



Vol. 1, No. 49

CAMP ENARI, VIETNAM

October 15, 1967

WW II Diversionary Action

'Bullets' Use Decoy Air Assault

VUNG DAT AM — The 1st Brigade's 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, brought smoke on a known enemy observation post near the Ia Drang Valley.

First came the artillery rounds, raining shrapnel. Then gunships followed machine guns clattering and rockets whooshing. Finally came the troop-carrying helicopters through clouds of smoke and the smell of cordite.

When the troop helicopters churned skyward, it looked as though they had actually unloaded men into a landing zone. It was meant to look that way.

In reality, the two troops, who had blocked the doorways of each helicopter on its descent and had hidden in each helicopter mid-section for the ascent, never got on the ground.

Their job was to fool the enemy — to make him think the "Bullets" were landing soldiers when they weren't. It was all part of a diversionary action, more similar to World War II tactics than those of the Vietnamese war.

While this was going on, Lieutenant Colonel John H. Madison

(Colorado Springs, Colo.), battalion commander, was airborne in his command and control helicopter, directing the real set-down of troops from Company C at a different location.

Part of the decoy troops were from the battalion's firebase communication section, headed by Captain Ralph-Peter Kufek (Salem, N.J.), who flew in with the first troop helicopter.

"We looked really mean," said Specialist 4 Cesar C. Guerra (Los Angeles), chief wireman for CPT Kufek's section and one of the decoys.

"I mean we really looked aggressive—like we were ready to kill." Both CPT Kufek and

Private First Class Clyde E. Williams (Detroit) added to the "tough" look of the decoys by firing their M-16s out the doors as their helicopter drew near the landing zone.

"I had the feeling it was a real combat assault," said PFC Williams.

All the decoys were carrying out the orders of Major Jan's L. McDaniel (Medford, Ore.), battalion operations officer.

"Look eager," he had instructed before the fake assault.

"Then with a grin he added, 'Have your rifle in your hand and maybe a leg out the door.'"

Lost 2nd Bde SGM Returns To Rescuers With Gifts Of Thanks

By PFC William Gruber

CAMP ENARI — About three weeks ago, a young Montagnard boy named Ker, from the village of Plei Blang, set out on his bicycle to visit his soldier-brother serving at a nearby village. This routine beginning of an afternoon became the end of a night-long ordeal for Ivy Division's 2nd Brigade sergeant major, SGM Jack Honeycutt (Salisbury, N.C.), as he encountered the boy about six kilometers outside of the village.

On the previous evening, the OH-23 helicopter in which the sergeant major had been riding had gone down. The noncommissioned officer, along with a military policeman and the pilot, was enroute from the brigade's forward base camp, the Oasis, to the unit's command post near Plei Mrong. The chopper crashed in a stream bed nine kilometers west of Pleiku.

While SGM Honeycutt was thrown clear of the wreckage, the other two men were pinned inside. The sergeant major went for help. He encountered three Montagnard villagers north of the craft, and persuaded them to return with him.

As the little group neared the helicopter, they sighted seven Viet Cong in the vicinity of the aircraft. Several attempts to sneak around them proved unsuccessful. With darkness setting in, the sergeant major headed west, away from the VC. He spent the night huddled up beneath the thick underbrush of a hillside.

Eluded VC Patrols

Instead of help, the morning brought heavy rains and low cloud cover. Beginning his trek for aid again, SGM Honeycutt spent the rest of the morning eluding several VC patrols and waving at occasional aircraft, but to no avail.

At about 3 p.m., the sergeant major encountered Ker, who brought him back to Plei Blang. There SGM Honeycutt met the boy's brother, Alum, and a French-speaking Montagnard with whom he was able to converse. They convinced him to stay the night where they could protect him. SGM Honeycutt left the following day and made his way back to Pleiku aided by Ker and Alum. SGM Honeycutt returned to Plei Blang, as he promised Ker, Alum, and the other Montagnards who aided him. Accompanying him was Lieutenant Colonel Harold F. Bentz (Saranac Lake, N.Y.), 4th Infantry Division civil affairs officer, representing the division commander.

To the 340 residents of the village, the American soldiers brought gifts, good will and the promise of continued aid in civic action projects.

Distributed Gifts

"It gives me great pleasure to be here as a representative (Continued on Back Page)

MPs Have Birthday At EM Club

CAMP ENARI — "I have always been impressed with a small number of people who could keep order out of chaos, while remaining in the back-ground."

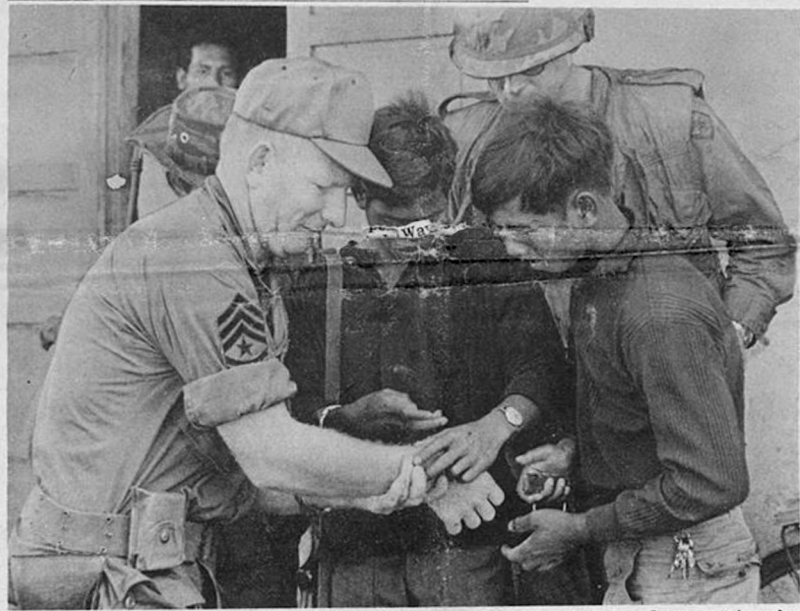
These were the words of Major General William R. Peers, 4th Infantry Division Commander, as he lauded members of the 4th Military Police Company and the entire corps during their recent 26th Anniversary celebration.

Held at the company's new enlisted men's club, the steak dinner event was also attended by Major Tom That Them, chief of Pleiku Province national police, Mr. James B. Pettit, national police advisor corps, Lieutenant Colonel John Holeman (North Augusta, S.C.) division provost marshal, Captain Robert R. Hazellwood (Houston, Tex.), company commander, and members of the 4th MP Company.

"Men of the corps can feel extremely proud of it," General Peers continued. "The MPs have played a leading part in occupations and are still doing a most important and commendable job. On duty night and day, they make significant contributions handling counterinsurgency and various public safety problems."

Commenting on the 4th MP Company, General Peers congratulated them for their ability to handle a situation with bringing credit to their service.

"The 4th MP Company is efficient, effective and maintains (Continued on Back Page)



RESCUERS—SGM Jack Honeycutt (Salisbury, N.C.), Ivy Division's 2nd Brigade sergeant major, receives a Montagnard friendship bracelet from the two young men who aided him during his two-day escape from a downed helicopter. (USA Photo by PFC William Gruber)

After 15 Months

Division Dream Becomes Fact

By SP5 Conrad Clark
CAMP ENARI — A dream visualized about 15 months ago by the men of the 4th Infantry Division, will soon become a reality at Camp Enari. The dream is a snack bar similar to those in the land of the round door knobs.

In July 1966, the first elements of the division arrived in Vietnam and Camp Enari, then known as Dragon Mountain, became their first home away from Ft. Lewis, Wash. The men dreamed of many things to help make living here a little more comfortable, including laundry facilities, showers, barber shops, a post exchange and a snack bar, where one could have a little time to relax. Within a year these things became a reality, all except the snack bar. Now, this last item is no longer

a dream. The Camp Enari Snack Bar, a building 200 by 75 feet, has been constructed by Company D, 4th Engineer Battalion, some 100 feet west of the division's main PX.

Almost Completed
With plans drawn by the division engineers, the building was started many months ago, but due to the weather and lack of materials, construction was delayed.

According to Staff Sergeant Elmer L. Burran (Crockett, Tex.), squad leader, the building is more than 95 per cent completed. "All that is necessary to complete the work is the interior panelling of the ceiling and sides," SSG Burran said.

All electrical work was done by the 20th Engineer Battalion and the plumbing by the Ivy

Division's repair and utilities unit.

Sandwiches And Snacks
A working crew of 20 Vietnamese is leveling the area around the building, which is scheduled to soon be "open for business."

The snack bar, the first of its kind for the division, will be managed by Staff Sergeant Sinclair Patterson (Stamford, Conn.), Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Division. His staff will include from three to five enlisted personnel and 46 local waitresses and attendants.

Seating capacity is 225, and for the present, only sandwiches and snacks will be served. Plans are being made to install a juke box in the building, which will be opened daily, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tankers Get Enemy Kill Mark

CAMP ENARI — A "Black Panther" tank crew recently enjoyed a few cold drinks one afternoon courtesy of Major General William R. Peers, the 4th Infantry Division's commander.

The crew, members of Company B, 1st Battalion, 69th Armor, killed the 1,100th enemy soldier for the Ivy Division during Operation Francis Marion.

The recipients were Staff Sergeant Billy J. Hardwick (Ypsilanti, Mich.), Specialist 5 Arthur Price (Bell, Calif.), Specialist 4 Charles Simons (Anaheim, Calif.) and Specialist 4 Jerry Paulson (International Falls, Wis.).

The tank crew was manning the perimeter of an artillery firebase on Highway 19 when a Viet Cong unit attacked it. During the fire fight, the tankers mowed down 11 of the enemy, pushing the division's tally over the target mark.

Project Silver Star

How To Expedite Holiday Packages

CAMP ENARI—"Neither the faltering monsoon season, Charlie or the North Vietnamese shall deter the men of APO 96262 from carrying out their assigned duties," is the motto of the 4th Division's Army Post Office as it readies for the Christmas rush.

The 1967 Christmas Mail Program, known as "Project Silver Star," began on Oct. 1, and will run through to Dec. 31. It is estimated that 35,200 tons of mail will be received in Vietnam and 23,800 tons will be dispatched out during the 1967 Christmas season.

In response to many inquiries regarding Project Silver Star, United States Army, Vietnam has published a few facts to help military personnel during this 3-month period.

It is suggested that to assure the arrival of packages in time for Christmas, the following dates should be adhered to:

- The latest date to mail packages to CONUS for "early" delivery should be Nov. 1, by surface, Dec. 4 by SAM and Dec. 15 by air mail.
- The latest dates for packages to Hawaii are Nov. 20 by surface, Dec. 4 by SAM and Dec. 15 by air mail.
- The latest dates for packages to Pacific APOs should be Dec. 4 and Dec. 15.
- Packages for New York APOs should be mailed no later than Nov. 1 by surface, Dec. 1 by SAM and Dec. 10 by air mail.

Surface mail is parcels mailed at the fourth class rate that do not qualify for SAM. (Weight limit: 70 pounds; size limit: 100 inches in length and girth combined).

SAM is parcels mailed at the same fourth class rate of postage that do not weigh more than 5 pounds and measure no more than 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM is airlifted on a space available basis.

Air mail parcels may be mailed at the air mail rate of postage with a maximum weight of 70 pounds and 100 inches in length and girth combined.

The length and girth combined is obtained by measuring the longest side of the package for the length and the distance around the widest part to get the girth.

Items that are mailed from APOs must be packed in boxes or containers of metal, wood or good quality fiberboard (at least 275-pound test stock).

When several items are mailed in one package sufficient packing should be placed inside the package to protect the items from one another as well as outside impact. A parcel containing fragile items is not mailable if the contents move when the package is dropped.

Merchandise mailed from APOs in Vietnam into the customs territory of the United States is subject to customs inspection and duty may be collected unless duty free entry is declared by law.

- All parcels mailed at air, surface or parcel post rates of postage must have a customs declaration (POD Form 2966) completed and affixed to the package.
- Articles mailed the first class rate of postage, air and surface, must have a customs declaration (POD Form 2976) completed and affixed to the package.
- An exception to the mailing of packages as above is when an individual is departing from Vietnam on a permanent change of station status. No custom form is required on said package, but the statement "Free Entry Claimed Under Public Law—Movement Orders Inclosed," must be written thereon, and a copy of PCS orders must be placed inside the package.

In regard to bona fide gifts to be sent free of duty by personnel serving in Vietnam—only the first \$50 aggregate retail value in Vietnam can be sent to persons located in the United States customs territory. All parcels mailed under this provision must be indorsed "Bona Fide Gift—\$50 exemption claimed under public law."

Articles which were grown, manufactured or produced in the United States and which, after having been exported, have not been advanced in value or improved in condition, may also be mailed back to the United States free of customs. A properly completed custom form must be attached to the parcel, and the indorsement "Returned U.S. Merchandise" must be written on the form.

Gifts for more than one person may be inclosed in one package, providing that each gift is separately wrapped and the name of the intended recipient is on each gift parcel and it is indorsed "bona fide gift, value not exceeding \$10."



(Circulation 6,000)

IVY LEAF, an authorized weekly publication, is published by the Command Information Division, Office of Information, Headquarters 4th Infantry Division, for 4th Division forces and is printed in Tokyo by Pacific Stars and Stripes.

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of Army. This paper uses facilities of Armed Forces Press File and Armed Forces News Bureau to augment local news. Mailing address: IVY LEAF, Office of Information, Headquarters 4th Infantry Division, APO US, Forces 96262. Telephone: Famous 151 or 159.

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STEADFAST and LOYAL

SILVER STAR

1LT Gary D. Allen, Co B, 1st Bn, 8th Inf.
 SGT Kenneth E. Stumpf, Co C, 1st Bn, 35th Inf
 CPT James W. Lanning, Co C, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 SP4 Rene I. Medina, Trp C, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav

POSTHUMOUS SILVER STAR

SSG David F. Able, Co C, 1st Bn, 14th Inf
 CPT Ambrosio S. Grandea, HHC, 1st Bn, 14th Inf
 SGT James R. Fischer, Co C, 3rd Bn, 8th Inf
 SGT David P. Crozier, Co B, 4th Bn, 503rd Inf, 173rd Abn Bde
 CPT Brian W. Rushton, Co B, 1st Bn, 12th Inf
 SGT William J. Deuerling, Co A, 4th Bn, 503rd Inf, 173rd Abn Bde

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

MAJ John P. Doyle Jr., 155th Aslt Hel Co, 52nd Cbt Avn Bn
 CPT Robert W. Frost, 155th Aslt Hel Co, 52nd Cbt Avn Bn
 MAJ Thomas J. Shaughnessy, D Trp, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav

BRONZE STAR FOR HEROISM

SSG Coy R. Jackson, Trp C, 3rd Sqn, 10th Cav
 SP4 James A. Raymer, Co B, 1st Bn, 14th Inf
 SP4 Sammy G. Peek, Co A, 1st Bn, 12th Inf
 SP4 Joseph W. Slattery, Trp C, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 1LT Danny C. Miller, Co C, 1st Bn, 22nd Inf
 1LT Benjamin F. Maxham, HHC, 2nd Bn (Mech), 8th Inf
 CPT Raymond A. Harton, Hq & Svc, Btry, 6th Bn, 29th Arty
 CPT Robert W. Frost, 155th Aslt Hel Co, 52nd Avn Bn
 SGT Theodore D. Kohn, Co B, 1st Bn, 8th Inf
 SSG Marion A. Wims, HHC, 1st Bn, 12th Inf
 SP4 Norman E. Hansen, Trp D, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 PFC Edward J. McGregor, Co A, 3rd Bn, 12th Inf
 CPT Richard E. Dwinell, Btry C, 2nd Bn, 9th Arty
 1LT Russell E. Chapman, Co B, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 PFC Gur T. Sherohman, Btry A, 2nd Bn, 9th Arty
 PFC William Speckenbach, HHC, 3rd Bn, 12th Inf
 1LT Laurence J. Andrus, Co A, 1st Bn, 22nd Inf
 SFC Felipe Sierra, Co C, 3rd Bn, 12th Inf
 SGT Gary O. Brandt, HHC, 3rd Bn, 12th Inf
 SP4 Leroy Shaffer, Co B, 3rd Bn, 8th Inf
 CPT Fred G. Gehrmann, Trp D, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 SP4 Dennis L. Burger, Co B, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 PFC Joseph J. Doroguzzi, Co A, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 SGT Curtis P. Gay, Co A, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 SGT Roland J. Sager, Co B, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 SP4 Earl R. McDonald, Co B, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 1LT Philip R. C. , HHT, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 PSG Calvin L. Kough, Co C, 3rd Bn, 12th Inf
 MSG James G. Davis, Co B, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 SSG Walter A. Eliceiro, Co B, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 SP4 Stephen R. Heaster, Co A, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf

POSTHUMOUS BRONZE STAR FOR HEROISM

PFC Rene L. Malerz, Co B, 1st Bn, 35th Inf
 SP4 George P. Klaus, Co B, 1st Bn, 14th Inf
 PFC James D. Davenport, Co A, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 SP4 Rodney L. Hoffman, Co A, 1st Bn, 35th Inf
 SGT Curtis R. McLawhorn, Co A, 1st Bn, 14th Inf
 SFC Gerald E. Watkins, HHC, 1st Bn, 35th Inf
 PFC Daniel T. Nutly, HHC, 1st Bn, 14th Inf
 2LT Gaylord E. Nootz, Co B, 1st Bn, 12th Inf
 PFC Harry McLain, HHC, 1st Bn, 14th Inf
 SGT Norbert A. Overkamp Jr., Co C, 3rd Bn, 12th Inf

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

CPT John F. Brandell, HHC, 4th Inf Div
 CPT Charles F. Holl, HHC, 4th Inf Div
 SGT Percy Julian, Co B, 1st Bn, 22nd Inf
 SGT Arlan D. Gable, Trp C, 3rd Sqn, 10th Cav
 SFC Danny R. Bolin, Trp D, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 MSG Edward K. Kea, Trp C, 3rd Sqn, 10th Cav

AIR MEDAL FOR HEROISM

MAJ Arthur G. Conlon, HBB, 4th Div Arty
 1LT Chester A. Hibbert, HBB, 4th Div Arty
 WO1 David E. Helton, 155th Aslt Hel Co, 52nd Cbt Avn Bn
 CWO Kenneth E. Duncan, 155th Aslt Hel Co, 52nd Cbt Avn Bn
 PFC Gerald W. Dornbusch, Trp D, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 WO1 Edward J. Smroka Jr., 155th Aslt Hel Co, 52nd Cbt Avn Bn
 SP4 Ronald M. Haynes, Trp D, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 WO1 John D. Kottler, 155th Aslt Hel Co, 52nd Cbt Avn Bn
 CPT Philip J. Grushetsky, 155th Aslt Hel Co, 52nd Cbt Avn Bn
 CPT Bob T. Watson, Trp D, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 1LT Charles O. Munsch, HBB, 4th Div Arty

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL FOR HEROISM

SP4 Alvin R. Groves, HHC, 1st Bn, 8th Inf
 SSG Clarence Evenson, Co A, 1st Bn, 69th Armor
 SP4 Danny L. Brockert, Co A, 1st Bn, 69th Armor
 1LT Robert T. Flockoi, Btry B, 4th Bn, 42nd Arty
 SP4 Fred J. Burnette, Co A, 1st Bn, 69th Armor
 PFC Richard F. Hunt, Co A, 1st Bn, 69th Armor
 SP5 Emil J. Palos Jr., HHC, 1st Bn, 35th Inf
 SP5 Carl J. Omdahl Jr., Co A, 4th Avn Bn
 SP5 Joseph A. Guerrero, HHC, 1st Bn, 35th Inf
 SP4 Riekey G. Hamilton, Co A, 1st Bn, 69th Armor
 2LT Michael J. Pulaski, Co C, 2nd Bn, 35th Inf
 SGT Samuel C. Hunter, 4th Admin Co, 4th Inf Div
 SP4 Vincent P. Dandurand, HHC, 1st Bn, 12th Inf
 SP4 Anthony R. Garskie, HHC, 1st Bn, 12th Inf
 SGT Robert L. Johnson, 4th Admin Co, 4th Inf Div
 PFC Robert C. Silva Jr., Co A, 1st Bn, 69th Armor
 SGT James R. Bloom, Co B, 1st Bn, 8th Inf
 PFC James R. Cain, Co A, 1st Bn, 69th Armor
 SP4 David L. Bornhoffer, Co A, 4th Avn Bn
 SP4 Gerald W. Sullivan, Trp A, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 SP4 Robert F. Garofalo, Trp A, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 SP4 James L. Kemp, Trp A, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 SP4 Carlton F. Leavitt, Trp A, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 SGT Philip M. Austin, Trp A, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 SGT Leotis Henry, Trp A, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 SP4 Ralph A. Zweng, Trp A, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav
 SP5 Ricardo Rubio, Trp A, 1st Sqn, 10th Cav

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (MAJ)

Leland S. Buckner

Have you ever been driving along the highway, maybe a few months ago but you still remember those days, and had a little "bug" of an automobile come whizzing by and you wondered just what he had under the hood?

Well, this occurred one day while driving along a highway that twisted and turned as it followed a river making its way through the mountains. There were short downgrades, long upgrades and a few level stretches.

Suddenly, on one of the level stretches a rattle and a roar was heard and a little "bug" was rushing past.

For miles it seemed to take great pride and joy in scooting around cars and trucks, and often taking unnecessary chances, but seemingly, wanting to show the bigger cars that it was along for the ride also.

But finally there was a long, long, long upgrade. The parade of cars began to slow down and then to crawl along and almost come to a stop. Getting impatient one wondered what was holding up the traffic. Then as a car or two would pass the slow moving vehicle, it became evident that the little "bug" was no longer zipping along the highway but was roaring, rattling, wheezing and laboring to keep rolling forward and not go backward.

From the sound of it the little car was complaining and protesting with every turn of the wheels that it did not want to go any further. Soon it was our turn and we passed with ease and the little "bug" was far behind.

In some ways that is like life. It is easy to make the roar and the rattle and go whizzing along on the downgrade and maybe even on the level stretches. But it becomes quite a different story when you come to the uphill grind. But it is the steep grades in life that show what mind of material we are made of.

How do we perform on the upgrades?

DA Speeds Applications For Aviator

WASHINGTON (AFPS)—Processing of applicants for warrant officer flight training can be stepped up now by as much as a month or six weeks, a Department of the Army spokesman announced.

Requirement for an examining board for applicants has been replaced by field grade Army aviators interviewing applicants. In the past it sometimes was a period of several weeks before enough applications were received to warrant calling a board for examination. The personal interview will determine leadership potential and pass on qualifications for flight training.

Also, the aptitude test minimum score requirement has been lowered from 115 to 110 and the Flight Aptitude Selection Test composite score requirement has been changed from a minimum of 230 to 250.



JUNGLE REACTION COURSE — 2LT John P. Porter (Everett, Wash.), 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, points out a trip wire on the "Bullet" Battalion's booby trap training course.

(USA Photo by SP4 Wayne Nicholas)

Girls Bring Sunshine To 'Regular Valley'

CAMP ENARI—"I couldn't believe my eyes, they just weren't real!" commented Specialist 4 Dennis Boyd (Westford, Mass.), Company A, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry.

"Man it was just something else!" remarked Specialist 4 Ronald Young (Vallejo, Calif.), also with Company A.

What these battle-hardened "Regulars" were referring to, as they emerged from the hot, sticky jungle after 50 continuous combat operations, were two girls.

The "Regulars'" firebase was treated to a visit by two of the Ivy Division's Red Cross "donut dollies," Miss Ruth Neher (Dollar Bay, Mich.) and Miss Lois Hartington (San Lorenzo, Calif.).

To the "Regulars," the visit of the donut dollies was something very special. Many of these war-weary men had been in the jungle for months on constant search and destroy operations. They had not even heard a girl's enchanting voice, let alone seen one in person. It was indeed a very special visit.

The donut dollies seemed to enjoy themselves as well. Miss Neher commented, "It really made us feel good to be able to help these 'Regulars,' even if it was only just to talk to them. You could see by the smiles on their faces that they were happy to see us and to have a friendly person to talk to and smile back. We gave out little gifts and MARS-GRAMS. It really made our day to see them so happy."

Despite a sudden monsoon downpour, the donut dollies visited from section to section, bringing a little bit of sunshine to a battle tested group of jungle fighters, deep in "Regular Valley."

A Field Special

New CPT Gets Cake

CHU PRONG — Promotions in the field usually entail little more ceremony than a pinning of the new emblem of rank, the congratulations of the commanding officer and the handing down of the promotion orders.

Not, however, in the case of First Lieutenant Richard W. Strimel (Greenbrook, N.J.) receiving his captain's tracks.

When Private First Class John Lindel (Garden Grove, Calif.), a cook with Battery A, 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery attached to the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry, heard that the maintenance officer for the "Panther" battalion was being promoted, he remembered there was some cake mix in the mess hall at the forward fire support base.

The cook decided to bake a cake for the officer. It was to be a surprise, but the soldier-cook had no idea that keeping the cake undercover would be so difficult.

"I was running around all over the mess hall trying to

keep it a secret while 1LT Strimel kept coming by the mess hall for some reason," explained the cook.

The frosting for the cake was made from one of PFC Lindel's spur-of-the-moment recipes. The ingredients were whipped cream, chocolate milk, sugar, and vanilla flavoring.

"The recipe originally called for plain milk, but since we were out of it I had to substitute for it with chocolate milk," explained PFC Lindel.

The decorations were made from Kool-Aid and the words "Captain Strimel" was spelled with candy.

"Hey! You misspelled my name," commented CPT Strimel. "That's OK though. Hardly anyone pronounces it right," added the officer.

CPT Strimel invited several friends to share the cake, among them Lieutenant Colonel John Berres (Washington, D.C.), the battalion commander.

"It was some of the best cake I've ever eaten," commented the "Panther" commander.

At 'Bullets' Firebase

Bn Gets Booby Trap Training

By SP4 Wayne Nicholas

VUNG DAT AM — The jungle trail, just outside the perimeter of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry's firebase, shows 15 ways a careless soldier can kill himself.

Designed by Second Lieutenant John P. Porter (Everett, Wash.), Company C, the trail is a lesson in 15 different booby traps. It combines the ideas of Captain Barney M. Jones (El Dorado, Ark.), company commander, its seasoned Vietnam noncommissioned officers and the "Vietnam Trail" at Ft. Benning, Ga.

The trail begins with a bang—it has a trip wire within a foot of the starting point. The wire is attached to a trip flare, far enough away to be harmless to the soldiers taking the course, but close enough to let them know they just made a mistake.

A few more steps away a shallow stream crosses the trail. If troops step in the middle of the path at this point, they find themselves in deep water. For that's exactly the spot there's a concealed eight-inch deep hole, simulating a punji trap.

Enemy Equipment
The trail has several boxes along the way, and soldiers are graded on how they respond to them. The boxes represent equipment the enemy has left behind. Some are booby trapped with smoke grenades and some aren't.

The highlight of the course is a simulated ambush. Here, cardboard silhouettes pop up on three sides. If soldiers charge the silhouettes, they win a point.

If they decide to make haste down a trail to the left of the artificial ambushers, they run

into a "deadly" dead-end. A thick wire pops up across the trail, with signs reading "mine field."

No Sophisticated Materials
Soldiers take the booby trap course in groups of five. They earn a point for each of the traps they successfully evade or correctly respond to.

"If we get into an area where there is a lot of booby traps, the course should make our men aware they can be booby trapped in many ways, and should teach them there are many devices the enemy can use for his traps," 2LT Porter said.

"It also teaches our soldiers, you don't need sophisticated materials to make a man-killing trap."

The trip along the booby trap path is followed up by classes in disarming, destroying and marking enemy traps.

Btry A, 5th Bn, 16th Arty Fires Ivy Division's First 'Hip Shoot'

By MAJ Vicente De Jesus

CAMP ENARI — From the looks of an artillery battery and its firing procedures, it's not the type of outfit that can fire on the run. On the contrary, the "Redlegs" can really show their stuff in what they call a "hip shoot."

Recently, Battery A, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery, a 155mm self-propelled Howitzer outfit, conducted the first "hip shoot" for 4th Infantry Division's Division Artillery since it has been in Vietnam.

The battery, commanded by Captain Edward Jackson (North Bay, N.Y.), was moving by road from one firebase to another in the Central Highlands when the fire mission call came through.

A brigade long range recon-

naissance patrol had met up with a North Vietnamese force and was in a tight spot. CPT Jackson's unit was in the best position to cover the team.

First Lieutenant Walter Strickland (Clayton, Ga.), battery executive officer, pulled the battery off the road into an open field, set up the firing positions, laid the battery and established the fire direction

center (FDC). To insure safety, the battery's forward element, about 10 kilometers away, computed the firing data for the guns while the small FDC at the gunsite computed the same data to see that there were no errors.

The first rounds were "on the way" within 15 minutes after the first notice of the fire mission was given. The "fire for effect" command was given on the second round.

"There may have been other 'hip shoots' performed by artillery batteries in Vietnam," said Lieutenant Colonel Henry C. Evans Jr. (Alexandria, Va.), battalion commander, "but certainly not one in which fire for effect was attained on the second round."

ARVN Unit Assisting 'Warriors'

PLEIKU — An unusual Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) unit is assisting the Ivy Division's 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry now conducting search and destroy operations in "VC Valley," as part of Operation Francis Marion.

The 14th Reconnaissance Platoon is an ARVN unit with two American advisors. Its job is to gather information regarding communist forces in the Central Highlands.

"We don't command, we just advise," explained Captain Walter Plunkett (San Francisco), advisor to the platoon. He is assisted by Specialist 4 Paul Marshalek (Middletown, Conn.).

"The platoon is led by Master Sergeant Siu Tet. He's been fighting the communists for many years, first for the French and later for the Republic of Vietnam," added CPT Plunkett.

MSG Tet's platoon acts as a reconnaissance element for American and Vietnamese forces in the II Corps area. They are based in Cho Reo in Phu Bon Province.

According to CPT Plunkett, the platoon has been very effective, in all its operations to date. Since the members of the platoon speak only French and Djarai, both Americans have learned to converse fairly well in both languages.

"They show great loyalty to their leader," commented the advisor, "and their fighting ability is outstanding."

Many members of the platoon are former Viet Cong but all have proven themselves as ARVN soldiers.

Medic Starts To Keep Eye On Perimeter

CAMP ENARI—Private First

Class Charles Landis (Wilmington, Del.), a medic, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, had just arrived at "Regulars'" firebase. To him, a firebase was a new and exciting experience, for he was in an area where there were no longer any friendlies, only the enemy. This was PFC Landis' first day in a combat zone—he had reached the front.

PFC Landis was one of a group of "Regulars," picked to secure water from a nearby stream. As the group staved back up the hill towards the firebase, the war for PFC Landis suddenly became very personal.

"I was lugging two heavy five-gallon water cans up the hill," PFC Landis remarked, "when all hell broke loose. I couldn't believe somebody was shooting at me. A few of the shots ripped into a tree only a few feet away, knocking off a branch. I fell to the ground and watched with amazement as the guns from the heavily fortified firebase slammed into the enemy sniper. Needless to say, I was out of breath when I reached the firebase and safety."

A little bit shaken, but much wiser, PFC Landis went about his duties, but with one cautious eye toward the perimeter.

'Broncos' Help Build Church In Duc Pho

DUC PHO — Through the activities of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, spearheaded by Chaplain (CPT) John A. Szilvassy, Duc Pho's small Evangelical Church, which had reached an extremely rundown state after 20 years of Viet Cong rule in the district, has come back to life.

Donations by all the brigade's chaplains have helped the church get on its feet. One of the most valuable contributions has been wood, which is brought in by the trailer load.

Not even the smallest scrap is thrown away as construction seems to be a never ending job. The interior of the church has been remodeled, picket fences border the property and a new parsonage has been built.

Not all the progress has been the result of donations, however, as the church has begun a successful cooperative laundry to provide its own income.

A new well has been constructed to replace an old polluted one and fresh new paint adorns all the buildings.

Refugees have played an important role in the project by working at construction and helping in the laundry. A school on the church grounds will be the next undertaking and promises to be as successful as the church itself has become.



COL GEORGE E. WEAR AND MAJ THOMAS W. WHEAT WATCH "DOLPHINS" FLY BY LZ BRONCO.



A LETHAL "SHARK" GUNSHIP OF THE 174TH AVIATION COMPANY BARES ITS TEETH ABOVE DUC PHO.

The most welcome sight when in contact

174th Aviation Company's

Choppers Perform Above And With Ivy's 'Bronco' Brigade

Story and Photos By 2nd Brigade Information Office
 DUC PHO—Celebrating a rare achievement among combat aviation units, that of having all 28 of its ships mission ready at one time, the 174th Aviation company treated members of the 1st Division's 3rd Brigade to an air show.

Swooping over LZ Bronco, the brigade's tactical command post, with colored smoke pouring from the helicopters, the pilots of the 174th displayed the flying abilities that have given the "Bronco Brigade" such fine air support in five months of combat operations near Duc Pho.

Since the arrival of both units at LZ Bronco, in southern Quang Ngai Province, the 174th has flown over 13,000 hours. More than 9,000 troops and over 3,000 tons of cargo have been resupplied efficiently.

In addition to routine resupply missions, the "Dolphin" slicks and "Shark" gunships have taken part in 23 combat assaults, 133 fuel extractions and have been credited with over 100 enemy killed in action.

Prior to teaming up with the 3rd Brigade, the 174th had already established an enviable record in support of Republic of Korea and Army of the Republic of Vietnam units, and the 101st Airborne Division's 1st Brigade.

Formed at Ft. Benning, Ga., in late 1965, the 174th, now commanded by Major Thomas W. West (Scott, Ark.), arrived at Qui Nhon in April of the following year.

In June 1966 the gun platoon was granted permission to use the famous hard-tooth of General Claire Chennault's "Flying Tigers" on the front of its choppers. Thus was born the "Shark" gunships.

Eight "Sharks" and 20 "Dolphins" presently make up the 174th Aviation company which, among its other achievements, logged an amazing 6,319 hours between July 15 and Sept. 15 of this year.

"The continuous daily support provided the 'Bronco' Brigade by the 174th is unequalled in Vietnam," commented Colonel George E. Wear, 3rd Brigade commander.



A "DOLPHIN" SLINGS A LOAD OF FUEL TO RESUPPLY TANKS WORKING WITH THE 3RD BRIGADE.



"BRONCO" BRIGADE IVYMEN CHARGE FROM A "DOLPHIN" DURING A COMBAT ASSAULT.



A "SHARK" GUNNER FIRES A BURST FROM HIS M-60 AT VC GUERRILLAS.



HELICOPTERS OF THE 174TH AVIATION COMPANY FLY IN PRECISION ASSAULT FORMATION.

Cavalry CO On The Go Keeping Tanks Rolling Without Trouble

By PFC Ralph Springer

VUNG DAT AM — The rotor blades were churning furiously, grabbing at the air as the pilot banked the helicopter into a lazy arc over a tree-dotted hill.

Lieutenant Colonel Charles Heiden (Elkton, Mich.), commanding officer of the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, searched the hill area thoroughly while listening to the voices coming through his radio headset.

Far from being desk-bound, LTC Heiden was up in his command helicopter listening to the report of a 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry unit that was scouring the hill for signs of enemy activity. After the situation below was appraised, LTC Heiden radioed down a set of follow-up instructions, switched frequencies to talk to his pilot and then the helicopter glided up from its circling pattern and churned eastward towards the Cambodian border.

"I have an armored unit traveling from Duc Co," the colonel's voice announced through the static from the intricate radio equipment that was aboard the helicopter. "There's some thick terrain out there. Let's check it out."

Spots Mines

Periodically, Captain J.B. Holeman (Sturgis, Kan.), assistant operations officer, would twist a knob or finger a switch, making changes in the radio that filled the floor of the helicopter.

The helicopter flew over tank-studded Cavalry Hill, over the stretch of dreary bunkers and towering cannons that make up the special forces camp at Duc Co and finally out over rolling, paddy-marked country where a column of M-48A3 medium range tanks plunged through forests and thick bush.

"Mines," explained the colonel

seeing the tanks struggle through the brush. "That road down there is probably full of them. Can't take any chances so we have to go cross-country."

The chopper was circling easily over the struggling tracks as the colonel scanned the immediate area, picking an easier and more open path for the column. "I can see perfectly up here," he said. "Down there, they can only see a few meters in front of them."

Airborne Director

"Make a hard left now," the easy-going commander radioed to the lead tank. "Another 25 meters and you'll be clear of the rough stuff." The helicopter continued to swirl around and around while the tanks switched directions.

Two armored personnel carriers that were bouncing along on the right flank of the main column as security apparently misunderstood the change of direction. They cut right and continued in the opposite direction across rows of flooded rice paddies.

"Mama," LTC Heiden called down to the command tank, "two of your kittens are getting lost." The 11-ton "kittens," as the colonel calls the APCs, were widening the distance.

"Let's go down and straighten them out," he told his pilot. The helicopter swooped down and skimmed towards the run away APCs, landing skids barely missing the flashing tree-tops below. As the lost tracks loomed closer, LTC Heiden leaned past his door-gunner and waved his arms frantically, pointing towards the right direction as the chopper roared by. The cavalrymen below waved back, shook

their heads in understanding, circled around and started churning back to link up with the main column.

LTC Heiden looked down with satisfaction as the tiny dots below began crawling again. "That's all we can do," he said over the ship's intercom. "Let's go back." The helicopter made one last pass over the tanks and then climbed into the sky for the short run home.

'Warrior' Uses Arty As Muffler

PLEIKU — A 4th Infantry Division soldier that became separated from his unit recently used the sound of incoming artillery fire to cover his movements back to his platoon.

The man fell behind when his squad of the Reconnaissance Platoon, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry ran back to their platoon perimeter after making contact with a large enemy force during Operation Francis Marion.

"An enemy bullet grazed my helmet and it knocked me down," explained Private First Class Gary J. Lewallen (Phoenix, Ariz.). "I rolled into some bushes and checked myself. I was okay but by the time I had caught my breath the squad had already made it in."

"I saw at least 15 of them moving toward me but then the artillery started coming in," the Ivyman continued. "Each time it would hit, I would crawl uphill away. The only trouble was I wasn't too sure just where we were."

"After awhile I heard an M-60 machine gun lid close so I shouted. Someone answered back and I got up and ran on in," explained PFC Lewallen.

'Bronco' PFC Packs Living C-4 With Him

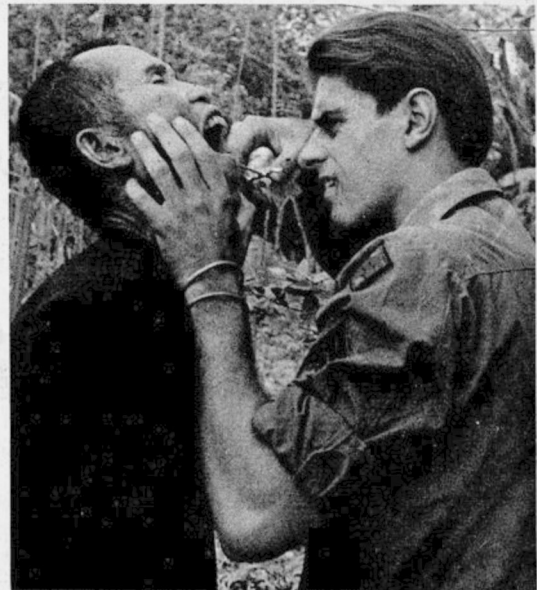
DUC PHO — Wherever you find Private First Class Robert M. Cox, a radio operator, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, you will most likely find "C-4," a small dog that the infantryman packs around in a sack.

"His name varies somewhat from day to day," related a comrade of PFC Cox, "but C-4 seems like it will stick. I guess that's because he's not much bigger than a stick of the explosive C-4."

Asked why he carries the dog in a sack, PFC Cox pointed out that, "All he can do is eat and sleep and sometimes he eats so much that he just can't walk!"

C-4 earns his keep as a miniature scout dog, as he cries and becomes edgy when he senses a stranger in the area.

It may be a dog's life for the infantrymen of Company D, but for C-4 it is anything but that with his own personal taxi and all the food he can eat from the Ivyman of the 3rd Brigade.



OPEN WIDE! — SGT Lucien Blanchette (Walnut Creek, Calif.), of the "Bronco" Brigade's civil affairs section, extracts a tooth belonging to a Vietnamese villager during a Medical Civic Action Project mission. (USA Photo by SP4 Eric Schmidt)

Hill 451 Is Officially Designated As Fort Apache By 'Bullets'

By SP4 Wayne Nicholas

VUNG DAT AM — Hill 451, west of the special forces camp at Duc Co, came to be known as "Fort Apache" and the men of the 1st Brigade who occupied the hill, put up a sign to that effect.

The 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, sent a mortar squad to the hill's summit to provide support for its line companies in the valley below.

From the start, the mortar crew, headed by Specialist 4 Robert D. Jella (Rolla, Mo.), saw suspected enemy activity. Soon the crew was drawing

sniper fire and had spotted two North Vietnamese observation posts.

Under the leadership of Second Lieutenant Charles S. Newman (Marysville, Tenn.), two reconnaissance squads reinforced the mortar crew.

Angry Fire Replies

The night of their arrival more movement and lights were spotted. The lieutenant set off a hand flare.

Angry rifle fire cracked a reply to the flare and, within minutes, North Vietnamese mortars were whooping into the camp.

When mortars stopped bursting, the enemy's rifles resumed their barking.

This time the North Vietnamese rifle fire was accompanied by a new sound—the swish of arrows.

Sailing Arrows

One arrow plunked into a bunker sandbag just above the heads of 2LT Newman and SP4 Jella. Another sank into a sandbag to their left. Four more arrows landed about two feet in front of them.

As 2LT Newman crawled from bunker to bunker checking on his men and seeing how their ammunition was holding up, a fog added to the dreamlike quality of the battle. Artillery was called on the enemy's positions.

Then, according to SP4 Jella, the fog became so thick that both besieged and besieger could see no more than three feet in front of them. An hour after it had begun, the battle broke off.

When 2LT Newman radioed his report of the action back to his battalion, his superiors asked him to repeat his description of what had shot at him.

The "Fort Apache" sign was erected above the entrance to the camp and Ivyman started referring to 2LT Newman as "General Custer."

"My men kept asking me to send for a gattling gun and cavalry mounts," the lieutenant remarked.

Marine Visits Ivy Brother For A Meal

VUNG DAT AM — A hard bitten Marine, fresh from the war-torn demilitarized zone (DMZ), recently encountered an equally hard-nosed Ivyman at the "Regulars" fire support base. The ensuing back slapping was anything but a fight.

Private First Class Marion Chism (Winchester, Ky.), Company D, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, was paid a surprise visit by his brother, Marine Sergeant Ronald Chism (Winchester, Ky.), HQ Battalion, HQ Company, 3rd Marine Division, Phu Bai.

SGT Chism remarked, "I hadn't seen my brother in over a year and since I'm heading home, I thought I would drop in and surprise him."

PFC Chism commented, "Surprise me was right! I was out humping the thick jungle in a sweep with Company D. I was told to standby for a chopper pickup and to report back to the firebase. I was a little perplexed at first, but when I saw Ron back at the firebase things were just great!"

PFC Chism invited his brother to an Army meal prepared by the "Regulars'" cooks.



AMMO POUCH PUP—C-4, the little pup in the ammunition pouch, is the pet of PFC Robert Cox, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, who leads a dog's life with the men of the Ivy Division near Duc Pho. (USA Photo by SGT Allan Hyman)



EVERY DAY IS SUNDAY—Chaplain (CPT) John A. Salvary (Granite City, Ill.) conducts a worship service for Iyvmen at a lonely engineer outpost north of Duc Pho where the Ivy Division's 3rd Brigade is operating. (USA Photo by SGT Allan Hyman)

Two NVA By Body Count

'Panthers' Find Enemy Camp

By SP4 Steve Frye
CHU PRONG — An opening in the brush covering a mountain trail recently cost two

North Vietnamese soldiers their lives during Operation Francis Marion in the Chu Prong Mountains.

The 3rd Platoon of Company A, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry was patrolling an area in the Chu Prong Mountains, some 15 kilometers northwest of Pleiku. As the men hacked their way through the thick mountainous terrain they came upon a NVA outpost.

There were fresh trails leading to and from the outpost. Second Lieutenant James Morrison (Brooklyn, N.Y.), platoon leader, set up a hasty perimeter and sent the first squad to check out one of the trails leading to an intermittent stream at the base of the mountain.

Staff Sergeant Cecil Horton (Leesville, La.), squad leader, found caves in which the enemy had slept the night before. There were beds in the caves woven from fresh palm leaves.

Anxiously Waited
The rest of the platoon waited anxiously as the report of SSG Horton's finding came over the radio. The NVA were close by. Private First Class John E. Sala (Laytonville, Calif.), grenadier, spotted two NVA through an opening in the brush which covered a trail leading to the outpost.

"They were carrying rucksacks and wearing plastic helmets," said the alert Iyvmen.

The NVA fell as PFC Sala opened up on them with his M-79 grenade launcher.

The platoon leader, 1LT Morrison sent out a call for the first squad to return to the perimeter. The squad returned without receiving fire. A few minutes later, the platoon received automatic weapons fire from the nearby brush.

Spotted Flashes
Artillery support was on the way as three enemy mortar rounds landed outside the perimeter. Then the enemy only fired when the artillery landed so as to conceal their position. Private First Class Delbert Cole (Monroe, Mich.) spotted muzzle flashes. Three rounds hit a log in front of the machine gunner. PFC Cole returned fire in the direction of the flashes.

"I don't know if he hit anybody, but the firing ceased," commented 1LT Morrison.

The enemy had fled. The rest of Company A joined the platoon. Darkness was nearing so the company set up its night location.

Everyday Is Sunday When Ivy Chaplains Make Their Rounds

By SP4 Wayne Nicholas

VUNG DAT AM — It doesn't matter what day it really is. When the chaplain comes, it's Sunday.

The 1st Brigade's four chaplains, carrying with them a field combat kit which unfolds into a portable altar, show up any place the brigade has men stationed — at the command post, at a forward firebase or in the jungles.

They arrive at the jungle camps on a company's resupply day, which might be a Sunday or any other day of the week. "But as far as the men are concerned, whenever we show up, it's Sunday," claimed Chaplain (Major) George V. Reswick (Hopewell, N.J.), the brigade chaplain.

It's a common sight to see men hack out a jungle clearing then sit atop their helmets to listen to a sermon. Often the chaplains stay a few days with a company on a mission "to get to know the men better."

Always Available

Chaplain Reswick says that by the chaplains going every place the 1st Brigade's men go, the individual soldier is shown

in a symbolic way that "wherever he goes, God goes with him."

The chaplains' days are very long. "Can't sleep," is a usual phrase a soldier uses to launch a late night conversation over at the chaplain's tent.

Also, the clerics make themselves available any time of day or night when a helicopter, carrying sick or wounded, arrives. They are often found at a medical aid station helping to carry a stretcher or holding a bottle of blood plasma — in between comforting the patients.

Three of the four brigade chaplains are Protestant, and the other is Roman Catholic. They all try to provide a religious program for every company and battery in the brigade.

Will Remain Close

Average weekly attendance is between 600 and 700 men though at times as many as 1,300 have worshipped at 1st Brigade services during a seven-day period. When the age bracket (18 to 25) of those attending the services is considered, this is a "significantly higher" attendance than can be found in stateside civilian life, according to Chaplain Reswick.

By keeping religion alive under wartime conditions, Chaplain Reswick says he believes many soldiers are able to retain their faith when they return to civilian life. Others are able "to obtain" a faith for the first time.

"Many will remain close to the church when they go home, and those who haven't been close to it when they came here, often are brought within the church," the chaplain explained.

Although the chaplaincy is an extension of the civilian ministry, there are differences, according to Chaplain Reswick.

"People seem more concerned about the religious aspects of life in a combat zone," the chaplain noted. "In many cases, the chaplain is the only person the men have to talk to. Consequently, there is more counseling on religious, personal, and marital problems."

And this need seems to make any day a Sunday when the chaplain's around.

A BAD DAY

VUNG DAT AM—Everybody has a miserable day once in a while. Some are worse than others.

The 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry, recently uncovered a North Vietnamese rocket mortar which apparently had been pierced by a bullet from a sharp-shooting soldier of the 1st Brigade.

"The bullet really exploded it," commented Colonel Richard H. Johnson (Beaumont, Tex.), brigade commander, at a recent staff briefing.

"So whoever was carrying it must have had a bad day."

'Regular' Lieutenant Is Only At The Beginning

By SP4 James Doyle
CAMP ENARI—Second Lieutenant Edward A. Barry (Bethesda, Md.) graduated from Walter Johnson High School (Rockville, Md.) in June 1965. Now, two years later, he is leading a platoon of Iyvmen through the leech infested jungles of Vietnam's Central Highlands.

Lieutenant Barry is assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry. His mission: search for and destroy the enemy.

The lieutenant was sitting on a C-ration case, his eyes showed the strain of many sleepless nights. His once clean uniform was now caked and stained with the muddy red clay that coats everything, turning it a dull red.

His pack, which weighed close to 80 pounds, was momentarily released from his tired back and lay before him on the muddy red ground. Beads of perspiration trickled down his face and dropped onto his shirt. He welcomed this five-minute break just as much as his men did.

"War in the Central Highlands to me, is one hill after another," commented 2LT Barry. "You move very slowly, at times hacking your way through the thick jungle with machetes. Sometimes the canopy, or trees overhead, is so dense you can't see the sky."

"Besides the enemy, there are the ground leeches that appear everywhere. Nobody escapes picking up at least one or two leeches as you move through the jungle. When they drop off, you have an ugly round sore, about the size of a dime. Sometimes these sores take weeks to heal and often become infected."

The short break was over, and 2LT Barry signaled his men to move out. He slipped into the harness of his heavy pack, adjusted the straps, picked up his M-16 and moved out.

Lieutenant Barry has only been in Vietnam a few weeks, but already he has learned the brutal facts of jungle warfare. He will climb countless hills, ford numerous streams and cross many rice-paddies before his tour is through. For 2LT Barry, this is only the beginning.

Squad-Sized Patrol Finds Enemy Squad

CAMP ENARI — A squad-sized patrol from Company B, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry spotted a North Vietnamese Army squad on a mountain trail and the result was two enemy dead and one AK-47 assault rifle captured.

"We went around the edge of a hill and found a trail," explained Private First Class Carroll Swenney (Babson Park, Fla.), the patrol's radio operator. "Near where we got on the trail there was a pile of bamboo shoots that they'd cut. We stopped to call in a report and we saw them coming up the trail. They were about 50 meters from us. We put out a burst of M-16 fire and caught them absolutely by surprise."

"I don't know how we saw them before they saw us," added Specialist 4 Danny P. Hartel (Chico, Tex.), leader of the patrol. "I thought for sure we got at least three of them but we could only find one body."

Items in the dead NVA soldier's pack provided useful intelligence. The AK-47 was found next to the body. A patrol sent out the following morning discovered a second NVA body near the first. It had been stripped of all equipment during the night.

Ex-DJ Still Belts Out Big Sounds

VUNG DAT AM — Sergeant Bennie Durham (Buffalo, N.Y.) is playing a different type of music these days.

SGT Durham, "Sweet Daddy B" to his radio listeners in Buffalo, is crew chief on a flame-belching 4.2-inch mortar with Troop B, 1st Battalion, 10th Cavalry.

As a civilian, SGT Durham had his own four-hour show on radio station WUFO. Sweet Daddy played soul, jazz and rock 'n roll music but he's still putting out some sweet music in the Central Highlands with his big mortar.

"I don't think Charlie digs the noise I put out with this unit," SGT Durham said, gesturing towards the ominous-looking tube pointed skyward. "If he's around and my music gets to him, chances are he won't be listening anymore."

SGT Durham began reading his mortar for another fire mission he and the other mortarmen of Troop B were engaged in. The target was a low range of hills which had been under observation for several weeks.

"I can put a round right in Charlie's rucksack if he's up there," the sergeant said proudly. "The way we've been hitting that hill, I doubt if there's anything left now."

With prior Army service in Germany in a 106mm recoilless rifle unit, SGT Durham adapted well to the thundering mortar.

"I was supposed to go to Saigon to get some foreign broadcasting experience but a change in my orders landed me here," the lanky sergeant said. "It has been interesting working with this weapon over here but I still want to get back to WUFO and start putting out some more soul sounds."

New APCs Show Wear In Just One Week

By PFC Ralph Springer

VUNG DAT AM — A week ago it arrived in the Central Highlands its green flanks and brilliant white stars clean and shining.

Now, seven days later, the once-new M-113A1 armored personnel carrier sat forlornly in a dense thicket near Duc Co, mud-caked and scratched, the Army star faded and chipped, recent encounters with trees and brush scarring its paint.

"A week rumbling through this stuff," Private First Class Gregg Ferry (Cinnaminson, N.J.) said, pointing to the wilderness around him, "will turn any type of new equipment into a veteran."

PFC Ferry, the driver of the squat APC was sitting behind a 50-cal. machine gun, providing area security while the other members of Troop B, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry were firing on a suspected enemy emplacement.

"I was trained as a tanker," he said, "but when I arrived here, I was assigned to the APCs. These are a lot more fun to drive, more maneuverable and I enjoy working with these little jobs."

The 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry recently received several new personnel carriers with 215-horsepower diesels replacing the old model V-8 Chrysler tracks. Designed as an all-purpose vehicle, the amphibious APC is equally at home on land or water. The 11-ton personnel carrier can carry a rifle squad into battle but is most often used to provide route and convoy security on Highway 19, security at Cavalry Hill, and as flank guard when an armored column is traveling overland.

"Thick mud is about the only thing that will slow it down," PFC Ferry said. "So we usually try and follow the bigger tracks and let them blaze a trail for us."

The APC is a well-equipped fighter. In addition to the heavy 50-cal. machine gun, there are M-60 machine guns mounted on each side plus the usual complement of small arms.

That little black object on the front of the APC? "We really use that," he added. "It's a horn to keep the village kids off the road when we come rolling through."



FIRE MISSION—Men of Troop B, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry plot 4.2-inch mortar firing while the Ivy Division unit moves near Duc Co on Operation Francis Marion. (USA Photo by PFC Ralph Springer)

Former Groom Now 'Regular' Infantryman

CAMP ENARI — If the Army ever decides to reactivate the pony soldier in Vietnam, Private First Class Gregory Twyman (Charleston, W. Va.) will be "back in the saddle again."

Prior to entering the Army, PFC Twyman, Reconnaissance Platoon, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, was a professional groom working with thoroughbred race horses.

PFC Twyman remarked, "I began my career in the 'Sport of Kings' as a 'hot walker.' That is, I used to walk the hot sweaty horses in order to cool them down after they had completed a hard run race."

As he cleaned his M-16 on his sandbag bunker, PFC Twyman continued, "As a groom I reported to the stable area at 4:30 a.m. to begin my daily routine. This usually consisted of bandaging and unbandaging the legs of the horses assigned to me, feeding, walking and getting 'tack' ready for the exercise boy."

When asked if he planned to return to his former profession, PFC Twyman beamed with a wide grin and twinkling eyes

asserting, "Once you taste the life of the track, it just gets in your blood. Your heart pounds a little quicker every time you see a fine looking horse pass by. I hope someday, to buy my own horse and train him myself."

With that, PFC Twyman gathered up the spottles pieces of his M-16 and giving them the same tender loving care he would a Kentucky Derby winner, reassembled his weapon.

Engineers Build LZ On Wooded, Rocky Terrain

CHU PRONG — The thickly wooded and rocky mountains of Chu Prong, northwest of Pleiku, present numerous problems when its time for a resupply landing zone to be cleared. Such was the case recently when Company A, 2nd Battalion (Mech.), 8th Infantry was patrolling an area in that vicinity.

The company was set up for the night on one of the mountains north of the battalion fire

He Hates Drilling

Dental Officer Suggests Care

VUNG DAT AM — Captain William Hawkins (San Diego) would be a popular officer with Army trainees. He hates drilling.

CPT Hawkins is the 1st Brigade's dental officer working with Company B, 4th Medical Battalion. Drilling and filling,

polishing and cleaning teeth is an important and unfortunately necessary part of his job.

"I'd rather develop an efficient preventive dentistry program," CPT Hawkins said, "than repair the badly neglected teeth that are too common here. If men would take better care of their teeth everyone would benefit."

CPT Hawkins, who holds a degree in dental surgery from University of California, works in a small but well equipped mobile field dental clinic. A field dentist's chair sits prominently in the middle of the floor with all the familiar and essential drills, mirrors, floor lamps and medicines grouped around it.

"I can handle all dental problems except oral surgery, major dental repairs and fabrication," CPT Hawkins explained. "Most frequently I deal with cavity fillings and repairing of broken plates, but I have encountered severe emergency cases, usually abscesses or painful extractions."

CPT Hawkins and his dental assistant, Specialist 4 Ed Burns (Jacksonville, Fla.) average about 10 patients a day. Many Ivy men, rotating home in August, stopped by the clinic to have their teeth cleaned. That month 420 men were helped.

"A year in Vietnam is hard on teeth," CPT Hawkins explained. "Infrequent brushing due to field conditions will almost always cause permanent problems. Many men in the field are using their toothbrushes on their weapons instead of their teeth so I recommend taking along two brushes."

"If there are no facilities for brushing your teeth, at least rinse your mouth out after eating," CPT Hawkins advised. "A little time spent on personal hygiene will save you a lot of trouble and pain."

MPs . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

an esprit de corps and unit integrity as exemplified by this beautiful club," he added. "I expect these people to be the model of the division as far as decorum goes."

Concluding, General Peers thanked the men for the job they are doing for the division, for Vietnam and for their country.

LTC Holeman then presented General Peers with a "billy club" making him an honorary MP. "May I say that I hope I never have to use it," quipped the general.

support base. Resupplies were to come the next day and there was no possible site for the landing zone.

Staff Sergeant Ray Finley (Tacoma, Wash.) and his squad of engineers from the 4th Engineer Battalion brought on the explosives. There were numerous trees to be blown, but that wasn't the only problem. There were huge rocks all over the place which would also prevent choppers from landing safely. SSG Finley and his men worked building a platform from the blown trees.

Late afternoon arrived and the helicopter landed on the LZ with the supplies. As SSG Finley watched the chopper land, he remarked, "That's my boys. She works like a charm."

SMG Returns To Village . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

of our commanding general," the officer told the assembled villagers through an interpreter. "These Americans came here today to thank two men of your village for helping SGM Honeycutt a few weeks ago. It shows that all of us in Vietnam are friends and are working for a friendly, free and peaceful Vietnam."

Describing the gifts as food, soap, tobacco and school sup-

plies, LTC Bentz added that a new national flag was brought to replace the village's torn and faded banner. He also announced that he would consult with the village chief to determine what could be done to aid the village.

SGM Honeycutt, flanked by the two young boys that aided him, then repeated his gratitude to the entire village.

"I was tired and hungry after two days of no sleep or food," he said, "and you people helped

me. I am grateful and my country is grateful for what you have done."

The sergeant major presented Ker and Alum each with a new wristwatch. The boys offered Montagnard friendship bracelets in return. Large boxes of supplies were also presented to heads of each of the 40 families in the village. At the same time, a doctor treated some 40 people while engineers inspected the village for areas in need of improvement.

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