

de Screaming Eagle



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EASY DOES IT—A chopper carefully lowers a net containing several hundred pounds of explosives, chain saws, axes and other tools which will be used in Operation Lifesaver, a program designed to turn dangerous, hastily prepared landing zones into safe ones. (U.S.A. Photo by Spec. 4 Gary Pitchford)

Operation Lifesaver Provides Safe LZs

By SPEC. 4 GARY PITCHFORD

CAMP EAGLE — As the Huey UH-1H helicopters dropped lower towards the hilltop, the men leaned from the door, placed their feet on the skids and prepared to jump. Jagged stumps and nearby groups of trees threatened the aircraft from all sides, preventing a true "touch-down."

This was a "marginal" landing zone, usable but dangerous. Landing here was a risk of helicopters and lives.

Six hours later the same helicopters returned to the hilltop LZ to pick up the men they had left earlier. This time they approached two at a time along a broad open lane cut through the forest and touched down on firm, pioneer landing pads. The stumps and piles of trees were gone and the extraction was accomplished safely.

This was the first mission of Operation Lifesaver, a concept devised by Maj. Gen. John M. Wright Jr., Division commander, to turn dangerous, hastily prepared LZs into safe ones.

"Deep in my heart, my con-

science bothers me each time we have a helicopter accident," Gen. Wright said. "For often we find that if that one extra precaution had been taken or that extra effort made, the accident may have been prevented."

Operation Lifesaver is just such an "extra effort." Gen. Wright has chosen an LZ improvement team made up of 10 Infantrymen from C Co., 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf., 10 members of the 326th Engr. Bn. (Ambl.), and three 101st Pathfinders.

Gen. Wright termed them, "hand-picked, highly qualified and strongly motivated."

"I look on these people as my personal, elite group," he said.

Each day the LZ improvement team, led by Capt. Richard Wrona of Chicago, commanding officer of the 101st Pathfinders, will be inserted into an LZ that is not quite all it should be for safe operation. The Infantryman will set up a perimeter, providing security for the engineers as they work on the LZ under the direction of the Pathfinders.

"Pathfinders are in charge of this mission because we are trained to understand the needs

of aircraft, just what kinds of landing zones, approach angles and clearances helicopters require for safe landings," Capt. Wrona explained.

He noted that Infantrymen and engineers are often called upon to cut LZs, but "aren't really trained to understand the complexities involved in preparing a truly safe LZ."

Staff Sgt. Theodore Hall of Kalspell, Mont., squad leader in A Co., 326th Engr. Bn. (Ambl.), added that "this is the first time my men have cut a two-ship LZ making sure all approaches are completely safe. Usually we cut hasty LZs for one ship."

The first day of Operation Lifesaver saw Infantrymen, engineers and Pathfinders standing together on the Eagle International Helipad for a briefing with Gen. Wright. Here they heard him explain his idea and tell them, "I take this very seriously. I've been searching for a way to save lives, to prevent helicopters from cracking up on stump-strewn landing zones."

At 11:00 the team actually landed on the LZ, one ship at a time. First the Pathfinders and then the Infantrymen assaulted in to set up a perimeter. The engineers followed with several hundred pounds of explosives, two chain saws, axes and other tools.

Spec. 4 Danny Bayes of Dayton, Ohio, a Rakkasan Infantryman, surveyed the LZ and commented that it was "one of the tightest I've ever seen. This is really a tough one!"

The Pathfinders marked the areas to be built up for landing pads and the engineers set to work cutting down stumps and trees in the take-off and approach lanes. Stumps had to be blown to safeguard tail rotors.

Soon the sun slid behind clouds and the warm air turned cool and then cold as a mountain squall drenched the hillside and men with rain. Footing on the barren pad became a nightmare of mud and water, but the roar of the chain saws never slackened.

Throughout the afternoon the air was torn with the sudden crackling sound of splintering wood as giant teaks cracked, shuddered and fell with crashing roars down the hill.

By late afternoon the tall trees blocking the approach and landing lanes were gone and the stumps and brush had all been cleared.

"These engineers do a fantastic job," Capt. Wrona stated at the end of the day. "I've never seen anybody work harder. They were true professionals."

ADC Leaves 101st

CAMP EAGLE — As the Division band played, the colors passed in review, marking the end of seven months as assistant division commander for Brig. Gen. Henry J. Muller, Jr. The colorful ceremony was held before assembled troops on the Eagle International Helipad.

Maj. Gen. John M. Wright Jr., commanding general, presented Gen. Muller with an Air Medal, 2nd through 8th Oak Leaf Clusters.

Gen. Muller, a lifelong Airborne trooper and a senior parachutist, has been awarded the Silver Star, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star with OLC, Army Commendation medal with OLC, Purple Heart and the Brazilian Order of Merit.

Gen. Muller leaves the 101st to become senior adviser of Advisory Team One in Da Nang where he will work in close association with the Republic of Vietnam forces.

Before coming to Vietnam and joining the 101st, Gen. Muller was commander of the U.S. Joint Military Group in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

As an Airborne trooper, his history dates back to March 1942

when he completed parachute training as one of the original members of the 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment. Just a month earlier he had received his commission in the Regular Army.

During World War II, he served as G-2 of the 11th Abn. Div. during its combat operations in the Pacific. The end of the war saw his assignment as Assistant G-2 of the 8th Army during the initial occupation of Japan.

From 1953 to 1956 he traveled to El Salvador where he served as the Army Attache to the United States Embassy. From 1956 to 1959 he taught as a professor of Military Science and Tactics at Indiana University. After a tour as Division Advisor in Korea, he was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division as commander of the 503rd Battle Group.

Gen. Muller is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College, the Inter-American Defense College and the Army War College. He received an A. B. Degree from the University of California at Los Angeles in Geology and a M. A. degree from George Washington University in International Affairs.



ADDRESSES—Brig. Gen. Henry J. Muller, Jr., addresses guests and the Honor Guard at Eagle International Helipad upon his departure from the Division. Gen. Muller, the assistant division commander for seven months, will take command of Advisory Team One at Da Nang. (U.S.A. Photo by Spec. 4 Steve Hansen)

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Ed. Center To Offer Group Study Classes

CAMP EAGLE — Beginning the week of Oct. 6, the Army Education Center here will begin a new series of group study classes.

According to Mr. Norman H. Smith, director of the center, two high school courses and three college level courses will be offered in addition to one MOS class.

The high school classes offered, which may be used in preparation for the high school GED test, are College Preparation and High School English, and High School Mathematics. The English course will be offered on Mondays and Thursdays while the math class will be held on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The college level courses are Introduction to Business, which will be held on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and Slide Rule and Basic Electricity, both of which will be held on Wednesdays and Saturdays. All the classes will be held in the Education Center from 1830 hours to 2030 hours.

The MOS class will be for those holding a 71H series MOS.

The classes will be of a twelve week duration and there is no enrollment fee and all text books will be furnished. According to Mr. Smith "three semester hours credit will be given for satisfactory completion of the college level courses."

The new Group Study Classes are in addition to the regular services offered by the center, which include USAFI courses, college correspondence courses, counseling and testing.

Mr. Smith also noted that the center has a large selection of college catalogues for those wanting to check on specific information about a certain university.



GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF THINGS—A Screaming Eagle finds the fastest way to get to the bottom of a hill is sometimes the hardest on the bottom. The trooper, a member of D Co., 2nd Bn. (Aml.), 502nd Inf. was on an operation near Camp Eagle. (U.S.A. Photo by Pfc. Juergen Hensley)

Training Course Beefs Up Units

CAMP EAGLE — Just outside the perimeter at Camp Eagle, squads and fire teams from the 2nd Bn. (Aml.), 502nd Inf. are currently undergoing practical live fire training designed to build confidence and small element esprit.

"The preparatory training the men receive when they first come in country is excellent," explained Capt. Chris Dangler of Paulding, Ohio, who started the program, "but they emphasize the individual aspect of Infantry training for cooks and clerks as well as for Infantrymen."

Under the new program, run strictly by the NCO fire and squad leaders, new and old members of the 502nd learn to utilize their potential as a fighting unit. The new "Strike Force" troopers learn to work under the seasoned veterans and the veterans learn to lead the new men.

"When the replacement arrives in Vietnam he is usually preoccupied with just being here," Dangler added. "We hope to eliminate some of this by training him right with his team."

Under the team training program each fire team and squad drills on the fundamentals of fire and movement, map reading and ambush techniques. Platoons are rotated from the field to fire base security and into team training.

In the afternoon, teams and squads are assembled for a class on ambush techniques.

"This is a very critical class," said Capt. Ben M. Phillips of Mobile, Ala., who will take over the training program when Dangler ends his tour of duty. "Ambushes require split second timing, coordination and effective deployment."

Following their class on ambushes, the "Strike Force" troopers return to the rear for an evening meal and relaxation before heading out for practical application of what they learned in the day's classes.

On the second and final day of their training, the squads and platoons are sent through a fire and movement course.

In the training area, ten fire lanes have been marked off, one for each squad member. The element moves out on the command of the squad leader. Behind each squad member is a non-participating trooper. Along the course improvised "pop up" targets have been set.

During the training four objectives are continually stressed; effective low firing once the enemy has dropped behind his cover, fire and movement, small unit leader's control and effective distribution of fire.

"We want these men to know through instinct what their mission will be once the first crack from an enemy weapon is sounded," concluded Dangler.

Timely R&R Tips

CAMP EAGLE — An increasing number of personnel are reporting to Bien Hoa to go on R&R without having completed all the requirements necessary to leave country.

To insure that no foul-ups occur on your R&R be sure you

have the following in your possession:

1. Current Armed Forces ID Card with plastic covering.
2. Immunization Record.
3. The equivalent of \$300 US for conversion to US currency.
4. Less than 500 plasters.
5. At least 10 copies of your R&R orders, with your name only.
6. For Sydney a certificate from a medical officer stating that you are free of any demonstrable infectious disease.
7. For Hong Kong, Taipei, Bangkok passengers, a khaki uniform.

Also be sure you do the following:

1. Report to SERTS transit.
2. Report to R&R Processing Center at SERTS in the rear of building 2679.
3. Make sure your shots are up to date, experience has shown that lack of proper immunization causes more delays than any other item.
4. Get a haircut.
5. Report back to building 2679 for your transportation to Camp Alpha.

In addition, personnel should know the following information:

Maximum bag allowance is 40 pounds with the exception of Hawaii which is 66 pounds. Customs regulations also prohibit the following on aircraft: Narcotics, marijuana, explosives, ammo, fireworks, knives, gold or silver bullion, articles produced in Communist China, North Vietnam or North Korea.

Personnel who miss their return flight from R&R will be reported to their unit and more than likely will have to return to Vietnam at their own expense.

With the exception of Hawaii, personnel must wear civilian clothing while actually on R&R.

Div. Accident Figures Prove Point

By HUGH H. LANDRY, DAC
Div. Safety Director

CAMP EAGLE — Just whose side are you on? That's a pretty insulting question to ask of fighting members of the 101st and most would say it borders on the ridiculous. However by taking a closer look at the accident records of the Division for July and August you can see the logic of an expression of doubt.

During that period one hundred forty-eight accidents or incidents resulted in 202 personal injuries and fifteen fatalities.

Explosives have accounted for 58 injured and five killed. Three types of indirect fire (friendly artillery, mortar, gunship) took care of 27 troopers, two permanently. Burns and motor vehicles chalked up an additional 21 injured, while 55 other

"catch-all" type accidents put 63 troopers out of action, one permanently.

The above figures are alarming from a simple humanitarian point of view, however when the total impact is considered, they become frightening.

Assuming that our kill ratio is 10 to 1, the loss of 15 friendly troops in fatal accidents, in effect, provides the enemy with 150 additional men. About 30 percent of the 202 injured during the months of July and August had been evacuated and must be considered lost.

Theoretically in losing the strength of 75 men through accidents, we effortlessly give the enemy a 750 man battalion.

Such indirect aid to the enemy nullifies many of our best efforts and cannot be allowed to go un-

checked. In short we are causing more damage to ourselves than the best efforts of the enemy have been able to achieve.



FREEZE—A platoon leader with the 2nd Bn. (Aml.), 502nd Inf. comes to a stop as he senses possible enemy movement ahead. Lt. Robert Duolos of Manchester, N.H., was leading his platoon on a sweep near Lang Co when the action took place. (U.S.A. Photo by Spec. 5 E.P. Boice)



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Commanding General

Maj. Gen. John M. Wright Jr.

Maj. R. L. Horvath

Spec. 4 Terry Smith

Spec. 5 Frank Kelly

Spec. 4 Don Winter

Battalion Correspondents

3/167	Pfc. Tom Chuchola	1/505
1/327	Pfc. Terry Brown	2/506
3/327	SSG Bernard Gordon	2/320
3/501	Spec. 4 Richard Litman	1/321
1/502	Spec. 4 Morris Harris	2/11
1/502	Sfc. Alfred Carroll	4/77
		2/18

Sept. 29,



SILHOUETTED—A Screaming Eagle from the 3rd Bde. is silhouetted against the setting sun as his squad prepares to move out to their night ambush position on the coastal plain near Camp Evans. (U.S.A. Photo by Lt. Milton Parsons)

Currahees Kill 7 In Ambushes

By Pfc. Terry Brown

CAMP EVANS — Screaming Eagles of C Co., 2nd Bn. (Aml.), 506th Inf. killed seven enemy and captured two others in hastily prepared ambushes during an action-packed evening recently.

The first incident occurred six kilometers southeast of Camp Evans as troopers from C Co.'s 2nd platoon were moving to an ambush site.

A company of North Vietnamese Army regulars, thinking the Currahee soldiers were their Viet Cong point element, followed the platoon for some time.

A machinegun crew provided security as the platoon of Infantrymen crossed a knee-deep stream. Before the entire platoon was across, the gun crew spotted the enemy following them.

"I saw what I thought was a silhouette of a tree," recalled Spec. 4 Daniel Hanh of Grafton, Mass., a member of the security element. "Then I noticed three when I glanced back to the same area."

"We realized the silhouettes were NVA who were following us and ran to warn the others," recalled Pfc. Robert Williams, an assistant machinegunner from Chicago.

Lt. Charles Lieb, a platoon leader from Minneapolis, Minn., swiftly set up his unit near the stream to greet the enemy followers.

"We could hear them talking as they crossed the stream and we waited until they were in the kill zone," remarked Staff Sgt. Larry Queen of Anderson, S.C. "They must have realized we

were waiting for them, but it was too late."

One enemy trooper asked, "You GI? You GI?"

At that moment, Lieb threw a grenade which answered the question and signaled the rest of the platoon to open up.

The Currahees turned on their fire power — throwing grenades and firing their M-16s and machineguns. The action was such a sudden surprise to the enemy that they were only able to fire a few AK-47 rounds and one RPG.

"I could hear the NVA scatter in every direction, dragging their wounded with them as they went," said Spec. 4 Paul Fultz of Harrison, Ohio.

After the brief clash a quick check of the area turned up four dead NVA and many drag marks and blood trails on the ground.

A first light check the following morning revealed two more bodies. During the sweep, Lieb captured one enemy soldier trying to hide in a bush.

About the time the 2nd platoon made contact with the enemy, the 1st platoon of the same company was moving to their ambush site, two kilometers south of Camp Evans when they spotted two VC. Then, Lt. Richard Scott of Reading, Pa., ordered his men to set up a quick ambush.

When the enemy entered the kill zone, the 1st platoon Currahees opened fire, wounding one in the leg. The wounded VC crawled out of sight while the other hid in a bush.

While illumination lit the area as bright as day, the platoon continued to sweep the area. The Currahees captured the wounded VC who was trying to hide underneath his dead comrade.

Cordon Nets VC Suspects South of Hue

LZ SALLY — Eleven Viet Cong suspects were taken into custody recently during a cordon operation in northern Huong Thuy Province just south of Hue.

The operation was conducted by troopers from Co. C, 1st Bn. (Aml.), 502nd Inf.

A total of 659 individuals were processed during the operation, which was held under the auspices of the Joint Combined Intelligence Center in Hue.

Following a briefing by Lt. Col. R.M. Deming, battalion commander, and Lt. Col. Phuoc, the sector chief, the cordon was initiated by the 1st ARVN Division Psyop Radio Team.

The general purpose of the cordon was to discover any Viet Cong suspects, find any food and ammunition caches and to root out any of the Viet Cong infrastructure.

"There were other reasons for the cordon too," stated Capt. Francis J. Sisti, the 2nd Bde. civil affairs officer from Pittsburg, Pa. "It gave us the opportunity for a general identification check, census taking and to make use of the government Black Books."

These books contain the names of the occupants of every hamlet in the province prior to the 1968 Tet offensive. Persons not on the books are questioned as enemy suspects.

At Aviation Maintenance Facility Expansion Meets Growing Need

CAMP EVANS — The ever-increasing deployment of helicopters for all types of combat and support missions affects not only pilots and crewmen, but also the aviation maintenance personnel of the 101st.

Bravo Company, 5th Transportation Battalion (Airmobile) provides maintenance and customer service for over 200 helicopters of all types.

"We now service over 50 per cent of the division's aircraft," says Capt. Allen Travis of Weymouth, Mass., the maintenance officer. "Our monthly man-hours of maintenance went over the 20,000 hour mark for the first time last month and we expect to double our output for our first six months in country during the next half year."

The company became operational in February of this year and is now operating out of a huge wooden triple-hanger complex.

Maj. Frank Shaver of Spokane, Wash., commands the men of B Co. who take great pride in being the division's "night people."

"Our engine and sheet metal shops, the prop and rotor section and our customer service (parts) department are all open

24 hours a day," explains Capt. Travis.

While the majority of troops around Camp Eagle and Phu Bai relax in the evening, the men of B Co. are hard at work keeping the Airmobile 101st in the air.

Trooper Finds Trap

CAMP EVANS — "Booby trap!" shouted Pfc. Larry Logan when he realized he had tripped one.

The shout sent troopers scattering in every direction.

The incident occurred when B Company of the 2nd Bn. (Aml.), 506th Inf. was sweeping an area about six miles south of Camp Evans. The soldiers had as their mission finding and destroying enemy booby traps.

Logan, an Infantryman from Nashville, Tenn., had found one the hard way as he was walking through a narrow break in a hedgerow.

Suddenly a puff of smoke billowed from the hole. "There was no explosion, only smoke which indicated the grenade was poorly made or weathered," remarked Sgt. Archie Wise, a squad leader from Bogalusa, La.



READY FOR ACTION—Weapons at the ready, Kit Carson Scout Hoa (left) and Pfc. Ion W. Herbst of Blackfoot, Idaho, investigate a large enemy bunker southwest of Camp Eagle. The troopers, members of D Co., 2nd Bn. (Aml.), 502nd Inf., were taking part in a joint U.S.-ARVN operation when they discovered the enemy complex. (U.S.A. Photo by Pfc. Juergen Hensley)

LZ Improvement Makes 'Margin'



Team is briefed by Maj. Gen. John M. Wright Jr. before their mission.



Pfc. Danny Bayes (right) and Spec. 4 Charles



A Huey slings in demolitions to clear the LZ.



Spec. 4 Francis Aud slices through tree obstructing

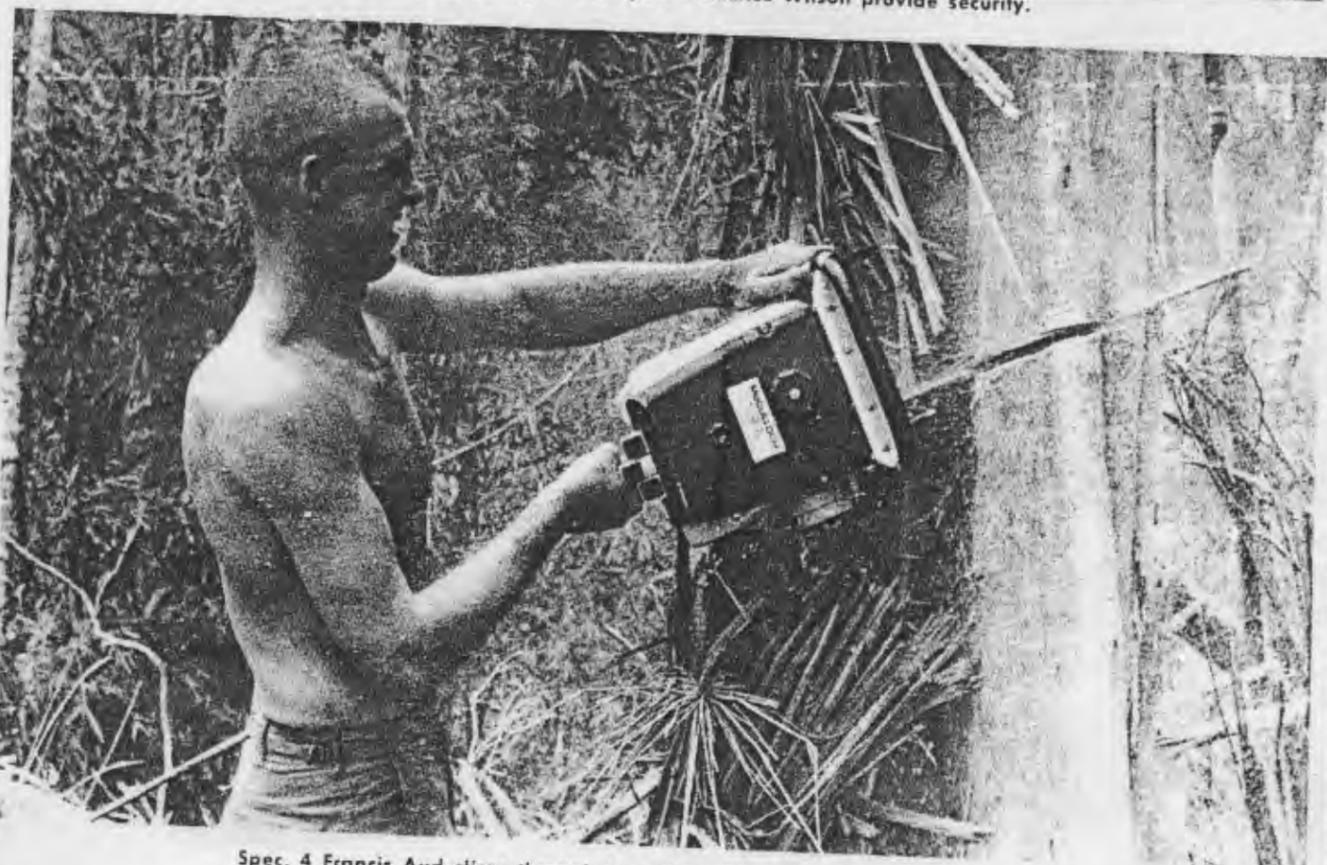
LZ Improvement Team Makes 'Marginal' LZs Safe



before their mission.



Pfc. Danny Bayes (right) and Spec. 4 Charles Wilson provide security.



Spec. 4 Francis Aud slices through tree obstructing approach to landing zone.

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nt Team al' LZs Safe



Wilson provide security.



Members of the team jump from chopper onto the rugged LZ.

Photos by Spec. 4 Gary Pitchford



Spec. 4 Richard Zulch prepares demolitions to blow stumps and trees.

AWARDS and DECORATIONS

SILVER STAR

7/12/69
 Capt. Robert G. Davis, 3/77 Arty.; Capt. Harold J. Erickson, 1/506 Inf.; Capt. Dean Johnson, 3/187 Inf.; Capt. Hugh A. Kelley, 1/227 Inf. (1st O.L.C.); Capt. Douglas Taylor, 2/306 Inf.; Lt. Ronald L. Brock, 1/501 Inf.; Lt. Alford Gray, 2/319 Arty.; Lt. William R. Decker Jr., 1/227 Inf.; Lt. James W. Torieton III, 1/506 Inf.; CWO Ronald E. Hale, 159th Avn. Bn.; CWO Robert F. Marris, 159th Avn. Bn.; CWO David A. Paley, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.) (posthumous); CWO Thomas R. Workman, 4/77 Arty.; CSM Lewis C. Daniels, HHC, 3rd Bde.; Pfc. Willie J. Carr, 1/227 Inf.; SFC Ronald E. Nicholas, 2/319 Arty.; Staff Sgt. Bryron D. Stewart, 1/506 Inf. (posthumous); Sgt. John E. Kenney, 2/327 Inf.; Spec. 5 David A. Blumberg, 1/227 Inf.; Spec. 3 David A. Stiver, 3/187 Inf. (posthumous); Spec. 4 Roy H. Beck, 1/227 Inf.; Spec. 4 James B. Swain, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 George A. Warkley, 2/327 Inf.; Pfc. Thomas P. Fehusch, 1/506 Inf. (posthumous); Pfc. Claude Fawler, 1/506 Inf. (posthumous); Pfc. James M. Hoyt, 1/506 Inf.; Pfc. Rickie H. McDaniel, 1/506 Inf.; Pfc. David L. Tessmer, 1/506 Inf. (posthumous).

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Lt. Col. Harold A. Polson, 1/227 Inf.; Maj. Garry F. Dalin, 2/17 Cav.; Capt. Michael W. Snyder, HHC, 3rd Bde. (1st O.L.C.); Major G. Hammond, 159th Avn. Bn.; Lt. John H. Highower, HHC, 3rd Bde.; Lt. Daniel P. Murphy, 159th Avn. Bn.; Lt. Marcus A. Pryor, 2/17 Cav.; CWO Howard R. Crotty, 159th Avn. Bn.; CWO Francis P. McCannel, 159th Avn. Bn.; CWO David Dism, 2/17 Cav.; CWO Sander D. Spitzer, 4/77 Arty.; CWO Gary P. Sireid, 159th Avn. Bn.; Harold J. Beauchetne, 159th Avn. Bn.; WO John C. Brandt, 159th Avn. Bn.; WO Frank T. Buzzard, 159th Avn. Bn.; WO Earl C. Doty Jr., 159th Avn. Bn.; WO Samuel L. George, 159th Avn. Bn.; WO Jimmy E. Hayes, HHC, 1st Bde.; WO William L. Jones, 159th Avn. Bn.; WO Steven F. Wood, 4/77 Arty.; WO Onofre Orasca Jr., 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Jerry E. Taylor, 4/77 Arty.; Spec. 4 William A. Wroble Jr., 2/17 Cav.

SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Maj. Emmett L. Kelly Jr., 2/327 Inf.; Capt. Maurice T. Lounsbury, 26th Eng. Bn.; Capt. Charles E. Whittle, 2/327 Inf.; Pfc. Sgt. Mensen Ethridge, 1/227 Inf.; Pfc. Douglas D. Drake, 2/327 Inf.; Pfc. John A. Wrayvitt, 2/327 Inf.

AIR MEDAL WITH V

7/12/69
 Col. Lloyd J. Picow, HHC, DIVARTY (23rd O.L.C.); Lt. Col. Richard H. Whitington, 3/327 Arty. (4th O.L.C.); Maj. Wayne T. Boles, 101st Avn. Bn. (2nd O.L.C.); Maj. Victor M. Hernandez Jr., 4/77 Arty. (159th O.L.C.); Capt. Robert L. Bromble, 2/319 Arty. (2nd O.L.C.); Capt. David H. Hokes, HHC, 1st Bde. (1st O.L.C.); Capt. Norman W. Lowe, 4/77 Arty. (2nd O.L.C.); Capt. John L. Teague, 4/77 Arty. (2nd O.L.C.); Lt. Robert T. Andrews, 158th Avn. Bn.; Lt. William H. Harris Jr., 4/77 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Lt. James P. Lynch, 4/77 Arty.; Lt. Charles D. McGee, 158th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Lt. Daniel P. Murphy, 159th Avn. Bn.; Lt. Rodney L. Stole, 4/77 Arty.; Lt. James A. Zoumbi, HHC, 101st Avn. Div. (4th O.L.C.); CWO James C. Leonard, 159th Avn. Bn. (11th O.L.C.); CWO Earl C. Doty Jr., 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); CWO James L. Deltz Jr., 4/77 Arty. (2nd O.L.C.); CWO Jeffrey Roberts, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); CWO Harold N. Shuler, 159th Avn. Bn.; CWO Ronald P. Snider, 158th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); CWO Raymond F. Watts, 159th Avn. Bn. (20th O.L.C.); WO Robert E. Canfield, 159th Avn. Bn.; WO Samuel L. George, 159th Avn. Bn. (29th O.L.C.); WO Nicholas W. Montgomerie, 159th Avn. Bn.; WO Onofre Orasca, 159th Avn. Bn.; WO James A. Stone, 101st Avn. Bn.; WO Leland N. Yankers, 158th Avn. Bn.; WO Jerry C. Yost, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Thomas A. O'Malley, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Alvin L. Stevens, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Sgt. Raymond L. Coombes, Co. L (Ranger), 75th Inf. (1st O.L.C.); Sgt. Yacimie Mares, 159th Avn. Bn.; Sgt. James R. Wells, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 3 Bradley P. Bura, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 5 Gary E. Eccles, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 5 John B. Maddock, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 5 Charles Murrill, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 5 Michael D. O'Neil, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 5 David M. Steele, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Audley W. Berger, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Jini T. Creider, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Steven A. Franklin, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Ronald W. Hamilton, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Raymond D. Houlihan, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 John Lovelace, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Stanley Mello, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Rodney C. Pettis, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Edward C. Swiler, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Elliot E. Walker, HHC, 1st Bde.; Spec. 4 Gary W. Warfield, 159th Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Johnny M. Warkley, 159th Avn. Bn.; Pfc. Eric R. Barta, 158th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Edward J. Cunningham, 159th Avn. Bn. (2nd O.L.C.); Pfc. Kermit B. Mitchell, Jr., 159th Avn. Bn.; Pfc. Richard M. Tucker, 158th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.).

Bronze Star With V

7/12/69
 Capt. Roger H. Dent, 2/11 Arty. (2nd O.L.C.); Capt. Rosario N. Polonio, 101st Avn. Bn.; Lt. Russell D. Cranshaw, 2/319 Arty.; Lt. Kenneth G. Gregory, 2/319 Arty.; Lt. Francis J. Kelly Jr., 2/319 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Lt. Harold T. Lucas, 2/319 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); 1st Sgt. Jack D. Brown, 2/319 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); SFC James M. Johnson, Co. L (Ranger), 75th Inf.; Spec. 4 Donald S. Rupert, 159th Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Sgt. Harold W. Gizaan, 2/319 Arty.; Sgt. Robert D. King, 2/17 Cav.; Sgt. Lee J. Rasmussen, 2/17 Cav.; Sgt. Douglas V. Thompson, 2/17 Cav.; Sgt. James A. Nera, 101st Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 5 Peter Goid, 2/11 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 5

2/319 Arty.; Spec. 4 Roger R. Achin, 2/320 Arty.; Spec. 4 James P. Carlson, 2/319 Arty.; Spec. 4 Vernon R. Coody, 2/319 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Ronald W. Dironco, 101st Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Herbert L. Giessing, 101st Avn. Bn.; Spec. 4 Bobby R. McDaniel, 2/319 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Jeffrey P. Starrett, 2/17 Cav.; Spec. 4 Ronald W. Thomas, 2/320 Arty.; Hugh L. Washington, 2/319 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Robert R. Benton, 2/320 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Phillip R. DeBrooky, 101st Avn. Bn.; Pfc. Lawrence O. Glavaris, 101st Avn. Bn.; Pfc. Robert G. Gray, 326th Eng. Bn.; Pfc. Edward M. Hayes III, 2/320 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Virgil O. Virgil O. Jackson, 101st Avn. Bn. (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Ronald J. Lauder, 2/11 Arty.; Pfc. Willie B. Mateck, 326th Eng. Bn.; Pfc. Donald R. Shuck, 2/11 Arty. (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Stanley D. Smith, 101st Admin. Co.

1st Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf.

Staff Sgt. Joseph J. Conly, Pfc. Elden S. Branch.

2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf.

Capt. Robert D. White (2nd O.L.C.); Sgt. Harold D. Schaeffer (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Walter W. Jackson (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Roger R. Kintzer (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Hendrikus Hakman, Pfc. Ira L. Karnolsky.

2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 302nd Inf.

Spec. 4 David L. Myhra, Spec. 4 Jerry R. Thompson (1st O.L.C.).

3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 302nd Inf.

1st Sgt. George L. Peters (1st O.L.C.); Staff Sgt. Maly Deirosaria (1st O.L.C.).

1st Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf.
 Sgt. Frederick A. Ellis, Sgt. James O. Urvinn, Sgt. Phillip T. Walter (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 George M. Cohen, Spec. 4 William J. Sybin (1st O.L.C.).

2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf.

Staff Sgt. Charles R. Whitney (1st O.L.C.); Sgt. Michael B. Silverthorn, Sgt. Sterling Skolnik, Sgt. Bobbie Thompson, Spec. 4 David J. Cardes, Spec. 4 John W. Thompson, Pfc. Donald L. Chunn, Pfc. Jimmy G. Courtney.

1st Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf.

Lt. Donald A. Bailey (1st O.L.C.); Sgt. John A. McDaniel, Spec. 4 Jerry L. Capriano, Spec. 4 Jerry L. Sykes (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Joseph H. Hines, Pfc. Michael C. Lacey.

1st Bn. (Ambl.), 304th Inf.

Capt. Harold J. Erickson (1st O.L.C.); Lt. Dan B. Yarbrough (1st O.L.C.) (posthumous); Sgt. Christopher Cole (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 James Clark (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Joseph R. King Jr. (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Danny H. Williams (1st O.L.C.); Spec. 4 Robert A. Wilson, Spec. 4 Michael V. Whitley (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Jessie L. Boyd, Pfc. Richard T. Coriveau (1st O.L.C.) (posthumous); Pfc. Arie E. Fouik, Pfc. Gerald R. Moreno, Pfc. O.L.C.; Pfc. Gerald R. Moreno, Pfc. Charles E. Paige, Pfc. Earl B. Patton, Pfc. Eld Sammons (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. Archie L. Walker.

2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 304th Inf.

Staff Sgt. Franklin Underwood, (1st O.L.C.); Pfc. George Mueller.



POPULAR MAN IN THE VILLAGE—Spec. 5 Richard "Doc" Gaynor treats a Vietnamese civilian at the hospital in Thuy Phu. Gaynor, who entered the Army after finishing two years of medical school, runs the small hospital in Thuy Phu in the lowlands south of Phu Bai with the aid of two Marines.

(U.S.A. Photo by Spec. 5 E.P. Boice)

Combat Medic Runs Thuy Phu Hospital

By Spec. 5 E.P. Boice
THUY PHU — In early July after the 2nd Bn. (Ambl.) 327th Inf. had been pulled from the A Shau Valley and placed in the lowlands south of Phu Bai, a new face appeared before the people of Thuy Phu. His name was shortened from Spec. 5 Richard P. Gaynor to "Doc" and he immediately began delivering babies, performing minor surgery and patching up wounds and sores.

The trooper entered the Army in the summer of 1968 after finishing two years of medical school at

San Diego State University and was trained as a virology specialist. But because of the shortage of medics when he first came to Vietnam, Gaynor was assigned to the 327th Inf. as a combat medic and spent four months as A Company's "Doc."

"I asked them to let me stay with A Company when we returned from the A Shau," Gaynor recalled, "but they said there was a more pressing task for me."

"When I arrived at Thuy Phu there was a Marine captain in charge of the small hospital there. He left the following day and I began treating patients." Knowing language would be a

problem. Gaynor searched for an interpreter. "One day I was looking at this boy's shoulder, noticing how his right collarbone had not grown correctly, and he began speaking a little English," Gaynor recalled. "I had no other method of communication, so he became my interpreter."

Besides language, "Doc" Gaynor has encountered other barriers—the most impeding of which has been religion and custom.

"I get really frustrated at times, because the people are so unfamiliar with contemporary medicine and superstition is very strong," Gaynor said. "But when I feel this way I just walk through the village and look at the people and then I realize I have no reason for frustration."

There is still a shortage of

medical personnel and Gaynor has enlisted the services of two members of the Marine CAP team in Thuy Phu.

Birth defects, caused by disease during pregnancy, are the most prevalent ills in Thuy Phu. The majority of these cases require major surgery and soon will be treated at Dong Ha's Children's Hospital or the Da Nang Hospital Ship. Gaynor has submitted the paper work to have four children suffering from cleft palate and two with other congenital abnormalities treated in the coming weeks.

"Their chances are extremely good, even though several will need multiple surgery," Gaynor said. "If these children return after successful operations I'm sure the people will be even more responsive to our efforts."

HOME SWEET HOME—A 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf. trooper and his friends from the 1st Bn., 54th ARVN Regt. compare family pictures from home during a break. The two units were involved in a joint operation southwest of Hue.

(U.S.A. Photo by Spec. 5 E.P. Boice)

Lost Montagnard Child Found by Cav. Patrol

CAMP EAGLE—Medics of the 2nd Sqdrn. (Air-mobile), 17th Cav. have discovered a new use for surgical bandages. They recently found they make excellent diapers.

While leading a sweep southwest of the Ruong Ruong, Lt. Bud Quitquit of Waterford, Mich., a platoon leader with the unit, came upon a small girl sitting near a tree, partially nude, frightened and crying.

"After a quick search of the area for enemy forces we turned her over to Doc," recalled Quitquit. The troop medic, Pfc. Nathaniel "Doc" Green of St. Stephens, S.C., discovered quickly that the girl appeared to be about three years old and of Montagnard extraction. Using a surgical bandage, he hastily applied a diaper.

Still trying to determine how she got there, the Cav troopers extracted her by helicopter to a nearby aid station where she was given a bath and a hot meal—apparently her first in some time.

The welfare and refugee service in Hue assigned her to the Kim Long Orphanage. Sister Florence, Mother Superior at the orphanage, gave her the name Nguyen Thi Lac (Lac meaning lost).

"We haven't been able to communicate with her yet," the sister said. "But she is much better and doing well." According to Sister Florence "an attempt is under way to find some one who speaks her language so we can find out more about her—her age, name and anything else we can."



Mike

Mike - I got my SS on same mission. My name was probably in the issue before or after this one.

Vic was a non-flying BC. I'll bet he got no more than 50 hrs his second tour including Cobra transition. I had no idea he got an AMW! He certainly did nothing for it.

7/12/69

Before 7/12/69

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Cav. Troops Are One of A Kind

By SPEC. 5 MIKE YUHAS

CAMP EVANS—A cavalry trooper is a special breed of animal. Being in Vietnam has surfaced and accented his unique characteristics that label him one of a kind.

He's many things to many people, but most of all he's a colorful and spirited soldier that the enemy has come to respect.

Tracing history back to the boots 'n' saddles era of Gen. George Custer, the "Black Knights" of the 3rd Sqdrn., 5th Cav. and their iron horses are in fine fettle.

The "Wandering Warriors," now under the operational control of the 101st, have proven their mettle in battle from the

muddy Mekong Delta to the DMZ.

They have worked with just about every U.S. and Allied unit in the country. The Cav. plays no favorites — they're only interested in getting their job done.

Upon closer inspection, it is not difficult to label the cavalry trooper as truly one of a kind.

His rumbling APC or tank resembles a rolling confectionary, mess hall, munitions cache and department store.

Only a Cav. trooper's vehicle can carry: a double load of .50 caliber and M-60 ammunition, two spare machinegun barrels, 10 cases of soda, 10 cases of C-rations, a chaise lounge, four state flags, a stereo, several radios, a tape recorder, assorted cameras, a library of magazines and 25 pounds of souvenirs and personal essentials.

Of course this is an incomplete list since it does not take into account the other three crew members and their assorted paraphernalia.

Although he doesn't wear a yellow kerchief or sport red suspenders, today's trooper is just as colorful as his horse soldier predecessors a century ago.

This present battlefield is the jungles and rice paddies of Vietnam, not the broad, flat midwestern plains of the United States. His "oat burners" have been replaced by the diesel burners.

Color him brave with a splash of spirit, a dash of nonconformity and a hint of mischief.

That's what an armored cavalry trooper is all about. He's what's happening.

Slalom Down the Slide

CAMP EVANS — A Currahee from the 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf. was surprised recently when he was forced to participate in his favorite sport — skiing.

Since arriving in Vietnam, Spec. 4 Daniel Cooke has spent many hours reminiscing about his water skiing days on the blue lakes of North Carolina.

A native of Newton, N.C., the trooper was assessing the damage of a recent airstrike southwest of Hue with his platoon when he slipped on a muddy bank overlooking a swiftly flowing stream.

Instinctively regaining his balance, Cooke began the slalom of his life, and his first experience with mud skiing.

Using all his water skiing skill and knowledge, he twisted and turned his way down the heavily vegetated bank and into the stream, sliding to a stop on the rocky bottom of the stream's bed.

Sighing a breath of relief, the "Skiing Currahee" looked up the 35-foot bank and said, "I've skied some slalom courses before but this one had to be the giant of my career."

Recon Patrol Finds Enemy Mine Field

CAMP EAGLE — "I've had dreams about being in a mine field and I've always wondered what I would do," said Pfc. David Lucher of Dupon, Ill., "but I never thought I'd have the chance to find out."

Lucher was discussing a harrowing experience he and other members of a squad from A Co., 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf. underwent near Fire Base Pistol at the northern end of the Ruong Ruong Valley.

The unit was on a reconnaissance patrol with the mission of checking out and securing high ground near the company's night defensive position when the incident occurred. The squad was moving up to the crest of a hill when they made a startling discovery. Pfc. Jesse Clayton of Baton Rouge, La., a new man in Vietnam, was walking point for the squad and Lucher, a veteran, was walking behind him.

"I saw a dud mortar illumination round," recalled Clayton, "and noticed something beside it

but I thought it was part of the mortar round that had broken off."

Lucher and the third man, Spec. 4 Morris Cox, of Oak Grove, La., both veterans in the field, knew different.

"I saw three prongs next to the round and I knew it was some kind of mine," Cox said. "We told everyone to stand still and passed the word back to our squad leader that we might be in a mine field."

Sgt. Louis Kerecz of Bethlehem, Pa., saw the prongs and knew at once that it was a mine. "I took out my knife and began to probe around to clear an area," related Kerecz. "Everyone started looking around and we spotted five more mines and the suspected location of several others before we made our way to the top of the hill for the night."

Lt. Col. Jeremiah Brophy, battalion commander, congratulated the men for "an outstanding job."

"The men didn't panic," he said, "and their alertness in discovering this unmarked mine field may have saved the lives of many of our men."



A FAVORITE FOR EAGLE EYES—Undoubtedly one of the fairest to appear in the Screaming Eagle for some time is everybody's favorite, Raquel Welch, who is currently starring in her latest motion picture release, "Myra Breckenridge." (Photo by 20th Century-Fox)



WATERBORNE—Troopers of the 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf. waded through waist-deep water while pursuing enemy forces northeast of Hue. The Currahees were participating in a U.S.-ARVN operation in Thua Thien Province in northern I Corps. (U.S.A. Photo by Lt. Milton Parsons)

1st Brigade Recon Patrol Finds Agricultural Supply Point Near Hue

HUE — Corn, potatoes, fresh pig and chicken supplemented the diet of a 101st platoon recently as they moved into a large agricultural supply point for the NVA during a reconnaissance mission about 17 miles south of Hue.

A platoon from B Co., 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf., led by Lt. Walter B. Christberg found the farm and the rest of the company converged on the area, encountering only light contact from enemy trail watchers.

"Crops consisting of potatoes, corn, sugar cane, gourds and peppers were found interspersed with the natural undergrowth of the area," said Lt. Christberg. "The produce was impossible to spot from the air and very difficult even on the ground."

Five fields of 15 to 30 acres each were found.

Captain Antonio Munera, B Company commander, noted that "potatoes were found on the hillsides and looked like weeds; sugar cane was scattered along

a creek bed, blending in with the elephant grass; and gourds, peppers and other vegetables were planted indiscriminately all over the area."

It was estimated that the supply point was probably a main depot for NVA between Hue and the A Shau Valley.

Continuing on, the company found a similar setup in which rice was harvested. A number of documents were also found indicating large caches of rice and other supplies.

All of the caches and crops were destroyed.

Teamwork Saves Day For Two

CAMP EVANS — Two Currahees of B Co., 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf. have proven again that a point man and his slack man must develop mutual thinking to be most effective.

Pfc. Bruce Kepler of Buffalo, N.Y., was walking point with his partner, Rickie McDaniel of Leaf, Miss., when Kepler suddenly noticed a large mound of dirt covered with dead vegetation.

No sooner had Kepler finished pointing to the position than the crack of an AK-47 sounded through the jungle.

Reacting on instinct, the 3rd Bde. riflemen returned a heavy volume of automatic weapons fire at the bunker. Then, using the proven Infantry tactic "cover me and move out" Kepler and McDaniel maneuvered toward the bunker.

The smooth, machine-like teamwork enabled the B Co. duo to maneuver and silence the lone NVA.



MISSION IMPOSSIBLE?—Outside the perimeter of Fire Base Nuts, a trooper from the 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf. hacks out a fire lane. Earlier the unit had combat assaulted into the area to secure the base for artillery. (U.S.A. Photo by Spec. 5 E.P. Boice)

Timely Action By Cav. Nets 5 VC

By SPEC. 4 DAVID A. ROSE

CAMP EAGLE — The air-mobility concept of rapid and effective deployment of ground troops has again been demonstrated by troopers of the 101st.

As a result of the perfectly-timed action, members of the 2nd Sqdrn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav. accounted for five Viet Cong killed and three AK-47 assault rifles, two 9mm pistols, medical supplies and several documents captured.

Events which led to the twilight contact began in mid-afternoon when a VC surrendered himself to members of E Co., 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf. who were securing a bridge near Thuy Phu Village southeast of Hue.

Upon his arrival at the Phu Loc District Headquarters Chieu Hoi Center, the rallier claimed he knew where there were seven more VC. He was then taken out in a Light Observation Helicopter and pointed out the location.

Less than eight minutes after the siren had sounded, the Cobra crews were out of the mess hall,

in the air and had flown the eight kilometers to the target area.

The gunships immediately engaged three VC who were seen fleeing the area. Moments later, the aero-rifle platoon was on the ground three hundred meters away and rapidly moving toward the scene while two companies of the 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf. in the vicinity maneuvered to act as a blocking force.

The platoon went into an L-shaped formation with Lt. Bud Quitiquit of Waterford, Mich. leading one element and Sgt. William Smith of Birmingham, Ala. leading the other.

Fifteen minutes after they were inserted the platoon reached a hooch complex. In addition to two bodies which had been dragged back to the complex, two VC were discovered and silenced when they tried to cut down the soldiers as they began to search the area.

Later, a Light Observation Helicopter flown by Capt. Mark Pryor, who was flying support for the blocking force, accounted for the fifth enemy killed.



RELAXES—An "Above the Rest" trooper of the 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf. takes advantage of a short break to catch up on his reading during the reconstruction of Fire Base Nuts. The base was recently reoccupied by 101st troopers during an operation west of Hue. (U.S.A. Photo by Spec. 5 E.P. Boice)

No. 795—A True Vet

LZ SALLY — The Airmobile concept has created a new kind of "veteran" in Vietnam. Aviators now take great pride in flying an aircraft with a long record of combat missions.

The men of Headquarters Aviation Platoon of the 2nd Bde. think they are currently flying one of the true veterans in Vietnam — Light Observation Helicopter No. 795.

Spec. 4 Arthur F. Cagney of Buffalo, N.Y. is crew chief of No. 795 and has been flying in the aircraft since he came in country in December 1968.

"When I was first assigned here," he says, "No. 795 had only flown about 30 hours in

over a month, but since the Division has become Airmobile, our missions have increased greatly."

Some of the 2nd Bde. aviators decided to check on the history of No. 795. Maintenance personnel of B Co., 5th Transportation Battalion (Airmobile) in Phu Bai have confirmed that No. 795 has logged over 1100 hours in the air — the most of any LOH in the Division.

Says Cagney, "We feel that No. 795 is one of us because it broke most of us in to scout ship flying in Vietnam."

In addition to routine scout and courier missions, No. 795 has been used to qualify every 2nd Bde. LOH pilot this year.