

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 2D SQUADRON, 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96251

SUBJECT: Commander's Notes Number 5

22 August 1971

SEE DISTRIBUTION

INFORMATION

1. Joint Uniform Military Pay System (JUMPS) Army. JUMPS-Army is coming to Vietnam. JUMPS-Army is the Army's new centralized pay system. Hopefully, it means more accurate payment; it also affords troopers the opportunity to be paid twice a month. How does it work? Well, unit administrative officers and noncommissioned officers are going to have the chance to find out. A finance team from MACV will visit TRAC headquarters sometime during August with the latest information and the forms for electing to be paid bimonthly. This headquarters will keep you informed of the dates our troopers will be visited by our finance team.
2. Early Release for Officers. A DA message launching a special survey which might help preclude the possible involuntary separation of career-motivated voluntary indefinite (VI) officers through a reduction in force to meet strength authorizations was summarized in the 11 August Army Times. According to the message, DA is considering a program to waive a portion of the 12-month added initial obligation of VI officers, thus permitting those who desire to leave the Army an opportunity to request earlier relief from active duty. DA may decide to waive up to the whole 12 months. Upon receipt of the form letters, officers in the VI category will be notified.
3. Reduction of the Number of Robberies and Larcenies. Some common practices to help avoid these incidents: (a) never travel alone at night; (B) stay out of overcrowded places in villages; (c) walk in well lighted areas; (d) don't flash money around in bars or billets; and (f) don't lock money and valuables in wall lockers, foot lockers, duffle bags or suitcases, since these places afford little protection.
4. Circulars on Senior NCO Promotions. The S-1 has copies of the DA Circulars on promotions to E-7, E-8, and E-9. All interested senior NCO's should contact the Adjutant.
5. Promotions. Second Lieutenants David A. Kennedy and David R. Powers were promoted to First Lieutenant.

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6. Revocation of Service Awards for Drug Abuse. In cases where the urinalysis tests are positive for personnel departing VN, the commander may recommend revocation of service awards that the individual received during his Vietnam tour. (C15, AR 672-5-1, para 17)

7. Newly Arrived Officers and NCO's (E7, E8 and E9). CPT James T. Stoddard Jr., 37th Med; CPT Paul E. Lent, ACT, Weapons Plt; CPT Thomas J. Naughton, Chaplain; CPT William A. Bachman, Squadron Maintenance Officer; 1LT Curtis L. Donovan, How; 1LT David A. Kennedy, Assistant Adjutant; 1LT John C. O'Neil Jr., How; 1LT Winston A. Johnson, ACT, Maint Sec; CW2 Ronald E. Halfhill, ACT, Weapons Plt; WO1 Richard K. Davey, ACT, Weapons Plt; WO1 Edward F. Farnsworth, ACT, Scout; WO1 Larry L. Plumlee, 398th; WO1 Winston D. Coleman, ACT Weapons Plt.

CSM Paul A. Laurent; SFC Lloyd D. Quarford, Mess Inspector; SFC James R. Fisher, S-3 Operations; SSG William Roberts, Clubs.

8. Drug Abuse. Some popular places to obtain drugs: Cu Chi Main Gate, mamasans near NDP's, and mamasans/children near Warrior entrance. Some places to hide drugs: vehicular first aid kits, sandbags in bunkers, boxes with serviceable ammo, mail bags, and paint and soft drink cans.

9. Rome Plow Operations. Since the plows returned in July, over 8,000 acres have been cut. Cutting today has already exceeded the last cut by over 23%. This is outstanding work for the rainy season. Give your troops a pat on the back and let them know the results of their labors, as represented in the INTSUMS.

10. PIO. SGT Haller is making great headway in our PIO effort. We are getting some feedback now on Hometown News Releases. Please cooperate to the fullest with SGT Haller in his efforts to get the accomplishments of your troopers recognized in their communities back in the "world." In this regard, if the release efforts are successful, please let SGT Haller know.

POLICY

1. Accident Reporting. We have been delinquent in reporting accidents to higher headquarters. All units should have in their orderly rooms a copy of the TRAC letter which tells how and when to fill out a DA Form 285 (Accident Report). This report must be submitted to the Squadron Safety Officer in four (4) copies within five days after the accident occurs. I want all commanders and executive officers to be familiar with this policy and to insure timely compliance. I know you have many things to do, but the proper investigation and reporting of accidents is one of your command responsibilities. You must "juggle all the balls", combat and administrative.

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2. Armed Forces Traffic Tickets. DR's continue to pour in for speeding between Cu Chi and Long Binh. USARV Reg 385-20 requires that the individual's driver's license be suspended for a period of seven (7) days for the first offense and for the duration of the individual's tour for the second offense. I want you to exercise a get-tough policy in this regard; I intend to.

3. Bimonthly Unauthorized Dangerous Weapons Check. (Ref USARV Reg 210-5 dtd 7 Apr 71 and USARV Reg 190-3 dtd 15 May 71). Each unit/detachment will submit to S-1 NLT 1 Sep 71 a report indicating that it has conducted and collected all unauthorized weapons. Examples are knives with folding blades longer than three inches, swords, stilettos, sabres, straight razors, spring release knives (switchblades), metal knuckles, blackjack, saps, clubs and similar items. This is a bimonthly recurring report (once every two months). Update your list of recurring reports to reflect this requirement. All reports will include the following information:

- a. Date inspection conducted.
- b. Personnel conducting the inspection (team lead by an officer).
- c. Areas searched by each team.
- d. Unauthorized weapons discovered.
- e. Offenders.

4. Sandbags. Sandbags are becoming increasingly more difficult to come by. I want them used for defensive purposes, not for police call and other miscellaneous purposes.

5. Dissemination of Info in Commander's Notes. In talking to enlisted men of the various units in the squadron, I find that much of what I put out in the Notes doesn't filter down to the troopers. While everything in the Notes is not meant for the individual soldier, much of it is. Insure that appropriate information and policy it has got passed down the chain.

William M. Stokes, III
WILLIAM M. STOKES III
LTC, Armor
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

10 each Unit
2 each Staff Officer
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