



HANDY SPARE—A paratrooper of a 101st Airborne Division mortar crew carries a round for quick access while awaiting a fire mission during Operation Wheeler near Chu Lai.

(Photo by Sp4 Dan Stroebl, 101st ABN-IO)

Monkey Business?

Power Fails At Base

BIEN HOA, (1st AVN-IO) — Power failures are not uncommon occurrences at Bien Hoa Airbase, so no one suspected monkey business when the power failed recently in the maintenance area of the 118th Assault Helicopter Company.

An inspection of the generator area by 1st Sgt. John R. Huffman of the 573rd Transportation

Detachment, revealed that monkey business had indeed been underfoot, or more correctly, overhead.

Huffman discovered that a small spider monkey had climbed atop the area generator and was swinging on the wires when he inadvertently shorted out the system by grabbing two of the wires simultaneously.

Resettlement Of Villagers Ends Viet Cong Pressure

CHU LAI, (196th INF-IO)—For years the people of the hamlets around Tuyet Diem, a fishing village located east of Chu Lai in Quang Ngai Province, were under pressure from the Viet Cong. They were subjected to heavy taxes, and forced to feed, harbor, and labor for the local VC.

The 4th Battalion, 31st In-

Inf Gives Message To VC

CU CHI, (25th INF-IO) — To get a message to the Viet Cong, the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 25th Infantry Division air-dropped 50,000 special leaflets.

The unit has been running armored columns along Highway 1 at night from here to Trang Bang. Their mission was to secure the road for night convoys.

The leaflet, written by civil affairs personnel, read:

"Your ambush of a platoon from the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry near An Binh on 12 September was unsuccessful. You had the most modern weapons available to the Viet Cong but did not kill a single U.S. soldier. You damaged one tank, but what price did you pay? U.S. forces found the bodies of nine of your comrades.

"How many more were killed and wounded?

"How many more weapons can you afford to lose? If you choose the time and place for a battle and still cannot win, what chance do you have of winning this war?

"One tank was hit with rockets and 57mm recoilless rifle fire. This same tank fired 12 anti-personnel rounds at you after being hit.

"They are not hurt by your ambushes, but you may be killed in the next one."

fantry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade, put an end to that fear with the largest and most extensive resettlement program ever undertaken by the brigade. More than 45,000 persons were moved during the operation.

"The entire area gave us nothing but trouble since the battalion first arrived here," said Maj. James L. Longerbeam, who planned the operation with Lt. Col. Charles Smith, Battalion commander. "Most of these people wanted to move.

"They wanted protection from the VC. We gave them the excuse they needed with this resettlement program."

The resettlement site was decided upon at Son Tra 1, once a prosperous village that had been deserted. Located two miles south of the battalion on the coast, it is an ideal spot for fishermen, with plenty of land for those who depend on farming for their living.

The refugees were about equally divided between fishermen and farmers, and the new site was well-suited to their needs.

The battalion's Company D was the first to move into the area. With the help of over a thousand workers from the neighboring villages, the platoon cleared the area of the thick, overgrown underbrush.

A large hillside overlooking the village, which would provide concealment for an enemy force, was completely stripped bare, and bunkers manned by Vietnamese Popular Forces troops

were constructed.

While the workers cleared the land for their neighbors-to-be, sanitation experts and Revolutionary Development authorities surveyed the area, working out the many communal problems involved.

Also on hand for the new villagers were hundreds of pounds of rice, wheat, and barley. Tool kits were given to the heads of the families. For the children there were friendship packets containing such things as toys, candy, notebooks, and games. Cement, tin, and lumber were also distributed.

The battalion pitched in helping the villagers move. Over 2700 people were moved during the first phase of the operation. After a two-week pause for the national elections, another 2300 persons were resettled.

"I think a lot of the credit should go to Sgt. Traa Duong, chief of nearby Binh Giang village, who handled all the problems from the Vietnamese end," said Smith. "His people worked very hard in helping their neighbors move, and keeping the thousands of children occupied. He even organized singing groups."

Plans are now being completed to build a school house in the new village of Son Tra 1. A permanent aid station will be constructed and daily MEDCAPs are held for the villagers. Village government will be inaugurated with elected representatives from each of the cleared hamlets.

9th LRRP, Gunships Get 9 Cong, 8 Weapons

LONG THANH, (9th INF-IO) — A recon team from the Long Range Patrol Detachment of the 9th Infantry Division joined forces with a pair of helicopter gunships and a reactionary platoon recently to kill nine Viet

Cong and capture eight weapons.

"Our patrol was nearing the landing zone where we were to be extracted when we noticed movement in a window of a house to our front," said Sgt. Hilan Jones.

As we crouched in the thick brush watching the house, we could hear men talking 50 yards to our front and rear, continued the sergeant.

About that time, two men entered the house carrying weapons.

Jones radioed for permission to move in on the house and when he received it, the team moved to within five yards of the house.

"I called for them to come out and when they heard me, I saw them run for their weapons," recalled Jones. "So I threw a grenade in and we opened fire."

In the brief fire fight which followed, six enemy were killed and one suspect detained. The team captured four pounds of documents and six rifles.

Approximately one hour later, Jones and Beckley returned with a reactionary force from D Troop, 3rd Squadron, 5th Cavalry.

As the helicopter carrying the reactionary platoon was landing, the two escort gunships began receiving fire from a large house. The team returned the fire which resulted in one enemy being killed.

During a sweep of the area, the members of D Troop found two additional bodies, captured two small arms, 50 pounds of military equipment, 500 pounds of rice, and detained two more suspects.

IBM Computers Installed To Assist Supply

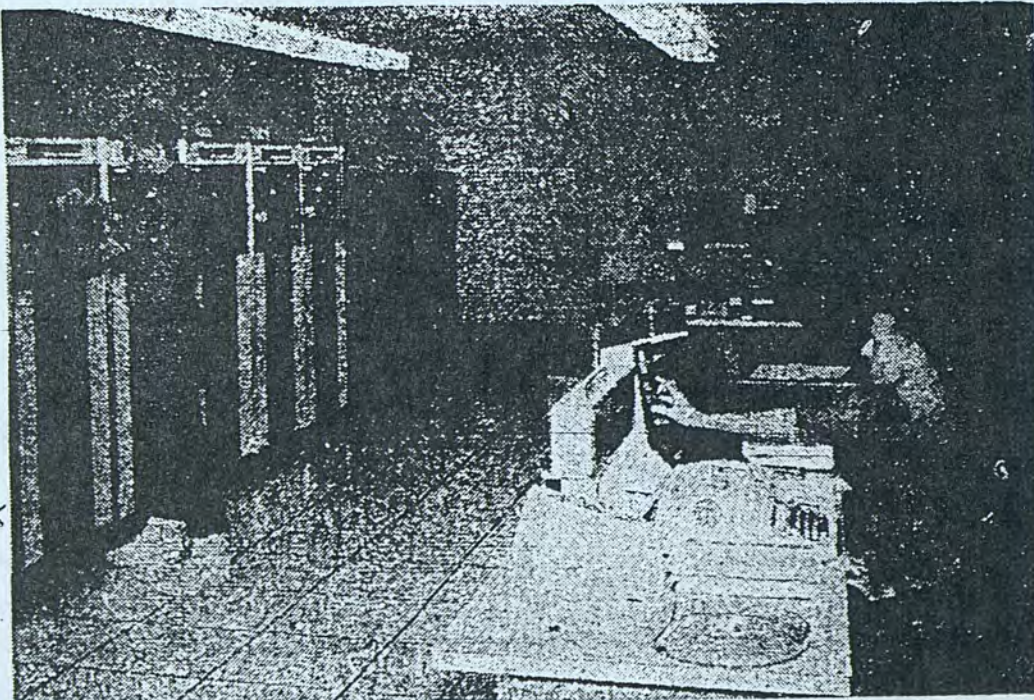
LONG BINH, (1st LOG-IO) — Two International Business Machine (IBM) computers were recently installed at the 1st Logistical Command's 14th Inventory Control Center site here.

The computers will be employed primarily to assist the supply managers at the 14th ICC to better perform the mission of centralized material management for assigned classes of supply in Vietnam.

Generally, supply data will be received on a daily basis from the depots at Saigon, Cam Ranh Bay, and Qui Nhon.

This input data will then be fed into the computers for processing, recording, storing, and will emerge in a usable format; the output data will then be sent to the supply managers for use in management functions.

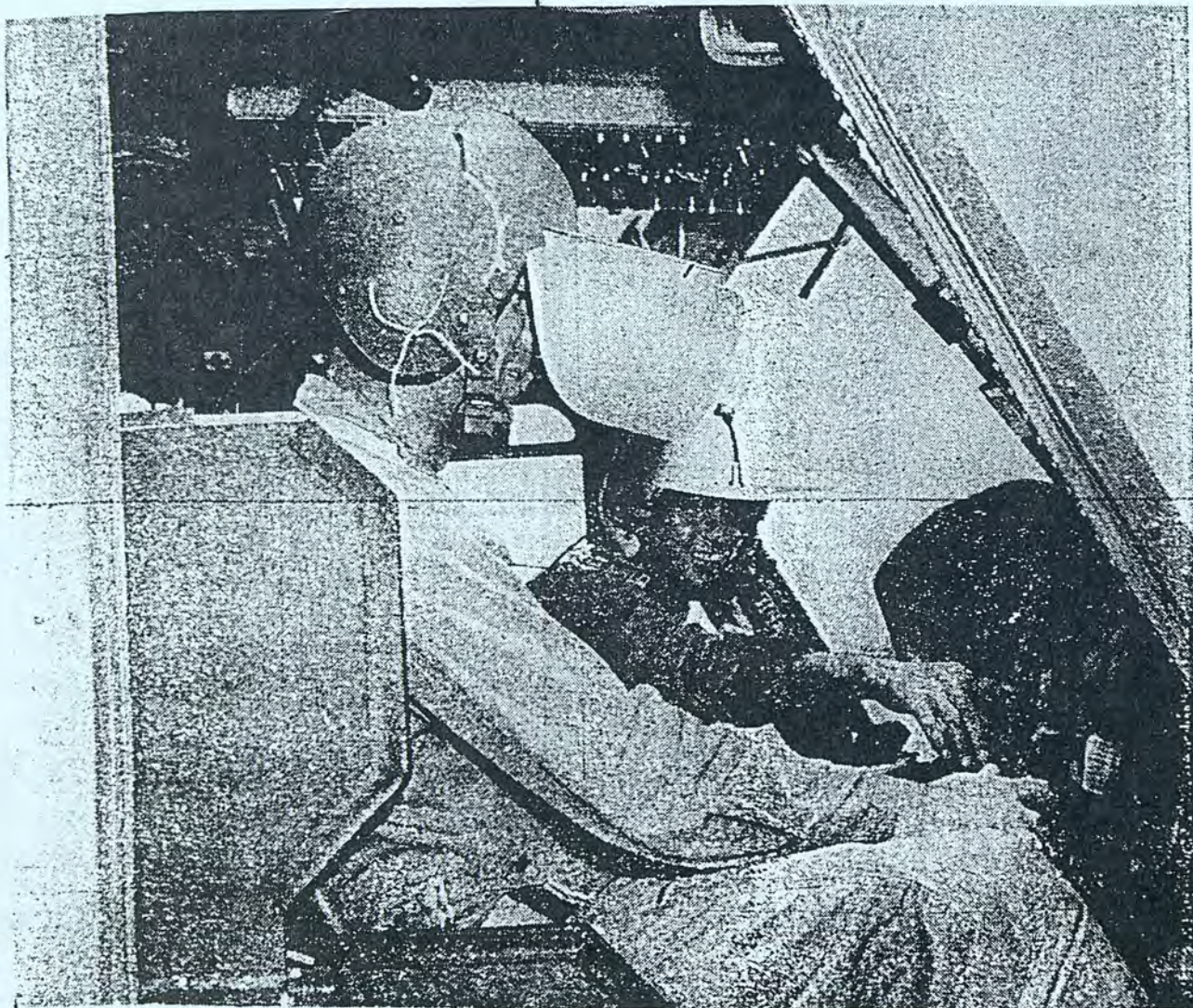
The two primary elements in the organization of the 14th ICC are the Data Processing Division (DPD), which is responsible for document control and audit, automatic data processing (ADP) operations to include maintenance, and program analysis/design; and the Supply Management Division (SMD), which is responsible for the functional operation to include catalog support.



NEW COMPUTERS—Private First Class Gerald N. Farley adjusts electronic data on the new IBM computer as SSgt. Gordon L. Fristoe handles the console end of the new installation at the 1st Logistical Command's 14th Inventory Control Center at Long Binh. White boot coverings, such as the ones worn by Farley, prevent large amounts of dust and dirt from being brought into the computer room.

(Photo by PFC Ron Beaubien, 1st LOG-IO)

Warrant Officer Candidates Scramble For



CHECKING OUT—A student at the Army Aviation School is briefed by his instructor before a flight during the instrument phase of the 32-week training.

FT. RUCKER, (AVN. CTR.-10) — Young men scrambling to their helicopters, rushing to get airborne — studious men listening attentively to classroom instruction. All of these are a part of the Warrant Officer Candidate (WOC) Program at Ft. Rucker, Ala.

Army aviation, and the helicopter in particular, proved its worth in Korea. When the conflict in Vietnam increased the need for Army aviators, the WOC program was expanded.

The 32-week course, prefaced with eight weeks of basic military training and four weeks pre-flight instruction, begins with four months of preliminary flight instruction at Ft. Wolters, Texas, where the student alternates between the classroom and flight line.

Here he learns the primary flying techniques of Army observation helicopters and develops a working knowledge of related academic subjects.

Then it's off to Ft. Rucker for another 16 weeks of intensive flight training. At the Army Aviation School, the warrant officer candidate learns instrument flying, meteorology and communications,

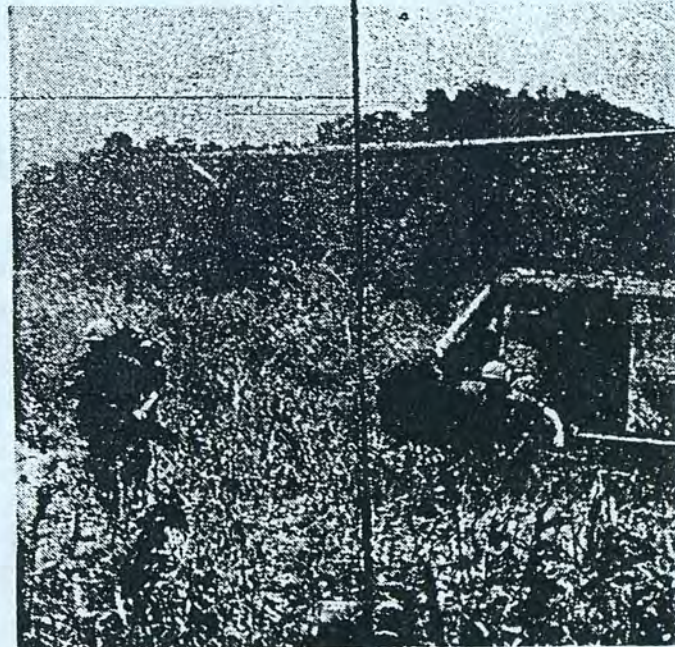
studies flight the mechanics of the TH helicopters.

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THE REAL THING—After completing training, a Warrant Officer unloads another assault in a landing zone in Vietnam.

Story and
Army Aviation Cer



GUIDING HAND—Students at the U.S. Army Aviation School learn during their 32-week course the correct way to land a helicopter.



TARGET PRACTICE—A War

Scramble For Wings

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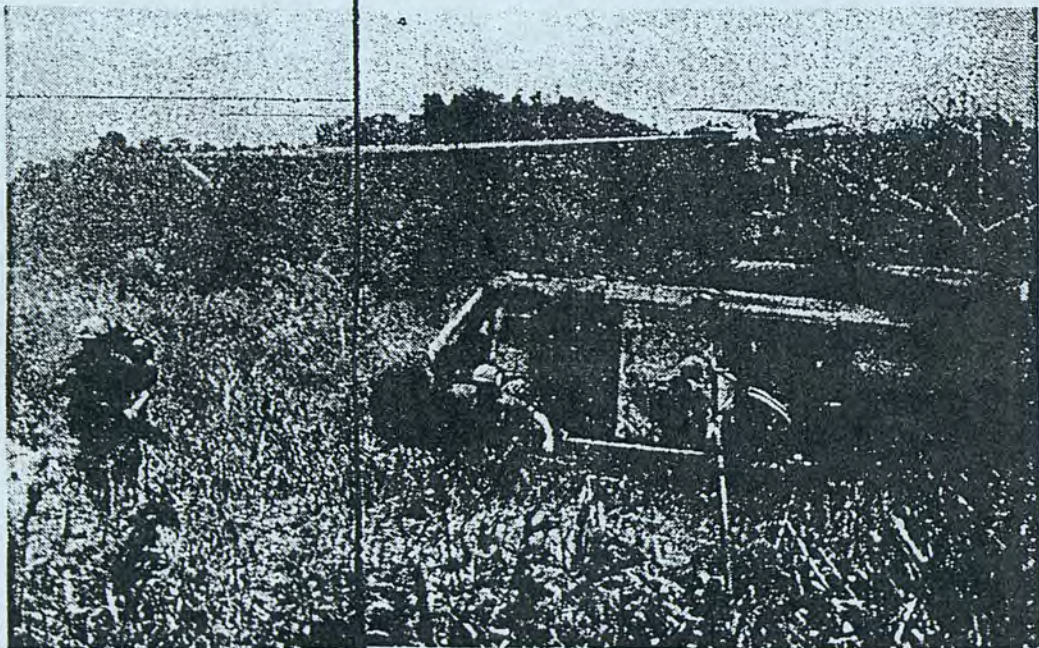
studies flight planning, and becomes familiar with the mechanics of his aircraft. At Ft. Rucker he flies the TH-13T "Sioux" and the UH-1 "Iroquois" helicopters.

The tactical phase of the WOC training includes formation flying, how to direct artillery fire and how to survive should his aircraft be downed. He practices reconnaissance, delivery of supplies, troop movement and aeromedical evacuation, and receives gunnery training.

In the final weeks of his training, the student undergoes a field exercise during which he flies a series of day and night missions under simulated combat conditions.

But the Warrant Officer Candidate Program isn't all classrooms, flight line, and midnight oil. Candidates and their wives participate in planning various activities to accustom them to the social atmosphere of the officer corps.

Then comes graduation and more than likely an assignment in Vietnam—if not Vietnam, transition training to learn to fly another type of helicopter or orders to an aviation unit in the States.

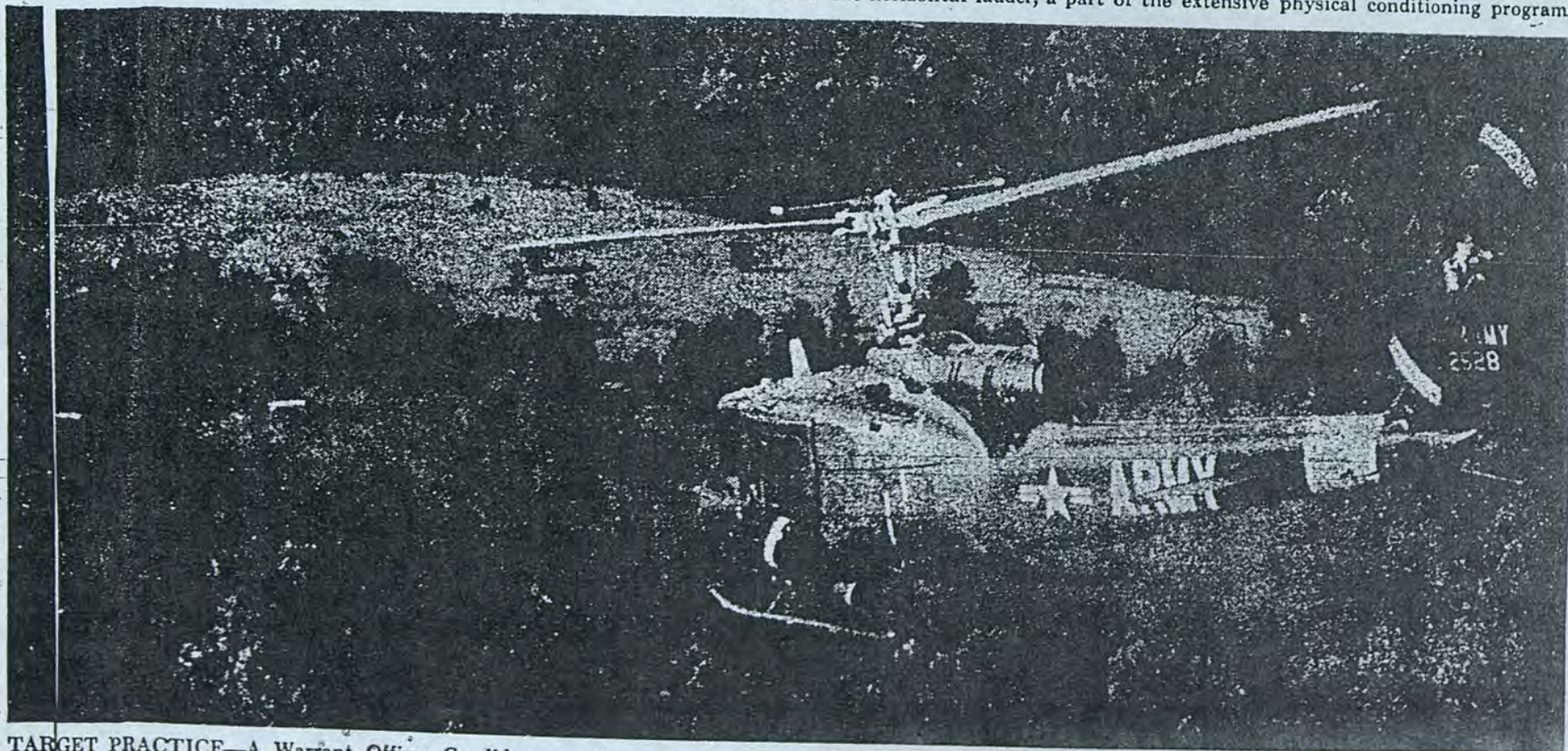


THE REAL THING—After completing training, a Warrant Officer helicopter pilot may find himself in a landing zone in Vietnam, unloading another assault mission against the enemy.

Story and Photos By
Army Aviation Center, Ft. Rucker, Ala.



HAND-WALK—Candidates for Warrant Officer at the Aviation School at Ft. Rucker hand-walk the horizontal ladder, a part of the extensive physical conditioning program.



TARGET PRACTICE—A Warrant Officer Candidate practices gunnery firing during helicopter pilot training at Ft. Rucker.



land a helicopter,