

At the Tay Loc dispensary in the Citadel of Hue, Rodriguez holds a clinic twice a week. Mothers bringing ill children are the most common visitors.

The medic brings with him various medications to treat coughs, colds, rashes, infections and a number of minor maladies.

These are administered by nurses at the dispensary who were trained in modern medicine by the division's surgeon.

## Chocolate most popular

# Milk run has unique flavor

**LZ OASIS** — It happened to be a milk run for the Civil Affairs (CA) team of the 4th Infantry Division's 2nd Bn., 35th Inf.

The villagers of Plei Lom Pang, located three miles north of here, were the recipients of 240 quarts of milk compliments of the CA team.

The milk run resulted from a discovery made by CA team leader Staff Sgt. William Nelson. During a visit to the battalion mess hall he discovered an abundance of milk and not enough ice to keep it fresh.

"The villagers have a very meager and unbalanced diet," said Nelson. "So we figured the extra

milk would be good as a supplement, and the people at the mess hall went along with the idea."

At the village the people were delighted with the chocolate milk, but looked somewhat askance at the white milk. Explained Nelson, "These villagers really have a sweet tooth. The white milk just isn't sweet enough to suit their taste."

"But after we explained the importance of milk and how it would benefit the villagers to the hamlet chief, we were certain that none of it would be wasted."

Instead of just pouring it down the proverbial drain, the milk was put to good use. Each villager was given one quart of milk.

**CU CHI** — A new kind of pacification project designed to reach more of the Vietnamese people, particularly those who work during daylight hours and

to show the villagers that the Viet Cong no longer rule the night, was carried out here by the 2nd Battalion, 27th Inf., 25th Infantry Division.

The night time civic action program (Nitecap) is a recent innovation in which U.S. elements enter a village in late afternoon and stay on into the night treating the sick as well as providing entertainment for the people.

At about 4:00 p.m., one day recently, a small convoy made up of the battalion's civic affairs and medical staff, along with a Home Entertainment Team (HET) from the 4th Group, 6th Psyops Bn. left FB Jackson and headed for the village of Loc Thanh, southwest of Trang Bang. While the HET used their loud speakers to inform the local populace of the program, a temporary clinic was being set up at the village meeting place.

A large supply of medicine had been brought along in foot lockers, enabling the medics to

handle almost any situation except those requiring major surgery.

Before long, the medics had their hands full and were kept busy until it had become too dark to continue.

As the clinic was being disassembled, the HET prepared to show films. Electricity for the projector was provided by a portable generator and the screen was hung from a convenient wall.

The movies featured a variety of subjects that mixed Psyops with light entertainment. There was singing, magical tricks, commentaries on life in the U.S. and a slapstick comedy about two bumbling Viet Cong who were reminiscent of Laurel and Hardy.

"We're not trying to hit these people with really hard-line propaganda," said HET leader Lt. Charles H. Hochmuth. "Our main purpose is to provide entertainment, and the people really appreciate that."

# 'Bargain basement' airline is an uncommon carrier

**LONG BINH** — There is a successful short-haul, short-field, low-cost airline operating in the III and IV Corps Tactical Zone (CTZ) of the Republic of Vietnam.

This Army airline carries "ash and trash," people, mail and all sorts of odd and unusual items. It is the only way many people, both military and civilian, could get around unless they took a small boat or swam.

The Army's "bargain basement" airline is operated by the 54th Avn. Co., 1st Aviation Brigade. It is more popularly known by its nickname "Big Daddy," for the aircraft it flies, the U1A "Otter." Headquartered in the famous old French resort town of Vung Tau, the company is commanded by Maj. Theophilus E. M. Nicholis.

The sister company of the 18th Avn. Co. which operates in I and II CTZ, "Big Daddy" is well known throughout Vietnam. The company operates a combination schedules-non-schedules and an on-call freight and passenger airline service in III and IV CTZ. The company's mission is to provide logistical airlift for movement of supplies and personnel in the combat zone and to provide tactical airlift of combat units and air resupply of units engaged in combat operations.

At the present time and for the past

year, "Big Daddy" has flown in support of six missions.

The "Big Daddy" pilots fly daily for the III Corps Army Transportation Coordinating Office (III ATCO). This service transports passengers and cargo of all types of large popular airfields in III and IV Corps and to the small 1,000 foot runways where other fixed-wing aircraft are unable to land.

"Big Daddy" also delivers Psyops warfare pamphlets and posters to battalion personnel and Vietnamese province chiefs six days a week. This operation also includes occasionally dropping leaflets over suspected and confirmed enemy areas.

"Big Daddy" is also used as a transportation service for Headquarters, USARV. Staff officers, inspection teams and key USARV military and civilian personnel are ferried throughout III and IV CTZ.

The only support mission flown in the delta by a unit south of Ca Mau accomplished without armed helicopter escort, is performed by "Big Daddy" pilots. This mission is in support of G4 in IV Corps and is in continuation of the daily courier service performed for the 1st Logistical Command. These trips take in Vung Tau, Long Binh, Dong Tam and Can Tho. The

G4 mission is performed by two Otters, one flying north of Can Tho and the other south.

For the Joint U.S. Public Affairs Office (JUSPAO), the company flies two Otters out of Tan Son Nhut for the transportation of JUSPAO personnel and supplies. The JUSPAO cargo includes such items as educational materials, television and radio sets, machinery, farm equipment and technical manuals.

"Big Daddy" performs a one-of-a-kind mission for Army aviators. That is the Aerial Photogrammetric Mission for the Corps of Engineers, USARV. This is a daily operation as long as the weather permits. The Otter is an exceptional aircraft for such a picture-taking operation because of its slow air speed. The photographer from Asia Mapping Inc. has more than ample time to take the needed photographs.

"Big Daddy" pilots fly an aircraft that was last manufactured in the late 1950's. The single engine, DeHavilland U1A is a short takeoff or landing aircraft. The Otter can land on and takeoff from the 1,100 foot runway at Trung Lap almost as easily as he can from the 11,000 foot airstrip at Bien Hoa.

One might ask why doesn't the Army use a helicopter, such as a Chinook, to

perform the mission of the antiquated Otter. Why? Because the Otter is far less expensive to operate on a pound or person carried basis and requires far fewer hours of maintenance for each flying hour than does any helicopter in Army inventory.

It has been said that this Army airline carried everything from "ash and trash" to people. The cargo has included such items as medical supplies, food, tires, machinery, ammunition, weapons and plane loads of Vietnamese currency for military and civilian payrolls.

"Big Daddy's" passengers range from a female government secretary working in Can Tho to detained enemy soldiers. An Air Force master sergeant gave his reasons for using the facilities, "I'm a steady 'Big Daddy' customer; no complicated forms to fill out; no long waiting lines; no riding in dark, dirty cargo holds and no unreasonably high speeds. When I fly 'Big Daddy' I can look out the windows and see the sights.

"With only five other passengers on board, plus the three-man crew, I get to know everybody. And if the first 'Big Daddy' I check is full, no sweat, there'll be another along shortly."

"Besides, I do liaison work with the Army in places where the 'Big Daddy' Otters are the only flying machines they ever see on the ground."

PLOWING THROUGH the remains of a bridge which was destroyed by the VC, a bulldozer clears the area of debris by pushing it into a gap. Soldiers from the

15th Engr. Co., 3rd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, were preparing to rebuild the bridge located near Tan Tru.

Dec 15, 1969

# Mystery ship ends ghostly sail

**LZ GATOR** — It floated in silent and unnoticed. Where it came from was a mystery. Where it was headed and why were just as perplexing. But one thing was for sure — the ghost

ship wouldn't be going anywhere for a while.

Spotted by men of the Americal Division's 198th Inf. Bde. while operating along the seacoast south of Chu Lai, a 49-foot Chinese fishing junk was firmly grounded on a sandbar about 100 yards offshore. Listing slightly to starboard, the frail vessel appeared deserted.

Lt. Norman C. Cottrell, a platoon leader with Co. C, 5th Bn. 46th Inf., discovered the craft and radioed a description of the find to battalion headquarters.

After an aerial inspection of the boat, they planned a course of action. The operations officer, Maj. Robert C. Disney joined Cottrell on the shore. They waded out about half way and began to swim against the churning late afternoon surf.

Moving quickly, the boarding party soon discovered the boat to be empty except for 30 or 40 wooden boxes.

When he was convinced that all was safe, Disney signalled the hovering helicopter to drop one end of a 1,200-foot nylon rope. The other end was attached to a powerful U.S. Navy Swift Boat called in to drag the stranded vessel free. Slowly the slack was taken up and the Swift Boat began pulling with a powerful roar and frenzied churning of water.

But already the waves had trapped the wandering ship in a bed of sand and the taut rope snapped.

With darkness rapidly approaching, the infantrymen decided to abandon the effort until another time.

# multiplies

the money provided by the brigade, a affairs platoon went to Tay Ninh to rabbits.

ttle luck the families will not only be y part of their own requirements for ve a marketable item as well," said el Griffith, brigade civil affairs offi- ing the birth rate of rabbits, the pro- eat growth potential," he said.

Suspects detained

# Recon scourges VC in hideaway

**PIEKU** — Cavalrymen from the 1st Aviation Brigade joined with infantrymen of the 173rd Airborne Brigade on a recent reconnaissance operation to kill one Viet Cong and detain 14 suspects in an action near here.

Soldiers of C Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cav., joined forces with the brigade infantrymen in the brief fight.

The aero-rifle platoon (ARP) from C Troop, led by Lt. David M. Flint, was inserted in the southern area of I Corps to perform a reconnaissance of a cave complex which had previously been uncovered by Capt. Mike G. Halby and his light observation helicopter (LOH) scouting team.

Upon arriving at the cave complex, two men from the aero-rifle platoon began checking the hideout. Shortly after entering, they found traces indicating that the enemy was in the area. Both scouts found packs, grenades, eating utensils and clothing.

"While some members of the platoon were carrying the captured gear, I spotted one VC soldier scurrying for cover behind some rocks," recalled Staff Sgt. Michael A. Davenport, leader of one of the searching squads.

"Immediately, I warned the rest of the search party to take

cover under the suppressive fire of Staff Sgt. Frank Sweeny and Sgt. David A. Gauthier. This brought the LOH to open fire on the enemy position, and it wasn't too long before two VC were detained," explained Gauthier.

The ARP continued reconning the area, and while approaching a second cave, Spec. 4 James G. O'Carroll, serving as pointman, spotted a VC running from the cavern. "Immediately I picked up one of my grenades and threw it as close as I could to the fleeing VC," said O'Carroll.

"I guess my aim was accurate, since later while I was searching that terrain, I found a body," he noted.

The platoon continued searching the area, and by the end of the day, a total of 14 suspects had been detained.



EMERGING FROM DEPTHS of an enemy bunker complex, a 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) soldier completes his part of a sweep near Mai Loc in Quang Tri Province. The bunker network was found

in the general area where a large enemy cache was unearthed containing more than 100 mortar rounds and 6,600 pounds of food.

## Rallier helps unearth huge NVA refuge

**LZ SALLY**—Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 501st Inf., had one of their busiest days in recent weeks of pacification operations when a tip from a former NVA lieutenant, now a Hoi Chanh working with the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), led the unit to a large cache of enemy weapons, ammunition and supplies. —

Three separate company-sized operations led to the find about 22 miles southwest of Hue near FB Rakkasan.

Early in the morning, Co. A began operations to destroy an enemy bunker complex spotted the previous day. When Co. A made

contact with a well-fortified enemy position early in the day, they suspected that the NVA forces were protecting something big. But they did not realize just how big the prize was until two sister companies had joined them in a sweep of what turned out to be a regiment-sized NVA base camp.

Two platoons of Co. A combined in a pincer movement intended to flush out enemy soldiers while elements of the other two companies joined them.

Moving into a bunker complex where air reconnaissance teams had taken heavy ground fire, the 2nd Bde. soldiers uncovered over 2,500 AK47 rounds, five AK47 rifles, 130

60mm and 82mm mortar rounds, 600 blasting caps and over 800 fuses for explosive charges and enemy grenades.

Among the other items at the scene were 40 land mines complete with instruction booklets, more than 100 pounds of explosives and packaged medical supplies, including penicillin and vitamins.

Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Douglas A. Huff reflected on the success saying, "Once again we have benefited from the advice of a Hoi Chanh. His valuable information made it possible to concentrate our troops on target, and uncover the cache quickly and efficiently."



## Whistle 'Dixie' in dark

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WAITING FOR the helicopters to land, an infantryman from the 3rd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, is ready to be extracted after a day of searching the elephant grass

for the enemy. Co. B, 2nd Bn., 47th Inf., was checking woodlines and movement through muddy rice paddies and hedgerows.

## Center warns pilots of artillery

PHUOC VINH — Aircraft pilots have enough to think about flying over enemy territory without worrying about meeting up with airborne artillery rounds.

The 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Artillery Warning Control Center (AWCC) here has the

job of keeping over 2,000 aircraft out of the path of thousands of artillery shells each month.

And they're good at it, with an excellent safety record since the center opened in early 1967.

A call comes in over one of the four "fire pushes" the AWCC men monitor. "We have arti-

lery firing on a heading of 160-degrees with a max ord of 6,000 feet and a max range of 5 miles, impacting in grid 8307."

Within seconds, a monitor is on the radio warning all aircraft in the area to stay clear of the fire base where the artillery is being fired. If a pilot requests further assistance, AWCC will give him directions which will take him safely around the area of fire.

Besides guiding planes and choppers around artillery on fire bases, AWCC has the job of coordinating area clearances with the troops on the ground.

When incoming rockets and mortar rounds begin flying instead of hitting the floor, AWCC workers spring into another part of their job — coordinating of counter rocket and mortar fire.

Intelligence second guesses the Viet Cong and gives AWCC possible launching sites. The control center directs anything from 40mm "Dusters" to powerful eight-inch and 175mm artillery towards the enemy.

## echoes with enthusiasm

Engineer Brigade and Lt. William D. Hyde, a civilian personnel officer, visited the school. Touched by the children's affliction, they decided to help the school in any way they could.

"I just felt the desire to help these Vietnamese kids," Hyde commented. The two men arranged for shipments of English grammar books and study materials to assist the children in their studies. They also arranged for the Headquarters Co. mess hall to bake cookies for the children each week.

Sponsored by the Catholic Church and

staffed by 22 Sisters of the Order of St. Paul, the school has facilities for 150 girls ages 6 to 12 years and 240 boys ages 6 to 14.

Students attending the school come from all parts of Vietnam. While some are orphans, others are sent by their parents. Sister Monica, the mother superior, stressed that although the school is a Catholic institution, children of all faiths are warmly welcomed.

In the future, Ohmart and Hyde hope to obtain sufficient funds to finance the purchase of 50 double beds and 40 desks that are needed at the school.

173rd Airborne Brigade puts his skills to use during a recent Medcap. A combined

ley, north of Bong Son.

# Dustoff makes eerie contact

**CAMP ENARI** — Lt. Warren Price, an aviation officer with the 3rd Bde., 4th Infantry Division receives some unusual requests from the helicopter pilots he coordinates, but the rarest request he has ever had came when a chopper pilot in Okinawa asked for a dustoff.

When the long-distance transmission first came crackling over Prices' radio, located in the 3rd Bde. Tactical Operations

Center (TOC), neither the pilot nor aviation officer thought much of it.

"This is Pagan-Ox-Kilo. I heard traffic on your frequency and I thought you might be able to help me out," said the pilot, who introduced himself explaining that he was new to the area. Price, asked him for some reference point, and the pilot noted that all he knew that he was near Camp Schwab close to a

guerrilla warfare center.

"Are you near Pleiku?" inquired Price.

"I'm not familiar with Pleiku," answered the pilot.

The lost pilot then gave Price coordinates that would have put him just east of Camp Enari on local maps. Price advised him to contact Pleiku Dustoff for assistance.

About 45 minutes later, Pagan-Ox-Kilo called again. "I just figured out what Pleiku you were talking about. You won't believe this, but I'm calling from Okinawa," he explained.

At the time, the pilot was using a PRC25 radio, which has a normal range of about 20 miles. At the TOC, Price was working with a radio whose range normally was 35 miles maximum.

The weatherman blamed the unusual, transoceanic conversation on severe sunspot activity.



Arthur Rothstein in his book, *Photojournalism*, capsulizes the formula for photojournalistic success this way: "The news photographer is most successful when three basic facts exist: **Presence**—he must get to the spot where the action is taking place. **Instinct**—He must know when to take the picture. **Anticipation**—He must be prepared for coverage of the event with the proper mental attitude and physical equipment."

What then, are the amateur's qualifications for meeting those requirements?

Only signs of past ren

takes a cholera shot applied by a medic during a recent Medcap in the Central Highlands. ARVN soldier braces the girl and observes the medic's inoculation technique.

## Choppers close resupply gap

**CAMP ENARI** — A mountainous cloud of dust rose over the helicopter pad at LZ Johnson, 15 miles northwest of Pleiku as Sgt. Rodney Loetz shouted. "Chopper coming in."

Several men ran to the bird, tossed empty water and food containers off and heaped full boxes and bags on.

Another load of vital supplies was on its way to the field troops of the 2nd Bn., 8th Inf., operating for the 4th Infantry Division in dense jungle near the Central Highlands village of Plei Mrong.

"It took a while to get used to resupplying the troops by chopper," support platoon leader Lt. Leo Crawley, said. "But it goes pretty smoothly now."

The mechanized infantrymen spent several months providing security along division roads during the monsoon season, and their transfer to the field demanded new methods of supply. They turned to helicopters to fill the need.

"One helicopter normally handles the resupply job, and we use it every minute it's here," said Spec. 4 Norman Knutson.

"The chopper usually makes at least 12 trips a day."

The choppers run all supplies including meals, ammunition, water, and clothes. With a mechanized unit, resupply must include a few extra items not familiar to the straight infantry unit. This includes fuel, oil, and parts for the unit's Armored Personnel Carriers (APCs).

When elements of the "Panther" battalion are in contact, an extra strain is placed upon the resupply personnel. "That's when we really work," commented Pfc. Edward Barela.

"When there's a contact, the companies need more ammo right away, and the chopper is sometimes redeployed for visual reconnaissance or dustoff missions," explained Crawley. "Thus we all have to work a little faster and harder on each resupply run."

All requests for supplies come from the individual companies and the resupply men prepare everything at the pad. With all supplies ready to go, a chopper can land and be on its way within minutes.

"By the end of the day we're

quarters here, all brigades in the division now have an audio-visual van at their disposal.

The head of the audio-visual

"is to expose people to things they've never seen or heard before. We want to broaden their awareness of themselves and their nation by presenting educational and entertaining shows which teach everything from hygiene to Vietnamese history."

Soft sell Psyops are used in areas which are militarily secure. The idea is not to win over enemy sympathizers or the enemy itself. Rather, it is to stabilize already pro-government villages by showing them what their government can do for

ence here provides a new and resourceful medium of communication with the Vietnamese.

The audio-visual van carries a movie projector, slide projector, two viewing screens, a Polaroid camera, public address system, fold-away desk and chair, cots for its three-man crew, and an independent power supply.

The entire system is valued at about \$10,000. But its value to the people in the coastal lowlands is something that can only be measured in their progress toward stable self-government and economic independence.

pretty well coated with sweat and dust," Barela said. "But it's all worth it to make sure the guys out there receive their supplies."

## VC leave scene in haste

## Swim yields underwater stash

**FB KIEN** 1st Infantry Division swimmers and waders fished up an enemy sampan and found a Communist base camp on a recent splashy operation eight miles southeast of Dau Tieng.

It was a sunny afternoon when Lt. Col. Richard W. Hobbs, commander of the 2nd Bn., 28th Inf., stepped out of the briefing tent here and said, "Let's go see what's in that creek up the road."

Hobbs called upon his reconnaissance element for the task.

As work goes, it was not difficult. All that had to be done was wade in the stream, feeling around for possible enemy caches.

To the delight of the battalion, the "old man" was the first to take the plunge.

"Come on, I need some swimmers," he urged.

It didn't take long. Pfc. Roy A. Capps and Pfc. Sammy D. Woodall were among the first to jump in.

The men had been wading for over an hour when Woodall nearly tripped on a large object. "I think I found something," he yelled.

Several soldiers came to help lift the large object out of the water. To their amazement, one sampan was brought to the surface.

Wading a little farther before coming out of the water, the recon element came upon a VC base camp. Capps recalled, "There were indications of recent activity; some food was still warm. But I figure they got scared when they heard us coming and left."

The sampan and cookware were gathered and brought back.

## Lost watch found in enemy bunker

**CAN GIUOC** — Time is sometimes elusive but one soldier's time piece was missing for five months before it was returned to him.

Spec. 4 Paul Fanfara was a rifleman with the 3rd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division's 4th Bn., 47th Inf., when his unit was involved in a firefight on May 24, 40 miles south of here.

"My watch had a thin leather strap and I guess it snapped during the action," said Fanfara. "I didn't realize it until after the fight and then I was just glad to be out."

When two brigades of the division were redeployed from Vietnam, Fanfara came to the 6th Bn., 31st Inf. He served with Co. A before he was selected as the battalion legal clerk.

Recently Co. A called him and said they had his watch—five

