

# Red Warriors Rout Enemy Unit

By SP4 Roger Seip

**HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS** — Company C, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry engaged an estimated company of NVA in a fierce firefight and successfully routed them from their extensive bunker complex.

The fighting began shortly before noon after the Red Warriors had moved into a flat grassy area south of Landing Zone (LZ) Nicole on a search and clear mission.

A temporary perimeter was established as three squads moved separately into the surrounding woodland to search for enemy movement.

Stalking cautiously through the bushes and small trees, a 1st Platoon squad spotted three NVA soldiers washing clothes in a stream.

The Red Warriors fired at the enemy water point and with-

draw to an OP (observation position). Moments later B40 rockets, followed by AK47 fire, began exploding near the squad which then called for reinforcements.

The 1st Platoon, aware of their squad's situation, quickly departed the company perimeter and pushed toward the contact area.

The afternoon was passing quickly as the platoon continued their push and began to receive enemy rocket and rifle fire.

"There were snipers out there," said Sergeant Richard Makruski of Amherst, Ohio. "Some of them were up in the trees and I could see muzzle flashes on the ground."

There was a brief, fierce contact that eliminated the snipers. The platoon closed with their squad and again received enemy rocket and rifle fire.

Suddenly gunships were on station and began to pound rockets and machine gun fire into the enemy positions.

"Immediately after the gunships left," said Specialist 4 Raymond Santana of Brooklyn, N.Y., "artillery began to pound the enemy. We had batteries firing from LZ Nicole, LZ Penny and LZ Joyce and eight inchers coming from Highlander Heights."

The 2nd Platoon moved again toward the battle area and ran into another group of snipers.

Another heavy firefight ensued and the enemy was again beaten back.

As the evening light faded, elements of the 3rd Platoon joined with the 2nd Platoon and together they performed a fire and movement assault that scattered the NVA ranks. The Red Warriors then returned to their perimeter for the night.

"The assault was extremely effective," said Sergeant Makruski, "because the enemy fire was drawn from the 1st Platoon which enabled us to make it back to the perimeter."

The following morning Red Warriors from Company D were lifted into the contact area on a combat assault to relieve Company C and sweep the battle zone.

Amid the rubble of schrapnel-scarred trees Delta Company discovered a widely dispersed, freshly constructed bunker complex.

"The complex was approximately 200 meters wide and 500 meters long," described First Lieutenant Charles Orndoff of Waynesburg, Pa. "The first line of entrenchment consisted of spider holes followed by a long series of staggered bunkers with one and a half feet of overhead cover."

Many of the bunkers had been demolished by artillery during the battle and the Red Warriors destroyed the remaining ones.

THE **STEADFAST**  
AND **LOYAL**  
FAMOUS FIGHTING  
FOURTH

Vol. 1, No. 6

June 22, 1969

## Bowl Dedicated To Sergeant Andrade, Winner Of The DSC

By PFC William A. Edwards

**CAMP ENARI**—His comrades are all gone now. Most of them are back in that slice of heaven known as "the World", and are probably spread from Boston to Los Angeles tasting the sweetness of life once more. Few of them will ever forget him though.

The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry and the Famous Fighting Fourth haven't; as they dedicated the Division outdoor amphitheater (previously the Ivy Bowl) to the memory of Platoon Sergeant Kenneth S. Andrade and his fantastic deeds of heroism that saved his men but cost him his life. The story demands to be retold.

February 27, 1968, the men of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry occupied a defense perimeter ten miles west of Dak To. Sergeant Andrade and his men were positioned along the southwest portion of the perimeter; suddenly the NVA attacked in a savage ground assault from his front.

Sergeant Andrade, acting in the absence of the platoon leader, rushed up and down the line shouting commands, pointing out targets and encouraging his men while constantly being exposed to the deadly automatic weapons, grenades and small arms fire.

One of his bunkers was hit!

Men were wounded! With absolutely no regard for his own safety, Andrade rushed over and began treating the men. Three of the enemy assaulted the position with grenades and automatic weapons fire. He wheeled about and brought all three of them down with his M16. As he attempted to lift one of the wounded a grenade landed nearby but he picked it up and hurled it back at the enemy. Then he picked up the casualty and, still under hostile fire, carried him to the landing zone. Repeating this act several times, he managed to get the wounded out and then returned to the bunker line.

By this time the line was weak so the big Texan repositioned his men and began running from bunker to bunker, distributing sorely needed ammunition. When he saw another of his wounded, Sergeant Andrade moved along the line to aid him. Suddenly, the lone figure drew a heavy concentration of hostile fire!

He desperately scrambled toward the safety of a nearby bunker but his luck had run out. As he neared safety, a grenade exploded close by. His serious wound overcame him before evacuation to a hospital was possible.

Sergeant Kenneth S. Andrade was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, a nation's tribute

to a soldier's valor and acts of true heroism.

The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry and the Fourth Infantry Division again re-emphasized this debt of gratitude for a man's ultimate gift of devotion to his fellow combatants and his country.

But somewhere back in "the World" is the greatest tribute to Kenneth S. Andrade and the one that would be the most satisfying to him. That tribute is the lives of the men he saved, the men he was so fond of, the men for whom he gave his all.

## Villagers Continue Help

# VIP Participation Increasing

By SP5 Robert G. Frechette

**CAMP RADCLIFF**—In a recent two day period, the S-2 intelligence team from the 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery, operating with the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's 1st Brigade, paid a total of 70,000 Vietnamese piasters to neighboring villagers. The money was in exchange for information on 338 assorted artillery and mortar rounds received under the Voluntary Informant Program (VIP)—one of

the newest successes in the pacification program.

The three man team, reputed to be the most successful of its type in Vietnam, is headed by Master Sergeant Richard L. Finkenbinder of El Paso, Tex. He is accompanied by his driver and aid, Specialist 4 Frank Coronado of San Jose, Calif., and Staff Sergeant Thang, the section's Vietnamese interpreter.

Although the current results of the team depict great success, Sergeant Finkenbinder can remember the lean days . . . filled with trips that found the team returning to their headquarters empty-handed.

"We started working on the program in February," related Sergeant Finkenbinder. "In those days, Specialist Coronado and I would just roam An Khe area villages, distributing pamphlets describing the program and talking to the people. We were supported by airdrops of VIP literature."

The team did not meet with success until April. "I felt like the chief character from the 'Old Man and the Sea' in his search for the elusive swordfish," the soft spoken sergeant explained. "Then one day some of the villagers led us to a small number of shell casings."

"That continued for several weeks until the people developed confidence in our payment for the rounds. To prove our sincerity, we paid the people for their turn-ins while their astonished neighbors watched. Little by little, the numbers of rounds increased until we began to get information about live ones."

As the peoples' confidence in the American team grew, so did their pocket books. During

May, villagers enriched themselves by 215,150 piasters as they led the team to some 1161 artillery, mortar and small arms rounds.

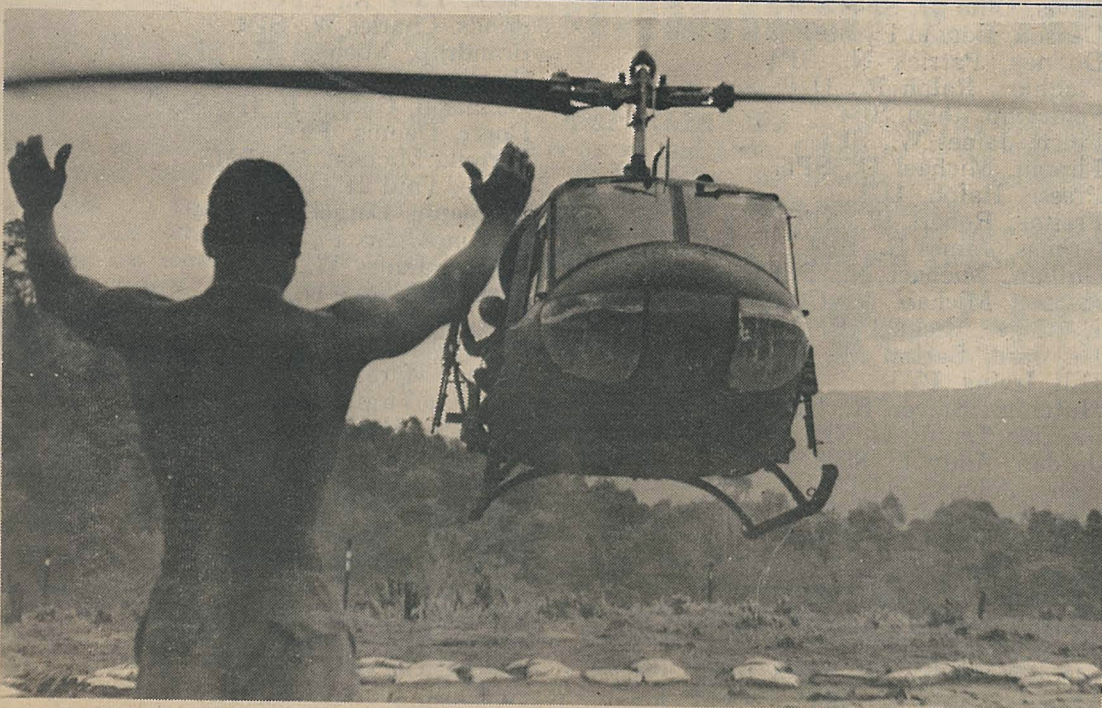
Now, as he leaves the gates of Camp Radcliff, Sergeant Finkenbinder is frequently stopped by Vietnamese people who tell him of villages that wish to turn in munitions. While driving he is flagged down by people who have gunnysacks of mortar rounds for VIP and occasionally his jeep has to come to a halt for Vietnamese who have set a number of artillery rounds in his path.

The Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team of the 25th Ordnance Detachment at Camp Radcliff usually accompanies the team to handle some of the more delicate chores. They insure that rounds are destroyed after they have been safely gathered.

The monies acquired for VIP come from IFFV and the Fourth Infantry Division G5 Civil Affairs section.

While at present Sergeant Finkenbinder has not acquired pistols, rifles or heavy armament through the program, he believes it will only be a matter of time. "I expect that will be part of our next stage. In this type of work it's just one step at a time."

The words of an appreciative American advisor at an area Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) camp, as he was informed of the number of rounds turned in by a village in his vicinity, sum up the success of the program. "I find it hard to believe that the people had such a large amount of munitions to turn in! I'm happy you got them."



**EASY DOES IT**—A 2nd Brigade soldier directs a helicopter onto the pad at Highlander Heights. The chopper, along with dozens just like it, hustle needed supplies to the Highlanders in support of the Brigade's units in the field. From here the supplies are shuttled further forward to firebases in the Kontum area. (USA Photo By SP4 Jack Behrle)

From The Desk of  
the  
Commanding General



M G PEPKE

## Combat Intelligence

AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER almost every soldier assigned to a combat unit in the Fourth Infantry Division will have the opportunity to be a "Short Range Patrol" (SRP) team member. The importance of each member of a SRP team cannot be overemphasized, because each SRP team serves as a vital link in the overall division combat intelligence effort.

All of you have heard of the term "combat intelligence" and most of you know that, simply stated, it is "knowledge of the enemy, the weather and the terrain which is used to plan and conduct tactical operations within a given area." All commanders, whether at platoon or division level, base their tactical decisions on combat intelligence; consequently, the more we know about the enemy and the less he knows about us, the easier he is to defeat.

Of course, it is the function of the battalion or brigade S-2 and the Division G2, not the SRP team, to produce combat intelligence. However, in order to accomplish their mission, these intelligence officers must have as much information as possible for analysis.

It is in the collection of this much needed information that the SRP team plays an important role. Even in this age of modern warfare, when information is collected by many diverse agencies, you, the combat soldier, are still one of the best sources of enemy information. By virtue of your close proximity to the enemy, you are able to observe him and the terrain that he controls.

It is important to remember, at this point, that information can be positive or negative in nature. "Positive" information concerns activity that is taking place, while "negative" information concerns activity which usually should be taking place, but is not. Both types of information are equally important to an intelligence officer in producing combat intelligence if he is to insure that he has analyzed all available information for accuracy, value, meaning and pertinence to friendly units.

PERHAPS YOU ARE NOW wondering in just what way you can be a source of information that will ultimately affect you and your unit. Each and every one of you, as a member of a SRP team, must continually remain alert for the opportunity to:

1. Observe and report what the enemy does or fails to do, keeping in mind the key word "SALUTE": Size, Activity, Location, Unit, Time, Equipment. Remember to report anything you see or hear that seems unusual, no matter how slight. Be curious—almost anything can be important.

2. Capture enemy soldiers in your area whenever possible. Remember that prisoners must be handled according to the following rules: Search, Segregate, Silence, Speed, Safeguard. Turn all prisoners over to your immediate superiors for evacuation to an interrogation facility. It is extremely important to handle prisoners correctly, since they are an excellent source of information.

3. Capture enemy documents and material. Be sure to provide information regarding capture such as circumstances, time and location. Remember, captured documents and material are the property of the United States Government. Unless specifically permitted to do so, don't attempt to keep any captured items as souvenirs, since they are needed to help your unit accomplish its mission.



### STEADFAST and LOYAL

(Circulation 8,000)

STEADFAST AND LOYAL, an authorized weekly publication, is published by the INFORMATION OFFICE, 4th Admin Co., 4th Infantry Division, APO San Francisco 96262, 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. Mailing address: STEADFAST AND LOYAL, INFORMATION OFFICE, 4th Admin Co., 4th Infantry Division, APO U.S. Forces 96262. Telephone: Camp Enari 2318.

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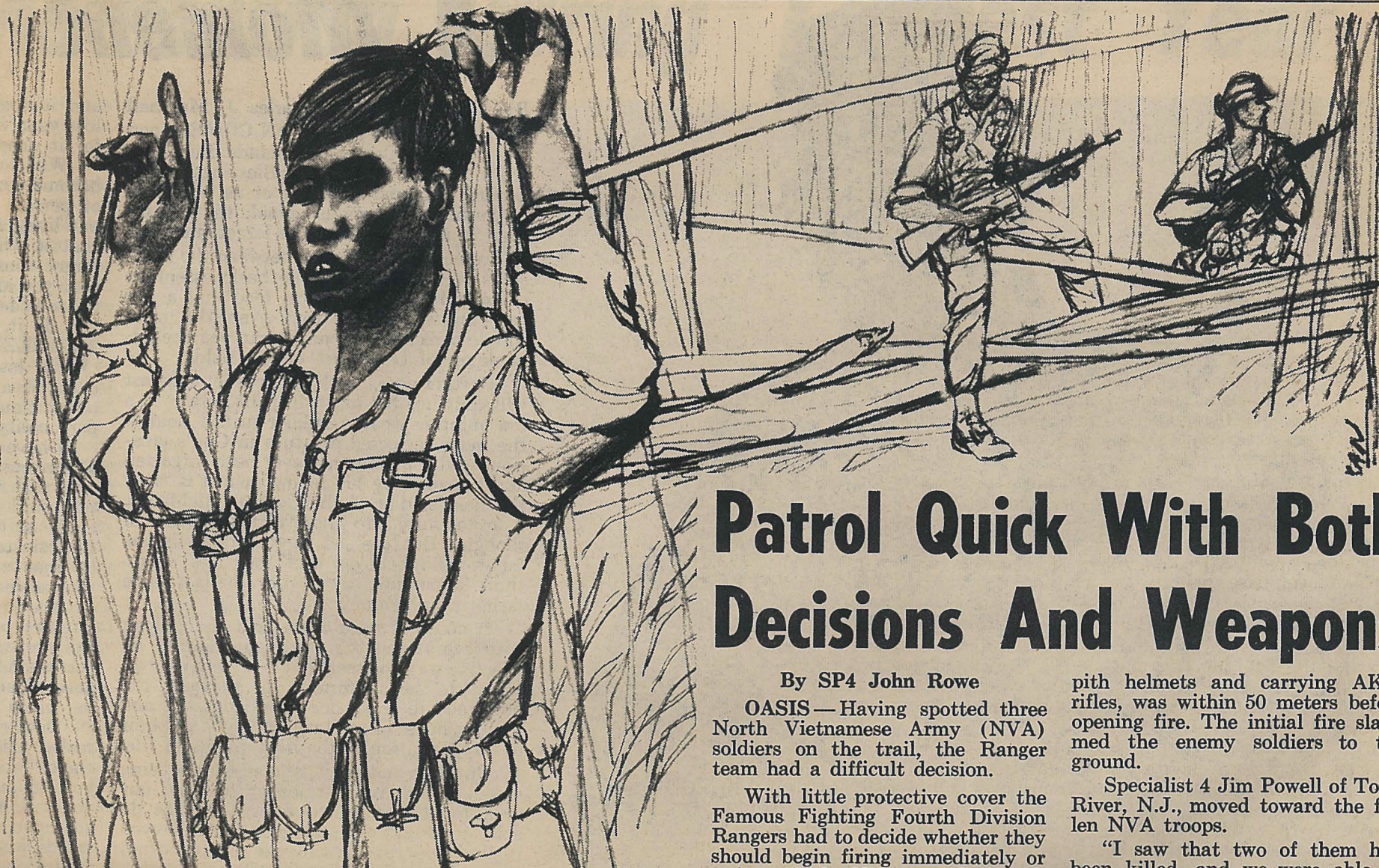
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## Patrol Quick With Both Decisions And Weapons

By SP4 John Rowe

OASIS — Having spotted three North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers on the trail, the Ranger team had a difficult decision.

With little protective cover the Famous Fighting Fourth Division Rangers had to decide whether they should begin firing immediately or wait until the NVA intruders were closer to their position.

Private First Class William A. Atkinson, Jr. of Wichita Falls, Tex., made up his mind fast. He decided that the Rangers would gamble on not being spotted and would wait until the NVA soldiers were further along the trail, which they were using as an infiltration route 18 miles southeast of Pleiku.

"They weren't conscious of anyone being in the area. If they had looked they might have seen us, since we had very little concealment," said PFC Atkinson.

The Rangers waited until the NVA trio, dressed in khakis and

pith helmets and carrying AK47 rifles, was within 50 meters before opening fire. The initial fire slammed the enemy soldiers to the ground.

Specialist 4 Jim Powell of Toms River, N.J., moved toward the fallen NVA troops.

"I saw that two of them had been killed, and we were able to detain the third one."

Aiming his weapon at the enemy soldier, Specialist Powell asked the NVA if he wanted to "Chieu Hoi." The enemy troop immediately jumped to his feet with his hands held high.

Fortunately for the Rangers, the enemy soldiers were not able to fire a shot. "We really hit it lucky. This is the best type of contact," said PFC Atkinson.

Besides killing two NVA and detaining another, the Rangers found two AK47s, web gear, documents and three NVA rucksacks, two of which contained satchel charges.

The Enemy Troop Immediately Jumped To His Feet With His Hands In The Air

(Artistry By SP4 Lou Orsan)

### Career Counselor

## Army Will Prepare You

Worried about the future and what you are going to do upon return to civilian life?

Why subject yourself to these worries when the U.S. Army will eliminate this problem and prepare you for a proud future?

What can the U.S. Army do for you? At the present time, it has more than 100 service schools in 60 occupational areas from which you may select, if you qualify and a vacancy exists.

Department of the Army Pamphlet 350-10 lists all the courses available and the prerequisite for each course. With over 100 schools offered, no doubt there is one that will cover your field of interest.

How do you go about getting the service school of your choice? Simply by reenlisting and asking for the school. If you have four or less years of service for pay purposes, you may qualify for reenlistment for attendance at a school which will train you in an MOS in which you desire to specialize.

Personnel in grade E5 and below with over four years service for pay and under seven years Active Federal Service may also qualify for reenlistment for attendance at a service school course of their choice. However, individuals in this category must be in a surplus MOS and reenlist for training in an MOS which is in demand.

Schooling plus experience in your field will make you a recognized leader or specialist in today's action Army. Good skills bring recognition, increased pay

benefits and steady advancement.

So before you make the break from military to civilian life, ask yourself this question. Can I qualify for U.S. Army school training in a challenging career field?

### To ARVN And Bullets

## Combined Effort Of Mutual Help

By PFC Jerald Krepps

CAMP RADCLIFF — Working side by side, ARVN forces and Delta Company of the Fourth Division's 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, are becoming more familiar with each other's operations.

As the South Vietnamese forces take on more of the conflict, both U.S. troops and ARVNs are acquiring

### Sweep Radcliff

CAMP RADCLIFF — In a concerted effort to stem possible enemy activities within the perimeter of this sprawling 1st Brigade center of operations, cooks, clerks and copter mechanics were recently joined by elements of the 173rd Airborne Brigade and Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) personnel in a day long sweep of the installation.

The gargantuan search, headed by Brigadier General Frederick A. Schaefer III of Kaneohe, Hawaii, assistant Division commander, found basecampers, attired in full combat gear, hiking up Hong Kong mountain, searching wooded areas and tromping through swollen streams bordered by tall marsh grass.

As the day came to a close, the reports that flooded the 1st Brigade Headquarters included the location and subsequent destruction of three abandoned bunkers, one tunnel complex, two grass huts and two caves.

ing a better understanding of how their counterpart operates. This is being accomplished presently as Delta Company of the 1st Brigade is accompanied on operations by several ARVN personnel.

"In taking the Popular Forces out with us," noted Company D Commander, Captain Archibald Caldwell III, of Oklahoma City, "they have the chance to observe our tactical movements and, in turn, orient some of our tactics to their situation."

The ARVN personnel gain invaluable experience in the direction of artillery and air support while out on operations with the men of Delta Company. They also gain confidence in the knowledge that even the smallest unit is able to bring devastating fire power on the enemy, provided that supporting fire is properly employed.

This mutual cooperation is by no means one-sided. It is a give and take arrangement and Delta Company is also profiting from it. Being of the same ethnic background as the enemy, the ARVNs make excellent guides and better understand how he thinks and is likely to operate under certain situations. Also they help as interpreters and in separating local citizens from the Viet Cong.

As witnessed by recent operations in the An Khe area, the mutual help and exchange of ideas and information is paying off in the pacification program and through cordon and search operations.

# A Moment Of Meditation During 'Longest Year'

By Chaplain (CPT) Charles J. Marshall  
AS THE RAINY SEASON COMES upon us in the Central Highlands, I am sure the old hymn "Count your Blessings" seems a cruel reminder to many of us who have to continue operations outside the relative comfort and dryness of the larger firebases.

In fact, the difference between the hardships of the field and the basic essentials of comfort, such as warm food and a dry bed, are so glaring that even the most simple person in the outfit can see the advantages of being out of the field.

Furthermore, such a drastic contrast will convince the most difficult person in a few minutes that a soldier in the field is the most neglected creature in God's creation. And if anyone has ever been forgotten and forsaken by his fellow man it is truly the field soldier of the Central Highlands. I do not intend to argue with this train of thought. But the sad part of it all is the fellow who believes this and does everything he possibly can to prove he is a name rather than a number.

It does not seem to me that going along with everything the other guy does is an effective way to assert one's personal worth. Granted, the uniformity of military life does tend to crush one's individualism and the harshness of military life tends to blunt our appreciation of the finer things in life.

But I do not see any real efforts being made to improve our lot or to open our eyes to the many opportunities that do exist to assert our individuality and even to find opportunities in our human situations. Too many of us tend to adopt the attitude that our tour here is a lost year

and it does not mean anything. If it is a lost year we as individuals will be poorer, for it does mean something.

What we do as a experience here will become part of us. It will help shape the type of person that we will be for the rest of our lives. And do not let anybody tell you that it will not. You may think you can forget some of the things you have done that you are not proud of, but you will not. So consider something questionable before you do it.

WHILE FOR MY HERE THE year is lost, the few who are able to make it a creative experience and refuse to let time and circumstances blunt their personality never cease to amaze me.

I have observed fellows who have spent afternoons studying with fascination the ants with whom they shared the immediate AO. And though many of them were unaware or unfamiliar with the injunction in Ecclesiastes "to study the ant, and become wise," they had discovered for themselves the wisdom found there.

Many a field guy will hump a couple of extra pounds of food to keep his mind from going to sleep. Others keep up lively correspondence with friends and acquaintances. Each is in his own way refusing to be driven to hopeless despair.

Does that mean we should say each day really mean anything? I think that the choice is entirely up to the individual, for you as an individual have to decide for yourself. And what you decide and how you act upon that decision can very definitely decide whether this year or any other year really means something to you. It's up to you!



Photos By SP4 Al Erickson And SP5 John S. Ryan

## Take Detainees, VC Flag

# Bullets Have Last Laugh

By PFC Jerald Krepps  
**CAMP RADCLIFF** — A cordoned and search mission, conducted by Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, resulted in four detainees, the confiscation of a Viet Cong (VC) flag and the last laugh for the Bullets.

The rugged infantrymen moved out at dusk and arrived at the village just before daybreak. They immediately positioned themselves around the village. Then teams were organized which encircled the more than 4,000 meter perimeter.

At sunrise, the National Police and American MED-CAP Teams arrived for their portion of the mission.

While the police interrogated suspects, the MED-CAP teams, headed by Bullet surgeon, Captain Matt Howard of Atlanta, treated medical problems in the village.

"The VC in this area have a good sense of humor," explained Delta's Company Commander, Captain Archibald Caldwell of Oklahoma City. "They moved in approximately 400 meters behind us and put up a large VC flag on a hill to let us know we didn't get all of them."

"We were walking down the road when all of a sudden three children ran up

to us pointing in the direction of the hill and shouting 'VC flag, VC flag,'" recalled Specialist 4 Alfred Torez of Los Angeles. "I spotted it and called Captain Caldwell."

A platoon of tanks from the 1st Battalion, 69th Armor, which was attached to the Bullets for the operation, was ordered to sweep the area around the flag. The tanks exploded several anti-personnel traps

meant for anyone attempting to remove the flag.

"In a counter offensive of trickery, we got the last laugh," smiled Captain Caldwell.

The Popular Forces (PF) working with Delta Company on this operation moved up the hill after the tanks and captured the flag. They presented it to 1st Lieutenant Bobby Allen of Birmingham, Ala., the liaison officer with the PFs.

## Bugs Upstaged By Human Soul Sound

**OASIS** — The closest an infantryman in the field comes to hearing after-dinner music is that familiar evening sound that every creature that flies, creeps or crawls makes as it sneaks around and claims the countryside as its own.

As night falls the soldier is greeted with the weird orchestral arrangement made by mosquitoes and beetles on the prowl, small animals stumbling and bumbling their way through the brush to nowhere, and lizards that are rumored to cry obscenities from the night.

The men of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry were afforded a rare treat one

recent night by foregoing this usual evening's entertainment in favor of Sergeant Lacey's "Music Makers" of the Quin Nhon Special Services.

The seven-piece band's program began with a rendition of "My Girl" and from then on Landing Zone (LZ) Ruth rocked with the big sounds. Sergeant Lacey, a guitarist from New York City, led his group through a host of popular numbers which delighted the Braves.

"We like to play the firebases because these guys seldom get in and therefore really appreciate it," commented the base guitar player Richard Crabtree. The big Texan from Beaumont couldn't have been more correct; it was indeed a treat.

The other nocturnal creatures in the vicinity canceled their usual noisy display; they must have fallen victims to the sound of soul.



**WORKLOAD**—A Famous Fighting Fourth Division soldier from Charlie Battery, 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery, hustles shell casings at Landing Zone No Slack.

(USA Photo By SP4 Jack Behrle)

## An Eye On Charlie

**HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS** — The small, single engined Bird Dog glided beneath threatening clouds just above Highway 14, as its pilot coordinated with the commander of a convoy that slowly rumbled down the road.

The 2nd platoon of the Fourth Division Military Police (MP) at Highlander Heights has received an observation plane from the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV), that promises to play an important role in the newly developed combined National Vietnamese Police and MP highway patrol.

"The Bird Dog flies above the convoy along the entire route from Pleiku to Dak To," explained 1st Lieutenant James Foster of Akron, Ohio, the MP platoon leader.

"It checks ahead of the convoy for any possible breaks in

the road, enemy contact areas or vehicle breakdowns."

Lieutenant Foster continued by explaining the advantages the Bird Dog has over a helicopter:

"With this plane we have an aerial observer for three or four hours without need of refueling. This enables a convoy to move without being interrupted.

"We also have two Cobra gunships providing additional security for the convoy," Lieutenant Foster emphasized.

The plane maintains radio contact with the convoy commander, reporting anything unusual and alerting the convoy to possible danger.

"We are all extremely happy with the way the plane is working," Lieutenant Foster added. "Its assistance in the highway patrol system is invaluable."



**ALWAYS ALERT**—Watching the area in front of his bunker, this Panther from the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry, does what all soldiers in Vietnam must do. He prepares for the unexpected by providing an alert guard, the constant vigil surrounding American installations.

(USA Photo By PFC Dan Weaver)

## Pass The Alka-Seltzer Please

**CAMP RADCLIFF** — It might not be talked about as long as the famed battles of the Hillbilly Hatfield-McCoy, but the Fourth Infantry Division's Hatfield-Hatfield battle proved to be plenty of excitement for all witnesses — enough, in fact, to make you choke.

It all began when Sergeant Ronnie Hatfield of Williamson, W. Va., aid to the 1st Brigade commander, registered a slight boast. "I bet I can eat more hamburgers than any other Hatfield around."

Sitting quietly across the room at the time of the boast was Sergeant Robert Hatfield of Plattsmouth, Neb., an intelligence specialist with the 1st Brigade. "I might just take you up on that one," the second Hatfield smiled.

Preparations for the battle began, volunteers were called in to act as judges and to run the relay to the An Khe USO for the needed hamburgers.

"I didn't think they would actually go through with it," smiled one of the pretty judges, Miss Dorris Hecht of Baltimore, Md., a Red Cross worker. "Then the next thing I knew, they were both shoveling hamburgers into their mouths."

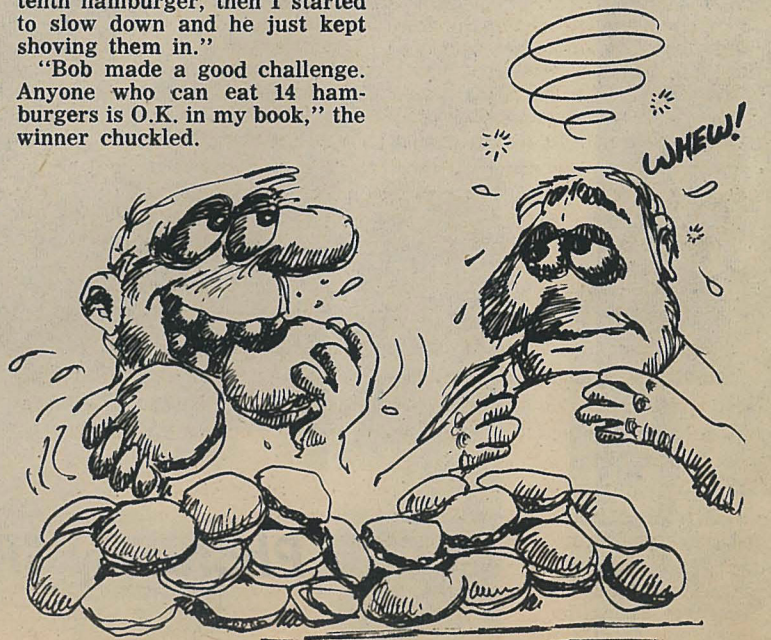
One hour and 17 minutes and

19 hamburgers later, Sergeant Ronnie Hatfield had proven his boast to his challenger and the amazed spectators.

"I really didn't think he could beat me," said the losing Sergeant Robert Hatfield. "We were almost even going into our tenth hamburger, then I started to slow down and he just kept shoving them in."

"Bob made a good challenge. Anyone who can eat 14 hamburgers is O.K. in my book," the winner chuckled.

When asked if he would be interested in starting a contest throughout Vietnam, Sergeant Hatfield moaned, "If anyone wants to beat it they are welcome to try, but for me, I don't think I'll ever be able to eat another hamburger."



Carson P. Waterman

# Braves Don't Forget Comrades' Children

By PFC William A. Edwards

**OASIS** — American fighting men have never been distinguished by their affluence. Indeed, their complaints regarding low salaries are as old as the Army itself and as institutional as C-rations or SOS.

Paradoxically, an inherent trait of generosity has also accompanied the American soldier throughout the annals of our military history. His consideration for the defeated and for his fellow combatants are of world renown.

The soldiers of the Fourth Division are proudly carrying on this tradition of generosity in Vietnam today through their contributions to the Scholarship Fund.

The most avid donors to this cause are the men of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Bobby J. Harris of Falls Church, Va. Since the program's inception they have given an im-

pressive grand total of \$22,857.15.

The highest contribution within the battalion for the month of May came from Company D, commanded by Captain Kenneth E. Jenkins of Columbus, Ga., who donated \$512.00. This figure surpassed some battalion monthly donations.

"This company has always had excellent esprit de corps," explained Captain Jenkins. "All that we did was explain the purpose of the fund and the money poured in. I personally feel that it is the most worthwhile contribution one can make in the Army and my men agree."

Of late, the battalion has been contributing close to two thousand dollars per month. In speaking with the troops one can easily measure the program's tremendous importance. Sergeant William Bevel, a platoon leader in Bravo Company, reported that his men were

so anxious to give that "I had twenty dollars donated today, two days BEFORE payday!"

The burly E7 from Columbia, S.C., continued that "most men look at it like insurance. No one regrets donating because someone will always benefit."

Many, if not most, of the contributors are single and therefore have no children to derive benefits from the program. However, they also give generously.

"Any kid who loses his father over here deserves a break," said Specialist 4 Gary Kerr of Madison Heights, Mich. "If I had kids I'd sure want a program like this."

Perhaps the 1st Brigade's commander Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Kirwan described the Scholarship Fund most eloquently as a "living memorial. . . . It is only fitting and proper that we, the survivors and beneficiaries of the valiant efforts of our fallen comrades, should 'take care of our own'."



**STANDING WATCH**—A soldier from the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry, stands guard at one of the bunkers protecting bridges along Highway 19E. The Panthers have recently moved into the Pleiku area to provide security for the highway, a vital supply route between the Central Highlands' city and Quin Nhon. (USA Photo By PFC Dan Weaver)

## Contact With Home Through Red Cross

By SP4 Rene Lamarche

**HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS**—For the serviceman in Vietnam, the swiftest contact with home is through the Red Cross. Handled by the Service to Military Installations Division of Red Cross, messages of importance between the American soldier and his family are relayed halfway across the world in a matter of hours.

But the SML Division functions involve more than the actual contact procedure. Their assistance aids the serviceman in as many ways as possible.

"Our major objective here is to maintain a bridge of communications between servicemen and their families in times of need," stated Mr. Jerry Jackson, the 2nd Brigade's assistant Red Cross field director. Through an intricate network the information is dispatched to the individual involved.

"The process begins when the family contacts their local Red Cross chapter. Soon after verification of the case is made the information is transmitted to our main communications center in Washington, D.C.

"Our in-country receiving point is then alerted and the message is forwarded to us," Mr. Jackson continued. "Military equipment is utilized during the entire operation."

Upon receiving notification the Red Cross personnel convey the message to the individual. "In all cases, I attempt to meet each man personally, but often that's not possible," explained Mr. Jackson. "When the man is unavailable, his company com-

mander is notified and he delivers the message."

Mr. Jackson of Youngstown, Ohio, explained that health and welfare reports comprise the majority of the Red Cross workload.

"When a family hasn't heard from a member for a number of days, we contact the man and ask him to write home. At the same time a report is sent to the family of the man updating the conditions which exist. In most cases the man just hasn't had the opportunity to write."

When emergencies at home arise the Red Cross again serves the soldier. Through Red Cross verification of a death or serious problems within a family, military personnel are able to obtain emergency leaves within hours after notification. "Upon military approval we can have a man headed for home within a 24-hour period."

In situations where a man needs funds, the Red Cross has a loan system to assist him.

## Rangers' OJT Is Real Thing

**OASIS**—For the new 3rd Brigade Rangers the training mission was their combat indoctrination.

Shortly after their insertion into an area six miles south of the Oasis, the Rangers experienced their baptism under fire.

After advancing less than 100 meters from the insertion point, the Ranger team came under heavy fire from an estimated five North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers.

"They were reconning by fire and trying to draw us into firing," explained Private First Class Clyde Earnhardt of Charlotte, N.C., a former combat engineer who was participating in

his first Ranger mission.

First Lieutenant Charles Santose of DeKalb, Ill., a veteran of six months of combat as a platoon leader, immediately called gunship and artillery assistance.

Additional assistance came when the reconnaissance platoon of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry moved into the area in a combat assault.

Gunships hovering over the contact area came under heavy AK47 fire as the enemy soldiers fled to the east.

Lieutenant Santose said the new Rangers had "performed extremely well considering it was their first mission."

"It was quite an experi-

ence," said Private First Class Archie Strickland of Blackshear, Ga., who has been in Vietnam for one month and was taking part in his first Ranger mission.



**PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE**—The moisture of the monsoon season in the Central Highlands can cause a multitude of problems for soldiers and their equipment. Daily cleaning and constant care reduces the problems and allows proper functioning of equipment and weapons. Better be safe than sorry! (USA Photo By PFC Dan Weaver)

## 'Old Hat' For Weber

**OASIS**—Hanging from a pole 30 feet off the ground on a belt of leather, he performs his task quickly and efficiently.

Specialist 4 Joseph W. Weber of Baltimore is no circus performer, yet as a lineman for the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's 3rd Brigade Headquarters Company's Commo section, he takes almost the same risks. One of his major duties as a lineman is to climb utility poles.

This is old hat for lineman Weber. "I climbed poles for an electrical company in Baltimore for a year and a half before entering the Army," said Specialist Weber.

This lineman is one of three climbers, but because of his experience, he conducts most of the climbs. He climbs on the average of two to three poles a day. Strapping on his "spiked" foot braces and safety belt, Specialist Weber is able to "walk" up any pole.

# Baptism Under Fire For Braves' Recon

By PFC William A. Edwards

**OASIS**—Swift, endurance, tenacity and alertness are all part of belonging to a Reconnaissance Platoon. Covering large segments of a battalion's area of operation at a time, they silently comb hostile areas, reporting enemy troop movements and gathering intelligence.

Intensive training has made the Recon Platoon one of the most successful types of operations in the Vietnam conflict, and the Recon Platoon of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry is a perfect example of this combat excellence.

The 3rd Brigade's Reconnaissance Platoon distinguished itself as an effective fighting force before it completed its training at the Famous Fighting Fourth's Recondo School. The team killed two enemy and wounded a third while on a combat operation in the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry area of operation.

In the same action they captured two AK47s, two rucksacks and intelligence items. Two days later the team completed the final phase of training and graduated.

## Capture VC

Then, a mere two days after Recondo School, the platoon played a leading role in the capture of three Viet Cong (VC) while on a cordon and search operation northwest of Pleiku.

The same day they moved to a predesignated portion of the battalion's AO and began a reconnaissance mission but the following day they hit the jackpot again.

One of the platoon's teams was moving cautiously along a trail bordered by thick underbrush when the point man, Specialist 4 Eugene Keyser of Westfield, N.Y., heard movement.

"Everyone pulled back about fifty meters and three of us went up to check it out. We listened trying to figure out how many there were. I distinguished three voices and we crept back to the platoon."

The platoon leader, sent some of his men to the left of the enemy position. As they approached the first bunker on what appeared to be a new perimeter the men could hear digging in addition to the voices.

## Capture One

Specialist 4 Sammy Lee of Chattanooga, Tenn., described

the action. "We started lobbing grenades toward the bunkers, trying to flush anyone in them out. All of a sudden one jumped out of a hole and started running. Two of our men opened up with their M16s and I shot him with my M79. We brought him down and detained him."

The platoon threw the rest of their grenades, grabbed one of several rucks in the area, and moved swiftly with the enemy soldier to the pick-up point.

Two days later the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry's Recon Platoon returned to Camp Wilson for a well deserved hot meal, shower and rest. As the battalion's intelligence officer, Captain Peter Lincoln of Washington, D.C., debriefed the participants one could easily note a pronounced sense of pride in the platoon's attitude. It was pride in a job well done.



**FIRST OF MANY**—Major General Donn R. Pepke, commanding general of the Fourth Infantry Division, makes the first donation to the Army Emergency Relief Fund (AER) as he gives a check to 1st Lieutenant Edward M. Bradford of Washington, D.C., Division AER project officer. General Pepke's donation kicked off this year's AER campaign which officially began June 15 and will run until August 15. Anyone wishing to make contributions to the fund can do so through their unit AER officer. (USA Photo By PFC John Warwick)

## With Army Medical Help

# Giem's Faltering Vision Corrected

By PFC Richard Souto  
**HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS** —

"Knowing that Giem might never again have the opportunity to receive medical treatment for her faltering vision, I decided to attempt to utilize the medical skills and facilities of the Fourth Division to help her," said Specialist 4 Walt Benedick of Pittsburgh.

Specialist Benedick is a member of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry's Medical Civil Affairs Program team which makes daily visits to Kontum Kopy, Giem's hometown.

When the thirteen-year-old girl continually complained about headaches, Specialist Benedick examined her eyes and noticed they were slightly crossed. Through Minh, the team's inter-

preter, he discovered that her vision was blurred and double.

## Seeks Help

Unable to rectify this condition himself and with the possibility of the youngster's eventual blindness, Specialist Benedick decided to seek outside help.

He brought Giem's problem to the attention of Captain Richard Myers, 2nd Brigade S5. Captain Myers of Wichita, Kan., coordinated with the doctors of Company C, 4th Medical Battalion, to arrange an appointment for the young girl.

The next step for Specialist Benedick was permission from the village chiefs to take Giem in for treatment. To his delight permission was willingly granted and Giem was on her way for the necessary treatment.

Doctors at the Highlander Heights Medical Aid Station recommended that an ophthalmologist be consulted.

## Operation Not Needed

The young girl was flown by MEDEVAC helicopter to the 71st Evacuation hospital where she underwent various eye examinations. The results established that an operation would not be necessary and that corrective lenses would correct the problem.

Thanks to the combined efforts of Specialist Benedick, Captain Myers and the doctors

involved in the case, Giem now has normal vision when using her glasses. "It was really rewarding to see the look on Giem's face as she cleaned her new glasses before putting them on," related Specialist Benedick.

When Giem returned to her village she was a celebrity and the center of attention. Interpreter Minh explained that the thrilled youngster was telling everyone of the care, food and helicopter ride.

When Minh asked the villagers for their opinion of Giem's adventure, they responded, "Number One!"

# Quads Spit Quick, Deadly Ordnance

By PFC Chuck Colgan

**CAMP RADCLIFF**—Four .50 caliber machine guns firing in unison creates quite a roar.

The tandem-mounted, four gun team is commonly referred to as a Quad .50 and is usually mounted in the bed of a two and a half ton truck. Firing simultaneously, they form a deadly combination expending with extreme accuracy a devastating 2,000 rounds per minute.

Last month the Quad .50 unit from Echo Battery, 41st Artillery, known as "Hill's Hellions," was credited with 22 enemy kills. The unit, comprised of 26 trucks scattered throughout the Central Highlands, is presently attached to the 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery at An Khe.

Captain Augustine Hill of Nashville, Tenn., unit commander says, "The quads' primary mission is convoy security and mobile firepower around base camp perimeters. However, at many firebases and landing zones they are a major means of defense.

"At firebases the enemy knows he must get the quads before he can mount a successful attack," explained Captain Hill, "but if he's within mortar range, he's within range of our quads. If he doesn't get us with the first couple of rounds he's in trouble."

Often the quads are assigned to small firebases where a truck is too bulky and awkward for perimeter defense. In these cases the turret is removed from the truck and airlifted into a bunker position.

The success of the team is expressed by the units they help reinforce. "Every time we leave an outfit they ask us to come back. If we had 10 more units like this one we could find them homes. Our men do a real job and they are appreciated for it," Captain Hill concluded.



**MOBILITY**—A rolling arsenal of firepower, soldiers from Echo Company, 41st Artillery (Quad 50s) blaze away from their truck bed called Spit Fire. The four mounted .50 calibre machine guns and the mounted M60 do just that—spit fire and hot lead as they help bolster perimeter defenses and convoys with the mobile concentration of heavy fire.

(USA Photo By CPT Augustine V. Hill Jr)