to his doorstep. Here an M Company tank rolls over an enemy bunker.

**Photos By SP4  
Rex Saul**



Fergerstrom (left) and Leroy "Pineapple" Kaliiholokai break time is a as well as to rest.



ARVN Staff Sergeant Hoang (left) and Staff Sergeant Don Bentley examine the contents of a captured enemy ammo pouch.



We found this young lady out at G Troop NDP and asked her to pose for us. At first she was leery because she had not taken her malaria pill and was afraid she might get bitten by a mosquito. The first sergeant was a real help, though—he rubbed her down with repellent and took care of her fears.



by SGT Leonard Boscarine

A major criticism of photography as a hobby is the large amount of expense involved. Granted, there is some expense but photography has many shortcuts that can save the hobbyist considerable expense while pursuing his favorite pastime.

One of the best ways to economize is the substitution of black and white print film for color print film whenever possible. Modern black and white film can give Vietnam photos, in many instances, more drama and feeling than color. In many situations here in Vietnam a wealth of color does not abound so little difference would be made if black and white film were to be substituted for color print film.

A roll of color print film costs about two dollars. With the film a processing mailer costing \$5.15 must also be purchased. Thus for a roll of 20 prints the photographer must pay \$7.15 or about 36 cents per picture.

Thirty-five mm film is used here to illustrate typical Vietnam prices. Other film sizes will have about the same proportion of film costs.

Black and white print film costs 65 cents for a 20 exposure roll. PX processing charges for the roll once it is exposed will run about a dollar with an extra

charge of 5 cents apiece for each print made from the negatives. Total cost for a roll of black and white is \$2.65, or about 13 cents per picture. By using black and white film instead of color, the photographer saves 23 cents per picture or \$4.40 per roll.

OK, you say, that's fine but I still need color. There's just no way that I can depict the beauty of the red mud against the green jungle without color film.

Why not use color slide film? Incidentally there's an easy way to tell the difference in the PX between color slide and color print film. If the film name ends with the word color, such as Kodacolor, it is print film. The color films whose names end with the word chrome, such as Ektachrome-X, are color slide films.

Slide film costs about two dollars for a roll of 20. Processing costs about another two dollars. Each roll of slide film winds up costing you about four dollars, or 20 cents apiece, which is quite a savings over color print film.

Slide film has several advantages over color print films. Film speeds available in slide film vary from slow (25 ASA) to very fast (500 ASA), while color print film is limited to a slow 80 ASA.

Also, color prints can be made from color slides. They generally cost about 35 cents apiece.

## High Flying Snake

What does a pilot do when he finds a stowaway on his helicopter? When the stowaway is a poisonous snake he tries to get out of its way.

A Huey chopper of the Aviation Platoon took off from USARV Headquarters at Long Binh recently when the pilot, Captain Robert Phillips of Bakersfield, Calif., noticed the tail of a snake near his feet. Quickly returning to the USARV chopper pad, the crew searched the ship high and low for the reptile. It was nowhere to be found.

Realizing that the search might go on for hours with the snake still not found, Capt. Phillips decided to fly the helicopter to Blackhorse Base Camp near Xuan Loc, where mechanics from the regiment's 398th Maintenance Detachment could take the machine apart and hunt for the interloper.

"We were making our final approach to Blackhorse when we found the snake," said Capt. Phillips. "He suddenly appeared on top of the compass near the co-pilot's head. We immediately recognized it as a bamboo viper, about eight inches long and very poisonous."

"It didn't stay on top of the compass long, but started moving around and fell to the floor beside my feet. The passengers looked a little surprised when I climbed back and joined them," he chuckled.

The co-pilot landed the craft and they soon got the snake out. It was donated to the Regimental Replacement School for instruction on what not to find when on patrol (or flying).

## After a Wait

# Regiment Gets MPs, First 11th Cav PM

esting."

Capt. Anderson said the MP platoon will be drawn partly from members of the Regiment who have spent time in the field with combat units. "It will take some time to get the equipment and train the personnel, but we should be operating within the very near future," he added.

After more than two years of campaigning by the Regimental staff, the 11th Cav has been assigned its first provost marshal and a squad of military police.

"These MPs will travel with the Regiment, escorting our convoys and handling most matters of internal security," said Captain Robert I. Anderson, the new provost marshal.

Capt. Anderson, of Evansville, Ind., will bring more than five years of experience as an MP into the job. He is a veteran of 12 years Army service, with nine of them spent as an EM.

"I enjoy MP work," said the personable young officer. "I've been with the 18th MP Brigade in Saigon since April, and learning about law enforcement in a war zone has been most interesting."

"I think we're going to be able to keep busy," Capt. Anderson said. As provost marshal he also has the responsibility of briefing the commanding officer and staff on all matters pertaining to internal security and law enforcement.

## Mud Saves Cavalrymen

Two Regimental headquarters troopers escaped death by inches on a recent Sunday when an enemy 107mm rocket impacted within ten feet of them.

Specialist Four Don Zuber, a regimental headquarters communications specialist, was

painting a light recovery vehicle about 1430 hours while Private First Class Leo Harris, a headquarters mechanic, stood in the doorway of a nearby tent talking with him. The rocket struck just in front of them.

"I didn't hear anything," said Spec. 4 Zuber. "Suddenly a big wave of dirt hit me and knocked me down."

Pfc. Harris was not injured and Spec. 4 Zuber escaped with two small cuts on his back.

Blackhorse artillerymen, among the first people to arrive at the scene, credited the men's good luck to the soft ground into which the rocket had burrowed before exploding. Much of the shrapnel was caught in the mud.

Spec. 4 Zuber credited his luck to another source, however.

"I had just returned from church services a few minutes earlier," he said. "I think that's what helped me the most."



IMPORTS

Blackhorse Troopers (l. to r.) Staff Sergeant David L. Major and Specialists Four Timothy Schultz and Vernon Stahl inspect the 'imported' products they discovered recently while on a sweep through a Rome-plowed area northwest of Lai Khe. The cavalrymen are members of C Troop, First Squadron.



Specialists Four William Fergstrom (standing) and Bruce Stevens model the latest style for men of adventure.

## Suit 'wows' Jet-Set

A favorite this season among outstanding jet-setters traveling to out-of-the-way places is the "camouflage suit," described by distinctive wearers as "extremely comfortable, convenient and functional in design."

The uniform-style garment is made entirely of fast-drying cotton and designed so as to be loose fitting, making it ideal for hot climates and offering a great deal of freedom of movement. It sports a number of large, roomy pockets that, although stylishly button-down, are readily accessible. The suit gets its name from the mottled hues of black and green — a color combination without equal in the fashion world.

This exciting new style has traditionally been popular among adventuring types — rough-and-ready men who cannot turn a challenge down. Lately, however, people living in a more "civilized" environment

have begun attempting to acquire the suit, enjoying the rugged, masculine effect offered by the style's cut and color.

Accessories for this Carnaby Street and Claymore Corners favorite are as exciting as the suit itself. Imported vests that boast of large, roomy pockets and strap across the chest have become a "must" for camouflage suit buffs. Because of the difficulty of importation, however, the vest has become a prized item. Headgear for the outfit comes in two styles — the hard, pot shaped helmet, which offers maximum protection, and the beret, which is usually only acceptable after it is somewhat worn and faded.

Other popular accessories are just too numerous to list here. But if you want to wear this fine fashion favorite, along with the many stylish accoutrements, talk with the men of that high-fashion shop Air Cavalry Troop. They might be able to help you.

## Visa Requirement Dropped

SAIGON (MACV) — Visas or passports are no longer required by Vietnam-based military personnel who are travelling to Australia on ordinary leave via R&R aircraft.

The visa requirement was dropped July 1, according to the

MACV R&R Section.

Only travel orders, immunization record and military ID card are now required for this travel. (It should be noted, however, that the ID card must show the individual's social security number.)



U.S. Commemorative Stamp

## First Squadron

(Continued From Page 1)

boat, killed seven more enemy on July 20 on the banks of the Saigon River.

C Troop, searching for the enemy eight miles northwest of Lai Khe in a rice-plowed area, discovered a massive enemy arms cache on July 23. "The leading two Sheridans crushed in a wood-and-metal roof over a concrete bunker, and we looked down to see enough enemy ammunition to equip a battalion," said Staff Sergeant David L. Major, commander of Capt. West's ACAV.

The captured ammo included 120 rounds of 75mm howitzer ammunition, 58 rounds of 76mm enemy tank rounds, 75 grenades, more than 85,000 rounds of 7.62mm rifle ammo, three 60mm mortar tubes with 30 rounds, and 213 rocket-propelled grenades with boosters.

If you were to buy a round-trip ticket to the moon at average airline prices the journey would cost you approximately \$60,000.

BLACKHORSE welcomes any tips from the field on the tactics and practices Charles employs — pass what you know on to the rest of us.



THE HUNTED . . .

Staff Sergeant Ronald L. Murphy of the 919th Engineers probes tentatively after getting a reading from a mine detector . . .



. . . FINDS THE HUNTER

and comes up with a home-made booby-trap set by the enemy. The B-40 rocket was imbedded in the road near the village of Bo Duc, north of An Loc.

## Ambush Thwarted by Alert Troops

(Continued From Page 1)

platoon sergeant whose armored vehicle was last in the column. "In that time we received three rounds of RPG fire. Everyone was shook up. Then we pushed on, firing everything we had to get out of the killing zone."

Sfc. Sanders later received the Bronze Star for his part in getting the convoy through the ambush.

At the same time Sfc. Sanders' ACAV was receiving fire, the platoon leader's vehicle, ACAV number 31, and a five-ton truck, traveling in the center of the 10-vehicle convoy, were hit hard by RPG fire, the truck effectively blocking the road.

The driver of ACAV 31, Specialist Four Daniel Stocki of

Monterey Park, Calif., who later received the Silver Star for his actions, said, "We took at least three rounds of RPG and I returned fire on the enemy until other tracks could clear a path around the truck for me. After that, we really pushed to get out of the killing zone."

Sfc. Sanders later received the Bronze Star for his part in getting the convoy through the ambush.

As soon as the vehicles made it out of the killing zone, which had become a virtual 400-meter-long "wall" of RPG and small arms fire, a medevac chopper came in to pick up the wounded.

The three lead vehicles, tanks of H Company, had escaped the initial volley. They turned around and swept up the road, firing broadsides with their main guns into the deep grass and jungle alongside the road.

then turned back and swept to the west of the road.

Meanwhile, allied elements were called in to further engage the enemy. Second Squadron armor, the Aero-Rifle Platoon and Air Cav Troop gunships, 1st Air Cav troopers and gunships, plus troopers from the 9th ARVN Regular Defense Group took up positions while artillery held the enemy down. The ensuing battle lasted until the evening hours with allied air strikes continuing after darkness fell.

Realizing the enemy was split up and poorly coordinated, allied forces pressed the attack the next day to cut off the enemy's escape. Eight enemy were killed and two enemy detained in the sporadic fighting.



ON LINE ASSAULT—"M" Company tankers push their vehicles through the rubber trees west of An Loc while searching out the enemy.

## Major Nets Damp Lt

Should an Army officer take time out in the middle of a combat operation to go fishing? One officer did, and landed an enemy soldier before his jaunt was over.

The event took place during a recent reconnaissance operation of the First Squadron, with L Troop opcon, near the Saigon River in the Iron Triangle.

The Blackhorse troopers had spotted an enemy soldier and were pursuing him with armored vehicles and helicopter gunships when he disappeared

from sight along the riverbank. A search was underway when Major John C. Bahnsen of Roche, Ga., first Squadron Commander, landed his helicopter and joined in the hunt.

His search led him to the edge of the river, where he soon spotted a small dark head beneath the water. Laying his weapon down, he reached in and grasped his prisoner by the throat, lifting him bodily out of the stream.

An interrogation revealed that the wet enemy soldier was an NVA lieutenant who had lost his platoon and inadvertently found the American unit.

## Educational Ops Inviting

Are you interested in further schooling while serving in the Army? If so, there is a line of possibilities for furthering yourself, both while in Vietnam and in the states.

U.S. Armed Forces Institute (USAIFI) offers correspondence courses, exams and study groups in Vietnam. While on stateside duty troopers can take advantage of both on-and off-campus educational facilities.

Check with your education officer or reenlistment NCO for further information.

## Third Sqdn Acquires Sheridans

The Bandits of Third Squadron recently acquired the Sheridan armored reconnaissance vehicle and are undergoing training on the operation and care of their new machines at base camp. They are the second squadron in the Regiment to make use of the lately-developed vehicle, having been preceded by First Squadron earlier this year.

Although the pros and cons on the Sheridan have even

prompted debate on the Senate floor, the squadron commander spoke with confidence about the new machine.

"It should give us more of the firepower that we need, as well as enable us to bust jungle more effectively than we can with an ACAV," said Lieutenant Colonel David Doyle, adding, "The Sheridan is designed to fill the gap that remains between ACAVs and Tanks. Although

principally designed for conventional warfare, it effectively increases the use of armor in a counter-insurgency type of war."

### Mail the Blackhorse Home

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### Clear Roads

# Engr—ACT Troops Answer Ville Plea

by 2LT Daniel I. Davis

Four miles from Cambodia, 25 miles north of Quan Loi, and in the middle of nowhere, is the small hamlet of Bo Duc. The village was once known for its wealth of fruit, tobacco and rubber. French sportsmen considered it one of the best tiger and deer hunting areas in Vietnam.

Since the Tet offensive of 1968, all this has changed. Workers on nearby rubber plantations have been moved into Bo Duc where they are less vulnerable to Viet Cong terrorism. The main road to the villagers' markets have been closed. The local people rely on the government for rice and support.

In May a 73-year-old farmer was killed while riding in a truck by a Viet Cong antitank mine on the main road to the village. A candidate for a local political office riding along was severely injured.

At the request of Captain Vihn, Bo Duc District Chief, the Regiment sent a mine sweep and Medcap team from Third Platoon, 919th Engineers and the Aero-Rifle Platoon into Bo Duc to thwart Viet Cong mine layers and attack health problems in the village.

Two platoons of Vietnamese Regional Forces under the command of Captain Vihn provided

local security while the "Red Devils" swept the main road connecting the hamlet with the outside world. They found and destroyed two Viet Cong antitank mines in the 15 km sweep.

In a concurrent operation, ARP medics conducted a two day Medcap operation that aided over 100 Bo Duc residents. Private First Class William Horan, an ARP medic, described the situation as, "very bad, I sure hope we can come back soon. This type of treatment is really needed in this village. We've treated everything — probable gunshot and shrapnel wounds, lesions, boils and maybe some malaria. I wish I could do more, but I just didn't have enough time or equipment to treat everybody."

A friendly show of force was conducted by other members of the Aero-Rifle Platoon. The ARPs passed out candy to the children and played games with the local preschoolers. One ARP described the day as "very rewarding. These kids are really cute. I could spend the whole day doing this."

Major James Bradin, the operation coordinator commented, "This village is definitely pro-American. I'm sure this type of operation will keep it that way."

## Campaigns Announced

WASHINGTON (ANF) — Department of the Army has announced the following campaign designations for service in the Republic of Vietnam.

The Seventh Campaign is terminated as of June 30, 1968, and designated "Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase IV."

The Eighth Campaign is designated "Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase V." It extends from July 1, 1968, to November 1, 1968.

The Ninth Campaign is designated commencing November 2, 1968. The name of this campaign and the termination date will be determined and announced at a later date.

All members of the U.S. Army who are serving or who have served in the Republic of Vietnam and contiguous water or air space in accordance with paragraph 74.2, AR 672-5-1 are authorized to wear a battle star on the Vietnam service ribbon for service in Vietnam during the periods of the designated campaigns listed above.



FIRE MISSION—Specialist Four William Mitchell, Third Howitzer Battery, rams a round home during a recent fire mission from Fire Support Base Fanny.