



UN—A member of the 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, quick dash after coming under sniper fire. The action took place at a in the Ho Bo Woods during an operation 40 miles northwest of Saigon. (Photo by Sp4 Joe Carey, 25th INF-IO)



1 Long Binh, Vietnam January 6, 1968

S, Aussies In Santa Fe

Operation Clears Highways

BASE WILDCAT — Vietnamese citizens using the highway ship their goods Saigon as Operation swings into its

November in Long Khanh, Binh Tuy and Phuoc Tuy Provinces. Originally, elements of the 9th Infantry Division, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, 18th Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) Division, 1st Australian Task Force, and 5th Special Forces Group participated in the actions.

The operation began with an airborne assault on this location

tion by the 9th Division's 1st Brigade.

While the 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry secured an aerial beachhead, other allied units moved overland into positions designed to box in a large area (Continued on Back Page)

resident

mer Gets DSM

HI BAY, (USARV—President Lyndon B. Johnson presented the Distinguished Service Medal to Lt. Palmer Jr. here

forget the tremendous and Ambassador Bunker did during the Republic crisis.

This is why you are both here in Vietnam today," the President said.

Palmer is the deputy commander, U.S. Army, Vietnam (USARV). Bunker now is U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam.

The two were among several top American leaders in Vietnam to receive awards and expressions of thanks from the President during his brief visit here.

This is Palmer's third Distinguished Service Medal, the military's highest service award.

Palmer arrived in Vietnam last March and commanded the II Field Force before moving up in May to become deputy commander of USARV, now headquartered at the Long Binh complex northeast of Saigon.

Deploying in 1965 with the XVIII Airborne Corps Headquarters, he commanded all U.S. forces in the Dominican Republic from May 1, 1965, until mid-January, 1966, and was the first commander and later deputy commander of the Inter-American Peace Force there.

Juiced Enemy Sleeps While Comrades Fight

CHU LAI, (101st ABN)—Paratroopers of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne came upon a languid scene west of here recently.

When pointman Sp4 Eugene Rhoton reached a clearing he found six North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers slumbering in their hammocks. Their weapons and rucksacks lay nearby.

The information was relayed to the platoon leader, 1st Lt. Jack Rogers, by PFC William Austin.

Rogers directed the men to move cautiously in hope of capturing the six soldiers but a twig snapped and alerted the enemy.

Five of the NVA soldiers fought the folds of their mosquito nets and reached for their weapons. Rhoton and Austin sprayed the area with their M16s, killing the five.

"The sixth guy didn't even move in his hammock," said Austin. "When we got to him we found out why."

The unharmed North Vietnamese was unresponsive. An empty liquor bottle lay on his rucksack. "Boy!" exclaimed Rhoton.

Joint Operation In Mekong Delta

CAN THO, (1st AVN-IO)—Army aviation helped Vietnamese and United States forces take a big step forward when they recently staged an operation together in the Mekong Delta.

Operation Coronado IX was composed of elements of the Vietnamese 7th, 9th, and 21st Infantry Divisions, plus the 1st and 3rd Brigades of the U.S. 9th Infantry Division. Supported by the 13th Combat Aviation Battalion, which provided troop transport and armed helicopter support, the ground forces were able to inflict heavy losses on the enemy in Dinh Tuong Province.

The operation was staged at Vinh Long. The landing zones were pounded by Air Force F100 jets for 10 minutes before the lift to insure a safe landing for helicopters and ground troops.

There were no helicopters downed by enemy gunfire, but a med-evac chopper from the 82nd Medical Detachment had to abort his mission because of heavy ground fire.

The second day of Operation Coronado IX was again staged at Vinh Long and ground troops were airlifted into the combat area at 7 a.m. Again the landing zone was pounded by the Air Force jets, but this time the enemy was dug in deep.

The first wave of helicopters was met by heavy automatic weapons and mortar fire. Ground troops were pinned down in the landing zone for the entire day.

On the seventh day of Operation Coronado IX 7th Vietnamese Infantry Division intelligence received word that the Viet Cong were planning to attack an outpost in the operational area. Three gunships from the 336th Assault Helicopter Company were called in to help defend the outpost when it was attacked late that night. They provided support to the besieged outpost and drove off the VC. When the Viet Cong retreated, they left behind 11 dead soldiers and eight destroyed sampans.

"The purpose of this whole joint operation is to rid the Dinh Tuong Province of a long-time enemy sanctuary," said Lt. Col. Charles Hutchins, 13th Avn. Bn. operations officer.

Platoon Destroys Sampans

DAU TIENG, (25th INF-IO)—Eight Viet Cong sampans, three of them equipped with outboard motors, were destroyed recently by elements of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

While patrolling along a stream near the Saigon River south of here, the 4th platoon of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 33rd Infantry discovered the sampans, two of which were in a boathouse repair shop.

The patrol, led by 2nd Lt. John W. Erby, had been searching for Viet Cong who might be slipping in or out of the nearby village of Ben Chua. The village had been surrounded by the 3rd Bn., 22nd Inf. the day before.

"With all of the fresh footprints along the stream bank and the provisions on board, I'd definitely say that the sampans had been used the day before," commented Erby.

Fifteen gallons of gasoline, a gallon of oil, and numerous tools were also found in the boathouse. The outboard motors and tools were airlifted back to Dau Tieng, and the sampans were destroyed.



STEADY—Careful aiming by this member of the Americal Division's 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry claimed a fleeing North Vietnamese Army soldier during Operation Wheeler/Wallowa north of Tam Ky.

(Photo by Sp4 Bob Towle, AMERICAL-IO)



Bruce Palmer Jr.

Arty Battalion Aids 1st Div Infantrymen By Killing 30 Cong

LA KHE, (1st INF-10)—Credited with killing at least 30 Viet Cong in support of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, were elements of the 6th Battalion, 15th Artillery, operating southwest of An Loc.

The 1st Infantry Division artillerymen had just started to set up their night defensive position (NDP) when called on to fire a contact mission in support of the infantrymen.

"It was one of the quickest reactions I've ever seen," commented 1st Lt. Jack C. Collins. "Within seconds after the mission was called in, the rounds were on their way out."

"When the mission was first called, the hostile mortars were coming in as fast as our artillery was going out," said Sp4 David Dinkins.

A few nights later, Charlie

launched a massive ground attack with the hopes of overrunning the battery's position. "It was sometime after midnight when they hit us with small arms and automatic fire," reported PFC Stanley C. Hudzinski.

The enemy received such a heavy volume of fire from the Americans that their attack force had to split in two.

Suffering heavy casualties, the enemy pulled back, regrouped, and moved in for a second try. This time they were greeted with direct fire from the artillery.

"I guess they got the hint that they were an unwelcome company," remarked Sp4 Robert Roberson, "because when they pulled out this time they didn't come back."



CHARLIE'S DINNER—The enemy will go hungry tonight as the result of a recent search and destroy operation north of Duc Pho. A trooper from the Americal Division's 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry takes a sack of rice from a Viet Cong village.

(Photo by Capt. Jerry Harkavy, AMERICAL-10)

VC Squad Surprised, 3 Killed

PHAN RANG, (101st ABN-10)—Three Viet Cong were killed by a paratrooper of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division as a squad of Viet Cong were sur-

prised around a camp site southwest of here during Operation Klamath Falls.

Sergeant Phillip M. Vernon was atop a ridge scanning the area below when he saw smoke in a nearby draw.

Quickly he summoned Sgt. Andrew Rivera, and notified the platoon leader, 1st Lt. James A. Schlax.

Schlax directed Vernon and his squad to check it out. Rivera's fire team led the way. Quickly and silently the paratroopers moved down into the draw. PFC Neil B. Tibbets was on point.

One hundred yards from the smoke, Rivera took over as point man. Huge rocks hindered the squad's movements.

"I found a passage through the rocks big enough for one man," said Rivera. "As I stooped to crawl through, I smelled food cooking."

One by one the paratroopers moved through the small opening. Rivera and Vernon silently climbed to the top of a ledge and spotted a camp fire, but no VC were in sight.

"I moved to a large boulder on my right, peeked over the edge and 25 feet below me were three camp fires," said Rivera. "Twelve VC were sitting around the fires eating rice."

Suddenly one of the enemy stood and walked away.

"He tripped and fell," said Rivera. "The others laughed, but as he got up, he stared right up at me. I had to open up."

As Rivera downed the VC with his M16 rifle, the other enemy fled, leaving their weapons and food. Quickly the paratrooper hurled grenades into the positions, killing a second enemy.

The paratrooper squad advanced, but received enemy fire from the left. As suddenly as it

started, it stopped.

The Screaming Eagles moved into the camp, but the two dead VC had been dragged away during the burst of fire covering the enemy's retreat.

Rivera advanced beyond the clearing and climbed a nearby boulder. Hearing a noise beyond and below him, he moved on. Suddenly a figure darted from a cave. The enemy fell as Rivera fired.

In the cave, medical supplies and journals were discovered. Back at the camp site, other squad members found seven carbines, one Mauser rifle, a French rifle, rice and other foodstuffs.

Trooper Fights Off Buffaloes

CU CHI, (25th INF-10)—A 25th Division soldier stalking Viet Cong through the rice paddies of Ban Nghia Province found himself locked in battle with two angry water buffaloes.

Specialist Four Kenneth R. Hardy, a member of the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Wolfhounds, had been moving with his company in search of a Viet Cong squad that had been spotted from the air.

As he crossed a large paddy, the 2nd Brigade soldier noticed two nervous water buffalo heading his way.

"They seemed to be drawing a bead on me," Hardy recalled. "I was wondering what they were going to do, when one of them charged."

A bit of quick footwork got him out of the way of the first, but what he failed to notice was that the second beast was in hot pursuit.

"I guess the first was just running interference," Hardy said. "I thought about firing, but there were too many people around and I figured I'd give our position away."

The buffalo hit the Wolfhound in the legs, throwing him into the air.

The animal broke off the attack. Hardy limped along with the company for another mile, when the unit engaged in a brief firefight which netted one enemy killed.

"First the water buffaloes, I still can't figure out why they picked me out of my whole platoon, and then the march and the fight. It was a long day."

Vietnam Communique

Christmas Truce Violations—During the Free World Forces' 24-hour Christmas truce, 110 enemy incidents were reported. Forty of these violations were reported as major incidents. Two U.S. soldiers were killed and 24 wounded during the 24-hour period.

1st Cavalry Division—The battle at Tam Quan, seven miles northeast of An Khe, accounted for seven enemy killed and raised the total number of enemy killed to 618 during two weeks of action. ARVN infantry units have been credited with killing 273 enemy. Elements of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry were conducting a search and destroy operation near the village one day when they began receiving heavy fire from four enemy locations. As the enemy fire grew in intensity, the infantrymen called in artillery and airstrikes on the enemy positions. The heavy support continued all day and at dusk the enemy broke contact. Since Operation Pershing began last February, over 4900 enemy have been killed.

25th Infantry Division—Operation Yellowstone forces of the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry killed 40 VC after the enemy had attacked the battalion's camp. The attack began with more than 200 rounds of mortar and 50 rounds of RPG rocket grenade fire. After the first attack, an estimated two battalions of enemy forces started a ground assault and smashed into the perimeter. Heavy hand-to-hand combat was reported on the defensive perimeter. U.S. casualties were three killed and 11 wounded.

Americal Division—The 4300-man 11th Infantry Brigade arrived in-country to join the division in southern I Corps Tactical Zone. There are three maneuver battalions, one artillery battalion and combat service support units in the brigade. Units of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, killed 45 enemy in one day's action. Gunships of the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry used searchlights to spot 25 enemy sampans along the Truong Giang River. The choppers sunk all 25 sampans

and killed one enemy soldier.

199th Light Infantry Brigade—The brigade initiated Operation Manchester and killed 11 enemy during the first day's contacts. As the operation continued, two platoons of the 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry made heavy contact with the enemy in dug-in and well fortified positions. For two days the infantrymen fought in Bien Hoa Province. An ARVN Marine battalion and two more U.S. battalions were also called into the battle. The sweeping infantrymen found 111 enemy bodies and numerous weapons.

Free World Forces—An estimated VC battalion-size force attempted to overrun a company patrol camp of the Royal Thai Volunteer Regiment in Bien Hoa Province. The fight began when the enemy launched a three-sided attack. The Queen's Cobras returned fire from fortified positions, and at one point engaged the enemy in hand-to-hand combat. After four hours, enemy force broke contact until just before dawn when the fighting began again. Fifty-four VC were killed in the fierce fight.



Bn Builds 14 Bridges

TAN AN, (9th INF-10)—During the first nine months of Operation Enterprise, 14 bridges serving five districts in Long An Province have been built by the 15th Engineer Battalion. One of them, a 1,700-foot-long span, is one of the largest single strand Bailey bridges built by U.S. Army Engineers in Vietnam.

The bridges range from 24 to 310 feet and in weight class from 16 to 60 tons. The three types of bridges erected, some with Vietnamese assistance, are the eifel, bailey, and timber trestle.

Braving Enemy Fire

Chaplain Helps 4th

LAI KHE, (1st INF-10)—A chaplain with the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry demonstrated recently that the infantryman is not the only one who can display valor in battle.

Students Writing To MPs

LONG BINH, (18th MP-10)—It all started when a soldier wrote "Dear Abby" requesting mail for himself and his buddies. The letter was printed in "Abby's" syndicated column and brought a flood of 20,000 letters to Vietnam.

The letters were distributed to various units in Vietnam; seventy from elementary school children in Kentucky and Tennessee came to the 18th Military Police Brigade's 720th Military Police Battalion.

The MPs wrote back, thus beginning a lively correspondence.

It is little wonder that the MPs enjoy hearing from the children, for their letters are full of the sincerity and curiosity of the very young.

Expressing his concern that his soldier pen pal return home safely, a nine-year-old boy added with simple bluntness, "so don't go and get yourself shot."

Another, after first informing her pen pal that she attends the "Prepetary Church," asked, "Do you have any medals or purple crosses?"

Parents underwent a studied evaluation in their children's letters. One wrote, "My father is six ft. tall and he works in a factory. He is a nice guy." But frequently parents were not given their due. For example, this implied comparison between parents and pet: "Besides me there is my father, my mother and a dog in our family. I like my dog."

Another wrote, "There are four people in our family and two parents."

Chaplain John D. Talley repeatedly exposed himself to intense enemy fire, risking his life to aid the wounded, in a battle between 1st Inf. Div. soldiers and elements of the 271st Viet Cong Regiment near Loc Ninh.

Talley, who was moving with Company C, said the infantrymen were checking an abandoned house after receiving sniper fire in the area, "when everything opened up."

The soldiers were receiving heavy fire from all sides, and the chaplain was pinned down for some time. He braved the fire to help set up an aid station.

"We heard men yelling for medics, so we sent the medic out and he brought the wounded back to the clearing," Talley said, "and then we began to administer first aid."

Having established the aid station and personally treating a number of casualties, the chaplain moved through heavy fire to check Company D on the other flank. As soon as he arrived he began escorting the walking wounded back to a secure area.

"I escorted some over and others were carried out on litters."

Returning to Co C's aid station, Talley helped the wounded withdraw to a helicopter landing zone where they could be evacuated. He remained on the battlefield until the last casualty had been evacuated.

Civic Action Program Winning Dak To Area

DAK TO, (4th INF-10)—"We've gotten to know the people and they are now starting to come to us," said Maj. Michael Umhoefer, S-5, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

This statement represents the initial step of any program which has as its goal the winning of the confidence of the South Vietnamese people.

While the vast majority of attention has been directed to combat operations in the Dak To area, the civil affairs activities

have also moved along victoriously.

From the beginning of the battle, one and two-truck convoys have traveled the hazardous roads, taking civil affairs team, food, milk, and building materials to needy villagers in the area.

In less than a month, S-5 channels have distributed 1180 gallons and 3600 pounds of food to schools, hospitals, and orphanages.



CONCEALMENT—A member of the 9th Infantry Division's 4th Battalion, 47th Infantry crouches low in a vast plain of elephant grass as he watches for signs of enemy activity. The 2nd Brigade soldier had just been deposited by a helicopter mission as part of Operation Coronado IX in the Mekong River Delta.

(Photo by Sp4 Don Cordi, 9th INF-10)

Well-Worn Trail End Of Line For VC Pltn Leader, 6 Men

CU CHI, (25th INF-10)—A well-worn trail deep in War Zone C recently led to the end of the line for a Viet Cong platoon leader and six of his men.

Company B, 4th Battalion, 9th

Infantry discovered the six-foot wide footpath in dense jungle near the Cambodian border. The unit was on a search and destroy mission as part of the 25th Division's Operation Yellowstone.

Because of the fast-approaching dusk, Capt. Alfred W. Baker, company commander, postponed a detailed search of the area until the next day, when his men were reinforced by Company C.

The two companies moved out at dawn. Intelligence reports indicated the presence of several hard-core VC and North Vietnamese elements in the general area.

About 550 yards from the perimeter, the whole world seemed to explode. Company C had made contact with the perimeter of a platoon-sized VC base camp. For 15 minutes the fire fight continued.

Co. B joined the battle on Co. C's left flank. Together the two companies silenced the enemy.

Through the dust and smoke, the VC were seen dragging nine

or ten comrades into the brush. Seven bodies were left behind, among them was a soldier identified by documents found in his wallet as a lieutenant, a member of the Communist party for 20 years.

The hard-won victory followed by only two days Co. A's discovery of 440 tons of rice in the same area.

Pizza Is Made Of C-Ration

DAU TIENG, (25th INF-10)—The men of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Division have discovered a new taste treat, from C-rations — "pizza."

Captain Samuel R. Noto, an Italian-American, learned the recipe from a helicopter pilot during one of the search and destroy operations of the 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry. Since then "Noto's Pizzeria" has been going full blast.

The recipe requires one can of spiced beef, one of C-ration bread roll, one can of cheese, and hot sauce, if available.

You open the beef and bread cans, leaving the tops attached, add the hot sauce to the beef, and then empty the contents. Cut the bread into four equal slices and put one slice each into the beef and bread cans. Then spread half the beef on both slices. Put the other two slices of bread on top and add the remaining beef. This should make a double layer of bread and beef in each can. Then top off each pizza with half a can of cheese.

To heat, you first close the lids on the cans, and then put them into a C-ration box. Close the box and light with a match. When the box has burned out, presto!, the pizza is ready. This novel way of heating the pizza works every time.

As Capt. Noto remarked, "Mamma Leone's it isn't," but it is a new way for foxhole chefs to change their Cs into a gastronomic treat fit for the most discriminating gourmet.

Braille Letter Written By 9 Blind Scouts

EDITOR'S NOTE: Among the many letters received at the U.S. Army, Vietnam, Information Office, one that deserves special mention was addressed "To a Vietnam Soldier."

It was written in Braille by nine girl scouts, all blind, from Senior Scout Troop 123 of the Indiana School for the Blind, Indianapolis.

The letter was written with an adult help. Portions of the letter appear below.

To a Vietnam Soldier:

We are the Girl Scouts of Troop 123, and we attend the Indiana School for the Blind.

We are proud that you are fighting for our country.

Our troop ranges from grades seven through ten. Since you are working hard for us, we want to work to become better scouts and make America a more peaceful nation.

My God bless and keep you.

With love,

Troop 123

Indiana School for the Blind

Indianapolis, Ind. 46240



INCOMING—Crouched behind a paddy dike, a radio-telephone operator keeps a watchful eye out for the enemy as he reports sniper fire on the men of the Americal Division's 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry near Duc Pho.

(Photo by Sp4 Don Cordi, 9th INF-10)

Editorial

Challenge Of Life

Beginning a New Year traditionally calls for a review of achievements of the year just past and personal resolve for improvement as an individual. It is, in a manner of speaking, an acceptance of the challenge of life.

In 1968, there is a personal challenge facing all adult Americans and it is particularly significant to the men and women in uniform who serve as living proof of the United States' commitment to freedom throughout the world.

What sort of challenge is it? One of decision, the exercise of your right to express your choice by ballot. We have a presidential election in the year ahead. And we must vote for leaders in government at all levels from the township to the nation's Congress.

Already the issues are taking shape. Government in the U.S. accounts for approximately 20 percent of our gross national product through its expenditures for goods and services. It is a fantastic sum amounting to well over \$100 billion. The fiscal and monetary policies of the Federal government are directly related to the course of the national economy and to the tax burden each citizen shares.

National programs designed to further the well-being of all Americans certainly will be the subject of much discussion during the coming campaign as will our foreign policies throughout the world and the commitments resulting from the decisions of the executive and legislative branches of our government.

Throughout the months ahead, the two major political parties and their candidates will place their cases before the American people, seeking to persuade them that one party or the other is better equipped to lead the nation.

Most every man and woman who wears our country's uniform will have a chance to vote in that election. (At the close of 1967, there were more than 3 million Americans in the Armed Forces, most of whom have the right to vote.)

Thus, we need a sound resolution for the year 1968. It may be simply stated, but it is of tremendous importance. It is: Resolved, that in the year 1968, I will try my best to be informed on the issues important to our coming elections and, having acquired what knowledge I can, will, vote. (MACV)

Pass In Review:

Awards And Decorations

Two Radio Operators Receive Distinguished Service Crosses

LONG BINH, (USARV-10)—Two radio operators, one with the 101st Airborne Division and the other with the Americal Division, recently received the Distinguished Service Cross.

Private First Class Jerry A. Cain, a member of the 101st's 2nd Battalion, 329th Artillery, was serving as the radio operator with an artillery forward observer team deep in hostile territory.

Early in the morning, Cain's unit engaged with a large enemy force dug into the ruins of a fortified village.

Cain braved savage mortar, recoilless rifle and machinegun fire to relay artillery adjustments sent by the forward observer. He received a serious head wound in a barrage but ignored his injury and assumed the responsibility of directing the strikes when the observer was hit.

Cain called for supporting gunships and moved into the open to direct strafing runs on the enemy as the fire fight intensified. He momentarily left his radio when he was overcome by his wounds, but quickly Cain returned to bring fire closer to his positions.

Despite repeated assaults on his position, Cain fought and inspired his men to defeat a numerically superior Viet Cong force.

Specialist Four Richard A. Green was serving as a radio operator with an infantry platoon of Company C, 4th Battalion 31st Infantry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade.

On a village pacification mission with the Americal Division's unit, Green's platoon was attacked by a numerically superior VC force near An Loc.

He was seriously wounded by an enemy grenade, but Green refused aid and fought on against the determined enemy. Green realized that the intense enemy fire was preventing his men from reaching the radio and he moved into the open to call for air strikes and reinforcements.

Green remained in the open to direct gunships and artillery on the advancing enemy and guide the straggling runs using a burning hut as a reference point.

Exposing himself to the Viet Cong fire, Green informed his commander of the rapidly changing situation and brought air strikes closer to his lines.

Green refused to take cover and stayed on the radio until the VC were defeated after suffering heavy casualties.

Distinguished Service Cross
Maj. George Marecek
Capt. Chester Garrett
1st Lt. John Kizirian

Silver Star
SFC Johnnie B. Gilreath
SFC Paul X. Michaud
Sgt. Derby F. Jones
Capt. Jules J. Bonavolonta
Capt. Robert J. Orms
SSgt. Joseph A. Plourde

Distinguished Flying Cross
CWO Edgar B. Kudlich
WO Stephen M. Papper
Soldier's Medal
1st Lt. Siegfried S. Cropper
Sgt. Douglas A. Peacock

Bronze Star With "V"
SFC Gilbert L. Hamilton
MSgt. Howard Mason
Sgt. Robert L. Perkins
SSgt. William B. Gleson
SSgt. Grant F. Cleverly
SFC Charles F. Wilkow
SFC Thomas W. Rush
SFC Gerald Wareing
1st Lt. Ruben M. Garcia
SSgt. Wesley Morganfield
Sgt. Richard E. Jenkins
SFC Heyward L. Bourk Sr.
1st Lt. Gilbert K. Jenkins
MSgt. Wendell K. Enos
SFC Harold J. Adams
Army Commendation With "V"
SFC Ronald W. Reynolds
SFC James E. Tolbert
Capt. Cecil D. Lewis
Maj. Everett E. Baker
1st Lt. John F. Coughlin
Capt. Donald R. Enloe Sr.
SFC Johnny K. Berry

Method In This Madness

Nominating System Works Well

By Sp4 Richard Steins

To a foreign observer, the American presidential nominating convention may seem nothing short of madness.

For several days, hundreds of men and women are thrown together in a steaming auditorium where they are forced to listen to windy oratory, vicious bartering and, in the end, participate in a demonstration reminiscent of a three-ring circus.

Yet, there is a method in this madness. The nominating con-

ventions have not changed much in appearance over the past century. The carnival atmosphere is still present—as is the solemn duty of picking a candidate to carry the party banner in the November election.

What has changed is the method that delegates are selected, and the total power of the convention.

Delegates are now selected by several methods. Some are chosen by the governor of the state—if indeed, the party is in power. Others are selected at

party caucuses. All delegates are persons deeply involved in the affairs of their party.

Most delegates to nominating conventions in the past decade have gone to the party convention pretty much decided on whom they will vote for.

It was no secret, for instance, that the majority of the delegates to the 1964 Republican Convention were in favor of Barry Goldwater. Why? Because Goldwater had cultivated state conventions and caucuses, and before the convention was able to round up the winning number of delegates who would make his nomination a reality.

The methods of selecting delegates, and the general pandemonium of presidential conventions, have come into much criticism lately. But in fact, it has been a system which has worked well for a century.

The delegates who attend the final convention are usually representative of the majority thinking of their party. Whether they represent the thinking of the nation is something which can only be found out when the nation judges the delegate they selected for the highest office.

By Chaplain (Capt.)

James L. Juhan

The line of Vietnamese women numbered over 50. Each of them had at least one child with her, but most of them had more than one. Patiently they waited, with the exception of a few, who tried to break line or enter the doctor's presence through another way. Each child had an ailment. Each mother had a concern.



MORNING SERVICE—Chaplain (Maj.) George V. Reswick conducts a service for the men of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry on Hill 1001 where the men of the 4th Infantry Division had driven off human assaults by the enemy. (Photo by Sp4 Wayne Nicholas, 4th INF-IO)

Don't Live In Spiritual Darkness

By Chaplain (Capt.)

James L. Juhan

The line of Vietnamese women numbered over 50. Each of them had at least one child with her, but most of them had more than one. Patiently they waited, with the exception of a few, who tried to break line or enter the doctor's presence through another way. Each child had an ailment. Each mother had a concern.

The hours passed and one by one the patients were seen. One by one the medicine was distributed.

No one will deny the physical needs of mankind. No one will deny the medical needs of a sick child. However, our perceptibility to the needs of a man's spirit usually is not so clear.

Jesus healed a blind man in John's Gospel, chapter 9. He was aware of the importance of

physical wholeness. Jesus knew the physical needs of this man and came to his aid.

We may not be physically blind or have any impediment to our physical well-being; however, we may be living in spiritual darkness. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the light, no man sees God but through me." Have you had your spiritual blindness cured? Can you see God?

THE ARMY REPORTER

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Sp4 Jim Thornberry	Reporter

No Hole For VC Anymore

DAK TO, (4th INF-IO) — Radar, a contraction of radio detecting and ranging, spells bad news for North Vietnamese Army (NVA) troops operating in the hills and valleys near here. "Charlie may set up his mortar behind a hill," said Sgt. James Hodge, "but he'll never be able to get away from our radar unit."

Squatting on top of a small knoll at the 4th Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry's forward fire base was a massive radar screen, part of the 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery's counter-mortar radar unit.

The radar screen, coupled with a complex General Electric computer, can pick up everything from an M16 round to a huge, incoming artillery projectile and, in a matter of seconds, compute the grid coordinates, range and azimuth of the enemy firing position.

"It's a pretty complex unit," Sp5 Raymond Caldwell, maintenance technician said, gesturing towards the big radar screen.

The radar screen sends two overlapping ultra-high frequency energy waves through the jungle. When an enemy mortar is fired, the sound breaks through the beams and two blips flash on the small radar screen.

"Once we see the two blips, the computer has already figured out the location of the enemy firing position," Hodge explained. "Then we relay the coordinates and other information to an artillery crew."

With perfect timing, an artillery round can be on its way to the target before the mortar round hits.

'Ice Cream' Party Held For Ho Nai Orphanage

BIEN HOA, (USAECV-IO) — An ice cream party for the Ho Nai Orphanage near here was held recently by the 34th Engineer Battalion, 19th Engineer Group.

Part of the civic action program initiated for the orphans by the battalion's chaplain, Capt. Edwin C. Rowan III, the party was held for the 45 children and six nuns in the battalion's cantonment area here.

Sergeant James D. Suits of Company A and Spi Bruce Thornlow, Chaplain Rowan's assistant, coordinated the Sunday afternoon affair with Father Nguyen Hoa of the orphanage.

The party began with games and later switched to a program of ethnic songs, dances and a comedy skit performed by the orphans.

After this, the children were escorted to the Company A mess



OUT AND DOWN—Members of the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry, 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division, leap from helicopters of the 240th Assault Helicopter Company as the men go into a hot landing zone in Operation Klamath Falls.

(Photo by SSgt. Al Wilson 101st ABN-IO)

By Psy Op Team 'Magicians'

Movies Shown To Villagers

TAN AN, (9th INF-IO) — For many Vietnamese children of Long An Province the appearance of the 9th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade Audio Visual Team provokes near hysteria.

First Lieutenant Terrell C. Newby and SSgt. James E. Witke are two of the most welcome Americans in the war-torn Delta. This pair of goodwill ambassadors have been supporting the 3rd Brigade's civic action program by showing

movies in local communities since August.

"If they let these kids choose the Academy Award-winning film," states Newby, "Wild Bill Hickcock Rides Again" would win hands down.

"The action-packed westerns produce the same response here as you would expect from American kids. They yell and clap throughout the film," continued Newby, "and always seem to root for the bad guys."

Though cowboy films are the most popular, the team shows many films made in Saigon. Some of the films depict basic skills showing the Vietnamese what they can do for themselves.

The team members, assigned to the 4th Psychological Operations Battalion at Bien Hoa, load up their portable equipment in a ¼-ton truck and travel three or four times a week to some remote village. The films are

shown at night and often utilize the wall of a house as their movie screen.

The result is an instant theater complete with a audience and Vietnamese refreshment vendors. The crowds average more than 600.

Viets Taught English By 9th Infantry Medic

TAN TRU, (9th INF-IO) — In addition to his duties as a medic with the 2d Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, Sp4 Larry Baumgartner is aiding the Vietnamese cause on cultural fronts.

At the request of several school teachers—and a local doctor, Baumgartner recently began teaching of Tan Tru village in Long An Province.

The medic now teaches twice a week to a class of 40 students,

Ambush Backfires For NVA

CHU LAI, (AMERICA-IO) — Two members of America Division's 196th Infantry Brigade recently turned the tables on six North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers who had set up an ambush for them on Hill 445 near Tam Ky.

Specialists Four Cecil T. Veal and Edward R. Kahalewai, Company C, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, killed three enemy, captured a rifle and routed the other three.

"Kahalewai and I were walking point up the hill when we spotted two enemy moving through the brush above us," said Veal.

"We had been moving along a trail, but then we moved through very heavy brush on the opposite side of the trail, figuring they would think we would not move through the heavy foliage," Veal added.

"Approaching the crest of the hill, we crawled to avoid detection upon assault of the NVA soldiers. We took them completely by surprise," he said.

"They had set up their ambush site next to the trail and hadn't expected us to come from the other direction," Veal said. The enemy returned fire, but Veal and Kahalewai each killed one in the brief fire fight and Kahalewai killed another as he was trying to escape. Three others got away, but the two men captured a rifle.

"I guess you might say that we ambushed the ambushers," Veal commented.

1st Inf Soldier Spends R&R With Ambassador To Taiwan

LAKIE, (1st INF-IO) — When a soldier goes on R and R, he usually spends his five days with the everyday public. But an exception to this rule is the 1st Infantry Division's MSgt. Frank E. Campos who spent part of his R and R in Taipei with the U.S. Ambassador to Taiwan.

Campos, a member of the 3rd Brigade's 6th Battalion, 15th Artillery, arrived in Taipei and reported to the R and R center for orientation.

When the orientation was over, Campos was asked by a military representative of the station if he would like to go out to dinner that evening.

Of course, Campos replied, though not knowing where or with whom he would be dining.

After going to his hotel and getting ready for his night out, Campos returned to the R and R center where he was told he would be having dinner at the home of Ambassador W. P. McConeughy, U.S. Ambassador to Taiwan.

"When they told me who my host would be, I was really surprised," said Campos.

Ambassador McConeughy has been the ambassador to Taiwan for a year and in the Far East for almost thirty years.

He was driven from the R and R center to the Ambassador's summer home on Gras Mountain, just outside the city. When he arrived at the Japanese-style house and estate, he was greeted by the ambassador and his

Engrs Pile Up Impressive Statistics For 30 Months' Work In Vietnam

NHA TRANG, (USAECV-IO) — In the past 30 months in Vietnam, the 804th Engineer Battalion, 35th Engineer Group have crisscrossed 100,000 tons of rock, hauled 8,744,297 tons of earth, poured 34,616 cubic yards of concrete, built 972,883 square feet of troop billets, placed 32,350 cubic feet of refrigerated storage and constructed 200,000

square feet of other vertical construction.

On a smaller scale, the achievement of the 804th Engr. Bn. can be seen in the daily average of 9,715 tons of earth per day; or, in the average per man, 4,040 tons of earth per man during a normal tour.

No matter how it is figured,

UP COUNTRY





es, he has left memories. And since the days of World War II men in battle zones all over the world have been thanking Bob for bringing Hope-filled mem-

pe Show Lightens Vietnam Christmas

Stanley Johnson

here we are at Chu Lai. It's so far out in the he hell, they can't find it."

Is. Marines and airmen responded with roars of Christmas tour for the troops in Southeast Asia faces both on stage and in the audience.

zily clasped in his sunburnt hands, and the rapid-talented girls, music and comedy acts—are the today visit to the U.S. troops overseas.

joy the great entertainer has taken to servicemen at II.



—When Barbara McNair sang this show-in the audience agreed.

Hope brings the men what they want and need—girls and laughter. Some of the dialogue is not family-type material, but the audiences here are fighting men, and Hope's material is for men.

The girls are all lovely. Raquel Welch, a long-haired mini-skirted enchantress widened the eyes of the men.

Then there was Barbara McNair whose caressing voice and a way with a song sent a glow through hushed thousands at each performance.

Another vivacious songstress, Elaine Dunne, added still more sparkle to the show as she sang and danced her way around the stage.

Then the girl judged to be the most beautiful in the world came onstage to chat with Hope. Miss World 1967, dark haired Madeleine Hargobel from Peru, did more than remind the troops of the girl back home.

Among the men in the cast were Phil Crosby, Bing's boy, and columnist Earl Wilson, known to millions who follow his daily show business newspaper column.

Music for the show came from "Les Brown and His Band of Renown"—veterans of countless Hope shows down throughout the years.

The star himself needs no introduction—Bob Hope is an American institution. One man's impression, seeing Hope offstage, and for the first time in person, was: "Hell, this guy Hope is real!"



A STAR—"Sweet Charity" star Elaine Dunne dances and sings for the audience.



TALENT—Two of the most talented stars of the show, Barbara McNair and Bob Hope, team up for a song—McNair's caressing voice and Bob's quips combined to delight the servicemen.



GUEST OF HONOR—Since Bob Hope began his Christmas tours in the early days of World War II, the average serviceman in the audience has been the honored guest.

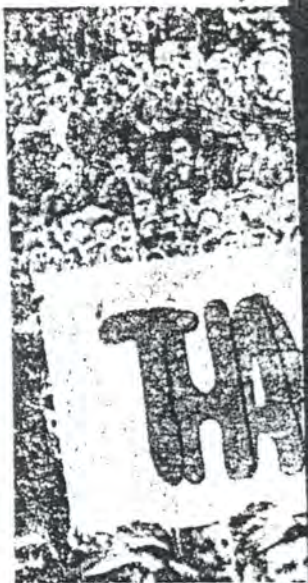


MAY I HAVE THIS DANCE—Raquel Welch is joined on the stage for a bit of groovin' during Bob Hope's Christmas tour.

Photos by
Sp4 Peter E. Garfield



STAR—Bob plays Pvt. William C. Westmoreland. Hope joked, "Those aren't stripes. Those are whip marks."



MEMORIES—Wherever Bob goes, he brings his memories.

Bob Ho

By SSgt
CHU LAL (USARV 10) — "Well, I'm a duck that no one can go over me. Thousands of U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines have seen Bob Hope's traditional Christmas tour. The traditional Bob Hope tour was once again underway with new...

The golfer's cap, the golf wood in his hand, the fire banter—along with beautiful and beautiful trademarks of Bob Hope's annual tour.

It was the same successful bit of business ever since the early days of World War II.

I AM A WOMAN STOPPER, everyone



CATCH—Specialist Four James Riding of the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry, throws a smoke grenade to mark his squad's position during an airstrike called in on several Viet Cong ahead of him.

(Photo by Sp4 George Pawlaczky, 1st INF-IO)

In Dak To Area

4th Blows Camp

DAK TO, (4th INF-IO)—The size of the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) buildup in the Dak To area can somewhat be imagined by the huge base, camp complex found by the 4th Infantry Division's Company A, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry.

Sprawled over a towering mountain ridge only six miles from the Cambodian border, the vast network of bunkers, kitchens, mortar and rocket positions and training areas "was big enough to hold a regimental force," according to 2nd Lt. Phillip Robinson, a platoon leader with Co. A.

Moving along a recently discovered high-speed trail that meandered along the ridge, the company came upon many deep and well-protected bunkers bordering the trail.

"The base camp area actually encompassed the whole series of mountains and connecting ridges," said Robinson. "We would stop and investigate all the bunkers in our area and then keep discovering more as we moved along."

Stopping on one of the largest mountain peaks to comb the area, the infantrymen found several medical aid bunkers with empty medicine vials littering the ground.

A cleared area, unobservable from the air because of the thick jungle foliage, was apparently used as a classroom. Crude benches and a makeshift stage dominated the area along with leaflets bearing anti-American slogans.

As men fanned out to search the bunkers, SSgt. Harold D. Severance began searching for an area to hack out a landing zone.

"I was moving along a smaller trail from the main one we had followed," Severance said, "when I suddenly found myself in a large, open clearing."

Severance discovered the clearing had been used as a

Carefully thatched bamboo silhouettes, the height of an average American soldier, stuck up from clumps of brush.

"The targets were a lot like out basic training targets," Severance said. "They only used them for dry firing though, because we didn't notice any bullet holes in them. USA was lettered on each of the silhouettes."

Carved wooden training grenades, Chinese Communist gas masks, empty ammunition boxes, 82mm mortar fuses and ammo, machinegun ammunition, several North Vietnamese Claymore mines, blood-stained stretchers, and miscellaneous clothes and hats were found during the search of the more than 500 bunkers.

Plastic Explosives, M16 Rifle, Grenades, TNT Revealed To MP Battalion By 'Special Agents'

LONG BINH, (18th MP-IO)—A Viet Cong arms cache was uncovered recently by a reconnaissance patrol from the 18th Military Police Brigade's Company B, 720th Military Police Battalion.

The cache included two pounds of plastic explosives, an M16 rifle, four fragmentation

hand grenades and two pounds of TNT.

The TNT was wired with an electrical blasting cap and was ready to be detonated.

The arms were found near the south edge of Long Binh Post. The incident followed the discovery three days earlier of a Russian-made recoilless rifle.

"The listening post (LP) was still out to our front, so we had to hold our fire to the left side of our sector," DeFyter recounted.

"Finally, we saw the LP coming in with the VC right behind them. We just counted three men, then fired at anything that came along behind."

The listening post reached safety to the left of DeFyter's position.

Enemy Voices Precede Battle

25th Smashes Suicide Attack

By Sp4 Gary Gatliff
CU CHI, (25th INF-IO)—At first they thought the voices coming from the rice paddy to their front belonged to the three-man listening post returning to the perimeter.

They continued to huddle in the bunker, trying to keep warm in the crisp early morning air.

Then the first of nearly 200 mortar rounds began to fall all over the base camp and the Americans knew they were in trouble.

"We'd just heard voices, VC voices, from the paddy when a rocket round landed behind the bunker," recalled one soldier of the 25th Infantry Division's 1st battalion, 27th Infantry.

Shrapnel hit two men, and all four in the bunker were shaken by the concussion.

"We started to fire to our front. They started dropping flares, and we could see about 20 VC hitting us in groups of four or five," the infantryman continued.

Before it was over, the 25th Inf. Div. soldiers had killed 41 enemy who staged an abortive assault on the battalion's forward base camp.

The battle was touch-and-go at moments.

A couple of the enemy got inside the perimeter, reported Sp4 Robert Caruthers. "There was a position about 50 yards to our left and we could see a VC with a rocket launcher moving into the hedgerow between them and us."

Sergeant Robert Matamoros landed a grenade between the enemy's legs.

"He went down, but he was alive and trying to fire. We finished him off with an M16," Matamoros said later.

To Caruthers' left, the three-man position occupied by Sgt. Craig DeFyter and two men of his fire team had opened up on the advancing enemy.

"The listening post (LP) was still out to our front, so we had to hold our fire to the left side of our sector," DeFyter recounted.

"Finally, we saw the LP coming in with the VC right behind them. We just counted three men, then fired at anything that came along behind."

The listening post reached safety to the left of DeFyter's position.

Meanwhile, artillery and mortar fire was pouring on the rice paddy and far edge of the perimeter in an attempt to halt the communist drive.

For the next half hour, the infantrymen engaged four-man enemy teams trying to penetrate the perimeter, despite the heavy fire enveloping the paddy.

"They'd try to come in, and if we didn't kill them with small arms, we'd just pin them down until the artillery and mortars

got them," Caruthers said.

When the attack slackened, 1½ hours after it began, a medic made his way through sporadic fire to treat the men in the bunker.

All four were evacuated, replaced by the listening post personnel.

In the paddy to their front, 34 communists lay dead by their gear and weapons, 11 of them within 25 yards of the perimeter. Three had died inside the base camp.

4 Vietnamese Flee Cong 'Community'

LONG GIAO, (11th ACR-IO)—Chieu Hoi appeals recently prompted a Vietnamese girl and a family of three to escape a Viet Cong resettlement community.

Members of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment's K Troop found the girl, Tran Thi Tuyet

and a Vietnamese woman, Dinh Thi Dut and her two children during Operation Santa Fe in the Mao Tau Secret Zone.

The four Vietnamese told the following story to a team from the 541st Military Intelligence Detachment:

Last April Tran Thi Tuyet left Binh Tuy Province for Xuan Loc. Six Viet Cong captured her in the hamlet of Da Mai the same day she left.

The Viet Cong took the girl into the jungle and imprisoned her in a community they had established. They threatened to kill her if she tried to escape, and said she would remain in the community until South Vietnam was "freed from the Yankee Capitalists."

Tran Thi Tuyet was given rice the first three days of her capture, and after that, nothing. She barely survived by eating wood fibers and plants.

Dinh Thi Dut and her two children, who had been living with the girl under the same conditions, were captured by the VC four months ago.

Chieu Hoi leaflets and broadcasts from a psychological operations plane, however, finally convinced them to make a run for freedom.

Enemy Hides Base Camp In Cave Maze

CHIU LAI, (AMERICAN-IO)—A booby trap which failed to go off recently led to the discovery of a large, natural rock formation used by the VC as a base camp.

Staff Sergeant David L. Bartley, from the 196th Light Infantry Brigade's Company D, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, tripped the booby trap and spotted a well-concealed maze of caves which had been adapted to modern warfare by the enemy.

Blondie

by Chic Young



Baptists Aid Sig Program

QUI NHON, (1st SIG-10)—Through the combined efforts of the 19th Signal Detachment and the Baptist Church of Arlington, Iowa, the welfare of many residents here has greatly improved.

The needs of the people were related by Capt. Donald C. Willeke, detachment commander, in a letter to his parents in Arlington.

His parents enlisted the help of the congregation of the church and as a result 197 large health kits, 50 sewing kits and 80 carpenter tools were sent to the refugee centers here for distribution by the 4th.

The health kits included baby powder, large bath towels, wash cloths and other hygiene articles and were distributed to refugee mothers.

Older women received the sewing kits, which contained more than a pound of sewing notions, including scissors.

Carpenter tools, such as hammers, saws and chisels, were given to the men of the refugee centers.

In addition to the items sent by the church, Willeke's great-aunt spearheaded a drive by the garden clubs of Central Iowa to provide the people of Qui Nhon with more than 500 large packets of assorted garden seeds.

The seeds were formed into 25 large packets, with instructions written in Vietnamese, and distributed to farm families.



WET AND WINDY—Members of the 9th Infantry Division's 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry scramble through knee-deep water to board helicopters for an assault into a new section of the Cam Son Secret Zone. (Photo by Sp4 Don Cordi, 9th INF-10)

Veteran Scout Dog Proves Indispensable 'Leg' To 173rd

DAK TO, (173rd ARN-10)—A 12-year-old veteran attached to the 173rd Airborne Brigade has once again proved himself indispensable even though he is a "leg."

The veteran is a black and white German shepherd named Satan, a member of the brigade's 33rd Scout Dog Platoon.

Last June, while on point with 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry paratroopers, Satan was wounded five times by enemy fire. He was rushed to Tan Son Nhut Air Base Hospital where he lay in

critical condition.

He was credited with saving the life of a seriously wounded paratrooper by dragging him past the black-bereted enemy soldiers.

A newly assigned scout dog handler, PFC Janis Rikans, was asked to nurse the wounded shepherd dog back to health.

The first few days Satan was wary of his new master. The handler took the dog to sick call daily, walked him, groomed him and soon won the confidence and affection of his charge.

Just three weeks after their initial meeting, dog and master were back in the field pursuing the enemy.

After a week in the highlands Satan developed a limp in his front leg. Dog and handler were returned to base camp where an examination revealed the dog to have acute arthritis. Several antibiotic injections proved successful in curing the ailment.

At Tuy Hoa during Operation Rolling, the pair developed into a very effective scout element. Satan gave early and accurate alerts on former enemy bunkers and camp sites. On one patrol with Company B, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry, Janis and his dog unearthed a tunnel strong with commo wire containing valuable enemy communications equipment.

Returning here with the paratroopers, Janis and his dog were assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry.

The second day on patrol, Satan alerted on a fresh North Vietnamese base camp.

As the paratroopers swept through the enemy bunkers, Satan continued to alert. At the crest of a hill, a strong warning from the German Shepherd indicated snipers in the trees. The warned paratroopers moved up on line where they met light enemy resistance.

After a brief skirmish, the Sky Soldiers pushed on to ascend

What Else Is New?

DAK TO, (1st INF-10)—Specialist Five Daniel Cook is a cook with the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division's Headquarters.

III 882. With Satan and Rikans once again leading the way, the paratroopers were again warned of the lurking sniper ambush.

With their positions directed by the scout dog team, the Communists began an assault the paratroopers with small arms, mortar and rocket fire.

During the five-hour battle, the paratroopers killed 63 North Vietnamese soldiers by body count while suffering light casualties themselves.

Caught In Ambush

Team Turns Tables

DAK TO, (USAECV-10)—After being caught in an ambush, a four-man reconnaissance team the 299th Engineer Battalion, 927th Engineer Group turned

the tables on their assailants and killed at least three Viet Cong.

The team escaped with only minor injuries.

Led by 1st Lt. Leo C. Kelley, reconnaissance officer of the battalion, the group was scouting Route 11 near here when an explosion rocked the lead truck.

Specialist Four James H. Buchanan, manning a 50-cal. machinegun, was thrown forward and wounded by shrapnel, but regained his feet and, together with Kelley, delivered intense return fire in the direction of the enemy ambush party.

Though slightly damaged, the trucks were quickly driven to safety and Buchanan was evacuated to the nearest aid station.

Later, an infantry detachment searching the ambush site found three dead VC and estimated that approximately a platoon had staged the attack on the reconnaissance party.

Elements Of 199th Kill VC In Sweep

LONG BINH (199th INF-10)—Elements of the 129th Light Infantry Brigade's 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry killed one Viet Cong and uncovered a recently occupied platoon-sized bunker system during a recent search and sweep operation in Bien Hoa Province.

The action started when two VC were spotted. During the exchange of fire that followed, one VC was killed and the other escaped from the area of the tunnel-connected bunkers.



HAPPINESS IS—Happy times are had around a tire swing by many American youngsters. Two Vietnamese orphans have their first go on a swing built by members of the 4th Infantry Division's 1st Battalion. (Photo by Sgt. ...)

Engr Bn Rebuilds Bridge

NHA TRANG, (USAECV-10)—The 84th Engineer Battalion recently ended an around-the-clock effort to reconstruct a 709-foot bridge west of here.

The wooden Dien Khanh Bridge on HL-1 (Nha Trang by-pass) makes this the only road capable of carrying the heavy convoy traffic north from Cam Ranh Bay.

The flooding Cai River washed the superstructure of the bridge down the river and left only portions of the substructure protruding from the water.

Work crews of Company C, 84th Engr. Bn. worked from the south side of the bridge northward, while Company B made its way to the north side of the river and worked southward.

The battalion surveyors arrived on the scene at 8 o'clock in the morning.

Meanwhile, the survey crew, aided by personnel from Co. C, was clearing the bridge of all debris that had been left by the high water.

The battalion operations section had produced a design for the construction of a timber trestle bridge to handle the enormous traffic flow. The bridge, 709 feet long and 16 feet wide, would also handle the heavy traffic of pedestrians traveling to and from the nearby villages.

To complete the enormous construction task over water 13 feet deep in some places required the solution of many problems.

One problem was the changing condition of the river. The water level was rising when the engineers arrived and continued rising throughout the project, making it necessary to relocate equipment and supplies to keep them out of the water.

Another problem was Viet Cong harassment which was a constant threat as both companies worked around-the-clock, using floodlights to illuminate the area at night.

Excellent support from neighboring transportation and engineer units and a unit of the 5th Special Forces made it possible for the 84th Engr. Bn. to complete this giant-sized project with only a four-day interruption of convoy traffic.

Save
Your
Piasters

Weapons And R And R Don't Mix, MACV Says

SAIGON, (MACV-10)—A new warning regarding the penalties for transporting weapons while on rest and recuperation (R and R) was given U.S. servicemen today by a Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, spokesman.

Current directives prohibit carrying or transporting weapons of any type aboard R and R aircraft. A few members of the U.S. Armed Forces have violated these regulations, the spokesman said.

Customs officials at the various R and R sites, particularly those of the British Common-



ANOTHER ENEMY—Mud, water and rough terrain are encountered by members of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry, 199th Light Infantry Brigade during a search and destroy operation in Binh Chanh District.

(Photo by Sp5 Jerrold Fishman, 199th INF-10)

Perfect Ambush

LRRP Seizes Flag

DAK TO, (173rd ARN-10)—A Viet Cong flag was displayed by a Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol of the 173rd Airborne Brigade here as a result of a perfect recondo ambush netting five VC killed and the capture of five enemy weapons and supplies.

The LRRP team, led by Sp4 Donald G. Waid, was lifted into an area just vacated by a company of Sky Soldiers the previous day. The recondos hoped to catch the enemy by surprise if they decided to check out the paratroopers' night position.

The team's mission got off to a bad start.

"Our presence was detected by a group of villagers as soon as we climbed off the chopper," recalled Sp4 John Carson, who was experiencing his first mission as a recondo.

Waid moved his team into the thick brush to confuse the on-looking villagers. For the next few days, the paratroopers discovered many well-traveled trails but could not detect any enemy movement in the area. At dusk one day, the team stopped just off a freshly used trail and set up for the night.

In the dark protective shadows of the jungle, the well-hidden paratroopers silently waited for the enemy. They did not have to wait long before spotting a band of five armed VC moving down the trail towards their ambush.

The paratroopers let the enemy pointman walk well into the killing zone before assistant team leader Sp4 Irvin Moran detonated two claymore mines, instantly killing four of the

Communist soldiers. The fifth VC ran through the recondos perimeter before he was cut down by PFC Wayne Harland, a radio telephone operator.

Early the next morning, the recondos made good their departure by helicopter.

Back at Dak To, the recondos proudly displayed two .45-cal. grease guns, an M1 carbine, an automatic rifle and an old unknown French weapon, besides enemy documents, medical supplies and the flag.

Heli Co Resupplies Belcaguered Outpost

PHU LOI, (1st AVN-10)—Guided by two small lanterns, personnel from the 1st Aviation Brigade's 21st Assault Support Helicopter Company, 11th Aviation Battalion, recently performed an emergency resupply mission enabling the 5th Special Forces outpost at Bu Dop to withstand an intense Viet Cong attack.

When the emergency call was received, two Chinook helicopters scrambled to Quan Loi where essential supplies were loaded and made ready for the run to Bu Dop.

The camp was being assaulted by 82mm mortar and 122mm rocket fire.

The first drop was made during a lull in the action, and Capt. William Ward, heading the operation, performed an emergency med-evac for the tiny outpost while he returned to Quan Loi for a second load of ammunition.

Ward returned to the scene of the battle with an external load of small-arms ammunition and an internal cargo of illumination flares.

The external load was dropped with little problem, but before the flares could be unloaded, mortar rounds began dropping around the Chinook.

Double-time became the order of the day as the crew struggled to get the flares off the ship while Charlie's rounds came closer and closer.

Ward returned to Quan Loi for an additional load of supplies where a third chopper joined the resupply mission.

By the time the three helicop-

ters arrived at Bu Dop, darkness had set in.

Because of the intensity of the situation, the outpost could provide only two small lanterns to direct the Chinooks in their descent into the area.

Even with minimum lighting, the Viet Cong, guided by the engine sounds from the aircraft, began lobbing mortar after mortar into the landing zone.

One round landed close enough to the lead Chinook to lift Sp5 Dilmar Leedon from his prone position on the floor of the ship where he was directing the descent and slam him against the side of the chopper.

A hurried unloading was accomplished, enabling the outpost to withstand the VC attack.

Kids Have 2 Fathers

LONG BINH, (USAECV-10)—Ninety-five orphans at the Ap Ngu Phuc Orphanage here are now the proud possessors of two fathers each.

The 190 men of Company D, 46th Engineer Battalion, 199th Engineer Group have adopted the children.

Swing sets, teeter-totters, monkey bars and sandboxes are presently being built for the children who range in age from 14 months to 14 years.

The Ap Ngu Phuc Orphanage is operated by the Sisters of the Dominican Order who support the institution by raising pigs and taking in day students.



CRATER CLIMB—Troops of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division make their way up the slopes of a crater left by a B52 air strike. The strike was made in the Hiep Valley west of Que Son during Operation Wallawa.

(Photo by Sp4 Don Graham, 1st CAV-10)



TAKING COVER—Troopers of the 1st Cavalry Division's 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry take cover from enemy fire during the battle at Dai Dong near the Bong Son.

(Photo by Sp4 William Itterly, 1st CAV-IO)

By 101st Abn Squad

First-Aid Station Destroyed

CHU LAM, (101st ABN-IO) — Paratroopers of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne captured a Viet Cong tax collector, killed another VC on furlough and destroyed a North Vietnamese Army (NVA) first-aid station in an Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action west of here.

An individual detained earlier by members of 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry revealed during interrogation that NVA elements had established an aid station in his village.

First Lieutenant Bob Duffner, took a squad from his platoon, an interpreter and moved out toward the village.

"We found the aid station without difficulty," said Duffner. "It had the capability of holding 25 to 30 patients and was very clean."

Duffner's paratroopers searched the complex and found a plasma bottle, medical aid pack and assorted medicinals. In one portion of the complex,

Sp4 Jan Richards surprised a VC.

"He grabbed my weapon and tried to take it away from me," said Richards. "Charlie made the mistake of grabbing the barrel while I had my finger on the trigger."

In another section, the squad found a man of military age who could not explain his presence. Questioning of civilians in the area revealed the paratroopers had captured the VC tax collector who had just arrived to begin taking food from the village residents.

Enemy Has Bad Day, Courtesy 4th Division

BAN BLUOH, (10th INF-IO) — A North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldier had a very bad day, courtesy of the 4th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade and the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, during Operation MacArthur.

Hours after a B-52 strike had shattered his jungle sanctuary, one lone enemy attempting to escape, ran into an ambush and was killed.

"Our company was acting as a blocking force," remarked 2nd Lt. "Knobby" Thomas of Company C, "when we spotted this NVA soldier jogging down the trail."

As PFC Richard Cassano stepped out to halt the soldier, "The enemy tried to shoot, but his weapon jammed or mis-

fired," Cassano remarked.

Before he could clear his weapon, the NVA soldier was dropped by a burst of fire.

"His home having been destroyed, running into an ambush, and then having his weapon jam," asserted Thomas, "all added up to a bad day in the Central Highlands for this Charlie."

Lost ID Tags Discovered On Dead VC

CU CHI, (25th INF-IO) — American marksmanship and an enemy's misfortune put a sergeant's dog tags back around his neck after he lost them in the Iron Triangle, 30 miles northwest of Saigon.

Staff Sergeant Henry Wadahara loaned his C-ration can opener, suspended on his dog tags chain, to a buddy just before they moved to a new base camp during the 25th Infantry Division's Operation Atlanta.

As they sat down for lunch, the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry sergeant discovered his friend had left chain, dog tags, and opener behind at the abandoned base camp.

When the battalion finally returned to Cu Chi, Wadahara asked for new tags. Instead, the Company A clerk handed him his old ones.

"They just came down from division," the clerk explained. "Someone out in the Triangle killed a VC who was wearing them."

LRRP Fights Enemy After All-Night Vigil

LONG THANH, (9th INF-IO)

A team from the 9th Infantry Division's Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Detachment killed five Viet Cong in an early morning clash recently.

"We were making our way through thick undergrowth monitoring a trail we had discovered earlier that afternoon," said Sgt. James R. J. Martin, team leader.

As the team broke through some especially thick brush, they discovered a trench which ran south down a hill.

"The area around the trench smelled of sap from newly cut bushes and of dirt from the trench," continued Martin.

The team set up nearby for the night to monitor the area. During the night groups of VC passed near the LRRP's carrying unknown objects down the hill.

"I believe they were carrying supplies along the path we had followed during the day, to a bunker complex at the bottom of the hill," added Martin.

"One time a group passed near us carrying a lantern," he continued, "and at any time during the night a cough or the noise from a twig snapping could have brought the VC down on us."

As dawn approached, Martin decided to get a closer look before calling air strikes to destroy the bunker complex.

The team edged forward and one of the members, a 1st Lt. Chan (returnee), spotted the enemy and signaled for the remaining members to halt.

As Martin moved a few steps closer, a VC saw him and started for his weapon. "I began fir-

ing and caught two," Martin said. The entire team was now firing.

"Our whole team was within 10 feet of five VC," said Sp4 William E. Gann.

The 1st Lt. Chan got another VC and other team members accounted for two more enemy killed.

The team began receiving heavy automatic weapons fire. A grenade was thrown to mark the position for a forward air controller to direct air strikes and the team moved back for extraction.

5 Cong Die In Ambush

DI AN, (1st INF-IO) — Five Viet Cong were killed trying to turn the tables on an ambush patrol from the 1st Infantry Division recently.

A patrol from Company A, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry slipped out of their night defensive position near Loc Ninh and set up their ambush. The patrol was then mortared, receiving six rounds.

Sergeant Robert Wamble was calling in the direction for counter mortar fire when a VC patrol sauntered down the road where the ambush was set up. As soon as they walked into range the patrol opened up.

Expendng a good deal of their ammunition, the men began to pull back to the battalion position.

As they were moving into the position a sharp-eyed machine-gunner spotted an extra man in their patrol. Remembering the original number, a VC was discovered and killed. The original patrol returned unscathed.

25th Div Helps VC Go On Diet

CU CHI, (25th INF-IO) — A Viet Cong brigade will have to go on a diet thanks to Company A, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry.

On the second day of Operation Yellowstone, the company was conducting a search and destroy mission about four miles south of the Cambodian border.

Specialist Four Steven A. Gray spotted the glint of the sun bouncing off a tin roof about fifty yards ahead of the element he was with. He and his platoon leader, 2nd Lt. Richard D. Tipton, moved up with three other men to investigate.

The party found a typical Vietnamese hooch measuring about 20 by 40 by seven feet that had one distinctive feature—it had been built without windows or doors. Curious, the man pried off the roof and found the interior filled to the rafters with rice 500 cubic feet of it, weighing 140 tons.

Returning to the area the following day, they discovered two more similar hooches filled with rice, thirty yards from the first. This find brought the total weight of the rice uncovered to 410 tons.



NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON'T—A self-propelled 155mm howitzer for Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 35th Artillery covers itself in dust as it fires in support of the 9th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade during Operation Santa Fe in Binh Tuy Province, 69 miles east of Saigon. (Photo by Sp4 Leonard Wisniewski, 9th INF-IO)

Orphans Using Scrap Lumber From Engr Bn

THANH HOA, (USAECV-IO) — The Dong Men Thanh Gia Orphanage and the 40th Engineer Battalion, 15th Engineer Group are presently combining their talents to make good use of seemingly useless scrap lumber.

The engineers, in an effort to aid the 10 Roman Catholic nuns and 200 children living at the orphanage here, are supplying the institution with as much old lumber as they can use.

None of the materials are wasted as the sisters and their young charges remove and save the nails from each board before using the lumber as firewood or in repair and construction work around the orphanage.

AMERICAN FORCES



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UP CLOSE—For all of you who sat too far back at the Bob Hope Show this year, here is Raquel Welch up close. Hope you don't mind us borrowing her mini-shirt! (Photo courtesy of The Bob Hope Show)

With Bob Hope, Miss World Of 1967

Soldiers Participate In Christmas Show

CHU LAI, (USARV-10)—Many thousands of U.S. servicemen in Vietnam and Thailand attended this year's performances of the traditional Bob Hope Christmas Show at military bases.

Private First Class Don Lizotte, however, became more than a spectator. He was invited to participate in one part of the show.

Before the show at Chu Lai, Mrs. Annie Morrow, Bob Hope's personal secretary, selected Lizotte from several soldiers who could speak either French or Spanish. Someone was needed to carry on a conversation with Miss World of 1967, Madeleine Harcourt-Bel of Peru, who speaks those languages and some English.

It was for a comedy routine

which included Bob Hope, Miss Harcourt-Bel and Lizotte conversed easily in French while Hope, pretending not to understand, put on an act of increasing agitation as he demanded to know what was going on between them. The audience, of course, was roaring with laughter at pater of one-liners aimed at the young couple with him before the microphone.

Lizotte enjoyed his short fling on stage.

"I never thought I'd appear on a stage with even one personality, let alone two of them," he said.

Asked what he thought of the Latin American lovely who is this year's Miss World, Lizotte just grinned and exclaimed, "Man, oh man!"

CHU LAI, (USARV-10)—Private James F. Spiva received a surprise birthday greeting from an unexpected source this year.

Spiva is stationed here with the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, Americal Division.

On his birthday, December 20, the 21-year-old soldier was sitting in the outdoor theater here with some 10,000 other servicemen enjoying the Bob Hope Show, one of many performances during the traditional Bob Hope Christmas tour for American troops at overseas bases.

Spiva did not know what to expect when, during a break between acts, Hope called his

name and invited Spiva onto the stage. Hope gave the soldier a hearty handshake and wished him a happy birthday.

The entertainer frequently does this at the many shows during the tour.

Members of Hope's staff look for men whose birthdays are imminent — sometimes in response to letters written to Hope before each year's tour by families and friends of men over here, asking him to "please look up so and so when you get to Vietnam."

Whenever possible, Bob Hope and his staff try to find men who are the subjects of such letters, in order to pass on whatever greetings their families have sent.



HELP STRENGTHEN
AMERICA'S PEACE POWER
BUY U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

Two New Year's In RVN

Tet Begins Year Of Monkey

SAIGON, (MACY-10)—American servicemen in Vietnam may observe the arrival of two New Year's during January—our own, January 1, and the Vietnamese Tet.

Celebrated from January 30 through February 1, Tet will herald the Year of the Monkey.

Tet is more than the beginning of a new year, it corresponds to America's Christmas, New Year, Easter, and the Fourth of July combined. It is a family reunion, a spring festival, a national holiday, and everybody's birthday.

Greeting Startles Enemy

CHU LAI, (101st ABN-10) — Paratroopers of 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne use their battalion motto as a greeting, but during Operation Wheeler/Wallawalla west of here one paratrooper used it as a challenge.

Private First Class Perry F. Ambrose was accompanying Company C, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry, during a search and destroy sweep when lead elements made contact with the enemy.

"We started running down the trail toward the action when an enemy automatic weapon opened fire and killed one of our troopers," said Ambrose. "I became separated from the rest of the element."

Ambrose decided to crawl around the enemy position and rejoin his friends.

"I got into position and heard a noise in the brush," he said. "I decided not to fire because it might be 'friendly'."

Ambrose yelled: "No Slack!" Several startled enemy leaped up and disappeared in the brush before Ambrose could fire.

One of the cardinal rules of the holiday is that no loose ends are left over from the previous year.

Business deals, social obligations and debts are all fulfilled as far as possible and animosities are buried under an avalanche of forgiveness and friendship. Prices during the weeks preceding Tet are usually doubled.

Most commercial establishments close during the holidays and, despite the dangers of travel in the war-torn country, Vietnamese make every effort to rejoin their families.

Even the departed are invited back and greeted with daily meals, rituals and the sweet aroma of burning joss sticks on home and temple altars.

Anything that detracts from the impression of contentment and prosperity is taboo lest the gods be annoyed. Grievances, setbacks and annoyances are hidden beneath smiling faces and an amiable manner.

Even the first guest of the holiday is often pre-selected to insure an auspicious start to the coming months. A person named Phuc (happiness) or Banh

(handsome) is sure to be invited before someone named Cham (slow) or Chu (dog).

After the select visitor, all company is welcomed and entertained graciously because an unkind word or thoughtless act is felt to indicate the perpetrator's conduct throughout the new year.

Tet also marks great activity in the spirit world. Good spirits head for the palace of the Heavenly Emperor of Jade where they turn in the annual report of their respective areas of responsibility.

At the same time, demons are released for seven days freedom from Hell. This places man in a delicate position of being vulnerable to the assault of the rampaging devils.

Man devised a mystic arsenal to protect himself during the absence of guardian beings: a 30-foot pole with protective adornments, (the Cay Nui); signs bearing significant words; the Apricot tree and flower (Bong Mai); the Narcissus, the unicorn dance, fireworks and the powered-time circles of life drawn about the home with the sign of a bow and arrow in the front.

Camp Complex Found Deep In Boi Loi Woods

CU CHI, (25th Inf-10) — Infantrymen from the 25th Infantry Division probing the Boi Loi Woods recently discovered a massive Viet Cong base camp complex, then used more than three tons of explosives to demolish it.

Troops of the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry uncovered the first of a series of five base camps after they received intense enemy fire from a treeline during the first day of their drive into the Communist stronghold.

The next day, they began to search out the woods, finding one camp after another.

"We just followed paths and tunnels and kept coming onto more and more camps," said 2nd Lt. Joe Sample of Company A. "This is the biggest base camp I've ever seen or even heard of."

In all, the infantrymen destroyed more than 151 bunkers, nine mess halls, and thousands of yards of trench line and tunnels.

Throughout the base camp system, the troops captured 79 grenades, 700 pounds of rice, and five cratering charges.

Operation Clears

(Continued from Page 1)

of dense jungle thought to be the base of operations for the 5th VC Division.

When the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry, moving on the ground, linked up with the 4th Bn., 39th Inf., the two units conducted search and destroy operations in the May Tao Secret Zone. The two battalions suffered four killed and 19 wounded during light contacts, inflicting 22 deaths on the 5th VC Division.

Highlighting the first phase of Operation Santa Fe was a large weapons find by the 18th ARVN Division's 3d Battalion, 32d Regiment. The Vietnamese soldiers uncovered the cache in a cave while on patrol at the base of May Tao Mountain in Phuoc Tuy Province.

The ARVN haul included eighteen 60mm mortars, 32 sub-machineguns, five boxes of small arms ammunition, 21 bags of cement and 400 pounds of polished rice.

The second phase of Operation Santa Fe consisted of mammoth land-clearing actions by the 86th Engineer Battalion. Using Rome plows, the battalion cut out numerous trails, landing zones and fire support bases.

The engineers also connected Highway 1 and Highway 21 to allow easy access to the May Tao Zone for future search and destroy operations.

In all, the 86th Engr. Bn. eliminated over 1500 acres of jungle in support of the first phase.



TURN RIGHT AT VINE—Private First Class John S. Beamon searches a swamp stream south of Phan Rang during the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division's Operation Klamath Falls. Beamon is with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry.

(Photo by SSgt. Al Wilson, 101st ABN-10)

IMPACT Program Upgrades Outposts

LONG THANH, (9th Inf-10) — Regional Force and Popular Force (RF/PF) outposts in the 9th Infantry Division's Tactical Area of Interest (TAOI) have become the targets for a concentrated upgrading and strengthening program.

The Old Reliables' three brigades, plus the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment and the Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment have formed three man teams to provide assistance and recommendations to the outposts under the Improvement Action (IMPACT) Program.

Each team consists of an officer, a noncommissioned officer, and an Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) interpreter.

These teams visit the various outposts on a priority basis as determined by the Government of Vietnam (GVN) and are usually accompanied by a District or Sector Chief.

While at the outposts, the IMPACT teams are prepared to make suggestions for improvement and provide materials for overhead bunkers and more adequate barriers—in short, "anything to make the outpost more defensible," said one official.

In addition, the teams also are equipped to give training classes in artillery adjustment, weapons, communications, medical procedures, and psychological operations activities.

Whenever assistance is given, it is closely coordinated with the responsible GVN officials and U.S. advisors.

According to Civic Action Officials, the intent of the program is not to by-pass normal GVN channels in providing material and assistance for the outposts, but to render aid in matters where GVN has insufficient resources to do quickly what needs to be done.

Airborne LRRPs Join 4th

CAMP ENARI, (4th Inf-10) — The Rangers of World War II have a modern counterpart in Vietnam comprised of two companies of highly-trained Long Range Reconnaissance Patrols (LRRPs). One of them recently teamed up with the 4th Infantry Division.

Company E, LRRP, 20th Infantry was activated in September at Phan Rang with the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

They were assigned to the I Field Force, Vietnam, and are now administratively and logistically attached to the 4th Div.

"Our mission is basically reconnaissance and surveillance," explained Capt. William M. Leaprott, the company's executive officer. "We go out to find Charlie and find out how many there are and what they're doing."



SEARCH—A platoon from the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division moves across a rice paddy in search of Viet Cong positions near the Oriental River, 30 miles northwest of Saigon.

(Photo by Sp4 George Pullen, 25th INF-10)