



IVY LEAF

FAMOUS FOURTH

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CHANGE OF COMMAND

Major General Arthur S. Collins Jr. and Sergeant Major Thomas J. Tobin pin green tabs and division crests on the shoulders of Major General William R. Peers, new commander of the 4th Infantry Division, during the change of command ceremony January 3 at Dragon Mountain Airfield. General Collins, commander of the 4th Division since 1965, has been appointed to a new position at the Pentagon. (USA Photo by SSgt. William J. Whitis)

IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE

3rd Bde Sets Up New Base Camp

Dau Tieng — The 4th Division's 3rd Brigade is now situated in Binh Duong Province, 45 miles northwest of Saigon, where no other American force has ever set

up a permanent base camp before.

The move began November 19 with convoys making the 80-mile trip from Camp Martin Cox practically on a daily basis until the move was successfully completed in the middle of last month.

More than 575 vehicles were used, many from the 4th Supply and Transportation Battalion, during the massive move.

Excluding a few units presently at forward command posts, the entire brigade has established its camp on the fringe of the Michelin rubber plantation near the tiny hamlet of Dau Tieng.

When Operation Attleboro began routing the Viet Cong from the area, the 1st Infantry Division made temporary camps in the Dau Tieng vicinity, but left when the operation ended.

The successful operation, which also included the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry of the 4th Division,

and units from the 25th Infantry Division and 196th Light Infantry Brigade, netted more than 1,000 VC dead and pulled in one of the largest enemy rice supplies of the war.

HAS GOOD CANDIDATE

Ivyman Awaits Approval Of Plan To Draft Women

Dragon Mountain—Would you believe that Specialist 5 Harold (Harry) R. LeMarr of Portland, Ore., credits his former mother-in-law with helping him attain his present position with the 4th Infantry Division.

"It began six years ago," the 4th Administration Company's motor sergeant told a group of friends during an after-dinner conversation in the mess hall.

"I was working as a copilot for one of the major airlines in the States. Not bad money, either," he continued. "Things were going

2nd, 3rd Brigade Forward Areas Hit By Mortar

(MACV) — Forward base camps of the 4th Infantry Division's 2nd and 3rd Brigades were hit by enemy mortar attacks during the past week.

The 3rd Brigade area, located 64 kilometers northwest of Saigon in Binh Duong Province, received 27 rounds of 82mm mortar fire Tuesday between 3:27 and 3:33 a.m.

The brigade employed counter-mortar fire. There were light friendly casualties and light equipment damage.

The 2nd Brigade's forward area, located 40 kilometers west of Pleiku City in Pleiku Province, sustained an estimated 40 rounds in a 15-minute barrage that started at 8:15 p.m. January 3.

Ivymen returned fire with unknown results. Friendly casualties were light.

Units of the brigade are participating in Operation Paul Revere V which was initiated January 1.

The new operation has netted 11 suspects and aircraft have flown 76 sorties in support of ground troops.

The number of enemy dead in the 1st Brigade's Operation Adams in Phu Yen Province now stands at 174.

Ivymen from the Famous Fourth's 1st have captured 109 prisoners and 1119 suspects since the battalion-size operation began October 26. Eighty-four individual and one crew-served weapons have been seized.

Air Force, Army and Navy pilots have flown 147 sorties in support of the ground forces.

Friendly casualties in both Adams and Revere V continue to be light.

Camp Holloway Airfield, located four kilometers east of Pleiku City, was attacked by an unknown size enemy force with mortar fire and a coordinated ground assault early last Saturday morning.

The enemy penetrated to the center of Holloway Airfield, placed satchel charges and threw grenades at bunkers.

An estimated 207 82mm mortar rounds landed in the eastern and central portions of the airfield during the 20-minute barrage.

Friendly casualties were light and there was light damage to equipment and aircraft and moderate damage to structures.

Memorial Service Honors Fallen 1/12th Soldiers

Dragon Mountain — Fallen soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, were honored by their comrades at a recent memorial service.

The ceremony at the Special Services parade field honored the men of the "Red Warrior" Battalion who were killed while participating in Operations Paul Revere III and IV.

Chaplain (Major) Howard T. Lee, 2nd Brigade chaplain, and Chaplain (Captain) Max W. Wilk, from the 1/12th, officiated at the service. Lieutenant Colonel James R. Lay, battalion commander, delivered the eulogy.

A 1/12th honor guard fired a 21-gun salute to the memory of the Ivymen. The playing of "Taps" by the 4th Infantry Band, under the direction of the Chief Warrant Officer William F. Ramsay, concluded the ceremony.

4th Medical Bn Patients, Personnel View Floor Show

Tuy Hoa — Hospital personnel and patients of Company B, 4th Medical Battalion, celebrated New Year's Day with an international floor show.

The show was held outdoors opposite the company's mess hall. Featured entertainers were Maggie Bowra, a "pop" vocalist from Australia, Jane Collins, an exotic dancer from the United States and a three-piece band from the Philippines.

Gen. Wheeler Briefed On 4th's Operations

Dragon Mountain — General Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was briefed on operations of the 4th Infantry Division Monday at Dragon Mountain.

General Wheeler, on his eighth visit to Vietnam, is on a week-long tour of U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps units and activities.

In the general's party are Daniel Z. Henkin, director of operations for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs; Colonel John H. Elder Jr., executive to the director; and Colonel Alan C. Edmunds, staff member.

Supply Sergeant For 5/16th Battery Is 'Wheeler-Dealer'

Dragon Mountain — "It's just a matter of keeping people supplied with what they need," says Staff Sergeant Eiko Holzinger (Bridgeton, N. J.), supply sergeant for Headquarters Battery, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery, in reference to his duties with that unit.

"You might call me a 'wheeler-dealer,'" he says, "but I provide for my men."

Sergeant Holzinger jokingly calls himself a "wheeler-dealer" because of his practice of bartering with other supply sergeants to obtain materials he lacks.

"We arrived in Vietnam in mid-September and thanks to advance planning, encountered few obstacles regarding supply and equipment. We did find ourselves short a few items," says the sergeant, "primarily nails. But we managed to get hold of them."

When men of the unit arrived in Vietnam, they found cots and shelter waiting for them because the unit's supply section was completely operational. Shortly afterwards, the men were provided with wooden floors and frames for their tents.

"Our unit was the first to provide such facilities for its men," boasts the sergeant. "We've now got an effective equipment turn-in program, and a complete laundry service for the men. Our plans call for a constantly improving service," he concluded.

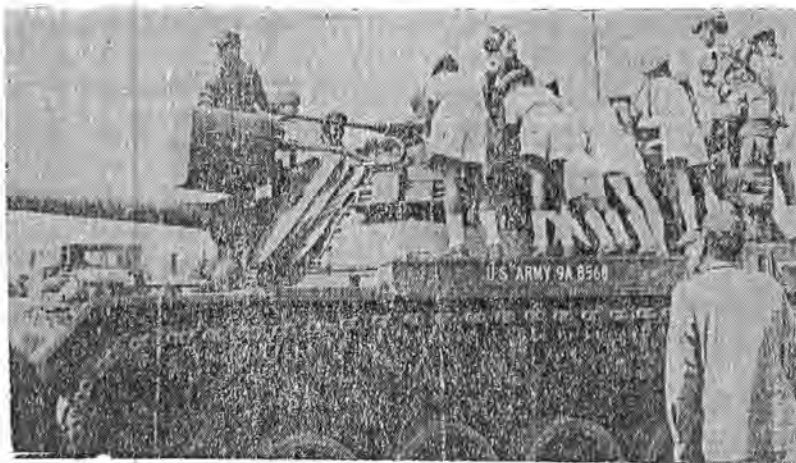
Tiger Poses Problem For Trio From I/22nd

Plei Djereng — Operation Paul Revere IV had the enemy running for shelter with every sighting of American troops. One night during the operation, however, a stalemate took place.

Sergeant Harold L. Simons (Orlando, Fla.), Private First Class Barney L. Moore (Jackson, Tenn.) and Private First Class Michael L. Miner (Kellogg, Idaho), all of Company A, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, moved forward of their unit's position near Plei Djereng and set up a listening post.

To their front lay a deep ravine. To their right, the only escape route for the three soldiers if they were attacked.

After hours of listening, watching and waiting the trio spotted a platoon-size enemy element sneaking into the ravine.



GEE WHIZ — Students of the Highland Junior Military Academy peer into the turret of a tank at the 4th Engineer Battalion during a visit to the Dragon Mountain base camp. Explaining the capabilities of the vehicle and hosting the group is Captain Robert W. Mason, commander of the battalion's Headquarters Company. (USA Photo by SFC Colby Pritchett)

4th Engineers Host Students From Junior Military Academy

Dragon Mountain—Two hundred students from the Highland Junior Military Academy visited units of the Ivy Division recently for a "cook's tour" of the facilities at the Dragon Mountain base camp.

According to Sergeant First Class Colby R. Pritchett, reconnaissance sergeant for the 4th Engineer Battalion S-2, "It was a 'cook's tour' because they ate the noon meal with us."

Sergeant Pritchett explained that the students "were very inquisitive about our equipment and its uses." They were shown everything from

bulldozers used to clear roads to flame throwers mounted on personnel carriers.

The visitors, who ranged in age from 12 to 18 years old, were reported to have been most impressed by the ditch-digger and the M-48 tank on which they were given rides.

"We took them for short rides around the area on the tanks and explained the capabilities of its searchlight and 90mm gun," the reconnaissance sergeant said. "Although the students had a limited knowledge of English, they were curious about the operations of the battalion and asked many questions. Their facial expressions displayed their keen interest and enjoyment when informed of the battalion's tasks. A tape computer fascinated the youths.

A noon meal gave the students their first taste of

Half Of Brother Team Serving With 3/12th

Tuy Hoa — Private First Class David C. Dusharm (Carthage, N.Y.), driver for the S-3 Section of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, is part of an Army-Navy brother team serving in Vietnam.

PFC Dusharm enlisted in the Army in December 1965 and took basic training at Ft. Dix, N.J., and advanced individual training at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

His brother, Robert O., joined the Navy in October 1963 and is presently assigned to the USS Enterprise which is off the coast of Vietnam.

American food. After a brief demonstration by their hosts, they mastered the use of forks and spoons.

Sergeant Major Carl M. Schoening, battalion top non-commissioned officer, said the students were well disciplined. "No one began to eat until everyone was seated and they were given permission by their officer. Military courtesy was outstanding," added the sergeant major.

Following the tour, a school plaque was presented to the battalion by the Vietnamese officer accompanying the group.

3rd Brigaders View, Help Repel VC Attack

Dau Tieng—When the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division, made its base camp move from Camp Martin Cox to the Michelin rubber plantation 45 miles northwest of Saigon, the daily convoys leaving the old camp were having little or no trouble from enemy activity during the 80-mile trip.

But one convoy found itself a spectator and a participant in a surprise Viet Cong mortar attack on Tan Son Nhut Air Base near Saigon.

The convoy had made a scheduled night stop at the base. At 1:30 a.m. the transient camp at Conex City was awakened by the sounds of mortar rounds falling nearby. The sky was filled with flares as everyone scrambled into their bunkers.

A large force of Viet Cong had infiltrated the air base's perimeter and was trying to

1/8th Commander, Sergeant Major In Narrow Escape

Tuy Hoa — A courtesy call by a battalion commander to wish his men "Merry Christmas" almost ended in tragedy during the Christmas truce.

Lieutenant Colonel Harold H. Lee (Wahiakua, Hawaii), commander of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, made a helicopter visit to the men of Company B Christmas morning. He was accompanied by Sergeant Major David L. Bennett (Olympia, Wash.) and Private First Class Donald L. Dean (Morris Plains, N.J.), S-3 air assistant.

Within seconds after the helicopter landed, Viet Cong opened fire from across a river.

A volley of about 40 rounds struck the helicopter and barely missed the commander and the sergeant major.

Colonel Lee has been fired upon before by VC, but this was the closest call he has had.

Discussing his experience, he casually remarked, "I felt just normal, and I really have to say I've had a very Merry Christmas—by being alive."

The helicopter had to be evacuated, but that did not stop the colonel from continuing his visits to the other companies to extend Christmas greetings.

strike at the airfield. More than 30 enemy mortar rounds fell during the night.

At 6 a.m., after watching flare ships, sleek Skyraiders and gun ships the entire night, the men of the convoy received word that approximately 10 Viet Cong were heading in their direction. A line of defense was quickly set up to cut off the enemy.

An Ivyman spotted a Viet Cong coming through the bushes and the entire line opened up with machine guns, grenade launchers and rifles.

The fight lasted no more than five minutes. Soon air police reactionary forces arrived and began sweeping the area where the troops had fired into.

There were no friendly casualties and no enemy dead reported in the brief clash.

By noon the convoy was on Highway 22 heading for Dau Tieng.

IT'S A TEDIOUS JOB

Men Of 10th Cavalry Provide Road Security

Plei Djereng — In a war where much of the fighting is waged in mountainous jungles and swampy valleys, it would seem at first glance that armor could not be a crucial factor.

But, ask any division commander about the effectiveness of his armored cavalry units and he will simply hand you the record. It speaks for itself.

Lieutenant Colonel Wallace H. Nutting, commander of the Ivy Division's 10th Cavalry, had this to say about his unit. "When we

first arrived in Vietnam, we were deployed as base camp security. After a short time, our operations branched out to include scouting, patrolling and road security."

The colonel continued, "Since we began our road security missions, enemy contacts along the routes used by friendly units have dropped considerably."

"The population and the economy, including agricultural production and distribution, depend upon the roads; therefore, the roads and adjacent areas must be kept

open and free of the Viet Cong."

Captain Walter J. Porter (Northfield, Mass.), commander of Troop B, cited a recent operation by his company as an example of the troop's missions.

"We were on a road security mission between Pleiku and Plei Djereng as part of Operation Paul Revere IV when our lead tanks hit

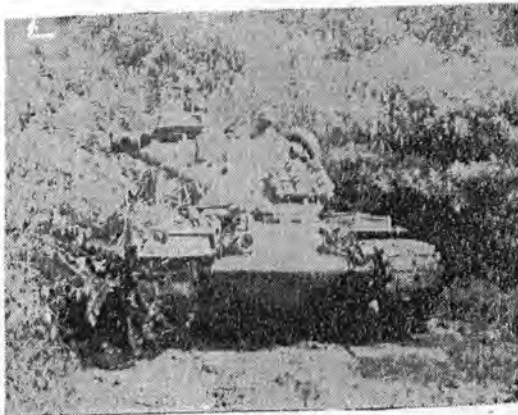
antitank mines. No one was injured, but it really shook them up."

Asked whether or not this happens often, Captain Porter replied, "No, on many missions we make little if any contact with the enemy; then on other occasions we run into sustained contacts."

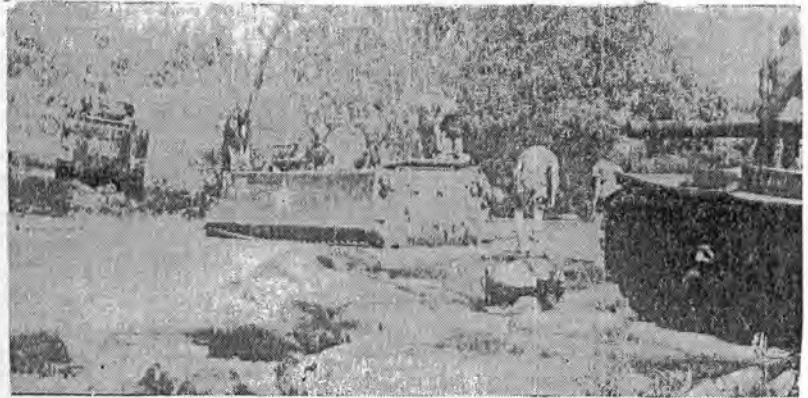
The job is tedious and sometimes the work seems to go for naught, yet the

men are always eager to tackle a new operation.

"The only thing that burns me," said Specialist 4 Gregory J. Goldie (Dearborn, Mich.), "is to hear guys blaming the tanks for making holes in the roads. They fail to take into consideration the fact that if we hadn't gone over the roads first, they could never be sure that they could use them safely."

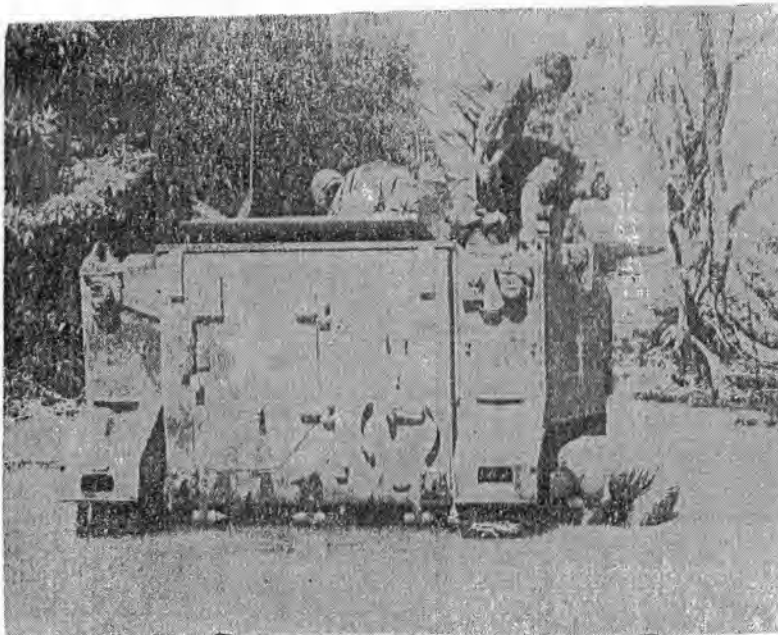


HIDE 'N SEEK? — When Charlie decides to hide little objects such as mines and booby traps along a road, it is Troop B's job to find them. Members of the Ivy Division's 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, move their "mine-seeker" along a route in the Central Highlands during a road-clearing operation.



NOW WHAT THE HECK? — When an armored personnel carrier breaks down it can become frustrating. Members of the Ivy Division's Troop B, dismount, roll up their pants and begin looking for the source of the trouble.

Photos
By
SFC Richard West



CHANGING TRACKS IN MID-STREAM — Members of the Ivy Division's Troop B have learned that it is better to take immediate action when a malfunction develops. Here the trouble is a slipped track in mid-stream. The solution—fix it.



SLIDING A SLIPPED SECTION — What do members of the Ivy Division's Troop B do when they slip a section of track? They simply slide it back on. This is quite a trick when you consider the section is slipped from a monster of a tank which weighs 10 tons or more.



GENERAL JOHNSON VISITS

General Harold K. Johnson, Army chief of staff, toured 4th Infantry Division units during his recent visit to Vietnam. General Johnson told men of the division "Freedom isn't free. You men are qualified and have been chosen to join all those who have made the periodic installment on the price of freedom. I am here to bring you my personal greetings and to tell you of the great pride I feel over your achievements." The four-star general, left, is shown chatting with Major General Arthur S. Collins Jr., former commander of the 4th Division. (USA Photo)

Members Of Kansas Church Donate Supplies For Vietnamese Students

Tuy Hoa—The teamwork of a stateside minister, his chaplain son-in-law and the civic action officer of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry, will enable Vietnamese children in the area of Tuy Hoa to have an easier time learning the three Rs.

Members of the Vietnam-based side of the team are Chaplain (Major) Paschal M. Jackson, 1st Brigade chaplain, and Captain Stephen M. Heller, a member of the brigade civil affairs office.

Aiding in the schoolroom project from the United States

is Chaplain Jackson's father-in-law, the Rev. R. W. O. Knowles, minister of the First Methodist Church of McPherson, Kan.

Several weeks ago Chaplain Jackson mentioned to Captain Heller that Rev. Mr. Knowles had asked him if he and his congregation could aid in any projects.

After discussing several possible projects, the two officers came up with the idea of school supplies for the children in the "Dragoons" area of operation.

Chaplain Jackson sent back

a tape recording to his father-in-law asking for writing paper and pencils. The chaplain reported that the suggestion was well received by the McPherson congregation.

Already the congregation has sent 200 envelopes with the materials requested. Thirty of the school kits have been received at the battalion, according to Captain Heller, and the rest are expected to arrive shortly.

Other projects which Chaplain Jackson and Captain Heller have discussed are waterproof book cases for the youngsters, soap powder for use at the district dispensary and baby clothing for infants in the area.

1/8th Company Pursues VC Platoon-Size Force

Tuy Hoa — What started off as a "walk in the sun" for Company B, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, ended up as a hot pursuit of a suspected Viet Cong platoon-size force.

The company, commanded by Captain Robert Shelly, was moving to a new operations area. The morning's march was speedy through areas previously searched. Occasionally, the deployed platoons stopped to re-clear a village.

During the early operations, the unit captured 300 pounds of rice and found three detainees and a pistol belt and canteen.

Lunchtime found the 2nd Platoon and headquarters element resting along a trail in a peaceful setting.

Things became serious quickly. The 4th Platoon, to the north of the 2nd Platoon, reported sighting a large group of men crossing a ridgeline. A check with headquarters established that there were no friendly elements in the area.

Captain Shelly quickly sent

the 2nd Platoon after the unit. He instructed the 4th Platoon to move southward to form a pincher movement.

"I'm sending the 2nd Platoon north, towards you," he radioed the 4th Platoon, "so watch out for them."

At the same time the company forward observer prepared artillery strikes on the area of the sighting. A forward air controller, flying in the area, was asked to adjust the artillery fire over the positions.

The company's remaining platoon was directed up a stream, perpendicular to the advancing pincher units, to act as a blocking force.

The hunt went on into the late afternoon. A few more hooches and an additional 1,000 pounds of rice were found by the Ivymen.

Approximately four hours later, Captain Shelly called his platoons of walk-weary men back to a central point to set up for the night and plan the next day's operations.

It's that kind of war.

North Vietnamese Fail In Attempt To Overrun 1/12th's Palace Guard

By Sp5 Gary Viehe

Plei Djereng — It was nearly dark out at the Palace Guard when the enemy opened fire with mortar rounds.

For 30 terrifying minutes a group of troops from the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, wondered if they would see another day.

The Palace Guard is the 105mm howitzers and their protecting force which support the 1/12th's search and destroy missions near Plei Djereng.

"Our job is to protect it," said Specialist 4 William L. Sensenback (Tetonia, Idaho), an assistant machine gunner from Company C. "But that night I began to have doubts. The enemy must have dropped 500 shells on us in that first half hour. All we could do was hug the ground and try to see where the rounds were coming from."

Finally the mortaring let up. Was it over? Was it a hit and run attack? What were they up to now?

"The gunner in my bunker was wounded," said Specialist Sensenback, "so I had to take over the machine gun." He searched the woods looking for movement, shadows, anything.

"Then I saw three of them creeping up towards the bunkers. They were about 30 meters away when I opened up on them. That was as far as they got."

Specialist Sensenback began to see hundreds of shadows darting about in the woods.

They were trying to move in and surround the perimeter.

With his heart pounding frantically, the specialist pulled the trigger. His M-60 responded, spitting out several hundred rounds a minute at the enemy. "I fired at anything that moved."

By now the whole Palace Guard was doing everything it could to repel the attack.

Staff Sergeant Roberto Alejandro, a platoon sergeant in Company C, fired about 100 rounds of mortar fire in five minutes at the enemy-infested woods. "My mortar got so hot I had to pour water on it from my canteen to cool it off," he said.

For over six hours the enemy tried to overrun the Palace Guard. Specialist Sensenback said, "I saw one of them who had completely lost his right hand pick up his rifle in his left hand and continue his attack. You've got to kill them before you can stop them."

With tremendous assistance from the Air Force, the 2nd Brigade troops turned back the enemy sometime after midnight.

"We couldn't see them retreating, but we could hear them moving back, dragging away their wounded and dead," said Specialist Sensenback. "We kept firing and throwing grenades in the direction of the noise."

Then the firing subsided. The weary men looked into the woods, hoping the enemy had had enough. "How long before sunrise?" one of the men yelled.

Hours later morning finally came. The men began a sweep around the perimeter. Seventy-six North Vietnamese Regulars were found dead.

6/29th Battery Splits Sections

Tuy Hoa — Battery A, 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery, is finding that two guns are working as well as four.

For the first time, the 105mm howitzer battery recently split its six howitzer sections into two groups in order to provide artillery support for a company of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, which is operating outside the range of the howitzers at the original position.

Two sections, under the direction of Second Lieutenant Hal Voekel, battery assistant executive officer, were sent to forward emplacements.

The experiment was reportedly working successfully at keeping Viet Cong at bay and covering the wide-ranging infantry units.

3/8th Pair Rounds Up Girl's Wayward Cow

Tuy Hoa — 'Tis said a woman's tears will dissolve the resolve of even the strongest man.

The men of the 1st Platoon, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry, discovered the truth of the saying during a recent patrol.

The incident involved three cows and a little Vietnamese cowgirl watching them.

The 1st Brigade men stumbled upon the scene suddenly. Everyone was surprised, including the cows, one of which ran off. The animal swam a stream and ambled away into the cane fields.

Stunned by the whole affair, the little girl suddenly realized the problem of catching her cow and burst into tears.

The platoon leader asked for volunteers to round up

the cow. Specialist 4 Rudy Kotash and Private First Class Ronny Hayes stepped forward.

Tether in hand, the two soldiers forded the stream and plunged into the brush in pursuit of the wayward cow.

An hour later, the platoon's rear security element reported Specialist Kotash and PFC Hayes approaching, cow in tow.

Tears of despair turned to cries of delight as the little girl ran to relieve the men of their captive.

It was another day in Vietnam for the platoon, but just a little bit sunnier than most.

Football rivalry began between Army and Navy November 29, 1890 at West Point, N. Y. Score: Navy 24, Army 0. (AFNB)

Six Members Of 10th Cavalry Receive Medals

Plei Djereng— Six men of the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, were awarded medals by Major General Arthur S. Collins Jr., former 4th Division commander, at a recent ceremony at the squadron command post.

After the presentation of awards, General Collins gave a brief farewell speech to the cavalry troops.

Sergeant James P. Morgan (Placerville, Calif.) of Troop B received the Purple Heart and Staff Sergeant Elty E. Tyler (Freeseil, Mich.) of Headquarters Troop was presented the Army Commendation Medal for Valor. Both awards were for combat action during the past 90 days.

Four members of Troop D (Air Cavalry) received Air Medals. They were First Lieutenant Duncan B. Dowling (Daytona Beach, Fla.), Specialist 5 Robert H. Beck (Salmon, Idaho), Specialist 5 Alan V. Peterson (St. Cloud, Minn.) and Specialist 4 Joe E. Archuleta (Provo, Utah).

After his farewell remarks, General Collins was a guest of Lieutenant Colonel Wallace H. Nutting, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry commander, and squadron officers for lunch.

Before his departure, General Collins was presented with an engraved miniature cavalry saber as a memento of the squadron by Sergeant Major Nicholas Blacco.

'PART OF THE JOB'

1/22nd Medic Braves Fire To Threat Wounded Men

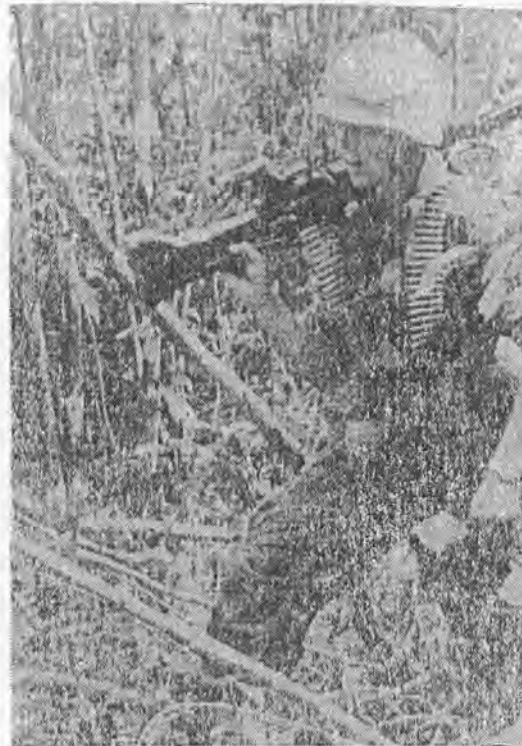
Plei Djereng— Ask any infantryman who is the most revered man in an infantry unit. The chances are his answer will be the medic.

The medic normally has had little combat training, yet he probably experiences as much combat as an infantryman. His mission is to save lives and that he does well.

Company A, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, is particularly proud of its medic, Specialist 4 Jerrold Banfe (Waukegan, Ill.). Time after time, Specialist Banfe has moved into an area under heavy enemy fire to administer aid to wounded Ivymen.

One incident for which Specialist Banfe was cited is described by him.

"It was dusk," the medic recalled, "and we had begun eating our C-rations after digging foxholes. Suddenly somebody yelled 'incoming mortars' and we dropped our



WHERE'S CHARLIE?

A machine gunner from the Ivy's 3rd Brigade moves out in search of the elusive enemy during a recent operation northwest of Saigon. (USA Photo)

'Top Kick' Treats Men To Guamanian Festival

Dragon Mountain — The men of Company C, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, were recently treated to a gigantic,

unexpected present.

The donor of the present was First Sergeant Francisco Pereda (Barrigada, Guam) and the present was a huge Guamanian festival prepared by the first sergeant and his festive staff of noncommissioned officers in the company.

The idea came to the "top kick" while Company C was participating in Operation Paul Revere IV.

"I was in the field," said First Sergeant Pereda, "when a package arrived for me from my family in Guam. I hastily tore it open and found that it contained different Guamanian foodstuffs."

Needless to say, the food lasted only long enough for the word to spread that First Sergeant Pereda had a box of goodies. "Right then," said the first sergeant, "I began planning to surprise the men with a festival as soon as we returned to the base camp."

The company returned to the Dragon Mountain base camp a week before Christmas and First Sergeant Pereda swung his plan into action.

On December 24 the men of Company C were extended an invitation to the festival. It was complete success. Dishes, served by First Ser-

NVA Squads Greet 'Dragoon' Unit With Mortar Fire

Tuy Hoa—The "Dragoons" of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry, grabbed a "hot" piece of land and the ruckus started as soon as they hit the landing zone.

The unit, after eight days of refitting and training at the brigade base camp, was airlifted into a new area of operations.

No sooner had the headquarters elements and artillery fire base gotten on the ground than a North Vietnamese Army unit, estimated at two squads, opened up with mortars, automatic weapons and small arms.

The fire came from a hill to the south of the landing zone. For about 15 minutes friendly and enemy forces exchanged fire. The NVA soon gave up and resorted to sniping at the "Dragoons."

The arrival of Companies B and C made the odds even more uninviting. Soon, several NVA were seen trying to escape across the hillside.

The "Redlegs" of Battery

C, 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery, were given an unusual opportunity—direct fire. The artillerymen lowered their tubes and within five minutes had fired some 30 to 40 rounds into the hillside at the fleeing enemy.

Enemy contact throughout the area of operations continued for two days as the companies moved out from the battalion perimeter.

At the end of the second day, the "Dragoons" had tallied 10 enemy dead and one wounded.

They policed up two carbines, one Thompson submachine gun, a French MAS-36 rifle and 193 rounds of small arms ammunition. Ten Chicom grenades and a ton of rice were also seized.

3/12th's S-5 Section Distributes Clothing To Vietnamese Villagers

Tuy Hoa—The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, recently aided Vietnamese local villagers through its Civil Affairs program.

The S-5 section, headed by First Lieutenant Arthur C. Sandell of Seattle, distributed approximately 110 pieces of clothing to the Phuoc Luong villagers.

Aiding in the distribution were Platoon Sergeant Richard A. Pierce (Tacoma, Wash.) and his medical team of Specialist 4 Thomas Krapp (Pittsburgh), Private First Class Angel F. Hernandez (Chicago), Private First Class Charles W. Blue (Harrisburg, Ill.) and Private First Class Richard Goulet (Woonsocket, R. I.).

A sick call was also held for those living in the area and approximately 150 persons received medication and first aid.

geant Pereda's staff of Polynesian sergeants-turned-chiefs, included charcoal-broiled steaks, potato salad, numerous exotic South Sea sauces and much more.

Asked what his opinion of the party was, Platoon Sergeant Crissanto Vair of Honolulu looked up lazily and emitted a hearty belch. The men, who had just spent 93 days in the field, unanimously agreed.

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