

669 TAIL no

Nov 68

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LZ Ensign

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
326TH MEDICAL BATTALION
AIR AMBULANCE PLATOON
APO San Francisco 96383

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Commanding Officer: Major Robert R. Cloke
Platoon Sergeant: SFC Thomas L. Ross, Jr.

Monthly News Letter

October was a busy month for the Air Ambulance Platoon. The old people have just about disappeared but new faces are still appearing.

The Air Ambulance Seabees have been on the job again. The Battalion Mail room and a new hot water shower are two of their contributions.

On 1 October the AAP threw a beer bust for MCB "8", Chief Miller and his cooks being honored guests. MCB 121 cooks, KP'S and bottle washers were also welcomed.

On 8 October SFC E7 Allen Williams, the last of the old "50th" left the area with a flourish of smoke trailing from the skids. The fly by was completed by old Snakebite, "92" in his one and only style. Everyone was on hand to wave goodbye.

The 101st Airborne PIO section had a photographer cover the platoon on hoists and other Dustoff missions for ten days. He said it was an experience he'll never forget. With fifty-four (54) hoist missions, we believe him.

SP4 Bigelow left us in a different way. "Big" somehow fell off a porch in the Signal Platoon area and dislocated his shoulder and was evacuated to the 22nd Surg and then to the 95th at DaNang, for further evacuation to CONUS.

PROMOTIONS for New and Old are in the mail. PROMOTIONS RECEIVED ARE:

to E-7—SFC	Allen C. Williams
to E-6—SSG	Gerald Sterns
to E-5—SGT	Azie L. Gaten
to E-5—SP5	Roger Goodwin
	Neal Stanley

Orders are in the mail to all who have left the area.

NEW FACES FOR THE MONTH:

1LT Thomas McCrary	SP4 Larry Wagoner
1LT Kerry Little	PFC Jerry Jordal

Welcome to them all.

DEPARTURES FOR THE MONTH:

SFC Allen Williams to Hunter Airfield, Georgia
SP4 Jerry Bigelow to hospital, then civilian life.

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Old "669" was lost by the 499th at LZ English. She was being used as a float ship and was brought down by enemy ground fire at Chu Lai.

R&R For the Month:

WO1 Nesbitt to Hawaii
WO1 Tucker to Japan
PFC Burdo to Hong Kong

AWARDS

Distinguished Flying Cross
Bronze Star with "V" for Valor
Bronze Star

Army Commendation Medal

Air Medal with "V" for Valor

Air Medal, Oak Leaf Clusters

WO1 William T. Dillard
SP4 Hugh L. Howell
CPT Otis G. Turner
GW2 John Lama
SP5 Thomas J. Kelley
SP5 Neal A. Stanley
CW2 Frederick Whitney
CPT Peter M. Hansen
SFC James T. Ratliff
SP4 Henry R. Miller
SP4 Gary E. Munoz
SP4 Keith E. Zuck
PFC Richard G. Runion
SP5 Neal A. Stanley
SP4 Russell L. Wright
CPT Peter M. Hansen, 22nd 23rd OLC
CW2 James D. Semones, 16, 17, 18, 19th OLC
WO1 Loren P. Skarie, 4, 5th OLC
SSG Gerald L. Sterns, 8, 9th OLC
SP5 Roger W. Goodwin, 4, 5th OLC
SP5 Amador G. Sanchez, 4, 5, 6th OLC
SP5 Neal A. Stanley, 10, 11, 12, 13th OLC
SP4 Anthony R. Thompson, Basic Air Medal

The following tasks were performed during October.

Patients Evacuated	Hoists:	Missions
US 407		
FWMAF 1	a. Missions 54	Day 318
ARVN 39	b. Patients 78	Night 79
VN Civ 89		
POW 19		
Other 4		
559		

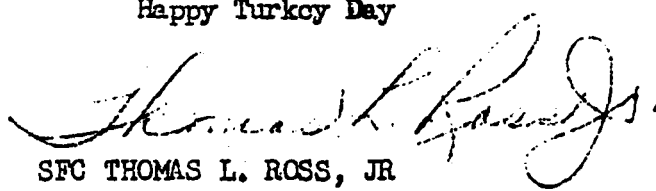
NOTE: Ratliff-----Porta-----Who has the coffee pot money?

A word from Dustoff "96"

With the 1st Cav moving south and Eagle Dustoff taking up the coverage around Camp Evans with the 3rd Brigade, crews have been just waiting to pull pitch. Warrant Officers Skarie, Dill and Hichens have been "liberating" Camp Evans in addition to providing primary evacuation coverage. The field standbys are here again, with more volunteers than standbys. Wonder why?

From Phong Dien (North of Camp Evans) to the Hoi Van Pass into DaNang Harbor the air is filled with Eagle Dustoff crews. Our 54 Hoist missions for 78 patients may not be tops in RVN, but if it isn't whoever is in first place is sure going to have to try harder.

Happy Turkey Day


SFC THOMAS L. ROSS, JR
PIO NCOIC

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