

Oct 29, 1966

Huey Downed—But Not For Charlie

AN KHE, (1st CAV-10)—An aircraft recovery team of the 1st Cavalry Division rescued a downed UH-1B helicopter under heavy enemy fire during Operation Thayer and prevented the craft from falling into enemy hands.

The downed helicopter belonged to the 227th Aviation Battalion, and soon as the word was flashed to the unit, battalion maintenance officer Maj. Frank Toner assembled a recovery crew and sped to the scene.

Toner's crew consisted of CWO Mike H. Farmer, co-pilot; PFC Curtis J. Husse, gunner; and PFC Michael S. Hannigan, crew chief.

Sniper fire prevented Toner from landing near the downed craft so he altered his landing pattern. Enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire was also added to the sniper fire. Disregarding the communist fire, Toner landed about 100 yards from the disabled chopper.

Toner and Husse gathered the recovery gear off their helicopter and crawled under fire to the downed chopper and began rigging it for evacuation. Husse

received a slight chest wound. Husse then helped Hannigan to remove the radios and armanent from the downed craft. Cavalry artillery and mortar fire were called in to suppress the enemy fire and Toner plucked the downed ship from the battle area. It was brought here for repair.

300th MP— Police Or Engineers?

SAIGON, (92nd MP-10)—Since the arrival of the 300th Military Police Company in June 1966, the unit has picked up the nickname of the 300th MP Company Engineers (Light Construction).

With each move the unit has made in the past five months (six), it has had to begin building living accommodations within 24 hours.

Besides performing normal MP missions, the "light construction" MPs have laid cement, built offices, supply rooms, orderly rooms, and tent frames. The talented carpenters provided able

Cav. Foils

ale Sniper ood A Shot

igh his
d his
e, and
e rear

through an interpreter, they said they hadn't seen or heard any of the fireworks at all."

emons'
irst of
t had
ns had
stubby
ase of

trated,
eapon
to the
of the

" said
urated
om 25
ounds,
nades.
istinct
r con-
oughly
t find
omen
vinced
shoot-
o them

company
squads
with
s fire.
search
n and
drag
three
round

o that
a had
d re-
ol set
ur VC
trail,
t dog.
m.
r, the
empty
com-
ud
backs,
punji

C still
L

173rd Airborne Brigade—Operation Sioux City, a search and destroy operation around Bien Hoa, has ended with 10 enemy dead, one suspect detained, and 11 individual weapons seized. Friendly casualties were light. Paratroopers uncovered two enemy caches containing 42 tons of rice, 25 tons of peanuts, plus tools, tires, batteries, petroleum, and other assorted items.

1st Cavalry Division — A 5th Cavalry unit engaged a Viet Cong company in a seven-hour battle southwest of Bong Son. Fifty-nine VC were killed. Later, arms and ammunition caches were found near the battle scene. Some communications equipment was also found, including a camera that belonged to a civilian correspondent who was killed in May. Five persons who escaped from a VC prison camp walked into a 1st Cav. Div. headquarters north of Qui Nhon. After questioning, they led a unit to the camp where the bodies of 12 Vietnamese men and one man survivor was found. Elements of the division are carrying on Operation Irving which has accounted for 614 dead VC. Sorties flown in support number 419. Friendly casualties remain light.

1st Infantry Division — The 1st and 3rd Brigades ended Operation Tulsa after eight days of operation. It was a road-clearing, repairing, and security operation in the Binh Long and Binh Duong Provinces. Only light contact was reported, with two enemy killed. The infantrymen captured or destroyed two and one-half tons of rice, plus assorted arms, ammunition, and huts. Friendly casualties were light.

draw, avoid enemy contact. As the men waited, artillery fire was brought in on the enemy.

Shortly after nightfall, a heavy rain started, but no one put on ponchos because the noise would give away the position. The hours dragged by. Mosquitoes buzzed the men and dirt ground into their skin.

Slowly the morning approached. Warily but still alert, the platoon

of the critical area of his company's perimeter, rescued comrades, and continued to direct his platoon while seriously wounded.

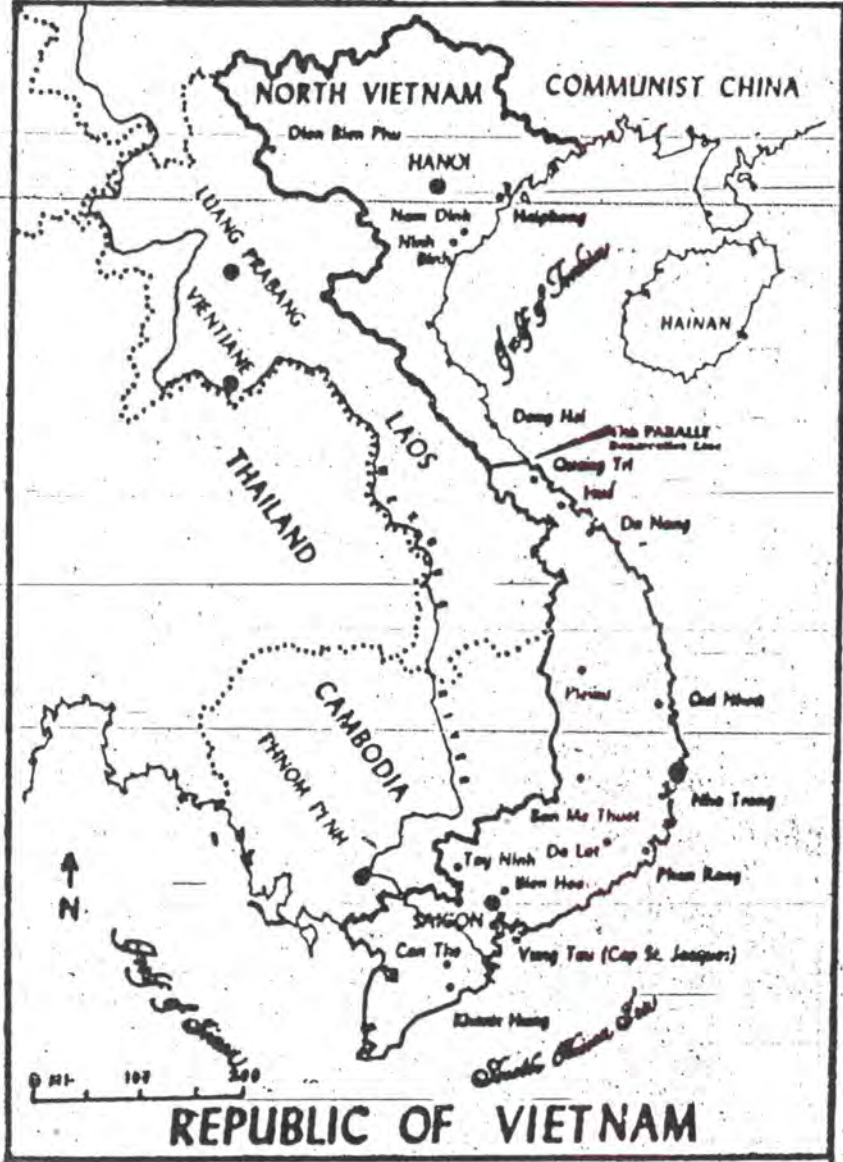
According to his citation, Connor "was most instrumental in repulsing . . . a numerically superior Viet Cong force." He moved unhesitatingly through bullet-swept areas and with "disregard for his own safety" while directing his platoon.

Vietnam Communique

gaged seven to 10 VC who used about 15 Vietnamese civilians as shields. The VC had at least one automatic weapon and contact broke when they fled. There have been numerous scattered, light fire-fights reported during "Seward." So far, 230 enemy have been killed, 34 captured, 828 suspects detained. Friendly casualties are light.

25th Infantry Division — Battalion elements met an enemy force 22 miles northwest of Saigon

in a fire-fight that lasted about 45 minutes. Eleven enemy were killed with light friendly casualties. In Operation Lanikai, U.S. strike pilots killed four VC while supporting 1st Brigade infantrymen in Long An Province, 18 miles southwest of Saigon. The infantrymen have killed 18 VC, detained 15 suspects while taking light casualties. In another action, the troopers, supported by armed helicopters and tactical air strikes, killed seven VC.



1931/82/2/20