

SOUTHERN CROSSES



AMERICAL
DIVISION

Vol. 3, No. 12

CHU LAI, VIETNAM

10 April, 1970

DFC Awarded For Dramatic Rescue

CHU LAI - In a highly dramatic rescue mission, former Americal Div. commander MG Lloyd B. Ramsey was hoisted from thick jungle seven miles west of Chu Lai. The general and his crew had been downed overnight

following the crash of his command and control UH-1 helicopter.

Readily the Army and Air Force rescue units flew to the area and a company-size infantry element of 1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde., was

airborne to within two miles of the crash site on Tuesday.

However, it was not until 8 a.m. Wednesday that the wreckage was sighted through the heavy cloud cover and the survivors were medevaced by Air Force

HH53 helicopters of the 37th Air Rescue Det.

The search aircraft caught a beeper signal one-half hour after the crash. Then at 5:30 p.m. the helicopter made voice contact with the survivors.

The ceiling of low clouds, fog and 15-20-foot visibility thwarted attempts to spot the downed aircraft, which had landed upside down in 6-foot brush amid a dense canopy of 50 to 100-foot tall trees.

Abruptly radio contact broke at 4 a.m. Wednesday and was not reestablished until 8 a.m. when MAJ Tommy P. James (Bisby, Okla.), arrived in the area in a helicopter.

MAJ James, commander of the 71st Aviation Co., had searched Tuesday until nightfall, methodically and breathtakingly "walking" his ship up the side of the mountain where the wreckage was thought to be.

The major returned early Wednesday morning, diving

through the cloud-ceiling into a valley below the mountain, then hovering once again up the steep side of the slope. The survivors picked up his rotor-sound and directed him closer to their position.

MAJ James lowered 1st Inf. 6th battalion surgeon, CPT Luis A. Oliver, on a jungle penetrator.

"The brush was so thick," said MAJ James, "that I had to talk Oliver over the crash even though he had seen the wreckage from the air and had landed only 20-feet away."

The major related that it took CPT Oliver 10 minutes to cross the 20 feet of thick brush.

The survivors were immediately flown to Chu Lai for treatment and hospitalization.

For his heroic and outstanding actions in the successful rescuing of the downed personnel, MAJ James was awarded the Distinguish Flying Cross. (Americal IO)



MG Ramsey



MAJ James

PSYOPS Win '4' Ways

FSB BRONCO - A four-pronged weapons system being employed by a Division unit is taking a high toll of enemy soldiers - but not producing a single casualty.

In fact a direct hit with the "Chieu Hoi" armament of the 7th PSYOPS Bn. produces a happy and healthy rallier.

"We are equipped with four ways to carry our message to the Vietnamese people: leaflets, ground broadcasts, "Early Word" plane broadcasts and movies," said 1LT Robert Cossaboom (Berea, Ohio) 11th Inf. Bde. PSYOPS Officer.

The biggest single method of reaching the enemy soldier is the dropping of "Chieu Hoi" leaflets by Air Force C-47 "Skytrains." Three hundred thousand leaflets are dropped each day in the 11th Bde. area of operations.

"I select ten targets each day from intelligence reports and chart the grid squares in which they are to be dropped," explained SP4 Kenneth Jacobson (Rugby, N.D.) intelligence analyst for brigade S-5.

The C-47 based at DaNang plays a pre-recorded tape through the loud-speaker system in conjunction with the leaflet drop.

The "Early Word" broadcast consists of an "O-1 Bird Dog" aircraft with an FM radio relay and speaker system. The message is beamed from FSB Bronco and broadcasted over the target area by the airplane. Nine such broadcasts are made each day.

The combat loudspeaker teams consist of two Americans, an interpreter and a Kit Carson Scout. Their broadcast system can be either mounted on a truck for mobile broadcasts such as Medcaps and other Civil Affairs projects, or it can be carried in the field to support combat operations.

A fleet of mobile movie trucks provide the fourth method of contact with the people. Based in Chu Lai, the trucks carry ten films each, selected from a library of 200 movies. (11th Bde. IO)

MG Milloy Takes Command

CHU LAI - The Americal Division received its new Commander, MG A.E. Milloy (Fayetteville, N.C.), replacing MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, who was injured when his helicopter crashed near Chu Lai.

MG Milloy, a distinguished combat veteran of three wars and a master parachutist, assumed command of the

Americal on March 22, following seven months as CG of the 1st Inf. Div.

General Milloy's military career began in 1938 when he joined the Mississippi National Guard. He received a direct commission in June 1941 and was immediately assigned as an infantry platoon leader with the 31st Inf. Div.

After short tour of duty as the Airborne Officer on the Replacement and School Command Staff, in Nov. 1946 he became an instructor with the Mississippi National Guard. He remained with the National Guard until Sept. 1949, at which time he became a student at the Armor-School, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

In May 1951 he became Commander of the 2d Bn., 38th Regt. General Milloy participated in six major campaigns during the Korean Conflict to include such actions as the Chinese Spring Offensive, the Punch Bowl, and Heartbreak Ridge.

In Sept. 1954, General Milloy entered the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

MG Milloy has been decorated with the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster for gallantry in action and has received the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Infantryman Badge with two stars, and the Master Parachutist Badge. (Americal IO)



MG Milloy

Illicit Souvenirs Mean Trouble



Religion And You

Rise, Men of God

By Chaplain (CPT) Robert W. Duguid

The story is told of a pastor who was invited to preach at a little church. On that Sunday, the pastor and his little boy arrived early and greeted a few members of the congregation. As he and the little boy entered the church, he took a five dollar bill out of his pocket and placed it in the offering basket by the door. A few minutes later the service began with only a handful in attendance. After the service was ended, the pastor, somewhat embarrassed, shook hands with the people as they departed. After everyone was gone, the pastor and his son started to leave also. He then looked in the offering basket and was amazed to find only five dollars - the same five dollars he had placed there! A little disappointed and somewhat perplexed, he picked up the five dollar bill and walked out of the church shaking his head. As they reached the car, the little boy looked up at his father and said, "After all dad, if you had put more in - you'd have gotten more out!"

We have just finished celebrating one of the greatest events in Christendom - the joy of the Resurrection and worship of a Living Lord! Christian's the world over gathered together for this solemn occasion as a witness to God thanking Him for the Gift of Redemption. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could worship in the same spirit every Sunday. After all, every Sunday is a little Easter! If we love God "with all our hearts, with all our souls, and with all our minds," it seems to me that we should worship Him in the same manner every Lord's Day. If we therefore participate with God instead of just watching, our worship experience would be more enriching, more inspirational, and therefore, more "lively."

As the pastor's son so beautifully put it, "If we would put more into it, we would get more out of it!"



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The Bureau of Customs and the Department of Defense have joined in a concerted effort to discourage military personnel from using the mails to send home illicit war souvenirs as well as marijuana and other drugs.

Commissioner of Customs Myles J. Ambrose announced the campaign in Washington, D.C., March 5. He said, "Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird has committed his department" to assist Customs' officials in scrutinizing mail for contraband.

Commissioner Ambrose said intensified inspection of mail packages arriving at U.S. ports of entry has resulted in a marked increase in seizure of contraband. He called the flow of illicit war souvenirs "a veritable flood," and warned that "serious consequences" could ensue if the tide was not turned.

The Commissioner said military personnel are not involved in any major trafficking of drugs but almost 25 per cent of the flow of marijuana and hashish comes from military post offices overseas. He said most of the drug-smuggling out of Vietnam consists of marijuana and hashish.

Commissioner Ambrose said the real problem, as far as the military is concerned, is the traffic in illicit war trophies and stolen weapons. He said such traffic has increased during the

Vietnam conflict.

A study made in 1968 showed that almost 20 per cent of packages received at San Francisco were in violation of Customs' regulations. Of 16.7 per cent involved stolen government property.

The Commissioner explained that military personnel who mail contraband are violating Federal statutes as well as military regulations.

He said, "People who mail contraband are violating, first of all, postal regulations. Because the packages come from across the border, the general smuggling laws are also violated. If the item crosses state lines, the Treasury Department's tax regulations are violated. So there is no want of legal authority for prosecution in these cases."

Deputy Commissioner Rains said some war trophies can be brought back from Vietnam if permission is first received from the field commander.

Commissioner Ambrose said all detected violations will be reported to military authorities for investigation. He said part of the problem is ignorance on the part of those who mail war souvenirs.

He said the Bureau of Customs has "the complete cooperation of the Defense Department in this effort to deter the shipping of government property and dangerous war trophies." (DOD)

VIETNAM-STYLE On Celebrating Tet

By SP5 James W. Brown

The most impressive celebration of the year is Tet. The context of Tet means many celebrations: a time of family reunion, a gay spring festival, a meaningful national holiday and everyone's birthday.

The new lunar year and the beginning of spring gives core-meaning to the three-day event of celebrations. Like that of our Easter, the date for Tet is based on the lunar calendar. In late January or early February it usually occurs.

To the Vietnamese, Tet issues many tones of existence-gaiety, hope and solemnity. It rests upon the time-honored traditions of paying homage to ancestors, visiting family and friends, observing traditional taboos, and an array of lively celebrations.

To correct faults, forget past mistakes, pardon others for their offenses, and pay debts are accomplished during Tet. It is considered bad luck to owe money during Tet.

The past is looked back to, the present is enjoyed, and the future wholes a context of hope. Tet is a very comprehensive holiday, and all Vietnam wholes an air of observance.

Tet is Chinese in origin, which symbolizes the beginning of the Oriental New Year. However, the first observance of Tet in Vietnam has no recorded date.

The first observance of Tet in Vietnam probably occurred around 200 B.C. during the long domination of Vietnam by the Chinese.

However, there have been a definite change in the rites which accompany Vietnamese Tet, which have taken place through the years. Now Vietnamese Tet shows only a remote resemblance to the original Chinese festivals.

One must have an understanding or a willingness to comprehend some ancient spirit-world legends, to appreciate the customs and celebrations of Tet. Because Tet is mixture of religion and mythology, with its localized variations which are found from village to village throughout Vietnam. It is family-oriented like most religious celebrations of the Vietnamese.

An atmosphere of legend is the foundation of Tet: it tells of the closing days of the old year which the good spirit reports to the Heavenly Jade Emperor on events of the past year.

One good, spirit, Ong Tao, the Spirit of the Hearth, reports on his observance in the home.

The good spirits are the central elements of Tet. During the pre-Tet period, these central spirits are absent, thereby leaving men without defense against evil spirits. These are released from the corridors of Hell for seven days, which begins on the last day of the year. The customs of Tet explains the need toward off or protect against these so-called evil spirits.

Most people get time off to celebrate and observe Tet, with pay. Cash bonuses are given. And those required to work are paid more than their normal salaries.

PSYOPS Defeat Plague

FSB BRONCO -- The Vietnamese village of Pho Dai now sleeps easier and in good health thanks to efforts of a Division medical task force which "kayoed" an outbreak of the bubonic plague one mile south of Duc Pho.

The 11th Inf. Bde. medical team was composed of a detachment from the 29th Civil Affairs Co., medics from the 172d Preventive Medicine Detachment and the 756th

Medical Detachment, a MACV medic, two Vietnamese nurses, a sound truck from the PSYOPS Section, and insect dusters from Pacific Architects and Engineers to kill the plague-carrying fleas.

"We received word of a woman dying from plague and organized the task force in one day," said 2LT Douglas Dompier (Barage, Mich.), Civil Affairs Det. commander. "Because the village of Pho Dai is so spread out, we decided to use a mobile

approach," Dompier added.

The task force employed the same methods used to combat an epidemic several months ago at Sa Huynh, 17 miles south of Duc Pho.

After the day-long operation the village of Pho Dai was protected from the bubonic plague due to the immediate reaction of the medical task force and the knockout power of 2,550 doses of plague vaccine. (11th Bde. IO)

'Early Word' Gets 'Word' To Many Viet Cong

LZ HAWK HILL -- Hovering high above the Vietnamese landscape, the light observation helicopter (LOH) from the 196th Inf. Bde. looks no larger than an insect. Yet this tiny aircraft represents one of the slicker innovations in the Division's PSYOPS Program.

The aircraft, nicknamed the "Early Word LOH" is no ordinary helicopter. Fitted with a speaker system, it is used by the 196th Inf. Bde. to broadcast "Chieu Hoi" messages to suspected VC areas.

Generally, Chieu Hoi broadcasts are transmitted from fixed wing aircraft or, more often, UH-1 helicopters.

However, during the summer of 1969, the brigade decided to use one of its own LOHs for this purpose.

A broadcast system, consisting of 16 speakers and three amplifiers, was installed in the rear of this helicopter. After a few more adjustments, the helicopter was ready to go.

Now, months later, the Early Word LOH proved itself a valuable part of the unit's PSYOPS program. Using this copter has several advantages.

When a VC rallies to the Government of Vietnam, he often brings word that there are others in his hamlet who would like to rally but are hesitating.

"An aerial broadcast should be made to those potential ralliers as soon as possible," says MAJ Lee W. Tessmer (Minneapolis), civil affairs officer, 196th Bde. "Since the LOH is organic to the brigade, we can usually get it right away."

Using a LOH to make aerial broadcasts releases UH-1s for other vital missions.

"The Early Word definitely helps our PSYOPS Program run more efficiently," says MAJ Tessmer. "Some units outside the brigade are starting to use LOHs to make aerial broadcasts, and I suspect others will follow." (196th Bde. IO)



A Real Shampoo

Shampoo's where you get one, and this soldier from the Division's H Trp., 17th Cav., is aided by a villager. The Cav. was in the area southwest of Chu Lai on a search and clear mission. (Photo By PFC Laszlo Kondor, Americal IO)

NCO Says Div. Changed

LZ BAYONET -- "The Americal Division is one of the big success stories of the Vietnam War."

The man who holds this opinion is SSG Buck C. Lawhorn, Jr. (Wichita, Kan.), a member of the 198th Inf. Bde.'s C.Co., 1st Bn., 6th Inf. He feels he qualifies as an authority on the Division since he is serving his second tour in this part of southern I Corps.

SSG Lawhorn's first tour was with the 196th Inf. Bde. from July 1967 to July 1968, when it was part of Task Force Oregon. In less than three years, that task force grew into the Americal Division, the largest division in the Army.

The rapid growth of the division has been accompanied by a rapid change in many areas. For example, SSG Lawhorn recalled the differences in the Chu Lai area.

"When I first arrived at the Chu Lai airport," he said, "I was given a meal of C-rations. The mess area was in the open without even a canvas to cover it. The Combat Center was at LZ Bayonet, a mile west of Chu Lai and most of the beach area was not built up the way it is now. Things were pretty crude."

Logistical support for the troops in the field has improved drastically. One area SSG Lawhorn particularly remembered was the supply of food.

"We only got one hot meal every four days and a change of clothes less frequently than that," he recalled. "Today things are much better; we are resupplied everyday when the tactical situation permits."

SSG Lawhorn also recalled that the cavalry troop that supported his unit in 1967-68 had only jeeps mounted with .50 caliber machineguns. Today, the cavalry units use armored personnel carriers and Sheridan recon vehicles.

This makes it feasible for the field troops to enjoy an occasional refitting period. SSG Lawhorn recently relaxed on his first "stand-down".

"I never had a refit on my first tour," he recalled. "It's good to find out first hand that many things have changed for the better for the troops in the field." (198th Bde. IO)

VA News In Review

EDITOR'S NOTE: Veterans and their families are asking thousands of questions concerning the benefits their Government provides for them through the Veterans Administration. Below are some representative queries. Additional may be obtained at any VA office.

Q-I borrowed on my GI insurance, and wish to start paying off the loan with monthly payments. How do I do this?

A-Make your check or money order payable to the Veterans Administration, and mail it to the VA office where you pay your premiums. Give your insurance number, and specify that the payment is to be applied to your loan.

Q--My mother receives a pension from the Veterans Administration because of the death of my father, a World War I veteran. She has been in a nursing home for the past four months. I recently learned that she may be entitled to an additional \$150 per month because she is in a nursing home. Is this correct?

A--Yes. Have your mother submit evidence that she is a patient in the nursing home, and the VA will be able to make the additional award. (In fact, if VA determines such a person requires the aid and attendance of another person, she will be eligible for this payment even if she is not in a nursing home.)

Search Finds Brother

By SP4 Carl Ekengren

LZ HAWK HILL -- From DaNang to Chu Lai to Cam Ranh Bay to Duc Pho, after three months of travelling and searching SGT Verlyn McCurdy (Garsden, Ala.) finally found his brother.

McCurdy, an Air Force welder stationed in Da Nang with the 20th TASS, received a letter from his mother informing him that his younger brother Steve had been recently assigned to Vietnam.

"The letter was pretty vague and only gave a general idea of my brother's location," recalled the sergeant.

In his spare time, McCurdy hitched rides on any available transportation-- helicopters, airplanes and trucks. For weeks his search proved fruitless.

The 22 year old welder finally wrote his mother to re-check on the address. The first address had been incorrect. Undaunted, McCurdy set out again with a new address in hand.

After three months of tedious effort, the elder McCurdy at last found 18 year old PFC Steve McCurdy, a Division soldier assigned to C Btry., 3d Bn., 82nd Arty.

What made the reunion more amazing was the fact that PFC McCurdy was working as a RTO for D Co., 4th Bn., 31st Inf. He had been in the field for four months and had just come to the rear area, (Div Arty IO)

Someone Who Cares

Spare time for the soldier in Vietnam is hard to come by, so when SP5 David O'Neil, a medic with the Division's 196th Bde., teaches PF soldiers English whenever his duties permit. (Photo By SP4 Gerard E. Paulin, 196th Bde. IO)

Hill 165 Is Lonely But Vital

The Soldiers On Siberia Fight Hard & Sure

By SP5 Richard Merritt

LZ SIBERIA -- The westernmost firebase in the Division, Landing Zone (LZ) Siberia is a bristling clump atop Hill 165, 30 miles from the South China Sea and 33 miles east of Laos.

"You go 'loco' if you didn't find something to do," said PFC Bob Hardage, (Oklahoma City) a radio operator. Three model helicopters--a Flying Crane, a Huey UH-1D and a Cobra

gunship--swing from the ceiling beams in his bunker.

Resupply comes in daily if the base is not "socked in" by a cloud. The chaplain comes once a week, water every other day.

An enemy sapper unit struck here last September. They assaulted from positions in Ghost Town, a grassy plateau just west of the base.

Siberia is a special threat to NVA supply routes; it can shell areas four miles farther west

than any other 196th Inf. Bde. gun section.

The firebase was built in February, 1969, by D Co., 4th Bn., 31st Inf. Today, elements of that battalion pull perimeter security around the base.

Most of the artillerymen are old hands. They have done everything required in their 12-hour shifts, and a little extra.

1LT Weller didn't say so, but he earned one of the Bronze Stars for valor (196th Bde. IO)

Viet Navy Coastal Group Protects And Informs Island Dwellers



The Ya Butta Boat—Tool Of The RVN Navy



Visit With Teacher



Helping A Family



Clothing Distribution



The mission — a psychological operation (PSYOP) cruise. The result — a program that doesn't just encourage the enemy to rally to the Government of Vietnam, but one that disseminates meaningful and helpful information to the Vietnamese people.

Members of the Navy of the Republic's Coastal Group 15, located at Chu Lai, conduct two PSYOP programs per week, cruising inland along the many rivers in the Division's area of operations.

Broadcasting from the deck of a slow-moving "Ya Butta" boat, crew members give out information concerning the whereabouts of VC tax extortionists or even the possible places where local farmers have been "shaken down" and their goods and money taken by the enemy.

The NVA and VC are urged to a rally to the GVN and the local villagers are even given a "recruiting pitch" with information on how and where to volunteer for military service.

According to LT (jg) Daniel B. Mulligan (Tarrytown, N.Y.), the senior U.S. Navy advisor, "The men we have here at CG-15 are so well trained and efficient in the various duties and patrols we run, that we act more as liaison personnel than advisors."

The boat crews also gather information by going ashore and talking to the various village chiefs and gathering data on any possible enemy troop movements, or perhaps extortion attempts made by the enemy in or near the villages.

The men of the Ya Butta boats sometimes distribute clothes, soap and toothpaste to the villagers, most of whom are fishermen who find it hard to procure such "luxuries."

The group also conducts daily river and coast patrols, searching out and engaging the enemy. Even though the men are sailors, some time is spent on land conducting sweeps through areas in which enemy activity is suspected.

"The group works occasionally with units of the Americal Division, generally acting as a waterborne blocking force for the infantry units," said LT Mulligan.

Story By

SP4 Dennis L. Selby

Photos By

SP4 William J. Hayes



Communication Through Pamphlets



Civilian Transportation—Often Crowded



Information and Chieu Hoi Message



Laundry Soap, Toothpaste and Leaflets

NVA Bites Dust

By SP4 Robert Daniels

FSB SAN JUAN HILL — Sudden darkness and heavy rain forced a company of the Americal to remain in an enemy village with 30 detainees and defend it throughout the night against an attacking NVA force.

The unit was C Co., 4th Bn., 3d Inf., which had sighted several villages along the Song Ve River 16 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The 11th Inf. Bde. unit entered one of the villages and met no resistance as it took approximately 30 Vietnamese into custody.

By the time the area had been thoroughly searched, the sun was descending and rain was falling so the men dug in for the night.

The villagers were secured

under guard in several huts inside the village and the men dug their foxholes along their assigned sectors of the perimeter. The 2d and 3d platoons were assigned that sector of the perimeter overlooking the Song Ve River. Between the river and the perimeter was a large, open, recently plowed field.

Unknown to the men of C Co. the enemy had maneuvered through the many early-warning devices and had silently crawled down the plowed furrows to within hand grenade range of the defenders.

Shortly after midnight, a grenade, small arms and mortar attack split the silence and gloom of the night. Reacting rapidly, the men scrambled for their foxholes to man their

awaiting guns.

The main thrust of the attack was directed against the 2d and 3d platoons. Reaching their fighting positions they immediately opened up with a devastating volume of fire.

The main source of the enemy's fire power was Chicom hand grenades. PFC Alfred Rollins (Washington, D.C.) said.

The following morning the detainees were placed aboard helicopters and evacuated for interrogation. Then a recon of the area found one NVA body and numerous blood trails leading toward the mountains.

The company also detained one NVA, found two AK-47 banana clips, three Chicom hand grenades and one AK-47 rifle. (11th Bde. IO)



True Trailblazers

Edging their way through thick tropical growth are tracks of the Division's H Trp., 17th Cav. They are on a search and clear mission in the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations. (Photo By PFC Laszlo Kondor, Americal IO)

Outpost Recoils Attack

LZ CENTER — In a bitter struggle high atop a lonely mountain outpost, Division infantrymen smashed an enemy sapper attack, killing eight NVA and confiscating a sizeable stock of ammo.

The recon plt. of the 3d Bn., 21st Inf., 196th Inf. Bde., was night laagered on "OP Juliet" 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The moon was hardly visible, and the men waited anxiously as the hours ticked by.

"We were just changing guard around 2:15 a.m.," recalled SP4 John Mauerman (Salt Lake City), recon plt. radio opearator. "Suddenly we started taking incoming grenades from the north and east."

The attacking force numbered around 30 NVA: 10 were sappers and the rest were support. The sappers charged the wire, hurling satchel charges and Chicom grenades.

The American lashed back with a blaze of rifle and machingun fire. Two sappers were cut down in the wire.

The 4.2" mortar on LZ Center lit up the area around Juliet with illumination, and B Btry., 3d Bn., 82nd Arty., pounded the enemy with a deadly barrage of shells.

After 15 minutes the enemy withdrew. Sporadic sniper fire continued for the next hour.

As daylight approached, the Americans surveyed the scene of the early morning battle. Eight NVA lay lifeless in the morning sun. Several more blood trails were observed leading off the top of the hill. The retreating enemy had left behind one AK-47 rifle.

Combat In Review



Repeat One More Time

A round is jammed into the breech of a 105mm Howitzer on this Division firebase. A Btry., 6th Bn., 11th Arty. delivers a fire mission in support of the 11th Inf. Bde.

(Photo By SP4 Peter R. Sorensen, 11th Bde. IO)

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10 April, 1970



Cast Your Vote, It's Your Civic Right

Alabama—Primary date is May 5. Registration is in person. Armed Forces members and their wives may apply by FPCA for absentee ballot. One must apply at County Register in Equity, between 45th and 5th day before Primary. Return ballot by Primary day.

Indiana—Primary date is May 5. Armed Forces, absentee ballot application also is registration application but must reach county board of elections 29 days before Primary. Others, request absentee registration form in time for it to be completed and reach board 29 days before Primary. Only member of the Armed Forces may apply by FPCA for absentee ballot. One must apply to Clerk of Circuit Court, between 30th day and Saturday before Primary. Return ballot by day before Primary.

Kentucky—Primary date is May 26. U.S. Services (Armed Forces and Merchant Marine, U.S. employees overseas, members of religious or welfare groups attached to Armed Forces, spouses and dependents) request application for registration form by 20th day before Primary. One must apply to County Clerk, 10 April, 1970

between 20th day before Primary. Return ballot by Primary day.

Nebraska—Primary date is May 12. Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, U.S. employees overseas, members of religious or welfare groups attached to Armed Forces, spouses and dependents, may request application for registration forms when applying for absentee ballot by FPCA. Indicate Party affiliation. Apply to County Clerk, between 90 days and Friday before Primary. Return must be postmarked by day before Primary; received by 10 a.m., Thursday after Primary.

North Carolina—Primary date is May 2. Armed Forces and spouses, and Merchant Marine except on Great Lakes or inland waterways, are registered automatically for absentee ballot is accepted. Must apply to State or Chairman of County Board of Elections. One can apply anytime before Primary. Ballot must be returned by noon, Saturday before Primary.

Oregon—Primary date is May 26. Service voters (Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, citizens temporarily residing abroad) are automatically registered when oath

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on absentee ballot is accepted. Only service voters may apply by FPCA for absentee ballot. Apply to Secretary of State or County Clerk, anytime before Primary. Indicate Party preference. Return ballot by Primary day.

Ohio—Primary date is May 5. Registration not required for Armed Forces and spouses with them. Armed Forces and spouses with them may apply by FPCA for absentee ballot. Apply to Clerk of County Board of Elections, between January 1 and noon, 3d day before Primary. Return ballot by noon, Primary day.

Pennsylvania—Primary is May 19. Registration must be by all except Armed Forces, Merchant Marine except on Great Lakes or inland waterways, U.S. employees overseas, members of religious or welfare groups attached to Armed Forces, spouses and dependents of above and of Armed Forces may register by FPCA. Apply to County Board of Elections, anytime before Primary. Return ballot by Friday before Primary.

Texas—Primary is May 2. Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, spouses and dependents, and citizens temporarily residing abroad may register anytime.

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'Montezuma' Protects Bronco

FSB BRONCO -- "Montezuma" is a hill which rises 460 feet out of the center of this Division firebase. It is a landing zone within a landing zone, and the relationship between the two is at once vital and remote. The men and equipment of Montezuma lead a unique existence with their own peculiar history, mission and way of life.

SGT James Holliday (Lawton, Okla.) of the Duc Pho MACV, tells us, "Montezuma was originally a French outpost between 1945 and 1954 when it was overrun by the Viet Minh."

Montezuma received its present name from an element of the III Marine Amphibious Force in 1967. As the installation expanded, it was relocated at the base of the hill, remaned FSB Bronco and turned over to the U.S. Army Task Force Oregon to become the 11th Inf. Bde.

Reports CPT Robert J. Graham (Patchogue, N.Y.), CO of Hqs. and Hqs. Co. and former base defense commander, "The third Vietnam commander of the 11th Bde., COL John W. Donaldson, initially gave Montezuma its vital mission as nerve center of Bronco's defenses."

In that same year, 1968, the base defenses were prepared as we know it today, including construction on the hill and the perimeter around Bronco.

The apex of the Montezuma

landscape is a 50-foot observation tower which serves as "action central" for base defense. Near the tower stands a radar installation which picks up the discharge of weapons directed at Bronco.

By plotting a back azimuth on the trajectory of the enemy fire, the origin of the rounds, whether sniper fire or rockets, is turned over to artillery or an appropriate reaction force. "We can locate enemy mortars to a ten place grid coordinate," said CWO Jimmy E. Bowden (Hampton, Ga.), radar chief.

Other facilities on the mountain include a MARS station, artillery, searchlight, radio relay facilities, mortars and quad-50 machinegun teams.

The inhabitants of Montezuma are a special group. They are by mission nocturnal creatures, by geography isolationists, and by close living one big family.

"It's nice up here, quiet and everyone likes it," said SSG Leroy Ingram (Ft. Smith, Ark.). "It's away from everything. We're one big family," stated SP4 Larry Hunziker (Winthrop, Iowa).

SFC Eugene W. Miggins (Lawton, Okla.) added, "We're sort of unique group of individuals. Everybody is dependent on everyone else and all do their jobs well. We are all from different units, working real close together."

It is not usual for a Bronco

Four-legged Aid For Cav.

Dogs Guard Against Ambush

CHU LAI — A combat tracker team from the Division's 63rd Infantry Platoon protected a cavalry unit from an enemy ambush, stopped a Viet Cong supply run and captured a VC supply officer during a recent operation west of Chu Lai.

The team was sent to aid H Trp., 17th Cav. after the unit had established enemy contact.

"When we arrived, the cavalry asked us to make and area reconnaissance to search out enemy tracks," said the team's leader, SGT Phillip E. Rouch (Columbus, Ohio).

After searching for 300 meters, the visual tracker spotted three VC in a tree line, who opened fire immediately. Three armored personnel carriers supporting the tracker team returned fire, forcing the enemy to break contact.

The tracker team picked up the VC escape trail and followed the man-spoor for an hour until they discovered a blood trail. Within 75 meters, they found a VC, dead as a result of wounds received during the firefight.

Continuing the reconnaissance, the team surprised two VC leading seven female supply bearers. Both soldiers tried to evade, but one was flushed from a conealed position by a cavalry element and detained.

Papers in his posession and the team's Kit Carson scout indicated that he was a VC lieutenant.

All the supply bearers were detained and questioned by the Kit Carson scout, and admitted that they were carrying supplies.

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Skating Champion Now With Division

FSB 4-11 - It's not everybody who can read an article about an international sports figure and remember having competed against him. PFC Joseph Bartczak (Cleveland) of the Division recently had that experience while reading the sports page in *Stars and Stripes*.

The article concerned 21-year-old Tim Wood who had just won his second consecutive world figure skating title. "I remember him from a meet at Ohio State University," reflected the 11th Inf. Bde. soldier.

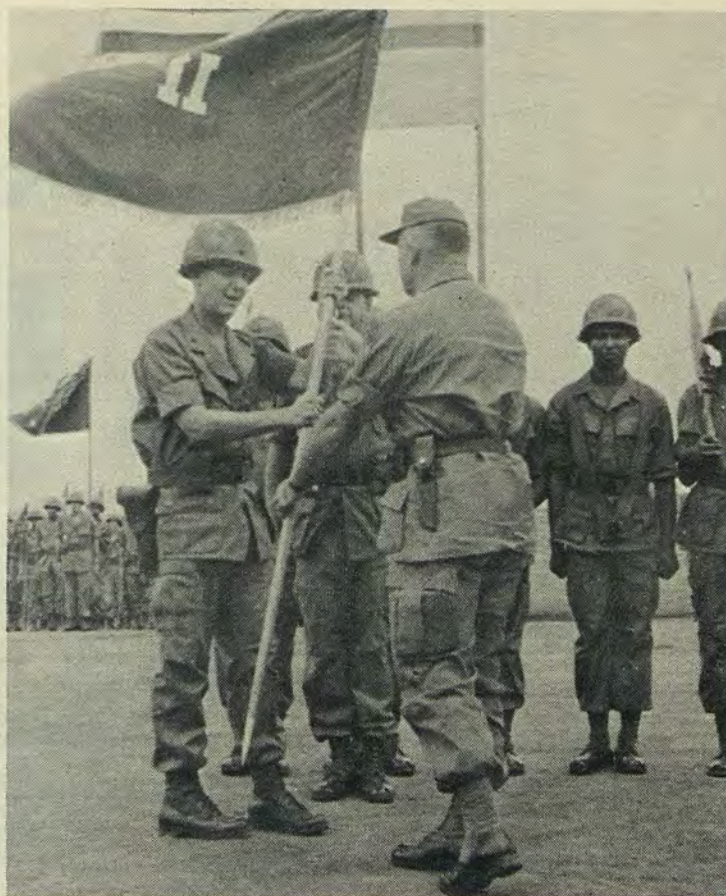
The world of competitive skating is a familiar one to Bartczak who won his first National Roller Skating Championship at the age of twelve. He began roller skating at three and by the time he was five was competing in intrastate events. As a youngster Bartczak captured several state titles.

Moving up into the higher divisions, Bartczak added many more national skating medals and trophies to his already impressive collection. When he finished high school, he turned professional and enrolled at Ohio State, where he taught classes in roller and ice skating for the athletic department.

A speech and drama major in college, Bartczak was soon able to work out his own choreography for musical skating routines. As a member of the American Skating Revue he performed at many of the group functions.

"After leaving the service I plan to continue teaching students the techniques and styles in skating," said Bartczak, who is presently assigned to the 3d Bn., 1st Inf.

"Skating for me is kind of an emotional release. I'm able to express myself through music. The audience gives me the opportunity to put my all into my routines," concluded the soldier. (11th Bde. IO)



New And Old COs Exchange Colors.

New CO Commands

FSB BRONCO - In recent ceremonies here, COL Kendrick B. Barlow Jr. (Savannah, Tenn.) assumed command of the 11th Inf. Bde. from COL Hugh F.T. Hoffman Jr. (San Antonio, Tex.) who will replace COL Barlow as CO of Support Command.

As a salute of aerial-bursting white phosphorous rounds signalled the reign of the new CO and the departure of the old, Division CG, MG Albert E. Milloy, offered his "heartly congratulations for the many achievements of the brigade."

In his farewell speech COL Hoffman remarked, "To command the 11th Bde. is a singular honor. The officers and men achieved all goals established for them."

Speaking directly to the men of the brigade in formation before him, the former Director of Instruction at West Point concluded, "I passed the colors this morning with pride—you've done your jobs well and will continue to do so."

Infantry Twins

Jackson Fraternal Twins Stay Together

FSB BRONCO - The odds against the birth of fraternal twins are nearly 100 to one. The Jackson twins of the Division beat even greater odds when they were assigned to the same motor pool in the 11th Inf. Bde.

SP4s William and Richard Jackson (Colorado Springs, Colo.) now assigned to Hqs. Co., 4th Bn., 21st Inf. were inseparable through their first 19 years of life.

During high school, the two became interested in music, and

later organized their own folk group, "The Subtle Quartet." Richard wrote music and played guitar for the group, while William sang.

Upon graduating, the twins and their group split up when William entered the Army, but the separation was short-lived for Richard joined the service shortly afterward and caught up with his brother in advanced training where they were assigned to the same unit.

It was a hard nine weeks, but

the two stuck together and when the big day came, they both successfully completed Infantry AIT, and were headed for Vietnam.

Richard was soon in the salty air above the South China Sea, while William was also airborne at Fort Benning Jump School.

Upon his arrival in Vietnam, Richard was assigned to a long range reconnaissance team with the 4th Inf. Div. A month later he received word that his brother had arrived in Vietnam

and was stationed with the 1st Inf. Div.

Richard immediately submitted a request to be reassigned with his brother, and within weeks the two men were patrolling the mountains and lowlands of Vietnam, side by side in the same rifle platoon. Three long months passed before their unit was scheduled for redeployment from Southeast Asia, and due to limited time overseas, the Jackson twins were transferred to the Americal Div.

Long hours of processing from one unit to another threatened to again separate the Jackson duo, but luckily both were assigned as mechanics to Headquarters' Motor Pool at the 4th Bn., 21st Inf.

Before entering the Army, the two men had worked in a variety of jobs

The two have gone through a lot during their 20 years, and when advised of the regulation allowing one of them to be reassigned outside the combat area, they responded, "We've been together this long, and we're not about to split up now."

R&R In The 'Nam

Sailor Visits Firebase

FSB SAN JUAN HILL - You won't find this isolated 11th Inf. Bde. firebase on the list of recommended R&R sites, but Seaman Fred Zweifel (Iron Mountain, Mich.) recently took his leave here.

Zweifel who serves with the USS Coral Sea chose this mountaintop home of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. for his leave so he could spend some time with his hometown buddy of 13 years, SGT Jeff Chartier.

Responding to Chartier's invitation, the young seaman literally traveled over land, sea and air to reach his destination, eight miles west of Duc Pho. The first leg of his journey was a mail ship to Da Nang, the second a fixed wing flight to Chu Lai and Duc Pho, then a jeep ride and finally a resupply helicopter to the Division firebase.

Zweifel was quite surprised to be greeted on his arrival by LTC Stanley W. Wielga as well as Chartier. The 4th Bn., 3d Inf. commander gave the traveling seaman a tour of the firebase and the outlying mountain district of Bato, and also arranged a ride in a "Warlord" gunship for him.

During his four day stay here, Zweifel also went to the field for a few hours to meet the men of D Co. "Everyone went out of their way to make me feel welcome," he said.

"It has really been something I will never forget," said Zweifel. "These guys are doing a great job out here, under rather rugged conditions and they really have spirit." (11th Bde. IO)



Pass And Review

Reviewing the soldiers of the Americal for the last time, BG John W. Donaldson, (right) former assistant division commander (maneuver) accompanies MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, (left) former division commander, and COL D. Townsend, commander of the 16th Aviation Group (Combat). (U.S. Army Photo)