



# REDCATCHER!

199th Light Infantry Brigade

Vol. 1, Nr. 24

November 15, 1969

## 'Warriors' Close Down Enemy 'Med' School

By SP4 James Sheehy

FSB NANCY—The reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn, 12th Inf closed down a combined enemy hospital and "med" school Oct 20 when it destroyed a bunker complex near Nhu Doc.

A team had been searching the jungles for two days when it located the 12 bunker deserted camp.

A classroom with blackboards and a variety of anatomical charts was found in addition to several complete surgical kits, an assortment of medical supplies and vitamins.

A dispensary complete with bloodstained bamboo operation tables rounded out the camp.

"The bunker complex," said Sergeant Gleen R. Sheets of

Cleveland, "had no trails leading into it. We only discovered it by following a small stream which led right by the heavily camouflaged area.

### Deserted Hootches

"There were only a few deserted hootches there but a sweep soon turned up the hospital and classroom equipment."

Fresh cut wood and a lingering smell of cooked food suggested that the enemy hadn't been gone long.

The "Warriors" decided to stay and "properly greet" any further visitors but, apparently, the enemy didn't have any patients that night.

### Axe Found

The next day the unit destroyed the area using the materials at hand. An axe found in the area served a useful purpose as did grenades and other explosives.

Sergeant Clayton Sandt of Allentown, Pa., summed it all up: "It was hard work but it's really great to know that this enemy 'med' school is closed forever. 'Charlie' will now have to enroll somewhere else."

## 5/12 Sp Unit Kills Three

By PFC Peter Nagurny

FSB LIBBY—A special reconnaissance team of the 5th Bn, 12th Inf, surprised 20 armed NVA troops 14 miles northwest of Xuan Loc Oct 17, killing three enemy.

The contact also led to the recovery of three AK-47 rifles.

The action was part of a cordon and search of a suspected enemy base camp. The "Warrior" team occupied ambush positions to cover a likely enemy approach to the camp, the enemy soldiers obliged by coming down the trail in broad daylight.

Within minutes, 3rd Sdn, 17th Air Cav Cobra was on station, blasting away at the remnants of the enemy unit which was pinned down by the recon team before fleeing through tall grass into the safety of the jungle.

The special "Warrior" team, organized only four days earlier, did not suffer a scratch in the one-sided engagement.

"I looked through a pair of field glasses and the first thing I spotted was an NVA soldier coming out of the jungle," said

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## 2/40 Aid ARVN Arty

By SP4 Arthur S. Jaeger

KIEM TAN—Three members of the 2nd Bn, 40th Arty, joined the ARVNs.

For the past two months Specialist Four John Maier, Private First Class Richard Grega and Private First Class James Patterson have been living in an ARVN compound in this village 9 miles northwest of Xuan Loc.

Although they say at times it seems like they have joined a different army, the three are really just serving as Brigade liaisons to an ARVN artillery unit.

Officially assigned to the 2nd Bn, 40th Arty's Delta Btry at nearby fire support base "Libby," they monitor radios assisting Vietnamese in understanding requests from US ground troops within their range.

Such liaison teams have allowed the 199th Brigade to use ARVN artillery units in support of infantry troops in close contact—often as effectively as it uses its own artillery battalion.

The 2nd Bn, 40th Arty has also sent liaisons temporarily to nearby Vietnamese bases at Vo Dat, Rung La, Bau Ca and Gia Ray, although Kiem Tan has the only permanent team at the present time.

"As the infantry units move into areas difficult for the 2nd Bn, 40th Arty to reach, we supply local ARVN units with liaison teams and use them for support," Major James C. Jewell, battalion plans

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## 'Cottonbalers' Kill Seven; One a High VC Officer

By SP4 John Smith

FSB MACE—A high ranking enemy officer and six other enemy soldiers died Oct 9 in a brief, close range firefight with "Cottonbalers" of Bravo Co, 3rd Bn, 7th Inf.

The contact occurred 17 miles northeast of Xuan Loc.

"We were set up in night defensive positions and preparing for the first guard shift," said Specialist Four Jimmy Bender, 24, of Galesville, Wisc., a rifleman in Bravo Co's second platoon, "when I saw

someone standing about seven meters away."

"I called to him and when he didn't answer I started to walk over and tell him to get down," he explained. "Just then a flash of lightning illuminated about eight people out there. I knew then, they weren't some of ours."

Immediately the firefight began, and a few seconds later it was over.

"It happened so quick that I didn't even have time to get any rounds off," said an infantryman in Bravo Co's third platoon.

As far as those present could tell, the enemy was taken by surprise and didn't have time to return fire.

"We found one body only ten feet or so from my position," Bender said. "He was lying right next to our machine gun and he apparently wasn't sure where we were. He never fired at us."

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Almost lost in a sea of elephant grass, "Cottonbalers" of the 3rd Bn, 7th Inf sweep an area 15 miles west of Xuan Loc on a recent mission.

## 'Blackhorse' Turned Over To 18th Div

XUAN LOC—Fire support base "Blackhorse," for two months the site of 199th Brigade forward headquarters, was formally turned over to the 18th Div of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam Oct 23.

Elements of the 2d Bn, 3d Inf will remain at the fire base along with a battery of heavy artillery from the 2nd Bn, 35th Arty Gp and a squad from the 199th's 87th Eng Co. Members of these units are the only US troops left at "Blackhorse" at the present time.

Brigade commander Major General Warren K. Bennett attended the Oct 23 ceremony formalizing the changeover. Also present was Lieutenant General

## 'Redcatcher' and ARVN Combine

By PFC Jon Sweet

XUAN LOC—The 199th Light Infantry Brigade's ranger unit, Co M, 75th Inf, has found that both sides can benefit from combined US-ARVN operations.

### On-the-job Training

The ranger unit, attached to the 7th Spt Bn, is giving on-the-job training to a group of volunteers from the 18th ARVN Div long range reconnaissance patrol unit.

"They know the area since they have been raised around here," said Sergeant Herdy Christian, III of Akron, Ohio, after the Rangers returned from a recent 10-day combined operation with the ARVNs. "They've been fighting this war longer than we have, and they know a few tricks that the VC know."

"One of the ARVNs, Tong, would see a trail, and he'd know right away who used it," Christian continued. "When we found a broken mortar round, he gestured with his hands and said,

'boom.' We figured he was trying to tell us something—like we were going to get hit. The next morning we did."

Christian's team and one led by Sergeant Dave Reeser of Whittier, Calif., were hit by mortar and RPG rounds on the second day of the recon mission. There were no casualties though seven rounds hit within 15 meters of the teams' positions.

### Look Like Freeway

The primary objective of the five teams on the mission was to observe known enemy cross-

ing points along the Dong Nai River. The teams discovered a cement bunker complex big enough for two companies, several sanpan landings, and well-worn trails, one of which Reeser described as "looking like a freeway."

Perhaps the greatest problem encountered on the mission was communicating with the ARVNs. "We worked out a system of sign language," said Sergeant Ronald Richardson of Stony

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## Bennett Promoted; Will Leave Brigade

By ILT Louis Day

CAMP FRENZELL-JONES—Major General Warren K. Bennett, under whose leadership the 199th Light Infantry Brigade has pursued the difficult tasks of supporting the pacification effort and upgrading the 18th ARVN Division, will depart the "Redcatcher" Brigade exactly six months after assuming command. Change of command ceremonies have been scheduled for Nov 28 at the Brigade's main base headquarters.

General Bennett was promoted to his present rank on Nov 1, less than a month prior to his departure.

### Receives Gallantry Cross

General Bennett, the first field advisor to the Vietnamese Army in 1954, became Commanding General of the 199th on May 28. It was during his command that the Brigade received the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross for its actions during the Tet offensive of 1968.

### Accompanied Division

General Bennett's career includes an impressive list of assignments and awards. Following graduation from Infantry OCS at Fort Benning, Ga. in 1942 he was assigned to the cadre of the newly formed 7th

Infantry Div at Fort Jackson, S.C. During his four year tour with the 77th he served successively as platoon leader, company commander, battalion S-1, regimental S-1, S-4, S-3, battalion commander and regimental executive officer. He also accom-

panied the division during its Pacific operations, as well as the occupation of Hokkaido.

After a two year tour in the G-3 Section of Second Army Headquarters, he volunteered

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Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Stanley R. Resor talks with then Brigadier General Warren K. Bennett during the Secretary's visit to our area of operations Aug 22. (Photo by SSG Thomas O. Sines)



## Medicare... your health benefits

The Department of Defense has just released a revised addition of pamphlet, "Uniformed Services Health Benefits Program."

Ask for a copy at your unit and it will be made available to you and your family.

This informative booklet should be kept with your valuable and personal papers at home after being read carefully by your wife. Under certain circumstances, it could save you a lot of money and in the event of your retirement or death be an additional benefit to you or your family.

Should your family be unable to obtain medical services at a military facility for any reason, your wife and children can go to the nearest civilian doctor or hospital and receive top medical attention—for a minimal payment. The government will pay the remainder.

The pamphlet describes not only the up-to-date health benefits, but also includes care in Uniformed Services facilities and the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services, more familiarly known as CHAMPUS.

It is your obligation, as the head of a family, to see that your wife is knowledgeable about this important program. A lot of people in the United States went to a great deal of effort to get it accepted by the medical profession, enacted by Congress and, in turn, made available to all families on active duty, retirees and those of certain deceased US Servicemen.

Heads of families have an obligation to look into this program. If you have any questions about it, see your Unit Personal Affairs officer or military hospital registrar's office. They have information on this important booklet. AFPS

## 'Redcatchers' Play It Safe

**CAMP FRENZELL-JONES**—The 199th Light Infantry Brigade has been presented the Fiscal Year 1969 USARV Award of Merit for Safety for Brigade-size units. Lieutenant General Frank T. Mildren, deputy commanding general of USARV, presented the award.

The significance of the award lies in the fact that safety and friendly deaths caused by accidents in one of the major continuing problems in Vietnam.

"Without the cooperation of everyone in the Brigade, this achievement would not have been possible," said Major General Warren K. Bennett, commanding officer of the 199th, in a recent statement. "When the lives and equipment of the 199th Infantry Brigade are involved, as well as the safety of civilian population, the great need for a continuing program of safety consciousness remains clear and urgent."

## Voices Raised At Xuan Loc

**XUAN LOC**—"A thousand voices sounding as one" may be going a little far in describing the newly formed chorus at the chapel here but the enthusiasm is still there.

For the 15 men who volunteered their spare time to this melodious addition to Sunday services, it is an enjoyable break from the week's work. Meeting every Tuesday and Friday evening they have advanced from one or two renditions to full choral responses. Specialist Five Douglas Dash of Cincinnati, choral director feels that things are progressing so smoothly that plans for a special Christmas program are in the making. "The guys are really coming along and they're sounding great; the only problem now is that many of them are sometimes unable to make the rehearsals. When they do come, however, their enthusiasm more than makes up for the absences."

At the moment, all but two members of the chorus are from the 199th Brigade compound here. The two "outsiders" come from II Field Force and fire support base "Blackhorse," and indications are that other individuals from the surrounding area are interested in becoming part of the Sunday "Serphic Analogues."

"Many openings exist and we are always looking for new talent. If you can open your mouth and sound comes out, we can use you," quipped SP5 Dash, "after all you never can tell when you may have to sing for your supper."

## You and Your Money

By CPT John W. St. Leger

It had been a tough month in the field. Charlie Co had hacked through jungle, pulled the dullsville routine of fire base security and had the usual range of entertainment—cards, reading, and so on.

Smith, the grenadier with third platoon, came in with a bundle. He wasn't even sure the PX had enough stuff to take all his money. But Smith never had a chance to find out.

The first night in is always sheer confusion. Clean weapons. Exchange clothing. Hit the EM Club. Somewhere between the unit supply room and the EM Club Smith discovered that his bundle, a mixture of all last month's pay in cash and his poker winnings had disappeared. Another case of thievery for the blotter.

The big rage in the Army today is the "option." Commanders need options in planning operations. Staff officers need options in developing new proposals. And the "Redcatcher" like Smith needs options too—one of the most important reasons being to avoid losing the few dollars he ends up with at the end of the pay line of the poker game.

Let's look at some of Smith's "options." Probably the most obvious for Smith and the many others like him is the Uniformed Service Savings Deposit Program. "Big deal," says Smith, "I stash all my loot in Uncle Sam's piggy bank and then I can't get at a penny of it for R&R. Who needs it?"

Right, Smith. But in the "Red-

catcher" Brigade the Finance people pride themselves on giving you options, just like they do on travel pay and a lot of other services which they provide.

"OK, so spell out my option on the saving program."

Every case is an individual one and should be discussed personally. But here's one approach that fits many of the Smiths in the Brigade. Let's say Smith is an E-4, single and has been in service only six months. Uncle Sam has pegged his gross pay at about \$229. With his family back home in mind he signed up for GI insurance and a \$25 savings bond. And Uncle Sam takes back his bit for Social Security tax. With these deducted Smith draws about \$261 on pay day.

Great! Who needs this kind of loot in Vietnam? Good question. That's what the saving program is all about.

Here's the option recommended by our Finance Office, Smith should consider putting \$100 per month in the savings program. In Army jargon, that means a Class S Allotment. The big plus for this is the 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% return on the money deposited. When the piggy is opened after Smith's tour, he dips out a tidy sum of about \$1,300. That'll buy a Mustang anywhere in the States if Smith gets almost any kind of a civilian job—even if he's still working for Uncle Sam when he leaves Vietnam.

"OK," says Smith, "what do I do, have the Red Cross wire my folks for money for R&R?"

Good question, but its one considered by Finance in their suggested option. Each month Smith will draw about \$61. He has to ask to have this done because he's entitled to another \$100. So what about that? He lets the difference accumulate as pay carried forward. That becomes his R&R nestegg. The \$61 is used for those cokes, kicks and Sunday Chapel collections. After R&R, on this same basis, he sidetracks another \$700. When he puts this together with his savings program and bonds, his payoff, after his year in Vietnam, is close to \$2,200, more than enough to pay CASH for a Maverick back in the States.

"Redcatcher" Finance, just like all of the Brigade staff offices, wants to serve Smith and all members of the Brigade. If the option just described doesn't fit your needs stop in and see them. If that's not possible discuss your desires with your PS NCO.

You 11B's earn every penny of your pay—the hard way. Don't let the barracks thief get a crack at it. You do your share in the jungle. Make the Finance Office do the same for you.

## Chaplains Distribute Books

**XUAN LOC**—"Where in the World is God?" This was but one of the many questions discussed by a series of books being distributed by the Chaplain's section at Xuan Loc.

The books were obtained from the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, a non-profit Evangelistic organization which provides many religious materials for Army Chaplains.

Over 200 paperback books arrived upon the request of Chaplain (LTC) A. Allen Farrow. Included in the assortment were *Countdown* by G.B. Hardy and *Quest for Reality* compiled by Merton B. Osborn.

"Outstanding," and "I stayed up all night reading them," were but two of many favorable comments made by 199th Brigade readers.



## REDCATCHER!

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## Awards and Decorations

The awards presented the men of the 199th Infantry Brigade are justly earned and are a small reward for the outstanding job done. The men have shown great devotion to the Brigade and to their comrades in their units. The men's actions reflect credit upon themselves, the 199th Infantry Brigade and the United States Army.

### Bronze Star Medal (Valor)

PFC James A. Reed-A, 2/3; SP4 Gregory L. Nelson-D, 2/3; PFC John G. Luigs-M, 75th; CPT Michael L. Liipe-H&SB, 2/40; SP4 Joseph L. Cottingham-C, 3/7; LT COL John W. Cranger-HHC, 3/7; CPT George W. Watts-C, 3/7; PFC Angel V. Rameriz-C, 3/7; SP4 Charles W. Baker-C, 3/7; 1LT Glen D. Dreyer-C, 3/7; SP4 Keith D. Tuttle-C, 3/7; PFC Larry D. Compton-C, 3/7; SP5 Carl J. Benko-A, 3/7; SP4 Louis J. R. Arel-M, 75th; SP5 Robert G. Randall-A, 2/3; 2LT Michael Williams-A, 2/40; PFC Warren Pitts-B, 4/12; 2LT Charles M. Balek-B, 4/12; SGT John L. Heeg-A, 2/3; SSG Anthony Horn-A, 3/7; SP4 Juan Velez-A, 4/12; PFC James R. Limer-B, 3/7; PFC Blaine F. Sidler-D, 3/7; SP4 Thomas P. Wilson-A, 2/3; PFC Anthony E. Haire-D, 2/3; 1LT Donald C. Bratton-B, 5/12; PFC Walter I. Shea-HHC, 2/3; SGT Victor C. Valva-B, 4/12; SGT William Lovett, Jr.-B, 4/12; SFC Francisco Sanchez-A, 2/3; SP4 Danny R. Reynolds-A, 2/3; CPT Robert A. Balderson-A, 2/3; 2LT Michael J. Williams-A, 2/40; SP4 Eugene Lacedonia-B, 4/12; PVT Michael Michaux-B, 4/12;

### Air Force Commendation Medal (Valor)

PFC Arthur Coner-C, 4/12; PFC Evan A. Klunder-A, 2/3; SP4 Richard A. Mallard-HHC, 2/3; SP4 James E. Linderman-D, 3/7; SGT William R. Faulkner-B, 5/12; SP4 Lamar O. Thomas-C, 3/7; SP4 Kenneth E. Leonard-B, 5/12; SSG Brian D. Brown-A, 3/7; PFC Ronald J. Saters-B, 5/12; SP4 Dennis L. McGill-M, 75th; PFC Carl McKelvey, Jr.-C, 3/7; PFC Robt. Gallup-B, 4/12; SP4 Eddie C. Davis-C, 3/7; ISG Gerald A. Jungles-A, 3/7; SP4 Louis J.P. Arel-M, 75th; SP4 Nathaniel Robertson-B, 4/12; PFC Michael J. Keener-B, 5/12; SP4 Bobby L. Yowell-M, 75th; PFC Merman Hash, Jr.-A, 2/3; 2LT Udo L. Goff-B, 4/12;

### Purple Heart

SP4 Douglas E. Hall-B, 5/12.

### Air Medal (Valor)

CPT Austin D. Nixon-A, 2/40; 1LT Frederick Lauser-HHC, 199th Bde; MSG Henry Zysk-HHC, 5/12; SP4 Patrick E. O'Donald-A, 3/7; SP4 Michael Calorossi-D, 5/12; SP4 Taylor Black, Jr.-A, 3/7; SP4 Raymond Battist-HHC, 199th Bde; SP Stephen K. Cowell-A, 3/7; SP4 Donnie A. Gray-A, 3/7; SP4 Jerry E. McGee-A, 3/7.

## Ammo Supply Celebrates Issue

**CAMP FRENZELL-JONES**—The 199th Infantry Brigade's ammo supply section celebrated its 1000th draw of ammunition at 11 am Sunday, Oct. 26. The 4th Bn, 12th Inf was the recipient of this ammunition draw.

Staff Sergeant Alfonso Mendoza of San Pedro, Calif., NCOIC of the section, stated in an interview that the ammo supply operates on a 24 hour basis. He and his staff are on stand-by at all times to supply units with

much-needed ammunition.

The Brigade's ammo section handles all types of conventional ammunition. Each unit must pick up all articles personally, in which case the unit need only drive to the supply section and make the request.

SSG Mendoza estimates that by the end of the year 13,000 tons of ammunition will be distributed to the units in the Brigade. As of 11:30 am, the day of the ceremony, 11,159 tons of ammunition had been distributed to the units since Jan. 1, 1969.

On the wall of the ammo supply office is the motto of the 7th Spt Bn, "On Call to Serve." Mendoza and his staff feel that this slogan has a special meaning to them.

## Army Uses Trailer Libraries

Trailer libraries, currently in use in the Republic of Vietnam, represent a new experiment in Army library service.

Resembling a house trailer, the libraries are available in two sizes, 50x10 feet, and 50x20 feet. Constructed of corrugated metal, and complete with an air conditioning unit and generator, each trailer is equipped with modern, colorful furniture and shelving.

Small trailers contain 100 magazines, 3,000 hardbound and 2,000 paperback books and can seat 12 soldiers. Large libraries hold 100 magazines, 5,000 hardbound and 2,000 paperback books and can seat 25 men.

Generally, trailer libraries are assigned to units which do not have access to installation libraries. If a unit's base camp is relocated, the trailer library can be moved with it. ANP

Enlisted servicemen of the armed forces are invited to use the overnight accommodations of the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmens (SSMA) Club when in Washington, D.C. on temporary duty or leave. ANP

## 'Blackfoot' Busts Bunkers

By PFC Peter Nagurny

FSB LIBBY—"Blackfoot" Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf added to its list of "busted bunkers" Oct 10 when it located an enemy base camp 10 miles north of Xuan Loc.

The camp, consisting of 21 bunkers, was destroyed in a two day operation, 42 pounds of food, 60 mm mortar rounds, rifle grenade rounds, and dynamite were found in the abandoned complex.

The companies of the 12th Inf Regiment take the names of American Indian tribes, and Bravo Co of the 5th Bn prefers to be called "Blackfoot" Co. The regimental nickname is the "Warriors."

"Blackfoot" Co located its most recent bunker complex in a grove. Many of the bunkers were protected with 12 inches of overhead cover and were large enough to accommodate six persons.

The find occurred only two days after Captain George Lodeen of Walden Beach, Fla. took over command of the company.

"The men were engaged in sweeping the area when the camp was discovered," Lodeen, who came to the 199th Brigade from the 82nd Airborne Div and was on his first mission with "Blackfoot" Co, said later.

"I'm quite pleased with the results of the operation," he added.

Making good use of captured material, "Blackfoot" destroyed the complex with the enemy's own dynamite.

Major Hugu Scott of Los Gatos, Calif., 5th Bn operations officer, explaining this type of operation recently said, "We have been employing daytime sweeps and night ambushes in this area, and in doing so, we have also been capturing large quantities of his supplies."

## Army Needs Drill Sergeants

Qualified soldiers in grades E4 through E7 are encouraged to volunteer for Drill Sergeant assignments.

As of July 31, 1969, the Army was short 2,558 Drill Sergeants or almost 30 per cent of total authorization. This shortage has forced greater workloads on those currently performing this duty.

## In the Field Brigade Summary

Oct 10:

"Cottonbalers" of Bravo Co, 3rd Bn, 7th Inf located and destroyed a total of 30 bunkers 6 miles east of Xuan Loc.

One mile further east "Cottonbalers" of Charlie Co located and destroyed three large bunkers. Inside were found large tables, a cooking stove, hot food for an estimated ten persons, and one NVA uniform and helmet.

Later in the day Bravo Co engaged 12 enemy in the same general area with small arms and automatic weapons at close range. With the help of supporting artillery fire the "Cottonbalers" killed six enemy soldiers.

"Warriors" of the 5th Bn, 12th Inf also located one grave 8 miles north of Xuan Loc with a body estimated to be two weeks old.

Oct 11:

An element of Bravo Co, 4th Bn, 12th Inf located one enemy soldier killed in action, two AK-47 rifles and one 9 mm pistol.

An estimated squad-size base camp containing 40 AK-47 rifle rounds, 20 ounces of absorbent acid, 4 gallons of plastic, cooking pots and 10 bunkers were located and destroyed by "Old Guardsmen" of Delta Co, 2nd Bn, 3rd Inf 4 miles south of Xuan Loc.

Oct 12:

Sweeping an area 4 miles east of Xuan Loc, members of Bravo Co, 3rd Bn, 7th Inf uncovered two AK-47 rifles, one K-54 pistol, a pistol belt with holster and drag marks. A subsequent fire fight led to the deaths of six enemy soldiers. Later that night screams were heard in the jungle followed by one shot.

"Warriors" of Alpha Co, 4th Bn, 12th Inf located and destroyed 21 bunkers making up a deserted enemy base camp.

"Warriors" of Bravo Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf sighted and engaged two enemy soldiers who retreated, leading the unit into a two bunker base camp. In the camp the "Warriors" uncovered two 60 mm mortar rounds, two Chicoms grenades, six one-pound blocks of TNT, two-pounds of celery, one-half pound of salt and one pound of fresh meat. The action occurred 7 miles north of Xuan Loc.

Oct 13:

"Warriors" of the 5th Bn, 12th

Inf discovered a six bunker complex with overhead cover 8 miles north of Xuan Loc. Recovered in the area were: one Chicom grenade, 25 AK-47 rounds, six 82 mm mortar fuses and one grave containing an enemy body wrapped in a poncho.

Later in the day the same unit located a battalion-size base camp with 20 bunkers. In the same general area of their previous find, Recovered in this camp were six 82 mm shotgun charges, one enemy helmet, 100 AK-47 rounds, eight canteens, three shovels, three saws, one enemy poncho, cooking utensils, and one flashlight.

Members of Bravo Co, 3rd Bn, 7th Inf, sweeping the area of the previous night's contact located



a total of seven enemy bodies adding one dead enemy to their previously expected total.

Oct 14:

One enemy grave with a body estimated to be three days old was found by members of Charlie Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf 8 miles north of Xuan Loc.

Oct 15:

"Warriors" of Delta Co, 4th Bn, 12th Inf found and destroyed 15 bunkers and one hootch estimated to be six months old. The action occurred 8 miles north of Xuan Loc.

Oct 17:

During the day four separate units saw action 8 miles north of Xuan Loc.

The special reconnaissance patrol spotted and killed two enemy soldiers. Two AK-47's and several personal letters were recovered. Members of Bravo Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf located and destroyed one hootch and three bunkers, recovering 15 45 cal rounds, assorted NVA clothing, and four enemy canteens in the process.

"Warriors" of Bravo Co, 4th Bn, 12th Inf found a battalion-size base camp containing 20 hootches. Each hootch had a bunker underneath it. The base camp also contained a training area with wooden mock-ups of US type fortifications.

Members of Delta Co, 2nd Bn, 3rd Inf located two one-man graves. The dead enemy had been killed by small arms fire and were credited to the "Old Guard" battalion.

Oct 18:

The following activities occurred in an area approximately 8 to 10 miles northeast of Xuan Loc:

Members of Bravo Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf located and destroyed

(Cont'd on Page 8)



Several "Old Guardsmen" of Delta Co, during a recent two-day airmobile operation 2nd 3rd Inf scramble for a chopper tion southwest of Xuan Loc.



# Faces of the War in Vietnam

In mid-October, two members of Department of the Army Artist Team IX paid a four day visit to the 199th Brigade. Just some of the results of their stay are shown on these two pages.

Their visit to the 199th, arranged by First Lieutenant James Lindsay of the 44th Military History Det, was only one of many visits this and other combat art teams make to units in Vietnam during two month tours here.

Army personnel selected to make up these teams

are chosen solely on the basis of artistic ability and given five-month TDY's from their assigned duties to produce art work on Vietnam. The sketches on these pages were all done by Private First Class James S. Hardy, a Clerk in an AIT unit in the states.

His drawings and paintings and those of anyone else in the DA Artist Team Program, become part of the Army's permanent record of the Vietnam conflict.









## 199th Chopper Spreads Psyops Word to Enemy

XUAN LOC—Flying at tree-top level, with the sun glistening off small ponds and rivers that snake through the jungle, gives the world an appearance of peace.

Aboard "Fireball" chopper 459 this day, however, the work of war is a constant task. For this flight carries equipment that might someday mean the lives of many men in the fields.

This flight, in addition to its usual armament of a mini-gun and M-60 machine gun, carries a 1,000 watt speaker from which blare forth the "sound of Psyops."

Captain Thomas Windberg of Newark, N.J., a member of the 199th Light Infantry Brigade Civil Affairs office, commands the console which at the flick of a switch sends a tape recorded message through the speaker and out over the landscape. From the sky the voice of a former colleague urges the enemy, in his own language, to give himself up, rally to the cause of an obvious winner and seek a new life. His only other choice, the message says, is to face annihilation in a country that wants no more war.

## 'Snoopy' Stands Down

By SP4 James Sheehy

XUAN LOC—"Snoopy" recently took a holiday in the form of a unit stand-down.

In what may well be the smallest stand-down in the Brigade, the seven man Snoopy team of the 503rd Chemical Det took their first official break in three years.

For many of the unit's men this was their first real chance to get together and they made the most of it.

With full privileges extended, the men were able to enjoy themselves in the usual manner. They were allowed three hours to shop in the PX, with its usual supply of goodies; they had two reserved tables in the 500 club which featured its regular live entertainment; and they were fed steak and chicken during a unit barbeque (no doubt accompanied by some type of a GI's favorite Liquid refreshment).

Of course there was also the usual opportunities to take care of such as a records audit for personnel, allotments at finance, dental checks, a "visit" from the CMMI courtesy team, and a talk by the judge Advocate General on the new military justice set-up. Ten hours of class room training (doesn't it ever end?) in military technology and employment was also included in the team's schedule of fun and relaxation.

The brief holiday was arranged by company commander, First Lieutenant Paul Stevens of Seattle, Washington, and NCOIC, Sergeant First Class Calvin C. Cross Jr., of Killeen, Tex.

"This is an excellent example of how this Brigade takes care of it's own," stated 1Lt Stevens, "it's good to know that irregardless of what size unit you are, you can still obtain all the benefits available in a normal stand-down."

Then, with a twinkle in his eye 1Lt Stevens offered a challenge to the two man Military History Detachment of the 199th. "Will they be able to break our record for the units smallest stand-down?"

Redcatcher! — Redcatcher!

At the same time Major Julius Horvath of Augusta Ga., 199th Brigade civil affairs officer releases hundreds of leaflets guaranteeing the enemy safe passage through allied lines should he "Chieu Hoi."

The results of this particular flight were almost immediate. In the early afternoon of the same day, three male NVA soldiers threw down their weapons and rallied. It might be said that they got the word from a "little bird."

It requires long hours of work, long hours of waiting, long hours of patience. But the rewards are there—every Hoi Chanh who rallies to the Government of Vietnam is one less enemy an American or Allied soldier must face and, to men such as CPT Windberg, MAJ Horvath and the crews of choppers such as 459, each can be considered a personal victory.

## Take Flight Offered, MAC Urges

If you don't want to end up at the bottom of the waiting list, you'd better take the first flight you're offered when traveling space is available.

The Military Airlift Command (MAC) recently established this new policy which applies to all military persons and dependents.

The new MAC policy prevents travelers from refusing a seat on one flight in hopes of getting better accommodations on another.

Those refusing seats are placed at the bottom of the list and must file a new request to reach their destination. This not only causes delays for you but also



A Chinook helicopter lifts a Bravo Btry, 2nd Bn, 40th Arty M-102 towed Howitzer from fire support base "Mace" for a trip to fire support base "Therisa." Two other guns made the trip along with this one recently under the direction of Btry XO, First Lieutenant Joseph Cathey.

results in unnecessary shuffling of paperwork. So take MAC's advice and get on that first flight!

Did you know that about 50,000 men are going to school this fall with benefits available under the GI Bill?

## 'Warrior' Road Patrol In Action

By SP4 Frank Segreto

FSB NANCY—The 4th Bn, 12th Inf recently organized its own "highway patrol" along QL 20 through Dinh Quan District.

Utilizing three gun jeeps with plenty of fire power, the patrol, nicknamed the "Tiger Team," checks enemy troop and supply movement through this area of Long Khanh Province.

In the past 4th Bn, 12th Inf "Warriors" have had their hands full stopping illegal traffic along QL 20.

"What we needed was an accurate, light, highly mobile unit, capable of laying out enough fire for any given situation along the highway," explained First Lieutenant Frederick Rovner of Woodland Hills, Calif., battalion intelligence officer.

They got what they needed with the "Tiger Team"—jeeps, carrying M-60 machine guns, a 106 recoilless rifle and experienced field veterans manning the controls.

The team's leader, Sergeant Orval Meredith of Kansas City, says of the units operation, "We support the district National Police during the day and set ambushes along the highway at night to insure road security."

The team has had some interesting results so far. For example, the team while patrolling the highway on Oct 19 spotted and stopped a suspicious looking truck. After searching the vehicle, the "Warrior" team found 215 pounds of rice hidden in it. The driver had no permit to haul the food.

"It is combined operations like this one that hit 'Charlie' where it hurts the most and at the same time serve to upgrade the Vietnamese local forces," commented Major Richard Cloy, the "Warriors" executive officer.

## 199th Brigade Sees Third USO Show in Month

FSB NANCY—Special Services brought the 199th Brigade its third USO show in just over a month recently, as The Lucky Numbers performed here and at fire support base "Libby" Oct 23.

The group, a quintet of four American girls in mini-skirts and one male, appeared before 250 men here and 300 men at "Libby." Each show lasted one hour.

Among the numbers performed for members of the 199th Brigade and other units at the fire bases were "Wichita Lineman" and "Little Green Apples." Paul Schilling, the group's only male

member, explained that they used to sing "The Green, Green Grass of Home," but that recently this number has been left out because the song seems to have taken on a new meaning.

The Lucky Numbers have been touring Vietnam from Saigon to the DMZ for five months but the group's leader, Jay Bird, has been here for the last 29 months.

199th Brigade Special Services had the Gary Vinson Show here and at fire support bases "Libby," "Mace" and "Blackhorse" Oct 7. Maori Te Poi's Group, a New Zealand team, visited Brigade installations Sept 20.

Below, The Lucky Numbers perform for members of the 199th Brigade at fire support base "Libby" Oct 23. At right, a member of Maori Te Poi's Group attracts the attention of 5th Bn, 12th Inf "Warriors"





## 199th and ARVN Join

(Cont'd from Front Page)

Creek, Va. "Most of the time they just watched us and did what we did."

Echo team leader, Sergeant John Patrick of Massapequa, N.Y., was fortunate enough to have one ARVN who could understand English.

"Su taught us some Vietnamese, and we taught him some English," Patric said.

### Food Shared

On the sixth day of the mission, air re-supply efforts had to be postponed because of inclement weather in the area. The ARVN's shared their rice with the Rangers, and the teams took to nature to supplement their food supply.

"We made a fishhook out of a safety pin," said Specialist Four Dennis Malawy, a pointman from Nashville. "Our's didn't work too well, so the ARVN's made a better one."

### Went Fishing

"We used a boot string for a

line, got a bamboo pole, caught some grasshoppers and went fishing," Malawy said. "We caught some pretty good sized fish. The ARVN's cleaned and scaled them, and ate them when they dried out."

### Enthusiasm Great

After the teams were extracted, First Lieutenant Ronald Harper, M Co commander from Evansville, Ind., said he was "very happy" with the result of the mission.

"I also was very happy to see the tremendous enthusiasm on the part of the ARVN LRRPs," Harper said.

## Ambushes Kill Seven

(Cont'd from Front Page)

Initially six enemy were thought killed, but a seventh body was uncovered during a sweep of the area in the morning.

One of the dead was found to be a staff officer of an enemy unit operating in Long Khanh Province.

During the night, screams of one enemy assumed to be wounded were heard by the "Cotton-balers." Following a single shot, the screams ceased.

Along with the seven bodies found in the morning, five AK-47's, one K-54 pistol belt with holster, and several articles of enemy clothing were recovered.



A medic with Alpha Co, 4th Bn, 12th Inf treats a small boy for an abscessed tooth during a Medcap operation at Doan Ket, 50 miles north of Saigon.

## 2/40 Aids ARVN Arty

(Cont'd from Front Page)

and operations officer, explained recently.

"In the past, US units have been reluctant to use ARVN artillery for support in close contact because of language problems," MAJ Jewell, a native of East Lansing, Mich., added. "Although most Vietnamese Army officers understand some English, fire requests are given in a hurry and are often difficult to understand over a radio."

The liaisons, even though they cannot speak Vietnamese, monitor radios and repeat requests from US infantry units so that the ARVN's can place artillery fire where it's needed.

### Work by Candlelight

The members of the liaison teams must make certain sacrifices because of the unusual nature of their job. They eat C-rations three meals a day, seven days a week, and they must often work by candlelight after dark because ARVN compounds lack generators.

"Although we get along very well with the Vietnamese, we are sometimes very lonely," one member of the Kiem Tan team explained.

The men work together during the daylight hours and split the night chores into shifts.

Their work and the work of the unit they assist have not gone unnoticed.

"The unit at Kiem Tan fires

their 105's and 155's for the 199th almost daily," said MAJ Jewell, "and their performance is outstanding. They complete missions as fast as any US artillery unit and we do not hesitate to use them for any type of fire mission we have."

Cigarettes and sun glasses are two of the biggest offenders of disabling vision, says Army Major Nichols E. Barreca, author of an article in the November issue of the US Army Aviation Digest.

The major points out that cigarette smoking irritates eyes. Tinted sun glasses and those that distort vision are optically impure and can have a damaging effect on the eyes.

Many people with defective eyes would have perfect vision if it were not for harmful habits they have practiced over the years, Major Barreca stresses in his article.

## MG Bennett Leaving Brigade

(Cont'd from Front Page)

for duty in Greece, where he served as an operations advisor during the Greek Civil War.

Upon his return to the US, General Bennett attended the US Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he also served on the staff and faculty for three years, and the Armed Forces Staff College at Norfolk, Va.

### Volunteers for Duty

Following a brief assignment in the G-3 Section, Headquarters, Army Forces Far East (Japan), he volunteered for duty in Vietnam, where he served as a plans and operations officer.

A three-year Pentagon tour in the field of combat developments followed his Vietnam assignment. While in Washington he attended the National War College with the class of 1959. An assignment as commanding officer of the 1st Airborne Battle Group, 504th Infantry, 8th Infantry Div, in Mainz, Germany was cut short by an emergency change of station in November, 1959. During the ensuing five years he served in the office of the Chief of Staff, US Army.

### Returns to Germany

General Bennett returned to Germany in 1964 and served in positions of command with the 3rd and 8th Infantry Divisions. He was promoted to Brigadier General in April, 1966 and was assigned as assistant division commander (and Abn TF Cmdr) of the 8th Infantry Div two months later.

His next assignment returned him to the Pentagon but the

following year he again volunteered for duty in Vietnam. After a short staff assignment with Headquarters, III MAF, USMACV, he assumed command of the "Redcatcher" Brigade.

General Bennett's awards included the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Silver Star Medal, two Legions of Merit, three Bronze Stars, two Army Commendation Medals and the Purple Heart Medal.

The Redcatcher Commanding General leaves the 199th for an assignment to the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Washington, D.C.

He will be replaced by Brigadier General William R. Bond, who will be coming from an assignment at the Pentagon.

## 'Blackhorse'

(Cont'd from Front Page)

Frank T. Mildren, deputy commanding general of USARV.

The fire support base "Blackhorse," 8 miles south of here, was built in 1966 by the 11th Armored Cav Regt and used by them until this June as a main base camp.

Since June, the 11th ACR has been operating near Quan Loi, 60 miles north of Saigon.

199th Brigade forward headquarters occupied "Blackhorse" from mid-June to the end of August of this year.

"Blackhorse" will now be used as a training center and base camp for the 18th ARVN Div. It is the first major base camp in III Corps to be taken over by Vietnamese Army troops.



For all you guys who have been wondering, this is what you get when you write away for that free pin-up of the

"Rise Shave Cream Girl" you've seen in Playboy.



## 'Cottonbalers,' ARVN's Aid Gia Ray

By SP4 John Smith

GIA RAY—The 3rd Bn, 7th Inf and the 52nd ARVN Regiment are joining forces here to bring continuous and in depth medical treatment to this village 13 miles northwest of Xuan Loc.

Three days a week, medics and doctors from the two units enter the village and hold joint sick calls.

3rd Bn, 7th Inf surgeon, Captain Richard Brand, 28, of Oklahoma City, Okla., who comes here from nearby fire support base "Mace" explained recently how the project started.

"A dispensary had been built in Gia Ray and the ARVN's were conducting sick calls here when our battalion moved into the area," he said. "We decided to combine our resources."

On Monday and Friday the sick call is held in the dispensary and on Wednesday the operation is moved to the village market place.

"This insures that the greatest number of people will be reached by medics and doctors," CPT Brand explained.

The ARVN's are represented by the 52nd Reg physician, Lieutenant Buu, and several medics.

"They help us communicate with the villagers in addition to offering medical advice," Specialist Four William Thomas, 21, of Charlotte, Mich., 3rd Bn, 7th Inf medic explained.

As a patient enters the dispensary, an ARVN medic takes his name and identifies his symptoms. A doctor then prescribes treatment, and afterwards the patient moves either to an ARVN medic to pick up medicine or a US medic for some other treatment.

The values of the operation are several fold," CPT Brand explained. "First, follow up is good and people may return for repeated care if it is needed. Acute problems or chronic diseases may be effectively treated in this way."

"In addition, a format for local treatment facilities has now been established which can be continued after US troops leave the area."

"Also, joint US/Vietnamese ventures successfully executed will increase the confidence of the local citizens in the sincerity and ability of both US and ARVN forces."

Consult AR 614-204 for additional information. ANF

## Troops May Soon Float

Someday soon combat soldiers may take to water as easily as ducks. Currently under study by the US Army Combat Development Command (CDC), Fort Belvoir, Va., is a flotation device that will support a 200-pound soldier in water wearing 50 pounds of equipment.

Responding to requests from soldiers in the field for such an innovation, CDC envisions a means to provide safety for weak swimmers on water-crossing operations.

The flotation piece will prevent a soldier's head from entering the water and permit him to fire his weapon from the water. Plans call for the device to be lightweight, compact, reusable and inflatable.

One model under consideration is a C-shaped tube that fits around a soldier's waist where it can be attached to his suspenders or pistol belt. ANF



Members of Delta Co, 3rd Bn, 7th Inf take time out during a recent operation in Ben Tuy Province to enjoy a hot meal from fire support base "Mace".

## 'Warrior' Unit Kills Three

(Cont'd from Front Page)

Specialist Four Michael Wall of Auburn, Calif. "I kept watching the area and more of them came into the clearing; it was like a parade headed right at us."

Specialist Four Charles Angel of Atlanta, continued, "After Wall spotted the first one I looked up; I couldn't believe how many there were. I stopped counting at 15."

Positioning his men, the team leader, Sergeant Don C. Crosby of Detroit, set up a frontal ambush. "We let them get within 100 meters of us," he explained. "I picked off the lead man and the rest of my team opened up. The NVA's didn't know which way to go—we hit them with everything we had and they felt it."

Air and additional ground support was requested after the initial contact. Cobra gunships added the final touches to the battered NVA element. Using mini-guns and rockets the gunships cut the entire woodline

apart, leaving only blood trails where enemy soldiers took cover.

"We waited for the birds to finish their runs, then we began to search the area," said Private First Class Donald Williams of Waco, Texas. The team discovered two enemy bodies and captured two AK-47 rifles.

An element from Alpha Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf found a third body along with another enemy rifle on Oct 19, approximately 200 meters from the contact area.

Due to a recent policy change, non-regular first lieutenants nearing the end of their two-year obligated active duty tours must now decide whether they want to leave the service or accept promotion to captain and stay an additional year not later than 90 before their ETS.

This modification in no way changes the procedures for requesting Voluntary Indefinite or Regular Army status.

## Brigade Summary

(Cont'd from Page 3)

a small base camp of 13 hootches with subterranean bunkers. Also found and destroyed were six ponchos and 11 bags of meat tenderizer.

"Warriors" of Alpha Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf detained a wounded suspect while capturing one AK-47 rifle.

Members of Charlie Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf located a cache consisting of five one-gallon cans of soybeans, 12 cans of mackerel, six cans of condensed milk, 300 pounds of corn and beans, two cans of pork, 25 flashlight batteries, one bundle of carbon paper, 22 notebooks and five bundles of typing paper. While destroying the above, the unit received small arms fire. Returning the fire, the "warriors" killed two enemy soldiers and captured two AK-47 rifles along with 31,000 piasters.

A large base camp consisting of six bunkers in a circle connected by underground tunnels and one hootch with a metal roof built on a seventh bunker was found by an element of Alpha Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf. Also found were 30 pounds of beans and 1 RPG round.

Members of Bravo Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf destroyed one bunker under construction and captured three individual enemy weapons.

Oct 19:

"Cottonbalers" of Alpha Co, 3rd Bn, 7th Inf engaged an unknown size enemy force 7 miles east of Xuan Loc, killing one and capturing a mail sack. Later in the day the unit found 25 bunkers and a trench. While destroying the complex they sighted and engaged four to six enemy, killing two. An additional five enemy soldiers were killed by supporting artillery fire.

Members of Alpha Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf located one dead enemy, killed approximately three days ago. Credit for the enemy death was given to the 5th Bn, 12th Inf special reconnaissance patrol. The body was found 8 miles north of Xuan Loc near where the recon patrol had been in contact Oct 17. This find raised the unit's total enemy killed for the day to three.

Members of Bravo Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf located a cache 7 miles north of Xuan Loc consisting of six M-60 ammunition cans, one plastic pouch, and one sandbag containing the following: two books on radios, three books on circuitry, assorted spare radio parts, seven Sony radios and one National radio (four of which could monitor short wave), one can of rice 200 AK-47 rounds and ten pounds of TNT.

Oct 20:

"Cottonbalers" of Alpha Co, 3rd Bn, 7th Inf found and destroyed a bunker complex 7 miles east of Xuan Loc, containing 19 SKS rifles, 500 rounds of 30 cal linked ammunition, 500 loose rounds of 30 cal ammunition 4 boxes of AK ammunition and 15 rolls of wire.

Oct 21:

The recon element of the 4th Bn 12th Inf engaged two enemy soldiers 11 miles northeast of Xuan Loc, killing one and capturing an AK-47, two NVA rucksacks and 15 pounds of rice.

Seven miles northwest of Xuan Loc "Warriors" of Bravo Co, 5th Bn, 12th Inf found six sandbags of beans, one bag of meat tenderizer and three hootches.

Oct 22:

"Old Guardsmen" of Delta Co, 2nd Bn, 3rd Inf engaged an estimated 15 to 25 enemy soldiers 6 miles south of Xuan Loc, killing six immediately and sending the rest fleeing into the jungle.

## 'Redcatcher'

### 10 Ft 'B'C Attacks Squad

FSB NANCY—Anything can happen in the jungle as a squad from Alpha Co, 4th Bn, 12th Inf found out while on a patrol 8 miles northeast of Xuan Loc.

The unit was moving down a trail when suddenly its point man noticed a slight movement in the bushes to his front. Taking cover immediately he began to cautiously inch his way toward what he suspected to be a VC spider hole when he was suddenly over-run by his quarry who didn't bother to stop.

Another member of the platoon, seeing what had happened stopped the aggressor dead in his tracks with a single shot from his M-16 rifle. Charlie Super-snake, as the unit dubbed the ten foot boa constrictor, had become a KIA.



An Air Force OV-10 "Bronco" marks a suspected enemy position from well above "grunt" level in Vietnam. (Photo courtesy of US Air Force)

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