

25th Inf S-5 Aids School

DAU TIENG, (25th INF-10)—A few months ago, the high school in Dau Tieng had chickenwire for windows, and as many holes in the broken concrete floor as in the rusted and torn tin roof which covered the classrooms.

A dusty, litter-strewn yard was the playground, and five strands of barbed wire separated the schoolyard from the alley.

A large, thorny tree occupied part of the schoolyard and served to house thousands of fierce red ants and a few dozen good-sized spiders.

The desks in the school were full of scratches and holes, and wobbled distinctly when a student sat down.

Today, through the efforts of the Vietnamese villagers and the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division Civic Affairs Office, the school has completely changed.

Cement has been used to patch the holes in the walls and floors, and the new tin on the roof keeps the monsoon rains out of the classrooms.

The tree has been removed. The schoolyard is now concrete. A high brick wall now stands where the barbed wire once separated the play area from the street.

When a student sits at one of the desks, he can concentrate on his studies instead of keeping his balance. A bright new coat of paint has been added to the once drab walls.



EARLY START—Troopers of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry from the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry launch an early morning assault as part of the Americal Division's operations near Duc Pho.

(Photo by Sp4 Lyle Larson, AMERICAL-10)

Cav Chaplain Aids Platoon In Capture Of NVA Troops

BONG SON, (1st CAV-10)—A 1st Cavalry Division chaplain aided in the capture of three North Vietnamese Army soldiers on a search mission 20 miles north of here during Operation Pershing.

The 1st Platoon of the 1st Brigade's Company C, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry, previously swept the hills near Thanh Son on the north Bong Son Plains

and capturing two NVA regulars.

The next day a patrol comprised of the 4th Platoon, led by PSgt. John H. Pompey, researched the same area.

Captain Philip A. Lucid, the Roman Catholic chaplain of the battalion, accompanied the platoon. "I often go along," Lucid said. "It seems to give the men confidence."

Pompey halted his men about half-way down a slope. He had decided to probe around in the rocks.

"Sergeant," said the chaplain. "Why don't you have a look in those rocks over there? That seems like it might be a good hiding place."

Pompey climbed to the rocks and found himself looking into a cave. He called back, "There's someone in here, Father, but it's too dark to see much of anything." Then Pompey called to his men.

By that time, Lucid was at Pompey's side. Moments later three North Vietnamese emerged from the hole.

The cave was searched and an empty rifle and three packs of rice were removed. Interrogation revealed that the Communists had escaped the fire fight the day before and had no

2 Engineers Revive Drowning Viet Boy

KONTUM, (USAECV-10) — Two soldiers from the 15th Engineer Company, 299th Engineer Battalion, 937th Engineer Group revived a Vietnamese boy who almost drowned recently in a river near here.

Specialist Five Fred Scott and Sgt. James Stamey were eating their C-ration meals in a field about 50 yards from the Dak Blay River when they heard an unusual commotion.

Looking up they saw some Vietnamese on the river bank yelling and looking into the water.

Sensing trouble, the two soldiers rushed over to investigate. It appeared someone had fallen into a hole dredged to provide sand for road construction and other engineer projects.

As the men prepared to dive, the body of a small boy surfaced. They immediately pulled the body to the shore. The boy was not breathing, his skin was turning blue and his stomach was bloated from the water.

The rescuers applied artificial respiration to clear his lungs.

Breathing returned in spurts as Stamey and Scott took turns working on the boy.

By the time an ambulance arrived at the sand pits, one half hour after the first sign of trouble, it appeared the boy would live. He was taken to the Kontum Sector Hospital, where, at last report, he was making good progress.

Children Receive Clothing

CHU LAI, (AMERICAL-10)—A seven-year-old girl ran her fingers over a white cashmere sweater, feeling its softness and marveling at the tiny roses which decorated its front.

Simultaneously, a little dirty-faced boy climbed onto the table and pulled out a bright green sports jacket and immediately put it on.

At the other end of the table an older girl was placing a white knit cap on her baby sister's head as the infant smiled her approval. The area was filled with excited children, shrieking with joy.

The setting was a Catholic orphanage tucked off the main road in Binh Son District. The occasion was the presentation of 10 boxes of clothing, soap, and thread by a member of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade, who conducted a campaign to help the needy children.

Specialist Four David Overby, who works in the brigade civil affairs office, gave the articles to the Trung Tam Boloiro Thieu-Nhi Orphanage.

Overby, who has been able to see the need of the Vietnamese children through the activities of his office, mentioned this need in a letter to a friend, Miss Yvonne Moore, a student at Iowa State University.

According to Overby, Miss Moore then called upon members of the small Iowa community to gather clothing, and response came from churches, schools, and other organizations.

"We are so very happy to get these gifts," said Sister Mary Nativity. "They came just in time. We had given all our extra clothing to refugees from a nearby village burned recently by Viet Cong."

Pilot Directs Airstrikes

22 Killed In Bunkers

PHAN RANG, (1st AVN-10)—A Birdog pilot of the 183rd Reconnaissance Airplane Company recently directed airstrikes that resulted in 22 Viet Cong killed and seven bunkers destroyed.

While flying a recon mission in Binh Thuan Province, 1st Lt. Fred C. Hankinson spotted seven VC in foxholes.

The foxholes were well camouflaged with dark vegetation blending in with the terrain, but movement caught Hankinson's eye. He immediately called in air strikes.

Hankinson marked the enemy positions with rockets as the Air Force fighters came in to make

their strike. Results of the bombing were seven VC killed and three enemy bunkers destroyed.

The second mission of the day for Hankinson placed him flying low with an Air Force FAC over enemy terrain.

Over a suspected large VC bunker complex, his Birdog took ground fire and one round hit the left wing flap.

Airstrikes were immediately called in.

The next morning a ground force found a total of 15 dead VC and 4 large tin-covered enemy bunkers with huge storage cellars completely destroyed.

VC Noises Alert Sqd

DI AN, (1st INF-10)—Two 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry squads were operating near Song Be recently when Sp4 Willie B. Youngblood heard noise in the jungle nearby.

"They started firing mortars about 140 yards from us," recalled Youngblood.

"This time they were so close," Sp4 German L. Edwards said, "that I could smell the gunpowder." Edwards directed mortar fire on the new enemy position.

The following morning a platoon from the battalion's Company C swept the area and found a dead VC and his Chinese Communist rifle.



LIFT SHIPS—A cluster of Huey lift ships move over the Bong Son Plain taking troops of the 1st Cavalry Division to a landing zone in the Central Highlands.

(Photo by Sp4 Andy Rust, 1st CAV-10)