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Vietnam Archives
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Dear Sir:

First I will introduce myself as a "Jumping Mustang". I was not at the reunion this year, but I understand you spoke at the reunion about your project of collecting source documents etc. on the Vietnam War.

If I had been at the reunion this year I would have had a lot of questions to ask. You already have the S-2 and S-3 reports of most of the time period that the unit served in Vietnam. Do you have an interest in pictures that go along with those reports? Do you have a way of including them with the reports on the CD. Do you want personal recollections on the reports? The reason I'm asking is that I have things of both categories and as a public information officer for the "Jumping Mustangs" there is the potential that I could get others to contribute information and photos.

Just as an example I am enclosing a picture of one of the three flags that is in the Dec. 2, 1967 report. I was artillery recon sgt for D/1/8 Cavalry at the time and was with Lt. Bob Reid's 1st platoon when the incidents took place. Artillery recon sgt. is the NCO version of an artillery forward observer so I followed the map very closely when I was with them.

When we initially moved on the enemy position that day we didn't really know what to expect because there were about 30 of us looking for a reported battalion of them in the area. One of the infantrymen saw movement on the ridge that came down from the mountains between the Bong Son Plain and An Lao River Valley. Lt. Reid had the platoon move away from the ridge in the open to deceive the enemy into believing we were leaving the area. After awhile we dropped down into a stream bed and moved back to the base of the ridge. I was on the left flank with a fire team as we moved north up the side of the ridge because it would put me higher than the rest of the platoon and hopefully I could see them as I ran artillery through the enemy position.

The infantrymen killed a couple NVA as we moved up under artillery fire, but the enemy were really pretty dazed. I saw a NVA appear where he hadn't been. I wondered why until I found a cave entrance. I went down into the cave with another soldier's .45 pistol and found two metal bound boxes of documents. Inside one of the boxes I found the flags. I wrote down what one said, but kept the actual flag as a trophy. I mailed it back to my sister and when my tour was finished

I displayed it in the house. In the early 1980s I noticed the museum at West Point didn't have much in NVA or VC banners when I visited the museum. I asked the currator if he wanted the flag and when he said he would display it, I mailed it to the museum where it resides now.

Glenn Sheathelm