

the group. ... the same idea and exchanged grenades with the enemy soldier. ... enemy grenade and took over the action, thus escaping injury. The VC died instantly.

by the rest of the platoon. Now full strength, the unit pressed on through the jungle to ... equipment and several rifles.

DFCs Awarded

May 14, 1966

(Continued From Page 1)

Lieutenant Bickford piloted his helicopter toward the Viet Cong mortar and machine gun positions and directed highly accurate artillery fire against them.

During and immediately after take-off, the aircraft was damaged by mortar fragments and small arms fire.

While in the air, the engine failed due to hostile fire, forcing Lieutenant Bickford to return his aircraft safely to the ground by autorotation.

Recognizing the necessity of having an observer aloft, Major Edwards located another helicopter and had Lieutenant Arnold

airborne once again.

With Major Edwards at the controls, Lieutenant Arnold began adjusting artillery fires, until the mortar emplacements were silenced, and then searched the battlefield for retreating Viet Cong forces.

Major Edwards successfully adjusted fire on 15 to 20 Viet Cong observed evacuating their positions and carrying the mortars.

The daring and determination of all three officers under fire, enabled supporting artillery units to silence the enemy mortar attack and prevented a ground attack against the airfield.

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BOMB AWAY—Traveling at 60 knots per hour Der Mad Bomber drops a rack of 14 rounds with accuracy up to 25 meters.

Look Out Charlie!

May 11, 1966

ALL TAILS TAPED—Der Bombers crew chief checks the tape streamers used to stabilize the round so the fuze will be properly activated.

Der Mad Bomber Is Here

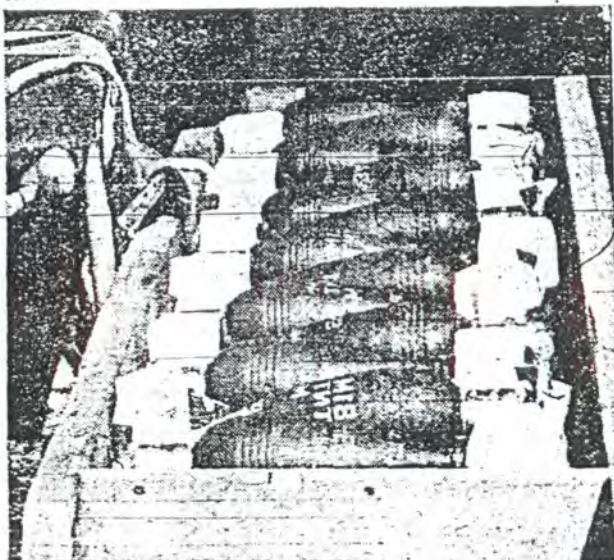
BEN HOA, (173rd ABN-IO)—Captain Duan C. Ingram, better known as "Der Mad Bomber," has developed and tested a new kind of harassment for the Viet Cong.

Captain Ingram of the 173rd Airborne Aviation Detachment has given his helicopter added firepower by constructing a wooden chute which, when tilted, can deliver 14 81mm mortar rounds over a 175 yard path.

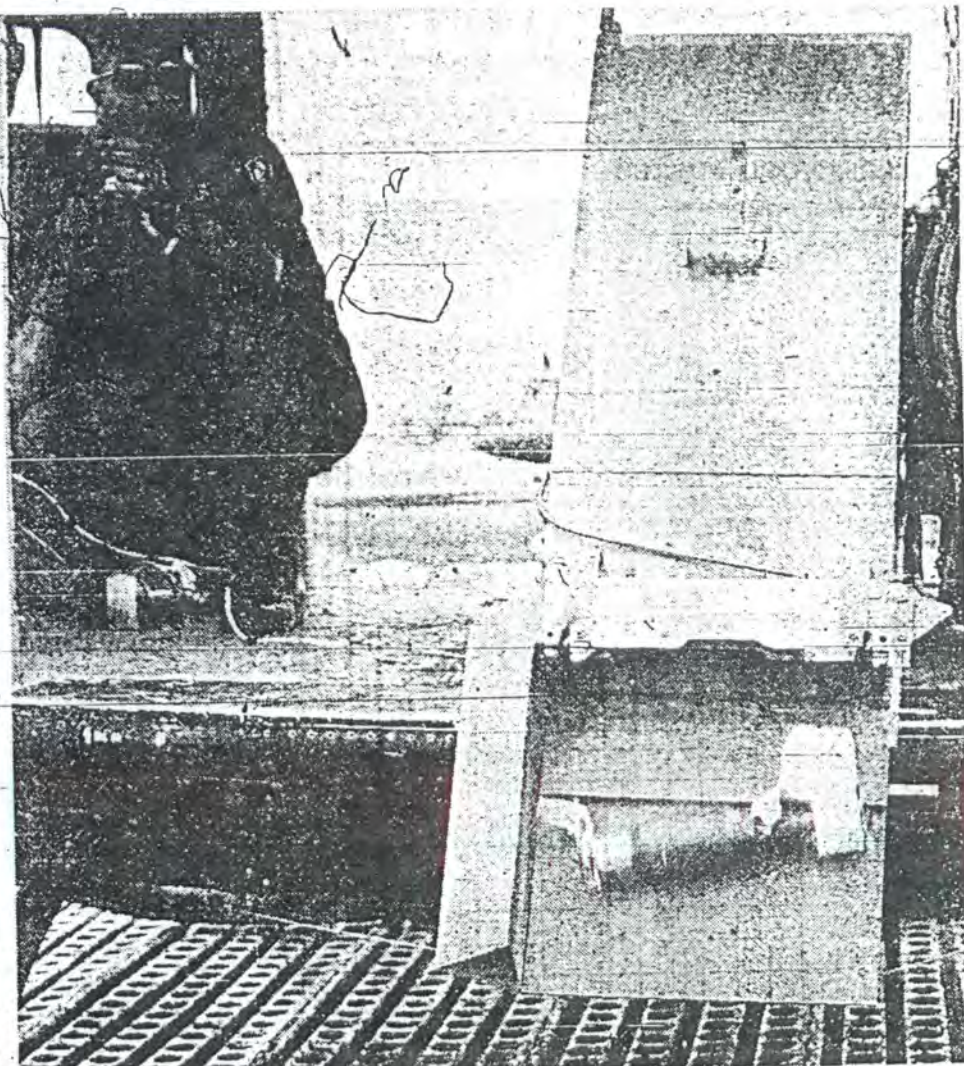
Flying at about 2500 feet, "Der Bomber" lines up parallel to friendly troops and waits until his unsuspecting target passes below him. The rounds are spin activated and stabilized by a three foot section of adhesive tape.

The first combat test for the unique system was in Operation Silver City where elements of the 173rd Airborne Brigade virtually destroyed a Viet Cong battalion.

Der Mad Bomber can orbit during a resupply mission and be deployed on any target around the perimeter while the artillery would be able to cover only three of the four flanks because its trajectory would endanger low flying aircraft.



READY TO GO—Mortar rounds lay in wooden hand operated chute. Der Bomber has recently added an electronic device to his invention.



TEST RUN—Der Bomber (in person) demonstrates the newest improvement in his surprise package for the Viet Cong...his electrically operated bomb chute.