



# Enemy Activity Down in Cav AO

By SP4 Jerry Norton

The enemy's "High Point" faded in northern III Corps in the week of April 5 to 11. Contact dropped sharply, leaving 153 Communist soldiers dead, compared to 354 the previous week.

Most of the action was in Tay Ninh Province. Enemy movement on a trail sparked the week's biggest ground battle there April 11. The men of Alpha Company, 1st Bn, 5th Infantry (Mechanized), opcon to the 1st Bde, spotted the movement and rolled in on their Armored Personnel Carriers to sweep the jungle 17 miles northwest of Tay Ninh.

Crunching through the underbrush, the APCs encountered the enemy and ripped into them with .50 caliber and M-60 machineguns. The NVA hit back with RPGs, .51 caliber machineguns, small arms and automatic weapons. As artillery and helicopter support pummeled their positions, the Reds evaded into a bunker complex.

Alpha Company followed in hot pursuit as Charlie Company set up a blocking position. When the two units linked at 1:50 p.m. the enemy fire had ceased,

but it began again at 3:15 p.m. with two B-40 rounds from the NVA. By 6:50 p.m., the steadily advancing APCs, with more help from helicopters, artillery and Air Force jets, crushed the last pockets of enemy resistance.

Twenty-six NVA had been killed in the battle, and six rifles, one B-40 rocket launcher, 120 rifle grenades and one RPG, one .30 caliber and one .51 caliber machinegun captured. Two Americans were killed and three wounded.

In another action in Tay Ninh Province, Bravo Company, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav drew on the division's firepower resources to resist NVA units in thick weeds 18 miles north-northwest of Tay Ninh.

Alpha Company had been following trails along steep, jungled slopes 24 miles north-northeast of Song Be when one of the men severely sprained his ankle. While cutting a landing zone for the Medevac bird the second platoon's Kit Carson Scout uncovered a neatly piled stack of ammunition.

Like all of the caches found in the next three days in a 200 meter area, the munitions were in good condition, and in boxes camouflaged with leaves and

branches. The caches had been in place about a month.

First Sqdn, 9th Cav helicopters were active during the week, killing 62 NVA. A Cobra-LOH team on April 17 flying over the huts and bunkers dotting an area 11 miles west of Song Be when the birds spotted an annihilated one NVA.

An hour later the Fire Team killed nine NVA wearing light green uniforms, and called in artillery resulting in one additional NVA killed.

An Alpha Troop Pink Team was over open territory 10 miles west-northwest of Katum when tracers from seven .51 caliber machineguns streaked toward it

April 5. The enemy missed, but the Cobra's rockets and minigun finished eight NVA and erased two of the machineguns.

The same day Charlie Troop helicopters and Air Force jets killed 13 NVA in jungle foothills 20 miles northeast of Song Be.

(Continued to page 8)



GRACEFUL AS BIRDS -- Three 1st Air Cav Division helicopters loaded with ground troops swoop down on an unsuspecting enemy. Action took place north of Tay Ninh in War Zone C. (USA Photo By SP4 Bob Borchester)

## Retired General Aids Vietnamese Students

PLEIKU AND QUI NHON - Thanks to Brigadier General (Ret.) and Mrs. S.L.A. Marshall, six Vietnamese students will complete high school, and the 1st Cav Division returned for a moment to the site of the historic Pleiku Campaign and the port city where it all began.

Six deserving boys, two of them Montagnard "Highlanders", from Pleiku and Qui Nhon were recently awarded scholarships totaling \$1,500 (VN \$177,000). Raised by General and Mrs. Marshall, the grants were their contribution to the future of South Vietnam.

The general, a widely read military historian and syndicated newspaper columnist, visited and wrote of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's earlier contribution to the security of this country in the central highlands of II Corps. It was an impressive military beginning.

He felt that the end rested on the shoulders of people like these boys, to whom an education is a struggle, a struggle to clothe themselves, to get up at 4:30 in the morning, walk five kilometers to school, and study from texts they can't afford to buy.

General Marshall's continued interest in Cav and hope for the future of Vietnam led to two ceremonies last month at the Pleiku Secondary School in Qui Nhon, where six students from the Binh Khe and An Nhon Secondary Schools were honored.

With the help of Dr. James D. Singletary, USAID Chief of Secondary Education, and two representatives of the GVN Ministry of Education, Tran Dinh Tri and Nguyen Xuan Khanh, a representative of the division presented awards to students. All six are beginning their last three years of high school.

The recipients were chosen by their respective school boards, composed of province officials, community leaders and educators, whose criteria was that the boys be high in scholarship and potential but low on funds.

The awards, for each boy, amounted to VN \$11,500 the first year, and 9,000 for the second and third years.

When the division landed at Qui Nhon, it was growing from a small fishing village to what is now a bursting town of about 120,000 people, many of them refugees. In the province, about 17 per cent of the children eligible for high school attend now.

A letter from an official of the Education Ministry was read at the ceremonies. It concludes: "May the seed that BG Marshall has planted bring on a plentiful crop."

## Col Clarke Takes Command Of Division's 2nd Brigade

FSB BUTTONS - Colonel Carter W. Clarke Jr. has assumed command of the 1st Air Cavalry's 2nd Brigade recently, succeeding Colonel Edward C. Meyer, Chief of Staff.

Lieutenant Colonel Donald E. Gelke succeeded Lieutenant Colonel William C. Glisson as 2nd Brigade deputy commanding officer. Lt. Col. Glisson has assumed command of 2nd Battalion, 8th Cav.

Colonel Clarke graduated from West Point in 1948 and received his Master of Science degree in International Affairs from George Washington University.

He served in the Korean Conflict and later in Europe and Japan before his first tour in Vietnam in 1964-65 with the Military Assistance Command.

After two years in Washington, D.C. and another tour in Europe, he returned to Vietnam to the G-3 section of USARV before joining the 1st Air Cav.

A native of Valdez, Alaska, Colonel Clarke resides with his wife and two children in Washington, D.C.

Lt. Col. Gelke was commissioned in 1952 after serving with the Navy in World War II and graduating from the University of Kentucky.

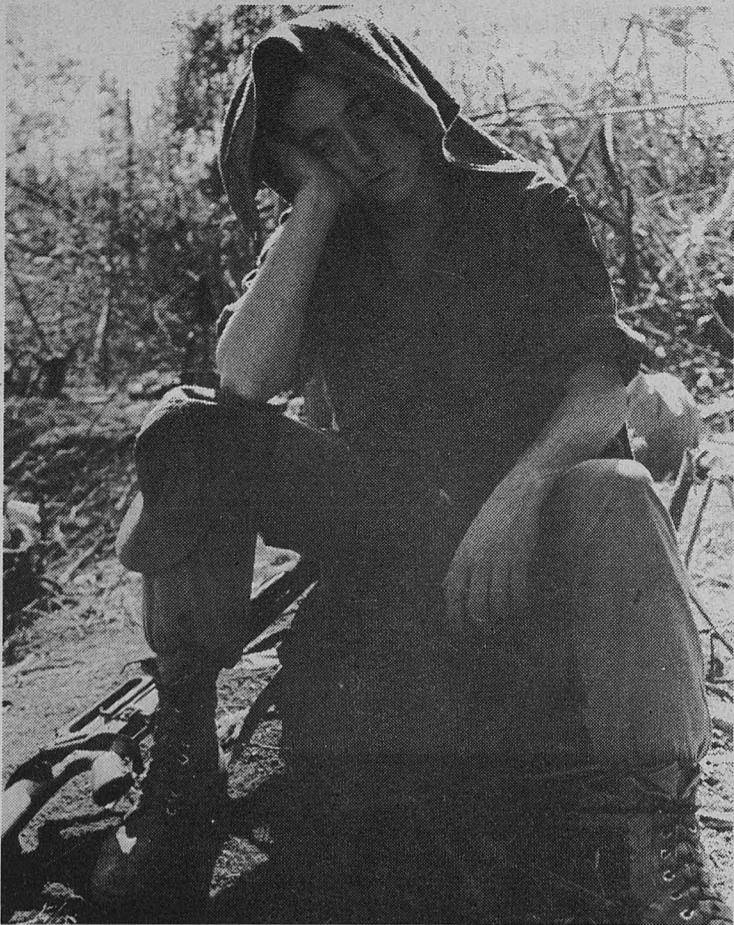
He served during the Korean War and served his first Vietnam tour in 1965-66 with the 101st Airborne Division as a brigade adjutant. In 1967 he earned a Master of Arts degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin.

Lt. Col. Gelke worked in the Office of the Chief of

Information in Washington, D.C. before returning to Vietnam. He and his wife have four children.



Col Clarke



**CATCHING THIRTY WINKS** -- Catching a quick nap is Spec 4 Payton Shirley, 37th Scout Dog Platoon. The scout dog handler managed to get in a fast "30 winks" while his unit was being resupplied by helicopter near Song Be, 90 miles north of Saigon. (USA Photo by SP4 James McCabe)

# Vacancies Open for EMs At West Point Academy

As West Point Military Academy expands its growth in greater proportions, there now exists extra vacancies for enlisted personnel who are interested in becoming a regular Army Officer.

Enrollment at West Point, expanded in 1969, and is expected to grow to more than 4000 providing the additional vacancies for qualified enlisted personnel.

In order for enlisted personnel to get to West Point, they must first enter the Academy's preparatory school at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia.

There are no hard and fast rules set for admission to the West Point Preparatory School, nor are entrance examinations required. An enlisted man who thinks he is qualified, merely has to have an interview with his company commander, who upon completion of a satisfactory interview, will endorse the applicant. The application is then made to the school and individual students are selected on the basis of their records.

The 10-month course provides intensive academic, physical and

military training to prepare individuals for competitive appointments to the Point.

The academic program includes a comprehensive review of all high school English and mathematics, and an introduction to college level instruction in these subjects.

The physical training consists

of physical training and an extensive sports program.

Attendance at the United States Military Preparatory School offers the enlisted man a unique opportunity to prepare themselves for the United States Military Academy and a subsequent career as a Regular Army Officer.

## ... For God And Country

By Chaplain (LTC) Charles F. Powers  
Division Chaplain

Every generation has its central concern and this generation appears to have chosen for its concern, the dignity of the individual.

The concerned generation emphasizes the due respect of the individual, and that he be recognized as an individual. This respect for others begins with respect for yourself, just because you are a human person - a child of God.

The heightened respect of the individual and his rights finds expression in every phase of life. The way you talk to a man, the name you call him, the job you ask him to do, the confidence you place in him, all indicate the respect you have for him. It is shown by the interest you take in him not because you have to, but because you want to. But the respect that is most hurtful when denied and most appreciated when given is to be found in the small things of daily life.

There are people who make you feel, by the way they look at you and shake your hand, that they consider you important, or at least important enough to be worthy of a moment's undivided attention. On the other hand, there are those who make you wish you were invisible. Those, for example, who shake hands with you while looking at and talking to someone else, those who walk up to someone to whom you are addressing, ignore you and begin to talk to your companion; those who interrupt you; those who ask a question and turn away without waiting for an answer; those who plainly are not listening to a word you are saying. This is more than rudeness or bad manners, it is a lack of respect for another person.

Contributing money is easily recognizable as a manifestation of charity. Contributing to the self-respect of another can be more important. Some people need attention more than anything else. Listening to another man's opinion, even though it contradicts your own belief, is paying him the respect he deserves as a human being.

Respect requires so little when given, yet it means so much when received. It costs so little, yet it cannot be bought at any price. It can only be earned and not demanded. Some men merit our respect by their actions, others by their rank, but every man deserves respect because of his humanity.

### Legal Assistance Valuable

## Services Cover Wide Spectrum

The Staff Judge Advocate office of the 1st Air Cavalry Division in Phuoc Vinh will observe Legal Day May 1.

Services provided to Skytroopers by the SJA office include a broad spectrum of legal help in drafting of wills, powers of attorney, appeals from Article 15s, tax assistance,

debt counseling, divorce counseling and naturalization.

In the past year more than 5,000 1st Cav personnel have sought and received legal assistance on personal matters. Over 2,000 legal documents or letters have been prepared on their behalf.

Immigration and Naturalization requirements are greatly relaxed for aliens on active duty with the Armed Forces. More than 150 persons were helped in their efforts to become naturalized citizens last year by the SJA staff.

For courts-martial, the accused are represented by a qualified counsel at no cost and tried before an impartial military judge.

## Laws prevent Anarchy

By Lt. Col. R. Holdaway  
Staff Judge Advocate

No man, however powerful, is above the law and no man, however weak, is beyond its protection.

This statement sums up the American attitude towards the law. Implied in this statement is the assumption that the vast majority of people will obey the law and honor it even in those few instances where they disagree with the justness or wisdom of a particular law.

When we read or hear about people who "selectively obey the law," that is submit only to the laws they agree with, or people who attempt to subvert the judicial system, we should realize that such attitudes, if they gained wide acceptance, would result in complete anarchy and the disintegration of our American way of life.

Bad laws or injustices will be weeded out by the self-correcting machinery that our legal system has developed. In the meantime, we should all rededicate ourselves to the principle that the rule of law allows us more freedom than any other nation in history, and that only by obedience of the law can we hope to preserve that freedom for ourselves and future generations of Americans.



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**COURT IN SESSION** -- Although presiding over court-martial proceedings is a necessary function of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, their services cover a far broader spectrum. Assistance in legal problems back home as well in the service are available to Skytroopers. These may include anything from drafting of wills to income tax assistance. (USA Photo by PFC Ed Christian)

# NVA Draft Similar to US System

By SP4 Jerry Norton

PHUOC VINH - Drafted at age 40? Even if you were only five feet tall and weighed 99 pounds?

It could happen in North Vietnam. From interrogation of NVA prisoners of war recently captured by the First Air Cavalry Division has emerged a picture of the enemy's induction and training process.

The NVA draft is initially like the American. The inductee gets a complete physical, says a 40-year old NVA drafted out of his cement-factory job, but fills out no medical history form. The six health classifications range from A1,

"healthiest," to B3, "worst health." The first three classifications make one eligible for immediate service, the next two delay entry, and the last exempts one entirely.

If the prospective soldier is under five feet and 99 pounds, he need have no fear of wearing a uniform. The tall and the overweight are out of luck. There are no maximum standards and they can expect to be drafted.

If he passes the physical, the North Vietnamese will not be left with time on his hands waiting to be sworn in. The cement worker received his classification five days after the physical, and was told to report for duty in another five days.

Training depends on assignment. Infantrymen will have two months or more of marching, PT, bunker building, political orientation and marksmanship. The NVA has no trouble clearing his rifle, because he generally fires less than 10 live rounds during the training.

There is no universal basic training. Some non-grunt G.I.'s may wish they could have avoided infantry-oriented basic, but the NVA cook who had all of two days total training before hitting the Ho Chi Minh Trail might disagree. Medics, druggists, and other specialists receive longer training in their fields, but generally get little combat instruction

beyond a brief weapons familiarization, if they get that.

After completion of his training, the NVA about to head south will be outfitted with two uniforms, Ho Chi Minh sandals, a mosquito net, and a light load of other basic equipment. According to one prisoner, every third man is issued a weapon.

The new soldier may have more training in Cambodia before he crosses the border. He doesn't have to be concerned about DEROS. For many NVA the trip south is one way, ending in death or imprisonment. The surviving NVA can expect to be fighting until the war's end.



THIRST QUENCHER - 1st Lt. Donald Jarrett gulps a quart of milk during a chow break. The 1st Air Cavalrymen from Delta Company 2nd Bn, 12th Cav were on patrol north of Song Be. Helicopters brought in the hot chow and cold milk moments earlier.

(USA Photo by SP4 Jim McCabe)

## Dud Enemy Rocket Rattles Skytroopers

By Spec 4 Bill Rufty

- QUAN LOI - "We had just finished our guard briefing and were about to go outside before it got completely dark," said Sgt Madera, Platoon Sergeant with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry.

"Then the whole bunker shook and debris fell over us. My first thought was that a mortar round had hit the top of the bunker, but that we had withstood it before."

Performing greenline guard duty for the 3d Brigade base camp recently, Bravo Company was just settling down for the long night's vigil. On top of one bunker, five men including the platoon's scout, sat quietly talking.

PFC Walter L. Huffman was sitting on top of the bunker at the time of impact. "I sat down to chat a minute, when we heard the rounds come in. Before we could even get down one hit right in the middle of us and went down below. I just knew that a mortar round had blown away everyone inside," Thomas said.

But everyone inside was safe;

their main concern was for those on top.

"I yelled 'Who's hit up there' to the guys on top and I was afraid I wouldn't get an answer," replied Madera. "One of the men yelled back that it didn't hit anybody and who all was hit down below with us. Right there I figured something was funny."

The young squad leader took a flashlight and followed the holes made by the projectile inside the bunker. The light showed that a 122mm rocket had hit on top of the bunker, passed through to the inside of the bunker, through the right inside wall, and imbedded itself approximately 10 feet in the ground beside the bunker.

The nine men quickly evacuated their position and waited while an Explosive Ordnance Disposal team (EOD) exploded the "dud" rocket. The explosion destroyed the ill fated bunker.

"When I saw what happened to the bunker when the EODs set off the rocket, I knew we were the luckiest son-of-a-guns alive," said Madera. "I can't believe it. I'm just one grateful human being, I'll tell you that."

## Flying PX Visits Bases

By PFC Dave Charlton

FSB FORT GRANITE - Since the 1st Air Cavalryman on the firebases can't go to the PX, it comes to them.

Every two weeks, Spec 4 Thomas Stoops loads the crates of Post Exchange items on an available Huey and takes off. "We try to give the men as much variety as possible but right now it's limited to what I can handle," said Stoops, who works in the beer and soda yard at the Quan Loi PX when he's not out selling.

"What we strive for is some of everything, though the big items are cigarettes and food," he said. "Cameras, radios, tape recorders, film and sometimes soda are also big sellers. Luxury items such as watches, we bring whenever we can, or large bulky items, such as pillows, whenever we can fit them on."

"We check what was sold at each different area and fill up our stock accordingly. If one special article is popular, we'll bring more of those and less of something else," said Stoops. "The whole problem is in the number of people we have and the transportation that's available."

Arriving at Granite, Stoops immediately begins to set up the display, while another man provides security and helps keep order. Using a large bunker as

one long display counter, he lines up at least one of every item he has, stacking the rest in and out of the way place.

The long line of customers forms quickly, each man hoping to get there before the stock dwindles.

According to Sgt. Gerald McDaniel (Memphis, Ark.) Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry, "It's just nice to have

around. I suppose we'd survive without it, but it's sure be a lot less pleasant. It makes it seem a little less like being out in the boonies."

The store is usually sold out in three or four hours, grossing about \$1,000 Stoops explained. "What we're striving for is to improve our stock and provide a wider selection of things the men want."

## B-52 Pilots Review Arc Light Missions

By PFC Terry Turner

TAY NINH - There is a war going on down there but when you fight it from 32,000 feet from Guam or Thailand, there is a difference.

To find out what is going on down there, B-52 crew members visit various areas in Vietnam where arc light missions have been used.

Capt. Paul Morrow and Sgt. Robert Woodburn dropped in on Fire Support Base Illingsworth, home of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division. Morrow has flown 156 combat missions over Vietnam but had never visited the G.I.'s. Woodburn, a veteran of 153 missions was also making his

first visit to the men for whom his giant fortress goes airborne almost daily.

"About the only thing we see of a B-52 strike is the explosions on the ground," said Woodburn. "There is no flack coming up at us. There is very little hazard involved in my job and it is very impressive to come over here and see the Infantrymen in the field, the man that's actually out there fighting."

"We can see a lot of the damage we did and it's much more impressive at low level than it is at 32,000 feet. I think one of the most impressive things on the whole trip is the gunship helicopters and the way they can support the units," he added.



COMBAT ASSAULT - 1st Air Cavalrymen from Company C, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav, pour off the UH-1H helicopter which carried them to a landing zone in the Cav's III Corps area of operations. The unit linked up with elements of the 3rd ARVN Airborne Brigade for a joint operation.

(USA Photo by SP4 Bob Borchester)

# First Team Moves Toward Pacification

Photos by SP4 Doug Fuller  
Stories by S/Sgt Ron Renouf

QUAN LOI - Charlie Company of the 1st Bn, 5th Cav, was transformed into a Pacification Company and moved into four separate villages to live and work with the Vietnamese citizens while training the local Regional and Popular Force units in the area recently.

"We'll have a platoon in each of the four villages," Capt. Samuel R. Short, S-5 officer, indicated. "Their primary mission is to upgrade the local units' proficiency in patrolling and ambush techniques, as well as to assist the people in various civic action type projects."

The civic action projects include improving sanitation, upgrading education and assisting in improving public buildings and helping construct new structures where needed.

"We think that we have the best civic action in the 1st Cav," commented Short. "Now with the addition of an entire company, there's practically no limit in what we can accomplish in the pacification program."

Aside from the pacification program, the new concept is expected to make tremendous strides in the Vietnamization program. According to Short, the pacification company's primary effort will be in an intensive training program with the local force structure.

Each of the platoons are stationed with a local force defensive unit in four separate villages. The Charlie Company troopers are patrolling and setting up ambushes with their Vietnamese counterparts, as well as conducting training in the use of individual weapons, mortars and Claymore mines.

All of the men currently assigned to the unit volunteered for the program. "The men participating in this program are very enthusiastic," commented Capt. Short. "They realize that they have a real opportunity to help the Vietnamese help themselves."



Members of the local Force platoon at Tich Thien pitched in to give the GI's a hand filling sandbags and building bunkers within hours after the Pacification Platoon from the 1st Bn, 5th Cav, arrived in the Hamlet.

## Village Chief is Hopeful

TICH THIEN - "Yes, we still have Viet Cong living in the village. If they try to hurt our people, we must kill them.

"We would rather win their support. We hope that you can help us in this," said the honorable Le-Nham, the village chief here, as the G.I.'s started digging in.

According to Le-Nham, the only previous U.S. troops to enter his village prior to the 1st Air Cav's Charlie Company, 1st Bn, 5th Cav's pacification platoon were members of an advisory team. "Much of what they taught us has helped our village a great deal. I wish that they could have stayed longer," he added.

"They (the Viet Cong), come into our village almost every night. They force my people to give them food and money. We are a small farming

village. The people here don't have much money, and the rice they raise feeds their families. It's a very heavy burden for them to have to give their food away to the Viet Cong. We hope that you can show us how to keep them out of our village," he continued.

Le-Nham indicated that there was a large NVA unit operating around his village and that it was the job of the VC to keep them supplied with food and to help in maintaining their treasury.

When asked how he expected the Skytroopers to be able to help him, he added, "First by showing us how to strengthen the defenses around the village and by helping us to improve our ambushes. Then, if you can help, we would like to build a new school for our children."

A Skytrooper from Charlie Company gets a helping hand up the bank of a stream from his Vietnamese counterpart with the Popular Force Platoon at Tich Thien.



Members of the Popular Forces at Tich Thien receive their first lesson in sighting their M-16's, from members of Charlie Company, 1st Bn, 5th Cav.

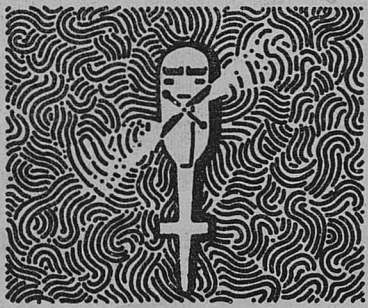


Regardless of what the enemy thinks of Skytroopers, he's always a favorite with the youngsters. Troopers from Charlie Company, 1st Bn, 5th Cav are no exception. For the first several days after their arrival at Tich Thien, they were followed by groups of kiddies nearly everywhere they went.





The surf, the sand, and Chris Noel. It's a Skytrooper's dream. Frankly, the sultry-voiced announcer for the Armed Forces Radio and TV Services, would be enough to satisfy us even without the beach and waves. In our opinion she could win a navel contest anywhere. Miss Noel can be heard over AFVN radio.



## ROTOR WASH

# Laundry Service Keeps Troops Clean and Dry

By SP4 Robert Hackney

TAY NINH - When Spec. 4 Doug Vendola walked away from the laundry bag on a log day recently, he was happy to get rid of a set of fatigues which were becoming part of his body.

But the infantry from Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cav., was probably additionally pleased to find a set that fit him and had all the necessary parts, like buttons and zippers, in the right places.

"That's our objective: to get-clean clothes to our men in the field every three days," declared CWO. William R. Weaver, property book officer for the battalion's supply section. (S-4).

The success of the battalion's laundry operation is unique coordination between Vietnamese women working in the battalion rear in Tay Ninh, and the efficient Tay Ninh Contract Laundry in Tay Ninh City. The coordination between these two groups results in 1,500 sets of clean pressed uniforms for the grunts of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cav.

On resupply day each field unit requests a certain amount of clean clothes, which are flown to the Fire Support Base and then to the field on the log bird. The Skytroopers change clothes in the field and the dirty ones are sent back to the battalion rear the same day.

Here a staff of four Vietnamese girls, led by Trinh Thi Yen, who has been working with the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cav

for 18 months, unbag the dirty clothes, separating shirts, pants, underwear and socks, and inspect them to find all items in need of service. These items are sent to the laundry in Tay Ninh to be repaired or replaced and are returned in three days.

According to Weaver, the success of the operation is due to the way it's organized.

"Most often units do their own clothes individually through the Army's Quartermaster's Laundry, while we have an Army contract with the Tay Ninh Laundry which is run by civilians. They're paid on a piecemeal basis, a certain fee for each set of clothes they clean. So they're competitive, and the quality of their work and the time it takes them to do it is outstanding," he said.

The Battalion Supply Officer also noted that the Tay Ninh Laundry has set up a branch office in the battalion area to serve battalion personnel in the rear. Besides a three day cleaning service, the branch also makes free repairs and sews on insignias and name tags at no charge.

"The people in Tay Ninh are professionals. On the whole, I think we're achieving a substantial monetary saving, and a good amount of clothing is being salvaged through repair that otherwise would have been discarded. We think the laundry facilities in the Tay Ninh Base Camp are the finest in the Cav. area of operation," Weaver said.

As for Lisa, looking wearily at the 60 bags full of clothes piled high in her working area, she could only smile and say, "G.I. wears beaucoup clothes."

## Command Changes at 1/12

FSB BUTTONS - In a brief ceremony 1st Air Cavalry Commander Maj. Gen E.B. Roberts passed the battalion colors to the 1st Bn, 12th Cav's new commander, Lt. Col. Norman A. Moffett.

Outgoing commander Lt. Col. Roderick E. Ordway was presented the Silver Star by the general for exceptionally valorous action. On Feb. 16, the citation read in part, "Learning that a helicopter had come under intense ground fire and crash landed in an area occupied by enemy forces, Lt. Col. Ordway flew to the area and directed the evacuation of a seriously wounded pilot, two stunned crew members and tactically essential equipment."

Lt. Col. Moffett has been division G-1 since beginning his third tour with the Cav in October 1969. In 1966-67 he served in the Inspector General's office and was executive officer of the 2nd Bn, 5th Cav. His first tour with the Cav came in 1956-1957 as company commander of Co E, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav in Japan.

Lt. Col. Ordway has been selected division G-2.

## Cav Membership Available

BIEN HOA - In an effort to promote understanding of the goals and benefits of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, classes are now being conducted at the First Team Academy (FTA).

Although the mission of the organization is providing scholarships, the association features a mailing service through which any other member can be located, publishes a quarterly newsletter, The SABER, and holds a 3-day convention annually to which all lifetime members are invited.

Applications for lifetime (\$10) and 1-year "Active Army" (\$2) memberships may be obtained through unit first sergeants and sergeant majors. Active Army memberships can be converted to lifetime memberships anytime within a year of the original donation.

## TV Cameramen Needed

Experienced personnel with educational or professional background in Motion Picture photography are needed to fill key staff vacancies in the Division Information Office. Applicants must have training or experience with 16mm Cameras, and preferably background in shooting news, editing, writing and news feature production. Interested personnel please contact the Division Information Office by telephone (Phuoc Vinh 5423 or Skyking 186), or contact Division Information Office by mailing a brief resume to Information Office, 1st Air Cav Div, Incountry, APO S/F 96490.



# SCOUTS:

## Eyes of

## The CAV

Troubles on the way for the enemy as this hunter-killer team move toward their target area. As the LOH (light Observation Helicopter) swoops down to treetop level, looking for the enemy the Cobra circles above waiting to unleash its awesome venom.

# Today's Air Scout More Sophisticated

By S/Sgt Ron Renouf

QUAN LOI, -- Today's modern Air Scout has come a long way since the days of James Fennimore Cooper's literary portrayal in "The Deerslayer," and such early American heroes as Daniel Boone and Wild Bill Hickok.

However, their mission, as has the mission of scouts throughout the history of military warfare, remains the same: To gather information concerning the location, number and direction of movement of the enemy as well as the types of weapons in his possession.

Where the scout in bygone days spent days darting from tree to tree through thick forests or racing at neckbreaking speed across wide expanses of prairie on his trusty steed, today's scout with the 1st Air Cav Div covers the same territory in a matter of minutes in the Light Observation Helicopter (LOH).

The Cav's aviation platoons of the division's brigades perform daily scouting throughout their

areas of operation. While they're faster and boast of highly technical scientific equipment, their mission is still to keep track of enemy forces.

The main routes of infiltration such as the Serges Highway, the Jolley Trail and the Saigon River Corridor require constant inspection and observation by the scouts in order to minimize enemy movement south from Cambodia.

Unlike their predecessors, however, whose job it was to be neither seen nor heard, the scout is heard by the enemy daily. As the LOH flies at treetop level, searching for enemy bunkers, trails, military structures or the enemy himself, he reports his find to the voice of the scout, the Cobra, 1,500 feet above him.

The deadly Cobra speaks with a loud voice as its mini-gun and pods of rockets rain devastation on the enemy's positions and fortifications. It's the Cobra crew's job to plot the scout's coordinates and call in all relevant information to the brigade's Tactical Operations Center (TOC), where it is evaluated. The Cobra also directs

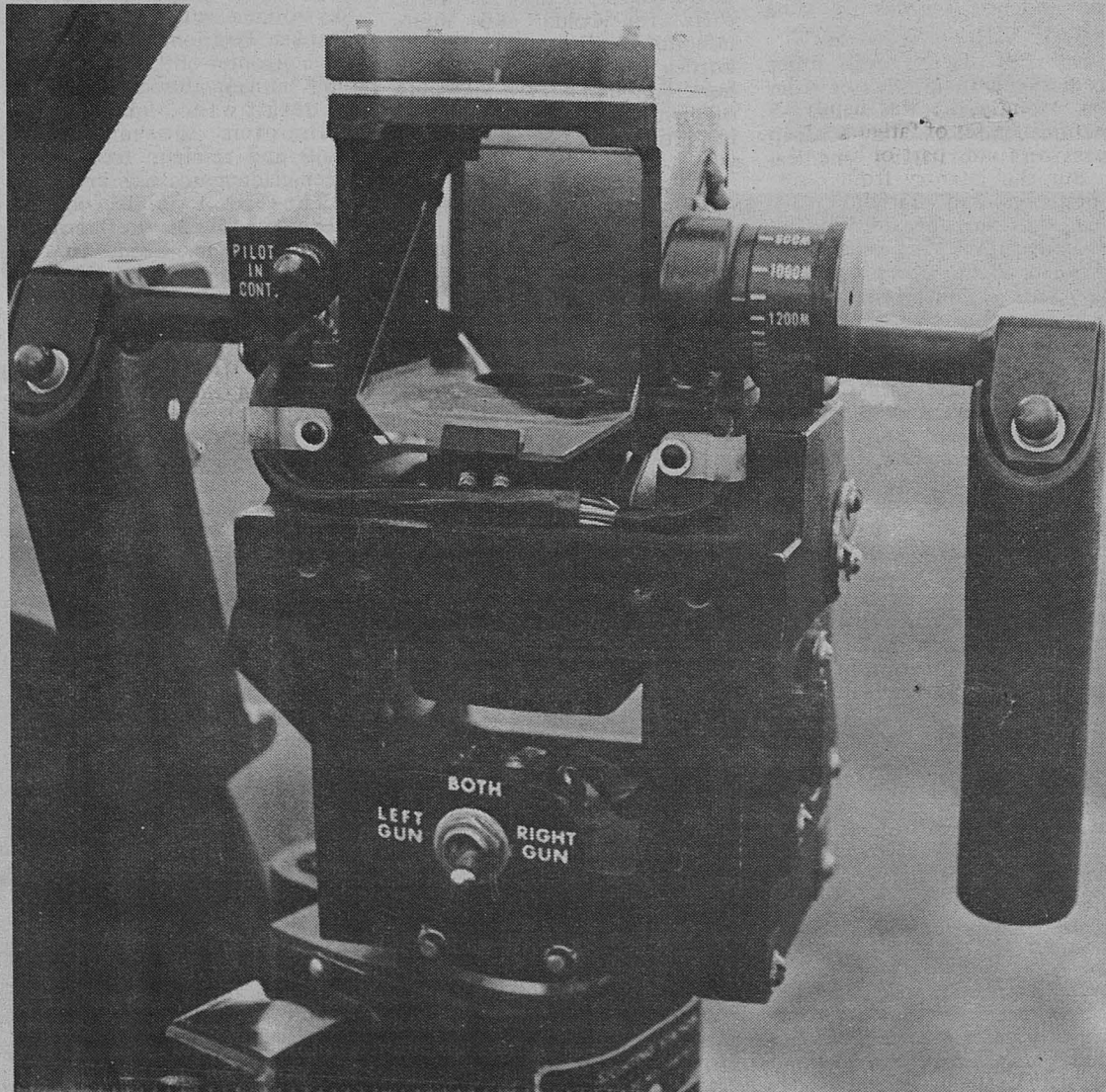
the scout to additional areas that look likely to yield information.

According to one Cobra pilot, "Our most difficult job is just in keeping the LOH constantly in sight. He looks like a green speck blending right in with the treetops from the Cobra's altitude."

In the 1st Brigade AO, scout patrols are flown daily by the platoon with heavy emphasis being placed on trails leading from the Cambodian border. Whenever new bunker complexes and military structures are discovered they are engaged by the Cobra. The sightings are also used to call in air strikes on the area when needed.

The early sighting of enemy troops moving along the trail is definitely a big help to the Skyrooper humping the bush.

The modern 1st Air Cav scouts don't resemble their counterparts of yesteryear in appearance, but the job is still the same: Find and report. But the Brigade Scouts add that little extra, the Cobra, to stop him where he is.



Although the LOH (Light Observation Helicopter) is basically just that, the door gunner (above), who also doubles as an observer, packs a wallop of his own with the M-60 machinegun mounted in the LOH's door. Just a simple toggle switch (left). But when the Cobra rolls in hot, that little switch brings a lot of smoke on Charlie, from both sides as the indicator suggests.



EYES LEFT -- A sudden noise just off the trail gets the undivided attention of these 1st Air Cavalrymen from Charlie Company, 2nd Bn, 8th Cav. The unit was on patrol five miles southeast of Song Be, north of Saigon. (USA Photo By SP4 Jim McCabe)

## Pfc Wins Silver Star During Attack On Jay

By SP4 George Arsenith

TAY NINH -- Private First Class Frank Matnez may not have the best light show in the world but his ratings are high.

PFC Matnez is a pathfinder with the 11th Aviation Group at Tay Ninh. He was acting as an air controller March 29th on Fire Support Base (FSB) Jay when the NVA hit it with a barrage of rockets and mortars.

"It was about four a.m. when the incoming started," began Matnez. "At first, I wasn't sure whether it was incoming or outgoing, but it wasn't long before I knew. It got kind of rough. I could hear someone yelling for a medic and when I tried to crawl over to help the incoming was so heavy that I had to get back in my bunker and wait."

Matnez then received word from the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) that there were several injured who had to be Medevaced. He was told to find a spot for the chopper and guide it down. Armed with only a flashlight he crawled out of his bunker to find a place that could serve as a small landing zone.

"I went to the northwest part of the base and found a suitable LZ for the bird to land. The rounds were still coming in.

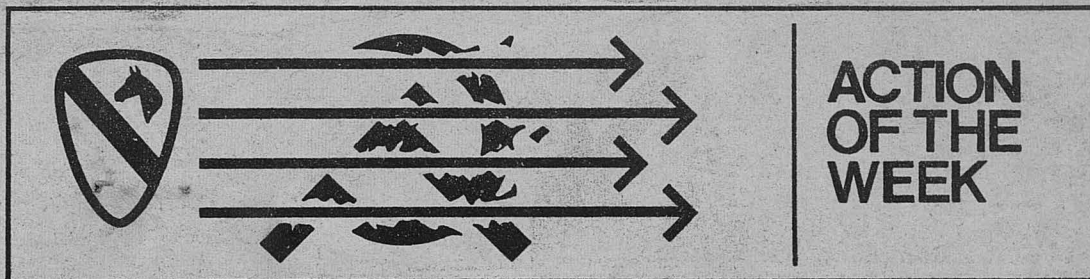
"When the bird came in the pilot spotted my flashlight and I guided him down. I stayed there the rest of the morning and part

of the day until all the casualties were evacuated."

His efforts were not unnoticed. PFC Matnez was presented with an impact award of the Silver Star.



NATURE'S BEAUTY SALON -- Skytroopers from Bravo Company, 2nd Bn, 8th Cav, take time out on a recent operation north of Tay Ninh City in War Zone C, for a quick shampoo. (US Army Photo)



TAY NINH -- The enemy company in bunkers 24 miles north-northwest of Tay Ninh was preparing to fight First Air Cav units, but when they had their chance March 31, the end result was 30 NVA killed, 16 captured, and no American casualties.

Bravo Troop, 1st Sqdn, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, opcon to the First Cav's 1st Bde, was breaking through double and triple canopy jungle when the Cavalrymen encountered and killed two NVA in a small hut at 12:45 p.m.

"Then," said 1st Lt Ray DeWitt, "the column came into a bunker complex that looked

like a training area. There was fire from small arms and RPGs, but the ACAV's just kept driving on."

As the Cavalrymen swept further north into the complex it became evident that they were battling an enemy company. The .50 caliber and twin-60 machineguns on the ACAV's perforated the NVA bunkers with streams of bullets.

As the battle continued, the ten Platoon tanks of Delta Troop rolled into the fray, adding the powerful punch of their 90mm cannons to allied firepower. Tube and Aerial Rocket Artillery and Light Fire Teams supported the armor.

"It was a hit and run affair,"

## 2nd of 7th Medics Treat Viet Youths For Burns

By SP4 Robert Hackney

TAY NINH -- When Nguyen Van Lanh bent down and closely inspected the inch-wide, open wound that ran down the length of his son's leg, his mind flashed back to a night three months ago when fire destroyed his home and severely burned his two sons:

Now, as Spec 5 Peter Hein from the 2nd Bn, 7th Cav, aid station carefully removed the soiled surgical dressings from the legs of Vung Tre Lanh, the look on the father's face changed from one of concern to one of relief. After three months of treatment, marked improvement in the condition of the 14 year old student's legs was becoming evident.

Specialist Hein, seven other medics and an interpreter from the 1st Cav's 1st Brigade S-5 section conduct weekly Medcap missions, bringing medical

supplies and offering treatment to the residents of Tay Ninh City. The improvised treatment facility is a one room building normally used as a civilian information and civil defense office.

"When I first saw them, I couldn't believe that they were walking. I didn't think they'd make it. Third-degree burns covered their legs almost entirely. And yet there was no bad infection and none has ever developed. They should have been in a hospital," the medic said.

Preventing disabling ailments from developing is the primary objective of the Medcap program, and to accomplish this the team of medics distributes pills for colds and minor infections, tubes of salve and bottles of cough syrup to the hundred-plus children and some of their mothers who are waiting in anticipation of the weekly visit.

## 153 NVA Annihilated In Week

(Continued from page 1)

The series of clashes began at 3:25 p.m., just after the unit combat assaulted into the area. Said PFC John R. Alvarez, "Ten minutes after we landed we moved into a woodline and spotted seven NVA 15 meters away. We opened up and got three of them." Blue Max Cobras soared in over the trees to drop four more enemy.

Alpha Troop, 1st Sqdn, 9th Cav Light Fire Teams patrolled the area as the Bravo Skytroopers set up their Night Ambush Position. At 5:25 p.m. the helicopter observers saw nine NVA moving through the thick undergrowth. The Alpha helicopters spewed rockets, M-60 and minigun fire on the green-clad enemy, blasting seven.

The NVA still weren't through with Bravo Company. At 7:35 p.m., said 1st Lt. Robert Hammeras, "A trip flare went off and we blew claymores, then put some M-60 fire and chunkers into the spot."

Two hours later, said SP4 Larry Ringgold, "I saw an NVA 25 meters from my hole. I grabbed my '79 and fired at him while he ran to a clearing, then trip flares started going off." The other men in the APC began firing too, and three NVA were killed.

"From then on," said the company commander, "Bravo Battery, 2nd Bn, 19th Arty poured round after round into the growth around the camp, stopping enemy movement with a curtain of steel." The next morning the company found two more NVA killed by claymores and three by artillery. In all, the contacts had resulted in 22 dead NVA. There were no American casualties.

On the other side of the Cav AO a sprained ankle led to the discovery of an enemy arms cache by Alpha Company, 1st Bn, 12th Cav Skytroopers April 4. Over a three day period the cache yielded 446,400 rounds of AK-47 ammo, 91 rounds of 82mm mortar and more than 1,00 pounds of TNT.