

1967 Action Summarized

Army Units Battle Enemy In All 4 Zones

LONG BINH, (USARY-10) — The following report was compiled by various Army units to summarize the major activities in Vietnam during the past year.

Americal Division

Americal Division soldiers ended 1967 with a total of 8402 enemy killed since Task Force Oregon became operational last April 29. In the next eight months Project Oregon became Task Force Oregon and then in October became the Americal Division.

The 196th Light Infantry Brigade was the first unit to arrive for Project Oregon and the first to make a significant contact in the division's area of operations in the southern part of the I Corps Tactical Zone.

The brigade was airlifted to Chu Lai on April 8 and shortly thereafter began search and destroy missions and to provide security for the airfield there.

The 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, was the first brigade element to engage the enemy on a relatively large scale. Shortly after arriving they killed 42 enemy during a day-long battle north of Due Pho.

During the eight month period Americal Division elements participated in seven separate operations. The current operation, Wheeler/Wallowa, has so far resulted in 3158 enemy deaths. The purpose of the operation is to destroy the 2nd NVA Division.

Americal forces have captured 2227 individual and 209 crew-served weapons during the last eight months. In addition, they have captured over 1182 tons of rice and 150 tons of salt. This represents enough rice to feed a 2500-man enemy force for over nine months.

A total of 1020 enemy soldiers have voluntarily given themselves up to the Government of Vietnam under the "Cien Hoa" (open arms) program since Project Oregon began.

When the Americal Division was reactivated in October it marked its third appearance as a division. The division was born in the jungles of New Caledonia in 1952 and was first reactivated in 1958.

4th

Infantry Division

The 4th Infantry Division, working in the central highlands, reported killing more than 3600 enemy soldiers during the calendar year of 1967.

Participating in three division-size operations and two smaller ones, division soldiers engaged NVA regulars almost exclusively throughout the year. Starting with Operation Sam Houston on January 1 the year closed on the heels of the battle of Dak To during Operation MacArthur.

In the year's period, 3622 communist soldiers were killed and 1153 weapons were captured. Over 71 tons of rice, more than 2000 pounds of corn and 417 pounds of salt were taken from hidden enemy supply caches.

Other division operations during the year were Francis Marion and two smaller operations called Greeley and Hancock I.

25th

Infantry Division

Officials from the 25th Infantry Division revealed that during military operations in 1967, a total of 1836 enemy soldiers were killed and 989 individual and 53 crew-served weapons were captured.



PERIMETER GUARD—Two men of the 1st Infantry Division symbolize the watchfulness of men stationed in Vietnam. The soldiers are from D Troop, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry. (Photo by SFC Frank Castro, 1st INF-IO)

ons were captured.

U.S. Infantrymen also destroyed 219,116 rounds of small arms ammunition and 23,789 rounds of high-explosive ordnance. Two hundred fifty-one detainees were taken during the year.

More than 1350 tons of rice were uncovered, evacuated and distributed to needy Vietnamese. This much rice would feed seven enemy battalions for approximately one year.

1st

Cavalry Division

Elements of the 1st Cavalry Division killed 2283 VC and 1795 NVA soldiers since February 1967.

They captured 1242 small arms, 127 crew-served weapons, 167,632 rounds of small arms ammunition, 2625 mines and hand grenades and 1217 rounds of large caliber ammunition.

In addition, the Skytroopers captured 42 tons of salt and 424 tons of rice, enough to feed one 500-man enemy battalion for two and one-third years.

173rd

Airborne Division

The 173rd Airborne Brigade, the first U.S. ground combat unit to arrive in Vietnam, conducted 11 combat operations against the enemy in the II and III Corps Tactical Zones in 1967.

The year began as the paratroopers launched two multi-unit operations directed at two Viet Cong strongholds—the Iron Triangle, 30 miles north-northwest of Saigon, and War Zone C, near the Cambodian border.

On February 22, 780 paratroopers of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, made the first combat jump of the Vietnamese war to begin Operation Junction City.

During the last week of May, the paratroopers were deployed to the central highlands west of Pleiku to join with the 4th Infantry Division in Operation Francis Marion.

The airborne Infantrymen deployed in the Dak To area, where a Special Forces camp had been encountering heavy NVA activity.

On a ridge overlooking the brigade's forward base camp at Dak To, a company of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, engaged an NVA battalion, repeated human wave assaults were launched against the U.S. perimeter during the seven-hour battle but the enemy was driven back.

The brigade deployed back to Tuy Hoa during September and October to conduct an operation aimed at protecting the Vietnamese rice harvest from Viet Cong and NVA terrorists.

In November, the airborne soldiers were brought back to the Dak To area to join the 4th Infantry Division in Operation MacArthur.

During the battle for Dak To, the 173rd made repeated contact with large forces of North Vietnamese soldiers in heavy engagements which lasted for 29 days.

A remote, bamboo-covered hill, designated Hill 875, became the focal point of the long battle as a battalion of NVA soldiers, well dug-in, battled the Infantrymen in a four-day contest. The fight was marked by numerous human wave assaults by the enemy and casualties were high.

On Thanksgiving Day, elements of the 4th Battalion, 503rd Infantry, made the final assault on the crest of the hill and joined with other paratrooper units to claim the hill.

The 173rd Airborne Brigade is presently engaged in Operation Rolling, near Tuy Hoa.

The brigade's fighting strength was raised during October as the 3rd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, joined the other battalions from Ft. Bragg, N.C.

During 1967, paratroopers of the 173rd killed 1778 enemy soldiers. They captured 530 weapons and 120 tons of rice, enough rice to feed a 500-man battalion for eight months.

9th

Infantry Division

Division officials have released figures which show that military operations during the first year accounted for 4870 Viet Cong killed and 2451 enemy weapons captured.

In addition, over 639 tons of rice were uncovered and evacuated for redistribution to Vietnamese villagers.

Since its arrival in Vietnam in December 1966, the 9th has conducted 42 different operations in 11 different provinces. Its area of responsibility now ranges from the double canopy jungle east of Saigon to the Mekong Delta paddylands south of the capital city.

The 1st Brigade has conducted operations in areas ranging from the jungles of Phuoc Tuy Province on the South China Sea to Tay Ninh Province along the Cambodian border.

In the south the 2nd and 3rd Brigades became the first major U.S. units to conduct sustained operations in the Mekong Delta.

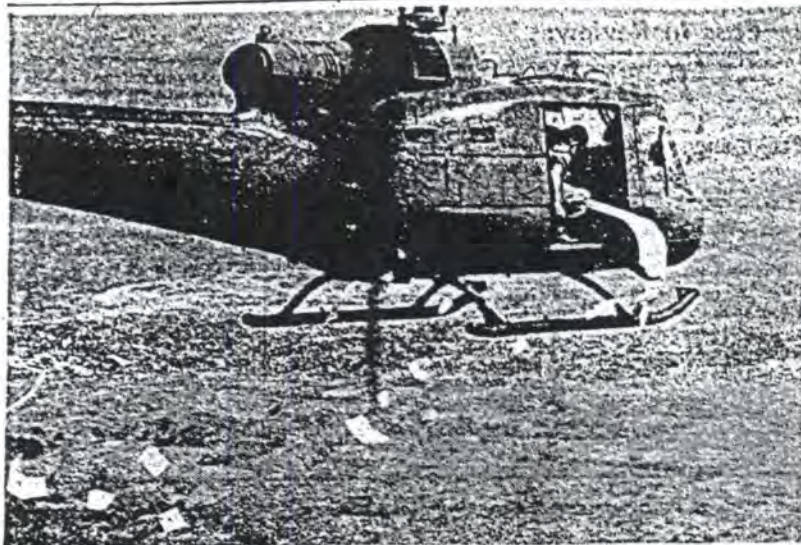
In the Nhon Trach jungles and mangrove swamps of the Rung Sat Special Zone the 2nd Brigade went afloat with the Mobile Riverine Force. The operations were conducted jointly with Naval Task Force 117.

The 3rd Brigade has concentrated their operations in Long An Province which is the key to access to the Delta.

Sharing the activities of the 9th Division have been the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, the Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment, the Army of the Republic of Vietnam and many Regional and Popular Force units.

On the civic action front the division has treated over 275,000 patients at MEDCAPs, air-dropped over 240 million PSYOPS leaflets, broadcast over 700 hours of PSYOPS messages, helped Vietnamese build four schools and repair 19 others, construct three dispensaries and 46 playgrounds and distribute over 260 tons of food, clothing and health supplies to Vietnamese villagers.





A DIFFERENT BOMB—A psychological operations team drops leaflets over the III Corps area wishing the Viet Cong a Happy New Year and pointing out the benefits of government's Open Arms program. (Photo by PFC William Leverington, II FFV-IO)

Cav Chopper Pilots Discover NVA Hidden In 'Duck Blind'

BONG SON, (1st CAV-IO)—A North Vietnamese Army (NVA) attempt to find a better way to conceal troops from 1st Cavalry Division helicopters has been foiled by an alert scout team

Raft Used To Supply ROK Base

CHU LAI, (USAECV-IO)—A joint Army-Navy support effort here is keeping Korean Marines on the Batangan Peninsula well supplied.

In order to ferry supplies from Red Beach on the Song Cho Moi River, south of here, to a Republic of Korea Marine camp on the peninsula, a 12-ton tactical raft had to be constructed.

Engineers of the 334th Engineer Company, 43 Engineer Group were assigned the task, and assembled four MATS bridge floats in their bridge yard here.

Chinook helicopters from the 178th Assault Helicopter Company flew each of the three-ton floats to the raft site where the superstructure, ferried by a landing craft from the Naval Support Detachment, Chu Lai, was waiting.

Marines from the 9th Marine Engineer Battalion assembled the floats and constructed a tramway system to pull the raft across the 300-foot stretch of water.

from the 1st Cav's 1st Brigade aviation platoon.

Four NVA soldiers were killed by the team of two OH-13 observation helicopters who spotted unusual structures in a flooded rice paddy near the scene of a heavy contact between 1st Bde. elements and members of NVA.

"They looked like duck blinds," said WO Arthur Essenpreis Jr., one of the scout pilots. "They were building them in the reeds growing near the paddy dikes. They had woven some reeds together to make the top and sides and the whole thing was supported by stakes driven into the mud."

"We could tell them from the rest of the reeds because they were rigid," said WO Phillip Rybolt, the other pilot. "They didn't bend from the propwash when we flew over them."

A wooden plank floating in the middle of the enclosure and large enough to support a man was part of each structure, the flyers reported.

Each had a small opening, enabling a rifleman inside to

Aviation Battalion Receives Citation

PHU LOI, (1st AVN-IO)—During a recent ceremony at Phu Loi Army Air Field, the 11th Combat Aviation Battalion was presented with the Valorous Unit Citation and given a battle streamer commemorating its heroic actions during Operation Attleboro.

fire at helicopters or at a nearby village.

"I guess they figured that nobody would think to look for them in the middle of an open paddy," Essenpreis said. "That water was five feet deep in places."

The scout team engaged the enemy soldiers with grenades and machineguns and advised an infantry company sweeping to the north of the incident. The Cavalrymen found NVA uniforms and field equipment in the demolished structures.

Killing 237 NVA Soldiers

Americal Div Stops Attacks

SAIGON, (MACV-IO)—Elements of two North Vietnamese Army (NVA) regiments tried to overrun two Americal Division positions and suffered heavily in their unsuccessful attempts.

Two hundred eighty-seven NVA soldiers lost their lives in their abortive attacks.

The enemy fired intense mortar, recoilless rifle and artillery rocket fire into Landing Zones (LZ's) Ross and Leslie. They followed these attacks with ground attacks against the perimeters of the fortified LZ's.

At one point the enemy forces penetrated the perimeter at LZ Leslie, but they were driven out by the defenders.

The barrels of 105mm howitzers were lowered to the horizontal and artillery fire was delivered point-blank into the attacking enemy.

42 Viet Cong Killed By 4th Inf Division

PLEIKU, (4th INF-IO)—The 4th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade recently concluded an operation, killing 42 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers, detaining 15 suspects, and securing over 60 weapons.

Moving from Cheo Reo to the foot of the 3th Special Forces Group camp at Ban Bhech, the brigade was tasked with countering and blocking a large enemy buildup by the 33rd NVA Regiment and a secondary mission calling for security to the New Life resettlement village threatened by the enemy mobilization.

Just after the operation had begun, Company C, 1st Battalion 22nd Infantry, beat off a "do or die" attack on their firebase by NVA soldier looking for a quick victory.

The enemy lost 24 killed along with a large amount of new equipment.

During the same period, the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry received several mortar attacks on their firebase and a probe of their perimeter.

The Battle of Dak To began, and part of the brigade was sent north, replaced at Ban Bhech, by the 9th Infantry Division's 4th Battalion, 39 Infantry.

Informed sources indicated, that the action at Ban Bhech was a possible feint by the NVA, hoping to draw troops into that area while they produced a main thrust at Dak To.

During the next several weeks, as the battle for Dak To raged, the brigade was involved in constant shelling, with only small and scattered contact.

In mid-November, C, 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. ran into an NVA bunk-

er complex and a very determined enemy.

The fighting was intense and Company A was assaulted into the battle to cut off the enemy's escape route.

At the end of the battle, the enemy had left 17 dead. Also recovered, were 17 weapons, 45 packs, and 10 suspects were detained.

Twice beaten in major contact, the 33rd NVA Regt. began to withdraw toward the border.

Pursuing the enemy during the closing days of the operation, 1st men followed a fresh and heavily traveled trail.

Company D, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry encountered two successive days of contact with the NVA 108th Supply Battalion. In two days of skirmishes, Co. D killed six and detained five, and captured one crew-served weapon and several small arms.

1st Log Units Adopt Girl

SAIGON, (1st LOG-IO)—As part of their civic action program, the 1st and 3rd Platoons of the 1st Logistical Command's 120th Transportation Company have adopted a nine-year-old Vietnamese girl.

Funds collected from the men of the platoons are used to provide Nguyen Thi Minh Dung with food, clothes and a few "extras" as well as insuring her continuing in school.

The 120th Transportation Company, a member of the 48th Transportation Group provides logistical support to units scattered throughout the Long Binh area.

Although two other landing zones nearby received mortar attacks, the enemy concentrated his ground attacks on Ross and Leslie.

Throughout the action, the soldiers of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division who defended the two landing zones were sup-

ported by artillery, helicopter gunships and Air Force tactical aircraft.

Besides losing 287 soldiers, the NVA also lost 80 individual (rifles, carbines, and sub-machineguns) and 20 crew-served (machineguns, mortars, and recoilless rifles) weapons.



• LZ: LANDING ZONE

Further Marijuana Smuggling Into Australia Could Eliminate Area As Future R And R Site

LONG BINH, (USARV-IO)—Four soldiers on R and R to Australia have been apprehended with marijuana by local authorities.

The legal officer here at United States Army, Vietnam, Headquarters says that if violations of local laws continue to occur there may be a curtailment of travel to these areas.

Importation of contraband and prohibited items such as explosives, narcotics and marijuana is illegal and subjects the person violating the laws of the

host country to arrest and trial.

Penalties for these offenses are severe. One specialist four is now serving three months confinement at hard labor for attempting to smuggle marijuana into Australia. His appeal was denied.

In addition to the penalties given by the country, individuals are not exempt from prosecution under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or administrative separation from the service.

Article 134 of the UCMJ provides the maximum punishment for the wrongful possession or use of habit-forming drugs or marijuana as: dishonorable discharge, confinement at hard labor for five years, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and, in the case of enlisted men, reduction to the lowest enlisted grade.

The legal office also warns that time spent in a foreign jail is "time lost" and does not apply for duty time in-country.

Editorial

Help Your Future

You, the American serviceman, are richer today than ever before.

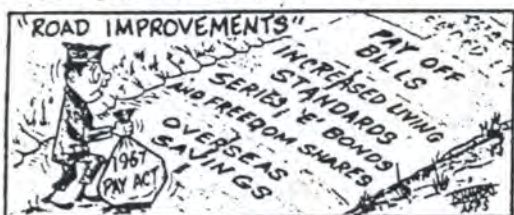
The Uniform Services Pay Act of 1967, signed into law by the President Dec. 16, has given you the fifth pay raise in as many years, supplemented by other improvements in the military pay system.

First, Congressional action has provided you with a 5.6 percent per annum increase in your basic pay, and second, included a number of other provisions such as:

Increased Dependents Assistance Act allowances for certain personnel in the lower pay grades;
Creation of a special basic pay rate of \$844.20 a month for the senior NCO position of each of the services;
Travel and transportation allowances for one round trip from a continental U.S. medical treatment facility to a point selected by the serviceman and approved by his Service Secretary when traveling during convalescent leave resulting from illness or injury while eligible for hostile fire pay.

That's not all. The pay bill also provides for future military pay increases tied in both date and amount to average future increases granted federal civil service classified employees.

Now, you have more money in your pocket. The



question is—what are you going to do with this windfall?

You could invest in your own future and save through two sound savings programs offered the serviceman for the wise and prudent use of his money—U.S. Savings Bonds and Uniformed Services Savings Deposits.

Consider, while counting the pay increase, that the new "Freedom Shares," which mature in four and a half years and earn 4.74 percent interest, are sold as packages with Series E Savings Bonds. With \$39, you can buy a \$25 Freedom Share and a \$25 Series E bond.

Here in Vietnam, you can use the Uniform Services Savings Deposit Program which pays 10 percent interest annually on deposits up to \$10,000.

Make that 5.6 percent increase work for you, while remaining within the same budget you operated under before the pay raise. (AFPS)

Pass In Review:

Awards And Decorations

LONG BINH, (1st SIG-10) — A helicopter pilot who risked his own life to rescue the survivors of an air crash was recently presented the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Warrant Officer Danny J. Rudy, a member of the 2nd Signal Group, was near the city of Vung Tau when he received a request to search for the downed aircraft.

The chopper spent an hour in the high winds over the ocean and, although he did not spot the survivors, Rudy did locate the wreckage.

He was then informed the four-man crew had been picked up by a Navy boat and that they had to be evacuated to a hospital.

The helicopter was not equipped with a hoisting apparatus for evacuation, so Rudy hovered his craft next to the boat while the high winds threatened to blow the helicopter into the navy vessel.

Although the helicopter was running short of fuel, Rudy maneuvered close enough to allow the patients to move into the craft.

The crewmen were all transferred to the chopper and moved to the hospital in Vung Tau.

Distinguished Service Cross

Sp4 Thomas E. Bullard

Capt. Merrill F. Wymer Jr.

Silver Star

Sp4 William P. Morin Jr.

Sp5 Mervin D. Golden

Sgt. Donald C. Martin

Sp4 Steven B. Hook

Distinguished Flying Cross

Sp4 Sean Roman

SSgt. Eugene H. Thomas

SSgt. Hazel Lewis Jr.

Soldier's Medal

Sp4 Michael D. Burns

Sgt. Garrett V. Graves Jr.

Sp4 Lloyd W. Eubanks

Bronze Star With "V"

Sgt. Johnny S. Matthews

2nd Lt. James F. Lewis

Capt. Bobby G. Moon

Democratic System Produces Dynasty Of 'Political Families'

By Sp5 Richard Steias

Most Americans would regard their political system as democratic, if not at times, egalitarian. Yet a close analysis of American history will show that the system has consistently produced what may be called "political families"—in European terms, dynasties.

In the late 18th Century, this was to be expected. Those families of wealth and learning inclined towards political activity.

The foremost clan of this period was the Adams family, which produced the second and sixth Presidents of the United States. In addition to a host of diplomats, historians and business-men of note and fame.

The Adams reached the pinnacle of power twice, but there were numerous others families who contributed outstanding public figures in this era: the Livingstons and Jays, to name only two.

Yet as the democratic impulse

swept the nation with the opening of the west, political families continued to appear.

In the 1840 election, William Henry Harrison was elected President, and his family remained in public affairs until as late as 1892, when his grandson, Benjamin Harrison was also elected President.

The most famous political family of the 20th Century was the Roosevelt family, which produced Theodore and Franklin as Presidents. Teddy and FDR were not as closely related as the Adams and Harrisons (they were 6th cousins), but their families had been in politics for generations.

Theodore and Franklin were from the two separate branches of the Roosevelt family (one being Democratic, the other Republican); their children, although never achieving the

fame of their fathers, have remained involved in some form of political activity.

The leading political family of the mid-20th Century is the Kennedy family. At various times, the offspring of one man have held the positions of President, Senator (3 times), Attorney General, plus several subordinate government roles.

The Kennedys are the latest in a long line of major and minor American dynastic families. The American system was, and remains, democratic, but at one time or another throughout our history, the electorate has chosen its leaders from the same families.

It may not be a totally egalitarian method of choosing leaders, but few would deny that it has produced some of the most outstanding figures in American history.

God's Spirit Brings Love, Grace In Place Of Any Emotional Upsets

By Chaplain (Maj.)
Everette J. Thomas

Is it possible that you are numbered with those who, from time to time, suffer from emotional upset?

Perhaps you have a fester burning in your emotional make-up which should be removed. It is true that most of our high moments have been made so by the warmth and light of emotion.

There are times, however, when we need the cold logic of a clear mind, because while emotion can lift us up to life's grandest moments, it can also cast us down into some of its worst.

Love gives new life; Hate destroys. Mercy heals; resentment wounds. Compassion brings heaven's song; spite strikes the discords of hell.

In the story of the prodigal son we have an accurate picture of the damage done by an area of emotions known as "hurt feelings". The elder brother imagined that he was not appreciated, that he had been neglected.

He pouted, became surly and insolent, not to say sarcastic toward his father. He made life miserable for himself, and spoiled the joy of the father and younger son.

Isn't that an accurate picture of the torment, confusion, and inefficiency we can all know from festered feeling?

How can we remove this fester of hurt feeling? Grow in grace. Get out of your rut.

Call to mind the picture of the elder brother in the parable. Let God's spirit bring cleansing love and healing grace in the place of sinful emotional upset.



SOLEMN MOMENT—Robed in a parachute, Chaplain (Maj.) James A. Peterman holds mass for the men of the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry during the 25th Infantry Division's Operation Yellowstone.

(Photo by Sgt. Roger Smith, 25th INF-10)



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Sp4 Larry Johnson	Reporter
Sp4 Jim Thornberry	Reporter



LIGHTER LOAD—With gear loaded in a sampan, 9th Infantry Division soldiers find the going a bit easier crossing the Mekong Delta in Quin Giao Dac District. The members of Company B, 4th Battalion, 47th Infantry were taking part in Operation Coronado IX. (Photo by Sp4 Leonard Wisniewski, 9th INF-10)

Trading Rifles For Hammers, Saws

Inf Repairs School Cafeteria

LAI KHE, (1st INF-10)—1st Infantry Division soldiers are showing the versatility of the modern infantryman by building a dining hall for the elementary school in the village of Son Trung.

The little Montagnard village, about 72 miles north of Saigon, is located a few kilometers from the field position of the 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry "Ramrodders." Last month, the school's old dining hall was partially destroyed.

When the Ramrodders saw the Montagnard children sitting at their lunches, they decided

to repair the children's dining hall. The infantrymen, more familiar with rifles and machineguns than with hammers and saws, called in the 168th Engineer Battalion's Sp4 W.H. Harris to supervise the project.

"Harris had to show us how to do everything," says PFC Robert Coates, a member of the Ramrodders Reconnaissance

Platoon, "because none of us knew anything about carpentry. He got lumber from a local sawmill, and we went to work."

The Big Red One Infantrymen poured fresh concrete for the damaged floor, erected new studding, and sheathed the building in window screening. Then they attached clapboard siding to keep out rain and the swirling red dust. They plan to finish the dining hall with a new metal roof.

"The biggest problem on this job," commented Harris, "is the crowd of Montagnard kids who hang around trying to help. They're so friendly and cute that the men can't resist stopping work every few minutes to play with them."

Weapons Revealed As Thanks

DI AN, (1st INF-10)—Three small boys turned over one hundred 50 cal. Viet Cong rounds to the men of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry at Thunder IV as "their way" of saying "thanks" to the 1st Infantry Division.

The boys came from the small village of Tham Rot on Highway 13 near Lai Khe. When Company C and battalion headquarters moved into their night defensive position, they contacted the leaders of the village in an effort to aid the people as well as accomplish their mission of road security.

Representatives of the 1st Div. were greeted by the village chief, Ma Ngoc Xuan, and a Roman Catholic priest, Father Troung Vai Hien, who told them the history of the people of Tham Rot.

To escape the Communist tyranny of North Vietnam, these people left their homes in the north and sought freedom in the south in 1954. They first settled in Bien Hoa, then moved to the delta, finally settling at Tham Rot.

Choppers Break Up Possible VC Attack

CU CHI, (25th INF-10)—Courage and a pair of sharp eyes are credited with breaking up a possible attack on the Cu Chi base camp of the 25th Infantry Division 25 miles northwest of Saigon.

When the smoke cleared from the ensuing action, the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry's D Troop counted five enemy dead and captured a mortar.

Discarded bloody clothing and web gear led squadron officers to believe enemy losses were higher.

The initial sighting of the enemy's position was made by WO Jeffrey Halliday, aircraft commander, while he and a second helicopter were flying a late afternoon perimeter patrol.

Halliday reporting on the encounter, said he was informed by squadron operations that a team was not available to apprehend and question the men who up to that time were only suspects.

Rather than wait, Halliday's

crew volunteered to do the checking while the second aircraft orbited overhead.

As Halliday hovered over the area, Sp5 Thomas Lange, crew chief, grabbed his M16 and jumped to the ground.

According to Halliday, as the crew chief moved toward one of the hidden suspects, the man jumped up and threw a grenade, which exploded.

The aircraft commander swung the chopper around and sprayed the area with mini-gun fire, then dropped down and picked up Lange who was also firing.

The second gunship remained overhead, firing rockets and machine guns into the enemy's position. A short time later an Aero Rifle Platoon arrived and swept through the area, finding the five bodies and bloody clothing.

When asked why he volunteered to jump out to check the suspects, Lange's only reply was, "Why not?"

Four Viet Cong Killed By Hidden Claymore

PHAN RANG, (101st ABN-10)—The four Viet Cong walked to within two feet of the hidden claymore mines.

The paratroopers of Company A, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry, watched as Sp4 Charles V. Tiesander gripped the firing device and squeezed. The explosions were deafening.

Two VC were killed instantly. Two wounded enemy fought back. Streaks of pink and green enemy tracer rounds crisscrossed the area.

Specialist Four Edward A. Zembri raked the area with machinegun fire. The other men of the 1st Air Brigade, 101st Airborne Division unit joined in.

As he heard a dull thud to his left, Sgt. William R. Doyle yelled, "Grenade!"

The explosion rocked the ground, but no one was hurt.

The heavy fire faded. The enemy tracers could no longer be seen, and the Screaming Eagles stopped firing.

Silence. Two grenades were thrown. Still no reaction from the enemy.

A fire team checked the kill zone. Four dead VCs—three automatic rifles and one carbine were found.

"I'll say one thing for the VC," said Sp4 Lewis L. Lopez. "They have pretty tracers."

Arms Shown To 196th Inf By Hoi Chanh

CHU LAI, (AMERICAN-10)—A former North Vietnamese Army (NVA) sergeant, now a Hoi Chanh, led a company of American Division's 196th Light Infantry Brigade to an arms cache recently which contained nine weapons.

According to Capt. Larry D. Byers, commander of Company A, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, who found the cache, the weapons included four machineguns, three automatic weapons and two individual weapons.

"Late in the afternoon, a Hoi Chanh surrendered to us and said he would lead us to a cave which contained numerous enemy weapons," Byers said.

Gunships were called in to check out the vicinity of the cave, but due to inclement weather, Co. A was sent in to examine the area when the gunships were unable to reach the area.

Munitions Cache Destroyed By 4th Division Cavalrymen

CAMP ENARI, (4th INF-10)—Cavalrymen from the 4th Infantry Division's D Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry recently located a large munitions cache near Plei Me.

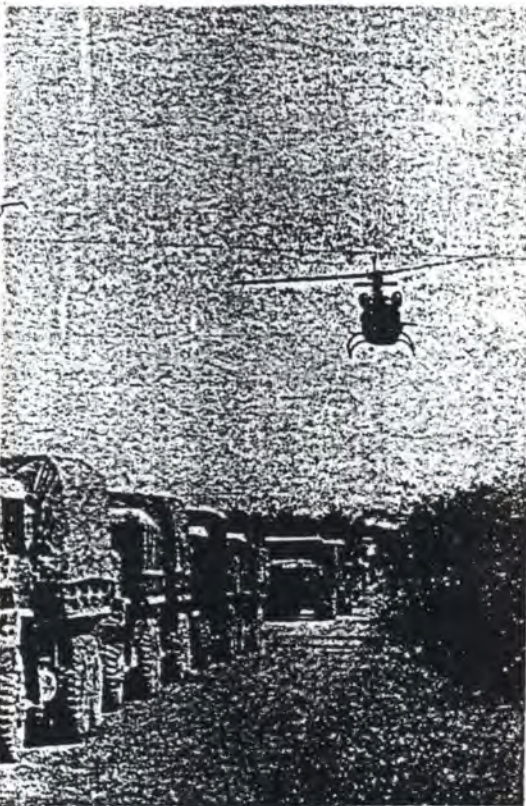
The light scout helicopter section of the troop spotted holes under some dense brush while on a reconnaissance mission.

Major Lloyd Kendrick, the troop commander who was accompanying the recon patrol, moved in and hovered over the

holes while Maj. Thomas White, squadron S-3 officer, was lowered to the ground for a detailed look.

White uncovered eight mines, eight cases of TNT, 4,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, twenty-five 82mm high explosive rounds, nine 40mm rockets, 15 rocket rounds and 30 fuses.

The troop's Aero-Rifle Platoon was flown in to search and secure the area while an ordnance disposal team blew up the cache.



GUARDIAN ANGEL—A helicopter from the 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division gives protective coverage to a convoy. (Photo by Sp5 A. P. Honegger, 1 FFV-10)

9th Inf Plans Improvements In Delta Area

BINH PHUOC, (9th INF-10)—An extensive urban renewal project, with the cooperation of 9th Infantry Division forces, will soon give this Mekong Delta district a new look.

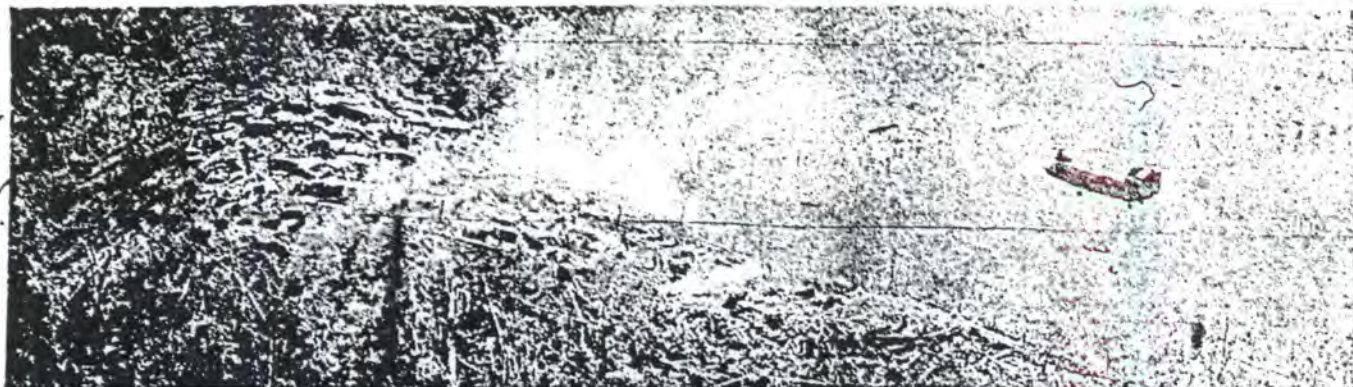
Aided by the 15th Engineer Battalion and the 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry, Vietnamese Regional Forces (RF) plan to open a new road and housing area for the growing population.

A combined tactical operations center for the 5th Bn., 60th Inf. and RF is in the final stages of construction.

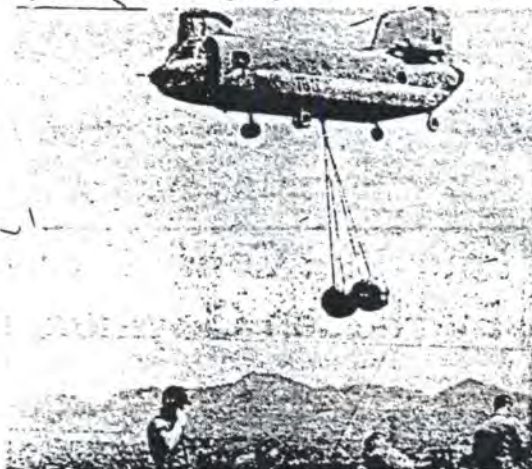
District police headquarters will soon undergo a complete overhaul. A new office building for the Vietnamese Intelligence Service is also on the agenda.

Under construction near District headquarters is a maternity clinic. In addition, most district office buildings are being repainted and new housing is on tap for the Popular Forces.

Save
Your
Piasters



SUPPLY MISSION—A Chinook from the 1st Aviation Brigade's 179th Assault Support Helicopter Company approaches Dak To mountain-top fire base with 7000 pounds of ammunition. During the two-week battle, the 179th airlifted an average of 300 tons of supplies a day to 4th Infantry Division soldiers fighting in the area.



BRINGING FUEL—Pathfinders from the 52nd Pathfinder Detachment radio departure information to a Chinook from the 180th Assault Support Helicopter Company as it carries two 400 gallon fuel "blivets" to a forward fire base.

In Eight-Day Dak To Battle

Helicopters Provide Support

PHU LOI, (1st AVN-10)—During the eight-day battle in the Dak To area, Chinook helicopters from the 1st Aviation Brigade's 215th Assault Support Helicopter Company assisted the 179th Assault Support Helicopter Company in supplying the 4th Infantry Division and the 173rd Airborne Brigade.

Six Chinooks from the 215th flew from here to a base of operations at Hensel Army Air Field, a satellite field eight miles south of Pleiku.

Each day, for eight days, the 215th supported operations around Dak To and Hill 875.

"The mountainous terrain in the area of operation there is much different than the lowland area that we're accustomed to," said Capt. Thomas Hyncek, assistant operations officer for the company. "It was like learn-

ing to fly all over again—making approaches to pinnacles and having to carry a lighter load because of the higher elevation."

The majority of their flights were from the Dak To resupply point to the several fire support bases near the Cambodian border and to the infantry units located in the vicinity of Hill 875.

During the course of one day, two battalions of South Vietnamese soldiers, almost 1000 men, were airlifted into a tight landing zone in the battle area.

On the initial lift, the troops were committed to battle as soon as they touched ground before the next lift of reinforcements arrived. By the time the lift was completed, however, the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) soldiers had control of the situation.

"The tactical situation dictated a minimum of lighting at night, both on the ground and in the air," Maj. Joseph Blanchard, flight platoon leader for the 215th, stated.

"Flying at night was extremely hazardous due to the high elevation and Landing Zones being located on small pinnacles."

When the 215th returned here at the end of the battle, it had flown over 500 combat hours, hauled approximately 1500 tons of supplies and equipment, airlifted more than 3700 combat troops, and Med-evaced over 50 casualties.

Photos by
CWO Donald R. Joyce
1st AVN-10



NO DEPOSIT, NO REFUND—Empty fuel blivets are returned to a rear fuel storage area by a Chinook from the 215th Assault Support Helicopter Company. The fuel was used in the Dak To battle area.



READY TO LOAD—A supply rigger of the 173rd Airborne Brigade holds sling "donut" as a Chinook from the 1st Aviation Brigade's 179th Assault Support Helicopter Company prepares to hook up during the battle.



OFF FOR REPAIRS—A Chinook from the 179th Assault Support Helicopter Company lifts a damaged Huey from Dak To to Pleiku for repairs.

Arty Men Guests Of Villagers

PLEIKU, (1 FFV-10) — For their help in improving the living conditions of Plei Bruklah, members of the 52nd Artillery Group recently attended a ceremonial dinner as guests of the Montagnard villagers.

Eleven months ago, the village of Plei Bruklah resembled an array of tin-roofed houses where sanitation and elementary hygiene were almost non-existent.

The production of rice and crops was only minimal due to inadequate farming methods.

Through the combined civic action and MEDCAP program conducted by the 52nd Arty Gp., the members of the village, located near here, progressively bettered their living conditions.

A spillway was constructed to improve sanitation, and bi-weekly sick calls brought medical attention to the villagers.

To thank the Americans for their aid, the Montagnards honored the group's civic action officer, Capt. George M. Hristow, and his guests with an offering of roasted chicken, bananas, and rice wine.



HELPING HAND—Grenadier PFC Loren W. Reisswig is reflected in a muddy ditch as he links machinegun ammunition together for his buddy. Reisswig is a member of Americal Division's 198th Infantry Brigade.

(Photo by Capt. Dennis M. Eilers, AMERICAL-10)

Crossbows To Rockets

VC, NVA Material Exhibited

LAI KHE, (1st INF-10)—The Viet Cong have fought with everything from crossbows to modern automatic weapons. They fight with makeshift booby traps and complete Chinese Communist (CHICOM) weapons systems.

The 3rd Brigade Museum at Lai Khe has on exhibit samples of the wide array of VC armament as well as clothing, supplies and items of daily living used in VC basecamps and hideouts in the 1st Infantry Division area.

"The museum shows the evolution of the Viet Cong weapons, from homemade to the latest CHICOM automatic rifle and RPG-7 rocket launcher captured recently on Operation Shenandoah II," Maj. Eugene D. Tapscott, museum curator, said.

"We have samples of almost every weapon the Viet Cong have ever used," he said. "They were all captured by 3rd Bde. units in enemy encounters."

Besides CHICOM weapons, the museum contains French and other foreign weapons used by the Viet Cong, most of them second-hand.

There are also displays of VC communications equipment and complete sets of VC and north Vietnamese Army uniforms, including a dummy dressed as a typical fully-equipped Viet Cong.

"The equipment used by the enemy is mostly homemade or second hand," the major reports. "They can use anything we discard, including batteries, tin cans or other metal, to make booby traps and grenades to use against us. That is why it is so important to destroy our waste."

Many of the weapons are part of the largest cache of the war, found in May, 1967, on Operation Manhattan. A Hoi Chaph (former Viet Cong) led 3rd Bde. infantrymen to a cache of almost 400 weapons, 323,000 rounds of small arms ammu-

nition and 4000 mortar and grenade rounds.

Other weapons are souvenirs of Operations Shenandoah II, Junction City, Billings, Bluefield and Cedar Falls.

A collection of English and Vietnamese language VC propaganda is also on display, as well as a collection of snakes and other reptiles common in Vietnam.

The attendant of the museum, Sp4 Henry Jaspers, is on duty every day.

A tour of the museum is part of the curriculum of the 3rd Bde. Combat Indoctrination Course for new arrivals in Vietnam.

First Lieutenant Carl E. Ranger, CIC director, explains: "We have courses on VC weapons and booby traps, then take the men to the museum so they can see for themselves."

Infantry Bde's Find Largest In I Corps

CHU LAI, (AMERICAL-10)—Elements of Americal Division's 198th Infantry Brigade uncovered one of the largest weapons and ammunition caches ever found in I Corps area recently 17 miles west of Tam Ky.

Company A, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry captured 140 weapons and destroyed tons of enemy ammunition in the brigade's largest discovery since it has been in Vietnam.

The weapons found by the battalion increased the total number of weapons captured by the "Chargers" to 253 in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

This discovery came as a result of information from a former 2nd North Vietnamese Army (NVA) Division non-commissioned officer who turned himself in.

The Hoi Chahn's information was the second of the kind which aided the brigade in finding enemy weapons caches. Earlier in December, he led a company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry to a cache of nine weapons.

After that incident, the former enemy was taken to the brigade's aid station and treated for malaria. While in the station he said he remembered where more weapons were hidden and he was ready to take the Americans to the location.

Captain Paul N. Yurchak, commander of Co. A, received word of the Hoi Chahn's knowledge and alerted his men that the cache was in their area of operation.

The former enemy, along with an interpreter and 2nd Lt. George A. Kidney, first platoon leader, boarded a helicopter to make an aerial reconnaissance of the area.

After he spotted terrain familiar to him, they made an air assault into the area with an 18-man force. Upon landing, the force spotted two Viet Cong 50 yards away fleeing from them. They were engaged and killed.

The Hoi Chahn led the unit to a village a short distance away, and discovered 15 weapons piled in a heap in thick underbrush. The weapons apparently were being used as a stockpile for parts.

Leaving four men to guard the weapons, the search party pushed on. Within a short distance the element came upon two

huts approximately 100 yards apart. Weapons were discovered in one hut, an ammunition stockpile in the other.

The captured weapons were taken 71st Aviation Company helicopters to the battalion's base camp. Some of the weapons included: 60 rifles, five shotguns, 20 light machine guns, five heavy machine guns, 25 sub-machineguns, two 57mm recoilless rifles, eight 60mm mortars, three 81mm mortars, four pistols, two M79s, two M60 machineguns, one 50-cal. machine gun and three light anti-tank weapons.

Orphans Receive VC Rice

CU CHI, (25th INF-10)—Five tons of captured Viet Cong rice was transferred from the 25th Infantry Division's Helping Hand storehouse to the Catholic orphanage in Thu Due, in what Father John Thien termed as reflective of the attitude of the American people.

Father Thien is the administrator and spiritual leader of the orphanage which he and Doctor Tom Donley founded in 1956.

First Lieutenant Phillip C. Grinton, 2nd Brigade civil affairs officer who headed the project, stated that word of the immediate need for food was received at division headquarters early in December and the rice had been transferred to Thu Due by truck.

Expressing his gratitude for the food, Father Thien said, "I want to thank you on behalf of the children, the other fathers and myself for your selfless gesture."

Emphasizing the Father's statement, Grinton feels that rice is more than a gesture in Vietnam—it means life or death to people. Grinton then explained that this particular rice had been uncovered in the Iron Triangle during Operation Atlanta by elements of the 2nd Brigade.



BIG LIFT—A giant Skycrane moves away with a bulldozer in tow after the 4th Engineers had cleared another 1st Brigade firebase in the dense jungle near Dak To.

(Photo by PFC Ralph Springer, 4th INF-10)

Viet Specialist Doubles As Medic To Montagnards

POLEI KRONG, (USAECV-10)—A member of an eight-man crew operating a 5-float raft across the Krong Poko River near here recently used his medical skill to give emergency first aid to two Montagnard tribesmen.

The soldier, Sp4 Carl E. Horne, a bridge specialist with the 30th Engineer Company, 937th Engineer Group, had just returned from transporting supplies and bridge parts to a construction site across the river when he received a call for help from several villagers.

Horne, a school-trained medic, had treated Montagnards daily at his bunker on the bank of the Krong Poko so the villagers knew where to come in an emergency.

He grabbed his medical kit

and followed them to Polei Krong. Viet Cong mortars had pounded the village earlier and the tribesmen led the specialist to two Montagnards who were suffering from shrapnel wounds.

Horne didn't have the proper medical instruments to remove the metal fragments but he stopped the bleeding until a doctor could arrive and clean the wounds.

Both men recovered from their injuries.

Horne has treated numerous infections and diseases among the people.

Patients lined up outside his bunker for treatment every morning until he ran out of the small supply of medication and bandages he had brought with him.

Inf Unit Receives V Award

LONG BINH, (USARV-10) — The Valorous Unit Award was recently presented to Company A, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry for heroism during Operation Paul Revere II in Pleiku Province.

While searching an area of previous hostile contact south of the Ia Drang River, the company suddenly engaged a North Vietnamese Army (NVA) battalion.

Intense mortar and machine-gun fire quickly inflicted many casualties, and the men were forced to dig into defensive positions within a small perimeter.

All of the wounded who could still fire were placed on the perimeter to help repulse the enemy's human wave attacks.

Aided by mortar, artillery and air strikes, the men of Co. A manned their tenuous positions and inflicted heavy losses on the insurgents, forcing them to abandon their attack.

Despite continuing probes by hostile elements, the besieged company prepared a helicopter landing zone. Medical evacuation and supply aircraft were driven off by enemy fire, however.

Soon after the arrival of friendly reinforcements, the NVA unit mounted another desperate wave assault, which was thwarted with the help of massive mortar and artillery support.

Throughout the night, Co. A repulsed repeated probes and received small arms and mortar fire.

Although they had suffered numerous casualties early in the battle, the men valiantly defended their small perimeter and inflicted severe losses on the enemy.

For In-Country Training

1st Avn Helps 101st

CU CHI, (1st AVN-10) — The 1st Aviation Brigade's 269th Combat Aviation Battalion recently conducted an accelerated in-country helicopter course for 14 pilots of the newly arrived 101st Combat Aviation Battalion.

The 269th Assistant Operations Officer, Maj. Jack M. McKnight, explained that the two-week course was divided into two blocks of instruction and each utilized the valuable experiences learned by trained combat pilots.

The first block of instruction, which lasted one day, included a briefing on med-evac procedures, the description and location of local airfields, an artillery procedure orientation, a class on in-flight emergency procedures and a test to verify the pilot's flying ability.

The following 13 days were devoted entirely to flying combat

Engrs Finish Building

BA NGOI, (USARV-10) — Engineers have completed construction of two 20-by-50-foot prefabricated tropical buildings for war orphans at the Suo Mai Orphanage near here.

The engineers, all volunteers from the 87th Engineer Battalion, 35th Engineer Group, hauled the building parts to the orphanage, placed the cement base and erected the spacious structures which replace a small hut that the youngsters had been living in.



HEAVY BURDEN—A recoilless rifleman from the Americal Division's 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry walks along on a search and destroy mission during Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. (Photo by Capt. Jerry Harkavy, AMERICAL-10)

New School Opens For 194 After Project By US, ARVNs

RACH KIEN, (9th INF-10) — Classes have begun for 194 children of this village in the first schoolhouse to be constructed here.

The local people, who provided much of the building labor, were aided by the 9th Infantry Division's 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry; the 46th Engineer Battalion; the U.S. Navy's 0702nd Seabee Team; the Army of the Republic of Vietnam's 3rd Corps; 556th Regional Force (RF); the Rach Kien District Popular Force (PF); and the Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere (CARE).

The Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, District Advisory Teams 86 coordinated the

efforts of the units involved.

Construction of the school, which replaces a house where crowded classes were held, was supervised by the Seabee team.

The five-room building is surrounded by a picket fence built by the 556th RF and District PF.

CARE school kits were given to each child on opening day. These contained a pen, pencil, notebook, eraser, inkwell, slate and chalk.

Desks and benches were provided by the 3rd Bn., 39th Inf., which also donated baseball, basketball, football and volleyball equipment.

Until the new school was finished, recreational facilities for the children were not available. The 46th Eng. Bn. are now working on swings and seesaws.

"The people are quite enthusiastic about the school," said Maj. Robert W. Black, assigned to Team 86. "They have shown it in many ways."

The day before school opened village children, carrying buck-

ets of water and rags, cleaned the desks, floor and walls.

District Chief, Maj. Dong, the teachers and the people of the community presented a bouquet of flowers and a music box to the 3rd Bn., 39th Inf. and Team 86 to express their appreciation.

VC Mistake Leads To Ammo And Equipment

CU CHI, (101st ARN-10) — A small Viet Cong force skirting a 101st Airborne Division 2nd Brigade outpost in murky darkness near Cu Chi recently committed a mistake which cost the VC ammunition, equipment and apparently men.

"Somehow they made an error, because they were walking right into us," said 2nd Lt. George H. Garrett, leader of the security platoon of Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

"When they were 20 yards away," Garrett continued, "we

'Rangers' On Daily Operations

PHU LOI, (1st INF-10) — One of the several units of the 1st Infantry Division engaged in the almost daily search and destroy operations is the Phu Loi Patrol Force, nicknamed "Hell's Rangers."

Created three months ago, the patrol is composed of volunteers from various units in the base camp here.

"We are rarely able to make contact with the enemy," stated Sgt. Peter MacDonald. "Sometimes we receive sniper fire, but that is usually the closest we've got to Charlie. He usually chooses to run."

MacDonald noted that the Viet Cong booby trap their base camps heavily before leaving. Most of the VC base camps and tunnels discovered by the Rangers are new and have been recently abandoned.

Of one recently discovered base camp PFC Steve Hulsar said, "A bowl of rice dropped on the ground was so fresh that the ants hadn't found it yet."

Though the main mission of the patrol is search and destroy operations, the Hell's Rangers sometimes operate as a blocking force. During a recent search and seal of a village, the patrol waited for Charlie to run into their position after being forced out by other infantrymen.

opened up with everything we had."

The platoon, which had yet to make contact with the VC since arriving in Vietnam last month, had just reached a pre-determined perimeter site and began to set up camp when the enemy stumbled down the jungle trail.

They had known since early evening, however, that the enemy was near. Halfway to their planned campsite, they began to receive sniper fire and Garrett called for artillery barrages to his front.

Moving slowly toward their destination, members of the platoon heard voices behind them, but no contact was made until after they arrived. The VC suddenly appeared, walking toward the perimeter.

Screams and groans immediately followed the first volley from the paratroopers' M16 rifles.

The security platoon returned to Cu Chi two hours after dawn with more than 700 rounds of captured enemy ammunition and several pounds of rice and fish abandoned by the enemy in their flight from the brief fire-fight.

MIF Takes Clothing To Field

DAK TO, (4th INF-10) — A new system of replacing worn-out boots and fatigues for troops in the field has been developed by the 4th Infantry Division's 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry in the form of a Mobile Issue Facility (MIF).

In the past there was a problem of getting men in from the field to exchange worn-out or damaged clothing. So the cavalrymen met the demand where it originated.

Devised by WO Ernest Johnson, property book officer, the Mobile Issue Facility re-issues clothing in the field by truck.

With clothing records aboard, the truck makes two runs weekly to units in the field. It has all but eliminated the clothing-issue problem.

"We get the equipment directly to the individual," said Capt. Frederick Norbeck. "It also boosts morale — the men just couldn't believe it."

Blondie



by Chic Young



Success Marks Bde's 1st Year In-Country



HELICOPTER ASSAULT—Members of Company B, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry leap from choppers during an operation against the Viet Cong northeast of Saigon. (Photo by Sp4 Jerrold Fishman)



NEITHER MUD NOR SCRUB—Sergeant Sven Kland, squad leader in the 3rd Platoon, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry, makes his way through rough terrain in Binh Chanh District during a sweep operation. (Photo by SSgt. William C. Grant)

LON BINH (199th INF-IO)—The 199th Infantry Brigade completed its first year of combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam in December.

Though initially inexperienced, members of the 199th Inf. Bde. proved themselves in combat operations such as Shelby and, more recently, Rang Dong.

Operation Shelby, conducted by members of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry, cleared the former Viet Cong stronghold in the Pineapple Grove region of Binh Chanh district.

The region had served as an enemy sanctuary since 1954 and,

due to its strategic location, had also been used to pass enemy troops and supplies into the III Corps area.

The purpose of Operation Rang Dong was the removal of VC forces from Gia Dinh province surrounding Saigon.

Working jointly with Army of the Republic of Vietnamese (ARVN) Ranger battalion elements, the 199th Bde. also conducted a pacification program in conjunction with Operation Rang Dong.

During the initial phase of the operation, the joint forces made frequent contact with platoon and company-size enemy forces moving openly throughout the

province during daylight hours.

As a result of the operation, the VC forces in Gia Dinh were fragmented to the squad level. Enemy movement, day or night, was made extremely difficult.

The 199th Redcatchers used virtually every type of combat operation employed in Vietnam during Operation Rang Dong. Particular emphasis was placed on night operations.

At its peak, the brigade established more than 75 ambushes per night.

Rang Dong operations resulted in 1053 enemy killed, 125 suspects detained, 7683 enemy forfeitures and 594 sampans destroyed, and capture of 339 tons of enemy rice, 289 small arms and 12 crew-served weapons.

In addition to combat operations the 199th Bde. actively participates in many programs to win support of the people for the government of Vietnam and help improve their standard of living.

In an effort to persuade the enemy to lay down their arms and join the Chieu Hoi Program, the brigade conducts an intensive psychological warfare campaign.

To win national support of the people, the brigade conducts a massive Revolutionary Development Program.

Civil affairs projects launched by the 199th include repair of 25 major bridges and 59 major buildings, distribution of more than 229 tons of food and clothing, and training of over 100 Vietnamese nurses and aidmen. In addition more than 145 English classes for Vietnamese villagers of all ages.

The Redcatchers can also boast of having the largest Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) of any comparable-sized unit in Vietnam.

Photos By 199th INF-IO



GENTLY DOES IT—Captain Frank Fenda, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry, cleans a cut on the head of a Vietnamese child in Long Kien during a MEDCAP operation. (Photo by Sp4 Stanley Van Dyke)



CO-OPERATION—Captain Edward R. Clark, commander, Company B, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry, checks positions with Capt. Sanh, 3rd Company, 30th Ranger Battalion (Vietnamese Army), during a joint operation against the Viet Cong. (Photo by Sp4 Jerrold Fishman)



FORMATION—Members of Company B, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry ride choppers in "battle flight" to carry the action to the Viet Cong northeast of Saigon. (Photo by Sp4 Jerrold Fishman)

Americal Stops Training

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-10)—An Americal Division Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) disrupted a North Vietnamese Army (NVA) training session recently resulting in at least 12 enemy soldiers killed.

The action began when the team leader, Sp4 David Ohm, spotted approximately 30 enemy moving into a clearing west of Tam Ky during the Americal Div.'s Operation Wheeler/Wall-lowa.

The six-man LRRP team had been on patrol only one day and had set up an observation post on top of a hill overlooking a valley.

According to Ohm, "The NVA soldiers had moved into a clearing and seemed to be having a class. By the time I had plotted their position and notified a forward air controller (FAC), they had raised an NVA flag."

The Air Force jets arrived on target minutes later and began their bombing and strafing runs.

"On the fourth pass," said Ohm, "a huge billowing cloud of black smoke rose skyward, followed by three smaller secondary explosions. The enemy were splitting up and some were moving in our direction."

Ohm radioed for an extraction helicopter and the small team headed for the pick-up zone.

Warrant Officer Hou, a Vietnamese soldier working with the LRRP, suddenly spotted three enemy soldiers moving down a ridge in their direction. Reacting quickly, Hou fired his M79 grenade launcher, killing one enemy.

Upon returning to their rear base Ohm was told that the FAC had counted 11 enemy bodies killed by the air strikes.



HERE'S THE PITCH—A Vietnamese boy readies his new bat for the ball pitched by Capt. Bruce Roberts, a 4th Infantry Division gunship pilot, while playing baseball during a party at Plei Do Lim.

(Photo by Sp4 Ron Uszak, 4th INF-10)

Former All-American With 9th Inf

Pro Football Player Wins Silver Star

LONG THIANH (9th INF-10)

A former college and professional football lineman has won the Silver Star for gallantry in action with the 9th Infantry Division.

Captain Gregg Orth, who earned All-America mention at the University of Indiana, played for the Chicago Bears of the National Football League, and rated all-star honors in the Continental League, recently received the nation's third highest decoration for his actions on

September 15.

While leading Company A, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry on a search and destroy operation in the Mekong Delta, Orth and his unit were ambushed by a numerically superior enemy force.

The commander rallied his men to counterattack the ambushers. Although wounded himself, Orth defied a barrage of automatic weapons and small arms fire to carry one of his injured soldiers over 400 yards to safety.

Soon after, Orth was reassigned to direct the 9th Division's in-country replacement training program here. He now serves as commander of the Division Administration Company.

Orth's other awards include a Bronze Star for Valor, two purple hearts and a Combat Infantryman's Badge.

The gridiron credentials, carried by Orth are almost as impressive as his battlefield achievements.

In 1961, his senior season as an offensive and defensive tackle for the University of Indiana, Orth drew All-America recognition and was named to the All Big 10 squad, despite his team's lopsided losing ledger.

He went to training camp with the Chicago Bears in 1962. "I played a lot in the exhibition games," Orth recalls, "but Larry Morris and several other veterans were ahead of me at linebacker. They put me on the taxi squad where I stayed for four or five regular season games before returning to school."

A year later, Orth entered the Army to fulfill his ROTC commitment. In 1964, playing for the Ft. Benning eleven, "one of the few winning teams in my career," Orth helped them to a victory in the Missile Bowl for the inter-service championship. He was voted runnerup for the most valuable player in the service and was listed on the first string All-Army lineup.

After completing his initial Army tour, Orth was back in camp with the Bears in 1966.

This time I had lost my

mobility and didn't even last through the exhibition season. Doug Atkins and Ed O'Brian-vich were a tough pair to beat out for a job and I was badly in need of experience."

As evidence, Orth cited one of his most embarrassing moments in a pre-season contest against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"They had the ball on our 20-yard line in the waning moments of a close game," he explained. "Their aging fullback, John Henry Johnson, then cracked through the line directly toward me. I tried to tackle him around the arm instead of the legs, and immediately regretted it. He threw out a straight arm and dragged me 20 yards into the end zone."

Pittsburgh emerged with a victory and Orth with a red face.

George Halas, the Bears' owner-coach decided to farm out the rookie to the Wheeling Ironmen of the Continental League.

"Here I was a loser again," he cracked. "We played 14 games that season and all were defeats."

Orth proved to be one of the club's few winners when he was selected for all-league billing in the equivalent of baseball's Triple-A circuits.

The next year, Orth began his second Army tour.

Having performed in two professional leagues and knowing many friends in the American League, Orth has some firm opinions on the disparities among them.

"The Continental League is better than the Canadian League and a few teams are on a par with some American League clubs. Most of the Continental players are either on the way up or down. The big difference is that they only practice at night, since many have other day jobs."

Orth is just as outspoken on the controversial NFL vs. AFL question.

"There's still no comparison between the two leagues," he

guitarist-leader PFC Lloyd L. Rainey. "We spent much of our time practicing and playing at the clubs on post."

They spent AIT at the U.S. School of Music at Little Creek Amphibious Base, Va.

There they passed a six-month course in five weeks in order to join the airlift to Vietnam.

From home base here, they shuttle constantly from one camp or club to another.

"As long as we can entertain the troops, we don't mind it here one bit," said trombonist PFC Ellis R. McKensie.

"We play all kinds of music," Rainey explained.

Their specialty, however, seems to be brass, soulful style that resembles a cross between the Tijuana Brass and Ray Charles.

Other members of the original group are drummer PFC William A. Novius and trumpet PFC Richard B. Linton.

Open slots in the combo were filled by organist PFC Eddie C. Owen, trombonist Sp4 Michael A. Bossier, and vocalist-bassist Sp5 Elbert L. Stewart.

Even in Vietnam, Orth closely follows the progress of his alma mater. Though disappointed by Indiana's 11-3 Rose Bowl loss to USC, the nation's number one team, Orth said, "Just the fact that the Hoosiers went to Pasadena showed me a lot. No other Big Ten team deserved a shot more than Indiana, and I'm very proud of the Cinderella season they've had."

Still trim at 6-4, 225 lbs, 29 pounds less than his playing weight, Orth plans to pursue a career in teaching or business after his release from active duty next January.



(AFPS Feature)

1. What player holds the NCAA major college division basketball record for the most points scored in a single game?
2. The NFL record for the longest run with a fumble recovery is held by long-limbed Chicago Bear's owner-coach George Halas. How long was the run?
3. Who is the oldest player to start this season in the National Basketball Association?
4. Philadelphia Eagles center Jim Ringo has become the NFL's all-time "iron man" playing in 181 consecutive games. Who held the record before Ringo?
5. What two teams participated in the first NFL championship game in 1957?
6. What NFL team won the 1957 NFL Championship game?
7. The Chicago Bears have played in 100 consecutive games since 1961. Who was the first player to start in every game since then?
8. What NFL team has the most points scored in a single game?
9. What NFL team has the most points scored in a single game?
10. What NFL team has the most points scored in a single game?

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACROSS

1. Japanese sash
4. Hebrew month
6. Tails
11. Part of heron
13. Spoilation
15. Truistically
16. Speechmakers
18. Sublimation
19. Artificial language
21. Pertaining to the ear
22. Female sheep
24. Possessive pronoun
26. Dark
28. Before
29. Winged
31. Impure
33. College degree (abbr.)
34. Grant use of
36. Tropical fruit
38. Steamship (abbr.)
40. Heavy
42. Direction
43. Frozen water
47. Helms
49. Arise
50. Extinct
52. A continent
54. Compass point
55. Printer's measure
56. Boys' back
58. Parent (colloq.)
61. Strike out
63. Crown
65. Dinner course
66. Steward (abbr.)
67. Writing fluid

DOWN

1. Psalm
2. Container
3. Prefix: not



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