

Seven more Medal Of Honor winners for First Team

by Spec. 4 James D. Stoup

PHUOC VINH - Seven men of the 1st Cav were recently awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for heroism, by direction of the President and under the Joint Resolution of Congress. This brings Vietnam award winners in the Division to a total of 20.

The following 13 Skytroopers previously received the nation's highest award for heroism in the Republic of Vietnam: 2d Lt. Walter J. Marm, Jr., A Co., 1st Bn, 7th Cav; SSgt. Jimmy G. Stewart, B Co., 2d Bn, 12th Cav; Spec. 4 David C. Dolby, B Co., 1st Bn, 8th Cav; Pfc. Billy L. Lauffer, C Co., 2d Bn, 5th Cav; Pfc. Lewis Albanese, B Co., 5th Bn, 7th Cav; SSgt. Delbert O. Jennings, C Co., 1st Bn, 12th Cav; Pfc. James H. Monroe, C Co., 1st Bn, 8th Cav; and Spec. 4 Charles C. Hagemeister, A Co., 1st Bn, 5th Cav.

Also, Spec. 4 George A. Ingalls, A Co., 2d Bn, 5th Cav; Spec. 4 Carmel B. Harvey, Jr., B Co., 1st Bn, 5th

Cav; Spec. 5 Edgar L. McWethy, Jr., B Co., 1st Bn, 5th Cav; CWO Frederic E. Ferguson, C Co., 227th AHB; and 1st Lt. James M. Sprayberry, D Co., 5th Bn, 7th Cav.

1st Lt. Douglas B. Fournet

The first of the latest award winners is 1st Lt. Douglas B. Fournet, who received his award posthumously. Fournet, who is survived by his wife Marilyn, resided in Lake Charles, La. He served as a platoon leader for the 2d Plt. of B Co., 1st Bn, 7th Cav.

The action took place in the mountainous terrain and heavy jungle canopy of the A Shau Valley. On May 4, 1968, the 2d Plt., commanded by Fournet, was continuing an advance begun several days before against a heavily entrenched enemy. Due to the dense jungle undergrowth, and having to fight uphill against an enemy dug in heavily fortified bunkers, the advance was slow. As the platoon reached each bunker and came under heavy fire, it would pull back

slightly while the bunker was pounded by air strikes or aerial rocket artillery.

The platoon had cleared four bunkers in this manner by 10:30 in the morning and had begun to move across an open clearing on the crest of the ridge. The platoon was receiving sniper fire, as it was well spread out with squads on line for the advance. Fournet was positioned near the flank on the downhill side. As the platoon moved forward, a trail was discovered leading up the ridge to the right. The right flank man was immediately sent to explore it for a few meters and to provide security. After only a few seconds the man was back, shouting the news that a Chicom claymore-type mine was planted squarely on the trail aimed down-hill directly at the line of advancing troops.

Fournet, upon hearing the shouted discovery, called to his men to hit the ground and began to run toward the right flank. As he drew closer to the mine (continued on pgs. 4-5)



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Mission Completed

Spec. 4 William Butler and his dog take a break on FSB Claire before returning to Bien Hoa. The Scout Dog team had just returned from working with the men of the 1st Battalion, 5th Cav. Both are members of the 34th Scout Dog platoon. (U.S. Army Photo by Pfc. Daniel Ramlow).

Operation Scrub nets \$12 million

by Pfc. Conrad Leighton

BIEN HOA - One of the 1st Cav's biggest campaigns ended recently with the closing of the last collection yard for Operation Scrub, a division-wide effort to "scrub clean" units of all their unnecessary supplies and equipment. Scrub lasted only four months, but it resulted in more than \$12 million worth of equipment being salvaged.

The project's success and size came as a surprise even to its organizers. "We expected people to be reluctant to turn in equipment," commented Lt. Col. Robert B Hoppe, the Division Support Command S-4 (DISCOM), "because they were fighting a war. But with bad experiences with unit moves in the past, where units were weighted down with equipment, they took advantage of the program."

Scrub's start was a shaky one. "Scrub was slow at first because people were getting rid of their worst equipment," said Col. Hoppe. "But as the emphasis on the program grew, so did the amount of equipment coming in increase. I don't know how many times we filled up that yard, but we often couldn't keep ahead of the volume."

Coordination Crucial

"The coordination between the five or six different elements was crucial to the program's success," added the colonel, "since several of the elements were outside the 1st Cav."

The 15th Supply and Service Bn. took the brunt of the equipment invasion job, and the initiative in sorting and dispersing the incoming gear. Once 15th S&S saw the amount of equipment involved, Battalion Commander LTC Clifton A. Horn provided 25 men to work full time on the job.

"We didn't have the trucks in the division to move the equipment," pointed out Capt. Jerry E. Simpson, in charge of Scrub for 15th S&S. "We picked up additional trucks from the 4th Transportation Command. The semi-trailer requirements for us had to be doubled from eight to 16 a day at the height of the operations. Transportation was a key factor in Scrub."

(continued on pg. 8)

Pop's voluntary duty in 'Nam gets son home

PHUOC VINH - Fathers have been known to do many things for their sons - including serving a second tour in Vietnam. A father's exceptional concern for his son prompted such an occurrence recently.

Spec. 6 Archie Ready, a veteran of three wars with more qualification badges and medals than he has room for on his chest, was serving with D Troop, 2d Sqdn, 4th Armored Cavalry in Katterbach, Germany, while his son, Sgt. Edward Ready, was assigned to L Troop,

3rd Sqdn, 11th Armored Cavalry in Di An, Republic of Vietnam.

Having spent a previous tour in Vietnam with the 335th Assault Helicopter Company, the elder Ready felt he'd rather return for a second tour than spend the time worrying about his son, whose duties as a gunner aboard a Sheridan tank were of a more hazardous nature. So he requested and was granted an inter-theater transfer, arriving in Vietnam in early February.

Under the provisions of an Army reg,

only one member of a family is required to serve in a combat zone at one time. Spec. 6 Ready immediately initiated the paperwork to have his son sent home.

The younger Ready, though reluctant at first and feeling a bit guilty, was convinced by his father that he belonged with his expectant wife.

Mrs. Jean Ready of Riverside, Calif., mother of the junior Ready and wife of the senior, still has her worries, even though her husband will be in a somewhat more secure job as a helicopter

tech inspector with the 1st Cav's 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion.

The Combat Infantryman's Badge with one star, the Bronze Star with "V" device, and the Purple Heart with 12 Oak Leaf Clusters proudly attest to Spec. 6 Ready's extensive combat experience.

Although he was in the field for only four months, Sgt. Ready, the junior soldier in the family, also contributed to the meritorious family tradition, as he earned a Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Purple Heart.



Dear FTHM,

I've heard a rumor that if you get busted for possession of marijuana or other drugs here in Nam that this becomes a part of your permanent record. Is this true, or just another one of the "machine's" rumors to keep us in line? I don't see how this can work; I know a little something about retirement of records myself.

J.A.Y.

Dear J.A.Y.,

Unfortunately the rumor is true. Refer to AR 195-10 for the details. Any subject of a CID case has a copy of his case sent to the Central Criminal Records Repository at Ft. Holabird, Md. This data is cranked into ADP and becomes a permanent record available to other police agencies. Whether you get an Article 15 or a General Courts Martial for this offense, the record of your "bust" is there, no matter what part of the world you are in at the time.

Dear FTHM,

What is the Army's policy concerning the assignment of additional duties to junior officers at company level?

P.D.Q.

Dear P.D.Q.,

DA policy on this subject is spelled out in AR 1-27. It is essentially as follows: Undue delegation of miscellaneous, nonmission-related functions to company size units should be eliminated. This is to preclude the assignment of an excessive number of time consuming additional duties to company level officers who often must perform these extra duties at the expense of their primary jobs and to the detriment of the Army's junior officer retention efforts.

Only mission-related functions which properly belong at the company level (e.g. mess, maintenance and supply duties) should be performed at that echelon. Nonmission type tasks (such as those carried out by voting and income tax officers) should be retained at battalion or higher levels of the command structure.

Noncommissioned officers should, to the extent possible, be assigned the appropriate additional duty when it is imperative that a particular function remain at the company level.

Dear FTHM,

How does the Army find out if GIs have been dealing on the black market, or have been purchasing more items than are allotted on their ration cards?

M.M.F.

Dear M.M.F.,

The MACV Currency and Blackmarket Control System (CABOTS) uses a computer to discover this information. From the day you arrive in-country, your complete currency transaction record is maintained and reviewed each month. If the numbers don't come out right, you could be in trouble. And if you think you can beat the machine, you'd better read MACV Directive 190-10 first.

Unexplainable prosperity is not the only way to come afool of the law. You greedy guys who have an "in" with the local PX checkout girl who greets you with a "punchless" smile at the till may find it hard to explain all those extra \$135 cameras you purchased. How'd they find out? You guessed it, that machine eats every saleslip you sign - and remembers.

For God and country

'Train up a child. . .'

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

The attitude becoming more and more prevalent on the American scene is well expressed in this all too frequent question: "What's in it for me?"

But this attitude was completely foreign to our founding fathers. When they came to America, their only thought was to build better homes, better churches and a better nation. They began with faith and courage. That was all they had, and it was all they needed. They tilled the soil, founded colleges, joined in the industrial revolution and also found time to fight for their independence. They were a tremendous people with a selfless spirit.

But something has happened to this American spirit. Something has happened to us as individuals and as a nation. Our dilemma is expressed by the attitude which says: "Stay aloof. Don't get involved."

Who is responsible for this kind of thinking? It is the home that molds the minds of our youth. It is there that they learn to keep faith with their fellow citizens. It is there that parents are given the opportunity to train the young people of today to become the leading citizens of tomorrow. This responsibility rests primarily with the home and not with the church and school. Once again as parents we need to heed the wisdom of the writer of Proverbs when he said: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."



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What Sort of Man Reads Cavalair?

"I know you've been reading about promotions slowing down for Louies, but it's no reason to get all uptight--Dad!"

Stoup's scoop

Volunteer Army stirs debate

by Spec. 4 James Stoup

The Volunteer Army Project appears to be foremost in long-range Army planning these days. Various Army reform plans are currently stirring a great deal of debate as to whether the GI will have the necessary discipline in war with the emphasis on liberalization. My next two columns will attempt to raise some interesting points regarding this question.

Drew Middleton, writing in the 17 Feb., 1971 issue of the New York Times, points out that the U. S. Army's program to improve service life has precipitated a sharp debate in military circles. At the heart of the debate is the question of whether an army recruited and trained under the present program will have the battlefield discipline necessary for success.

The Army's program focuses on the service's principal problem: attracting and retaining enlistees of

sufficient number and quality to make credible plans for an all-volunteer force after 1973. To solve the problem, the Army is expediting a sweeping liberalization program that eliminates useless features of Army life, such as reveille, and opens new channels of communication between enlisted men and their superiors.

Critics of the Army's program are not concerned mainly with its more spectacular aspects: beer in mess halls, "Go-Go" girls in service clubs and free Saturday mornings. They pay more attention to Enlisted Men's Councils and other new means of communication between commanders and commanded.

Gen. Hamilton H. Howze, a retired officer who commanded the Eighth Army in Korea, raised this point in a recent issue of Army Magazine.

"It may be called conservatism," he wrote, "but experience in war and the documentation provided by military history lead one inevitably to the conclusion that a force that lacks good discipline will take a terrible shellacking from one that has it."

"I concur with the current instruction by the Army's Chief of Staff to remove some of the irksome and not particularly productive routine which the Army has rather thoughtlessly followed through the years.

"I fully agree with the value of frequent talks by the commander with his subordinates, and the desirability of explaining why, as well as how, things must be done.

At the office of Lieut. Gen. George I. Forsythe, General Westmoreland's Special Assistant for a Modern Volunteer Army, this point is extended to the Army as a whole. In all the complaints and suggestions received from soldiers about Army life, not one dealt with rigors of field training.

Gen. Forsythe's staff says that neither the liberalization program nor the Volunteer Army is the result of hasty reaction to youth's opposition to the draft and restiveness under the old Army disciplines.

Back in 1966, the Defense Department's position on the draft as stated in a directive was "to meet the maximum of our requirements through voluntary enlistments" and to "depend upon the draft for only the residual number of people required."

Maj. Gen. John C. Bennett, commanding the 4th Division, stresses that the 57 steps taken in the Division to improve service attractiveness and morale were not as revolutionary as some critics contended. He sees them as a return to the Army's old "high care factor" for the enlisted man that was

paramount in the past.

The "high care factor" of the old service was best expressed in the cavalry maxim, "Feed your horses before your men and your men before yourself."

Professional officers generally concede that the old system broke down sometime after the Korean War. They ask, why did the Army persist in procedures that made no sense to draftees and very little to many professionals?

This and other questions will be brought up next week as we continue to look at the old vs. the new for the U. S. Army.



LEGALLY SPEAKING

by Maj. Paul J. Rice

Who has the responsibility of enforcing military law? The obvious answer is the military police. That is their job.

But on the other hand, how about the commander? Isn't he supposed to maintain discipline in his unit? When a crime has been committed, doesn't he also investigate the offense? Where does the CID (Criminal Investigation Detachment) come in?

Maybe if we use an example, we will better understand who has the responsibility of enforcing the law. Alpha Company has a barracks thief. He has been stealing things for about a month. While Pfc. Goodheart is walking through the company area, he sees his buddy, Pv2 Slick, coming out of the NCO hootch with a small portable radio. Pfc. Goodheart doesn't think much about it until later that evening when he learns that Sgt. Crank had a small portable radio stolen from his hootch.

In this case, who has the responsibility for enforcing military law? From this example, only Pfc. Goodheart can provide the information

necessary to catch the barracks thief. It is so easy not to get involved, to look the other way. Law enforcement is a community responsibility and in the military community each member must assist in enforcing the law. If Pfc. Goodheart looks the other way, he is not only hurting Sgt. Crank, but also every member of Company A. A barracks thief will hurt the morale of the entire company; and who knows what will be missing the next day.

Every member of the military community has the responsibility of enforcing military law. If Pfc. Goodheart doesn't report his information to the proper authorities, all the efforts of the military police, CID and commander will be worthless.

A soldier also has a military duty to testify in court as to what he knows concerning a crime. In fact, it is a criminal offense to refuse to testify.

A realization by each member of the military community as to his responsibility in assisting in enforcing military law will result in a better and more equitable system of military justice for all.

CAVALAIR SPOTLIGHTS...

Nose for trouble

Man and machine

FSB MACE -- Spec. 4 Terry Seymour has a nose extension. Seymour's 'nose' looks and operates much like a vacuum cleaner. While performing a vital function in the surveillance of the 3d Bde.'s AO, Seymour's obtrusive extension speeds on its way silently vacuuming the air at tree top level above the Binh Tuy jungles.

Seymour's 'nose' is a machine known commonly in Vietnam as a sniffer. The readings derived from it help in the detection of enemy activity in a given area.

His operation is carried on daily and much rests on the outcome. If his machine detects a lot of dust in an area, then appropriate actions are taken to investigate. "It's kinda freaky," says Seymour, "flying treetop level over the jungle at 80 knots or more, but soon you get used to it."

Seymour claims his worst time was his first three days as an operator. "Being a new guy made it seem much worse than it was and instilled that extra-added fear."

On his second mission, the sniffer bird had just set down on a Landing Zone (LZ) when the LZ started taking incoming mortar fire. "We couldn't take off because they were firing counter-mortar fire from the LZ which was going right over our heads," Seymour said.

Finally the firing stopped and they took off. Within a minute an enemy mortar round landed on the pad where the bird had been sitting and destroyed it.

Like everyone else within the Cav at the time, Seymour got a good workout during the Cambodian campaign, sometimes spending most of the day in the air. One day they found a bunker complex which included an almost completed

50 cal. machinegun position.

"We went in for a closer look, which turned up an enemy running around in a clearing," added Seymour. As the bird flew in closer, the man ran into the woodline for cover. A Cobra-gunship was called in and it worked out on the woodline with rockets.

This type of work by men such as Seymour has many times given the 1st Cav invaluable information about enemy activity in an area and undoubtedly saved many lives.



At Rest but Ready

Pfc. David Douglas, 1st Plt. of Delta Co., 1st of the 5th, takes a break during a patrol near FSB Mace (U.S. Army Photo by Pfc. Daniel Ramlow).

Kicks go, life becomes 'habit'

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following story was voluntarily submitted to the CAVALAIR by a Skytrooper who is currently a participant of the Division's Amnesty Program. The writer hopes that the impact of his story will help those who want to break the drug habit.

PHUOC VINH -- "The story I am about to relate comes from the depths of a once tortured soul. It concerns not only myself, but you and anyone else concerned with kicking the habit of drugs.

In my case, the monkey on my back was heroin. I started out just like any one of you could have, smoking marijuana for kicks. Then, suddenly one day, that wasn't enough. I wanted to go higher.

Here is where I ran into the speed freaks, so I decided to try their bag. It was great for awhile. But then, through the same crowd, I met the skag freaks. This proved to be my greatest mistake.

I was called chicken so many times that I finally decided that one little snort couldn't hurt. It was my undoing. King Heroin had me, because to my bewilderment, I found that I liked it.

Then came time to rotate from Nam and I figured that I could cut it loose right here. But, upon my arrival Stateside, I was in for a

rude awakening. I was past the point of no return; even then I needed it.

At this time I was married and I knew that I couldn't let my wife know of my habit. I began staying out until all hours of the night, working at another job in order to get money for dope. When I couldn't get enough money by working, I began to pawn our household goods. Anything and everything I could lay my hands on went for dope.

At this stage my wife was convinced that I had another woman. I was helpless to say otherwise for fear of exposing myself. So she left me, four months pregnant with my daughter.

Right afterwards I received orders for Berlin, Germany. There I immediately fell in with a crowd who smoked hashish and opium. I found that the opium satisfied my urge for heroin, so I stayed on it.

So involved in dope at this point, I escaped from the problems and reality of life itself. I neglected to write my wife. She was totally convinced of another woman and so she filed for divorce on the grounds of incompatibility. The divorce was granted approximately four months ago. After she filed suit, I volunteered to come back to Nam.

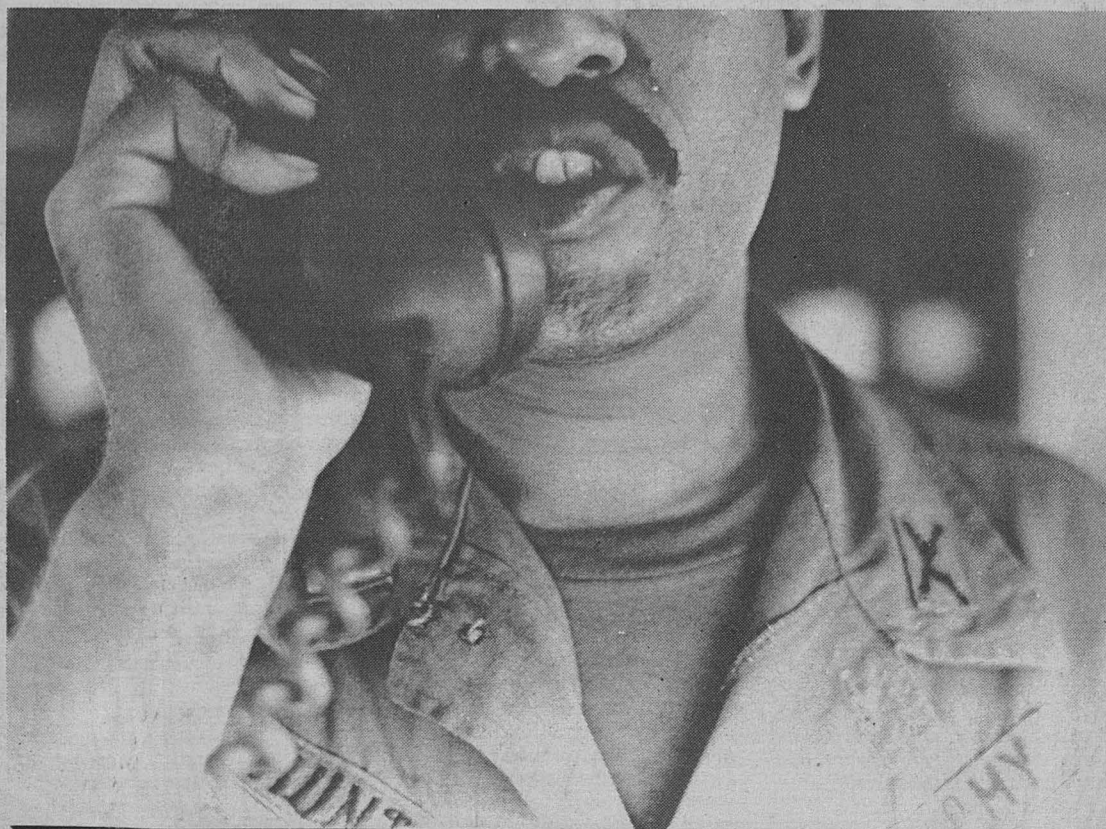
In Nam, I felt that I could hide the fact that it was my fault. Here I could escape the reality of life in a dream world of cheap drugs. Upon my arrival, I soon started using skag again, but this time heavier than ever before. I became so paranoid and anti-social that I didn't know what to do.

I decided to go Amnesty. So, here I am, four years after my first excursion with drugs. I am a sadder but wiser man now, with the hope that I can kick my habit through the Amnesty Program.

Yes, I've been the route of drugs; the never ending paranoia of being caught and disgraced; losing my dignity by stooping to theft and depriving my family of happiness in order to support my habit.

I've been the route, but I'm fighting to come back past that point of so called no return; to become a man once more; to stand on my own two feet. I want to proudly say that I can face up to life's problems and my own short-comings without the false security of drugs.

I can neither condemn nor condone the use of drugs. This is for each person to decide on his own. I can only say that I've seen the ugliest side of drugs and have hated it. Mine is not a pretty story, but at least it has a chance for a happy ending. How about yours? Where will your habit lead you?"



"Action Line, May I Help You?"

Need help?

let Action Line

lend a hand

Call Sky King,

ask for

Action Line

"above and beyond the call of duty"

(continued from pg. 1)

he saw it was a command-detonated type, and that his only hope was to cut the connecting wire before it was detonated. He also must have realized that the shouted warnings must have alerted the enemy, and that he had only seconds, for he ran harder as he drew closer. Fournet was drawing a sheath knife from its scabbard on his right hip as he ran. When he reached the mine he grasped the command wire in his left hand and had the knife poised for the slash, meanwhile blocking the mine with his body. At that point the mine detonated.

Fournet was killed instantly, but due to his action the five men nearest the blast were only slightly injured. Between eight and 10 lives were undoubtedly saved by Fournet's self-sacrificing action.

Sgt. Allen J. Lynch

The second of the recently announced winners is Sgt. Allen J. Lynch, who at the time of the action was a Spec. 4 radio-telephone operator with Co. D, 1st Bn, 12th Cav. Lynch is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Leroy J. Lynch, and resides in Dalton, Ill.

The action took place near a large village surrounded by rice paddies and heavily grown hedgerows at My An, Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam. The date was December 15, 1967.

Co. D, approaching the objective from the southwest, was engaged by an enemy force consisting of elements of the 22nd NVA Regiment. The enemy had strength in excess of a battalion, and was initially able to engage the entirety of Company D and maintain fire superiority.

With the forward elements of the Company, Lynch observed three wounded comrades well forward of the friendly lines. Realizing their need for assistance, he exposed himself to enemy fire and dashed across 50 meters of open ground to their aid. Ignoring intense enemy fire, he moved to a nearby trench. Finding the trench enemy occupied, he used his M-16 rifle to silence the position by killing two enemy soldiers. Returning to the wounded, he moved each one of them to the cover of the enemy position he had just cleared. He then proceeded to give aid and comfort to his three wounded friends, pausing on a number of occasions to repulse enemy attacks on his position. In the process, he killed at least five enemy soldiers.

During the following three hours that Co. D remained in contact with the enemy, numerous attempts were made to relieve the beleaguered position. Due to the strength of the positions surrounding Lynch and his companions, all attempts failed, with the enemy wounding eight and killing one of the members of the relief forces in addition to disabling one armored personnel carrier with recoilless rifle fire.

Over three hours after the action had begun, Co. D was forced to withdraw, abandoning Lynch and his comrades in the midst of the enemy. Lynch repelled all attackers with the desperate but accurate fire of his rifle, taking a further toll of enemy killed and wounded.

In the two hour period immediately following the withdrawal of Co. D, the contact area was saturated by artillery and air strikes. When the friendly air strikes ended, Lynch, with complete disregard for his own safety, again exposed himself to the enemy fire to carry the three wounded men to cover. The distance to the relatively secure area was approximately 70 meters. Thinking only



of the welfare of his comrades, Lynch traversed this dangerous terrain on three separate occasions to accomplish his voluntary mission.

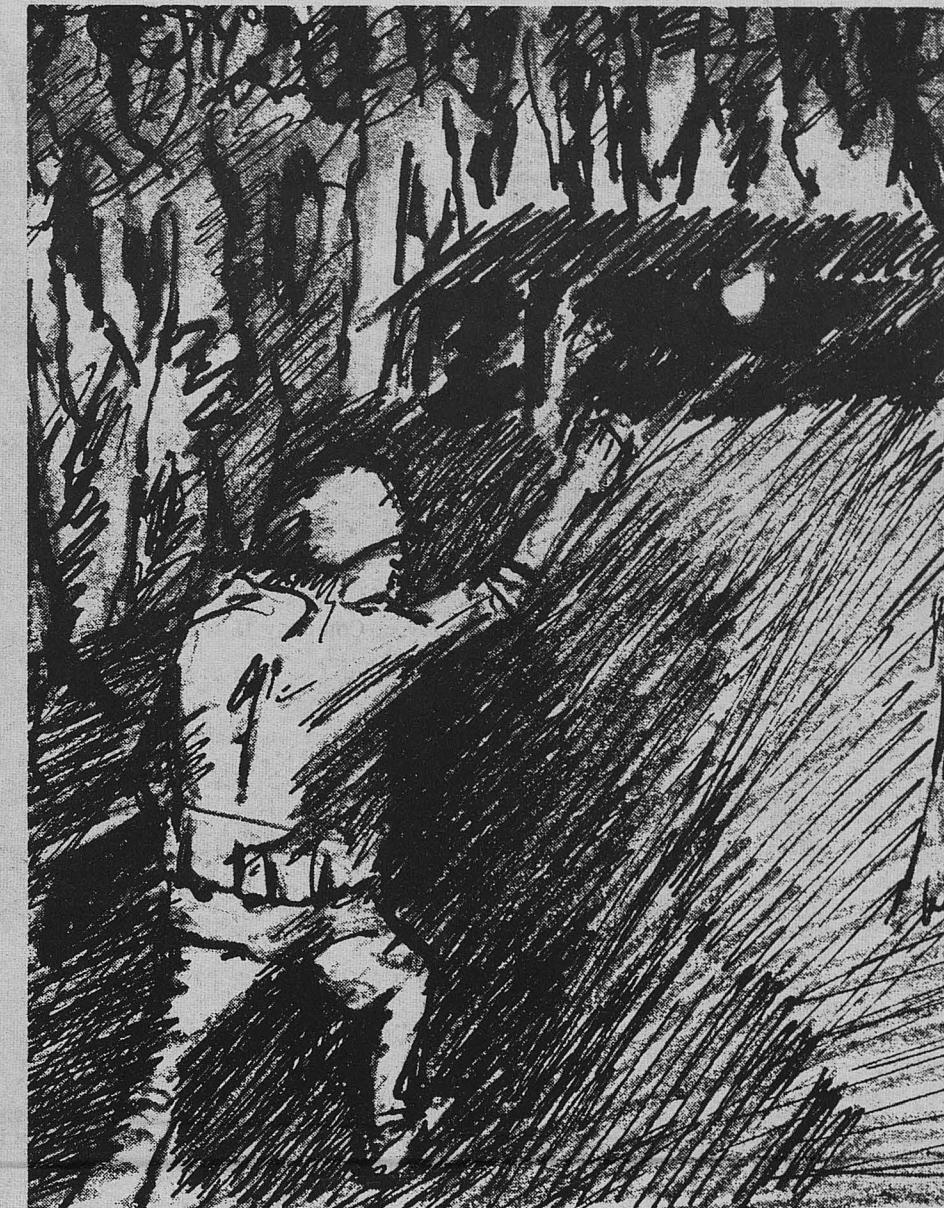
Once he had seen to the wounded men's comfort and security, Lynch again exposed himself to the hostile fire to locate the withdrawn Co. D. After rejoining his company, he went the front once more and assisted in the direction of the attack and the evacuation of his three wounded comrades.

Sgt. William D. Port

The third Medal of Honor winner is Sgt. William D. Port. He resided in Petersburg, Pa., and is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. Port. A member of Co. C, 5th Bn, 7th Cav, Port received his award post-humously.

Port distinguished himself on Jan. 12, 1968, while serving as a rifleman with Co. C. A private first class at the time of the action, Port's company was conducting combat operations against an enemy force in the Que Son Valley, Heip Duc Province.

As Port's platoon was moving to cut off a reported movement of enemy soldiers, it came under heavy fire from an entrenched enemy force. The platoon was forced to withdraw due to the intensity and ferocity of the fire. Although wounded in the hand as the withdrawal began, Port, with complete disregard for his own safety, ran through the heavy fire to assist a wounded comrade back to the safety of the platoon perimeter. As the enemy forces assaulted in the perimeter, Port and three comrades were in position behind an embankment when an enemy grenade landed in their midst. Port, realizing the danger to his fellow soldiers, shouted the warning, "grenade," and unhesitatingly hurled himself towards the grenade to shield his comrades from the explosion.



Through his exemplary courage and devotion he saved the lives of his fellow soldiers and gave the members of his platoon the inspiration needed to hold their position.

Spec. 4 Hector M. Santiago

Spec. 4 Hector M. Santiago, a gunner with the Mortar Plt. of Co. B, 5th Bn, 7th Cav, also received the Medal of Honor posthumously. The son of Mr. & Mrs. Pablo Santiago, he resided in Salinas, Puerto Rico.

The action occurred at 1:30 in the morning on June 28, 1968, in dense undergrowth covered with a triple canopy of vegetation.

At the onset of the enemy attack on their perimeter near Landing Zone Jack in the Quang Tri Province, Santiago alerted his comrades to move into their foxholes. Immediately thereafter, their position was engaged by an enemy force of unknown size using small arms, automatic weapons fire, and Chicom hand grenades from all points around the perimeter.

Santiago and his squad returned the fire until an enemy soldier, maneuvering close to their position, threw a hand grenade into their foxhole. Santiago, realizing there was not enough time to throw the grenade back out, picked it up, tucked it into his stomach, and absorbed the full impact of the explosion with his body.

Santiago, although mortally wounding himself, saved the lives of his fellow platoon members who were in the position with him. In giving his life, Santiago's unselfish courage and devotion to duty not only saved his comrades, but also provided them with the undying inspiration which enabled them to continue fighting fiercely, forcing the enemy to retreat from the perimeter.

Three additional Congressional Medal of Honor winners were announced recently in Pacific Stars & Stripes.

Sgt. John N. Holcomb

One of the recent recipients is Sgt. John N. Holcomb of Richland, Ore. Holcomb, a member of the 2nd Bn, 7th Cav, took charge of his outfit as its last surviving leader during a combat mission on Dec. 3, 1968. During three waves of enemy attacks, he returned withering fire and crawled through grass fire to move members of his squad, every one of whom had been wounded, to a more secure position before he died.

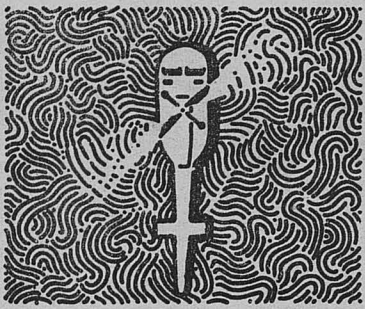
Spec. 4 Donald R. Johnston

Another of the latest Medal of Honor winners is Spec. 4 Donald R. Johnston, a member of the 1st Bn, 8th Cav. Johnston, a native of Columbus, Ga., saved the lives of six comrades when he hurled himself on explosives when his company came under attack in Tay Ninh Province on March 21, 1969.

1st Lt. Robert L. Poxon

The final recipient of the recently announced winners is 1st Lt. Robert L. Poxon of Detroit, Mich. Poxon, an officer with the 1st Sqdn, 9th Cav, was seriously wounded on June 2, 1969, after his unit landed by helicopter near the Cambodian border. Despite his wounds, he charged the key enemy bunker with a hand grenade. He succeeded in silencing enemy guns but was mortally wounded.





ROTOR WASH

Skytrooperess of week

Unemployed now 7.9%

WASHINGTON — Unemployment among young Vietnam veterans has gone up from 4.8 per cent to 7.9 per cent, according to James F. Oates Jr., chairman of the Jobs for Veterans program.

Speaking to a convention of the American Legion recently, Oates said that 300,000 veterans are currently unemployed. In all, there are 4.5 million Vietnam veterans, according to the Veterans Administration.

The 7.9 per cent unemployment figure applies to veterans aged 20 to 29, Oates said.

The hardest hit in this group, he said, were veterans aged 20 to 24 whose unemployment rate rose "from 6.4 per cent to 10.8 per cent in the last three months of 1970."

As a group, such veterans are harder hit than any other in the nation. The second highest rate of unemployment for that period, according to the Labor Department, is 9.5 per cent for Negroes and other minority groups.

Oates was appointed chairman of the Jobs for Veterans Program by President Nixon last October.

The U.S. armed forces, Oates said, is now in the midst of the largest demobilization since the end of World War II.

"Military separations are about double what they were five years ago," he said.

Some 900,000 employers, Oates said, have been contacted with the help of the President's office and the Departments of Labor and Commerce. Many thousands of employers have responded with promises of "adding veterans to their work forces or providing training - or both," he said.

Oates told the Legionnaires they could help by joining the Jobs for Veterans task forces now being formed throughout the country and establishing task forces where there are none.

"Our goal in the months ahead," he said, "is the establishment of an effective Jobs for Veterans Program in every city with a population of 10,000 or more."

Oates said that although he expects "solid results" from the program, he did not want to raise false hopes by promising the unattainable.

"We fully expect to maximize job opportunities for veterans, but we cannot create jobs where none exist," he said.

Slot machines on way out

WASHINGTON — The Army is preparing to ban slot machines from its Vietnam bases on the eve of a Senate probe into a major scandal involving high-ranking military officers and civilian officials, Capitol Hill sources reported recently.

Gen. Creighton Abrams, the U.S. military commander in Vietnam, was said to have issued an order halting immediately the purchase of slot machines for servicemen's clubs.

In addition, the sources said, Gen. Abrams has directed that thousands of slot machines already in the clubs be removed by the end of March. His action, which the Pentagon said it would not confirm or deny, comes just as the Senate Permanent Investigation subcommittee is about to open hearings that will air charges of "corruption, mismanagement and waste" in the operations of the clubs and the military's sprawling overseas post exchange system. The subcommittee's acting chairman, Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D., Conn.), has announced that the hearings will start soon.

One subcommittee member, Sen. Edward Gurney (R., Fla.), went to Southeast Asia late last year to gather evidence in connection with the investigation.

Gurney later wrote to Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird, urging him to ban slot machines from all overseas military installations. The slots already are prohibited at bases in the United States.

In his letter to Laird, Gurney called the machines "a source of corruption which . . . tends to bring the military and our government into disrepute."

He said the machines "are supplied and serviced all too frequently by unscrupulous firms and individuals who taint everything and everyone they touch."

According to sources close to the subcommittee investigation, the hearings will air allegations of kickbacks and bribes involving the manager of the clubs where the slot machines are placed.

There are more than 16,300 slot machines at Army, Air Force and Marine Corps installations abroad.

Their revenues reportedly accounted for as much as 25 percent of the \$53.4 million in net profits recorded by service clubs in 1968.

Flights to CONUS open

Pan American (United Service Club) has additional flights to CONUS with a destination of Los Angeles at a cost of \$350.

The following flights will be on a first come, first served basis:

DATE	DESTINATION	AIRLINE
15 Mar 71	Los Angeles	Pan American
21 Mar 71	Los Angeles	Pan American
26 Mar 71	Los Angeles	Pan American

Individuals desiring to purchase one of these non-allocated tickets should report to the Leave Processing Team at the White House for assistance. To process a 14 day leave, non-allocated ticket holders must present a DA Form 2496 (request for 14 day leave) before orders will be issued.



Suzanne

Miss Suzanne Charny is just one of the millions of reasons for every Skytrooper to keep his head down--there are better things waiting back in the World.

MEDCAP

FSB BUTTONS – About 20 Montagnards gathered around a grassy hilltop, their village far below in a valley. From newborn babies to old men and women, they stood; each waiting patiently for his turn to see the GI medics who had come to help them.

The village, called Bu Krak, lies a scant 300 meters from the Cambodian border, "to close" according to one civil affairs officer.

The village's population is estimated at about 1,000, but an accurate count is virtually impossible. Many of the Montagnards are away tending distant fields while others are foraging for food in the jungles.

Bu Krak was originally located across the border in Cambodia, but was moved to its present location about five months ago because of harassment by the North Vietnamese operating in the region.

Through the aid of an interpreter the medics spoke to the people, asking them what their problems were, handing out throat lozenges, cough syrup and various other medications.

Although most of the sicknesses encountered that day were of a more or less routine nature, there were some serious cases. A boy of perhaps 10 stepped forward to Spec. 4 Keith Jackson of HHC, 5th Bn., 7th Cav., and pointed to his ankle. A gash on the boy's ankle had been left unattended and it had festered. The medic cut away the excess skin, and despite the obvious pain, the boy did not wince once.

Spec. 4 Frankie Pacific, second medic on the team, treated an old woman who was badly burned. Deftly he applied lotion to her burns and gave her an ointment to use on them. Through his interpreter he instructed her on medication.

Slowly but surely each Montagnard stepped up and saw the medics. Many feigned sore throats and colds in order to get a drink of the cherry-flavored cough syrup being handed out.

Upon completion of the MEDCAP, and while waiting for the lift birds to return them to base camp, Jackson sat staring down at the village, thinking of the people he treated and said, almost to himself, "God has shed his grace on America."



Didn't Wince Once

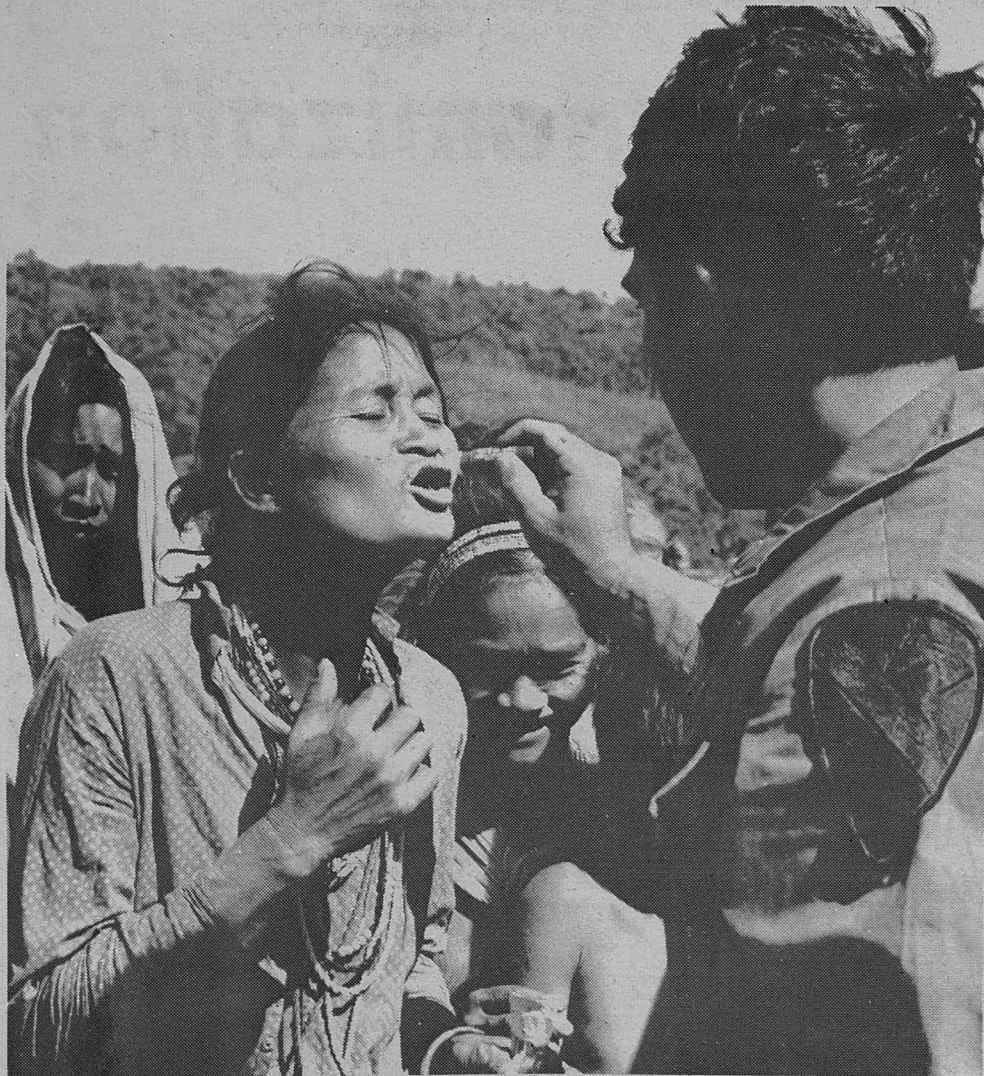
Young Montagnard receives treatment for his infected leg from MEDCAP team member. The boy's leg became infected because a cut went unattended.

to a village

called Bu Krak

Story and Photos

by Spec. 5 Jim Ventrilio



Artist at Work

Montagnards gather to receive medication from the MEDCAP team that visited their village.



Helping Hand

Medic aids young mother and her son during MEDCAP at a Montagnard village near the Cambodian border.

'Duds' hit firebase

FSB FONTAINE — As the first round exploded, the cry "incoming" was heard all over the firebase. Skytroopers of the 3d Bde., 2d Bn., 8th Cav. and C Btry., 1st Bn., 21st Arty, anxiously awaited for the calm of the night to return.

The first incoming this firebase received was not the normal mortars the enemy usually lobs at American forces. These were U.S. made 105mm artillery rounds that had apparently been duds when they were fired from U.S. artillery pieces. Two nights later more duds went off, only this time they were 155mm rounds, instead of 105s.

A member of 3d Bde.'s EOD team was called to Fontaine to dispose of a round that failed to detonate. According to him, some type of time fuse was rigged up to blasting caps in the rounds to cause an airburst. The reason the round hadn't detonated was that the timing device had fallen out.

The rounds were fired from holes used as launching tubes 150 meters from the firebase. Sticks were used to prop up and aim the rounds.

One Skytrooper commented, "Let's just hope they don't find any dud 500 lb. bombs."

Operation Scrub

(continued from pg.1)

The 79th Maintenance Bn. in Long Binh was at the receiving end of the 1st Cav's collection drive, putting reclaimed supplies back into the Army's supply channels. 1st Lt. Gary Askim was appointed as liaison officer for Scrub between 15th S&S and 79th Maintenance, to bring order to the transfer of the stream of supplies, which included everything from trucks to helmet liners.

The 27th Maintenance Bn. checked the equipment coming in and the Forward Service and Support Element (FSSE) handled turn-in yards in Phuoc Vinh, Song Be and Mace. Equipment from the forward yards was convoyed to the main yards in Bien Hoa.

In his final action report on Scrub. Capt. Lawrence J. Becker, DISCOM project officer, outlined another facet of the program: "Because of the relaxed turn-in requirements, the popularity of this operation made it an overwhelming success, requiring that Operation Scrub be extended three times."

The report also gave an indication of the immensity of the undertaking. "During the period from Oct. 6 to Dec. 28," Becker noted, "595 vehicles, 398 trailers, 514 generators, and some 36,000 miscellaneous items were turned in."

The majority of equipment in the \$12 million total went to Collection, Classification and Salvage (CC&S) at Long Binh. Redistribution within the 1st Cav accounted for \$298,484.73 worth of supplies while \$517,067.18 worth of gear

was turned over to the Property Disposal Office.

Col. Richard L. Harris, DISCOM commander, explained Scrub's role in the larger Vietnam picture: "Project SCRUB started off as the 1st Cav's effort toward the USARV goal of cleaning up the battlefields and returning materials and unneeded equipment back in, to supply channels or for disposal as was appropriate. This type of program is new to the Army, where a unit is still in the fields of war."

The Scrub concept was originated by USARV as "Project Scrub". But the Cav's Operation Scrub represented a broadening of the program, extending it to TO&E equipment not needed for the unit mission as well as excess gear.

"The relative stability of the 1st Cav's area of operations," Col. Harris continued, "allowed us to look into economics of retrograding certain excess items. What made Scrub unique was that it went beyond excesses to equipment on property books which could be turned in without many of the formalities associated with turning the items in."

"An airmobile division," the colonel concluded, "should try to keep itself as light as possible. And not having moved the division for some time, it was time we looked into this area. Scrub provided the format for such a program."

So ended another 1st Cav campaign, this one with the First Team, directed against the cluttered supply yard and the forgotten CONEX instead of the NVA.



Cache

Skytroopers from Charlie Co., 1st Bn., 8th Cav, take stock of enemy rockets and mortar rounds found recently in a cache 10 kilometers northwest of FSB Snuffy. The find also included more than 100,000 rounds of AK-47 ammo (U.S. Army Photo by Spec. 4 Rich Werner).

Grunts play 'bush MPs'

by Pfc. Alan Brown

BIEN HOA — While the rest of the company was busy teaching classes in American defensive tactics to the Regional and Popular forces in Duc Hoa, 30 kilometers southwest of here, the Recon Plt. of Co. D, 2d Bn., 7th Cav. played the role of "bush MPs" to 12 Vietnamese civilians on the Song Dong Nai River recently.

The new platoon, formed in mid-January to act as a stay-behind force for the company, walked along the bank of the Song Dong Nai River recently when the men heard the sound of several noisy motors.

One squad, led by Sfc. Clyde D. Ferguson, had combat assaulted 300 meters from the river and was sent on patrol to investigate the commotion.

"My machinegunner, three other men and I climbed a small hill overlooking the river when we spotted a sampan floating down the river with two old men

stringing up fishing nets," recalled Ferguson.

Shouting out to the men to "dung lai" (halt), the elderly men cut off their motors and paddled to the side. Four more sampans followed, carrying two or three men, women or children per boat.

All but one sampan cut off their motors and paddled to the river bank upon hearing the commands of the Skytroopers.

"The last one, occupied by two girls in their late teens, kept moving down the river until several warning shots fired in the air convinced them to stop," said Ferguson.

Upon interrogation by an interpreter it was determined that the people were all innocent Vietnamese civilians on a fishing expedition.

"That same night we received three enemy mortar rounds, so I'm not so sure that they were all friendlies," indicated Ferguson. Fortunately, there were no casualties from the attack.

FTA helps boost Vietnamization

by Spec. 4 Dave Moore

BIEN HOA — At First Team Academy, where men new in-country and assigned to the 1st Cav receive training, a new program has been instituted to train non-commissioned officers of the Vietnamese Popular Forces (PF).

The program consists of a nine-day course designed to acquaint the PFNCO with technical procedural data to increase his efficiency and help him in instruction of his unit.

Instructors are drawn from the instructor corps at FTA and every attempt is made to select the instructor with the greatest in-depth knowledge of the subject being covered. Most of the classes are conducted through an interpreter.

According to LTC Edward L. Trobaugh, G-5 officer, the new program was put into action at the beginning of February of this year. "It's part of the Vietnamization program," said LTC Trobaugh. "These people are going to have to learn to take over their own war."

First aid, Medevac, commo procedures, squad patrolling, map reading, land navigation as well as classes on weapons and ambush techniques make up the curriculum.

"We try to give them the things that will be useful," said 1Lt. Douglas A. Martz, coordinating officer of the PFNCO school. "The course has been planned to give as complete training as possible during the 9 days available."

Fifty PFNCOs from various villages and hamlets throughout III Military Region go through the course each nine days. An officer attending the graduation ceremony for the first group of 50 to complete the course observed: "It's important to get as much progress as possible at the village and hamlet level. That's where the war can be won."

The PFNCO course aims at training Vietnamese to take leadership at that level.



Fall Out

Popular Forces soldiers follow a path beaten by hundreds of Skytroopers whom they are being trained to replace. After leaving FTA, they will return to their units with new-gained knowledge to share (U.S. Army Photo by Spec. 4 David Moore).