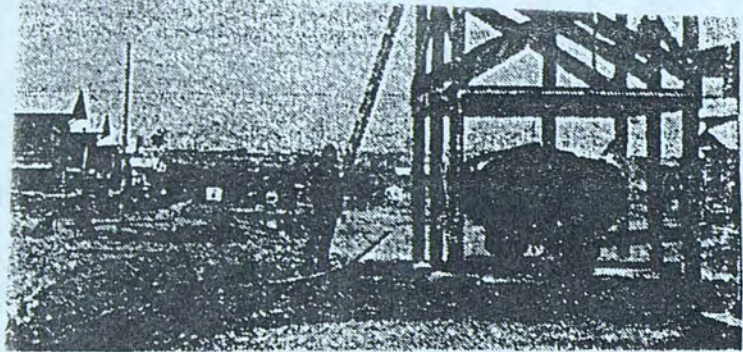




Soldiers from the Transportation Company at Special Troops, United States Army (USARV) fill one of the many water tanks belonging to the mess halls at Long Binh. (Photo by USARV-IO)

Lighting' Soldier Teaches To ARVN Soliders

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devote some of his off-duty hours to teach English to Vietnamese soldiers.

Private First Class Paul R. Williamson, business administration graduate of Indiana's Ball State University, is a clerk for the courts and boards section of the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry. Two evenings a week he conducts language classes for soldiers of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN).

Williamson started teaching after he learned that Lt. Col. Richard Zastrow, battalion commander, was interested in providing a course in English to interested Vietnamese soldiers.

The class is designed to increase the number of interpreters in the battalion, and plans call for an extended program to include the Hoi Chanh scouts who serve with the units.

The students, ranging in age from 20 to 31, seem vigorous in their approach to the class, according to Williamson.

"I have never seen such enthusiastic students," he said. "Because of the interest they have shown, I was forced to abandon my original schedule of one-hour classes. I teach two-hour classes now."

Williamson said that although he has had no previous experience in any phase of formal instruction, his ARVN pupils are progressing rapidly in their ability to comprehend English.

"At present we are not concerned with reading or writing the language. Just speaking," Williamson said. "My first job is to get them used to hearing themselves speak English, then give them the basics of using it."

At 4th Infantry Division

New Helicopter Hangar Going Up

CAMP ENARI, (4th INF-IO) — A new helicopter hangar is taking shape at the 4th Infantry Division's 4th Aviation Battalion.

The hangar will have a clear, unsupported span of 152 feet and rise 43 feet at its center peak. In addition, the building will include a 30-foot lean-to on each side, putting the total dimensions at 112 feet by 177 feet.

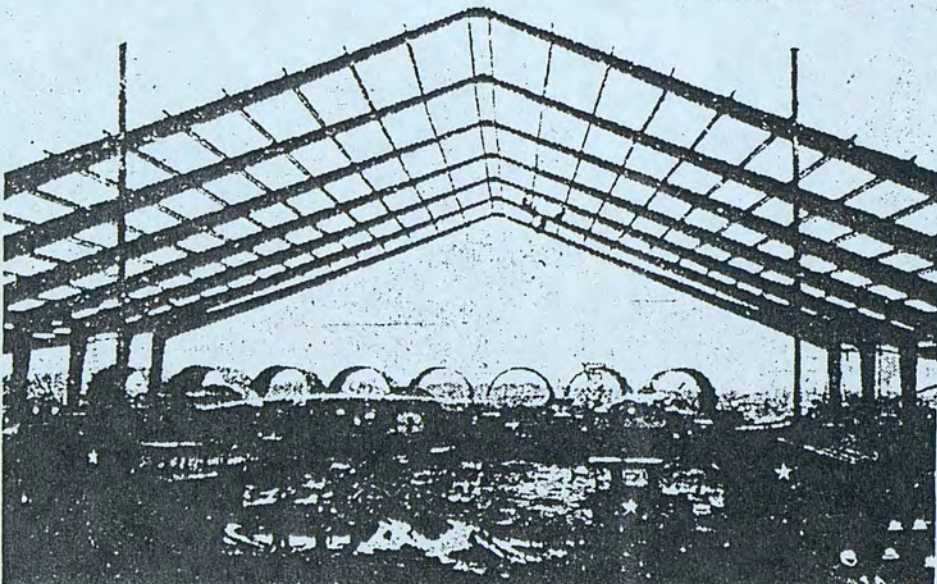
The new facility will house and service from six to eight helicopters at a time, while specialized maintenance will be performed in the lean-to areas.

Company B, 20th Engineer Battalion broke ground for the hangar on June 25. The hangar is

slated for completion by the first of November.

The hangar will be the first of a three-hangar complex

planned for Hensel Field here. Construction on the second, a twin to the first, will begin later this year.



GOING UP—Dwarfing the one-chopper tent-hangars now in use, this helicopter hangar is being constructed for the 4th Infantry Division's 4th Aviation Battalion. When completed in early November, the hangar will house and service from six to eight helicopters. The hangar is being constructed by Company B, 20th Engineer Battalion. (Photo by PFC William Gruber, 4th INF-IO)

makes, in providing transportation support for an Army headquarters, a year means a multitude of things.

Oct. 10, 1967, marked the first anniversary of Transportation Company, Special Troops, United States Army, Vietnam (USARV).

The Transportation Company was the successor to the former Transportation Section of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Special Troops, which provided support to Headquarters, USARV.

Just one year later this infant unit had matured into a company with three officers, one warrant officer, and 200 enlisted men.

The company provides bus, cargo, administrative-use vehicles, and radio-taxi service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

It also operates a maintenance program for all vehicles assigned or attached to units in Headquarters, USARV who do not have their own organic maintenance capability.

In addition, it maintains a repair parts section and operates a petroleum, oil, and lubricants station.

Rounding out its mission is a driver testing station, plus providing service and advice in the movement and handling of hold baggage.

To meet the requirements of the mission, the company has approximately 225 vehicles.

In its first year of operation, this unit's 46,000 dispatches have carried everyone from general officers to Vietnamese orphans. It has delivered more than two million gallons of water to mess halls and quarters, hauled 1,315,110 tons of supplies and equipment, and has recorded 2,290,589 miles.

The company has compiled an

sulting in damage in excess of \$50 or in personal injury. The total number of passengers carried, 1,380,103, is more than the population of Dallas, Tex. The driver testing center has licensed 2726 people.

During the first eight months of operation, the company was based in Tent City Bravo, adjacent to Tan Son Nhut Air Base. In June, 1967, the company sent its advance party to prepare for transportation support for the relocation of Headquarters, USARV to here.

After reuniting the whole unit here, a revision of operations was necessary to meet the transportation needs of the new location. A sub-motor pool at the new USARV Headquarters complex was established in addition to the regular motor pool. The bus schedules also had to be revised to meet the ever-changing situation.

Troopers Out-Shoot 3 Enemy

DUC PHO, (101st ABN-IO)—Three Viet Cong fell to a pair of faster-shooting paratroopers from the 101st Airborne Division recently in a gunfight during Operation Cook.

As the 3rd Platoon of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry was combing a hill near the Song Ve Valley, a lone VC was sighted.

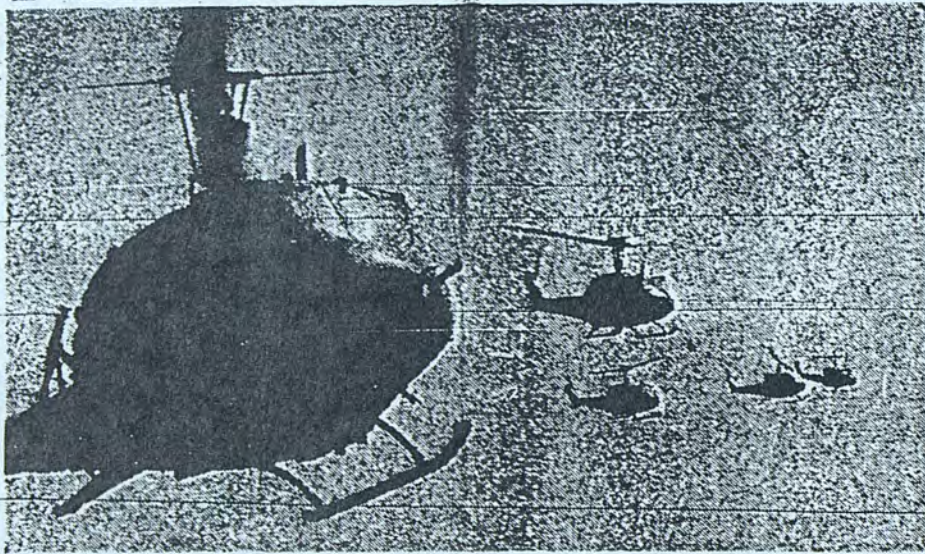
Two paratroopers — Sp 4 John W. Hamm and Sp 4 Eric L. Ottey hastened down the trail in pursuit.

"We ran smack into three VC on the way down," said pointman Hamm.

He and Ottey didn't hesitate, they immediately began firing at the enemy.

One VC struggled to get his weapon off his back, another's weapon misfired, and the third was unarmed. The gunfight was over quickly.

Oct 21/1967



AIRMOBILITY—Helicopters from the 335th Aviation Company transport 173rd Airborne Brigade paratroopers to a landing zone during the beginning of Operation Bolling in the coastal highlands of II Corps Tactical Zone.

(Photo by Sp4 Donald C. Hall, 173rd ABN-IO)

It Is Automatically Sunday When The Chaplains Come

OASIS, (4th INF-IO) — It doesn't matter what day it is. When the chaplain comes, it's Sunday.

The 1st Brigade's four chaplains, carrying with them a field combat kit which unfolds into a portable altar, show up any place the 4th Infantry Division brigade has men stationed — at the command post, at forward fire base, or in the jungles.

They arrive at the jungle camps on a company's resupply day, which may be any day of the week.

"But as far as the men are concerned, whenever we show

up, it's Sunday," said Chaplain (Maj.) George V. Reswick, brigade chaplain.

It's a common sight to see men hack out a jungle clearing then sit atop their helmets to listen to a sermon. Often the chaplains stay a few days with a company on a mission "to get to know the men better."

The days of the chaplains are very long. "Can't sleep," is a usual phrase a soldier uses to launch a late night conversation at the chaplain's tent.

Too, the clerics make themselves available at any time of day or night when a helicopter, carrying the sick and wounded, arrives. They are often found at a medical aid station, helping to carry a stretcher or holding a bottle of blood plasma — in between comforting the patients.

Three of the four brigade chaplains are Protestants, the other, a Roman Catholic. They all try to provide a religious program for every company and battery in the brigade.

Average weekly attendance is between 600 and 700 men, though at times as many as 1,000 worshipped at 1st Brigade services during a seven-day period. When the age bracket (18 to 25) of those attending the services is considered, this is a "significantly higher" attendance than can be found in stateside civilian life, according to Reswick.

By keeping religion alive under wartime conditions, Reswick said he believes many soldiers are able to retain their faith when they return to civilian life. Others are able to obtain a faith for the first time.

"Many will remain close to

the Church when they go home, and those who haven't been close to it when they came here, often are brought within the Church," the chaplain said.

Although the chaplaincy is an extension of the civilian ministry, there are differences, according to Reswick.

"People seem more concerned about the religious aspects of life in a combat zone," the chaplain said. "In many cases, the chaplain is the only person the men have to talk to; consequently, there is more counseling on religious, personal, and marital problems."

9th Division Sergeant Needs No Interpreter

DONG TAM, (9th INF-IO) — Most American soldiers in Vietnam can say "Hello" in Vietnamese, count to ten, translate a few officers' ranks and say "beaucoup." Then they're disappointed when they find "beaucoup" is French.

But Sgt. Clarence S. Vatter is one of the Americans in Vietnam who doesn't have to rely on Vietnamese interpreters to learn what the people are saying.

A two month course at the Vietnamese language school at the John F. Kennedy Center for Special Warfare at Fort Bragg, N.C., plus lots of practice in the field have made Vatter a fluent linguist.

Originally an artillery forward observer, Vatter was transferred to the civil affairs section of the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division because of his facility with the Vietnamese language.

He now accompanies the section leader, Capt. Guthrie Ashton, on civic action projects such as MEDCAPS, county fairs, or simply discussions with villagers.

"Vatter is good enough that we often have used him as our only interpreter on MEDCAPS,

without taking a Vietnamese soldier along," Ashton said.

"He also keeps our regular interpreters honest. Although we haven't had any case of our Vietnamese interpreters deceiving us, it's reassuring to the men to know someone in their unit knows what's going on."

"He's been a big help to me. There are always times when we need to talk to a Vietnamese when the interpreter isn't around, and he does the job."

One of Vatter's more exciting experiences occurred last week when he, Ashton, and a Vietnamese interpreter were fired on from a clump of brush across a river while working in the village of Ben Bao, 16 miles east of Saigon.

As they returned the snipers' fire, Vatter got out a bullhorn and the other interpreter urged sniper to surrender.

The interpreter also plugged the Chieu Hoi (Open Arms) program under which Viet Cong can turn themselves in and receive government protection. There was no response, so gunships struck, killing one VC.

Another rallied at a Chieu Hoi center that night, citing the broadcast as the reason for his decision.

Chopper Rescues Two Troopers After Attack

PHAN RANG, (1st AVN-IO) — An Army helicopter rescued two paratroopers of the 101st Airborne Division after their 2-ton truck was attacked by Viet Cong

near here recently.

Returning from a routine mission, a helicopter of the 10th Combat Aviation Battalion's 177th Assault Helicopter Company received a rescue call.

An Army Bird Dog pilot had observed an apparently deserted American vehicle while making an afternoon flight.

Captain Britt Knox, aircraft commander of the 117th ship, flew to the location. Within minutes he had radio contact with the spotter aircraft. The Bird Dog pilot marked the area.

Warrant Officer James Bell described the area as "a salt flat with the truck lying close to a lot of brush. There didn't appear to be any sign of life."

As the helicopter made a low observation pass over the area, Spt Allen Bennett, the crew chief, spotted a soldier near the truck. The helicopter moved in for a closer look and this time doorunner, Spt Harry Cawley, saw another man in the area.

Two wounded paratroopers, hiding in the brush to avoid enemy contact, were immediately located by the crew.

As Knox landed to recover the troopers, several shots were fired from an enemy location near the vehicle. Cawley placed suppressive fire on the enemy while Bell helped the soldiers onto the craft.

Seminar Attended

CAM RANH BAY, (1st LOG-IO) — Ten Army data processing equipment repairmen from Cam Ranh Bay, Qui Nhon, and Pleiku recently attended a customer engineer seminar here on the UNIVAC 1095 card processor used in Vietnam.

The seminar, the third of its kind in Vietnam, and the first held outside Saigon, was conducted by Kenneth Wiggott of the UNIVAC Corporation branch in Saigon.

The purpose of the two-day meeting was to instruct the men on technical adjustments and repairs of the machine.

The seminar also provided a good opportunity for the men to discuss and solve common problems encountered in the course of repairing the card processors.

Patrol Finds VC Base Camp Near 1st Division's Perimeter

DI AN, (1st INF-IO) — A search and destroy patrol by a company from the 1st Infantry Division recently discovered a Viet Cong base camp and major supply point within 400 yards of its perimeter.

The find was made by Company A, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry 14 miles north of Bien Hoa in War Zone D.

The battalion made an air assault into the area the day before to investigate a reported enemy concentration.

The company made a search and destroy sweep to the south of the battalion's perimeter and found a VC base camp 100 yards into a woodland and 400 yards from their position.

Ten tons of rice in over 200 burlap bags were found covered by U.S. Army ponchos.

The bags were carried back to the battalion's camp and flown to Phuoc Vinh for distribution to Vietnamese civilians.

After the company left the area, air strikes were called in to destroy the camp.



NOT A CANOE—Private First Class James Jones, of the 1st Cavalry Division's Company B, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, looks at an enemy coffin found in a cave and bunker complex when the unit conducted a search and destroy mission.

(Photo by Sp5 Charles Hoover, 1st CAV-IO)

