

in OCS graduate the easy way. There is no

ould you want to go to OCS if it is so difficult because the advantages make it worthwhile. A soldier, physically, mentally, and morally handle the responsibilities of a leader in an Army.

however, take a good look at yourself before application papers. Do you truly want to be a leader of others? Do you welcome the added burdens of responsibility that come with a commission? Officers are required to make important decisions, initiate ideas, and, in many cases, carry the load of others.

Soldiers who do not want increased responsibility should not apply.

Do you have determination? Determination is one of the important traits that an officer candidate must have. If you are down physically, you can be built up. If you are academically, you can be tutored. But it is going when the chips are down that is so pure.

g, hard road from candidacy to commission. e a strong and persevering soldier can you s through OCS. But once this has been you will take pride in yourself such as other fields seldom experience. Meeting one challenges you will ever face, you will come a commissioned officer in the United States

s Corner

Do You Fare?

(Capt.) szewski

ane and quiet with so very up-thought of God is the land of splendor, satisfaction. God is there receiving the of all his glory you may be will experience along with your e killed in the eents, relatives died of sickness there is God, taking care of to want for no e sounds like here, too.

open, G.I.—not ned the RIGHT member, you've by, a sort of to meet before Let's see how it right now!

What is your at-? Do you only you need him, e to be known time? Do you e to speak the d Christ in love se these names on earth? These m to be expres- r hatred or fu- n. (Starting to und, we're not

What about such things as honesty and obedience, dedication and maturity and decency? Oh yes—you can't touch these things, therefore, they don't exist. At least that's what the guys who don't believe in God say! (Stomp on their toes and ask them if they can see the pain.)

People told you, preached to you, tried to show you: God gave His word and His Son. What have you given so far? Do you honestly think you qualify? You still have the time to change that vision from a nightmare into the real thing. But it's up to you. Your good looks won't get you in. A sincere and honest heart will.

Capt. Charles L. Woodhurst
Capt. Richard W. Potter Jr.
LEGION OF MERIT
Maj. John J. Miller
Lt. Col. Norman P. Chandler
Sgt. Maj. Rudy L. Summers
DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
WO1 Merle J. Arnold
Sgt. Russell W. Golden
Capt. Horace E. Grant
Capt. Charles E. Teeter
Capt. Gary R. Watson
WO1 James E. Sewell
Capt. Isham H. Brown
1st Lt. James P. Goldschmidt
Maj. Donald J. Vernon
1st Lt. Larry G. Fiegler

SOLDIER'S MEDAL
Sp5 Angelo R. Baracani
PFC Thomas J. McLaughlin
BRONZE STAR WITH "V"
SFC James E. Thompson
SFC Paul V. Tracy
Capt. John W. Dangle
Sgt. Robert Espinosa
SFC Jan Borek
SSgt. Carl D. Cash
Sp4 Robert E. Johnson
MSgt. James R. Shoulders
SFC Harold L. Billips

BRONZE STAR
MSgt. Edward Chaney
1st Lt. John G. Cisternino
Maj. Sam P. Brown
Maj. Vincent E. Falter
Capt. Robert L. Henson Jr.
Sp5 Andrew B. Herf
Capt. Charles W. Lively
WO1 Graham Murray Jr.
Capt. Robert W. Salley
1st Lt. Robert J. Sherry
Capt. George Strimbu
Capt. Gerald W. Thrash

Avn Unit To Train Australian

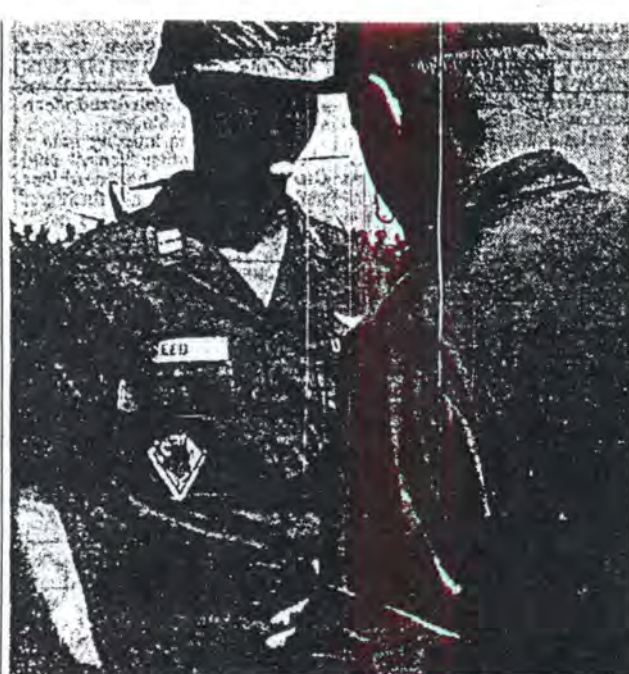
VUNG TAU, (1st AVN-IO)—A recent event marked another first for the 222nd Aviation Battalion and the 5th Aviation Company here. As part of a new program to increase mutual understanding and knowledge between the Army Aviation elements of the Australian and American Armies, Lt. Victor T. Salmon of Brisbane, Australia, reported in as a member of this American Army Aviation unit.

Lieutenant Salmon is the first Australian to participate in a six week familiarization program originated by Maj. L. Doyle, Commander of the 161st (Indep) Recon Flight, the Australian Army Aviation unit supporting the 1st Australian Task Force in Vietnam.

Major Doyle, as originator of the idea for the program, was prodded by his desire to have his aviators learn more about the American Army Aviation program. After liaison with the 12th Aviation Group, it was suggested that the 5th Avn. Co. be the base of the operation because of its close proximity to the Australian unit.

Lieutenant Salmon will live with the officers of the 54th in their BOQ and will be just like a member of the company throughout the program.

After familiarization with the U-1A (Otter), Salmon will fly regular missions with the unit. He will spend his first three weeks in Vung Tau for the familiarization, and then go to Saigon for one week, and spend one week in Can Tho working with the U-1A sections there before returning here for his final week in the program.



PILOT GETS DSC—After presenting Capt. Rolla M. Breed with the Distinguished Service Cross, Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor offers his congratulations. Breed was one of two pilots with the 116th Assault Helicopter Company who received the nation's second highest award for valor. Resor presented the awards while on a 6-day tour of Vietnam.

(Photo by Sp5 Don Miller, USARV-IO)

Two From 1st Inf Honored For Bravery

PHUOC VINH, (1st INF-IO)—Staff Sergeant Ernest Williams has been awarded the Silver Star for action in a Viet Cong mine field near the village of Ben Sue. Brigadier General James F. Hollingsworth, assistant Big Red One commander made the presentation at the site of the 1st Battalion, 25th Infantry field headquarters.

Also cited for valor was Sp4 Astor Rogers who received the Bronze Star with "V" device for his aid to the men of Williams' squad.

The squad was at the point of Company A when they entered an extensive mine field. Suddenly two command detonated clay-

mores were exploded and two of the sergeant's men fell. Then a large booby-trap mounted in a tree poured down its deadly shrapnel and two more men fell. Williams ran forward to set up security for the wounded and get medical aid for them.

The platoon medic came forward and was also injured when he stepped on an anti-personnel mine. Rogers, a medic, who was with the command group, hurried to the head of the company to aid the fallen men.

Enemy sniper fire began to rain down upon the lead element of the company. Williams brought his men on line and laid down a base of fire.



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SSgt. Bob Bolla	Editor
Sp4 Bob Thomas	Asst. Editor
Sp4 Maury Moser	Staff Writer
Sp4 Rod Challenger	Staff Writer

o Ambush; Otherwise

water.

The VC was very much alive and the platoon detained him. With the mission halted, Walas waded along the bank to look for weapons.

"I stepped on something while I was walking in the water," said the point man. "When I reached in, I found a handful of hair and pulled out another VC."

After securing the detainee, Walas went back to try for weapons again and found a carbine resting along side a hole on the bank. He reached into the hole, jumped back, reached in again and pulled out a third VC.

"I knew there had to be some more weapons, so I went back to the bank after taking the third VC to the sampans. As I searched, I fell into a hole and right on top of two more VC."

Walas dragged his two new detainees back to the platoon and found that another two of the enemy had been detained. In each of the hiding places, the infantrymen found web gear and miscellaneous clothing.

The Wolfhounds returned their seven detainees to the battalion's forward base camp. Having compromised their position, they forgot about the ambush and got a good night's sleep.



Every man puts a little of himself into his work and that goes for Preventive Maintenance as well.

You're in contact with your equipment every day and even though you may not be a trained mechanic, you can often spot trouble that a pro might miss.

Take Connie Rold's advice. Get personal with that piece of equipment. Learn its ins and outs. Baby it a little. When the time comes for it to help you out, you'll be glad you did.

Inf Net's Variety Of Goods

TAY NINH, (96th INF-10) — The men of Bravo Company, 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade, are becoming old hands at ferreting and destroying Viet Cong base camps hidden in the jungle.

While Company B's main mission during Operation Cedar Falls was to maintain a perimeter defense around the howitzers of Battery B, 3d Battalion, 82d Artillery, daily search and destroy missions were also undertaken.

Not all were simple tasks of destroying what had been found, however. One of the camps was so heavily booby-trapped that the men had to pull back while artillery was called in to destroy the bunkers and set off the explosive devices.

In another of the camps, one of the men sat down on a bench in a bunker, unaware that under the wood was a charge of C-4 explosive. Walking through the door, another squad member hit the trip wire set to detonate the device. Fortunately, the C-4 was too wet and only the blasting cap exploded.

9th Inf Unit Finds Abandoned VC Camp

BEAR CAT, (9th INF-10)—An abandoned Viet Cong base camp, complete with furniture made from American ammunition crates and small amounts of ammunition, was uncovered recently by a 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division unit while on a routine reconnaissance patrol.

The 3rd Platoon of Company C, 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry, discovered the base camp several kilometers from Bear Cat. The

patrol's point man saw punji stick traps and halted the patrol.

Investigation of the area turned up the base camp, estimated to be company, to battalion-size.

The camp was laced with escape tunnels and had been abandoned approximately a month.

In addition to the furniture of ammo crates, searchers found small amounts of M-79, .50 caliber and 81mm mortar ammunition.

Balloon Is 'Weapon' For Arty Weathermen

NHA TRANG, (11TV-10) — When is a balloon a weapon? When it's filled with hydrogen and has a package of electronic instruments attached.

This is the "weapon" of the meteorological section of the 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery, stationed six miles south of the demilitarized zone which separates North and South Vietnam.

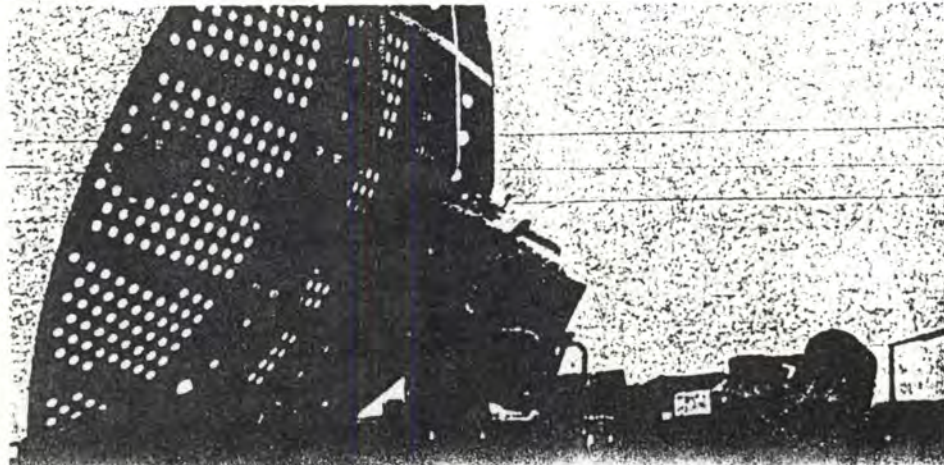
The section plays an unsung but vital role in the accomplishment of the battalion's overall mission—to give long range artillery support to the U.S. and Vietnamese ground forces in the

area. The 2nd of the 94th uses the largest weapon in the Army's arsenal, the 175mm "Long Tom." The extreme range and destructive power of this weapon makes accuracy with every round a must, and this is where the metro section plays its vital role.

Three times daily a weather balloon is sent skyward from the camp. A package of delicate measuring instruments records and sends back to the weather station information on wind speed, wind direction, temperature, and density of the air at altitudes from ground level to 32,000 feet.

This information is then transcribed into usable figures by the men in the "metro" section and given to the Fire Direction Center (FDC) for use in computing firing data for targets.

Warrant Officer Leslie B. Gore, commands the section. He explained that when 175mm guns of the battalion fire at their maximum, the meteorological data supplied by his men counteract the effects of weather which would otherwise move the projectile as much as 1,200 meters from the target.



Typewriters Sent to VN

Hornets Support Covers VN

CU CHI, (1st AVN-10) — The men of the 116th Assault Helicopter Company, Hornets, 11th Combat Aviation Battalion, pay tribute to the infantry, not by verbal praise or occasional feats, but by around-the-clock, day by day support. They fly by the credo that "no mission is too difficult, no task is too small."

The helicopter and its employment have played an increasingly important role in the Army's conduct of the war. The advent of the helicopter has brought revolutionary changes to tactical planning, from vertical envelopment to rapid reaction and resupply. Helicopter extraction and medical evacuation have been life savers and big morale boosters to the foot soldier.

The Hornets became operational in the Republic of Vietnam in January 1966 at Phu Loi, and although relocated in November to Cu Chi, they remained fully operational. The 116th is organized similarly to other Assault Helicopter Companies, and has the distinction of being well known and respected professionally from the Delta to Da Nang, having provided support across 400 miles while participating in such operations as Abilene, Birmingham, El Paso, Lani Kai, Attleboro, and Charleston.

Their fleet of twenty UH-1D helicopters and eight gunships flew a total of 72,601 sorties during 24,693 hours, for a monthly average of over 2000 hours, all in support of the war effort. During the year, about 125,300 troops and 3532 tons of cargo were transported. Capable of self-protection and direct fire support, the crews of the Hornets expended 2,420,000 rounds of 7.62mm, 7300 of 2.75 inch rockets, and more than 14,000 rounds of 40mm ammunition. Confirmed VC kills by body count totaled 227.

101st Abn Moves Back to Camp

PHAN RANG, (101st ABN-10) — A convoy of Screaming Eagles completed a more than 400 mile drive through the Central Highlands and along the coast of the South China Sea recently to bring to an end a stay of over a year in the field for the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

Task Force Maglin, started in

20th Engis Resurface Runway At Nhon Co

PLEIKU, (USAECV-10) — Company B, 20th Engineer Battalion recently completed rehabilitation of the airfield at Nhon Co.

A recon of the field several months ago revealed that continued use by heavy C-130 cargo aircraft had dislodged angular rock from the runway, creating hazards to the tires and engines of aircraft landing there.

Shortly thereafter, the 3d Platoon was flown to Nhon Co and work began on the field. The overall project had by this time expanded to include the clearing of 152 acres for a brigade size bivouac area and a helicopter parking area.

Vietnamese Nationals were employed to clear the bivouac and

Tanks Prove Worth In VN

TAY NINH, (196th INF-10) — How effective are tanks in Vietnam? The men of Troop B, 3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry can easily answer this question.

Attached to the 196th Light Infantry Brigade during Operation Cedar Falls, the Troop, commanded by Capt. Jerome L. Haupt, racked up an impressive record of VC kills and captured enemy equipment. During one afternoon's work the Troop tankers spotted a Viet Cong squad on the banks of the Saigon River, some 2000 meters away from their position and unleashed their 90mm guns, dropping the Cong in their tracks.

First Sergeant Samuel L. Gray later commented, "It was some of the finest tank gunnery I have ever seen."

For the first week of the operation, Troop B led the attached units with VC kills. They also destroyed numerous bunkers and tunnels.

Kontum City and drove over routes 14, 19, and One to Phan Rang. This is the longest motor move by an American unit in VN. Land, sea and air routes were used by the paratroopers to return to the base camp that had not seen the forward elements of the Brigade for a year and four days.

helicopter parking areas under the supervision of 3d Platoon personnel. At the same time work was underway on the airfield.

The first step was to clear the runway surface of all rocks and debris that had broken loose during landing operations. The 4625-foot long and 100-foot wide runway was then recompact. Two medium carry asphalt surface treatments were administered.

Following the application of the asphalt the runway was rolled with a towed, smooth wheel, vibratory compactor. During the resurfacing, it was strategically necessary to keep the Nhon Co Airfield open to traffic. At one point certain portions of the runway had to be completely resurfaced after aircraft had landed on the not yet dry asphalt.

When the rehabilitation was completed, Vietnamese Nationals had expended 55,625 man hours; the 3d Platoon had accounted for 30,576, and 2,992 equipment hours had been logged.



LOOKING FOR CHARLIE—A 196th Infantry Brigade soldier crosses a swamp in search for the enemy during the recently-completed Operation Cedar Falls in the Iron Triangle. (Photo by PFC Chris Perales, 196th INF-10)

Called the "jungle penetrator," the apparatus has three fold-out seats with safety straps and is used with a winch and hoist systems. When not in use the rig folds into a neat 10-inch bundle.

The jungle penetrator is ideal for rescuing downed or lightly wounded men through the trees or moderate jungle terrain where a helicopter could never land.

It will soon become standard flight equipment on the 1st Cavalry Division's Chinook helicopters.

At 30 Feet: Slug Knocks Out Power

LAI KHE, (1st INF-10) — "I was left with deciding between going into the trees or trying to clear them," said WO Gene C. Howe in recalling a recent flight he made at the controls of a 176th Assault Helicopter Company Huey.

Howe and Lt. Richard C. Dising were just leaving a landing zone after dropping off a group of infantrymen when rounds started flying past their craft.

The caution panel, known by

aviators as "The Christmas Tree," lit up. Howe said that when he looked down at the panel, he saw that the craft's revolutions per minute were dropping, and power and hydraulics were gone.

Convinced that more VC would use the same route that night, the patrol waited. Early next morning their patience paid off. Using the same successful techniques as before, the men waited until the sampan came within a sure killing zone, and then broke loose with all they had. It proved to be too much for the Viet Cong. The sampan was sunk, and the platoon was credited with two more kills for the night.

The ship was now 30 feet from the trees and below the treeline. It was then that Howe had to make his decision. Howe said, "I knew that a clearing lay just beyond the trees. If I took it into the trees, I would have to flare (point the craft's nose straight up) and belly in, hoping the trees would cushion our fall."

Howe decided to try and clear the treeline. "I pulled the stick straight back and we made it," related Howe. "We hung in space for a split second and started to drop. I pushed the stick forward hoping to pick up some air speed and get away from the trees. We did, but, then we were going, nose first, toward a rice paddy. I pulled the stick back again and the ship flared."

The aircraft slammed into the ground tail first, then hit on its belly, and finally flipped over on its top. "I remembered hearing the rotor thrashing in the ground," recalled Sp4 James W. Visel, the crew chief "and I unlatched my seat belt, grabbed my grenade launcher, and got out of the ship."

The door gunner, PFC John A. Atkinson, wrestled briefly with his machinegun. It wouldn't budge. He grabbed a machete, explaining, "I had to have something."

Less than a minute later, all four crew members were safely aboard another chopper in their flight. All four suffered only minor scratches and bruises. Their craft was a total loss.

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CAVALRY ON THE MOVE—Troops of the 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, cross a stream in the An Lao Valley during Operation Thayer II.

(Photo by 1st CAV-IO)

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196th Unit Ambushes Sampan, Kills 8 VC

TAY NINH, (196th INF-IO) — During Operation Cedar Falls, Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade, gave the Viet Cong another headache, as they successfully conducted an ambush that resulted in eight dead VC.

The 1st Platoon had moved out from their campsite approximately 800 meters to a position in front of a riverbank. After about two hours of waiting silently, voices were heard nearby. The men listened, and soon the voices became more distinct. Facing the river, PFC William T. Rivers noticed an empty sampan drifting along the river. His buddy, PFC

Steven Edwards, noticed that the boat was not adrift, but being paddled by someone. It took only seconds for Rivers to be convinced that the boat was manned by enemy soldiers.

With the boat only a short distance away, Rivers opened up with his M-60 machinegun, and Edwards followed with his M-79 grenade launcher. The grenade rounds failed to detonate. Immediately PFC N-4-on Brown instinctively squeezed the trigger of his M-16 rifle and found his target.

The moonless night made it difficult to determine immediately the number of dead VC. Six shadowy figures had fallen in the water, but others were heard splashing and crying out.

"I saw more than six VC in that boat and am convinced that there were more than six kills," commented Sgt. John W. Greene, the squad leader. It was Greene who threw a hand grenade that denied Charlie of any possible survivors — his grenade sank the sampan.

Convinced that more VC would use the same route that night, the patrol waited. Early next morning their patience paid off. Using the same successful techniques as before, the men waited until the sampan came within a sure killing zone, and then broke loose with all they had. It proved to be too much for the Viet Cong. The sampan was sunk, and the platoon was credited with two more kills for the night.

Test Made

AN KHE, (1st CAV-IO) — A new rescuing device that enables a helicopter to pick up to three men at a time from the jungle has been tested in the 1st Cavalry Division.

Called the "jungle penetrator," the apparatus has three fold-out seats with safety straps and is used with a winch and hoist systems. When not in use the rig folds into a neat 16-inch bundle.

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Vietnam Communique

4th Infantry Division — An armed helicopter, supporting elements of the 1st Brigade during Operation Adams, killed all 11 members of an enemy unit in Phu Yen Province, about six miles northwest of Tuy Hoa. Since the operation began Oct. 26, 261 enemy have been killed and 126 individual and one crew-served weapon seized.

25th Infantry Division — Units of the 2nd Brigade, operating in Hau Nghia Province during Operation Ala Moana, killed four enemy in light actions, bringing the total killed for the operation to 94. The operation began Dec. 1. A unit from the brigade also encountered an enemy force in Binh Duong Province. Five enemy were killed when mortar and artillery missions were called in. The 3rd Brigade Task Force, participating in Operation Thayer II, continued probing a massive cave complex 22 miles south-southwest of Bong Son. An explosion set off by the Tropic Lightning soldiers at the cave entrance touched off six or seven secondary explosions.

199th Light Infantry Brigade — Reconnaissance elements, supported by armed helicopters, killed 12 enemy in a brief con-

tact with an estimated enemy squad in Gia Dinh Province, about three miles south of Saigon. The infantrymen were supporting the Army of the Republic of Vietnam Operation Rang Dong. The U.S. supported operation has resulted in 291 enemy killed.

1st Cavalry Division — Two companies from the 2nd Brigade, while participating in Operation Thayer II, engaged an unknown sized enemy force while on a heliborne assault north-northeast of Bong Son. Two other division companies and two Vietnamese Marine battalions were called in to support the engaged forces. During the battle, 21 enemy were killed. Since the operation began Oct. 25, 1417 enemy have been killed. Cumulative friendly casualties are light.

9th Infantry Division — Operation Colby, which began Jan. 20, has been terminated. The reinforced brigade-sized search and destroy operation resulted in 14 enemy killed. Ten tons of rice were found and 18 bunkers and 18 mines destroyed in the operation which occurred in Bien Hoa and Long Khanh Provinces. Friendly casualties during the operation were light.

II Field Force Vietnam — Army helicopters on Firefly missions killed 44 enemy in open areas in Long An Province during a recent strike. The helicopters also destroyed 33 sampans. Several of the craft landed and two military radios, one outboard motor, and one medical kit were captured. There were no friendly casualties.

Charlie Lost, Rice Found

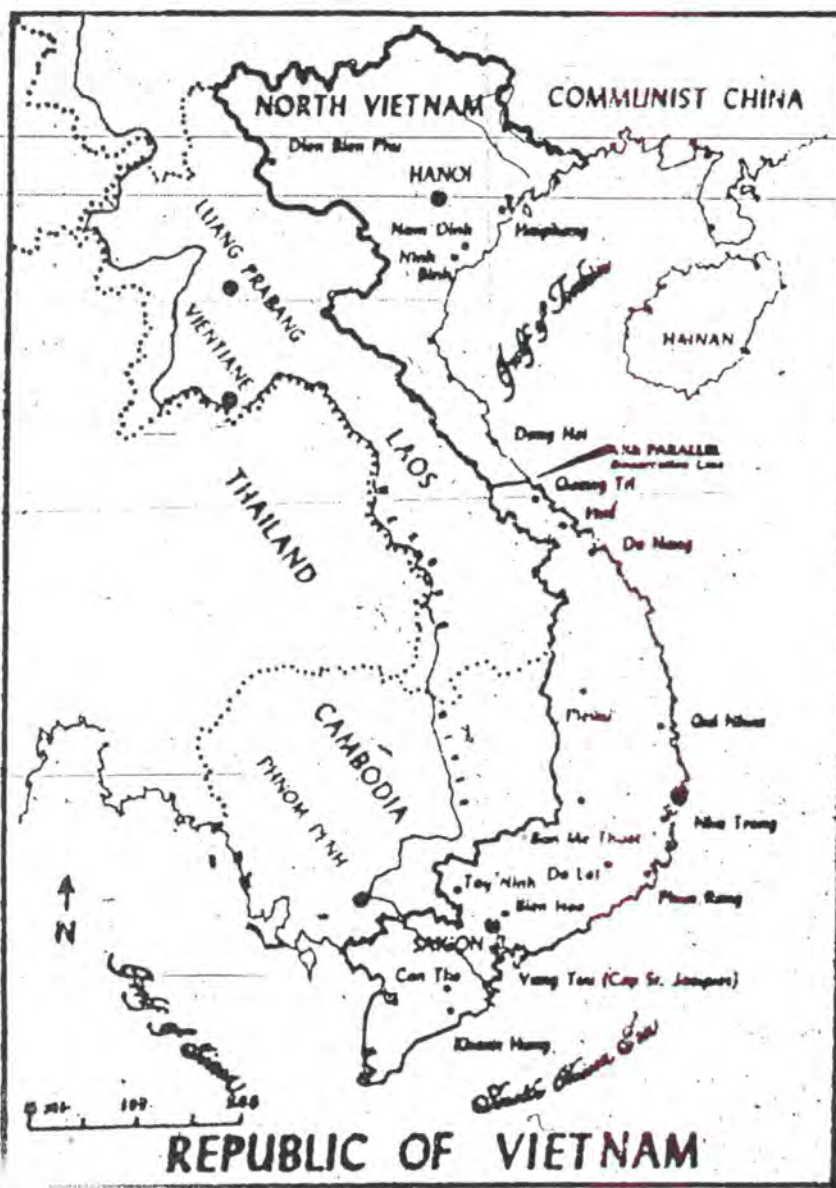
PLEI DJERENG, (4th INF-10) — They lost sight of the enemy but found 32 tons of rice.

B Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, was on a search and clear operation when the 1st platoon spotted two pajama-clad Viet Cong. The cavalry men fired on the pair but they got away.

Their trail was followed by the lead scout who later lost sight of the enemy. Instead he sighted three small huts; inside were 1000 pounds of recently harvested rice.

A four-day search within a two-square mile area by the unit netted 32 tons of rice.

Thirty tons of the grain were distributed to the Than-An district and the remaining two tons were given to the division's G-5 relief action section.



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The patrol quickly called for illuminating mortar rounds to be fired. "It was too dark to see very much, even with the flares," said McVey. "We did find two blood trails and one hand grenade."

'Seahorse' Packs A Wallop

NHA TRANG, (1st AVN-10)—While flying a normal visual reconnaissance mission recently a "Seahorse" from the 223rd Combat Aviation Battalion's 183rd Aviation Company sighted 15 new foxholes and automatic weapons position 35 miles southwest of Ban Me Thuot.

Desiring a closer look, Lt. Marvin E. Michiner circled and made a low pass over the location. During his pass the VC opened up with automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire.

The aviator called for an airstrike as the target was out of artillery range, but the weather was too bad for fighter aircraft.

Making another pass over the positions and carefully observing out the rear of his aircraft, Michiner noticed the VC were using trap doors to conceal their locations and, after firing, closed the door thus camouflaging their positions. The small surveillance aircraft had surprised the enemy during the construction of his new positions.

With no artillery or tactical aircraft available and a lucrative target at hand, the "Seahorse" put his O-1E Bird Dog into a rocket run and released his white phosphorous marking rockets on Charlie's trap doors. The observer in the aircraft poured M-16 small arms fire into the area between rocket runs to keep the enemy's head down.

Pass after pass was made until the ammunition was expended. Only when the area was ablaze and the positions raked with small arms fire did the two "Seahorses" depart from the area.

As one wag reflected later "They threw everything they had at Charlie. If those "Seahorses" wore horse shoes I'll bet they'd have thrown them too."



WOUNDED ENEMY—A wounded Viet Cong is led toward a resoldier and a 25th Infantry Division lieutenant. The enemy so the Iron Triangle during Operation Cedar Falls. (Photo)

Ben Suc Taken By 1st Inf

PHUOC VINH, (1st INF-10)—During Operation Cedar Falls, the Iron Triangle village of Ben Suc was taken by the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, at a loss to the Viet Cong of 50 men, 71,000 tons of rice, 130 pounds of salt, and 6800 uniforms.

In addition to the losses suffered by the enemy, the battalion was responsible for the resettlement of around 6000 persons from Ben Suc and the surrounding area. Ben Suc is about 30 miles north of Saigon.

In taking the village, 60 helicopters carrying the men of the battalion swooped in and surrounded the village, cutting off all avenues of escape. Viet Cong which had started to flee were observed running back into the village to seek hiding places.

A search of the hamlet yielded numerous bunkers and tunnels. Three days were required to search and destroy them all. The rice, salt, and clothing were discovered in the tunnels, along with ammunition, grenades, weapons, and claymore mines.

Captain James McKnight, carefully searching one of the tunnels said, "From the moment I en-

tered the tunnel, I took care to check for booby-traps. The tunnel floor was hard and smooth, except in this one area. Here I found loose dirt. I ran my hands

Alert Guard Saves Unit

DAU TIENG, (4th INF-10) — The alertness of a man on guard duty saved other members of his unit from injury and possible death during a recent mortar attack at the 4th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade base camp.

Private Ronald C. McAtee of Headquarters and Service Battery, 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery, was on guard when, early in the morning, he heard explosions in his unit's area.

Immediately realizing that the explosions were made by incoming mortar shells, he began awakening personnel in the area and warning them of the attack. At one point a mortar exploded at the rear of a tent he was approaching and the concussion knocked him down. He was quickly back on his feet, however, and continued alerting personnel until everyone was awake.

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club will be followed shortly by clubs at Di An and Cu Chi, as well as eight more clubs planned and scheduled for opening by June 1967.

The buildings, ranging from Cu Chi's elaborate example of field-expedient "modern" architecture to more modest designs, will provide a wide variety of services—all free of charge—to help create a "Home Away From Home" for American servicemen in Vietnam.

a time was able to cross because of the weight involved, and this added to the task of providing security for the extended vehicles and traffic control at the river crossing.

The terrain also caused some minor problems to the MPs as the long uphill roads forced the heavy trucks to increase their intervals.

Shortly after clearing the city of Nha Trang, the convoy, which resembled a giant reptile from the air, proceeded along coastal

ed from Nin Hoa to Nha Trang with no damage to the soldiers or vehicles.

Rain set in as darkness approached and the final 10 miles of the homeward-bound trip was slowed due to a hazardous mountainous pass outside of Nha Trang.

WO Builds Miniature Chopper

BIEN HOA, (1st AVN-10)—The motto of the 571st Transportation Detachment here is "We Fix Broke Helicopter."

Lately, however, one member of the 571st, maintenance technician CWO Richard D. MacDonald, expanded this motto into one of his own: "We Build Helicopters . . . Out of Matchsticks!"

For the past five months, MacDonald has methodically and meticulously assembled the Army's latest armed Huey—the new UH-1C with the Minigun weapons subsystem—out of used wooden matchsticks.

MacDonald says that by the time he is completely through with the model he will have used 25 boxes of kitchen matches, each box containing 50 to 60 matches. The Huey was assembled from the skids up, with the basic body, floor, roof, mast, rotors, and tail boom constructed to a scale MacDonald decided on after consulting technical publications on the aircraft.

Except for the armor plating for the pilot's seats and the tailpipe—which are made of matchboxes—the plexiglass windshield and chin bubbles, aluminum foil ammunition chutes, and the Miniguns—which are straight pins with plastic pillbox tops for barrel spacers and attachments—the entire body, blades, and control linkages of the armed chopper are matchsticks.

MacDonald's next plans call for a detailed model of a dream home, constructed with the help of his wife, which they plan to construct "full size" sometime in the future.



COMBINED SUPPORT—A tank from the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, and a UH-1D helicopter from the 118th Aviation Company, symbolize the combined support being given to infantrymen of the 25th Infantry Division as they engage the enemy in Operation Cedar Falls. (Photo by PFC Vern Shidla, 25th INF-10)

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RELOCATION—American and Vietnamese soldiers assist Ben Suc villagers in loading their possessions aboard a CH-47 Chinook during Operation Cedar Falls. The entire village was relocated to a new-life hamlet. (Photo by Sp5 Todd Darch, 25th INF-IO)

Trans Det Supports CH-47 Co

PLEIKU, (1st AVN-IO) — It is hot, cold, wet, and dry in the central highlands of Vietnam.

Some say the weather depends on the day of the week, but just as nothing can hinder the mailman from completing his job, the same can be said for the men of the 402nd Transportation Detachment as they go about their task of maintaining the CH-47 Chinooks of the 179th Assault Support Helicopter Company.

As a result of the outstanding maintenance support being received from the 402nd, the 179th has been able to amass a total of flying hours that has surpassed all expectations since their arrival in Vietnam.

Keeping the Chinook helicopter airworthy is the responsibility of the 402nd. The maintenance platoon, under the supervision of SFC Leroy Smith, toils constantly with the knowledge that all duties performed on the flightline will bear tremendous effect on the Chinooks ability to perform their missions under combat conditions.

The men under Smith's command perform every task on the Chinook from cleaning the windshield to completely replacing its massive transmissions.

VC Get Stung By 11th Avn

PHU LOI, (1st AVN-IO)—A fire team of the 116th Assault Helicopter Company Hornets recently invaded VC-infested Delta territory and gave the enemy an unpleasant taste of their stingers. As part of a commitment of the 11th Combat Aviation Battalion, they were working with the 13th (Delta) Combat Aviation Battalion in support of Vietnamese airborne units operating in the IV Corps area.

Major James Mew, Capt. Douglas Sterret, and WO James Jackson led the team through three days to cover the Hornets' lift of 2161 troops. In the process, they killed 25 VC, by body count, destroyed five structures and 12 sampans.

Two Close Brushes With Death Enough

TAY NINH, (196th INF-IO) — Sergeant George C. Edsell must be living right.

Twice he has been in the jaws of death and has emerged practically unscathed. The first time, he was with his unit, Troop F, 17th Cavalry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade, on a reconnaissance mission near the base of the Black Virgin mountain near Tay Ninh.

As Edsell's scout jeep moved along a dirt road close to the mountain, automatic fire poured in on the patrol. One round smashed into the sergeant's M-16 rifle, spraying fragments and wounding him slightly.

New Shield For 228th

AN KHE, (1st CAV-IO)—The 228th Aviation Battalion has recently been issued its official shield by the Army Institute of Heraldry.

The shield depicts a Pegasus, the mythological Winged Horse of Greece, set amid four stars on a field of azure blue with the battalion motto, "Winged Warriors" inscribed on scroll sheeting beneath.

The Pegasus is a symbol of the strength and stamina of the 228th which has the distinction of being the pioneer Chinook helicopter battalion in the United States Army.

Since their arrival 18 months ago, the Winged Warriors of the 228th have hauled more than a quarter of a million passengers, nearly 300,000 tons of cargo, and retrieved more than 400 downed aircraft.

Award To Engr

QUI NHON, (USAECV-IO) — Major Harry C. Goodson III is the first man to receive the Tudor Award for academic achievement in military engineering.

Goodson is operations officer of the 19th Engineer Battalion (Combat) 45th Engineer Group, near here.

Beginning this year, the Tudor Award will be presented annually to the honor graduate of the Engineer Officer Career Course who attains the highest grade average during the year.

Major Goodson attained a grade of 96.66 during the second career course, which began in October, 1965 and ended in May, 1966.

Luck, or whatever, stepped in again for Edsell during the Operation Cedar Falls. This time, a Troop F platoon was guarding a culvert that had been blown up by the VC twice a month for the past year.

Crawling close to the platoon's position, a VC threw several grenades into the perimeter. One of the grenades landed a few feet in front of Edsell, wounding two men.

Specialist Four Robert J. Gardner heard the grenade hit and threw the sergeant to the ground. Fragments whistled near the sergeant's head, but his steel helmet lying a foot from his head stopped the deadly shrapnel. Edsell later mused, "If it wasn't for this steel pot and Gardner's quick reaction, I could have been killed."

Looking at his chewed up steel pot, he considers himself one of the luckiest men in the brigade.

second platoon of Company A, 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry Black Lions may or may not hold the record for rice caches found, but they still stand out in the top few units that are cutting off the Viet Cong's vital food supply.

The Black Lions have located the majority of rice caches in the Iron Triangle, during the

Aircraft Spot VC

AN KHE, (1st CAV-IO) — To fight the enemy, you must first find him. In the war in Vietnam this is often the hardest part of the battle.

One means of finding the enemy for the 1st Cavalry Division is the Aerial Surveillance Target Acquisition (ASTA) Platoon which uses Mohawk and Bird Dog airplanes equipped with the latest technical apparatus to scout out enemy camps and troop concentrations.

The platoon has a total of eight aircraft which fly both day and night reconnaissance missions wherever the division is operating.

Flying the observation planes is not without danger. "The visual flights are made as close to the deck as necessary," said Maj. Loren W. Webb, commander of the ASTA. Thus, the planes are within the reach of enemy guns. The planes have been hit 17 times by enemy fire in the Crow's Foot area west of Bong Son.

If enemy activities are discovered by the ASTA platoon, the photographs and reports are evaluated by division intelligence personnel who then advise what steps should be taken to eliminate the enemy.

harvest this season in VC-controlled areas such as the Iron Triangle, the heavily terrorized.

As Big Red cleared the strategic area outside the zone of influence, the VC rapidly being reorganized support is falling away and returning control under open-arms program.

The Black Lions moved into the area after having spent a month in the rice storage area of the base camp they viciously, and so Medical supplies, clothing were in tin can, buried.

Soon, the platoon first of a series of shacks, then another. For a while, it was humorous, port seemed to.

Several well-used cart tracks were more rice bags. Some of the would move along a road, trail, and find.

The list of rice tonnage grew. Linsley R. Moore, leader, counted weighing 100-pound Steven I. with PFC James Jake Umlauf, hooches which rice. Sergeant L. another 398 bags.

As evening companies moved to a new location. 84 tons of rice destroyed or evacuated.

New Da Nang Sub-Area Command Stretches 1st Log's Supply Reach

DA NANG (1st LOG-IO)—With the inception of its newest supply facility, the Da Nang Sub-Area Command, the massive support complex of the 1st Logistical

Command has now officially spread its supply arms to encompass Army troops in every part of South Vietnam.

The new sub-area, commanded

by Col. Reuben, is presently small in size but has the responsibility of logistical support for troops in the I Corps northern part of Vietnam.

The new sub-area is the most unusual in all of the Logistical Command's operations. It is a support command for the 1st Logistical Command, which is responsible for the transportation of the supplies necessary to support the fighting troops.

Because of this unit obtains supplies from the Navy and Air Force, supplies which are sent out to Army and Marine units by the 1st Logistical Command.

The Da Nang Sub-Area is composed of Army units: the 1st Logistical Company and the 580th Company (General). They are supported by the 7th Quartermaster Battalion, 546th Signal Battalion, 572nd Ordnance Battalion, 604th Engineer Battalion and the 527th Petroleum Battalion.



HELLO, THIS IS MARS CALLING — Private First Class Harold E. Wood (left), of the 1st Infantry Division's Engineer Battalion makes the first Stateside call from the new MARS facility at the Big Red One. Monitoring the set is Sp4 Rolland F. Clark of the 121st Signal Battalion. (Photo by 1st INF-IO)