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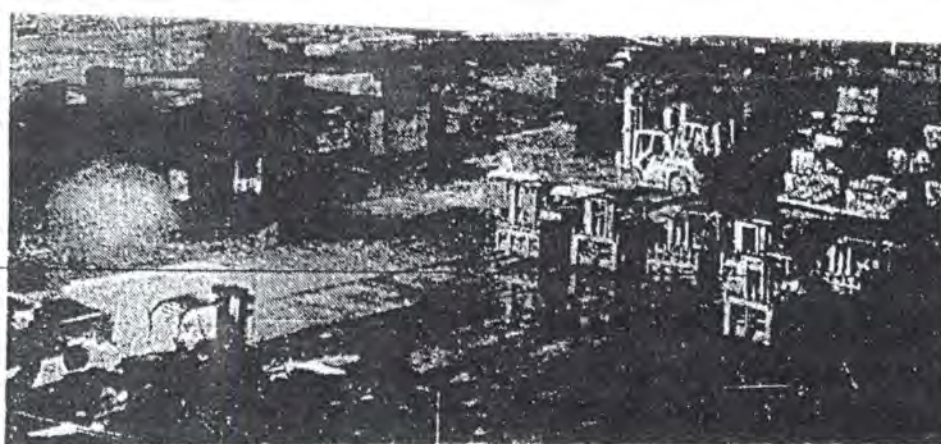
(1st LOG-10)—
lucts are the life
fighting in Viet-
moving the vital
units falls in the
Saigon Support
Quartermaster

"Main" battalion
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haul millions of
line, diesel fuel,
units each week.
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NIGHT WATCH—Twelve thousand tons of cargo a month move out of the day and night operation of the 8th Aerial Port at Tan Son Nhut. The District Traffic Office of the Traffic Management Agency acts as the middle man between the shippers and the carriers who use the aerial port facility. (Photo by Sp4 David R. Frazier, TMA-10)

Flying Cowboys Have Own Jargon

By Sp4 John T. Baldwin
DAK TO, (173rd ABN-10) —
"This is Dak To Sheriff. Mus-
tangs proceed to the South Forty
for a Wagon Train line up.

Mosey down the trail and head
west."

This is the wild-west jargon
now used by the Cowboys of
the 335th Assault Helicopter
Company as they begin a mis-
sion at the 173rd Airborne Bri-
gade forward base camp here.

"The 1st and 2nd Platoons,
commonly known as the Cow-
boys, developed the code to add
variety to the many call signs
used by the pilots throughout
the day," said 1st Lt. Thomas
Anderson, company operations
officer.

Upon returning from a mis-
sion, the Cowboys head for the
brigade refueling points, com-
monly referred to as the Feed
Bag and Water Hole. They re-
turn to their respective pads,
known as the Saloon, and await
their next mission which must
come down from Cowboy Con-
trol, or the Town Marshal.

Their take-off procedures are
directed through the terminal
tower, referred to as the Dak To
Sheriff.

This procedure is repeated
several times throughout the
day.

As the sun sets low in the
west, the task of resupplying the
various battalions of the brigade
is undertaken.

Supplies or Groceries are
picked up at a point known as
the General Store and are de-
livered to the battalions, or
homesteaders, somewhere out
on the Range.

Once they have completed
their missions for the day, they
return their choppers to their
pads at the Corral, and tie them
down for the night.

Trooper Slips . . .

(Continued From Page 1)
and waited." It was a short
wait because the RAG boats
opened up on the enemy shore
positions. "I used dikes for
cover but even so, the concus-
sion of the shells was terrific.
The shrapnel sounded more like
butter," said Miles.

DTO Is 24 Hour Mission

TAN SON NHUT, (TMA-10)—
The District Traffic Office (DTO)
of the Traffic Management
Agency (TMA) could possibly
put many commercial airlines
out of business if they were in
direct competition.

Handling more than 12,000
tons of air cargo during an aver-
age month, the paper work
alone keeps a small DTO de-
tachment busy day and night.

The DTO acts as the middle
man between the shipper and
the carrier, and the 8th Aerial
Port Squadron of the Air Force
does the actual movement and
loading of the cargo.

One of the men spends his
nights working amid the thun-
der of jet aircraft landing and
taking off is Sp4 Jules T. Tate.
Tate contacts shippers to in-
form them their cargo can be
brought to the aerial port for
shipment. He also checks vari-
ous cargoes as they pass through
the loading platform.

"All types of cargo are han-
dled by the DTO," Tate said.
"Blood for hospitals may go
on the same plane with am-
munition."

Soldiers Invent Way To Enjoy Monsoons

BONG SON, (1st CAV-10)—
Most 1st Cavalry Division troop-
ers equate the heavy monsoon
rains with soaked fatigues and
flooded tents. But one group at
the division's 5th Battalion, 7th
Cavalry base camp at Landing
Zone English has come up with
a way to enjoy the downpour.

After the artillery fire stopped,
the snipers took over. Miles de-
cided his only hope was to get
back to his company.

Running and crawling and re-
turning sniper fire, Miles moved
north. Three and one-half hours
later he crossed the perimeter
of his company.

Elephants

LONG THANH, (9th INF-10)—
A 9th Infantry Division mili-
tary intelligence aerial observ-
er, flying a recent people sniffer
mission, sniffed more than he
expected.

Chief Warrant Officer Donald
W. Leonard, of the 9th Military
Intelligence Detachment, was
observing from a Bird Dog
15 miles east of here when he
spotted a herd of 20 to 25 ele-
phants and 15 men.

It marked the second time in
three months Leonard reported
seeing elephants in the area.

Helicopters were flown over
the sighting area to verify the
find, and several observers saw
the pachyderms and men before
they disappeared into a nearby
rubber plantation.

When Leonard first spotted
elephants last June, about four
miles northwest of this month's
find, no official credence was
given to his discovery.

"As far as I know, American
forces had never before seen
enemy pack elephants this far
south of the I Corps area," Leon-
ard explained. "When I re-
ported seeing the animals in
June and said they looked pink,
people asked me what I had
been drinking."

Leonard said the elephants
looked pink again.

"I think the color comes from
the red mud they like to roll
in."

The aerial observer said he
could not tell if the elephants
were accompanied by men. The
first time he saw them. He also
noted the elephants were "de-
finitely not wild."

Assault . . .

(Continued From Page 1)
landing, fierce sniper and auto-
matic weapons fire opened up
from wood huts.

Later, the LZs were found to
be mined — one even had anti-
helicopter devices. Another was
filled with punji stakes and hos-
tile fire was reported from
most of the villages in the well-
populated area.

However, ground command-
ers later said the gunships had
drastically cut friendly casual-
ties. Gunships from the 161st
and 176th Assault Helicopter
Companies made repeated runs
in support of the operations.

After several days with the
temperatures well over 100
degrees, a 20-minute shower
completely flooded the area.

One enterprising soldier
grabbed his air mattress and,
with a running leap, belly-
flopped into the camp's main
drainage ditch. The fast current
carried him 50 yards before he
flipped over.

Within minutes, a dozen sky-
troopers followed, each trying to
ride the flow the full 100 yards
to the flooded rice paddy at the
ditch's end.

"That's the best fun I've had
over here," said PFC Robert
Reed, the originator of the Viet-
namese Surf. "This will make
the rainy season more enjoya-
ble."



EYES—One shy little girl looks with wonder
at colorful gifts from the 1st Infantry Division given
to school children of Di An for the mid-Autumn
Festival.

(Photo by SFC Dick Hylton, 1st INF-10)

Oct 14, 1967

Viet Flyer Rescued By 9th Inf Div Pilot

LONG THANH, (5th INF-10) — A 9th Infantry Division artillery pilot rescued a downed Vietnamese flyer recently ten miles southwest of Saigon.

Captain Robert E. Ostrom was flying an OH-23 helicopter from Tan An to Camp Bearcat when he noticed three Skyraid-

ers circling an area overgrown with palm trees and brush.

Thinking they were on an air strike and the Tan An control tower had failed to inform him, Ostrom turned to go around them. But seeing no evidence of bombing or strafing, he decided to take a closer look.

"They were buzzing the wreckage of a downed aircraft. There was no visible activity in the vicinity," Ostrom said, "and no friendly elements had reached the crash scene. So I decided to make a low level pass to see if I could be of assistance."

Ostrom identified the planes as Vietnamese. As he approached the downed plane, he saw a Vietnamese come out of the brush and wave his arms. Recognizing the man as a pilot by his flight suit, Ostrom brought his helicopter to a low hover and the pilot climbed aboard.

"The pilot apparently had a back injury, so I headed for Saigon," Ostrom said.

"They directed me to the Vietnamese hospital by giving me headings and by describing the hospital," Ostrom stated.

Ostrom took his helicopter down, assisted an ambulance team in removing the injured pilot, and then continued on to Camp Bearcat.

Prayer 'Stops' VC Slug

CU CHI, (25th INF-10) — "I shall never die a sudden death," were the words written on a prayer paper that stopped fragments from a bullet.

"We were caught in a cross-fire," relates PFC Robert Conte, "and bullets were coming in from all directions."

"All of a sudden, I felt a sharp rap on the back of my head."

When he examined his steel helmet and helmet liner, Conte found that the bullet had penetrated his helmet and liner, but stopped by the rolled up prayer paper.

Flying Cranes Moving Cav Operations Centers

AN KHE, (1st CAV-10) — Moving a division tactical operations center (DTC), never an easy task, was made a lot easier for the 1st Cavalry Division by the Flying Cranes of the 47th Aviation Company.

Specially designed pods attached to the Skyranes were adapted to contain a DTC or a medical operating room. The 1st Cav. has one pod equipped as an operating room and two as DTC's.

The medical pod gives the division the capability of providing front line medical care to wounded men who normally have to be evacuated to rear

areas.

The airborne DTC enables the 1st Cav. to move quickly and have an operational command post after touching down. All that remains is to install a generator.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1-Cashion
- 4-Child-an city
- 6-Animal
- 11-Rodent of guinea-pig family

DOWN

- 3-Note of scale
- 4-Declare
- 5-Lace
- 6-Bella
- 7-Teutonic deity
- 8-Oriental nurse
- 9-Mathematical

Answer to Previous Puzzle



IT'S UP—Soldiers from the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment leap for the ball during a basketball game at the unit's base camp. The game took place during the Red Cross Clubmobile Field Day at Long Giao. (Photo by Sp4 Jerry Cleveland, 11th CAV-10)

Strange 'Sniper' Weapon

Enemy Blasted By Howitzer

CHU LAI, (101st ABN-10)—A 105mm howitzer served as a "sniper's" weapon for the 101st Airborne Division during Operation Wheeler recently.

First Lieutenant Charles G. Vaughn, a forward observer with the 2nd Battalion, 320th Artillery, was scanning a valley through his binoculars when he spotted three black-clad figures moving through a rice paddy.

"At first I wasn't sure if they were VC," said Vaughn. "I followed their movements and noticed they were heading toward some type of structure in

a nearby woodland, probably a hut.

"I adjusted my binoculars, but I couldn't see too clearly because of a mist hanging over the valley."

Suddenly, the sun broke through.

"I quickly scanned the woodland, and what I thought was a hut turned out to be a bunker. But I still didn't know if the figures were VC."

Then two of the men picked up weapons.

Vaughn alerted one of the 105mm howitzer crews to a fire mission on the bunker 1800 feet away.

"It was close enough for direct fire. I called for the first round to fall 50 feet beyond the bunker. When it exploded, the three VC ran into the bunker for protection. We dropped our next round 50 feet and scored a direct hit."

When the smoke cleared, only the side walls of the bunker were left standing.

Viet Cong Plants 'Bush' In Middle Of The Road

DAU THIENG, (25th INF-10)

—Two Viet Cong who went to great pains to make themselves and their bicycles look like one big bush made one costly mistake near here recently.

They planted the "bush" in

as it was."

As Wilson flew overhead, the two VC stayed on the road for several minutes and then decided to move to the side.

"It was really funny watching this bush skitter off to the side."

Oct 14, 1967

Cavalry Regt Preplans, Builds Bridge For Villagers

(11th CAV-IO)—The Engineer Battalion of the 11th Armored Cavalry is to a Revolutionary project, they and spare no effort to get the job done.

Recently they were called on to rebuild a bridge connecting several villages with Route 1 in Long Khanh Province.

Platoon Leader 2nd Lt. William Stevenson went out and measured the dimensions of the

bridge, determining the exact amounts of beams, lumber, nails, equipment, and manpower needed to complete the project most efficiently.

The engineers pre-cut the beams and lumber to precise proportions before they left the base camp. When they moved out, all the materials, machinery, and men were ready to complete the project with no unnecessary delays.

After the convoy reached the bridge site, Stevenson showed PSgt. Henry Butler the work to be done as the engineers secured their crane.

At the same time, they set up a detour across the stream to keep the traffic flowing, but most of the populace preferred to watch the construction.

Engineers lashed cables around the old bridge and the crane tore it out moments later. With more help from the crane, they removed a couple of stray beams and, after clearing the remaining rubble from the abutments, layed in the first fresh beams for the new bridge.

Under the watchful eyes of the Vietnamese gathering from nearby villages and hamlets, the massive crane lowered beam after beam which the engineers guided into place.

As soon as the last beam had been lowered and the crane was pulling back to make room for the lumber, the engineers nailed the first planks to the beams. A power hammer pounded spikes through the planks in seconds.

When the deck was completed, the engineers stretched two parallel rows of boards across it to make a trestleway for assault vehicles and tanks. As the last nail was driven, a dozer tank scraped dirt into the approaches on either side of the bridge.

The project from start to finish took two and one half hours.



ONE—The 919th Engineer Battalion puts the touches on a bridge in Long Khanh Province captured audience. Photo by Sp4 Jerry Cleveland, 11th CAV-IO)

Montagnards' Dentists Worry About Oral Health, Not Appointments

(1st CAV-IO) — The United States Army's dental team in the An Khe area might envy the 55th Medical Battalion attached to the 1st Cavalry Division.

The dental team's effort to solve health problems of the Montagnards has been visiting villages four times a month. They have

noticed that we were being visited by the hundreds," said Ervin Cohen as an up a portable dental Montagnard settlement near the division's

As soon as the first customer appeared, a crowd gathered to watch Capt. Lawrence Wiatt remove infected teeth. Many of the people of the An Khe area have infections that make their teeth useless for chewing food, and are a constant source of pain.

The Montagnards have dental health problems all their own. After members of the Balmar tribe reach maturity, they file away two-thirds of their front teeth. "They have a very low threshold of pain," Wiatt noted. This increases the possibility of infection, and makes the teeth virtually useless.

"With their rice diet, they can still chew anything they need with their gums alone," the dentist explained. As Sp4 Wil-

liam Haman folded up the chair, one of the morning's patients reappeared with a crossbow for sale. "That was a quick recovery," Wiatt laughed.

Engrs Finish Bailey Bridge

CHU LAI, (AMERICAL-IO)—Working to beat the onset of the monsoon season, and under constant Viet Cong harassment, elements of the 39th Engineer Battalion and the 103rd Vietnamese Engineer Battalion recently completed construction of the longest Bailey Bridge on Highway QL-1 from Quang Ngai to Cam Ranh Bay.

In early July, the engineers, working with their local Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) counterparts, emplaced 100 feet M lay span on the original 27-year-old bridge to open the bridge for the first time in seven years.

In 45 days, expending over 25,300 U.S. man hours and 2530 equipment hours, engineers of Company C, 39th Engr. Bn., the 1st Platoon, 564th Panel Bridge Company, the 55th Float Bridge Company, the Heavy Equipment Section of Hq. Co., 39th Engr. Bn., and Company A, 103rd Engineers (ARVN) constructed

five concrete and pile piers for intermediate support, and closed the 580-foot gap in the bridge.

The joint U.S. and ARVN engineer effort was nearly destroyed by an intense enemy attack the night before the two sections of Bailey bridge were to be joined.

The VC attacked the bridge site from the south with an estimated multi-company force. The 40 men from the 39th Engineers, with excellent support from G Troop, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment fought 45 minutes under an intense barrage of 60mm mortar and 57mm recoilless rifle and automatic weapons fire before the enemy withdrew.

All through the night, the enemy directed harassing sniper fire at the security force.

At dawn an examination of the bridge revealed minor damage, and later in the morning the launching was completed.

Dustoff Pilot Saved By Blinded Trooper

DAK TO, (173rd ABN-IO) — As the dustoff chopper set down, the temporarily blinded para-trooper relaxed. Minutes later he was to discover his troubles were just beginning.

The previous day, Sgt. Richard J. Massa, a member of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade, had suffered bee stings around his eyes which rendered him nearly sightless.

Shortly after daybreak, a landing zone was hastily cleared and a chopper was called in to evacuate him.

Massa climbed aboard, but as the helicopter lifted out of clearing, it damaged its tail rotor in the surrounding bamboo thicket.

The ship crashed into the dense jungle and burst into flames.

Although his sight was limited, Massa managed to free himself and assisted in rescuing one of the pilots badly injured in the crash. Once the crew was assembled a safe distance from the wreckage, he continued his

assistance by administering first aid to the injured pilot.

Soon a rescue ship arrived in the area, and Massa and the crew were taken on board.

Avn Bn Flies 11,000 Hours In August

CHU LAI, (1st AVN-IO)—The importance and effectiveness of Army aviation in Vietnam was demonstrated in August by the 14th Combat Aviation Battalion, which flew 11,691 hours in comparison to their July total of 10,750 hours.

With four assault helicopter companies and one Chinook unit providing combat support to Americal Division in Quang Ngai and Quang Tin Provinces, the 1st Aviation Brigade unit averaged an over-all 81 percent aircraft availability during August.

