

Broken down into eight 2-man aerial teams, a pilot and observer each, the group flies the OH-13 light helicopter ahead of ground forces to provide security for infantry troops.

The seemingly vulnerable "flying bubble" ranges up to

the section investigates suspicious areas, which has led to many of their kills.

One of their latest exploits came when unidentified radio signals were picked up in an area where there were no friendly forces. A scout team

ground while the observer throws grenades into barrels and abandoned bunkers and strafes small targets with the M-60.

"You don't realize how small a 55-gallon drum is until you try tossing a grenade into one while traveling 60 mph about 20 feet above the ground," he said.

Squad From 196th Nets Three Enemy

CHU LAI, (196th INF-10) — A squad from Company B, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, attached to the 196th Light Infantry Brigade, recently conducted a patrol which netted three Viet Cong dead and one detained.

Specialist Four Gregory Montellanico, the squad leader, took his men down a riverbank in an area known to be heavily infested with VC. A platoon had been mortared in the same spot, and other elements of the battalion had reported enemy contacts there in the past.

As the squad headed along the bank, they ran across footprints in the wet dirt which led them to a partially hidden trail that was not on the maps. Montellanico took PFC Philip Gonzales with him and started cautiously up the narrow pathway, walking on either side of the trail and watching closely for mines or booby traps.

The trail widened into a clearing in which Montellanico and Gonzales saw two VC asleep with their carbines beside them. A third enemy was just coming

back from a swim, drying himself off as he walked. His jaw dropped at the sight of the Americans and he made a dash to escape as the two opened fire. The VC who had been sleeping reached for their weapons, but Montellanico was too fast for them.

The rest of the squad moved up as a fourth VC, who had been hiding in a tree, ran into the wood line. The squad got two Russian carbines, eight hand grenades, and 400 rounds of ammunition that had been carried by the dead VC, and then started after the fourth Cong.

The chase led to a small village, where Gonzales and Montellanico recognized the VC who had escaped and detained him.

Doc Takes To Water

DI AN, (1st INF-10) — Doctors from Headquarters and Company A, 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, have taken to the water to provide medical care to civilians in nearby rural areas.

The doctors and medics, assisted by persons of the 2nd Brigade Civil Affairs Office (S-5), loaded trailers and crates of supplies onto three Vietnamese Navy craft at the Lai Thieu Vietnamese compound on the Saigon River.

After a thirty-minute trip, the team arrived in An Phu. One-hundred eighty persons were treated and dental care was given to 12 others in one morning.

Army Memos

ARTILLERYMEN NEEDED—Artillerymen pay grades E-5 through E-7 in MOSs 13B, 13E, and 82C are urgently needed as instructors at U.S. Army Training Center, Field Artillery, Ft. Sill, Okla. Personnel Action Requests DA Form 1049 should be submitted through command channels.

BURGLAR ALARM—A battlefield "burglar alarm" is being tested by the Material Command's Electronics Proving Ground, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. The alarm is called an alarm set or anti-intrusion device, and is used to warn troops of night attacks.

LONGER RANGE—A new sight for helicopter crews will enable observers to identify targets at 2200 to 3500 meters, around five times the present capability. The device has been tested at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. The system, developed by Dynasciences Corp., will undergo evaluation in various-type helicopters in Southeast Asia.

SMALLER BATTERIES—A new method for reducing the size of batteries in equipment carried by combat troops has been reported by the Material Command's Electronics, Ft. Monmouth, N.J. The method consists of a new circuit design which reduces the amount of power required by certain types of small communications and surveillance equipment during standby periods.

Discovered

through the camp, incoming mortars chased them into the deserted NVA bunkers. One man from Co. A found that the bunker he jumped into was not vacant.

Conditions suddenly became very uncomfortable. He stood face to face with three NVA soldiers. The situation lasted only an instant as the soldier reacted swiftly, killing the three enemy before any of them could fire a shot.

LRRP Village Raid Ends In 12 Minutes

DUC PHO, (101st INF-IO)—Lieutenant Daniel McIsaac spread a map on the ground and ran his finger along the trace of the Song Ve Valley. His finger stopped at the location of a small village.

"This," he said, "is our target."

In the following minutes McIsaac explained the mission to members of the 101st Airborne's Long Range Reconnaissance Platoon (LRRP), a group of highly trained paratroopers who conduct operations deep in enemy territory.

'Guests'

Get Boot From Inf

CU CHI, (25th INF-IO)—A squad of Viet Cong "guests" attended a pre-graduation exercise at the 25th Infantry Division's four-day ambush and jungle tactics course.

An ambush patrol is the last phase of the course for the men before returning to their units.

Second Lieutenant Aubrey Stacy was leading an 18-man patrol from an open field onto a road through a wooded area when the rear security guard spotted two VC moving around behind them. Seconds later, an enemy squad hit the patrol with grenades and automatic rifle fire. Stacy immediately set his patrol up in a triangle and returned the fire.

The patrol then moved 50 yards off the road and SFC Joseph Newton radioed for 105mm artillery fire.

After the VC withdrew, Stacy moved the patrol back through the woods. On the way back the patrol encountered several booby trap wires set at chest height.

A search of the area the following morning revealed several blood trails. According to Stacy, his men saw four VC fall, but apparently the bodies had been dragged away.

Old Chopper Shipped Out

PHU LOI, (1st INF-IO)—Helicopter 881, a Huey, has logged more than 2700 flying hours for the 1st Infantry Division's 701st Maintenance Battalion.

Recently the chopper was released to the 56th Transportation Company in Saigon for shipment to the United States so it can be rebuilt.

When assigned to the 701st in November 1965, the helicopter had logged in 1800 hours of flying time as a gunship for the 1st Aviation Battalion. Used as a transport helicopter by the maintenance battalion, 881 flew badly needed repair teams and parts throughout the Big Red One's operational area.

Based on the average speed of 75 knots, this old chopper has flown around the world six times.

Intelligence indicated a high level VC political officer was using the river village as a base of operations.

The mission was to make a quick raid on the village and secure as many detainees as possible. The prominent VC political officer was a target.

Minutes before dusk, six helicopters came in at tree-top level, catching the village by surprise. Black-clad figures carrying weapons ran from the village into the surrounding jungle as they realized their village was the object of the raid.

Seconds later the LRRP team was on the ground, searching the huts and farm yards for potential detainees. The shock of the raid apparently confused the enemy. Resistance was light at first but then increased as the VC realized what was happening.

As the paratroopers rounded up detainees, VC in the hills began firing into the village. "I could see the muzzle flashes in a draw," said Sgt. Ronald H. Weems. He and Sp5 Virgil Paulk poured machinegun fire into the enemy positions as the helicopters returned to pick up the patrol and their captives.

As the American machinegun answered the distant enemy fire, the mission was near completion.

The patrol, 15 detainees, a rucksack containing Chinese communist hand grenades, maps and documents were loaded aboard the hovering helicopters and taken to the brigade intelligence and interrogation team.

"The mission was completed in 12 minutes," explained McIsaac.

The next day, the intelligence report revealed the VC political indoctrination officer was among the detainees. Another man was a VC informer.



ON TARGET—A 90mm recoilless rifle crew of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Division fires on an enemy bunker in the southern tip of the Iron Triangle north of Saigon. The action took place during Operation Barking Sands.

(Photo by 25th I)

Asp Finds Rest Spot On Engine

DUC PHO, (101st ARN-IO)—The men in the motor pool of Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division prevented a "romance" between a myopic snake and electric wiring.

Specialist-Four Paul A. Kelsey opened the hood of his jeep and reached in to check the air filter. A sudden movement in the wiring leading to blackout lights startled him. Wires, he thought, do not move.

A bamboo viper was curled around the wires.

"I called the motor sergeant and told him I had a second echelon job that needed a mechanic's attention," said Kelsey.

Staff Sergeant Jack L. Mitchell came over and saw the snake. Mitchell called Sp4 Jerry E. Van Norstran, whose least favorite animal is a snake, and told him, "There's a repair job here that needs immediate attention."

The three soldiers chased the snake out of the jeep with sticks.

MPs, Marines Protect Embassy

SAIGON, (HAC-IO) — Army military policemen and Marine security guards team up to protect the American Embassy here against possible terrorist attacks.

While MPs are responsible for the external security of the embassy, the Marine Security Guard Detachment, under Capt. Robert J. O'Brien, is responsible for internal security and guarding classified material.

According to O'Brien, Marine guards are on duty inside U.S. embassies around the world. "Internal security of the American Embassy in Saigon," he says, "is a Marine responsibility. However, after Viet Cong terrorists attacked the embassy a little over two years ago, MPs were called upon to provide vital perimeter security, at the request of former Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge."

This arrangement, believed to be unique among all American embassies, has worked well, according to responsible officials.

A hand-picked group of MPs from the 716th Battalion here stands duty outside the embassy 24 hours a day, guarding its approachways and surrounding

areas.

Under Sgt. Joe M. Harvey, the section's 10 MPs are on a merit basis from the 716th's four companies. "These soldiers are selected for the embassy," Harvey said, "to be alert for suspicious activity which might that terrorists are in."

Because of the constant visitors to the Harvey's MPs are to look their best at all times, wearing the khaki uniform of the usual fatigues.

Indian Story Quite Iron

PHUOC VINH, (1st INF-IO) — Tales of history are ironic.

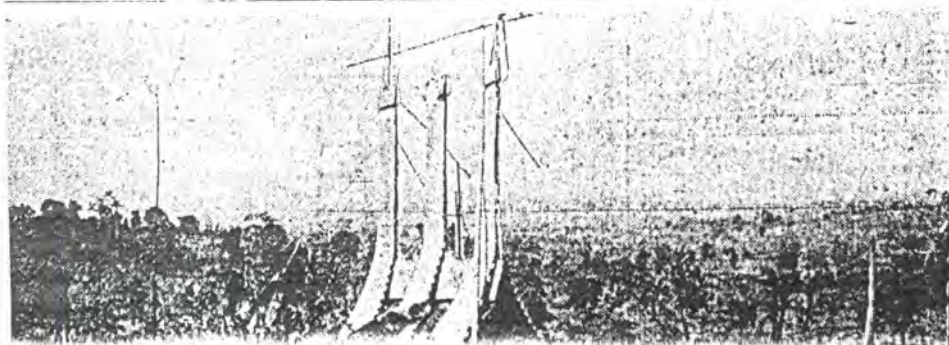
Consider the story of H. Brown of the 1st Infantry Division. His grandfather was shot at the 1st 2nd Infantry during the Wars of the 18th Century. Now he is shooting with the 1st 2nd Infantry.

The Seminole Indians, locked with U.S. forces in what now is Florida, fought the wars from 1818 and 1835 to 1842.

During the war, Brown's ancestor fought the 2nd Inf. That was with a cease-fire and moved from Florida to the Seminole Territory and permanent residence.

Treaty has yet been signed. Brown's father is a man of the General of the Seminoles, or in the 19th century ago, the chief.

Engineers Fin



Found

HAT DICH-ZONE, (9th INF-10)—A sophisticated five-level bunker and hospital complex, containing enough medical supplies to treat a regimental-sized force, was discovered here by a company of the 9th Infantry Division.

The multi-tiered underground system, with some compartments 60 feet below topsoil, was discovered in the jungle maze of Phuoc Tuy Province about 40 miles east of Saigon by Company B, 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry during Operation Akron.

Inside were dental chairs, a generator and motor for internal lighting, plaster for casts, plasma, ether, alcohol, gauze, glucose, a typewriter, and 20 pounds of medical records.

The fortification, measuring about 700 by 300 yards had been hastily abandoned a few days before the discovery after pre-planned air strikes pounded the area and burned away much of the jungle cover.

Entrances were concealed in empty shackles and huts. In kitchen compartments, rice and fish had been left behind.

Soldier Loses Shirt To VC

CU CHI, (25th INF-10) — A laundry just outside the 25th Division's base camp here apparently is doing wash for both sides.

Early in May, SSgt. Kenneth B. Sowards, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry, discovered a jungle fatigue shirt missing from his laundry bundle.

The missing shirt was found this week by his unit as the men searched a captured Viet Cong bunker in the eastern edge of the Iron Triangle.

12th Aviation Doctor Makes Weekly MEDCAP Trips to Tan Van Village

LONG BINH, (1st AVN-10) — Doctor (Capt.) Romuald Szymanski, flight surgeon for the 12th Combat Aviation Group, has been providing medical attention to Tan Van villagers for several months.

He has been making weekly visits. Soon after his first visit, he won the confidence of the villagers, with the help of an interpreter.

He has set fractures, performed minor surgery, treated ulcerated infections, among many other types of treatments. The goal of the Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) of the 12th, under which the doctor works, is to prevent occurrence of maladies. He also has been emphasizing personal cleanliness.

He sought the help of the regional Office of Civil Operations. The office's department of public health provided a Korean preventive medicine team which has given more than 2000 cholera and plague shots, plus smallpox vaccinations.

A Vietnamese team of technicians has sprayed the area to wipe out mosquitos.



CHECKING SIGNALS—Specialist Four Raymond Martinez (left) and 2nd Lt. Daniel Melsaes, members of Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol of the 101st Airborne Division, rehash details of a raid plan before taking off.

(Photo by Sp4 William P. Singley, 101st ABN-10)

Free-Lance Writer Pulls Girl From Middle Of Fire Fight

A six-year-old Montagnard girl was rescued near Duc Pho by news correspondent Douglas Sopper, freelance representative for South China Morning Post, Hong Kong. Mr. Sopper, 40, is a former Special Forces soldier who served in Vietnam during 1965-1966. (Latter's note)

DUC PHO, (101st ABN-10) — I was accompanying Company C, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division during Operation Mather west of here. The unit was pursuing a Viet Cong force when suddenly a fire-fight broke out as we approached a Montagnard village.

During the height of the battle, I heard someone shout there was movement in the brush ahead of us. We expected to see a VC move into an opening. Suddenly, a sergeant yelled: "It's a girl, it's a girl."

I had paused to give aid to a wounded paratrooper when I heard the sergeant shout. I

looked up and about 75 meters away, I saw this little girl. She was pointing and yelling something I couldn't understand. Bullets from the enemy filled the air around the child. I gave a quick yank on the tourniquet I had put on the wounded paratrooper's leg and ran out to grab the child.

When the fire-fight ended, we searched through the village for her parents. They were dead. The Viet Cong who survived pulled back into the jungle, dragging their wounded with them. There was no one in the village.

I couldn't leave the child alone. She clung to me and continued babbling in a dialect I couldn't understand. It was then I decided to take the child back to Saigon and find out what could be done for her.

She said very little as we flew out of the jungle, was even more quiet as the C-130 carried us to Saigon.

When we arrived, CBS news correspondent John Hart had heard about the girl from another CBS news team, and arrangements were made for a short film on the child.

On Walter Cronkite's evening news program, he introduced "Mia" to his audience and explained how she was found. The story touched the hearts of many Americans who volunteered money to care for her.

"Mia" also touched the CBS staff in Saigon. They took her to 3rd Field Hospital for a thorough examination. Doctors reported she suffered from anemia, malaria, possible tuberculosis, scabies, and worms.

No effort has been spared to take care of her. CBS has established a fund for her education, a CBS correspondent has retained a Vietnamese lawyer hoping to adopt the child and a room in a Saigon hotel has been converted into a nursery.

Warehouse Altered To Make Mess Hall

AN KHE, (1st SIG-10)—The men of the 1st Platoon, company D, 49th Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade know the secret of getting what they need. It is ingenuity.

The unit needed a mess hall. The Page Communications Engineers who are building a communications site for the brigade here were in possession of an empty warehouse.

Negotiations between 1st Lt. Eugene W. Sells, platoon leader, and the Page site supervisor, Mr. John Babin, were carried out and possession of the warehouse changed hands.

But how does one move a full-sized warehouse from one location to another? Simple, if one has four telephone poles, several yards of chain, and two 2 and one-half ton trucks.

As the men jacked up the building, four telephone poles were secured to the beams.

Camp

LAI KHE, (1st Viet Cong) are 100 homes now situated, 23rd Infantry Division destroyed VC bus-dance-jungle.

Participated in Bluefield found a battle camp described R. Schell as "more than a base camp."

"We knew this would be in the found-Vietnam the trees," said Welland.

The booby trap base camp was Captain Donald described one, "was rigged to blocked the path. Anyone using it normally pushed of the way and

Freshly "cooked" had been spilled indicated the VC leaving the base, however, Sawtelle said that the camp by small numbers passing through is not hard to be of the bandits, and Viet Cong to this area as they

A tunnel network under the camp led to PEC F. Wriggling through tunnel, Acosta men on top the sharp stakes way. "I would stakes for a Acosta.

The caution pect when S. Cordeau found of stakes blocks into a tunnel or of the camp. J. Cordeau's stake son to proceed cluster bomb u to go off if it moved.



THE SHOT THAT HELPS—Hyong Tok Ko, a preventive-medicine technician, gives a shot to a Vietnamese boy. Mr. Ko headed a team to help the MEDCAP team of the 145th Combat Aviation Group.

(Photo by 1st AVN-10)

Log Oper Spicy Bus

CAM-RANH B-10)—Cam Ranh Command is open Army-operated sediment store in spicy business.

Representatives units here make to the store to pepper, mustard, for their unit's

When visiting a shopper must have housewife tender is allocated \$3.00 month.

soldiers.
A reconnaissance platoon received sporadic small arms fire, marking the beginning of what proved to be a long afternoon's

101st Abn Secures VC Hill

DUC PHO, (101st ABN-IO)—Captain Fred Hillyard and his company of 101st Airborne Division men were to take a favorite hill of Charlie's.

The 3rd and 4th Platoon of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry started up the hill. Minutes later, enemy fire came from a heavily fortified position.

Private First Class Joaquín Robledo was hit in the chest by an M-79 round that failed to explode.

"He continued fighting," said PFC David Durante. "We couldn't keep him down."

The platoon spread out, using basic fire and maneuver tactics to get up the hill. As one element advanced, another provided cover fire. Then the elements would switch, one advancing, the other firing.

The battle lasted all day. Private First Class Edward G. Barry was one of the first to reach the top of the hill. Specialist Four Charles Jenkins was another. They zeroed in on an enemy bunker and cleaned it out.

Specialist Four Floyd A. Seyler positioned himself to cover the rear of the bunkers for fleeing VC. As they fled, Seyler opened fire. One stopped to throw a grenade, but Seyler ended the attempt.

Specialist Five Michael Broyer carried wounded down the hill and went from one man to another making sure they were all right.

Private First Class Raymond Marez fought all day after being shot in the foot.

The hill became the property of Co. C late in the day. It had served as a VC battalion headquarters. The enemy commander lay dead. Twenty more bodies filled the tunnels and bunkers. Weapons, food, and ammunition also were captured.

No paratroopers were killed. Seven were wounded.

became heated. One of the heaviest contacts came from the east while another heavy contact came from the northeast.

At 5 p.m., the engaged units received 14 enemy mortar rounds at LZ X-Ray. Ten minutes later, another mortar attack of 40 to 50 rounds occurred, then contact was reported broken.

VC Supply Rhythm

LONG DUC, (199th INF-IO)—The Viet Cong recently provided the rhythm section for the Sorties, a special services combo, during a show here for Company E, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry, 199th Light Infantry Brigade.

The group did a 45-minute show for the troops. In the middle of the soldiers' favorite song, "Wipe Out," the village received a volley of small arms fire.

The program came to an abrupt halt as the men rushed to their positions. The combo stayed where it was and received some on the job training on the loading and operation of the M-14 rifle.

As it turned out, the incident was caused by a sniper. The program was able to resume a short time later.

42 Enemy Targets

BONG SON, (1st CAV-IO)—With swift, flexible, airmobile artillery, the guerilla is not safe in even the most remote part of the jungle.

This was reaffirmed recently when the 1st Cavalry's Battery C, 7th Battalion, 13th Artillery picked up six of its guns and went raiding. Forty-two suspected targets got hit with artillery in one day.

The artillery raid began at mid-morning by softening Landing Zone Putter with aerial rocket artillery from helicopters of the 2nd Battalion, 20th Artillery and heavy artillery fire from 175mm howitzers, 16 miles east of the LZ.

The LZ was on top of a hill which would both give the guns additional range and be relatively easy to hold and protect.

After Putter had been softened, troopers from Troop C, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, were dropped into the area.

Because of unfavorable terrain, men unloaded from their helicopter taxis one chopper at a time and moved out quickly to secure the hill.

Ordnance teams searched for mines and found them all over the place.

Eight of the mines were blown

in place, but one trooper found a mine the hard way—he tripped over it. The mine failed to detonate.

Once the LZ was cleared and secured, giant Chinook helicopters came in with the artillery pieces sling-loaded beneath them.

While the howitzers were being brought in, a Chinook set off a well-concealed mine, wounding four artillerymen, including Lt. Col. Donald Majakas, commander of the artillery unit.

The targets were 42 pre-selected ones which intelligence said could be 3rd North Vietnamese Army supply centers.

Before the day was over, 1179 rounds of 105mm howitzer ammunition were fired at the targets and targets spotted by helicopters of the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry.

Food Seed Donated

AN KHE, (1st CAV-IO)—A seed company and persons from the Arizona Department of Agriculture are providing vegetable seeds for distribution to 1101 An-refugees by members of the 1st Cavalry Division.

Bob Alley, an inspector for the department, contacted the manager of the seed company about donating out-of-date seeds to the Vietnamese refugees. The seeds normally would have been destroyed.

The company's headquarters in Chicago responded quickly, and the first seeds were shipped in January.

Mrs. Lennie Lindstrom and others from the Department of Agriculture took the responsibility of packaging and mailing the seeds.

Eight boxes have arrived from the Phoenix group, filled with as many as 600 seed packets and 32 varieties of seeds.

Even though the instructions for planting are in English, the Vietnamese farmers have no difficulty in planting the seeds. Only parsley, white radishes, eggplant, and rutabaga were unfamiliar to the farmers.

Truckers Attacked

TUY HOA, (1st LOG-IO)—Truck drivers of the Cam Ranh Bay Support Command's Tuy Hoa Sub-Area Command got a little irked when their convoy from here to Vung Ro Bay was attacked two nights in a row by Viet Cong.

The first attack on this 1st Logistical Command convoy was near the village of Truong Thinh. The following night another convoy was attacked on the same route near Ga Phu liep.

Since it is the 1st Log's mission to get the supplies to the combat troops when they are needed and where they are needed, the route between Tuy Hoa and Vung Ro Bay had to be cleared of VC.

Five trucks were lined with sandbags and each truck was mounted with two M-60 machineguns. The convoy, manned entirely by volunteers, was accompanied by a gun jeep. Driving to the spot where the first attack had taken place, the combined machineguns of the convoy sprayed both sides of the road.

As was expected, the VC returned the fire but the intense machinegun fire from the soldiers was too much for the enemy.

2nd VN Year For Aviators

BAN ME THUOT, (1st AVN-IO)—The 155th Assault Helicopter Company celebrated the anniversary of its second year in Vietnam recently, but there was no holiday or ceremony to mark the occasion, as the company logged a full day in the air.

The advanced party of the company, then Company A, 1st Infantry Division, arrived here in April 1965. The company was settled on its new compound at the city airfield and declared an operational unit of the 52nd Aviation Battalion on June 1, 1965.

Company A was redesignated the 155th Aviation Company on Nov. 20, 1965 and has recently been renamed the 155th Assault Helicopter Company.



AND HE DOES—It might have been luck, but Sgt. Ramon Olivas, a squad leader with Company C, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, does not think so. He said he can survive the shrapnel in his leg. But his helmet and "heavenly protection" diverted the "frag with my name on it."

(Photo by Sp4 Daniel Stroebel, 101st ABN-IO)

1961, 1967

After basic training, they went to advanced individual training together. Near the end, they expected they would get separate orders. But they were sent to the same company in Augsburg, Germany. During this tour, they served a TDY trip in Berlin.

On their return to the States from Europe, they were still together. Both were beginning to feel that orders for Vietnam would finally separate them.

The order came, but they were not separated. Both were assigned to Company B, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry, 193th Light Infantry Brigade.

Kearns and Lavesque recently recalled some of their good times together and when asked about future plans, Kearns replied, "I'm interested in trade school and I'm thinking about going to Nassau Junior College."

served to more than 100 persons.

Another attraction for servicemen is the 400 square-foot snack bar. Deep fried food, ice cream products, cold or hot sandwiches, packaged snacks, or grilled food will be available two weeks.

Charlie Missed The Festivities

DONG TAM, (9th INF-10) — If Charlie was trying to disrupt the opening of the 9th Infantry's new service club, he was a day late.

On the morning after the opening, a bullet, fired from an undetermined position outside the berm, rammed through the club's roof and lodged in the cinema-scope screen near the rear of the building.

RD Helps Viets At Phu Phong Village

QUI NHON, (USAECV-10) — The war on poverty and disease and the ignorance that breeds them is being carried on just as intensely as the shooting war in Vietnam.

As an example, Revolutionary Development teams are operating throughout the country to help the Vietnamese people help themselves.

In the village of Phu Phong, 30 miles west of here, the villagers of the Binh Khe District are being aided by American advisors and technicians. The Vietnamese and Americans are working together to build a two-

story concrete high school which will accommodate 320 students when completed.

The prime mover in this project has been Maj. Daniel W. Dienst, Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) advisor in the Binh Khe sub-sector of Binh Dinh Province. Advisors had long been instrumental in constructing elementary schools in the area, and Dienst saw the need for a high school.

He coordinated arrangements for the project with MACV, local civilian officials, the Government of the Republic of Vietnam, and the United States

Agency for International Development (USAID).

The actual construction work is being done by local Vietnamese laborers hired by a committee of civilians from the district and supervised by an engineer from the province engineering service.

Residents of the district collected 800,000 piasters (about \$6780) to pay the laborers. The agency provides the building materials and the 589th Engineer Battalion, 45th Engineer Group, Army Engineer Command Vietnam provides the trucks for hauling the supplies.

Work began on the project on May 1 and is expected to be completed this November. Long-range plans call for the addition of two more wings to the school, making it a U-shaped structure.

thereafter, he received word that another wounded man was lying forward of the perimeter.

Knowing that the enemy controlled the area outside the perimeter, Helgeson nevertheless volunteered to lead a medical team forward to search for the soldier.

Lightning Hits Twice

RACH KIEN, (1st AVN-10) — Sometimes lightning does strike twice in the same place, as WO George Rhoades from the 118th Assault Helicopter Company can testify.

Flying an armed helicopter as escort for ten transport choppers during a recent mission, Rhoades and WO Charles Prather received fire from a Viet Cong sniper as they approached a landing zone. One bullet hit the main rotor blade and another hit the fuselage.

Thinking the landing zone over which they drew the fire looked familiar, Rhoades consulted a map and discovered it was the same zone in which he was shot down in January.

"It was almost enough to make me think the guy in the black pajamas had something against me personally," Rhoades said. "The last time I was flying a stick when Charlie's fire hit my ship like lightning. But this time I was able to blast him back and even the score."

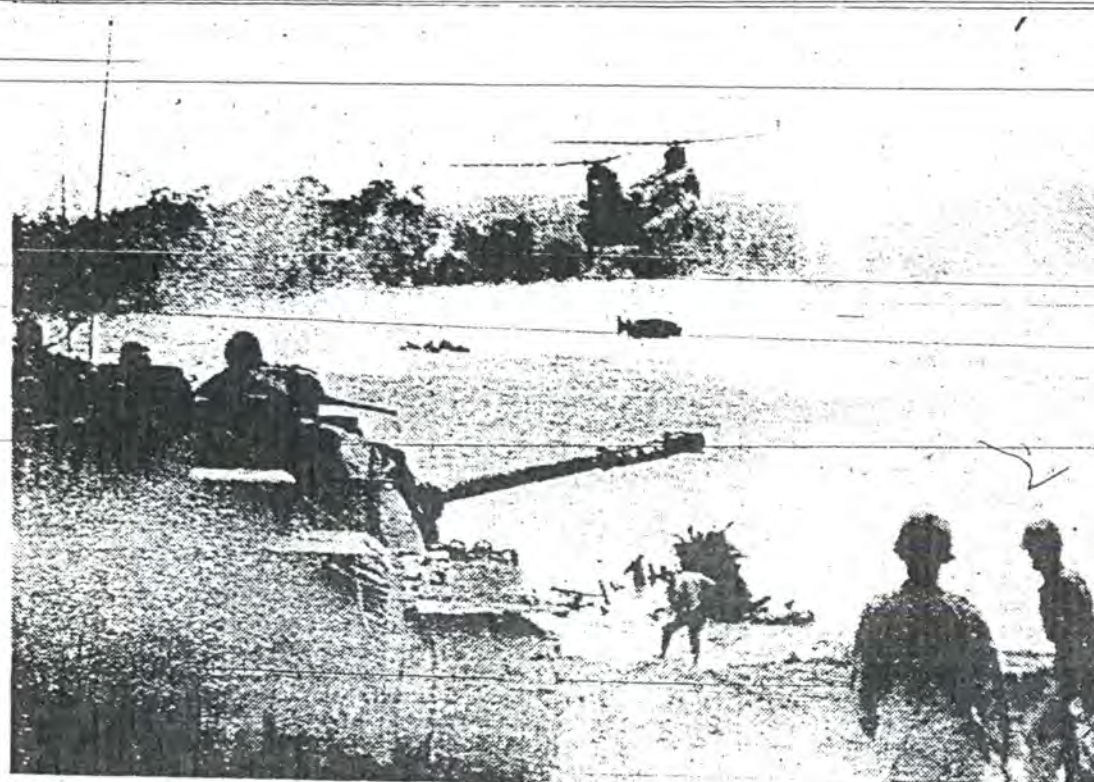
VN Aided In TF Ore

CHU LAI, (TF ORE) — Maneuver units of Task Force Oregon have been concentrating part of their efforts on helping the persons in Quang Ngai and Quang Tin Provinces.

The 196th Light Infantry Brigade and the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division have given more than 12 hours of English lessons to 580 Vietnamese.

Task Force Oregon units have also engaged in helping the Vietnamese build and rebuild four churches, two schools, a hospital, and a dispensary.

More than 100 school books were distributed in the two provinces along with 92 health kits, 300 pounds of food, and 1439 bars of soap.



SPRAY—A Chinook helicopter kicks up water from the Saigon River as the pilot lowers a floating bridge section to waiting power boats of the 65th Combat Engineer Battalion. Mechanized units of the 25th Infantry Division crossed the river, joining other elements that had swept from the north.

(Photo by 25th INF-10)

July 1967

Pilot Delivers Candy 502nd Inf Psy-War Te With Toy Parachutes Uses 'Dog Talk' On VC

PHU LOI, (1st AVN-10) — Civic action takes on many forms in Vietnam and recently a Bird-Dog pilot came up with a new twist for making new friends of the children.

"I had put in many hours flying convoy cover for various units over here," said Capt. Earl R. Kelton, pilot for the 11th Combat Aviation Battalion, "and had always taken notice of the boys and girls who came out to wave to the troopers as they moved past. I thought it was high time to say hello to them."

Kelton decided to para-drop his greetings to the children. Obtaining an old flare chute from surplus stocks, he cut the silk into small hexagons, each about a foot and a half across. He then took the long nylon shroud lines from the original chute and cut them down to accommodate the smaller canopy. Next came the payload—in this case, two rolls of lifesavers taped together.

"Non-stop para-drop," as Kelton calls his creation, was an immediate success. "It was beautiful," he said. "The kids were apprehensive at first, then astounded, and finally downright excited about the whole thing."

"The technique involves testing the wind first, then dropping flaps, going in low and slow, and then dropping the chutes from 50 or 100 feet. The little chutes deploy just like the big ones if all goes well."

So far, all has gone well. Non-stop para-drop has made a dozen drops throughout the eastern half of III Corps. All were successful.

Improvements continue as the program goes on. Various sizes and shapes for the canopies and varying lengths for the shroud lines have been tried, but still the original formula is the one that works out best. "I am now coloring the chutes by dipping the silk into Kool-Aid, of all things," Kelton said. "Now we have four colors to drop—grape, orange, lemon, and cherry."

There has been an added benefit of which Kelton said he

is quite proud. "The mechanics who work on my airplane donate their extra stocks of chewing gum and lifesavers sent to them by the folks at home. They're an enthusiastic part of the project now. I have to give them a status report on all drops as soon as I'm back on the ground."

DUC PHO, (101st ABN-10) — "We made contact," said the radio-telephone operator to the command post of the 502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. "It's a VC hospital complex with plenty of Charlies."

Thus, a psychological warfare

team swung quickly into action. First Lieutenant Cecil Holland and Sp4 James Salling, a two-man psy-war team, plus an interpreter, were flown to the site. Since there was no landing zone, the pilot circled the area and peppered it with M-16 fire.

The team had to 20 feet. Holland interpreter hit hard, but struck a tree stump his collar bone. He died immediately.

Fifteen enemy when the team arrived lay wounded nearby. Troopers of Company Battalion, 502nd more enemy to be five system of escape.

The interpreter standard surrendering the enemy a life and death.

The psy-war team paratroopers wait came out. In other land had used him that played upon the VC. He decided time for another.

A scout dog, ex-smell of the enemy fire, was growling. was placed before fierce growl reverberated back to the jungle. the VC feared the instructed the interpreter more dogs were would seek them in hideouts.

Minutes passed. faint "dau hang render") was heard.

"Hold your fire," psy-war team leader paratroopers over speaker.

The "dau hang" and a VC nurse, with hands over stepped from a hang," she kept re-

The paratroopers and fed her. Late-casted an appeal in the area, but the could find no other had fled through tunnel system.



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Viet Cong Walk Into Ambush

LAI KHE, (1st INF-10)—Two Viet Cong elements were caught in deadly ambushes in two 1st Infantry Division actions during road security operations near here.

Two enemy were killed as the 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry captured two claymore mines, a Chinese Communist automatic rifle, and some documents.

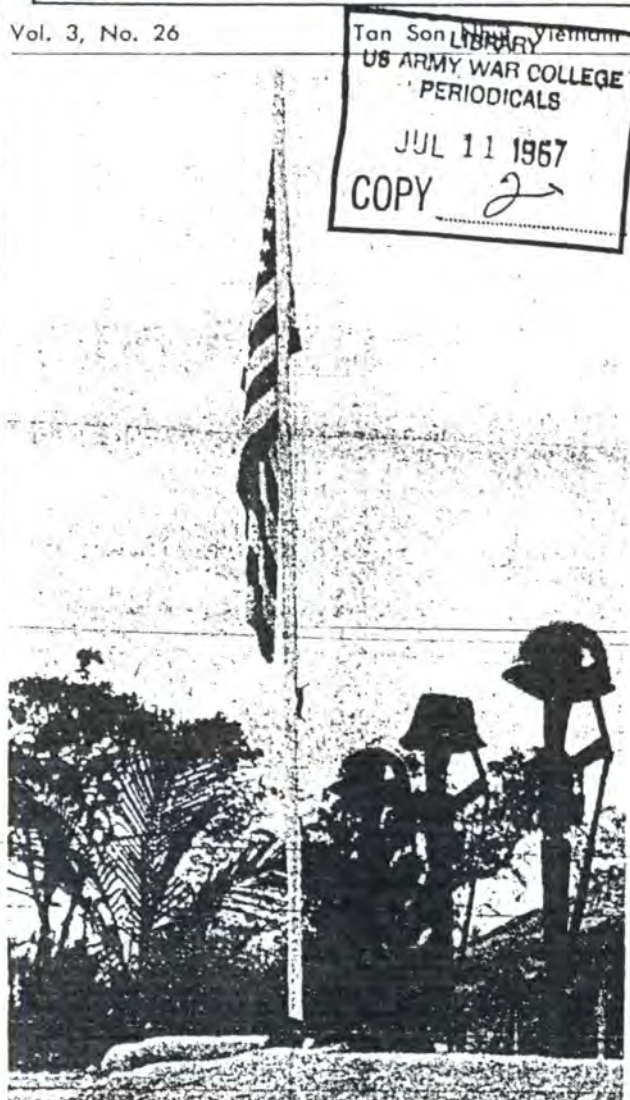
Lieutenant Robert Welch was leading his reconnaissance platoon through thick jungle growth when they came upon a five-trail junction. Fresh tracks were bound on each of the trails.

The men set up a small ambush around the junction. Private First Class Benny J. Dunn spotted five VC strolling down one of the trails. They were carrying automatic weapons and claymore mines. Dunn opened up with his rifle, killing the first one.

"I'm sure he hit more," Welch said. "There was plenty of blood around the area. We could tell where the VC dragged several comrades through the underbrush."

The ambush was sprung so quickly that the enemy was unable to return fire. Two claymore mines were left behind.

A few hours later, SSGT. Rafael Benitez was leading an ambush patrol outside of Company B's perimeter when he heard someone running. "I looked down the road and spotted two VC sprinting toward me," he said.



THREE DEAD—A memorial service for three men of Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division was conducted recently at Duc Pho. The camouflaged

Reliables Help VN Care For Spring Rice

AN NHUT TAN, (9th INF-10) —Spring rice planting by farmers of this Tan Tru District village has become an important occasion for a company from the 9th Infantry Division.

The villagers have lost most of their rice crop for the past four years to the Viet Cong.

This spring, with the help of the 9th Inf., the villagers hope to harvest their crop without enemy interference.

Each morning a group of vil-

G-3 M Author New B

BONG SON, (1st Major John R. Gals officer of the 1st Division, is a soldier, scholar, and Minister. His latest Minutemen, is scheduled soon.

Galvin, a graduate Point (1954) and University (1961), said concerns the event the battle at the La Cord Bridge on April

"It is one of the important battles fought can troops and one