

company in the 9th Infantry Division recently killed 13 enemy six miles west of this Mekong Delta village.

As choppers bearing infantrymen of Company B of the 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry approached their landing zone, an enemy force opened fire with automatic weapons and small arms fire.

During the brief fire fight which followed, orbiting gunship helicopters killed four enemy.

Later, as the 1st Platoon was approaching its second objective, heavy enemy fire erupted from dug-in positions to its front.

While the 2nd and 3rd Platoons maneuvered around the enemy bunkers, artillery and air strikes pounded the area.

gunships and the rest by the ground force.

Captain Donald Holmes, company commander, postponed further searches until the next morning because of insufficient light.

The next morning the infantrymen collected four enemy weapons, among them two 30-cal. carbines, a Chinese Communist automatic rifle, and an American-made M-1 rifle.

The men also destroyed 104 enemy bunkers, seized 65 pounds of documents and clothing, and detained 14 persons for questioning.

The action occurred in an area known to the American soldiers as the "Bat's Nest" because of heavy enemy concentration.



FOOT BRIDGE — A soldier from the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, takes advantage of a rough-hewn foot bridge while searching for the enemy during Operation Malheur II. (Photo by PFC James H. Hesselgrave, 69th SIG BN)

Vietnamese Get Money, 101st Gets Information

DUC PHO, (101st ABN-IO)—A Cash Awards Program (CAP) of the 101st Military Intelligence Detachment, has begun to reap benefits for the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division during three recent operations.

On four occasions local Vietnamese civilians were awarded from 500 to 5000 piasters for disclosing information leading to the capture of Viet Cong weapons and in one case, a VC agent.

CAP was launched by Maj. James M. Tajiri in November of last year. The program met with little success during the first few months until the brigade began Operation Summerall at Khanh Duong.

There a Montagnard boy led paratroopers to a hidden machinegun and received 5000 piasters.

Two comparable incidents have occurred since the 101st moved to I Corps. Here, two 15 year-old boys saw a pair of VC digging in the road. The VC ran off leaving behind a detonator and fuse to a land mine. The boys told authorities about the incident and the mine attempt was thwarted.

On another occasion a small boy pointed out a booby-trapped grenade to military police.

The latest incident occurred in Operation Malheur II and involved a Vietnamese villager. He was awarded 500 piasters for the capture of a Viet Cong agent who was residing in the area.

The size of the award varies with the importance of the captured personnel or material. Awards range from 50 piasters for information to 6500 piasters for a 50 caliber machine-gun. A Viet Cong general could earn an informer 15,000 piasters.

Almost any item belonging to the Viet Cong or North Vietnamese Army is worth a cash award to a Vietnamese civilian who turns it in.

Snake Slithers In, Pilot 'Downs' Craft

CU CHI, (25th INF-IO)—An elusive snake, slithering around the controls of a helicopter, prompted a 25th Infantry Division aircraft commander to radio in that as far as he was concerned, his aircraft was down.

While flying a mission for the 25th Aviation Battalion, Capt. Thomas Fickle felt a snake crawling across his right foot. Pilot WO George Harrison took

over the controls allowing Fickle to rid himself of the snake.

Moments later Fickle regained the controls of the aircraft, because it was Harrison's turn to chase the four-foot long snake from his feet.

As the aircraft neared Bien Hoa, the snake slithered under the floor plates. After landing, the crew removed all the inspection plates from the fuselage, found the snake, but couldn't reach it because of all the small compartments.

Fickle resumed the flight, and while over Long Binh, the snake reappeared by poking its head out of an opening in the left door.

At this point Fickle radioed to battalion operations stating, "... as far as I'm concerned this aircraft is down," and immediately returned to the airfield where he picked up another helicopter.

Ground crew personnel worked four hours with tools, aerosol sprays, and fire extinguishers before capturing and destroying the snake.



BABY'S CARE—Specialist Four John Miller, Company A, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, cleans his weapons during a lull in the day's action.

(Photo by Sp4 Norman Johnson, 4th INF-IO)

'Lions' Called Diggers Now

LAKE KHE, (1st INF-IO)—The Golden Lions of Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 33rd Artillery, have been dubbed with a strange name for artillerymen. "Tunnel Diggers" is their new name since participating in a 1st Infantry Division operation.

The battery hollowed out tunnels connecting their bunkers to the Fire Direction Center (FDC). This enables the men to move from their fighting bunkers to the FDC bunker where fire missions must be processed, even during an attack.

Computer Sp4 Richard D. Floyd, chart operators PFC Joe Organ, and PFC Paul Jones deserve most of the credit for digging connecting tunnels. After completing their work, the men found the new tunnel to be a cool place to rest between calls for artillery fire.

"I've come to the conclusion that these men are not only better artillerymen than the Viet Cong, but also better tunnel diggers," says fire direction officer, LT Richard Cunningham.

VC Will Never Get The Word

BONG SON, (1st CAV-IO) — During Operation Pershing on the Bong Son Plain, members of the 1st Cavalry Division's 1st Brigade smashed through enemy positions to capture a communist document entitled "How to Keep Information From the Enemy."

The Sky Troopers, members of Company B, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry, were conducting a search and clear mission when

stronghold. Raking the area with automatic weapons fire, the Americans were successful in crushing the enemy fortifications and penetrating the lines, forcing the VC to retreat.

Among the documents captured was a thick pamphlet which, when translated, was found to be a detailed list of instructions on how to prevent vital information from falling into American hands.

unsuccessful long range attack on artillery support units at the Duc Co Special Forces Camp.

The artillery units are support elements of the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

The quietness of night was shattered recently by a burst of fire southwest of the artillery camp.

Within minutes the location of the enemy's position was determined by a team of the 237th Field Artillery Radar Detachment, based at Duc Co. The location was immediately called in to the tactical operation center of the 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery.

The 155mm howitzers and 8-inch cannons of the battalion's Battery C, began blasting the area where the firing was coming from.

A three-hour lull was shattered by another burst of fire from the enemy and again the artillery accepted the challenge. This second attack lasted less than 20 minutes with only eight rounds being fired by the enemy.

was within two feet of the chinegun bunker, on the side of an shack.

Rock Qu Sets Rec After M

CAM RANH BA IO)—A new rock ed by Company neer Battalion, Group, is now s to the many con jects in this are

Until recently, was operating a along the South, the Cam Ranh P ever, the rapid these deposits fo neers to find a

A rock deposi on the side of a a few weeks, minimum of equi sonnel, a quar lished. Relying old 5-ton rock er output hit 800 e day, a quarrying type operation.

Soon after the opened, the 864th tallion and the Company, left turned over the to the 87th.

Saturday Brings

CU CHI, (25th INF-IO)—Viet Cong had bath interrupted they were spot filled bomb crat Loi Woods north Infantry Division

The frolicking having such a they failed to vation Battalion overhead.

Co-pilot WO dropped the clo closer lock. Who saw the Huey, to play possum, go for their wea WO Phil Timlin to fire, and the gunners opened machineguns. k

129,848 NJ Citizen Sign Their Support

SAIGON, (MACV-IO) — General W. C. Westmoreland recently received a roster, three-quarters of a mile long, on which 129,848 citizens of Hudson and Bergen counties, N.J., signed their names in support of our fighting men in Vietnam.

Robert Boyle of the Hudson City, presented Westmoreland a cess of Operat Support of Our Vietnam.

"Operation D sends the overy of the citizens Bergen countie stand against gression and is signatures of the scroll read James J. Mc of the Hudso conceived the lo tion of support efforts of local ice clubs, the w the signatures

By June 3 al natures had be

209 Engineers In One Bn Extend

CAM RANH BAY, (USAECV-IO) — The 86th Engineer Battalion, 35th Engineer Group, claimed a record of four extensions.

Since the first of the year 209 officers and enlisted men have voluntarily extended their tours of duty in Vietnam. Of this group, 184 have added six months to a year to their tours,

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Westmoreland, Palmer Cite Battle Success

Gunships, ARVN Combine To Knock Out Viet Cong

PHU CHANH, (1st INF-10)—A joint 1st Infantry Division and Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) operation in this village resulted recently in some high-flying results during Operation Lam Son.

Troop D, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, had seven aerial fire teams circling overhead as ARVN troops searched the village during a seal and search mission.

A man was noticed standing next to what looked like a bunker by the pilots of two gunships, Capt. Richard Murphy and WO Harvey Millis.

As the choppers came in closer to investigate, the man ran into the bunker.

Two of the fire teams were instructed to go in on the ground and check out the area. Landing about 50 yards from the suspected bunker, the team started to set up a line formation when the man noticed before, stepped back out and opened fire with an automatic rifle, killing one of the team.

Two choppers had been circling the area to provide fire support when the automatic firing began. They immediately raked the bunker, setting brush on top of it on fire. One VC tried to escape the flaming bunker, automatic rifle in hand, and was immediately cut down.

The platoon leader of the ground element, Lt. William Hohibaugh, moved forward to help the wounded who were still

under heavy fire. Three claymores and several grenade launcher rounds were then directed at the two fire teams.

A second bunker was ripped by a secondary explosion from within. Sergeant First Class Charles Spencer told his men to move out again on a ground assault.

At the same time a huge explosion from within the first bunker catapulted two VC over 100 feet in the air, landing them among the fire teams. This com-

pletely ended the VC resistance. Artillery fire and gunships were called in to clean the area out.

Two more VC, killed by artillery and gunship action, were found by the ARVN troops who moved in later to assess the damage.

In the area the troop found a grenade launcher, two Browning Automatic Rifles, a rocket launcher, four U.S. M-1 rifles, two U.S. carbines and a pound of documents.



Lt. Gen. Bruce Palmer

Best Battle Units Here

On 20 July 1967, United States Army, Vietnam is two years old. USARV is far from being a youngster, however. It is a source of great pride and satisfaction to us all to recognize the command for what it truly is: fighting command of dedicated soldiers, young and not so young, career men and citizen-soldiers, but All-Americans in the true sense.

US Army Vietnam is composed of some of our oldest and most decorated Army units in terms of battle honors. It includes organizations created to meet the special needs of the fight against terrorism and aggression in Vietnam. Its soldiers work on the battlefield and in the skies above. Its men and women bring security and succor to Vietnamese villagers who yearn for freedom from want and fear. They save lives, build roads, highways and airfields, transport by land, sea, and air, the myriad needs of U.S. Vietnamese, and Free World Forces.

USARV has done its job well. The aggressor has been beaten. The terrorist and insurgent have come to despair of victory. In the long we must continue to fight and build and help no one else know. But we can look forward to the future with confidence. We in United States Army, Vietnam will meet any challenge with the spirit of determination and dedication that is the tradition of our service. I salute you all.

BRUCE PALMER JR.
Lieutenant General, USA
Deputy Commanding General



LET THERE BE LIGHT—Darkness is no handicap to the tankers of the 1st Battalion, 69th Armor. Using xenon searchlight, the tankers can almost turn night into day. (Photo by 4th INF-10)

Paratroopers Swap Ambushes With VC

DUC PHO, (101st AVN-10)—A platoon of paratroopers of the 101st Airborne Division exchanged jungle ambushes with the Viet Cong during Operation Malheur II fighting near here.

A VC ambush caught the 2nd Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry by surprise. A few weeks later the

situation was reversed. The platoon was stretched along a jungle trail in hills around the Song Ve River valley. After darkness the paratroopers moved into positions as they had been doing night after night, hoping to catch the enemy.

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Success Lies in Courage

Two years ago the United States Army Vietnam was established as a major component of the United States effort here. Today, I am proud to pay tribute to your accomplishments to express confidence in continued success.

The finest tradition of the United States Army, you have met the challenges of this kind of war in this most difficult setting. Your success has been due to the courage, professionalism and resolve of you. The future will demand no less of these attributes. In the last two years, some among you have given your lives; others have been wounded, and all have given a measure of time, skill and effort in assisting the people of Vietnam in their fight against terrorism and aggression. Your stance on the battlefield, your stance in nation building and compassion in the country, will serve as a beacon to those who seek freedom and determination.

I salute each of you for a job well done. The months, and perhaps years that lie ahead will require continued patience, hard work and determination. There is no doubt that US Army Vietnam will deliver.

W. C. WESTMORELAND
General, United States Army
Commanding

USARV's Second Anniversary Issue

DUC PHO, (101st ARN-10)—Poor timing by a pair of Viet Cong terrorists on a rural road near here saved the lives of a Vietnamese official and a captain attached to the 101st Airborne Division recently.

By prematurely detonating an explosive charge, an attempt to kill Nguyen Anh, village chief, and Capt. Troy Collins failed. The charge exploded five feet in front of the men's jeep. The blast blew out the windshield and left a crater 15 feet in diameter.

"I saw the explosion starting," said Collins, of the 41st Civil Affairs Company. "You could see the road begin to bulge. Then there was black smoke everywhere and dirt and debris falling on us."

The two terrorists were seen fleeing and disappeared into the jungle before a military police reaction force arrived.

The jeep carrying the two was following a small convoy of trucks transporting refugees to a nearby resettlement camp.

Collins suffered cuts on his hand and elbow from debris. The Vietnamese escaped injury.



SLOSH, SLOSH—Private First Class Earl Tackett, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, steps from the knee-deep mud of a rice paddy to a dike. He was on an operation in the Mekong Delta.

(Photo by Sp4 Gary Bipes, 9th INF-10)

Disabled Tank Driven Across Mine Field By Infantryman

CU CHI, (25th INF-10)—An infantryman turned "tanker" recently when he drove a partially disabled M-48 across an enemy mine field by locking the accelerator and steering from the prone position across the driver's hatch.

While making a sweep 10 miles south of the Michelin Rubber Plantation, a tank from the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 25th Infantry Division, hit an enemy mine injuring both driver and loader. The explosion blew in the escape hatch located immediately behind the driver's seat.

Specialist Five John D. Jones, fire team leader, volunteered to drive the tank out of the mine field. It was a dangerous job, he later related, because

another mine explosion could set off the 90mm ammunition stored around the open escape hatch.

The blast had also jammed the brakes until the tank mechanic, Sp4 Chester Snow, disconnected them. Without brakes the only way to stop the tank was by slapping it into reverse or hitting a heavy object.

Jones, a former "tanker," threw the M-48 into gear, locked the accelerator, and lay across the driver's hatch on the front of the tank to steer it.

"I only did it as a field expedient," he said. "We had the spare parts to fix the gears and the brakes, but snipers were around us and it was getting dark." He drove the tank at full speed along the mined road to a clearing where the unit

set up a perimeter for the night.

Staff Sergeant Joe West, the tank commander, praised Jones. "He risked his life by putting himself in that prone position near the hatch. But the amazing thing was his quick reaction to the situation."

Jones had a more modest explanation. He related what a vital piece of equipment the tank is in terms of fire power and that someone had to get it out of the mine field.

After Close Call, PFC Decides To Stand Up

CHU LAI, (195th INF-10)—Private First Class Arthur E. Shore, with only two weeks left in-country, decided to remain standing until he rotated.

A member of Company D, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade, Shore recently came within bare inches of sitting down on an anti-personnel mine.

"I was up on Red Hill at one of our observation posts (OPs)," said Shore. "There were three of us up there and our job was to keep an eye on the road."

The road connects the battalion's infantry companies with each other and with the headquarters. Winding through lonely stretches of hills, it is a favorite target for VC mines.

"I was leaning against a large rock while the three of us talked and watched the road," Shore said. "My feet were resting on an empty C-rat on case that had been left there. Then I decided

to shift positions.

"I slid off the rock and was about to sit down on the case when I happened to glance down. That's when I noticed a metal tip sticking out of the ground, partially covered by the box."

"I had seen enough mines to know this was another one, and for a few seconds I just froze there thinking how close I had come to sitting on that one. I quickly warned the others to stay away and then we informed headquarters," Shore said.

He said that because the C-rat box and cans were scattered around the area, the Viet Cong had probably suspected the spot was an OP and an ideal place for the mine.

"There I sat with my feet propped up on that box, just inches away from blowing myself up. I still don't know what made me look down. It was so close it all seems like a nightmare."

ly while the doctor examined the stumps of his legs. Tran Bong had both of his legs blown off above the knees when he stepped on a Viet Cong mine near his village.

But with the help of the newly established Can Tho Rehabilitation Institute, Tran Bong will be able to walk within a few weeks. The institute, which fits and constructs artificial limbs, dis-

VC Plan Disrupted

PHU LOI, (1st INF-10)—An elaborate Viet Cong plan was foiled when an aviator spotted two VC attempting to gain cover in a graveyard.

Their movement disclosed the position of a VC squad near Bien Hoa Air Base.

Captain Lyman Culver, the operations officer of the 11th Aviation Battalion's 173d Assault Helicopter Company at Lai Khe, dropped lower to check the activity, and in doing so his chopper took two VC rounds. The doorgunners then killed the two VC seeking cover and ten others in the surrounding woodland. More VC could be seen moving in the woods, and Culver called for gunship support.

Two gunships from the 1st Infantry Division's Company A, 1st Aviation Battalion were on the scene in minutes.

Later, when Vietnamese Marines entered the area, they captured one VC attempting to escape. The Marines said the enemy said he was part of a guerrilla squad attempting to put a fix on Marine positions for a planned night attack.

The institute, which recently, is a satellite center of the National Rehabilitation Institute in Saigon and is the of five such satellite planned throughout Viet-

The medical director, Can Tho Institute, Dr. Hoang, heads a team of technicians who, accord him, "are cross-trained, to take over each other's needed." Not only do the ple work with artificial they also fit braces to of cerebral palsy and pol-

Dr. Paul R. Meyer Jr. in his third month as an pediatric consultant to the center. "Our goal here said, 'is to handle 100 per month.'" Meyer of Vietnam originally as a teen under the auspices World Rehabilitation tion, which has aided the Institute since 1966.

The patient is given and receives physical and training to use it.

9th Inf Find Booty, Flag

RACH KIEN, (9th INF-10)—An enemy cache of anti-communications equipment was found by the 9th Infantry Division.

The find included the wave radios, a field of 4200 rounds of assorted tion, 30 Chinese-made and clay more and mines.

Men of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry for cache during a sweep came upon a path do Vietnamese booby trap signs.



TIME OUT—Reaching the mid-way point of its cautious yet steady journey Suoi Cai River, this bridge structure is temporarily halted to allow adjusting the center pier. The bridge is being built by Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion (Photo by PFC Robert J. Stevens, 1st Infantry Division).