



Compound at Tan Son Nhut is Lt. Gen. (working on are Maj. Shirley R. Heinze (management) and Capt. Peggy E. in Vietnam. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

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Stabilized By Army

TAN SON NHUT, (USARV-10)
—Soldiers who reenlist after their Vietnam tour will be given a stabilized stateside assignment of 12 months or more.

They may select their post or geographic area. Three choices of post or area will be offered and the Pentagon's Office of Personnel Operations will make the actual assignments based on the Stateside requirements.

The offer is a result of leveling off the Vietnam build-up and stabilizing Stateside assignments.

All men in grades E-6 and below with less than seven years of active service are eligible. Enlistments will be for at least four years.

If soldiers' terms would expire after their rotations Stateside, they may qualify for re-enlistment before they leave Vietnam, when they return home, or as late as three months after they leave the service.

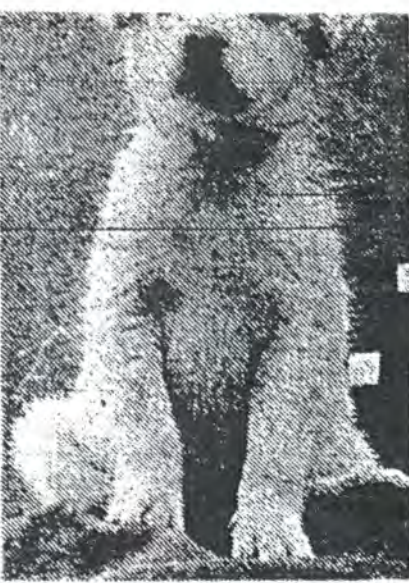
Soldiers who finish their normal Vietnam tours but are not due for separation may be discharged for immediate re-enlistment for the option before they leave Vietnam.

Miracle Works For Choppers

TUY HOA, (1 FFV-10)—It is no wonder the 48th Assault Helicopter Company here has probably the greatest number of aircraft flying in Vietnam. They have a Miracle working for them.

Specialist Six Ora Miracle, is a technical inspector with the 390th Transportation Detachment, which furnishes maintenance support for the 48th, one of the companies of the 10th Aviation Battalion.

Miracle checks equipment on helicopters for safety and serviceability and to ascertain that any repairs made have put the ship back into perfect working order. Another duty he controls is the aircraft records for the 390th. "In this air-mobile war, with the number of helicopters flying, keeping the records straight is a job-in-itself," he says.



THE MASCOT — Snowball, the smallest member of Battery B, 7th Battalion, 11th Artillery sits on her favorite seat — the front of an artillery piece. She is the mascot of one of the howitzer sections and is always ready for any mission. (Photo by PFC Andy Jensen, 25th INF-10)

VN Saves Equipment

CA MAU, (IV CORPS-10)—A quick thinking Vietnamese soldier—possibly saved the U.S. Government many thousands of dollars when he drove a burning gasoline truck away from several parked Army helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft.

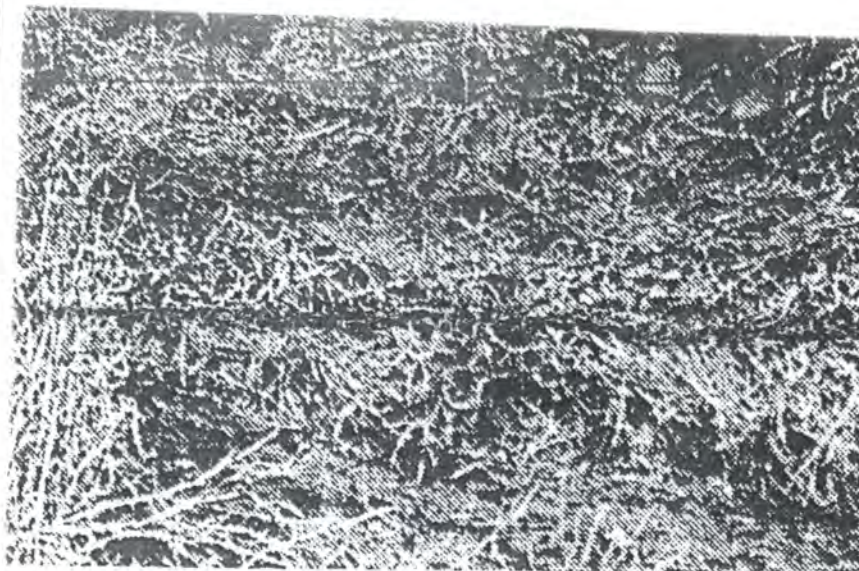
Duong Van Hue, 2nd Battalion, 32nd Regiment, 21st Army of Republic of Vietnam Division, was awarded the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with the Silver Star for his actions, plus 400 piasters.

He was watching a gasoline pump truck refuel helicopters. Suddenly the rear of the truck burst into flames, threatening two helicopters and another plane. Several hundred soldiers were also nearby.

Hue jumped into the truck and drove it into a lake near the field. Minutes later the fire was put out by a fire fighting crew.

It was less than two hours later when Lt. Gen. Dang Van Quang, corps commander, presented the award to him. He and three other generals, two of them U.S. Army, witnessed Hue's actions.

Nov 26, 1966



Sampans

BINH THANH, (1st INF-10)— Suddenly the sound of machine-gun and small arms fire shrieked. Viet Cong fell while their ghostly looking sampans sank to the bottom of the water.

"We hadn't been in position long when I spotted the sampans," PFC Allen R. Dale, a member of a 1st Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry engaged in Operation Allentown, said. He alerted Cpl. William Hall.

"We waited until both of the sampans were in the center of our kill zone before opening up," Hall said. Machinegunners Sp4 Maurice Berlekamp and PFC Randall Lukaart touched off the action with a burst of their gun and the rest of the patrol began firing.

In just a few short seconds, the jungle that edged the river was once again dark, quiet, and still.

Nov 26, 1966

pty ammunition crates for an impromptu altar, chaplain for the 4th Battalion, 503rd Infantry, Sunday services for paratroopers of the 1st Bat- (Photo by Sp4 Bernie Zawacki, 173rd ABN-IO)

odeo tion

r" on his ship, and totes machine gun in his lap abut.

July, Matis has been in 5 combat assaults. His covers the battalion's he helicopters that carry men to the landing zone which they fan out to hunt ng on search and destroy s.

he gets to the landing is helicopter lays down a suppressive fire to keep down and enable the fighters to slip in. Then upper hovers the area to he infantrymen as they set own defense and prepare e out. When the soldiers he area, the gunships are , sticking around to insure ery soldier has been picked no equipment has been ind.

one similarity left between and helicopters for Matis he's still riding—only now an aircraft instead of on e and his weapon is a egun and not a six-shooter.

Two More 52nd Records

PLEIKU, (1st AVN-10)—Two units of the 52nd Combat Aviation Battalion Dragons, set aircraft utilization records during September.

The 119th and 107th Assault Helicopter Companies averaged 120 hours on their UH-1D troop lift ships Slicks during the month while both armed and unarmed choppers of the 119th flew a combined average of 106.7 hours per ship.

The battalion average was 107.3 hours on its troop lift ships. Based on Department of the Army programmed average flight time of 60 hours per month for UH-1D troop ships, the Dragons aircraft utilization hit 178 per cent of the optimum. The hard flying battalion amassed over 6000 flying hours during September.

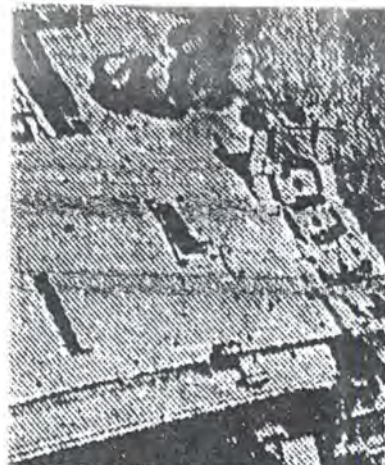
This feat was accomplished while 52nd mechanics performed 67 periodic inspections, six of which were the notorious 11th periodic requiring replacement of 16 major components. And if that was not enough, more than half the month was marked by rain, fog, and low ceilings in the battalion's central highland operational area. ©

Scholarship Funds Set

WASHINGTON, (ANF) — A scholarship in memory of a former enlisted member of the 101st Airborne Division has been established at the University of Southern California (USC) by his parents.

The Michael R. Young Memorial Scholarship, which is now worth \$1500 annually, will be awarded to those who have served with the 101st and are interested in the field of International Relations. If no former member of the 101st is eligible for the scholarship, it will be awarded to a veteran with an interest in the field.

The first scholarship will be available September 1967, with an application deadline of Feb. 15. Further information is available through Mrs. Florence Scruggs, Director of Student Aid, USC, Los Angeles, 90007.



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made just after noon one day
when a fire team from the 3rd
Platoon spotted a small group of
enemy soldiers.

Soon the entire platoon was en-

1st Avn Pilot Has Close Call

DA NANG, (222nd AVN-IO) —
A helicopter from the 1st Aviation
Brigade, carrying general cargo
and two Special Forces men, nar-
rowly missed being shot down by
Viet Cong ground fire recently.

The helicopter left here for
Thong Duc early on a rainy day.
The chopper was descending on
the landing strip when it started
receiving the fire.

The pilot did not immediately
recognize the sound of automatic
weapons fire and continued to
bring the chopper down. Special-
ist 6 Richard Dunn, crew chief,
shouted over the intercom for
the pilot to climb.

About this time, the pilot be-
came aware of the situation and
put the chopper to a climb. He
suddenly felt a concussion under
his right thigh and the cockpit
was shattered with pieces of plas-
tic armor plating from the right
side of the pilot's seat.

Fifteen minutes later the air-
craft was back at Da Nang. The
pilot found only one bullet hole.
The bullet had entered the left
side of the forward fuselage,
traveled through the floorboard,
and into the plating of the pilot's
seat.

It was estimated that the bullet
missed the pilot's right leg by
less than an inch and, had it not
been for the armor plating, it
would have hit the aircraft com-
mander's midsection.

The mission was finished later
in the day when the weather
cleared.

up to check the area of contact.
It came under enemy fire and was
pinned down. A machinegun was
brought in to provide additional
firepower so the men could pull
back with the rest of the platoon.
The platoon then advanced about
30 meters and was pinned down
again.

Three enemy bunkers were ob-
served to the right front of the
unit. Sergeant Coy Houston
crawled forward and threw a gre-
nade into one of the bunkers,
putting it out of action. Friendly
units then withdrew to the land-
ing zone (LZ) to evacuate wound-
ed. Airstrikes and artillery were
quickly called in on the enemy
position. Total enemy dead had
reached 18.

About 4 p.m., Co. A
back up to the area of contact
under a pre-planned movement
worked out by the company com-
mander, Capt. Ora L. Boss.

Enemy contact was made again
an hour later and one more NVA
was killed. The company then
withdrew to secure the landing
zone.

The next morning when the
company went back to police the
area, they engaged another small
NVA unit, killing five of them in
a 45-minute fire fight.

DSC Awarded

TAN SON NHUT, (USARV-IO)
— A 12th Aviation Group pilot
who repeatedly landed his heli-
copter midst enemy fire to de-
liver ammunition and carry out
wounded men has been awarded
the Distinguished Service Cross.
He is 1st Lt. Frank H. Mayer
of the 114th Assault Helicopter
Company. In April he was a
member of an armed helicopter
platoon supporting a Special
Forces Group under heavy ene-
my fire. He first landed supplies
in the battle area. Then when a
call went out for evacuation of
the wounded, again he landed. Af-
ter delivering his patients to a
hospital, he returned to the area
to search for the enemy.

He made it possible for a crew
to rescue the men.

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ARMY, U.S. ARMY, SPECIAL FORCES
A teams from the 5th Special Forces Group are assigned to the camps to advise and assist the LLDB in their missions.

The Special Forces' camp at Trai Bi, northwest of Tay Ninh.

Ambush

CAN THO, (IV CORPS-IO)—An ambush platoon out of the Dinh sector was credited with killing five Viet Cong and also diverting a possible attempt to hit nearby Sinh Tuy airfield with recoilless rifle fire.

Captain Joe Berry, sector intelligence advisor, stated it had been a very successful ambush with no friendly casualties. "We received a report that the VC would be moving through this one area so we sent out a platoon sized ambush. The VC walked right into it, and after a brief fire fight, we counted five Viet Cong killed, 88 rounds of recoilless rifle ammunition captured, three weapons, and some documents," said Berry.

must be intently alert every step of the way, for Charlie's traps are devious and can quickly maim or kill the unwary. The patrol often crosses the many streams that web the jungle. There is no ration or resupply truck to appear at noon. Each man must carry his needs for the mission.

Many stories have been written about the patrol that found its quarry. The enemy would not allow a search of these patrols.



CONTACT IS IMPORTANT—Radio communications with the enemy, search and clear mission. Captain William Parker (Photo by Sp4 Cle)

Viet Cong No Match For 1st Inf Div Chopper Pilot

DI AN, (1st INF-IO)—A Viet Cong fire team learned recently that it is a good idea to hide when a 1st Infantry Division observation helicopter flies overhead. Two members of the insurgent team were killed and two captured when they made the fac-

cal error of firing at Capt. Monte P. Sloan, the commanding officer of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry. He was checking the area for a company mission during the 2nd Brigade's Operation Lam Son II.

"After they'd fired a couple of

shots, I spotted the VC on the edge of a rice paddy next to a river," Sloan related. "About that time, they started to run in directions."

"One of them tried to escape across the river. When we buzzed him the first time, he dove. We hovered overhead and I emptied my magazine. He never surfaced."

"The helicopter banked sharply and roared back to the rice paddy, where the remaining VC were trying to escape through the deep mud. When they saw us coming again, two of them ran for cover under some trees in the paddy," the captain said. "We went for the one still wading across the paddy. He kept falling down, but he kept moving. We made a pass or two on him really low to let him know we wanted him to stop. After this didn't have any effect on him, we landed the chopper in front of him and I jumped out."

After a brief chase, Sloan captured the VC and his Russian carbine, then flew the insurgent back to the Ranger headquarters for questioning.

Meanwhile, a platoon of Co. B was airborne, speeding to the VC position.

"When the chopper touched down, everybody jumped into the mud and ran for a dike," said Sp4 Howard West. "Once we were all on line, we began to close in on the VC. They started firing at us as we advanced."

The Rangers advanced still closer, firing. Their first volley killed one VC instantly and unnerved the other.

Sergeant David Bennett said, "After that it was pretty easy. We just walked in and captured him while he had his mouth hanging open."

One of the captured VC told the 2nd Bde infantrymen that his four-man team was part of a group of seven VC operating in the district. He also pointed out several base camps on a map.

The insurgent revealed that the morale of his squad was very low because of a lack of food and proper supplies. He had wanted to defect, he said, but was afraid of being found out and killed by his squad leader.

Vietnam Communique

4th Infantry Division—Thirty-two enemy were killed during a battle in Operation Paul Revere IV after the 4th's base camp received 500 to 600 mortar rounds. The action took place 17 miles west of Plei Djereng in Kontum Province. Forty-six air strikes, four AC-47 Dragon-ships, and artillery supported the action. Friendly casualties were light. Total casualties through mid-No-

vember were 229 killed, 39 captured, and 33 suspects detained. Other elements of the division began "Adams," a search and destroy and rice harvest protection operation, late last month. A small weapons cache has been found about 11 miles northwest of Tuy Hoa. The infantrymen have killed 30 Viet Cong. Overall friendly casualties are light.

1st Airborne Division — 1st

Brigade elements are meeting moderate contact with the enemy in Operation Geronimo. A company killed seven VC in one 30-minute, pre-dawn engagement. The action was touched off when the company received small arms and mortar fire from an estimated platoon. Friendly casualties were light. Another element killed three enemy when it met a platoon. Tactical air strikes hit the enemy positions before they broke contact. Other sporadic contact in one day's action during the week netted eight dead VC. In all, 73 have been killed in "Geronimo," with 37 captured and 37 detained.

1st Infantry Division—Elements of this division and others of the 25th Infantry met scattered and light to moderate contact during the week in Operation Attleboro. The combined ground-air operation has accounted for almost 1000 dead enemy since early this month. Cumulative friendly casualties are light. In one action, 150 VC were spotted moving south about 16 miles northwest of Tay Ninh. Artillery fire killed 70. Air Force pilots flew 43 sorties and Vietnamese Air Force pilots flew 20 in support of "Attleboro" in one 24-hour period.

1st Cavalry Division—Fifty-five enemy were killed by cavalrymen in a five-hour battle during Operation Thayer II. The battle started when a company was heli-lifted into an area not far from the enemy. As the cavalry closed in, the VC opened fire from bunkers and spider holes. The Americans broke into the enemy defensive positions and shortly after dark, the enemy retreated. Artillery, naval fire, tactical air strikes, and helicopters with rockets supported the battle. Friendly casualties were light in that one action, and are also light in the operation.

