

ry Tanks Clear Road, It Open For Convoys

0)—Be- a tank which had just hit a
plosion mine.
came For A Troop, 1st Squadron,
blems. 4th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Divi-
This sion this was the beginning of
l from a long night of patrolling.
ner on Their mission was part of

Kills 50 VC

0) — none are available.
Magic Left with only target-marking
e has rockets for offensive capability,
firmed the little observation plane
would do little damage to the
Gong. It was with this in mind
that the enterprising sergeant
mounted a standard M-60 ma-
chine gun in the side window
of the small Bird Dog, creating
a miniature "Magic Dragon" to
destroy the enemy.
Proof of the effectiveness of
his system is 50 confirmed VC
dead in four months, with five
in one day during his most re-
cent encounter.



n, the Sky Troopers of the 1st
alry sweep through a village near
FC Thomas Baroody, 13th SIG-BN)

Operation Junction City. The
enemy was laying mines along
Highway 4, attempting to stop
convoys carrying vital supplies
north. The 4th Cav., heavily
armed and highly mobile, had
been assigned to keep the road
open during the night so the re-
supply convoy could get through
the next day.

The 1st Platoon, led by Lt.
Thomas Daily, after losing its
first tank shortly after the mis-
sion started, rumbled down the
highway without incident when
a second tank, commanded by
SSgt. Carl Miller, hit a mine.

When sniper fire began hitting
in the area, Daily immediately
called for a recon by fire and
the jungle was silent once again.

The 1st Plt. met no further
resistance until 5 a.m. when a
tank, commanded by Sgt.
Manuel Vaga-Padro, met with
another mine. His vehicle was
immobilized with a thrown
track.

As dawn broke, the 1st Plt.
returned to its perimeter.

That night the platoon moved
out again. The tanks, which had
hit the mines the night before,
were leading the way under
their own power.

Private First Class John Bei-
sbiem asked, "Was last night's
mission a success?" Platoon
Sergeant Charles Reimes gave
him his answer. "Ask any one
of those truck drivers going up
that highway right now if it
was a success and you'll get
your answer."

The convoy had no mishaps
and delivered their supplies
safely to the designated area.

Boy Saves...

(Continued From Page 1)
in the middle. He hit the ground
and started to crawl on his belly
and soon reached the forward
elements of the platoon, where
he waited until the enemy had
retreated.

Because of Lang's early warn-
ing the recon platoon suffered
few casualties.

Lang will not receive a medal
for his act, but the men of Co.
E are showing their apprecia-
tion and gratitude for his brava-
ry by collecting money for his
education.

Sergeant Awarded Silver Star

TAN SON NHUT, (USARV-
IO)—The Silver Star has been
awarded to a 173rd Airborne
Brigade platoon sergeant who
exposed himself to intense ene-
my fire while dragging wound-
ed men to safety and leading
his men to safer positions.

Receiving the country's third
highest award for valor in com-
bat was PSgt. Enrique Perez-
Monserrate of Company B, 4th
Battalion, 503rd Infantry.

During an operation earlier
this year, the sergeant super-
vised the evacuation of nine
wounded men when his platoon
came under heavy enemy fire.

When the platoon was told to
withdraw to allow air strikes
to be called in on the enemy
position, the enemy force
opened up with a machinegun.
Moving among the men in his
platoon, the sergeant was able
to safely withdraw his unit de-
spite the intense enemy fire.

Air Strikes, Gunships Halt Cong Attack

BINH CHANH, (199th INF-IO)
— A Viet Cong attack was
thwarted recently when tactical
air strikes and gunships killed
25 Viet Cong seven miles south-
west of Saigon along the Son
Ben Luc Canal.

Advisors spotted two VC pla-
toons moving into the area
wearing green and black uni-
formes and armed with a 60mm
mortar and a light machinegun.

While the VC ground forces,
identified as the 51st Regiment,
were concentrating, two VC
sampans sailed down the canal
in the direction of a company
of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infan-
try, 199th Light Infantry Bri-
gade.

Artillery first pounded the
area then tactical air and gun-
ships took over. The gunships
accounted for 15 VC killed on
the larger sampan and five on
the smaller. Tactical air regis-
tered five VC killed. The area
was continually pounded by air
strikes till dark.

Apr 22/86

MORE MONEY FOR COBRAS—Procurement action to support long leadtime requirements for the new AH-1G Huey Cobra armed helicopter was announced in St. Louis by the Army aviation Materiel Command. Initial funding of \$2 million was obligated for new procurement action. An existing contract with Bell Helicopter Co., Ft. Worth, Tex., was modified authorizing the production of 210 additional aircraft, bringing the total order to 530.

SPECIAL WARFARE MUSEUM REOPENED—The John F. Kennedy Center for Special Warfare Museum has been reopened after undergoing an extensive renovation program.

FINANCE, COMPTROLLER TO MERGE — The Army has announced that its Office, Chief of Finance and the Office, Comptroller of the Army (OCA) will be merged in order to make better use of OCA resources. The merger is to be completed by May 1.

CASELESS AMMUNITION RESEARCHED—The Army is doing research on a new type of ammunition that has no case. The projectile is the only metal part of the caseless ammunition. Thousands of rounds of the ammunition have been fired. Studies are being made to improve production methods, reduce fire hazards, and develop weapons to use the ordnance.

DIRECT COMMISSIONS IN VIETNAM—During a one year period, 73 soldiers in Vietnam received direct appointments as second lieutenants, U.S. Army Reserve. Authority for such appointments has been delegated to the commanding general, U.S. Army, Vietnam. Of the 73 commissions, there were 55 infantry, 15 artillery, 10 transportation, 6 signal, 4 engineer, and 3 armor.

THROW-AWAY BOOT ADOPTED—The Army has adopted a boot that will be replaced instead of repaired when it wears out. Nails and stitches in the lower structure of the new boot are eliminated by a one-piece sole and heel vulcanized and molded directly to the upper part of the boot.

STITCHES ON THE WAY OUT—A liquid adhesive that can be sprayed on human organs as a blood-stopping agent is being developed by Army researchers. The adhesive may someday eliminate the need for stitching up wounds. A spray-gun for the adhesive has been designed and built by the Army Medical Biochemical Research Laboratory at Forest Glen, Md.

Trails To Stop

CU CHI, (25th INF-10) — When 25th Infantry Division soldiers moved into a new area, they found that the enemy had booby-trapped everything including the bath-tubs.

Such was the case when the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Wolfhounds occupied an area southwest of the division's base camp during a recent operation.

"All we wanted was a chance to wash up in the creek. We didn't figure on a booby trap to delay us," commented Sp4 Patrick Morrison after he and Sp4 Joe Rayburn found a booby

trap. The ter a rice p and Just around rison only i grena only wire The buddie clear nade is goi a bat

Piaster Spe

TAN SON NHUT, (USARV-10)—Piaster expenditure, both on an official and a personal basis, has dropped significantly throughout Vietnam since last year, according to information released by the United States Army Vietnam (USARV) comptroller's office.

Per capita figures show that for all personnel, both military and civilian, personal spending averaged almost \$21 for February, compared to last October's \$23. Though not yet available, figures for March are expected to show that personal expenditures on a per person basis dipped below the \$20 a month mark, the goal set by Gen. William C. Westmoreland, commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam.

Army disbursing offices throughout Vietnam gave out

500 n compa both last y Lieut Giniko cer w ler's o reduct was a action dividu As Giniko quarte were the or spendi "Th been the p equipm my by ment

New Chopper Co At 1st Aviation

TAN SON NHUT, (1st AVN-10) — A new helicopter company has been added to the 1st Aviation Brigade.

Advance elements of the 270th Assault Support Helicopter Company began arriving last month. When fully operational, the CH-47 Chinook company will support II Field Force Vietnam from its base camp at Bear Cat, 25 miles northeast of Saigon.

Blondie



to the 1st Logistical Command's 44th Medical Brigade, is fast becoming Vietnam's answer to America's Betty Crocker.

As dietitian for the LOG's medical arm, she plans 13 menus for each meal for the sick and wounded and also serves as a dietary consultant to the U.S. Army, Vietnam

menu is normally written in Chicago and sent out to the field, but it is believed a more realistic menu can be prepared for Vietnam by someone who is familiar with the limitations imposed by equipment available and an understanding of the food desires of the troops

pitals in Vietnam. "A variety of diets are required due to different types of illness wounds of the patients," explained the colonel.

Along with planning and ing the menu, Col. Acco also has to plan equipment outs. She is responsible for standardization of design equipment of each of the hospital kitchens in Viet

PFC Arms Chopper's System While in Flight

PHU LOI. (1st INF-IO)—During a night mortar attack, PFC Lynn D. Elms, crew chief of a gunship, armed the rocket system of his aircraft while in flight by standing on the skid.

The first mortar round hit in the landing strip area of D Troop, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Division. The "scramble siren" blasted its signal for all chopper crews to

evacuate their aircraft.

With mortar rounds falling in the area, the crews rushed to their waiting choppers. Elms and the pilot, WO James C. Nixon, were the first of their crew to reach the helicopter. The other two crewmen were not in sight and with mortars exploding within yards of the chopper there was no time to wait for them. Because of the urgency of evacuating the helicopter, the aircraft's rocket system was not armed.

The building plans vary depending on whether the construction is to be done by engineers or by contractors. Terrain also influences design. Needed cooking equipment is dependent upon the availability of electricity or propane. The Log hospitals used only field ranges for cooking and immersion heaters for washing. Now, most of them have modern ranges, ovens, deep fat fryers, and grills.

Non-Aerial Assault Made

PHAN RANG. (101st ABN-IO)—For the first time since the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division has been in Vietnam, one of its infantry battalions has made a completely non-airmobile combat assault.

The 2nd Battalion, 327th (Airborne) Infantry, participating in a recent operation in southern Ninh Thuan Province, loaded aboard trucks at their Tuy Phong forward command post and joined a convoy going to Phan Rang.

The mission of the battalion was to establish blocking positions and to search and clear an area between National Highway 1 and the South China Sea.

About twenty miles north of Tuy Phong, the convoy stopped and started their motorized assault into their area of operation.

Once airborne, Elms tried to open one of the side doors which would enable him to reach the rocket system. He was able to open the door only partially because of a spent machinegun round, later found lodged in the door bracket. Being unable to unfasten his safety harness and climb outside the helicopter and armed the system by standing on the skids of the aircraft.

Nixon and Elms spotted the muzzle flashes coming from one of the enemy mortar positions and prepared to engage the target. Nixon placed his grenade launcher in position and, with Elms manning one of the door guns, engaged the mortar emplacement simultaneously, firing the grenade launcher and rockets into the enemy position.

Through the combined efforts of the pilot and crew chief, they were successful in putting the threatening mortar out of action.



THE BIG GUN—1st Airborne Division prepares to let loose a Pershing.

Vietnam Communique

Operation Junction City—The 1st Infantry Division's fire support base C was attacked twice by enemy mortar fire. The first attack came in the late morning, injuring 48 infantrymen. Enemy casualties are unknown. The second attack came seven hours later. The enemy fired 69 to 65 rounds of 82mm mortar. One soldier was killed, 14 were wounded. No enemy casualties were reported. That same day another 1st Inf. Div. unit was shelled with 60 to 75 rounds of 82mm mortars. One American was killed and 10 wounded. Meanwhile units of the 173rd Airborne Brigade found an enemy base camp northeast of Tay Ninh City. The unit found

bunkers and miscellaneous supplies and equipment. Another unit of the brigade engaged an enemy squad near the same area. Air strikes and artillery broke the action. Eleven enemy were killed, three paratroopers were killed and 18 wounded.

1st Cavalry Division—During a joint operation with Vietnamese forces, the 3rd Brigade made contact with an estimated enemy company 41 miles northeast of Phan Thiet in Binh Thuan Province. The infantrymen were supported by tactical air and armed helicopters. Latest reports list two Americans killed and 29 wounded. ARVN casualties were light. Enemy casualties have not been

reported. Camp Radcliff, 39 miles northwest of Qui Nhon in Binh Dinh Province, was hit with about 80 rounds of enemy mortar fire. Armed helicopters attacked the enemy positions and reported a secondary explosion. Light damage to the aircraft was reported and two soldiers were wounded.

25th Infantry Division—During Operation Pershing the 3rd Brigade joined with the 1st Cavalry to kill 11 enemy, detain 263 suspects, and capture one weapon. Three infantrymen were killed and nine wounded. The division terminated Operation Waialua April 8. The search and destroy operation accounted for 62 enemy killed, 65 suspects detained, and 25 weapons captured. Five U.S. infantrymen were killed and 84 wounded.

101st Airborne Brigade—The 1st Brigade continued Operation Summerall making only light contact in an area 52 miles southeast of Tuy Hoa in Phu Yen Province. A two man reconnaissance force killed nine enemy during a surprise attack on an enemy base camp.

4th Infantry Division—Operation Sam Houston terminated April 5 and Operation Francis Marion began April 6. The new operation will center in the same area, 22 miles west of Pleiku City, and will involve the 4th Division's 1st and 2nd Brigades and the 25th Division's 3rd Brigade. In Operation Sam Houston, the 4th and 25th Divisions' units killed 753 enemy, detained 305 suspects, and captured 181 individual and 50 crew-served weapons. U.S. infantrymen suffered 172 killed and 767 wounded. Recently a friendly 81mm mortar round landed in a company position of the 1st Bde. Fourteen men were wounded. Initial investigation indicates a deflection error caused the accident.

9th Infantry Division—A unit discovered a large tunnel complex 12 miles northeast of Ba Ria recently. Found were 15 submachine guns, 35 Chinese Communist rifles, two American M-1 rifles, one U.S. Browning Automatic Rifle, one 57mm recoilless rifle, 50 rounds of 81mm mortars, 132 hand grenades, 100 claymore mines, 50,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, 100 pounds of explosives, 150 blast caps, and one typewriter.

pany. A 3rd Battalion, came up flowing river. One of the men stream and secured the far bank. A crossed the current by the falling tide off the rope and of water.

Most of the platoon were bogged down and unable to reach the man.

Smith shucked gear and plunged. He swam to the other side of the river.

Later, during Smith repeated the same feat two more times.

Company Commander Donald A. Price, the actions of "There is no doubt Lieutenant Smith quickly and efficiently did, at least the platoon would have been.

Desert Four

BONG SON. He was accident miles behind by But Victor Bray hour hike, came unit's camp, tired but alive.

Victor is a dog man of the 1st Division's Company. In 12th Cavalry's remarkable months he has been shot and teamed. The dog was Viet Cong guerrilla raised by the men.

VC Try Chased

PLEIKU (JERICHO)—Sounds in danger for the vision's Company. 8th Infantry hand grenades outlying listening away the enemy were threatening position.

Fire team Charles Steiner Theodore DeGraaf of the 1st Squadron were occupying outside the company deep in the jungle.

