



General Casey

Becomes FIRST TEAM ADC After A U.S. Tour

PHUOC VINH — Brigadier General George W. Casey is the new assistant division commander (ADC-A), replacing Brigadier General William E. Shedd.

General Casey comes to the FIRST TEAM from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he was commanding general of the U.S. Army Combat Developments Combat Arms Group.

On leaving the 1st Cav, General Shedd becomes the chief of staff for XXIV Corps.

General Casey commanded the Cav's 2nd Brigade from October, 1966 to April, 1967. He also served as chief of staff from April to October, 1967.

Born in Boston, Mass., General Casey was graduated from Harvard College in 1942. He was graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1945.

His first assignment after graduation from West Point was as a platoon leader with the 188th Parachute Infantry Regiment in Japan. He also served as a company commander, and later as battalion and regimental S-2.

His next assignment was as a staff officer in the G-3 section of the 11th Airborne Division. He later served as Aide-de-Camp to then Major General Lyman L. Lemnitzer.

In 1951, General Casey joined the 7th Infantry Division in Korea, and thereafter became a rifle company commander with the 31st Infantry Regiment, participating in the engagements at Heartbreak Ridge.

Upon returning from the Korean War, General Casey attended the Advanced Infantry Course at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was then assigned to the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Department of the Army, as a logistics planner, and later as assistant executive officer to the deputy chief of staff for logistics.

After graduating from the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, in the spring of 1957, he was assigned to the XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, N.C., where he served as Secretary of the General Staff.

In the fall of 1958, General Casey attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where he earned a master's degree in International Relations.

His next assignment was with the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, DA, as a staff officer with the Army War Plans Division.

In 1962 he attended the National War College, Washington, D.C., and concurrently studied at George Washington University, graduating with a master's in Business Administration in 1963.

Moving to Europe in the same year, he was commander of the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry (Mechanized), and of the 3rd Brigade, 8th Infantry Division.

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Cav's Farewell . . .



(U.S. Army Photo by Sp5 Paul Sgroi)

Major General E.B. Roberts, division commander, pins the Distinguished Flying Cross on Brigadier General William E. Shedd, outgoing assistant division commander, who departed the division for a new position as chief of staff with XXIV Corps.

Welcome Back . . .



(U.S. Army Photo by Sp5 Paul Sgroi)

Major General E. B. Roberts escorts Brigadier General George W. Casey, new assistant division commander (ADC-A), to the division's headquarters after his arrival in Phuoc Vinh. Brigadier General Frank Meszar, assistant division commander (ADC-B) follows.

Time Out From Boonies Provides Break in Action

By Sp4 Tom Benic

QUAN LOI — Someone called a brief time out, and for an infantry line company of the FIRST TEAM, the war was over . . . at least for a few days.

Company C, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry, had been granted a two-day R&R, free from the danger, drudgery and duties of war.

"We'd just spent a week building LZ O'Keefe, and we were supposed to hit the boonies this morning," said Specialist Four Bill Miska, as he sipped a cold drink at the 1st Cav VIP Center. "Then they told us last night at about 11 o'clock we were coming here. Now that's quite a switch."

Despite the short notice, the Cav's 3rd Brigade center was ready when the officers and men arrived shortly after noon.

A hot meal was waiting in the mess hall, 40 cases of suds and 40 cases of soda had been iced

down; the shower tanks were full; brand new fatigues, socks and underwear were available; and the gift shop was open. The day room had been cleared, steaks for the evening cookout were on hand, and a double-feature movie was set up for later in the evening.

"These are my caliber of people," said Sergeant First Class Richard Parker, NCOIC of the center. "I know how to handle them. I know what they want."

Sergeant Parker, a former platoon leader with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry, does his utmost to see they get what they want.

"My home has become your domain," Sergeant Parker told the men at the afternoon briefing. "You own it for the next 48 hours."

"You have free run of the post, three hot meals a day, no duties, no formations, and the bar won't close until you leave."

The following day military records were brought to the center for a thorough examination. A finance officer was on hand to disperse partial pay, an ordnance team from the 27th Maintenance Battalion checked every weapon, and an identification team issued new ID tags.

"You're here for one reason men," Sergeant Parker said, "that being to rest and forget what's going on out in the boonies. You won't be needing your weapons, grenades or claymores here. Turn them into supply."

As he finished speaking, a three-quarter ton truck filled with cases of suds and soda pulled up:

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Cav Keeps Moving, Flying Along

By Sp4 Joe Kamalick

QUAN LOI — Seeing it, Caesar would have dreamed of larger empires, Bonaparte might have dropped his hand in amazement from his shirtfront, and Rommel would have longed for another crack at El Alamein.

What they would have witnessed that day between Tay Ninh and Song Be hardly turns any heads in the 1st Cav nowadays — the movement of a full battalion and its supporting artillery over a distance of 75 miles in a matter of hours.

The load consisted of over 600 men, infantrymen, artillerymen

and engineers. And it included heavy equipment ranging from jeeps and three-quarter-ton trucks to 105mm howitzers and air-liftable tractors.

Word that the 2nd Battalion of the 5th Cavalry was to be moved reached its five company commanders on the night before the scheduled move.

It began in the early morning when Huey helicopters fanned out into the bush around Tay Ninh and picked up the maneuver companies. When dropped at Tay Ninh airfield minutes later, the troops transferred to waiting C-130s and C-123s. It took 18 sort-

ies in all to move them.

Behind the troop transports came tractors, howitzers and vehicles slung beneath the bellies of CH-47 Chinooks and giant, graceful and powerful CH-54 Skycranes.

Only a few hours after leaving Tay Ninh, the five companies boarded Chinooks and Hueys at Song Be airstrip and began the final leg of their journey to a new landing zone, LZ Mary.

By nightfall on moving day, the battalion's new LZ was taking shape under the rough skill of the 8th Engineer Battalion. Already, bunkers and hooches

were popping out of the ground much like in the western flatlands.

By the afternoon of the second day LZ Mary was in full swing. From the air it looked somewhat less active than that first busy day. Now there was only one company there for defense. The other four companies were already out in the bush and jungle looking for "the man."

The battalion had staked its claim.

Bonaparte would have beamed. Rommel would have yielded a thin smile. Caesar, perhaps, would have cried.

Cav Commentary

This week on page 8, CAVALAIR begins a series of articles about some of the men and women correspondents who cover the Vietnam war for various news media.

The purpose of the series is to acquaint 1st Cav personnel with at least a few of the reporters, and cameramen they might meet sometime in the Cav AO.

All of these men and women were interviewed and photographed in Saigon, primarily for the convenience of the CAVALAIR reporter, and the interviews were given with the understanding that their remarks would be printed without selective omission.

It should be noted that a large number of these correspondents have several years of experience in war reporting and are no strangers to the rigors and dangers of combat. By the very nature of their work, they must be where the action is hottest, where the news is happening.

Should you notice a correspondent leaving your unit with the backlog chopper after spending only a few hours or the day in the field, don't suspect him of an over-reluctance to spend the night in the field and possibly see some action. More than likely he must get back to where he can file his story — speed and time are vital to the news — and chances are that he or she has been covering this war for two, three, four or more years, and has been under fire and in more combat situations than all of the men in your platoon or company combined.

Throughout America's wartime history, the correspondent has proven to be the GI's and the military's best friend. In Vietnam, as in other wars, not just a few of them have been wounded in action; and some have died alongside the soldier.

But you will seldom hear one of them boast of his many exposures to hostile fire. They are in Vietnam by choice, not because they were sent. They are here because they are professional newsmen and, as one of them put it, "Whether you like it or not, you cannot deny that this war is the major event of our time."

We hope you will enjoy this series on the men and women here to record and report this war, and the actions of the men who fight it.

Representative . . .



(U.S. Army Photo by Sp4 Eric White)

A veteran of four tours spanning three decades with the **FIRST TEAM**, Command Sergeant Major Frank C. Plass has been designated as the official representative of the Skytrooper chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division. Sergeant Major Plass, who has been the 1st Brigade CSM for the past year, will attend the reunion this week at Columbus, Georgia.

Heroism Awards

SILVER STAR

- TERRY, Daniel SSG
Company C, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry
- BROWN, Billy Carl MAJ
HHC, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry
- HARVELL, Turner R. SGT
Company H (Ranger), 75th Infantry
- WILFONG, Norman A. SFC
Battery A, 1st Battalion, 30th Artillery
- MOORE, Charles E. SP4
Company B, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry
- RESINGER, Dennis M. SGT
Company C, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry
- YOUNG, Steven E. 1LT
Company A, 227th Aviation Battalion
- SHEEHAN, Daniel SP4
Company H (Ranger), 75th Infantry
- MC PARLANE, Michael PFC
Company D, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry
- GOETSER, Joseph J. PFC
Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry
- ALDERSON, Benjamin R. PFC
Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry
- GELDIN, Jeffrey L. SP4
Company D, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry

- MOODY, Stephen T. WO1
Troop C, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry
- LUCAS, Charles W. WO1
Company A, 227th Aviation Battalion
- GRAND, Phillip L. WO1
Troop C, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

- HARKER, Jack A. Jr. WO1
Troop A, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry
- COLLINS, Robert D. WO1
Company A, 227th Aviation Battalion



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Commanding General MG E.B. Roberts
Information Officer MAJ J.D. Coleman
Publications NCOIC SSG R.R. Dyslin
Production Editor SP4 A1 Persons
Layout Editor SP4 Dave Wolfe

. . . For God And Country

"But my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

There is a tendency to make God too small. Paul said, "My God shall supply all your needs." When you say, "My God," what do you mean?

Recently a man seventy years of age died in New York. At the age of twenty, he married and opened a little shop on a side street. He lived with his wife in a small apartment on the East Side. Six days a week after rising, he ate breakfast, walked to the subway and rode to work. His day was spent in the shop. After closing the shop, he would ride home on the subway, eat his evening meal and go to bed. Even on Sundays, he spent the

day at home. This was his routine for 50 years and then he died. When this man said, "My City," he meant a tiny apartment, a subway train and a shop on a side street, his city was a very limited experience.

When you say "My God," what do you mean? How does your God compare to Paul's? Is God taken into all of our activities or is He put on the shelf while we are busy with our social, recreational and business life? While serving here in Vietnam do you include God in your days activities and pause to give Him thanks at the close of each day?

Cavalry Sweetheart Says: "Proud To Be American" Upon Returning To States



Marilyn Genz

Editor's Note: The thank-you or bread-and-butter note is an accepted custom in our society. So it was not surprising that, shortly after returning home from her visit with THE FIRST TEAM, Miss Marilyn Genz, the TWA hostess, hardware collector and Cav sweetheart, dropped the Cav a line.

It was addressed to Major General E. B. Roberts, the division commander, and said, in part:

"What can I say! I've never in my life done anything like it! I'm proud of 'My Cav Boys!' Anyone who says American youth are no good, need only to spend five seconds on an LZ to be proven wrong.

There aren't enough words in the English language to express how I feel. I can only say — I'm proud to be an American!

To see the Stars and Stripes flying over an LZ will be a sight that I'll always think of with a lump in my throat and tears in my eyes. I doubt that I'll ever again see the flag without this memory.

I wish I could personally thank everyone who did so much for me."

Sincerely,
"THE CAV GAL"
MARILYN

California Teenager Seeks Cav Pen Pals

Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to the Editor, 1st Air Cavalry Division. The staff of the CAVALAIR wishes to share the letter with you.

Dear Sirs:
Could you perhaps tell me how I would go about getting some addresses of servicemen in Vietnam who would like to write to a girl from California that is seventeen-years-old?

The two boys I have been corresponding with have come home this month, and I am eager to continue writing.

If you can help me out, I would greatly appreciate it. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Miss Kim Torvinen
1563 Fifth Avenue
Corning, Calif., 96021

Cav RTO

Must Be Tactful, Cool, Concise; But Most of All...He Must Lead

By PFC William Block

LZ GRANT—Which man in the field carries a powerful weapon, one that weighs 25 pounds and only has to be reloaded once a day?

The answer is an RTO (radio-telephone operator).

"When someone yells 'contact,'" observes Specialist Four Gerald J. Wodarck, an RTO with Company B, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry, "everyone scatters to find weapons and places to hide. But the RTO dashes for the horn (radio handset) first. We can bring more damage with the radio than with a rifle."

"The extra weight is quite a burden at first," the young specialist continued, "but you get used to it after a while. It grows on your back."

Aside from the extra weight, RTOs have other difficulties in learning their job, things other grunts need not face.

The RTO must conquer the original fear of the horn, that initial inability to express himself over the radio waves.

Always knowing where the other radios in the moving element are located is very important. Immediate communication is possible in this manner.

They must learn how to move through thick bamboo with a three-foot antenna bouncing on their back, constantly catching on things and causing trouble.

Following the man in charge everywhere he goes, when he goes, is another job of the RTO. The use of call signs, and what at first seems to be an entirely different language over the radio, soon becomes natural and not too difficult; but it is an ad-

justment he must make.

"More than anyone else in the company," asserts Specialist

Wodarck, "an RTO has to be security conscious. Any mistakes he may make on the radio can,

and often will, be monitored by the enemy."

Finally, "the RTO must stay well informed," insists Sergeant Jerry W. Fowler of Company A, 1st Bn, 12th Cav. "He must develop an overall view of what is going on everywhere," he explains, "so that he can effectively communicate the proper information."

"I found relating the proper things to be my greatest difficulty in learning the job," said Sergeant Fowler. The sergeant more than likely found the transition from patrolman in a squad car, constantly using the radio, to a combat RTO not too troublesome.

The RTO generally prefers his job to others in the field for various reasons. For example, Specialist Four James R. Borowski of Company B simply appreciates being informed: "You hear shots up ahead, and almost instantly you find out what is happening."

Specialist Wodarck, on the other hand, likes the responsibility of relaying the essential information which keeps his company functional: "Every detail is important in some way, as it could mean saving someone's life."

The RTO often handles things which take him away from his radio for a short time. He distributes mail, rations and clothes. He works with platoon logistics. He sometimes becomes a sounding board, fielding complaints if someone feels slighted at any time.



(Combat Art by Sp4 "Gator" Doss)

An RTO is very important to the safety and function of any combat element.

Brigade's Personnel Learning

By Sp4 Tom Benic

QUAN LOI — There's an education center here, and it's swiftly becoming one of the most popular spots among Skytroopers at the 3rd Brigade basecamp.

The education center, a white trailer located across from the PX, offers over 200 correspondence courses on the college, high school and elementary school level. The textbooks and even tapes for spoken language courses are also provided.

The equivalency of a high school diploma, or up to 30 hours in college credit, may be earned here in Vietnam.

"We had 30 men stop in to browse the first week we opened," said Specialist Tomkins. "About 80 came the second week, and we've been averaging 150 men a week ever since."

Most visitors are just that. They want information on the courses, examinations, or perhaps education benefits under the GI Bill of Rights. A growing number are enrolling in courses, however.

"We have several thousand men taking correspondence courses in the division at this time," said Mr. George Rastall, education director for the division. "Most of them won't finish, of course. There's no substitute for a live teacher. But they can't lose. The books are usually worth more than the \$5 fee."

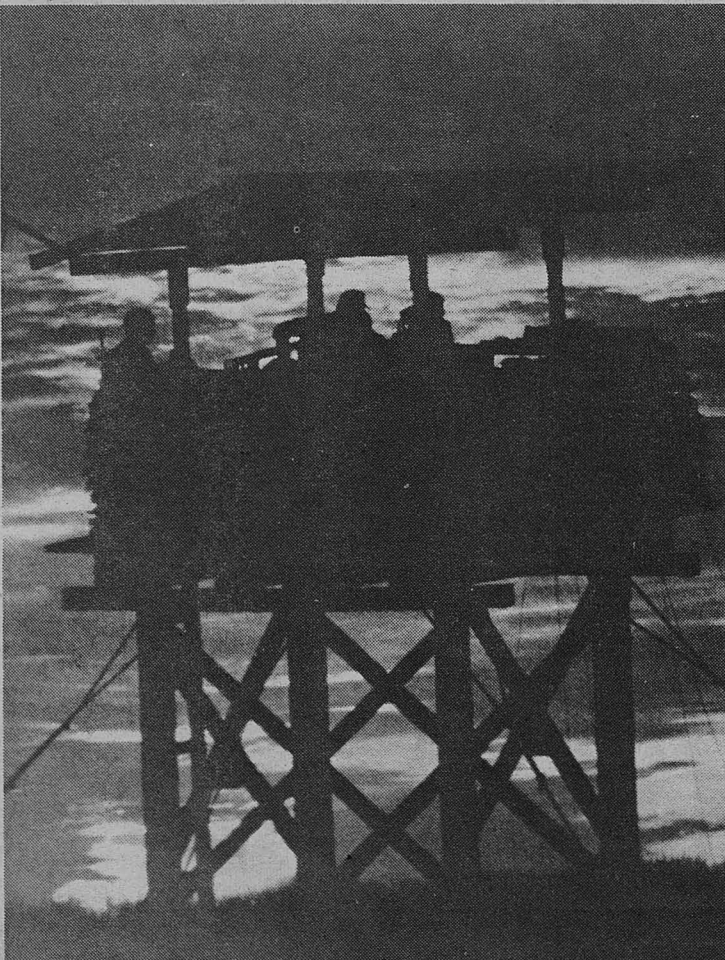
The Quan Loi center will soon be an accredited USAFI (United States Armed Forces Institute) testing center. As with the Phuoc Vinh and Bien Hoa centers, high school and college level exams can then be given at the convenience of the troops.

"We give between 400 and 500 tests on both high school and college level each month in the Cav," said Mr. Rastall. "We're growing — there's no question about that."

When Mr. Rastall came to the Cav in February, there was only one education center with a Vietnamese secretary and a civilian education advisor. Today there are three centers — more than any other division — with five enlisted men working full time as counselors. Two officers also work part time, offering the men of the Cav the best education facility of any fighting division in Vietnam.

A "live" typing class is taught at the Bien Hoa center. Phuoc Vinh offers "spoken Vietnamese," taught by a Phuoc Vinh High School teacher, and an electronics course taught by an officer who is an electrical engineer. Tutors are provided at all center to provide assistance to the men.

Ever Watchful . . .



(U.S. Army Photo by Sp5 Paul Sgroi)

Alone with the setting sun, sentries from the Cav stand guard . . . poised and alert.

Former Point Man

Gives Away Clothes, Returns To Boonies

By PFC William Block

LZ GRANT — Sergeant Trinidad Gonzalez Jr., cleared off his desk at the battalion rear area, gave away his extra clothes, and announced that he wanted to go back to the field.

His co-workers smiled in disbelief, but Sergeant Gonzalez was in the field the next day with his former unit, Company D, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry.

"Delta needs an experienced pointman," he asserted, "and I just don't feel that I'm doing my job here unless I'm in the field." He had walked point for 11 months, during which time he earned a Combat Infantryman's Badge, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal with "V" device, Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

Company D, however, would not let him walk point. They valued his experience and attitude enough to make him a platoon sergeant.

Five days later his platoon made contact with NVA regulars armed with AK-47s and Chinese claymores. In the action that followed, smoke was spotted coming from a tree near his position.

"Trini raised his M-16," recalled Private First Class Ron L. Pinkney, "and sprayed the tree with lead: first one side, then the other side, then down the middle."

Chalk up one NVA-KIA for Gonzalez.

Afterwards, as he was redistributing ammunition to a few of his men, he was wounded in the leg. Three days later, after some recuperation on LZ Grant, Gonzalez was ready for more action. "They want me to stay here," he said, "but I'll be on the next bird to Delta."

The Sergeant's tour in Vietnam ends in September, but he is not sure he will be gone for long. "If I don't like my stateside duty station," he concluded, "I'll be back."

Suspected Enemy Caught Slinking In Saigon River

LAI KHE — An element of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry was lying in ambush along the Saigon River, silently waiting for the enemy. Only the hushed sound of the jungle night hung in the air.

At one guard post a Skytrooper, newly arrived in country, strained his eyes through the darkness. Suddenly there was a splash in the river. The soldier's eyes strained harder, and his ears perked up. The splash came again.

Surely an NVA sampan was trying to slide down the river unobserved. The new Skytrooper gave the alarm.

Immediately, an M-60 opened up, spraying the river with rounds. Again there was the sound of silence.

A first light check in the morning revealed no NVA sampan. It did, however, reveal one tattered alligator, whose midnight swim had disturbed the quiet of the night.

The "Skytrooper Band"

Has Over 100 Years of Experience

LZ WESCOTT — The shiny trumpets, brassy tuba, and sleek black and silver clarinets looked incongruous in the stark setting of howitzers, machine guns and sand-bagged bunkers.

But they were there at this landing zone, just recently hacked and gouged out of the jungle east of Quan Loi.

The instruments belonged to the 1st Air Cavalry Division Band; the weapons and bunkers to the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry and its supporting units.

Three to four times a week the bandmen pack their instruments into tattered cases and hitch a ride on a CH-47 Chinook helicopter, bound wherever Skytroopers are in the jungles, rubber plantations or camps of III Corps.

They and their predecessors have been taking music to men at war for more than 100 years.

The 1st Cav Band's ancestor was formed in 1855 with the 2nd Cavalry Regiment. Now the band is part of THE FIRST TEAM'S Division Support Command.

The band's day began early in the morning as the men waited for a Hook at the sling-out pad in Phuoc Vinh.

The men were to play for about an hour at LZ Wescott and later outside 3rd Brigade Headquarters in Quan Loi. The rest of their time would be spent sitting under a tropical sun at the treeless LZ, waiting for a Hook to Quan Loi, and then waiting again in a downpour at Quan Loi for a Hook back to Phuoc Vinh.

All this will take them 11 hours, then they will return home to a meal of C-rations.

The men usually aren't prepared to see a 25-piece band come trooping out.

The first reaction of infantrymen who live on the LZ is generally one of cool surprise. Perhaps they consider the bandmen as the gray boys from air-conditioned hooches. This, of course, they are not.

But once the band starts setting up and playing, the reluctant audience gathering around them invariably warms. The crowd keeps growing. Gradually, following each number, the scattered hand clapping begins to more and more resemble applause.

Chief Warrant Officer Kenneth Barner, who has been with the Band as bandmaster for 25 months, turns and grins.

"You liked that one, eh?" he says. "What do you want to hear now?"

A grimy Skytrooper cradles his rifle, looks at his rough surroundings, and in a moment of



The music provided by the band at an LZ is odd, only because of the setting. Drums, tuba, French horn, steel pots . . . and a Cav patch are all part of the band's character.



Neatly trimmed haircuts, starched fatigues, polished boots, and uniform conformity are all combined to make the band a noted and respected representative of the division.



Scorching sun, rainy weather or delayed helicopters create long, but satisfying days for Skytrooper bandmen.



Soldiers at LZ Wescott gather around the band, which has just dropped out of the sky in a Chinook.

Story and
Photos by
PFC
Dennis Herrick



The bandmen pack their instruments, gather personal gear and shoulder weapons before trudging to an awaiting aircraft. Yet another performance must be given this day.

inspiration yells out: "Hey, play 'We Gotta Get Out of This Place!'"

Soon all of the troops are shouting out requests, and the band starts going strong on jazzed-up songs, and also some toned-down versions.

Everything is original. The bandmen compose the arrangements themselves and write their own music sheets.

"Rain shuts down our show," CWO Barner says, "because the guys write their music in ink, and the rain makes the ink run."

But there is no rain today, just a hot sun reflecting off the instruments. A tuba catches the light and the flash makes the soldiers blink.

Sergeant First Class Roger E. Woodrum, the band's acting first sergeant, plays a sax right

with the men. He has played in Army bands for 22 years, but says the work has never been as rewarding as it is with the 1st Cav Band.

"It's especially gratifying when you play for the infantry out in the field like this," he explains. "They sometimes don't like to let you know they enjoy the music — but they generally ask when you're coming back."

While they play, work goes on as usual with helicopters coming and going, their rotors sending a roar and thumping noise all over the LZ. Rifle fire crackles in the background as men zero their M-16s. Occasional artillery blasts sometimes rock the area in support of other soldiers from the LZ on patrol.

A Huey swings in over the area. Chief Warrant Officer Barner holds up his hands and

asks the 50 or 60 soldiers who have gathered if the band should play or wait for the helicopter to leave.

Skytroopers perhaps aren't the only ones attracted to a lively jam session, so the bandmen run the risk of having their affair crashed by uninvited guests.

A few months ago at one of the LZs the bandmen had to cast aside their instruments and grab their rifles when a ground probe started against the LZ perimeter.

They are musicians, and they have been known to react like infantrymen. At their home base in Phuoc Vinh they are among the first to man the perimeter when the reaction force is called upon.

But if the enemy is only noise, hot sun, dust, or mud, the band plays on.

Artillerymen Feel

LZ Security Better Since Gun Changed

TAY NINH — Phyllis, Ina, Sue and Janet; Ellen, Kelly, Julie and Carolyn; Becky, Beverly, Rita and Eleanor — all feminine names and all possibly the names of hurricanes, frequently named after members of the distaff-side.

In the sense that hurricanes are noted for their destructive power, this "name game" has an association with the 1st Cav. All these names are officially or unofficially christened and given to division landing zones. And they, too, possess destructive power.

All Cav firebases have many things in common—things like mud or dust, thousands of sandbags, mess tents and TOCs (tactical operation centers). All landing zones also have one specific need in common: a need for indirect artillery support.

Hence, 105mm howitzers, an artillery workhorse.

Landing Zone Becky, a 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry firebase located deep in War Zone "C," has its need for indirect support filled by Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 19th Artillery.

This support consists of six

guns arranged in a star pattern at the south end of the "Cav suburban location." Each gun is capable of pivoting 360 degrees, thus providing artillery support to all areas circling the LZ.

At the LZ's northern edge the "redlegs" have set up a rather strange innovation.

In the words of Corporal Mike Ross, another section leader, "We want to have quick response if the enemy tries a ground attack, so we decided to try something new."

At first glance the howitzer involved looks much the same as any gun this size would appear. But closer investigation reveals two variations; there are no sighting devices, and the gun is located closer to the perimeter wire than is the remainder of the battery.

"We wanted to put it as close to the berm as we could," said Corporal Ross, "since its actual purpose is for direct fire only."

As a private standing nearby stated, "If the enemy is stupid enough to hit this place against our direct fire artillery, choppers and possible air strikes ... well, I'd call that suicide."

American Children's Project Presents Money To Tay Ninh Province Children

By Lt. Donald Ashton
TAY NINH — The heart of a child is not restricted by inter-

national boundaries. And the distance between Tay Ninh, Vietnam, and Harrisburg, Ill., is

not all that far.

A gift of 3,350 piasters (\$25) was presented to the children of Tay Ninh Province Orphanage here recently, culminating the efforts of a number of young children at McKinley School in Harrisburg.

Representatives of the 1st Cav presented the gift to the director of the orphanage, Mrs. Cao Huong Cuong. Her 64 charges, infants to 15-years-of-age, sang the Vietnamese "Thank You Song to the Visitor."

"We are delighted to receive this gift you have sent to our children," said Mrs. Cuong. "We want to thank very much the nice children in the United States."

The orphanage is located near the Cao Dai Temple grounds in Tay Ninh City. It was constructed some 10 years ago by the Cao Dai, and it is managed by volunteer appointees of the Cao Dai hierarchy. Open to orphans of any religious background, it is financed by the Government of South Vietnam.

American doctors visit the children weekly for examination and treatment. Military personnel, both Philippine and American, who are quartered at Tay Ninh base camp, frequently donate foodstuffs to the children.

All Smile . . .



(U.S. Army Photo by Sp4 Eric White)

A small girl from the Tay Ninh Province Orphanage smiles at all Skytroopers. She is one of the youngsters who sang for 1st Cav representatives at Tay Ninh recently. The soldiers presented gifts from American school children from Harrisburg, Ill., to the orphanage's director.

Wanna Ride In My Boat? How 'Bout a Walnutto . . .



Lovely Mie Hama isn't going to let the "Dirty Old Man" bother her . . . not when she's melted men such as the famous "James Bond." Who else could be worth the effort but a 1st Cav Skytrooper?

MARS Station

Contact With Our Families

PHUOC VINH — Professional communicators. This silent salute pays tribute to the four-man crew at the Military Affiliated Radio Station (MARS). This crew, during the month of April, made 991 telephone calls to "the world," setting a record for the 1st Cav. The previous record was 549 calls in August, 1968.

"It's a real shot in the arm for morale," said Lieutenant Colonel J.R. Cook as he presented a letter of commendation from Major General E.B. Roberts, division commander, to Sergeant Armando Robles.

"The increase was due to several reasons," stated Specialist Four Clayton Masters. "During April we had great frequencies to the states. One day we put through 73 calls. We also had a bigger transmitter and started working 24 hours a day."

Working with Robles and Masters at Camp Gorvad are Sergeant Skip Walters and Specialist Four Richard Avenson. At the Tay Ninh station are Specialists Four Joe Wards and Jim Dalby.

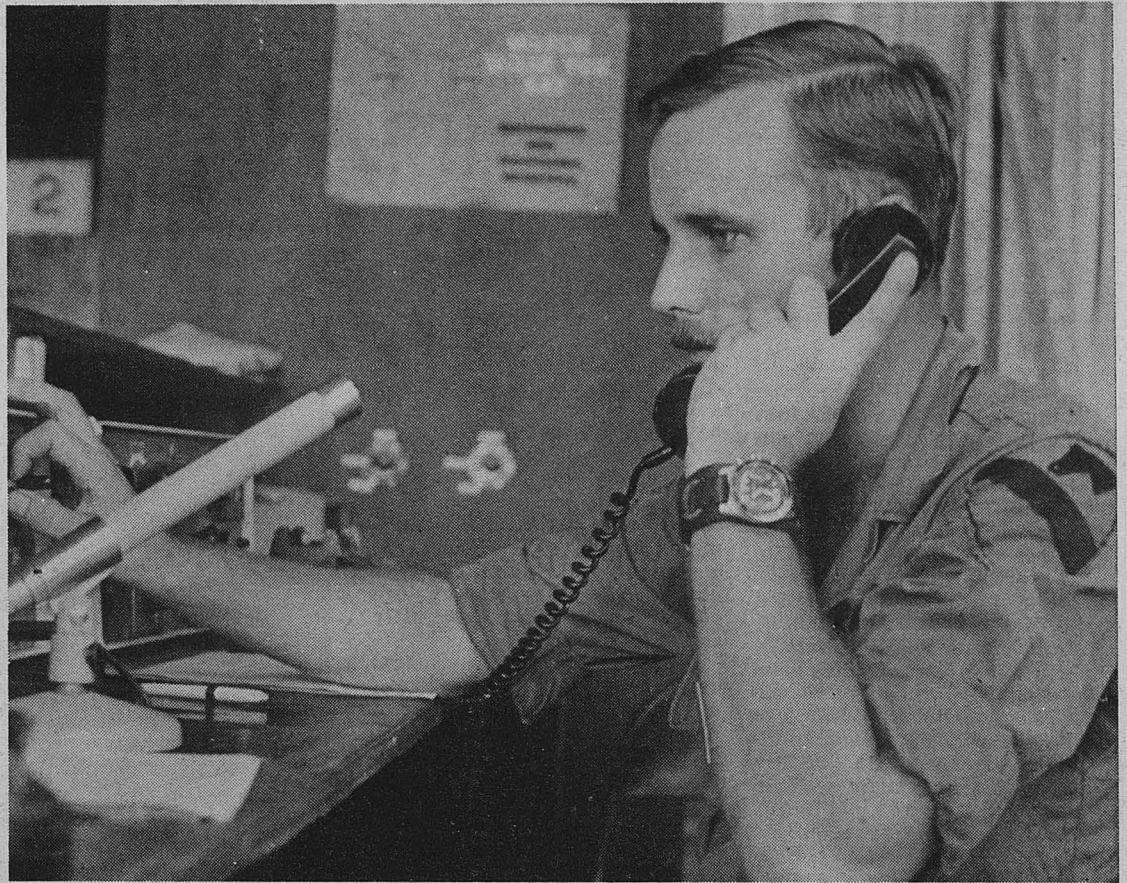
Masters told of the time Major General George I. Forsythe, former 1st Cav commander, presented a problem to the MARS attendants.

"Every year for 30 years the general had called his mother on the day and hour his father died — from anywhere in the world," said Specialist Masters. "We were really worried because the general wanted his call to go through at 11 a.m., and we had been losing contact about that time. We got his call through, but the second he hung up, we lost contact."

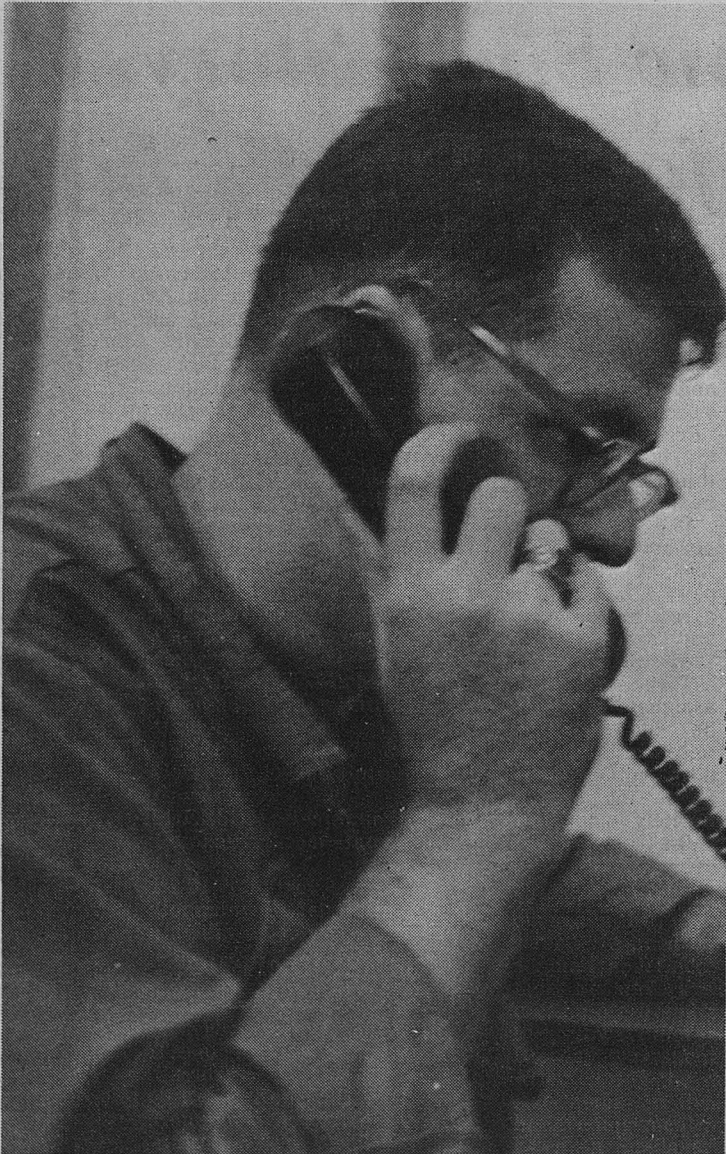
Although open at night, the men at the MARS station agree that daytime is the best time to try and place a call.

And what is the MARS station used for the most? "Coordinating R&Rs to Hawaii," asserted Specialist Masters. "I found out so much about R&Rs in Hawaii that I had a great time when I went."

Morale. That's what the MARS station is all about. And when more calls are getting through, more Skytroopers are happy. Happy Skytroopers make better soldiers.



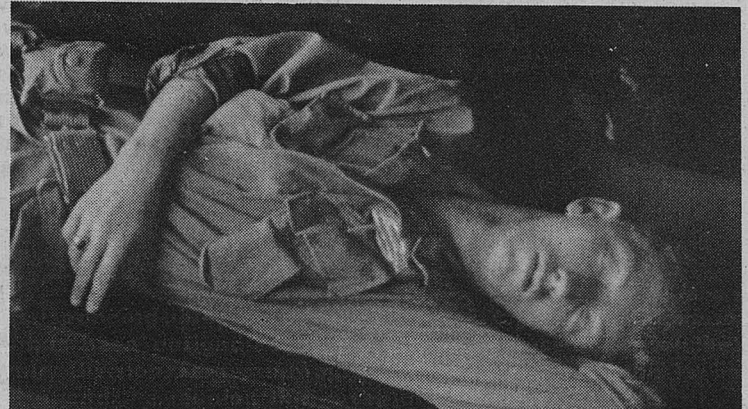
The initial contact with a "ham radio operator" in the states is the major problem confronting MARS operators. Monitoring each call requires some time, too, but the operator's don't mind.



Hello, Mom . . . Those first words are sometimes a little slow in passing from mind to mouth and then over the airways, but they are always full of expression and meaning.

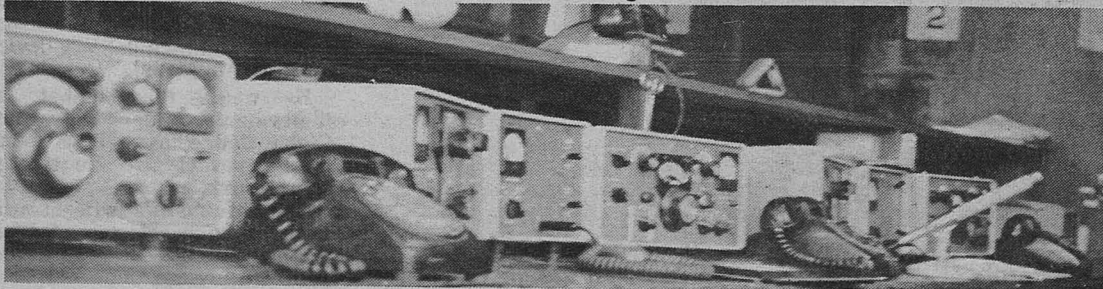


Staying "always prepared" requires constant maintenance. Skytroopers may call home any time or anywhere in the U.S.

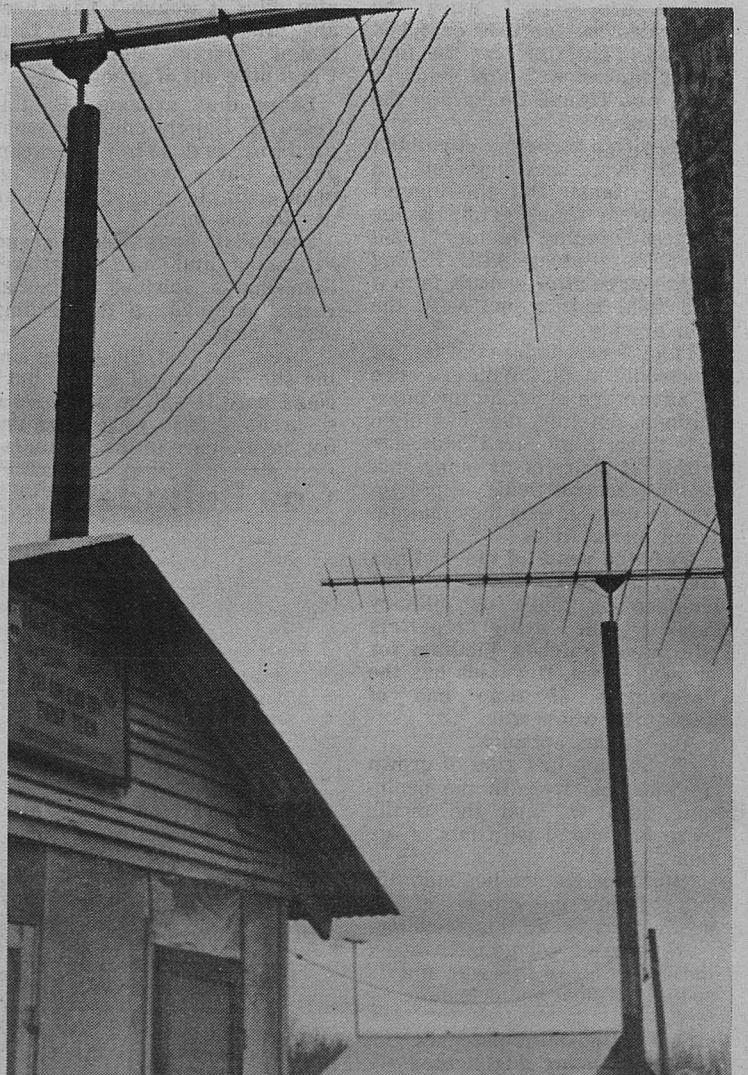


Sometimes sleep overtakes a man as he tries to get his call through to his loved ones in the "world." But hearing that "real voice" is worth it.

Photos by
Sp5 Paul Sgroi
Story by
SP5
S. Haldeman



Expensive equipment stands ready 24 hours a day, waiting for cavalrymen to use it.



A maze of antennas, wires, and poles create a powerful setting as Skytroopers reach half-way around the world by means of the power available to them.



NBC Chief . . .



(U.S. Army Photo by Sp4 Joe Kamalick)

"... Television has grown up with this war," says NBC news bureau chief, Jack Reynolds, "as now we are involved in covering the full range of the war . . ."

Grunt Now Sings Story About Infantryman's Life

SP4 Joe Kamalick

In mid-summer 1966, Bill Ellis wrote a song entitled "I Ain't Goin'," a sixteen-year-old's protest against the military draft. A little more than two years later, that same songwriter was carrying a rifle in Vietnam and was about to become the 1st Cav Division's balladeer.

The long-haired rock guitar player who watched the military draft scuttle two groups he played in and also cause the early demise of what may have been a hit record, is now Specialist Four Bill Ellis of the 1st Cav.

Ellis was not permitted to take his Goya guitar with him into the field, but he found a Vietnamese guitar and bought it for \$5 at one of the Cav's forward firebases.

He may be a soldier, but he was a musician first.

The man who once wrote "I Ain't Goin'" was now composing songs like "Firefight," a narration of the lonely and frightful experience of a jungle battle, "The Grunt," a ballad of sweat and thirst and the long dragging hours, and a song entitled "Freedom Bird," which scores the hope of every trooper who thinks about that day when he'll be going home.

The 1st Cav "balladeer" was discovered on New Year's Eve 1968 at Quan Loi where Company A had been pulled back for a rest in compensation for having spent Thanksgiving and Christmas in the field.

Three weeks later he was reassigned to Special Services and he began touring the Cav firebases, singing for his fellow soldiers. And he composed a song about the Cav called, appropriately enough, "1st Cav."

On August 22 Bill will be ap-

pearing at the 1st Cavalry Division Association reunion in Columbus, Ga. At the time of his appearance a long-playing stereo record with four of Bill's songs will be released to stateside radio stations.

Each member of the 1st Cav now serving in Vietnam will also receive a free copy of the record. The songs are about the Cav, its work and its men — soldiers everywhere, really.

Bill Ellis is a musician and a composer, but he is also a veteran of that rightly and doggedly proud fraternity, the INFANTRY.

New ADC—

(Continued From Page 1)

The summer of 1965 found the general back in the United States, where he spent a year as a Fellow at the Center for International Affairs, Harvard University.

After his tour in Vietnam with the 1st Cav, he was assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army Combat Developments Command, Fort Belvoir, Va., where he served with the Special Studies and Analytical Studies section. He later became deputy director of doctrine in May, 1968.

General Casey has earned numerous awards and decorations, including the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star with "V" device and the Air Medal.

He wears the Combat Infantryman's Badge with Star, Glider Badge, as well as being master parachutist. He is also a rated aviator.

General Casey's wife is the former Elaine Morton of West Roxbury, Mass. The general and his wife have two sons and three daughters.

As the war has progressed and a military victory by the north has become less and less likely, the coverage of the war has changed with the shift of action.

"The days of reporting fire-fights and scattered engagements are over. We should be explaining why things are happening and why things are changing. Now we are after trends in the war."

Reynolds said that the actual combat in Vietnam is still, of course, very much a subject of news. He, like many of the Saigon press corps, was at Hamburger Hill.

But as the tone of the war becomes more and more political, and the final settlement seems likely to be made at the conference table instead of the battlefield, "we are offering a more complete news package."

Two brigades of the 9th Infantry Division have left. How many more troops will leave and how fast they will be pulled out is not known. For Reynolds, bureau chief and newsman, "The next year here will be a crucial year — not only for Vietnam, but for all of Asia as well."

'Time Out'—

(Continued From Page 1)

"Hey that's beautiful," someone said.

"Couldn't have picked a better brand."

"Ain't the suds cold yet?"

At least one Skytrooper doubted he could drink his quota. "Back in the old fraternity days it wouldn't have been any problem," said First Lieutenant Vincent Dorsett. "But I'm a little out of practice."

Later that evening, Captain Jesse K. Fulfer, company commander, and First Sergeant James Carey sweated over an open grill, cooking steaks to order for the men.

Specialist Four Rod Greene, exhausted and mud splattered following a spirited basketball game, summed up the feelings of the men.

"Well, we lost the game and the shower's out of water, but I could care less," he said. "It is so great to ease your mind and not have a care in the world."

Cav Balladeer . . .



(U.S. Army Photo by Sp5 Paul Sgroi)

Specialist Four Bill Ellis will sing his original compositions at the Cav Association meeting in Columbus, Ga., August 22 to 24.

Sp4 Joe Kamalick
Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles about newsmen in Vietnam. See "Cav Commentary," Page 2.

The NBC News bureau chief in Saigon is Jack Reynolds, a 35 year-old New Yorker, graduate of Fordham University and a veteran of 14 years of television reporting.

From his desk in a downtown Saigon office, Reynolds has been directing NBC coverage of the war since October, 1968. The task of supplying some 20 million Americans with nightly news of the war might well be considered "an ulcer job."

When he can be found in his office, the tall and lanky Reynolds will likely have a pipe clamped in a quick smile. He is busy. A sign on the front of his desk pointedly tells visitors not to mess with the papers scattered on its top.

His first visit to Vietnam was in 1965. Now, four years after first going into the field as a TV reporter, he is not unlike an Army major who grumbles about being pulled back for a staff position, when he'd rather be a captain again and back in the field with a company.

"I'd like to get out once a month. Otherwise you just don't know what's going on," he said, pulling on the pipe.

"Just by being out there you can pick up a feeling of how things are going."

It's something of a reporting maxim. If you can get there to see it yourself, don't take someone else's second-hand version.

He first reported on "how things are going" when the American buildup took on speed in 1965. "The Cav was the first unit I worked with that year. . . That was around Pleiku and the Highlands."

Television reporting of combat can be hectic and dangerous, to say the least. But the biggest problem is time. "Time is the biggest limiting factor," said Reynolds, "along with finding what you're after, getting in to it and then getting out with the film quickly."

Time is especially vital for the electronic media. With the edge of advantage given by the international dateline, they can often get their film aired stateside within 24 hours of its being shot in the Vietnam fields — providing, of course, that they can get it out of the field.

Over the years of the Vietnam war, television coverage has changed as much as military tactics. Like many reporters who have watched Vietnam for several years, Reynolds has the perspective of time and of seeing the whole war.

And he has opinions.

"Television has kind of grown up with this war. In the beginning both we and the public were fascinated with lots of action."

"But now we are beginning to put together more parts of the jigsaw puzzle in this country. Now we are involved in covering the full range of this war and its social, political and economic effects."

One of the most poignant stories now being highlighted by NBC in Vietnam is "the cultural shock experienced by both the Vietnamese and the Americans."