



Sea's beach and waters are the
1 recuperation at Vung Tau. Ex-

Sp4 Steve McCloud, 1st LOG-IO)

Mail Hits The Trail

CHU LAI, (196th INF-IO)—The pony express still rides and PFC Fred Charboneau of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade has a letter to prove it.

He is a cook in the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry. Recently he received a letter stamped "Delivered by Pony Express."

"At first, I thought it was a joke, but when I read the letter, it explained everything," he said.

This was the tenth year for the Hash Knife Pony Express Run which is an annual run from St. Joseph, Mo., to Sacramento, Calif. The mail is carried horseback and each horse runs a three-mile stretch. The riders, after finishing one stretch, are driven about 50 miles for another turn.

mobility for the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

The 1st Platoon, Company C, 4th Combat Engineers has the

Stork Is Assisted By Pilots

CAN THO, (1st AVN-IO) — Warrant Officers Dan Crawford and Jim Miller thought they had flown just about every type of mission in the book in Vietnam until they received an emergency radio call.

The 336th Assault Helicopter Company, 1st Aviation Brigade pilots got a call for an emergency medical evacuation mission from the village of Treyn Nhon, near My Tho in the Mekong Delta. A woman in Treyn Nhon was having difficulty delivering her baby. The local doctor had advised moving her.

After picking up the woman, the pilots headed their Huey toward My Tho with Crawford piloting and Miller on the radio attempting to arrange ambulance service.

Finally reaching their destination, the crew gladly turned their cargo over to the medics, who delivered the baby with no further problems.

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were trying to shoot a sound film of artillery firing, but they wound up with more than they had asked for.

The two are members of the 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. Their unit was on road security along Highway 16.

Diestelhorst had recently bought a sound recording motion picture camera and the two were recording the sights and sounds of booming artillery to send home. Then the unwanted but familiar sounds of Viet Cong mortars interrupted their work.

With mortar rounds pelting the area, both Diestelhorst and Stout took cover in the protective walls of a bunker. After reaching safety of the bunker, Stout shouted to Diestelhorst, "Turn that thing off."

As Diestelhorst related later, "It wasn't until Stout shouted at me that I realized I was recording a real gem."

"It is a little garbled, but you can tell what's going on," Diestelhorst said.

As dreams of grandeur gleamed in Diestelhorst's eyes, Stout mused, "I wonder what kind of equipment he's going to bring to the field next."

Arty Unit On The Go

NHA TRANG, (1 FFV-10)—Dusty and tired, but with a feeling of accomplishment, the men of Battery C, 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery rolled into Camp Townes near Qui Nhon. The unit was on a road march which would take it to the northern border of the II Corps Tactical Zone (CTZ).

One of the most traveled batteries in the largest of Vietnam's four tactical zones, Btry. C will soon have covered the entire length of II CTZ.

"The unit has moved greater distances by road than any other battery I know of," Capt. Raymond J. Zugel, battery commander, stated. Zugel has been with the unit since October. At that time it was Battery B, 1st Battalion, 30th Artillery.

After a two-day break, the unit was ready to move again with the mission of providing 155mm howitzer support to infantry forces in the northern portion of the II CTZ.

Chinook Becomes Gas Station

PHAN THIET, (1st CAV-10)—A Chinook of the 1st Cavalry Division has been converted to an airmobile gas station.

When the cavalry was recently equipped with self-propelled 40mm cannons, there was a problem caused by their thirsty tanks. Major Richard C. Dickson, commander of the 3rd Forward Support Element here, went to work on the problem.



LOOKOUT—Men of the 9th Infantry Division strain to detect signs of enemy snipers. Two Vietnamese sampans carried men of Company B, 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry to the remote areas along Doi Ma Creek in Long An Province.

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

Water Route Brings Trouble As PFC Hits Mines Twice

CHU LAI, (196th INF-10) — For PFC Charles P. Savage of Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade, the long dusty road between the battalion headquarters and its three companies has brought nothing but trouble.

Savage is the only man in the battalion to hit two enemy mines on that road and live.

The road twists and winds through thick underbrush and, even though it is carefully patrolled, it is a favorite spot for Viet Cong mines.

"I had been making the water run twice a day ever since the battalion first moved here," Savage said. "Each morning the road is cleared by mine sweepers, so I never thought much about the possibility of hitting a mine."

"Then one morning I was on my way to Company C and it happened. All I remember was being thrown out of the vehicle. It felt like the whole truck was blown apart."

The man who was riding guard with Savage was thrown out of the vehicle also. When the two realized they were still in one piece they took cover in case of an ambush. Nothing happened and after a gun jeep with the truck radioed for help, the men returned to their camp.

The mine Savage had hit was a 105 howitzer round rigged with a pressure fuse. Both men received only bruises and cuts.

Savage continued to drive the road, but a little more cautiously. After a few weeks, he regained his confidence. And then it happened again.

"I was riding shotgun this time," Savage explained. "We had just dropped a water trailer off at Charlie Company when it happened. It wasn't more than 300 meters from where I hit the first one."

"We skidded down a hill and finally came to a stop at the

bottom. The driver and I both took cover again in case there was an ambush, but again nothing happened."

As it did the first time, the accompanying gun jeep radioed for help and the men were returned to their unit.

Savage decided he did not

want to press his luck any farther, so he was given a job in the battalion motor pool.

"I guess headquarters figured that since I had been in Vietnam only a little over three months and had earned two Purple Hearts I could use a break," he said.

Engineers, Church Aid Orphan

QUI NHON, (USAECV-10) — Army engineers have enlisted the help of the Methodist Church in Manchester, Mo., to wipe out

the poverty and disease gripping a Vietnamese orphanage 10 miles north of here.

The Kim Chau orphanage for

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Sergeant-1 Company A, Infantry, 4th and his unit night near he Vietnamese ing the posit

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A MEDIC'S TOUCH—Specialist Six Pedro C. Santiago gives a Vietnamese orphan medical attention to clear up a skin disease. Medics assigned to the Engineer Command make periodic visits to the Kim Chau Orphanage in Qui Nhon.

(Photo by USAECV-10)



ONE GOOD TURN—Specialist Four Carl R. Hinote, Army Engineer Command, tries to turn a bolt that will enable him to remove a bulldozer track. The trackless dozer will reduce weight for shipment in an Air Force C-130.
(Photo by USAECV-IO)

Dismantled Dozers Flown Out By AF

BUNARD, (USAECV-IO)—Bulldozers weighing approximately 25 tons made their first flight in Air Force C-130s recently, shortly after engineers completed improving the airfield here.

The 557th Engineer Company and Company C, 168th Engineer Battalion, 79th Engineer Group, built a 3100 foot runway in support of Operation Harvest Moon. The Army and Air Force then

dozers on flatbed trucks and delivered them to the waiting aircraft. Their tracks were dismantled and the heavy machines were driven into the planes.

With one dozer on each airplane and only the minimum amount of fuel for safe flying, the 463rd Troop Carrier Wing's C-130s successfully airlifted the dozers out.

Aviators Support II Corps

BAN ME THUOT, (1st AVN-IO)—The 155th Assault Helicopter Company, has been in direct combat support of the II Corps advisory effort and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) forces in the central highlands.

During a three-day period recently, the 155th Stagecoach transport Hueys and Falcon gunships, complemented by a detachment of four Big Windy Chinooks of the 180th Assault Support Helicopter Company, conducted combat assaults in three widely spaced areas.

On the first day, the 155th, under the direction of the company operations officer, Capt. Charles T. Pease, moved 331 Special Forces and ARVN Ranger Battalion troops into two blocking locations north of Tan Rai, 100 miles northeast of Saigon.

On the second day, 155th commander, Maj. Charlie P. Fleming, took the choppers to Cheo Reo, 50 miles southeast of Pleiku, and airlifted 785 troops of the 22nd ARVN Battalion.

The last day, 203 combat soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division were transported to field positions.

During the three days, the choppers recorded the following totals: 1319 troops transported, five tons of cargo hauled, 510 sorties logged, and 230 total hours in the air.

A total of six med-evacs were made by the Stagecoaches while the Falcons received credit for eight enemy killed.

Following the last troop lift on the last day, WO Larry Craft and a Chinook extracted an ARVN H-34 helicopter which force landed the day before. The aircraft was recovered with no difficulty.

The purpose is to better qualify themselves in coordinating airstrikes when forward air controllers are not available.

The first phase of the program consists of several hours of ground school training. In this phase the aviators learn such information as the type of ordnance the fighter aircraft carry, their methods of delivering this ordnance, the best type of ordnance for destroying a particular target, and the coordination necessary between the TIP and the fighter aircraft.

The second phase of the program is flying backseat with a qualified FAC pilot while he controls an air strike. In the final phase the aviator controls an airstrike with a qualified FAC riding in the back seat.

appreciation for the civil activities and projects carried out in their village by the engineers.

The villagers landscaped a 1700-square-foot area, supplying all the plants, flowers, and shrubbery necessary for the project. The actual landscaping is unique because the plants and flowers have been planted to form two engineer castles and two 4th Div. patches. The enthusiastic villagers worked for two days on the project.

Second Lieutenant Marion E. Dickerhoof, the battalion civil affairs officer, said, "The officers and men of the 4th Eng. Bn. were honored to have the people of La Son show their feelings in such a pleasant and colorful way."

Old Reliables Take Kids To City Zoo

BEN LUC, (9th INF-10) — Tens of thousands of children throughout the world swarm to the municipal zoos on Sundays.

One exception is the children in Vietnam's rural villages. Trips to the zoo have become almost out of the question—unless something special happens.

Something special did happen recently and 250 elementary school children of Ben Luc District went to the zoo one Sunday recently, thanks to a 9th Infantry Division company.

Company D of the division's 709th Maintenance Battalion planned the day-long outing for students of two district schools. The excursion included a picnic. Company cooks packed stacks of sandwiches, baskets of hard-boiled eggs, fruit, cakes and cookies, and gallons of soft drinks.

About 150 children ranging in age from six to 14 years clambered aboard the company's trucks at Ben Luc School at 8 a.m. Another 100 youngsters joined the convoy at Go Den hamlet school. About 20 teachers from both schools accompanied the troop for the 15-mile trip to Saigon's zoo.

First Lieutenant Ralph J. Smith was in charge of the convoy.

The children were delighted by the visit to the zoo, Capt. Donald M. Moore, company commander, said. "But my men enjoyed the day as much as their guests."

Several days after the excursion, letters from the children began piling up on Moore's desk. "Before long 170 letters had arrived at the company command post," he said.

searched. Intelligence personnel questioned villagers and civil affairs officers explained the allied effort to the people. Finally, a medical treatment station would be set up where doctors treated ailing villagers.

Engrs Rip Up Jungle

DI AN, (1st INF-10)—Tearing down jungles has become a task of infantry division engineers who usually raise structures.

Around the 1st Infantry Division's base camp here, plows, similar to bulldozers, are ripping through jungle and tearing trees from the ground and cutting undergrowth. These plows have sharp protruding shanks for downing big trees. The heavy equipment is operated by Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion.

Jungle clearing has several important roles. By removing the overhead cover, Viet Cong movement is restricted and places at which they could build base camps is reduced. By providing open fields of fire, jungle clearing also helps the villages to defend themselves and provides land to grow much needed crops.

1st Cavalry Helicopters Kill 8 Viet Cong In Attack On Huts

BONG SON, (1st CAV-10) — Eight Viet Cong were killed and more than 20 enemy huts destroyed by aerial rocket artillery helicopters of the 1st Cavalry Division's 2nd Battalion, 20th Artillery.

Scattered but continuous small arms and automatic weapons fire was received by the seven helicopters as they attacked huts as large as 20 feet by 50 feet.

The ships, armed with 81mm

mortars, 2.75-inch rockets, air to ground missiles, and 7.62 machineguns, destroyed more than 20 huts and caused secondary explosions in nearly every hut. One secondary explosion sent a fire ball 500 feet into the air.

Armed Viet Cong were killed from the air when they ran from their positions.

There was one U.S. wounded when a CH-47 was struck several times by enemy fire.



EXPERT TRAINING—A Vietnamese Special Forces soldier receives instruction during a training period on the M-79 grenade launcher from SSgt. Joe B. Lawrence, intelligence sergeant of the Green Beret camp at Plateau GI, about 35 miles north-east of Kontum. (Photo by Sgt. Steve Askew, 5th SFG-10)

June 24, 1967

AT 1ST Cav VC Guard

nothing had been touched."

The soldiers returned to their company's perimeter, then back to the site of the booby trap with demolition equipment. "Charlie must have expected us to come back because he strung the wire along the trail in a different position but this time there was no slack in it," said

reinforced enemy platoon who on a night operation about three miles northeast of here in Long An province.

In minutes the Dragon ships were overhead and division artillery was pounding the area. At 2:35 a.m. the enemy fled, leaving 18 dead. There was one American killed and three

Vietnam Communique

25th Infantry Division — Operation Manhattan, conducted by the 1st Brigade since April 24, terminated earlier this month. The multi-battalion operation accounted for 191 enemy killed, 370 suspects detained, and 614 individual and 14 crew-served weapons captured. These were 47 U.S. infantrymen killed during the operation. "Manhattan" uncovered more than 950 tons of rice. The brigade has discovered one of the largest single arms caches of the war. It contained more than 297,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, 3550 mortar and recoilless rifle rounds, 900 grenades, 300 mines, 135 pounds of explosives, and 370 individual weapons.

1st Cavalry Division — In-Operation Pershing, scattered action on one day killed 27 enemy, detained 380 suspects, and captured six individual weapons in the Bong Son Plain. Also during "Pershing" a Hoi Chanh returnee led a patrol to a cache containing 24 individual weapons, assorted small-arms ammunition, and weapons parts.

101st Airborne Division — Members of the 1st Brigade under Task Force Oregon terminated Operation Malheur I. During the operation 392 enemy and 51 paratroopers were killed and 171 suspects detained. Operation Malheur II is being conducted by the same forces in the same area.

9th Infantry Division — A multi-battalion force of Vietnamese soldiers and members of the 2nd Brigade have begun Operation Hoptac. The operation provides base security at Dong Tam. Other elements of the 9th, engaged in Operation Enterprise in Long An Province, uncovered 15 enemy graves and 36 claymore mines. During the same operation, a company found three base camps 20 miles southwest of Saigon. The infantrymen destroyed 374 two-and

three-man bunkers.

5th Special Forces Group — Civilian Irregular Defense Group soldiers and their Green Beret advisors report 26 contacts with the enemy during one day. Fourteen enemy were killed and 15 suspects were detained. One advisor was wound-

ed.

199th Light Infantry Brigade — Units supporting the Army of the Republic of Vietnam pacification Operation Rang Dong reported killing nine enemy in a day of scattered actions. Two enemy sampans were also destroyed.



June 24, 1967