

Aug 6, 1966

om Fort Carson, Colo-
mand by Lt. Col.
Haskell Jr., the 35th will
shock and firepower of
ul 155mm howitzers to
"Hitting" 23d Artillery

SWINGING TIME—Chief Warrant Officer Howard W. Vivian, leader of the 266th Army Band, smiles as band members play a fast number at the Don Bosco Orphan-
(Photo by USARV-IO)

Koreans Entertain 14th

emporary
field

ION, (18th ENGR-IO)—
Engineer Battalion has
a 3200-foot temporary
ith parking apron here.
will accommodate air
ile the primary airfield
is undergoing repairs.

Joseph H. Lane of "B"
84th Engineer Bat-
assigned the strip and
d the two-week construc-

of T-17 membrane, a
act-absorbing material,
runway.

PHU TAL, (14th AVN-IO) —
Men of the 14th Aviation Batta-
lion here, 20 miles west of Qui
Nhon, were treated this week to
a lively Korean Special Service
show, called "The Showcase from
Korea," sent here to entertain the
ROK Capital Division.

The commanding general of the
famed "Tiger" Division, which
receives aviation support from
the 14th Battalion, reserved time
from the troupe's busy schedule
so they could entertain the Amer-
ican GIs.

Highlighting the show were six
lovely Korean ladies, all from
Seoul. After some traditional Ko-
rean dances and a change of
colorful costumes, they won the
American hearts with some
swinging stateside hits.

During the week the troupe

visited several remote ROK units
via 14th Battalion helicopters.

At one point in the show it was
the entertainers who were unex-
pectedly entertained. The ROK
unit planned a surprise alert
which was executed realistically
with pre-planned artillery and
mortar fire around the perimeter.

Nearby Viet Cong, apparently
thinking their position had been
discovered, promptly retaliated
with small arms fire. But the ex-
citement died down quickly and
in the best tradition of the enter-
tainment world the show went
on.

VN Villagers Vote For Freedom

CU CHI, (25th INF-IO) — The
1st Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th
Infantry Division, evacuated over
350 refugees by helicopter during
a recent operation southwest of
the base camp here.

The operation began in hopes
of verifying rumors of Viet Cong
held American prisoners in the
area beyond the Oriental River,
some 40 miles northwest of Sai-
gon. Although the rumors proved
unfounded, elements of the 25th
Infantry "Wolfhounds" made
their presence felt in all parts of
Hau Nghia province and assisted
hapless victims of VC terrorism
begin a new life in freedom.

Before, the Oriental River had
long been considered so safe a
VC area that the guerrillas had
set up rest and recuperation
camps and a field hospital there.
The villagers had no means of
crossing the river to freedom.
Geography held them virtual
prisoners of the Viet Cong. The
Tropic Lightning soldiers provid-
ed the security as well as the
means for their escape.

As the soldiers swept the oper-
ational area, time and again, they
found families hiding in shelter
holes fearing the guns of the heli-

cooking oil, clothing and food.

Once the processing is complet-
ed, the refugees will receive
3500 piasters relocation allow-
ance, a tract of land, and USAID
commodities.

Company B of the 1st Battalion,
27th Infantry, did most of the
evacuation work. Platoon Ser-
geant Leslie Crawford said that
everyone he met was willing to
leave.

First Sergeant George T. Al-
meida, Company B first sergeant
said, "Tangible results on this
operation lifted the morale of the
entire unit. They felt they were
really doing something and
hounded their platoon sergeants

sure that each employee receives
the correct pay and representa-
tives of each unit here control the
pay lines.

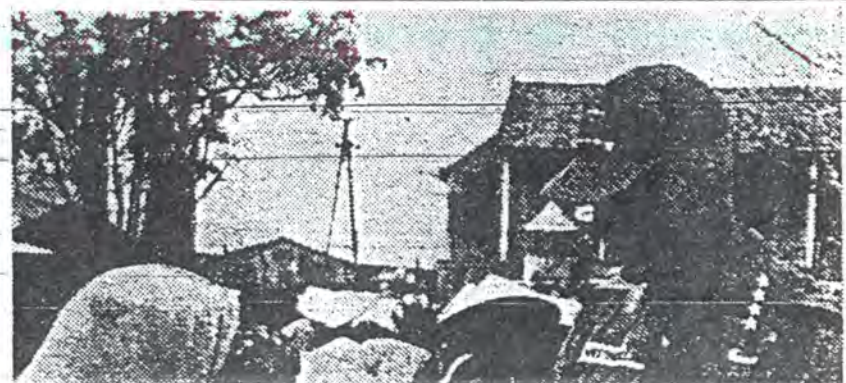
"One day we had a near riot,"
says Lt. Dale McElwee who has
been on the rotating detail for
over a month.

"We ran out of twenty piaster
notes and the workers, mostly
women, became very excited. It's
a big thing if a soldier has a
pay complaint, however imagine
nearly three hundred women who
think they're not going to get the
right pay. Luckily we had the
money but it was in the form of
coins not the usual bills."

for a chance to go out and find
some more refugees."

Staff Sergeant Roscoe W.
Frazier said, "The villagers have
some pretty crude means of com-
munication. They signal with
things like drums at night and
they wave their hats during the
day."

As Lt. Col. Robert R. Hicks,
25th Division civil affairs officer
said, "These people voted with
their feet for freedom. They
voluntarily stepped from slavery
to liberty, and through the com-
passion of the Tropic Lightning
Division, their strongest desire is
coming true."



VC Won't Forget The Zipper

By 1st Lt. Barry Nelson
NHA TRANG, (17th AVN-10)—
Some claim "Ace von Zipper"
didn't fly his plane at all—it just
headed for the nearest Viet Cong
by itself.

"It's fantastic," one of his fel-
low Army spotter pilots had said.
"He's got something going every
day. He gets more action than
anybody else."

The Ace will soon be just an
Army flight instructor at Ft.
Stewart, Ga., where he'll go back
to simply being Capt. Charles L.
Woodhurst. Perhaps only the red-
and-gold patch on the right shoulder
of his uniform will clue the
initiated that the captain has
"done time" in Vietnam.

In the Hue-Sai Bai area of
Vietnam's I Corps tactical zone,

home of the 17th Aviation Group's
220th Bird Dog Company, 14th
Battalion, things were different.

There for a full year, "Ace von
Zipper" was known as a one-man
war—a bundle of nervous energy
who bolted down his noon lunch
and dashed back to his airplane
on the run—a man said to have
once missed his R-and-R flight

because he was busy bringing air
strikes and artillery on a Viet
Cong company he'd caught in the
mountains, on a day he wasn't
scheduled to fly.

Woodhurst steered a single-
engine, rocket-armed O-1D sur-
veillance plane through 700 com-
ba missions in over a thousand
flying hours for the 220th, in
support of U.S. Marine, Vietnam-
ese and Korean operations in the
northernmost Corps of the Re-
public. His exploits against the
VC are near legendary among his
fellows; and the enemy may re-
member them, too.

There was the time, for ex-
ample, when during a routine
visual reconnaissance flight,
Woodhurst dropped several hun-
dred tons of bombs on the VC.

Checking a choice area for enemy
activity, Woodhurst suddenly
noticed that the ground was be-
ginning to explode for hundreds of
yards around him.

It turned out he had flown
through the bombing torrent of a
surprise B-52 raid. Unperturbed,
the Ace casually reported he was
fairly certain that particular
group of VC would never fire on
him again. It being highly doubt-
ful that they'd seen or heard the
high-flying bombers either.

But Woodhurst did his own
work, too—lots of it. One time
he spotted 23 VC paddling boats
across a river, with several me-
troops waiting on the banks, and
called for artillery. He was sur-
prised to be told in reply that
there were no VC in the area and
artillery support was therefore re-
fused.

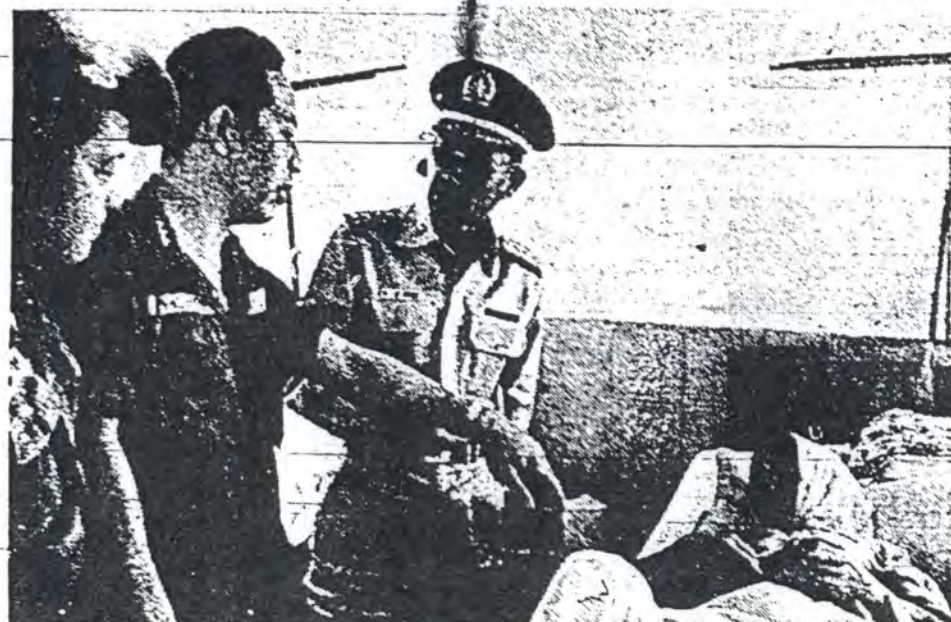
The Ace knew Charlie when he
saw him and with or without
help he couldn't let him get away.
In a series of headlong dives and
low-level passes, Woodhurst
blasted the boats out of the water,
first with rockets then with his
automatic rifle leveled from the
cockpit window.

Hurrying back to the home air-
field, he quickly calculated the
river speed, applied time and dis-
tance, checked his map, and pre-
dicted where the bodies would be
in the morning. And sure enough,
at the designated time and place,
a Vietnamese patrol fished 12
dead Viet Cong from the stream.

Now vindicated in his belief that
a large VC force was in the area,
"The Zipper" prowled the morn-
ing sky until he had the enemy
fixed. This time the U.S. Marine
Corps was on call—and to the
versatile Woodhurst's direction a
cataclysm of artillery, fighter jet,
armed helicopter and tank fire
ravaged the area, leaving 31
enemy dead.

Woodhurst was pleased, but not
satisfied. "You should have seen
the one that got away," he
grumbled.

Charles Woodhurst was said to
have powers of vision far beyond
those of normal men—or perhaps,
as others claimed, he flew with
his window open so he could smell
trouble. Whatever the method, he
and his Bird Dog flushed boxes
of Viet Cong from the I Corps
countryside in a year of pursuit
so hot no enemy friend and foe.



PHILIPPINE HOSPITAL—General Mata (right), Chief of Staff of the Philippine Armed Forces, visits the Tay Ninh hospital staffed by Philippine Capt. Manuel Reyes's (center) medical team. General Mata's visit is in preparation of the arrival of a 2000-man Philippine civic action force. Free World Forces Commander Lt. Gen. Tham Neoc Tam (left) attended the hospital tour.

(Photo by Betty Halstead, UPI)

173rd 'Geronimo' Battalion Launches First Operation

BIEN HOA, (173rd ABN-10) —
"Get ready!" shouted the ser-
geant as the chopper began its
furious descent toward a series
of rice paddies. The seven men
in the chopper secured all their
equipment and prepared to jump

clear of the chopper as soon as
it touched down. The same pre-
parations were being made in
nine other choppers behind theirs.

The chopper pilot ceased his
wild rush downward, and slowed
the helicopter until it was hover-
ing a few inches above the
ground. "Move out!" screamed
the sergeant and the men
scrambled out of the chopper,
dashed for the nearest protective
cover and hit the ground, taking

the swamps and jungle to a clear-
ing which would be their tem-
porary CP for the next few days.

Finally, to their relief, they ar-
rived at their destination. Bone-
weary, the men sank down to the
ground to rest. But their rest was
short-lived. Fox-holes had to be
dug, shelters put up, sandbags
filled, and machine gun emplace-
ments built. It wasn't until this
was all done that the men could
begin to take it easy.

101st Frees VN Families

DAY TO DAY

Road side checkpoints, checks of incoming Vietnamese vehicles, are part of the daily routine for the Cavalry MP's.

Daily liaison with the Vietnamese National Police must be maintained and a working relationship with the Army of the Republic of Vietnam's military po-

92nd Avn Co— Little Known Life Line

QUI NHON. (92nd AVN-IO) — The 92nd Aviation Company is part of the vital life line you never hear about. It directly supports Special Forces encampments throughout Vietnam.

The 92nd provides air resupply, limited troop movements and medical evacuations in the I, II, and III Corps areas. In the last three months, starting early and finishing in the dead of night, these men have flown over 4300 hours in the Army's Caribous.

When the Plei Me Special Forces Camp was under heavy fire and needing resupply, the men of the 92nd precision-dropped much needed supplies into the camp. When the Bong Son Special Forces Camp was besieged, the men of the 92nd hauled supplies throughout the night and through intense enemy ground fire. Both camps were saved.

After battles, the 92nd evacuates troops, helping to provide the best medical care U.S. soldiers have ever received.

Matched By Cardinal

QUI NHON, (1st LOG-IO) — A \$500 donation to the beautiful 900-patient Qui Hoa leprosarium here by troops of the U. S. Army's 1st Logistical Command has been matched dollar-for-dollar by America's Cardinal Spellman.

The cardinal's gift came after he had received a report from Brig. Gen. Charles R. "Monk" Meyer citing the interest of his Qui Nhon Support Command in the work performed by the Franciscan Sisters at the leper colony.

The funds are being used for construction work at the colony, located on a white sandy beach on the South China Sea. The institution is maintained by donations received from supporters throughout the world.

Utilizing materials purchased through the monetary gifts, patients construct and maintain the immaculate grounds studded with 250 multi-hued pastel colored buildings. Without benefit of architect, Mother Superior Marie Charles Antoine draws plans for each new building to be erected.

The leprosarium, which has Vietnamese, Montagnard, Chinese, Cambodian and Indian families living on its grounds, is administered by 11 foreign-born Franciscan Sisters. The institution was modestly launched in 1929 with 150 patients.

American soldiers who have visited the leprosarium regard it as one of the most beautiful areas in all of Vietnam.