

g from piccolo to bassoon. They were wah pedal on guitar as well as horns and instruments. chance to appreciate them on their new albums *Wienie Sandwich*.

Many people are saying that Jeff Beck plans members of the Vanilla Fudge. Pray for Jeff's de-

es are in the midst of a national tour as of this to a Los Angeles audience until dawn. Tickets performance sold out in two hours. In New York on Square Garden sold out in an hour-and-a-half

Let It Bleed, was to be released in time for the were shipped by sea from England and must be somewhere. No stores have them. The Stones blues and the new LP reputedly has some bottle-neck (a style in which the player bars the neck of bottle-neck or other smooth cylindrical object to produce a sliding, whining vibrato effect). has appeared recently on Music Scene and the On both shows he divided his time between his western material and his older hard rock hits "Fire." He still plays the piano standing up and on the keys as remembrance of the past. But is long curly locks fly loose. I guess that's not in today's age.

er Jerry Lee you may remember Screamin' Jay Spell On You." He's got an album of oldies Buddy Holly material has never left the record shops and a new LP, *Giant*, produced from home with dubbed-in backup is available. And Greatest Hits LP is out. He sounds just great, out there remember "Felicia"?

team effort

cap serves remote area

In a remote northwest of Hue little hamlet of years virtually had reached this until the 3rd conducted a Medical Program (Medical Psychological Program). David said.

hamlet, talking to people, asking questions and finding out who the VC sympathizers are in less than a day," commented Lt. Raymond David, 1st platoon leader of Co. C.

"It would take us weeks to find out the same information, and even then it wouldn't be as reliable as the team's work," David said.

waited anxiously for those three interim cans and a box of milk cartons.

But Yankee ingenuity never ends and seldom finds complete satisfaction. A general purpose tent was dropped off the Nuoc Ngot Bridge along

Dec 22, 1969

of the question, but it's too early to predict a ground opening. When the aroma of anchovie pizza drifts into the cabs of those flatbeds, the gourmets of Nuec Ngot may begin looking for carhops.

'Play pen' test checks pilots

LZ SALLY — Taking a drivers' test is usually only a once in a lifetime event. But for the pilots of C Troop, 2nd Squadron (Airmobile), 17th Cav., it's a quarterly occurrence.

Every three months, the pilots are given standardization flights to check their proficiency.

At the 2nd Bde., 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) base camp here, an area outside the perimeter called the "play pen" serves as the test site.

"The pilots are put through some of the basic maneuvers they were taught in flight school. They are also required to

demonstrate emergency procedures for situations such as hydraulic failure (steering), complete power failure, sticking foot pedals (partial steering control failure) and cyclic or collective failure (stick control failure). The pilot must control his air-

craft should the engine fail, by "auto-rotation," and then "flare" to a safe landing," said WO John W. Engleman.

If an accident does occur, the incident is thoroughly studied, and the pilot is re-tested to make sure it was not his fault.



Vietnamese people love photographs—and to be photographed. In over a year and half of travels throughout the Republic of Vietnam, I have yet to find a Vietnamese man, woman or child who would not graciously, albeit perhaps shyly, pose for a photograph.

The opportunities for fascinating portraits and character studies abound. Who has not marveled at the grace and alluring beauty of a young Vietnamese girl as she strolled the streets and parks of Saigon or Hué, her Ao-Dai dancing gently in the breeze? Whose eyes could resist a photograph of the weathered face and hands of a coastal fisherman plying his trade, or of a farmer as he diligently and painstakingly sows each sprig of rice. Everywhere, of course, there are children—curious, eager and full of the spirit that fills the hearts of the young of all lands. Prime subjects for your lens!

American servicemen in the Republic of Vietnam will have no difficulty in obtaining photographs of the people of this land if a few, simple points are kept in mind.

It takes a six-minute helicopter ride over the area to really bring home just how much the powerful D7 bulldozers have changed the landscape along the banks of the Song Tra Khuc west Quang Ngai City.

The river, which marks the lower boundary of the American Division's 198th Inf. Bde. operational zone, serves as an important transportation route as it snakes its way deep into the mountainous jungles of South Vietnam. The brush covered foot trails along its banks have long served as a route for North Vietnamese supplies coming through these mountains.

"The trails, leading from one bamboo patch to the next, were covered enough so that it was difficult to detect them from the air, and the numerous bunkers in the area offered reasonable security from artillery and air strikes," said team leader Sfc. Percy L. Gardner of Co. B, 26th Engr. Bn., which along with an engineer platoon from the 6th ARVN Regiment is manning the project.

"What we are doing is just clearing everything from the riverbank inward for a thousand yards," said Gardner.

The grinding advance along the river has done more than make the area unsuitable for a future supply route. As the heavy machines uncover enemy tunnels, the number of enemy supply and rice caches continues to rise. More than 16,000 tons of rice have been found as the retreating Communists are pushed farther back into the mountains.

Predictably, the project isn't very popular with the enemy, and a company of riflemen from the 198th Bde's 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. form a security perimeter around the engineers while they work.

Although enemy contact has been light, the steel helmets and flak jackets of the equipment drivers serve as constant reminder of another danger: booby traps.

"We just take it for granted that every well is booby trapped, and check each one carefully. If it is, we never mess with trying to disarm it; our motto is to just blow it in place," explained Gardner.

With the project running about a month ahead of schedule and the resupply situation described as "really great" the engineers plan to just keep pushing on.

After the tunnels, bunkers and other enemy cover is destroyed, the Vietnamese farmers will be able to move back into the fertile area along the riverbank from which many of them were driven in the past years by VC harassment.

WENT TO WORK ON THE ENEMY TEAM
Division soldier as he displays his 'cool' balancing act.
"Artillery scattered the remaining enemy soldiers as they attempted to get at us by moving directly up the hill."

The infantryman from the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. was on a break during a search and clear operation 10 miles west of Chu Lai.

Scrutinizes aircraft's oil

Detector reveals part defects

LONG THAN — Although one might rightfully expect that any machine with the name "Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer" must have come straight out of the pages of a comic book, the one at the 56th Transportation Co., 765th Transportation Bn., 34th General Support Group here is very real and performs a very important job.

Built by Lear-Siegler Inc. and run by technicians from that company, the spectrophotometer analyzes lubricating oil from Army aircraft components for the quantity and quality of minute metal particles. These particles, worn off by the friction of working parts, can lead to dangerous problems if not checked on regularly.

For that reason, all Army aviation units in Vietnam submit periodic oil samplings from aircraft engines, hydraulic systems and transmissions. By analyzing these oil samples under intense heat, the spectrophotometer is able to detect the presence of iron, aluminum, copper, silver, chromium, magnesium and silicon in the oil. By determining which type of metal particles have been worn off into the oil, the technician is able to

give the field mechanic a clue as to where metal fatigue or strain is taking place.

Of the nearly 5000 processed weekly, the vast majority of samples are there only as a routine preventive check-up.

Processing time for an oil sample is approximately 24 hours. Hand carried samples from grounded aircraft are given top priority and can be tested in 30 minutes.

The oil is not only checked quickly but often. Oil from turbine engines is tested every 12-and-a-half hours, hydraulic systems every 100 hours and all other systems every 25 hours.

Besides the lab here (which serves all Army aircraft in the III and IV Corps area) there are two other spectrophotometers in Vietnam. One is at Cam Ranh Bay serving the II Corps area and the other is located at Chu Lai handling the I Corps area.

Because it has the capability of identifying 56 elements in oil, the spectrophotometer has the potential of servicing all oil lubricated machinery and will undoubtedly be given a bigger future role.

Civil Affairs strives to create domestic leadership

QUANG NGAI — "We go out to the villages unarmed and without other soldiers, but with an honest belief in what we're doing."

These words, spoken by a civil affairs officer here in southern I Corps, underline philosophy of one facet of the war against communism in South Vietnam.

"Whereas the Communist assassinate leaders of the people, we seek to educate the young and make leaders for a new democratic government," explains Capt. Russel Lingo, commanding officer of the 4th Platoon, 29th Civil Affairs Co., 1st Logistical Command.

The true concept of civil affairs, says Lingo, is really nothing new to South Vietnam, but strangely enough, its existence is practically unheard of by most Americans.

Unlike its sister, civic action, civil affairs deals primarily with technical assistance and advising of the South Vietnamese, rather than doing the job for them.

This program of self-help reflects the statements of Secretary of Defense Mel-

vin Laird recently, when he called for "Vietnamization" of the war and similar action dealing with other nations receiving United States assistance.

Lingo believes the civil affairs work should continue after American soldiers leave the Southeast Asian nation. "Our work should and must continue long after the bulk of American men leave — maybe even another 10 to 15 years."

The company is based in Da Nang and is only one of three such units in South Vietnam.

The company operates with eight platoons, which encompass the provinces in I Corps. Each platoon then breaks down into a number of district teams.

The 4th platoon — Lingo's command — serve Quang Ngai Province and includes six district teams. Each team then covers a district and the villagers within.

It is this close contact with the people, says Lingo, that leads the civil affairs idea to success. The team, with one officer and one enlisted man, mingles with

the people, learning as well as teaching and advising.

Another important asset of the team is that usually one member can speak the Vietnamese language rather fluently. Lingo adds that this is very helpful in achieving better communication and gaining the people's trust.

"This is probably about the only war," he goes on to say, "where foreign troops don't bother to learn the native tongue to any degree." The civil affairs' interpreters on the other hand, undergo a strenuous 47-week school to learn the Vietnamese tongue.

"Although different platoons work in different fields," said Lingo, "the areas are generally very similar. The Quang Ngai platoon, for instance, deals with food and agriculture, public safety, public health, education and youth affairs."

Most platoons work jointly with the Province Senior Advisor, a member of a civilian agency which is the counterpart of the military civil affairs.

"We fill in where they're short," says

Lingo. This is evidence in itself which proves the military unit is high on skill and experience.

The caliber of men, indeed, is very high. "Most of the personnel have college degrees — a few with even higher achievement levels," commented Lingo. "And our percentage of men that extend has to rank very high," he contends.

But the work is long and arduous, Lingo said. "The progress sometimes tends to be slow and frustrating and we'd swear no progress has been made. But if we leave and come back a few months later, we can see the difference."

And, in a concluding statement, the captain stressed what will probably be the valid point by which American fighting men will finally begin that long-trek home. "They (the people) are like one's own child — you can't actually see them grow, but all of a sudden you stand back and you can see they've actually grown after all and are ready to work for themselves."

let whose existence was hidden by the dense jungles of Phuoc Long Province.

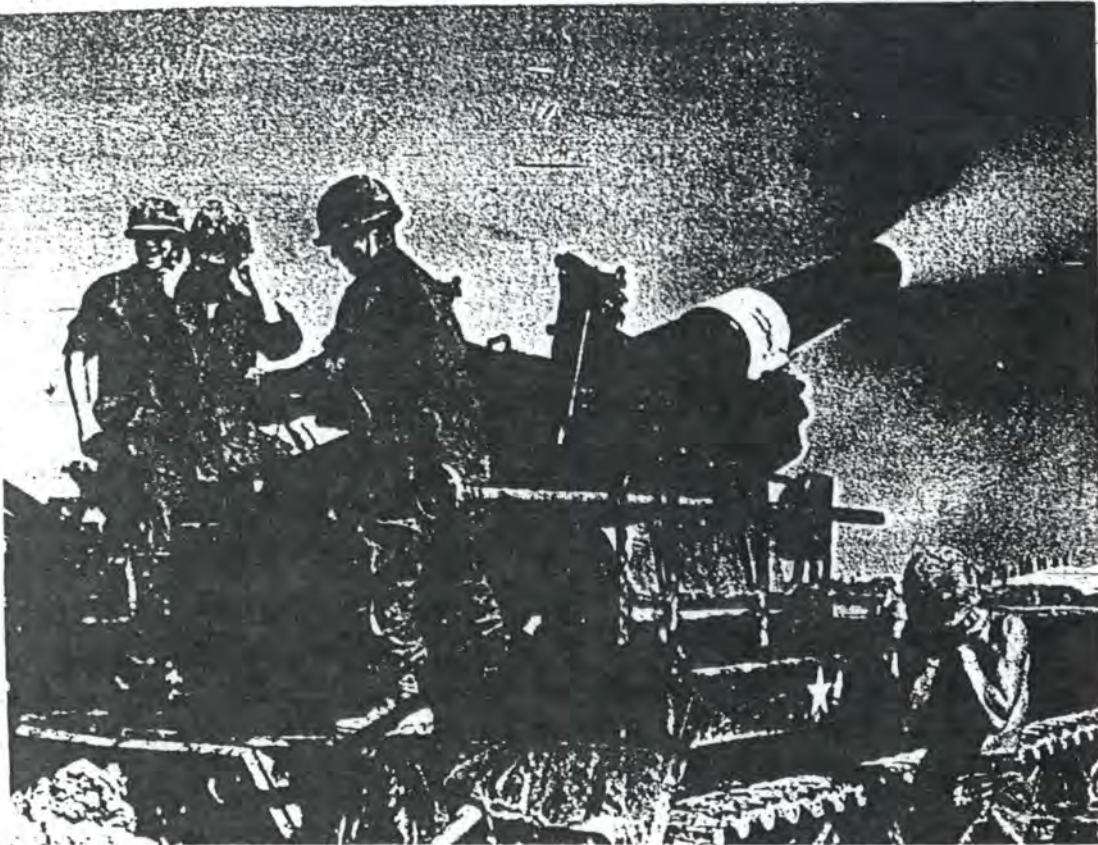
Dieu A Le, the Montagnard leader of the hamlet local guerrilla force, and his squad, had had enough of the B52 strikes, the numerous U.S. and RVN unit operations, and of going for days without food. For months, the hamlet residents lived underground, coming out only at night to do a little farming. But, when Communists from other villages and hamlets taxed Bu Chau for 90 per cent of its recent meager harvest, Le decided to Chieu Hoi.

After some debate, 26 volunteers from the hamlet walked three miles to Dak Son, a GVN

Long Province's capital. They are being medically treated and fed and plans are already being carried out for their future.

"Most of them were pretty weak and undernourished but after a few days of good food and medical care they will be quartered in the center. Land, good land ready to plow, will be given them. Each family will be given cement, tin roofing and money, to begin another life," said John Hildalgo, Chieu Hoi advisor for Phuoc Long. "Plus, local protection will be afforded them since the Communists are anxious to get to these people."

Right now both Le and Dieu Boi are giving information on



BLASTING AWAY, an eight inch gun pounds a suspected enemy location in the Ho Bo Woods. The gun crew covers their ears to protect them from the big roar. The men are from Btry. D, 3rd Bn., 13th Arty., 25th Infantry Division.

JOINT DIVISION FORCES KILL 50

CU CHI — Activity within the 25th Infantry Division's area of operations hasn't given anyone, especially the enemy, time to take it easy.

Four maneuver companies from the 2nd Bn., 14th Inf., helicopter gunships and two mechanized companies recently combined forces to kill 38 enemy and detain eight more.

The most significant action occurred when a reconnaissance platoon spotted a large number of Viet Cong while on a night ambush patrol.

The platoon held fire until the enemy force was in their gunsights, then opened up killing six of the enemy.

On a sweep the next day, the reconnaissance platoon found three more enemy soldiers taking refuge in a tunnel complex. All were detained.

Co. C observed seven VC while on an ambush

patrol. However, the enemy soldiers were too far away for small arms fire. Well placed 81mm mortar fire was called in, resulting in four enemy killed.

Following the example of the reconnaissance platoon, the company, teamed with troopers of the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cav., and detained three enemy suspects on a sweep the following morning.

In addition to the detainees, 60 pounds of rice, a large quantity of medical supplies and 10 pounds of documents were captured.

Co. A working with the 1st Battalion 5th Infantry (Mechanized) near the Cambodian border killed five NVA soldiers while on a night operation.

While conducting sweeps through the Ho Bo Woods, Companies B and D killed one NVA soldier and destroyed a number of bunkers.

Crewman captures two VC suspects

CAMP ENARI—Helicopter crew chiefs of the 17th Combat Aviation Group normally have little personal contact with the enemy as they fly the skies of the II Corps Tactical Zone, however Spec. 4 Richard A. Ferris is an exception.

The adventure began recently while Ferris was "crewing" the Command and Control ship for Maj. Ronald G. Maxson commanding officer of A Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cav.

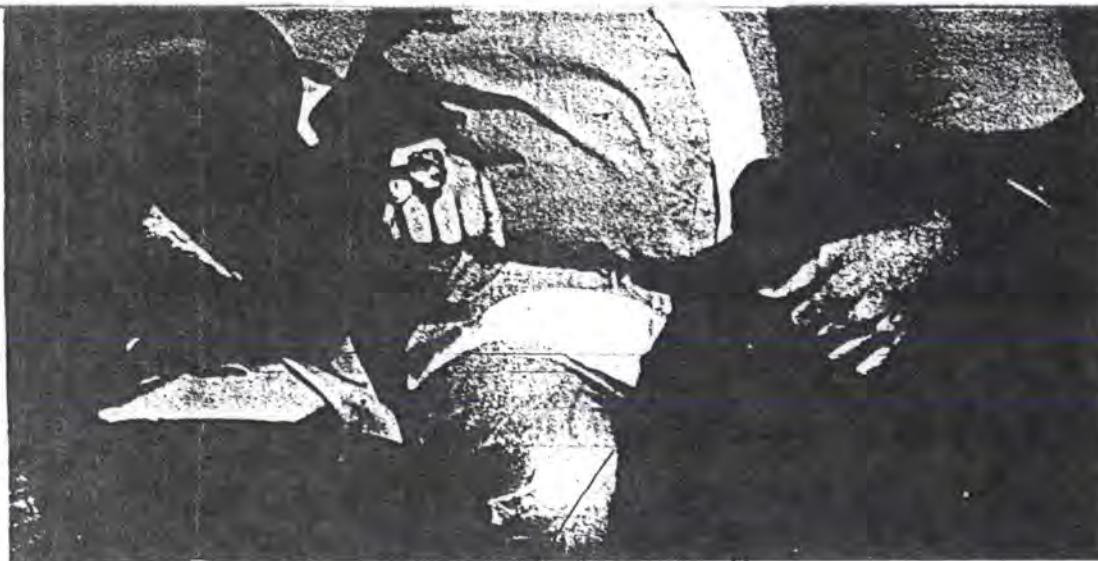
While flying a reconnaissance mission over the central highlands of Vietnam, Maxson received a call from a group of ARVN's that several enemy suspects had been spotted near their location.

The command and control ship immediately flew to the area in question and began observing a group of Montagnards. "We began hovering above them and quickly were able to identify two individuals who were dressed differently, and had different haircuts. We suspected they were VC," Ferris said.

"One of my LOH pilots," said Maxon, "ordered the two to separate from the group, but they immediately started running in an opposite direction, trying to reach cover under the trees and rocks. I began hovering over them, trying to get their attention, but they didn't look towards my ship. I landed and ordered my gunner to open fire to scare them, but still the suspects didn't pay attention. At this point, my crew chief, Ferris, requested permission to go and get them."

"After receiving permission, I ran towards them," continued Ferris. "As I approached they tried to escape, but I guess I moved faster."

Both detainees were taken back to the ARVN location, where they were left for interrogation. The command and control ship while returning to its location, spotted a third suspect, once again Ferris found himself on the ground collaring another VC suspect.



T'WAS NO NORTH POLE but ol' Saint Nick made his yearly rounds to all the soldiers in Vietnam to learn what they would most like under their tree at Christmas. The jolly elf dressed in a special "jungle

weight" red costume, listens to the Christmas requests of two 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) troopers who requested an "instant DEROS." Well . . . he may be Santa Claus but . . .

Soldiers rescue flood victims

LZ LIZ—Floods swept through the coastal lowlands of southern Quang Ngai Province but quick response by a US unit rescued area villagers before the swift currents could wash them away.

The Americal Division's 1st Bn., 20th Inf., 11th Inf. Bde. reacted promptly to the emergency and in a driving rain evacuated 127 people from several small hamlets on Highway One, five miles north of Duc Pho, to the battalion's fire base.

Co. B was conducting operations on Highway One, when Sgt. Dale E. Scheidt alerted the 1st and 4th platoons that the people in a small hamlet 300 yards west of the highway were in immediate danger of being swept away. He attempted to swim out to the hamlet but was unable to fight the current. The two platoons then pooled their efforts and paddled out to the hamlet on their air mattresses.

When they arrived, the residents were clinging with their valuables to the roofs of their homes. Sgt. John B. Thomson, platoon sergeant of the 4th platoon, said the water in some places was 10 to 12 feet deep. "It seemed to accumulate in a matter of an hour or two. The current was so strong that the men had to make a tremendous effort to swim out and back. We made about four or five trips, and some of the stronger civilians were swimming with us to help out," he explained.

A mile to the north, in the village of Vinh Hien, Capt. Boyd M. Harris, Co. B's commanding officer, was busy with five of his men pulling people out of the water. Pfc. Stephan J. Hood said, "We were on our way to the 2nd platoon's location when we passed a jeep that had been washed off the road. There were three men in the water, and Lt. Abe Lochart jumped in to get one of the men who looked as though he was drowning. The command control helicopter dropped a raft to us and we pulled them out."

It then landed on the highway and Lt. Col. Robert Wilson, battalion commander, and his radio-telephone operator, proceeded to assist Harris and his men. Once on the highway, the civilians were evacuated to LZ Liz by choppers.

The battalion also evacuated a VC suspect who jumped off a floating log when a chopper approached. Capt. Gene Miller, the battalion's forward artillery observer, said his chopper spotted three people hanging on to a log. "On the first pass we saw that two of them were children. The third was quite a bit older and jumped off the log and tried to hide in the water. He came back up for air and tried to evade, so I pointed to the door gunner's M60 machine gun and he decided to cooperate." The two children were taken to LZ Liz and the suspect was detained.

be plenty of it as a cast of 21, including 17 girls, take the stage with the sole purpose of helping a bunch of guys forget where they are for a little while.

Making the trip with Hope this year are such notables as singer-actress Connie Stevens, dancer Susan Charny, who made the trip last year, Teresa Graves of Laugh-In fame and Irv Kupcinet, the Chicago columnist.

For the girl watchers in the group there will be the new "Miss World" Eva Rueber-Staier of Austria. For gentlemen who prefer blondes, they're in for a show.

Les Brown and his Band of Renown will be supplying the music for the show and for the Goldiggers, those beautiful wonders of the "world" without which the show would just not be the same.

The show will make its tour of Vietnam from Dec. 20 to 29. There will be one show each at several locations throughout the country. Due to security reasons the time and locations of the shows will not be released until sometime before each show is to take place.

There will be sufficient time beforehand to allow those who wish to see the show to get there. Time and location of transportation will also be announced.

Co-sponsored by the Department of Defense and the USO, the show will be anywhere from one-and-a-half to two hours long.

Besides his visit to Vietnam, Hope intends to make stops in Berlin, Italy, Turkey, Thailand, Taiwan and Guam. In all, the trip will take approximately 15 days.

As was the case last year, a show will be prepared for viewing back in the states. On January 15, 1970 Chrysler will present the Bob Hope Christmas Special on the National Broadcasting Company network. It will be a 90 minute show starting at 8:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

There are many men and women in the United States today who can recall the time they saw Bob Hope put on his Christmas show for them in some foreign country. As the old "ski-nose" aptly puts it: "Thanks for the memories..."

Christmas Message

Christmas has always been a season of hope and peace for mankind; a season of hope for men under the yoke of sin and oppression by foreign powers, and a season of inward peace and tranquility for men who know they are dedicated to the cause of righteousness and justice for all people.

During this season we stand shoulder to shoulder with our allies in search of peace and justice in Vietnam. Your accomplishments are legion, your sacrifices are great. I take great pride in the progress you have made in liberating people who last Christmas were under bondage in villages and hamlets throughout this land.

May the angel song, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!", serve to give you courage and strength as you celebrate and worship. And may the spirit of Christmas fill the void created by separation from families and loved ones.

I extend best wishes to each of you for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Signed:

FRANK T. MILDREN
Lieutenant General
Deputy Commanding General