

Vietnam Communique

Nov 4 to Nov 11

9th Infantry kills 179 in Delta**9th Inf Div**

During a week of heavy contact with the enemy Old Reliable Soldiers killed 179 men.

The soldiers and supporting gunship crews killed 53 VC Nov. 8. 51 were killed during one battle by the 3rd Bn., 47th Inf. The action occurred when the troopers were inserted into a landing zone six miles southeast of Bon Tre. "When we hit LZ you could see VC running in every direction," said Maj. Richard K. Haladay, battalion operations officer. "Once the troops on the ground started moving out, the cavalry unit composed of gunships from D Troop, 3rd Squadron, 5th Armored Cavalry, accounted for 45 VC killed as the enemy tried to evade the advancing troops in the numerous rows of coconut and banana trees. Four VC were killed by the advancing ground troops, while the artillery fire from the 3rd Bn., 34th Artillery accounted for two more.

In other action, gunship crews from the 3rd Squadron, 5th Armored Cavalry killed one enemy 15 miles northwest of My Tho, while ground troops in the same area found one more enemy body. One more enemy was killed by a reconnaissance patrol southeast of Can Gioc during the early morning hours.

America Div

Soldiers of the America Division killed 166 enemy during the week.

On Nov. 4 they killed 29 enemy, detained 13 suspects and seized rice and salt caches in widely scattered actions

throughout the southern portion of the I Corps Tactical Zone.

Soldiers from the 198th Light Infantry Brigade killed 10 Viet Cong and two North Vietnamese Army soldiers in scattered contacts in the Burlington Trail area during the day. While conducting a cordon-and-search operation west of Tam Ky, an element from the 1st Bn., 48th Inf. accounted for five of the enemy killed. The cordon also produced 12 suspects and eight tons of rice seized.

In scattered action division soldiers killed 42 on Nov. 8.

The largest of the day's action involved the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, which accounted for 24 of the enemy dead. Thirteen of the enemy were killed when a reconnaissance element from the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., observed 15 VC six miles southwest of Tam Ky. They called in artillery on the enemy soldiers, killing 13. Eight more enemy were killed in scattered actions throughout the day.

1st Avn Bde

Gunners of the 1st Aviation Brigade killed 184 enemy in support of American Divisions, and killed 68 enemy in support of ARVN units.

The crews from the 164th Combat Aviation Group reported killing 23 VC Nov. 10 as they operated in the Mekong Delta. The chopper gunners also reported sinking 19 sampans and destroying 18 structures.

Gunship crews from the 307 Combat Aviation Bn., 235th Armed Helicopter Company operated in the same area 15 miles east of Bac Lieu. In several strikes, the Cobra crewman reported killing 14 VC, sinking six sampans and destroying 14 structures.

The 13th Combat Aviation Bn., 114th Assault Helicopter Co., flew in support of the 7th Infantry Division (ARVN) operating the same area centered seven miles northwest of Sa Dec. The crewmen reported killing three VC and sinking two

sampans in scattered contacts.

Gunship crews from A Troop and C Troop, 7th Squadron, 1st Air Cavalry reported killing six more VC, sinking 11 sampans and destroying five structures in scattered contacts in an area 19 miles northwest of Can Tho.

1st Cav Div

Skytroopers of the 1st Cavalry Division reported killing nine enemy in light action during the week, as most of the unit moved to its new home 40 miles from Saigon.

On Nov. 4 cavalrymen and soldiers from the 1st ARVN Regiment killed seven enemy, while conducting a combined cordon operation southeast of Quang Tri City.

All seven of the enemy were killed when they attempted to break the cordon. One was killed when he was spotted crawling out of a spiderhole. Gunship crews from the 1st Squadron, 9th Cav, killed another when he attempted to hide in a hedgerow.

Operating in their new area in the III Corps Tactical Zone Nov. 9 the cavalrymen reported killing two VC.

The first VC was killed when soldiers from the 1st Bn., 9th Cav, engaged an estimated enemy platoon six miles east of the division's basecamp at Phuoc Vinh. Later, seven miles southeast of the basecamp, a reconnaissance patrol engaged a small enemy force, killing one.

1st Inf Div

Big Red One soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division reported killing 63 enemy soldiers in moderate action.

On Nov. 8 elements from the 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, under the operational control of the 1st Infantry Division, killed 17 enemy when they battled an estimated NVA company four miles southwest of An Loc.

Initial contact was made when the cavalrymen were pushing through thick growths of rubber trees and engaged the enemy, who employed RPG and automatic weapons fire. The APCs moved up on line and returned fire. Gunship crews from D Troop, 1st Squadron, 4th Cav, and artillery fire supported the action. The enemy evaded and a search revealed a recently built bunker complex. The cavalrymen pursued the enemy and successfully re-established contact about an hour later. Artillery and gunships were again called in and a search after the contact revealed 17 enemy bodies.

Two days later 1st Infantry Division soldiers and supporting elements killed 23 enemy, found the bodies of two others and uncovered two small caches in widely scattered actions.

In the day's heaviest action, air cavalrymen from D Troop, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, under the operational control of the 1st, had moved out from a dense rubber tree area into an open field six miles southwest of An Loc. Once they were in the open, they came under enemy RPG, automatic and small arms fire. The U.S. forces returned the fire and battled the enemy for about an hour before contact was broken. A sweep of the area revealed the bodies of 13 NVA soldiers.

4th Inf Div

The 4th Infantry Division soldiers encountered a week of light contact with the enemy.

A division reconnaissance element encountered an estimated 10 NVA soldiers, dressed in green uniforms, were spotted 120 yards in front of the US concealed position. During a brief exchange of fire, supported by gunship crews and tactical airstrikes, two enemy were killed.

In other action in the Central Highlands, the enemy directed mortar fire on a fire support base. Fewer than eight rounds fell on Fire Support Base 29, causing no casualties or damage.

A reconnaissance element from the 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. found two NVA bodies in shallow graves west of Duc Lap. The bodies were estimated to be three to five days old.

1st Bde, 5th Inf

Red Devils of the 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division experienced extremely light action in their area of operation.

A combined cordon-and-search operation nine miles east of Dong Ha resulted in eight suspects detained by infantrymen from the 1st Bn., 61st Inf. and two Popular Forces platoons.

25th Inf Div

Tropic Lightning soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division killed 117 enemy during the week.

The largest action took place on Nov. 5 when the infantry men, supported by gunship crews and Air Force pilots, killed 53 enemy and detained 48 suspects in scattered actions.

In the 1st Brigade's area of operations, a combined cordon-and-search operation of a village 12 miles northwest of Tay Ninh City netted mechanized infantrymen from the 4th Bn., 23rd Inf. and Vietnamese National Police 31 suspects detained for questioning.

Action in the 2nd Brigade's area resulted in nine enemy killed and 17 suspects detained. Shortly after 1 a.m., an element from the 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. engaged five NVA soldiers near their night position eight miles east of Cu Chi, killing four. Later in the day the same company detained three suspects two miles west of their night position. In an area eight miles southwest of Cu Chi, a company from the 2nd Bn., 14th Inf. detained 13 suspects, while helicopter gunship crews flying in support of the battalion killed three enemy. Two more enemy were killed and one suspect detained in scattered actions in the Chu Chi area throughout the day.

Ground forces in the 3rd Brigade's area accounted for eight killed while supporting gunship crews reported killing eight more. In two engagements seven miles west of Dau Tieng, Co. D, 1st Bn., 27th Inf. killed eight enemy after the troopers received sniper fire from an enemy bunker complex. The troopers also destroyed 27 bunkers and seized two bags of ammunition. Gunship crews from the 3rd Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry and from the 269th Combat Aviation Battalion's 187th Assault Helicopter Company reported eight more enemy killed in scattered actions around Dau Tieng.

Three tactical airstrikes east of Dau Tieng killed 28 enemy and destroyed 1,300 pounds of rice.

101st Abn Div

The 101st Airborne Division killed 7 in a week of light and scattered contact with the enemy.

The paratroopers killed two enemy and captured two individual weapons in the Operation Nevada Eagle area Nov. 10.

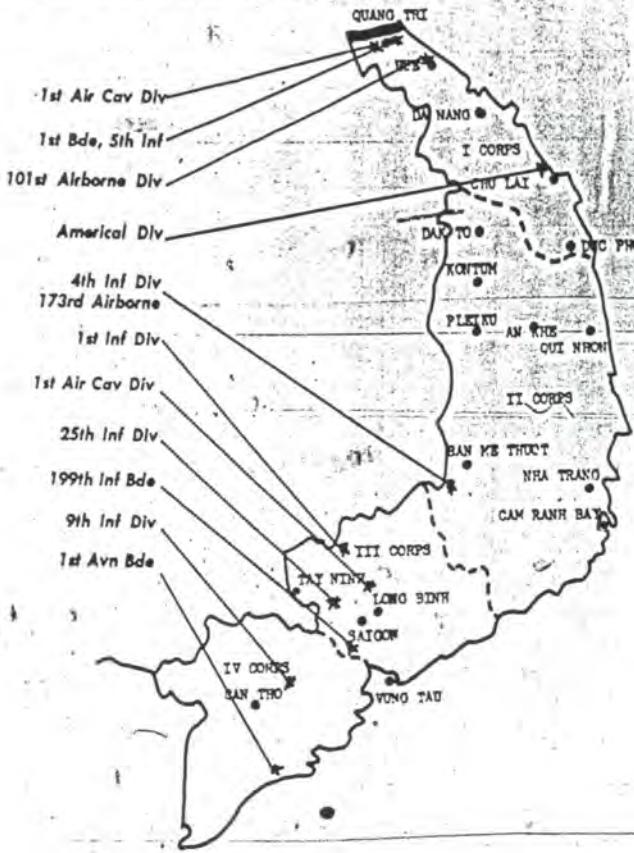
Members of the 1st Bn., 327th Inf. killed the two enemy while on a combined sweep operation with Popular Force soldiers 11 miles northwest of Hue.

During the combined forces cordon operation ending Nov. 8 in the Phu Loc District, 380 suspects were detained for further questioning. Fourteen were initially identified as Viet Cong.

199th Inf Bde

During reconnaissance in force operations in the Pineapple Region southwest of Saigon gunship crews from the 7th Squadron, 1st Air Cavalry, flying in support of the 199th Light Infantry Brigade, engaged the occupants of six sampans. Two VC were killed and two sampans were sunk.

In other action, elements from the 3rd Bn., 7th Inf. destroyed 26 bunkers in the same area.



Awards and decorations

Ivyman receives Silver Star

CAMP ENARI, (4th INF) — A 4th Division soldier was awarded the Silver Star with first Oak Leaf Cluster by Admiral John S. McCain, commander of U.S. Forces in the Pacific, in a ceremony at Camp Enari, 4th Division basecamp. Lieutenant Daniel R. Zanini a platoon leader with C Troop, 2nd Squadron, 1st Cav., distinguished himself in two separate battles less than two weeks apart in the Central Highlands. In May, a Civilian Irregular

Defense Group (CIDG) was on a road clearing mission near Ben Het when it was ambushed by a three-company North Vietnamese Army force.

"I had a recon team providing security for the group," recalled Zanini, "when the men radioed they were getting hit."

A reactionary force from his platoon was close to the contact area. He told them to get to the ambush sight, while he alerted the rest of his platoon, and sped to meet the enemy.

"When we got there," he said, "the NVA were hitting from two points, north and south, with heavy fire. My recon team was almost out of ammo."

He resupplied the Ivy men with ammunition, zig-zagging through a rush of enemy bullets. Once re-supplied, the 2nd platoon assaulted the enemy position. During the assault the platoon leader and platoon sergeant were wounded.

Zanini moved his platoon to

cover the evacuation of the wounded. He dismounted his track and again raced between the tracks to extract the wounded.

He then remained under heavy enemy fire to prepare a disabled vehicle for extraction. Again the tide of the battle was turned as the Ivy cavalrymen assaulted the retreating enemy's position.



Lt. Daniel Zanini

II FFV Arty unit honored

LONG BINH, (II FFV) — The Meritorious Unit Commendation was presented to the soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, II Field Force Vietnam Arty., for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service between Mar. 1, 1968 and Dec. 31, 1967.

Gen. presents award
The presentation was made by Maj. Gen. Walter B. Richardson, Deputy Commanding General of II Field Force Vietnam, in a ceremony in front of the artillery headquarters.

Richardson praised the men for their efforts. "You and the men that have departed before you have earned this award. As members of the finest combat arms branch you deserve it. Never in the history of the profession of arms has anything equalled the artillery. It is outstanding in every respect," according to the general.

III Corps HQ's

The citation, signed by the Honorable Stanley R. Resor, Secretary of the Army, stated in part "as the United States artillery headquarters for the III Corps Tactical Zone, the unit brilliantly dispatched the prodigious responsibility of effectively employing two group headquarters, nine field artillery battalions and one automatic weapons battalion."

The battery also established the first meteorological quality control section in the country and introduced a comprehensive survey program which extended its control to all major U.S. basecamps, fire support bases and Vietnamese units.

"By collecting combat intelligence and incorporating the input from its own visual reconnaissance program, they developed sophisticated, highly effective harassment and interdiction program which has literally nullified aggressive activity in their area of operations," according to the citation.

Assistance program

Realizing the significant contributions that Vietnamese artillery could produce, the command implemented a flexible program of assistance and training which immeasurably enhanced domestic effectiveness. The command also created a highly efficient procedure for aircraft protection-by-introducing warning centers, an action that has been instrumental in reducing the friendly aircraft accident rate, according to the citation.

Inf Sgt wins award for valor

ABOARD THE USS BENEWAH, (9th INF) — A soldier with the 9th Infantry Division's 4th Bn., 47th Inf., was awarded the Silver Star for valor as he lay in bed recuperating from wounds received the previous day.

Sergeant Joseph Wusstig, a platoon sergeant with the 4th Bn., 47th Inf., received the medal from Maj. Gen. Julian J. Ewell, division commanding general, for his actions during an air assault eight miles southeast of Ben Tre in the Kien Hoa Province.

As the first lift touched down, intense enemy fire prevented some of the helicopters from landing, leaving less than one platoon on the ground without support.

With firing increased, Wusstig, although wounded, repeatedly exposed himself to position his men and lead them in returning fire on the enemy's position, thus preventing an attack against his outnumbered element.

Although Wusstig knew he had been recommended for the Silver Star, he had no idea it would be presented in such a way. "I was notified about the ceremony little before the gen-

eral arrived," he noted. "I was a bit nervous, but I relaxed when he began talking to me."

"He has a way of making you feel real important," Wusstig said.

Heroics earn medal for lt

LANDING ZONE SHARON (1st Cav) — Lieutenant Thomas Kjos, Co. D, 1st Bn., 12th Cav., 1st Cavalry Division has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. "When his unit became heavily engaged with a numerically superior enemy force, and was pinned down by intense enemy fire, Lt. Kjos exposed himself to the hostile fire and destroyed an enemy bunker with a hand grenade."

The action occurred while Kjos was a platoon leader with Co. D. His unit was on a search and destroy mission near Quang Tri. The officer's heroics enabled his men to regroup and successfully complete their mission.

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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

Spec. 4 Roger A. Williams
Capt. Jesse L. Johnson
Spec. 4 Charles Houthoofd
Pfc. James Anagnosopoulos

Capt. Gerald J. White
Pfc. Lester Kopsollas
Col. Henry E. Emerson

SILVER STAR MEDAL

Staff Sgt. Charles H. Frazier
Capt. Donald N. Babb
Brig. Gen. James V. Galloway
Spec. 4 Albert L. Murphy
Capt. Lewis W. Like

Staff Sgt. Huey A. Thompson
Spec. 4 Eric G. Czernowski
Pfc. Charles E. Sine

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Capt. Harry E. Garrison
CWO Don L. Sewell
Maj. John W. Hires

★ ★ ★

Maj. Ira R. Watkins
Maj. Patrick H. Brady
WO Donald R. Lemaster

SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Spec. 5 William R. Henderson
Sgt. George R. Houston

BRONZE STAR FOR HEROISM

Staff Sgt. D. Brown

Lt. Theodore R. King

Lt. Thomas C. Wreesman

Cpl. Richard J. Adams

Lt. Daniel T. Weist

Capt. Allen P. Lesniak

Pfc. Edward W. Dockins

Sgt. Dennis A. Germentz

Spec. 4 Arthur W. Childers

Sgt. Charles E. Adair

Lt. James G. Elliott

Spec. 4 Harold R. Correll

Cpl. Riggie E. Dove

Sgt. Antonio E. Jaramillo

Spec. 4 Kenneth E. Conley

from the desk of



Shortimer Sam

Q. Dear Sam, I have heard that the Illinois Veterans Commission pays a bonus of \$100 to Illinois veterans of Vietnam. I have several friends in my company from Illinois and we have also heard that this bonus can be collected while still in Vietnam. Could you give us some information concerning this? Spec. 4 E.C., HAC, USARV Sp. Trps.

A. Drop a line to the Illinois Veterans Commission and while you are at it, see if you can get a few hundred for old Shortimer Sam.

Q. Dear Sam, I am presently serving in Vietnam with an artillery battery. I arrived in Vietnam on Sept. 21, 1968. I enlisted on Sept. 5, 1966 and am due to be discharged on Sept. 4, 1969. I would like to know if I submit a request for an early out to attend summer school which begins on June 12, 1969, will I get it as my DERO from Vietnam is Aug. 29, 1969. 1LT P.H., 937th Engr. Gp.

A. Get your books ready for school, as you are entitled to the 90-day early out. For further information, see your personnel section.

Q. Dear Sam, I've heard that Vietnam veterans don't have to pull ready reserve time upon discharge from active duty, that they are put into standby units and do not have to attend monthly meetings and summer camps. Would you please give me the correct information on this? Spec. 4 E.A., 5th Inf.

A. You are half correct. You do not have to attend monthly meetings but may have to attend summer camp.

Q. Dear Sam, I have heard that Korea is going to be opened up as an R&R center. Is this for sure? I would like to know because I am married to a Korean and she is over there waiting for me. Cpl. S.J.D., 9th Inf.

A. Have a personnel action form made up and, on your leave orders, not your R&R orders, have it stipulated that you have space available transportation from Tokyo to Seoul, Korea, the only route to your destination. There has not been sufficient interest to warrant Korea as being an R&R site, but your request may be granted, as approval is given on the merits of each case.

Q. Dear Sam, I am an officer in the 937th Engineer Group and I would like to know if I can get a 90-day drop to go to college? I also want to use the GI Bill for college. Can you tell me what regulations to read concerning this? 1LT P.H., 937th Engr. Gp.

A. Check paragraph 79, Section XXIV, AR 135-173. If all else fails, make an appointment with your unit personnel officer.

Q. Dear Sam, I am with a leg outfit of the 4th Infantry Division. After I pull my tour of duty here in Vietnam, I will need to extend for 45 days to be eligible for the 150 day early out. It being hazardous to my health to extend 45 days out here in the boonies, is there any way that I could extend for a job not so far forward? Spec. 4 R.H., 4th Inf.

A. Submit a request (USARV Reg. 600-200, para 5-7) for security guard duty, and if you receive that, then go ahead and extend for the 45 days.

Q. Dear Shortimer Sam, I am just beginning my second tour in Vietnam and have already twice requested a transfer to my old unit, the 223rd Supply & Services Co., to no avail. I am enclosing a copy of the message from DA in reference to my request. Will you please give me some regulations concerning this? SSG D.R., Btry. A, 82nd Art.

A. According to the message you received from DA, you have volunteered for your present unit and that is why you are not with the 223rd S&S Co. If you can submit verification from DA saying that you volunteered for the 223rd S&S, then you are in business.

Q. Dear Sam, I submitted a 1049 for a 90-day early E.T.S. I requested the early out because of school. I completed a hair-dressing course as a civilian and am licensed by the state of California as such and am very interested in furthering my profession as a beautician. I paid \$100 non-refundable to obtain my contract for a teacher's training course which begins February 21, 1969, approximately two months previous to my DERO from Vietnam and three months previous to my E.T.S. from the Army. My 1049 was turned down because the regulation states that the school must be recognized as an institution leading to a B.A. degree or higher, yet I know that my school is a V.A. approved school. Would you recheck this for me and let me know the outcome? Sgt. L.A.B., 199th Inf.

A. You have practically answered your own question. There are a lot of trade and professional schools that the V.A. offers financial assistance for, but some of those schools are not listed by the Army as institutions leading to a baccalaureate degree, a requisite necessary for the 90-day early E.T.S. Unless you can get the school to give you a refund, you've just lost \$100.

Q. Dear Sam, would you settle an argument and print the year that the United States stopped making silver dollars? Spec. 5 W.R., 101st Abn.

A. A law of 1873 discontinued the coining of silver dollars until political pressure forced through congress an 1878 act requiring the mint to buy two to four million ounces of silver monthly and coin the entire amount into silver dollars. Coinage was discontinued in 1935. Millions of the silver dollars long remained stored in bank's and treasury vaults, but eventually they became scarce and in 1964, a new minting was authorized.

Shortimer Sam

Stowaway to US is Army cook

HUE, (1st CAV) — For Staff Sgt. Peter Zach the distance between the European battlefields of World War II and the allied efforts in Korea and Vietnam, is marked by a tortuous trail through concentration camps and most of wartime Europe, which finally led him to become a citizen and soldier of the United States.

Presently a mess steward with the 1st Air Cavalry Division, Zach served as a corporal with the Polish army during World War II until he was captured by the Russian army as it swept across Poland, and sent to a Siberian concentration camp. After spending two years (1942-1944) in the camp, the communists sent him, along with other prisoners, to their war front in an attempt to slow down the German advance on their capital.

After the war, Zach made his way to England in hopes of coming to the United States and joining the army. "To me," he explained, "the American army represented everything good: food, clothes, money." His hopes were dashed when he discovered he would be unable to migrate to the states and in desperation, decided to stowaway on a ship going to America.

When he came through immigration, however, he was unable to win permission to reside there permanently, and was told he could only stay 29 days. "I solved that problem," he con-

tinued. "by hopping a ship to Cuba or some other close place each time my 29 days were up."

Then I would come back through immigration and be able to spend another 29 days."

After repeated attempts to join the army, at which he failed because he was not a citizen, he finally edged in at the start of the Korean War. "When they asked for my place of birth, I just gave them the address at which I was staying and they assumed I was American, and I was accepted." This success was a fulfillment of his dreams, and he has stayed in the Army ever since.

Since coming to Vietnam in April, 1968, he has taken advantage of his experience in cooking good delicacies, making the war experience a bit more tasteful to the 2nd Bn.-7th Cav. Skytroopers in the field. "I believe in giving them the best I can because they deserve it," he stressed.

"There are a lot of good men serving in Vietnam," Zach continued, "doing their job and not complaining like a lot of young people in the states who have never had it so good. It makes me want to do extra things for those in the field. So, I make cinnamon rolls, doughnuts, and cakes for them as often as I can."

Zach was a cook before coming into the Army in 1951. "I was disappointed at first when they made me a cook, because I wanted to fight," he said. "However, now I'm proud to be a cook. My dreams have come true in America, and I'm happy."

Zach's mother, brother, and two sisters still live in Poland. His wife, Fairy, and seven children reside in Stateroad, N.C.

Pfc gets 23 feet of mail

CHU LAI, (AMERICAL)—It isn't often that you find a soldier overseas who complains that he's getting too much mail.

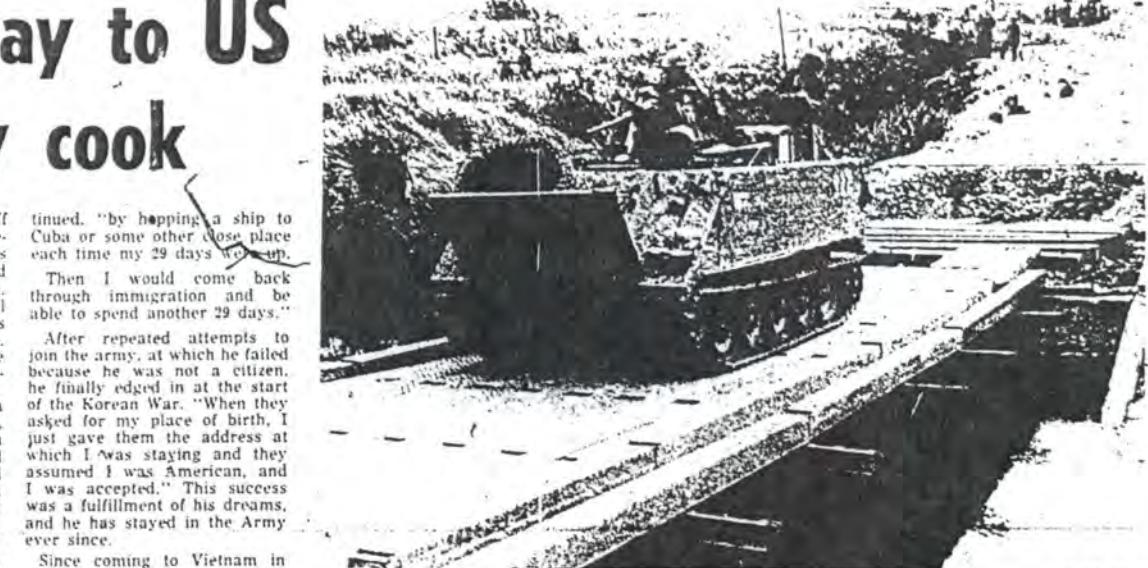
Meet Pfc. Ronald M. Krieg.

Recently, Krieg, an intelligence clerk in the Americal Division's 11th Brigade office, received a letter from home which probably contained enough correspondence to last him the rest of his tour in Vietnam.

The letter, written by friends and fellow employees at the grocery store where Krieg worked in Plymouth, Mich., was 20 feet long and contained 23 individual messages.

"It was written on a piece of window advertising that we use in the store," Krieg explained. "There were letters from all the guys I worked with plus some of the salesmen who called on us and several regular customers."

"I guess I brought this on myself," Krieg laughed. "I wrote to one of them and said jokingly that I was mad they weren't writing more often. Now I've got to figure out how I'm going to answer them all."



THE JOB completed, an armored personnel carrier from the 1st Infantry Division's 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf. rolls across the completed bridge. 1st Inf. Photo

Bridge built at basecamp

Chinook lifts to river site

LAI KHE, (1st INF) — Engineers have an important job performing difficult construction tasks in a minimum amount of time.

The 1st Engineer Bn., 1st Infantry Division fills the role well. Its men frequently work long hours before infantry operations begin, preparing roadways and setting up equipment. After the infantry has left the scene, the same equipment must be dismantled and made ready to use again.

Typical of the missions performed by the engineers was a bridge-building job, accomplished

recently in support of the 2nd Bn. 2nd Inf.

In order to conduct essential reconnaissance-in-force operations to check out part of the Michelin Rubber Plantation's vast acreage for VC activity, the men from the mech unit needed to get their 13-ton armored personnel carriers (APC's) across the Suel Cam Xe River, at a site about 15 miles west of Lai Khe.

A 45-foot prefabricated bridge skeleton had been set up back in the basecamp, and "Chinook" helicopter laid on to transport it to the Suel Cam Xe. But abutments had to be prepared to hold the span in place and a soupy quagmire filled so the big tracks could approach the bridge.

Finally, the area was prepared and "Chinook" arrived. Generally, the engineers fitted the airmobile framework into the

newly built abutments. Then prefabricated blocks were carried on to the span and pinned into place, forming the floor of the bridge.

Minutes after the last block had been laid down, the men of the 2nd Inf. rumbled across the bridge in their APC's. Few of them realized the hours of work necessary to make their river crossing so simple.

The mechanized infantrymen carried out their reconnaissance-in-force, while the engineers remained in place, guarding that bridge against possible enemy attempts at destruction. Once the infantry mission had been accomplished, the engineers were at work again. They did not get back to their basecamp until hours later when the bridge had been dismantled and the framework lifted out to use in another mission on another day.



A MECHANIC from the 10th Bn., 17th Aviation Group works on the main gear of a UH-1 helicopter. The 10th furnishes air support to the 1st Inf. 1st Inf. Photo

Soldiers win medals at Olympic games

LONG BINH, (USARV) — Soldiers contributed heavily to the unprecedented success of the U.S. Olympic Team at the Mexico City Games.

Army members brought home a total of nine medals, including four gold, two silver and three bronze.

Captain Mel Pender of Ft. MacArthur, Calif., won a gold medal as a member of the winning 400-meter relay team. Pender and his mates set a new world record of 38.2 seconds in the event.

Lieutenant Gary Anderson of Ft. Benning, Ga., again beat the world's best riflemen as he has done so often. He won the gold medal in the free rifle event and set a new world record.

Two Army members of the American basketball team, Capt. Michael B. Silliman of 4th Artil-

lery, Eighth U.S. Army, and Spec. 4 John R. Clawson of the Presidio of San Francisco, helped the U.S. compile a perfect record in the Olympics. Both received gold medals after the team's final victory over Yugoslavia.

Silver medals went to another Ft. Benning rifleman, Lt. John H. Writer, who took second place in the small bore rifle event, and to Pvt. James C. Wofford of Ft. Dix, N.J., who helped the U.S. place second in the three-day team equestrian event.

Spec. 4 Thomas F. Farrell of Ft. MacArthur won a bronze medal in the 800-meter run, as did Sgt. James R. Wallington of the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg in boxing and Pvt. William P. Maher of Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind., in the double sculls rowing event.