

MG Pepke Takes Command Of 4th Division

Decorated Career Spans 29 Years



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CAMP ENARI, VIETNAM

December 1, 1968

Medevac Volunteers React Fast

By PFC Norman Pazderski
BAN ME THUOT—The frenzied cry, "Medevac!" shattered the stillness of the 4th Aviation Battalion radio.

As soon as the plea was received there was a scramble for volunteers.

"I'll go!" yelled crew chief, Specialist 4 James Preuitt of Dallas.

Then Warrant Officer John Haszard of Bowie, Md., volunteered to pilot.

Two More Join

Captain Alan J. Fry of Cincinnati, and Specialist 4 Oscar Tristain of East Chicago, Ind., joined in to complete the crew.

Little did the men know they were destined to become heroes, or that their quick reaction would bring them medals for valor.

Elements of 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, commanded by Captain Charles Rothlisberger of Oklahoma City, made heavy contact during the day. They needed medical treatment immediately.

With this thought of life or death for the "Cacti Blue," the volunteers jumped aboard their "Blackjack" helicopter.

The weather was violent, yet, someone had to fly out there—and fast.

The chopper approached the area where it had earlier received ground fire.

"We expected to be hit again, but we lucked out," said Specialist Tristain.

Eight men waited below to be picked up. It wouldn't be easy, for normally a "slick" carries only six or seven troops.

Weather Gets Worse

As the ship made its approach, the crew knew they had to try. It would take too long for another chopper to come and the weather was getting worse by the minute.

No sooner had the Huey settled down when the wounded were helped aboard.

"We just had to make it, even if the weight was too much," said Mister Haszard.

The "Blackjack" slowly gained altitude and headed back, even though the winds worsened causing the ship to rock.

At the time, it seemed as if they were barely through the heavy rain.

But reach their destination they did.

Two days later, Major Charles L. Woodhurst of Anderson, S.C., ordered the chopper crew to report to him.

Brigadier General Albin L. Izyk of Washington, D.C., personally awarded Army Commendation Medals with "V" device to the men.

Their gallantry would long be remembered by those who had been air lifted to safety that dark and turbulent night.



MAJOR GENERAL DONN ROYCE PEPKE.

2 Companies Take President's Honors

BY SP5 Jeffrey Tarter and SP4 Craig McGowan
CAMP ENARI—Two 4th Division units received the coveted Presidential Unit Citation from the President of the United States, Lyndon B. Johnson.

General Creighton W. Abrams, commander of U.S. Forces Vietnam, presented the award to Alpha Company of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, and Bravo Company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, and Bravo Company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry during a ceremony at the Ivy Division's headquarters here.

Also present at the ceremony was the 4th Division's commander, Major General Charles P. Stone.

The two companies were cited for a joint airborne assault against several battalions of North Vietnamese Army forces near the Ia Drang Valley on May 28-29, 1966.

For 26 hours, the enemy made repeated efforts to dislodge the American infantrymen from their hilltop position. The NVA finally withdrew after losing 241 soldiers.

In the text of the citations, the two companies were praised for "outstanding performance and exceptional valor in action against a numerically superior and heavily-armed North Vietnamese Army force.

"Outnumbered and surrounded, Company A fought valiantly, shoulder to shoulder with Company B, as successive waves of the foe sought to overrun their position.

"With great professional skill, the officers and men repelled each enemy onslaught. Gallant acts by all men and inspired leadership were the order of the day.

"When the rear of battle subsided, the enemy had withdrawn to reorganize his battered units, leaving 241 of his troops dead

and numerous weapons as mute evidence of the intensity of the engagement and the valiant efforts of the defenders.

"Through their heroic stand, another illustrious page was written in United States military history," the citations concluded.

Both units are now part of the
(Continued on Back Page)

Air Strikes Rout The Enemy

Ivy Forces Foil NVA In Ia Drang

BY SP5 Jeffrey Tarter

OASIS—The day began with gunships and air strikes. It ended with the death of a lone NVA soldier on a twisting, grassy trail near the Ia Drang Valley.

Alpha Troop of the 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry, commanded by Major William T. Glover of Hopkinsville, Ky., spotted the NVA soldiers first. The cavalrymen saw an estimated squad of the enemy, wearing dirty green khaki uniforms.

Sweeping over the trees, the gunships scattered the NVA with a rain of fire and air strikes raked through the jungle when the Air Cavalry finished its work.

The air strikes were still pounding the enemy positions when the 1st Platoon of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, began landing on an abandoned firebase less than a mile away.

With helicopters skimming overhead to protect and guide them, the men of the 1st Platoon, commanded by First Lieutenant Wiley J. Inscho of San Antonio, Tex., moved out along a stream to a small clearing where the NVA had been caught.

There they found two enemy

CAMP ENARI — Major General Donn Royce Pepke, who assumed command of the Famous Fourth Division, Nov. 30, comes to the Pleiku area from Headquarters, Department of the Army, where he has served as Director of Plans, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations since April 1967.

General Pepke's distinguished military career began June 21, 1939, when he was commissioned a second lieutenant from the Infantry School at Ft. Benning, Ga. His first assignment was to the 15th "Can Do" Infantry Regiment at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

In July 1942, he was assigned as Regimental S3 with the 63rd Infantry Regiment, 6th Infantry Division, Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. During the Pacific Campaign, he rose to Regimental Commander and, at the age of 27, was the youngest officer to hold a Regimental Commander's post in the Pacific Theater of Operations.

In August 1945, he was transferred to the 20th Infantry Regiment in Korea to command that unit.

General Pepke returned to the United States in August 1946 to use his acquired skill and knowledge as instructor of combined arms and tactics at the Engineer School, Ft. Belvoir, Va. He served in this capacity until September 1950, when he was assigned as Staff Officer of Headquarters Group, European Command, Heidelberg, Germany.

In October 1953, General Pepke again journeyed Stateside to become Chief of the Advanced Tactics Group at the Infantry Center, Ft. Benning, Ga. He then spent 1956 in Korea, first

as Senior Advisor to the 20th Division of the Republic of Korea Army, later as Senior Advisor to the ROKA's 8th Division, and then as Senior Advisor for Logistics to the Korean Army.

In December 1956, General Pepke began an eight-month tour in Japan as Chief of the Operations and Training Division, 8th Army (rear) at Camp Zama.

Attending the US Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., was next on his agenda. From there he was named Special Assistant to the Director of Plans, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations, HQ, DA. He later became Chief of the Joint War Plans Division.

In June 1960, General Pepke was appointed to the Far East Branch, Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In January 1962, he moved to Ft. Hood, Tex., as Chief of Staff of the 1st Armored Division. He remained at Ft. Hood until transferred to Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, to be head of the Central War and Area Wide Plans and Policies Section of Hq, Pacific Area Command. He later became Assistant to the Chief of Staff for the Commander in Chief of the Pacific Area Command, a post held until October 1964.

On Nov. 16, 1964 General Pepke was assigned as Deputy Commanding General, Headquarters, US Army School Training Center at Ft. Gordon, Ga., where he remained until December 1965. Then he began his tour with the Plans Section, DSCOPS, at HQ, DA, as Assistant Director of that operation.

During his career, General Pepke has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

The general was born in Minot, N.D. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of North Dakota.

They were forced to shoot one when he started to fling a grenade at them. The other was killed almost at once.

"All around the air strikes, we found blood trails heading east," Lieutenant Inscho said.

In all, nine enemy dead were counted in the clearing.

Guided by a Kit Carson scout, the platoon fought its way through small-arms fire to reach a platoon-sized bunker complex.

Then Lieutenant Inscho's platoon came back to the clearing, cut a landing zone and set up a perimeter. Moments later the rest of Delta Company, commanded by Captain Jerry P. Laird, was airlifted in to reinforce the 1st Platoon.

Lieutenant Inscho and a five-man patrol set off for a hill 200 yards away.

"We ran across a trail made by the enemy, which was pretty well used," he said.

"We followed it for a short distance. Then, suspecting an ambush, we moved off the trail onto the top of the hill. After we reconnoitered the area, the rest of the company came on in with us.

"At the bottom of the hill the 2nd Platoon found 25 enemy

rucksacks and encountered one enemy."

Private First Class Dean L. Horton of Ontario, Calif., a medic with Delta Company, was nearby when the single NVA was found.

"As we were going down the trail we saw all these packs laying by the trail," he recalled. "Three men walked past them. The fourth man spotted movement and fired a warning shot in the air.

"We hollered 'Chieu Hoi' and shouted for him to come out," said PFC Horton. "He just lay there, scared. He had an AK47 with a banana clip in one hand and a Chicom grenade in the other.

"About a dozen people had him covered," said PFC Horton. "Suddenly he threw the Chicom out and fired one shot. The CO and another man silenced the enemy."

It was all over then. Delta Company went back up the narrow trail, set up camp for the night and gathered up the enemy's abandoned gear.

The final tally of captured equipment included 55 rucksacks, automatic and crew-served weapons, and large quantities of ammunition and explosives.



Fighting Fourth
Battle Briefs

ALLIED INSTALLATIONS in the Pleiku Province were hit hard by enemy mortar and rocket fire during the week Nov. 9-15 in the 4th Division area of operation.

Supported by 4th Division artillery and gun ships, the allied forces accounted for 13 enemy dead while friendly casualties were described as light. Weapons were also captured during the fighting.

Just shortly after midnight Nov. 13, enemy sappers attempted to penetrate the perimeter of the 88th Supply and Service Battalion, five kilometers north of Pleiku. Four enemy soldiers were found dead on the perimeter wire after the attack was repelled.

At the same time an ARVN installation two kilometers southwest of Pleiku, was hit by B40 rocket fire followed by a ground attack. Ivy artillery pounded the area and the enemy retreated leaving behind two dead soldiers. Documents, an AK47 and B40 rocket rounds were also found in the area.

Six NVA soldiers met death when Company A, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, came under intense mortar and small arms fire near Duc Co, 38 kilometers west southwest of Camp Enari, Division base camp headquarters.

Spooky mini-gunships were employed to repel the attack.

In another action, west of Camp Enari near Thanh An, an RF Force came under small arms and rocket fire. The unknown size enemy force was turned back in the fighting and fled leaving behind two NVA dead and several weapons.

Farther south near Duc Lap, a Recon Patrol from Company D, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, found one NVA body while conducting a sweep of the area. The body was thought to have been three to four weeks old.

The following day an air ship from Troop C, 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry came under heavy ground fire while flying a recon mission near Duc Co.

The aircraft made it safely to LZ Vera, seven kilometers south of Duc Co. There were no Ivy casualties.

Farther south, a crew from another 17th Cavalry ship spotted an NVA unit and called in artillery. A large secondary explosion occurred as a result of the airstrikes, billowing smoke some 300 feet into the air.

Closer to Camp Enari, an element of the 4th Engineer Battalion found mines along Highway 6C. The mines were blown in place with no damage to friendly vehicles.

Earlier in the week, Troop C, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, discovered a 263-bunker complex just two kilometers south of Highway 512. The complex, discovered Nov. 9, showed signs of use by an enemy company 24 hours prior to discovery.

Soars With 'Slick' Job

Chief Extracts Thankful Smiles

BY SP4 Hans J. Lange
BAN ME THUOT—"I like to fly," says Specialist 4 David A. Palmatier of Hyattsville, Md., crew chief of a Huey slick.

Specialist Palmatier, who has been with Company A, 4th Aviation Battalion, commanded by Major Charles L. Woodhurst of Anderson, S.C., decided the one way he could see the world from the air was as a helicopter crew chief. And that's what he enlisted for.

After a rigorous 12-week course of basic and advanced repair studies on the UH-1 helicopter, he arrived in Vietnam to put into practice what he had learned.

"I was really lucky," he says, "most chopper repairmen have to spend three months on the ground for on-the-job-training. But I was assigned to a ship and began crewing right away."

The responsibilities of a slick crew chief are many. He spends most of the daylight hours with his craft and sometimes works

late into the night.

Rises Early
Specialist Palmatier rises each day at 5:30 a.m. The first order of business is a pre-flight inspection of the helicopter. "This includes the daily maintenance inspection, which takes about an hour," he says.

Next, the crew chief must check on the flights scheduled for the day. This can vary from the routine resupply mission to a combat assault or other troop movements.

"The hairiest are the LRP (Long Range Patrol) extractions," says Specialist Palmatier. "We never know what to expect. LRPs don't usually call for extraction unless NVA are chasing them, and it takes precise coordination to get them out unharmed."

Since Specialist Palmatier has been here, working in harmony with the 2nd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Herbert J. McChrystal of Arlington, Va., he has been putting in some long

hours. His craft must constantly be checked to keep it operational. He is the only one who does it.

No Time Off
There is no time off for a slick crew chief, unless his craft is undergoing a periodic inspection, which is after 100 hours of operation. These inspections must be executed by a ground crew and usually take two days. Worn parts are replaced and everything on the helicopter gets the once over.

The function of the slick crew chief encompasses more than just keeping the craft in working condition. He knows the copter better than anyone else, better than even the pilot.

"A crew chief is assigned to the same one until it is taken out of service or until he leaves Vietnam. Pilots, on the other hand, fly a different craft every day."

"The crew chief must constantly keep the pilot informed on what is happening to the craft," he continued. "I'll always tell the pilot how much weight this bird can lift, how many packs it can haul and all the other characteristics peculiar to the craft. Pilots need to know these things in order to fly well."

On a slick, the crew chief always commands the left door, and mans its gun. Specialist Palmatier says this is done so that he can monitor the gauges as they cannot be seen from the right door.

Have the nine months of crewing a slick been rewarding? "They certainly have," answers Specialist Palmatier. "I get tremendous satisfaction when I see the smiles on the faces of ground troops after we bring them hot chow and mail. Times like that really make the hours of work worthwhile."

Augusta Veterans Give, Soling Children's Feet

BY SP4 Larry Hogan
BAN ME THUOT—The patter of little feet will have a different tone near the battle-torn city of Duc Lap soon. Many of the children will have new shoes.

A short time after the 4th Division's 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel William C. Moore of Alexandria, Va., moved into the Central Highlands area southwest of Ban Me Thuot, the unit's top NCO, Sergeant Major John D. Harris of Columbia, S.C., sent his wife a photo of the many refugees left by the fighting.

The 2nd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Herbert J. McChrystal of Arlington, Va., had played a major role in the battle to lift the siege of the Duc Lap

Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) camp.

In a letter sent with the photo, Sergeant Major Harris mentioned that many people did not even have shoes.

Apparently, the letter was shown to the Sergeant Major's father, Arthur T. Harris of Augusta, Ga.

A few days later, a letter arrived from Mr. Harris stating, "If these people need shoes, let me know."

The Sergeant Major replied that the people did, indeed, need shoes.

Mr. Harris went to work. With the aid of the rest of the family, he began a project to provide shoes for the refugees.

Local television stations and newspapers quickly joined in the campaign.

With the Augusta Veterans of Foreign Wars office as a collection point, shoes began to flow in from throughout the area.

One hundred pairs of new shoes were donated by the citizens of Augusta.

The Harris family, including the Sergeant Major's wife, Charlotte, personally paid the postage to have the shoes shipped to Vietnam.

The people of Duc Lap lost a great deal during the fighting, but life may be a little more comfortable for them because an Ivy soldier, a family and an entire city took the time to help.

Class Project Sends Letters

BAN ME THUOT—What's it like to be the son of the month to a whole church?

Captain Burnum E. Melton, aviation officer of the 4th Division's 2nd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Herbert J. McChrystal of Arlington, Va., knows . . . and he likes it just fine.

"I began receiving mail from members of the church I belong to in my home town of Birmingham, Ala.," said the Highlander captain. "The letters said I had been chosen their son of the month."

The church is the Lake Highland Methodist Church of Birmingham and Captain Melton says the Sunday school class took up the project to let its "sons" know people at home do care.

"Each month they select a member, or the son of a member, who is serving with the armed forces overseas," the captain says, "and each member of the Sunday school class sends a letter or a package to the soldier."

"It's quite a feeling knowing there are good, solid Americans behind me," he said. "Believe me, this has really reinforced my faith in the folks back home."

Captain Melton has answered each letter faithfully. "And I'll continue answering them," he says.

Safety Record:

CAMP ENARI — Company E, 704th Maintenance, commanded by Major Charles H. Grayson of Gulfport, Miss., received a letter of achievement for its outstanding safety record, from Major General Charles P. Stone, commanding general of the 4th Division.

Company E, which is concerned with aviation maintenance, accumulated 258 hours of accident-free flying time to earn General Stone's praise.

The general challenged the men of Company E to "improve your accident prevention program so as to maintain this record throughout the coming months."



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Commanding General Major General Donn Royce Pepke
Information Officer Major Donald D. David

STAFF

Officer-in-Charge 2LT Brian P. Levy
Editor SP4 Steve Wilson
News Editor SGT Joe Perdue
Editorial Assistant SP4 Russ Landon

Capture Documents, Weapons

Braves Kill NVA, Secure Hill

BY SP4 Bill Gibbons
 DAK TO—The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Richard X. Larkin of Omaha, Neb., had given Delta Company its assignment. They were to sweep Hill 718 and assess the damage done by artillery fire on a suspected enemy position.

Captain Ronald B. Foss of Athens, Ga., the company commander, ordered his lead element to move out. As the point team was making a turn in the trail they saw a group of five NVA soldiers walking toward them.

Both groups were startled. The Americans jumped to the side of the trail and opened fire. The NVA did the same, but they had an advantage. Unknown to the American forces, bunkers were hidden all along the trail and the enemy troops were in them in seconds.

After a brief but fierce fire fight, the Ivymen were able to break contact with the estimated reinforced squad and make their

way back to the landing zone (LZ).

That night artillery pounded the hill mercilessly.

The following morning, Company D was joined by Charlie Company, commanded by Captain David C. Murrow of Newton, Iowa. Once again their mission was to assess the damage on Hill 718.

The sun had reached its highest peak when the combined companies reached Hill 718. A three man point from Company C was leading the way.

The point element was winding its way around a bomb crater when shots rang out from a bamboo thicket only eight feet away. As the three men dived into the bomb crater behind them, an unidentified Ivymen emptied his clip into the thicket and permanently silenced the enemy sniper.

But there were others. Every time the men tried to move from the crater they received heavy small arms fire from another bamboo thicket. The squad lead-

er, Sergeant Frank Adriance of Whittier, Calif., immediately moved up to the crater and was followed shortly afterward by Captain Murrow.

Despite the fact all the men in the bunker had thrown grenades into the enemy position, the small arms fire kept coming.

Sergeant Adriance moved a machine gunner in to protect his right flank as Captain Murrow called for air support. After marking the enemy position with smoke grenades, cobra gunshots came in at treetop level and a score of rockets burst through the thicket to snuff out the NVA threat.

Captain Murrow regrouped his forces and sent them out to secure the rest of the hill.

Once again the Americans met enemy fire, this time from a single NVA soldier firing from a bunker. The bunker was connected to another by a narrow trench and the enemy sniper would run between them, firing from each bunker.

While the lone NVA was moving through the trench, Specialist 4 David E. Hoffer of Akron, Ohio, ran to the soon-to-be-occupied bunker. He pulled the pin on a grenade, delayed a second so the NVA could not throw it back out, then dropped it in on top of him.

The Americans met no more resistance. When the final tally was made, three NVA bodies were counted.

Documents were taken off an NVA corporal and several automatic weapons were found along with small supplies of ammunition.

Leper Found

CAMP ENARI—Following a lead provided by Montagnard tribesmen, cavalrymen from Troop C, 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, commanded by Captain Colin L. McArthur from York, Pa., discovered one of the most unusual finds of the war, a leper colony.

The small colony, inhabited by five middle-aged Montagnards, a few chickens, several dogs and a lone goat, had lived in exile for three years.

In a Montagnard community, those afflicted with the disease are believed inhabited with evil spirits, thus are segregated from the village.

Sensing a call to duty, the cavalrymen carried the diseased men and all their belongings from their little "Siberia" to a distant dirt road, where medical specialists waited to take them to the Leper Rehabilitating Center south of Pleiku, for treatment and hopefully, eventual cure.

Warrant Officers Climb With Promotions

BAN ME THUOT—It was an unusual day for four warrant officers when they climbed to 10,000 feet in their UH1H helicopter. As they ascended to this climactic height, each one received the grade of chief warrant officer.

The men of the 4th Aviation Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel George A. Powers of Milledgeville, Ga., climbed the ladder in years of service. Each was promoted at a corresponding altitude for his years served.

For each year, the "Iroquois" drifted up another 1,000 feet.

As the slick reached a height of 3,000 feet, it leveled off and

remained steady until Mister David C. Stejles of New Ulm, Minn., and Mister Patrick C. Teague of Manhattan Beach, Calif., were promoted to their new grade of chief warrant officer.

"Take it up to 6,000 feet," motioned Major Charles L. Woodhurst of Anderson, S.C., who was awarding his men.

Still one more man was to be promoted.

"How many years have you been in the service," asked Major Woodhurst.

"Ten years, sir," replied Mister John J. Ward of Charlotte, N.C.

The ship then climbed to 10,000 feet.



HOME-COMING—This picture of then Sergeant Louis Klopotski was used for the cover of the 4th Division's 37th Anniversary magazine in 1954. Now Master Sergeant Klopotski, he has returned to serve with the Ivy unit in Vietnam after being away for 14 years. (USA Photo)

Soldier Returns Home To Fourth Division

By SGT Joe Perdue
 CAMP ENARI—The man with "a face of a soldier" has returned to the 4th Infantry Division after a 14-year absence.

It was 1954 when the strong-featured Sergeant Louis Klopotski of Nanticoke, Pa., was chosen for the cover of the Division's 37th Anniversary Magazine.

Editors of the publication decided Sergeant Klopotski's face had the strength and character most representative of soldiers who have fought under the

colors of the Ivy banner. They remembered the men honored for their valor at Septarges, the Ivymen who were the first allied soldiers to storm Utah Beach and the proud moment when the 4th Division moved in for the liberation of Paris, again the first allied troops on the battle scene.

So, when they chose the youthful sergeant from Pennsylvania, as the man to represent "the face of a soldier," it was no small honor.

At the time, he was a member of Company A, 12th Infantry, stationed in Germany.

The 4th Division has come a long way since then and so has Sergeant Klopotski. The 20-year Army veteran has toured Korea and returned for another 18 months to Germany with the 8th Infantry Division.

Also, he has served with several units at various posts in the United States.

He is now Master Sergeant Louis Klopotski of the 4th Medical Battalion and back "home" with the Ivy Division at Camp Enari in the Central Highlands.

Team Overrun By Wild Ones At Midnight

OASIS—A Short Range Patrol (SRP) team from the Ivy Division's 3rd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Stan L. McClellan of Ventura, Calif., was hunting for NVA when their position was overrun by wild boars.

Private First Class Walter Lee Jackson of Memphis, Tenn., was on guard in the middle of the night when he heard something crash through the thick jungle near his position.

A quick radio call to nearby Firebase Mary S. alerted the 81mm mortar crew of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, commanded by Captain Garrett T. Cowser of Amsterdam, N.Y.

Seconds later PFC Jackson was face to face with one of the intruders—a 400 pound wild boar whose sharp tusks gleamed like half-moons.

With a loud squeal, the angry boar stampeded through the SRP position.

The rest of the herd was still smashing through the jungle underbrush when the SRP team called in several mortar rounds to frighten off the boars.

"You just can't stop something that big with an M16," said PFC Jackson.

"But I wish we could've shot one and brought him back to the company to eat," he added.

Wife Cares

BAN ME THUOT—First Lieutenant Charles R. Orndeff of Pittsburgh, Pa., air officer of the 2nd Brigade's 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, has not yet decided whether to thank or spank his wife for the package she sent him.

"I received the package from Marge the other day," he mused, "and in it was an assortment of sundry items hard to get here, except for what was in the bottom of the box. Would you believe boned chicken? Right, a couple of cans. I can't even give it away."

The Red Warrior Lieutenant has been in the field for sometime now and the taste of "C" rations is as familiar to him as a cold water shave. "At least," he says, "she was thinking of me."

Patrol Almost Zaps Friendly Orangutan

By SP5 Jeffrey Tarter
 OASIS—Because they sounded too much like an NVA ambush, friendly orangutans brought mortar and artillery fire down on themselves when they blundered into a Short Range Patrol (SRP) team near the Cambodian border.

"We had been finding long, human-like hairs along the trails," said the team's leader, Specialist 4 Toil Smith of Kansas City, Mo. "We just couldn't figure out what they were."

Tax Collector Killed In Act

BY SP4 Larry Hogan
 BAN ME THUOT—"Charlie's" internal revenue service may have a little trouble collecting taxes from the people living north of here. Their tax collector is dead.

Units from the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Robert Noce of Washington, D.C. were working in an area southwest of the Mowal rubber plantation, when a Shamrock light observation helicopter (LOH) observer-gunner spotted a man wearing a pack moving through the jungle.

Like a fat bee, the chopper buzzed down at the man. Specialist 4 Larry Heuer of Wilmington, Del., spotted the man's weapon, an AK47.

Looking up at the chopper, the man started to run.

Instantly, Specialist Heuer opened up with his machine gun.

The man fell, lurched to his feet, and limped into the woodland.

Word was flashed to the ground troops:

"Individual moving in your direction. Probably wounded. Intercept."

Moments later a track driver spotted the enemy fleeing through the jungle.

A shot cracked through the air and the soldier fell dead.

A search of his pack revealed several documents, one of which appeared to be a list, completed with dates of last payments by local citizens forced to pay taxes to the enemy.

When the Ivy Division SRP team stopped in a clump of dense bamboo they began hearing noises that gave them more reason to worry. "The first time, I thought it was a tree falling down," Specialist Smith said.

"Then I heard the same sound again. No tree falls twice in the same place."

The sounds of movement grew louder and began approaching the SRP team in a wide semicircle.

Convinced an enemy patrol was creeping up around their position, the SRP team called for 81mm mortar fire from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, commanded by Captain Garrett T. Cowser of Amsterdam, N.Y.

"They gave us a couple of illumination rounds to adjust with," Specialist Smith said. "But the jungle was too thick for mortars to do much good."

Bravo Company then offered to call for artillery support, and the SRP team agreed.

But just as the first 155mm rounds were fired, the SRP leader finally caught sight of one of the "enemy."

It was a long-armed orangutan jumping from tree to tree.

The SRP team quickly checked fire.

"The orangutan spotted us and started jumping around and clapping his hands," Specialist Smith recalled. "He seemed to be happy to see someone."

Cavalry LRPs Keep Jungle River Open

Story By PFC John Uhlar
Photos By SSG Frank Madison

THE DAK AYUNH RIVER is born in the foothills north of Highway 19 and nourished by numerous Central Highland streams as it rushes south, then east to the South China Sea.

Historically, it has been an avenue of water transportation for Viet Minh forces during the French-Indo-Chinese War and, more recently, for Viet Cong and NVA units.

On March 22, 1954, elements of the French Grouperment (GP) Mobile 100, pushing south from Pleiku, were outdistanced and ambushed at Plei Rinh by two battalions of Viet Minh regulars utilizing the Dak Ayunh.

Three months later, the entire GM 100, fighting out of a mammoth ambush at the Muang Yang Pass on Highway 19, was swallowed by an earthquake of well-aimed artillery and mortar fire by strategically encamped and well-supplied Viet Minh forces at the Dak Ayunh River crossing.

Today, the icy waters of the Da Ayunh retain much of their mysterious aura.

Shaded by overhanging, matted jungle terrain, its regular flow is interrupted by fallen trees, hidden snags, bottomless whirlpools and treacherous eddies.

There are signs of man's presence, however.

Enemy bridges, bunkers and landing facilities are plentiful, and their existence presents a direct threat to the surrounding areas and 4th Division convoys laden with supplies, using Highway 19.

For the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Donald W. Moreau of Leavenworth, Kan., whose mission is to see that the Highway 19 lifeline remains open, a LRP assault platoon accompanied by elements of the 4th Engineer Battalion, attempts to keep the river free of enemy activity.

Acrobatic and aquatic skill, coupled with exacting teamwork, characterize the Cavalry's LRP Platoon, commanded by First Lieutenant John Morales of Chino, Calif., and assisted by Staff Sergeant Arnold Holm of Waterford, Conn.

At the sight of an enemy bridge or bunker complex, the rubber assault rafts are steered to shore and tethered.

Like clockwork the LRP Platoon fans out to secure the area as engineers plant demolition, then as stealthfully as they landed, depart.

Sometimes the tactical situation demands disassembling the bridge by hand.

The LRP team swims out and, while bracing one another, undo all re-enforcing components until the span falls limply into the water and is washed downstream.

In a day's assault, no bridge or fallen tree is left jointed.

Those targets too large to handle by conventional means, are plotted for artillery fire.

To date, the LRP river assault unit has destroyed numerous landing zone areas and enemy bunker complexes as well as many bamboo-type bridges.

"Our activities," said Lieutenant Morales, "keep Charlie off balance, and we'll track him down every inch of the way."



IVYMEN DETONATE CHARGE TO BLOW ENEMY BRIDGE.



IVYMEN WATCH FOR OBSTACLES WHILE KEEPING EAGLE-EYE FOR ENEMY.



CAVALRYMEN SEEK ENEMY FOOT BRIDGES ON DAK AYUNH RIVER.



CAVALRYMEN APPROACH ENEMY FOOT BRIDGE ACROSS DAK AYUNH RIVER.

These 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalrymen are fast becoming veterans at impeding the enemy's resupply through a strange jungle interlaced with cryptic trails.

Engineers Build Road To Hope For Quang Nhieu

Story And Photos By SP5 Peter Call

BAN ME THUOT — It was to be a great day for the Central Highland villagers of Quang Nhieu. The new road would be dedicated in just a few minutes.

Vietnamese banners and flags fluttered in a stiff breeze and the citizens of the village, each with a small paper Vietnamese flag, waited in the hot sun for the ceremonies to begin.

Nguyen Chien Trang, one of the village elders, stepped from the crowd and looked up the road to Ban Me Thuot. He remembered the old rutted path that was impassable during the monsoon season.

Now it would be different and he smiled. Prosperity would come to his village.

Quang Nhieu lies nine miles north of Ban Me Thuot, the primary market place for the agricultural goods which its people produce.

The new road, built by the Ivy Division's 4th Engineer Battalion, commanded by Colonel E. R. Heiberg III of Leavenworth, Kan., now makes it possible for these villagers to boost their economy by transporting more of their produce by truck instead of small quantities by foot and bicycle.

Bravo Company, commanded by Captain Kenneth Kessler of Pentwater, Mich., had only 11 days to finish the project.

"It was a big job we faced," Captain Kessler said. "The road was in poor shape with holes and ruts—sometimes eight feet deep.

"The bridges across the three streams be-

tween Quang Nhieu and Ban Me Thuot," the captain continued, "were in danger of washing out during the first heavy rain storm so they had to be replaced."

Bulldozers Kept Busy

The 2nd Platoon of Bravo Company under the command of First Lieutenant Richard D. Warren of Sour Lake, Tex., began to perform major plastic surgery on the rutted road with graders, earth movers and bulldozers.

"Each day we poured nearly 200 cubic yards of earth on the road to fill out the holes and ruts," Lieutenant Warren said.

The 3rd Platoon, nicknamed "The Third Herd Sundowners," tackled the bridges and soon earned their name by working from sun-up to sundown to keep ahead of the road crew.

The "Herd's" commander, First Lieutenant Michael A. Wohl of Louisville, Ky., said, "The last bridge presented us with the most problems. We worked for three days laying 12 by 12 timbers for its base. It should stand for a long time."

In mid-November, the heavy equipment shut down just outside the village.

The nine miles of finished road lay behind them awaiting the dedication ceremonies.

The sound of a helicopter landing on the outskirts of town brought excitement to the crowd.

Colonel Herbert J. McChrystal of Arlington, Va., commander of the 2nd Brigade, stepped off the chopper and, after inspecting the Vietnamese honor guard, sat down under the camouflaged parachute serving as a shelter.

A few minutes later, Colonel Lam Quang Phong, Darlac Province Chief arrived and shook hands with Colonel McChrystal.

Speeches were heard and the yellow ribbon which stretched across the road was cut by the two colonels.

The elders looked on at the proceedings and again smiled. Tomorrow, indeed, would be a better day for Quang Nhieu.



COLONEL HERBERT McCHRISTAL HELPS CUT RIBBON, OPENING NEW ROAD.



FOURTH ENGINEERS GIVE MONTAGNARD TRIBESMEN HELPING HAND WHILE CROSSING STREAM PRIOR TO BUILDING A NEW BRIDGE.

Keeps Enemy Moving

TACP Dispatchers Aid Ground Troops

By SP5 Peter Call

BAN ME THUOT—Four radios blared at the airman sitting in a specially equipped jeep at the 4th Division's 2nd Brigade Command Area.

Air Force Sergeant Curtis Phillips of Graceville, Fla., a member of the 21st Tactical Air Support Squadron's Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) listened intently to one conversation....

"Put your bombs left of my smoke and you'll be right on them," one voice said.

The other voice, backed by a high pitched whine, answered "Roger, am I cleared to drop?"

The conversation between a Forward Air Control (FAC) pilot and a F100 Super Saber pilot interests Sergeant Phillips because he and the other members of TACP play an important part in providing effective, deadly air support for the 4th Division ground troops.

"Our job with the 2nd Brigade," Sergeant Phillips said "is to relay the Army's need for air support to our FACs who in turn direct the air strikes."

"We handle two types of air strikes," the Air Force radio man continued. "Pre-planned strikes figured out in advance but when we get a call for an immediate strike, it usually means someone needs air support badly."

Time Important

"This is what really makes

our job important," said Sergeant Charles M. Kirch of Laurens, Ill.

"From the time a FAC is airborne, we maintain constant communication with him to let him know if he is needed quickly."

Once again the radio came to life.

"Roger, you're cleared to drop on my smoke."

"Roger, I'm going in."

"We give him additional information also," Sergeant Kirch added. "This includes weather over the target area, target descriptions and anything else that might help him direct the fighters more accurately."

"Once the FACs and the jets team up, our job is over for a while," said Sergeant Rene Sylvester of Geneseo, N.Y.

"After the strike," the sergeant added, "we receive a bomb damage assessment from our FAC, and we relay this information to the Army."

Captain Bradley Van Sant, one of the FAC pilots working with the 2nd Brigade said, "Without these radiomen directing and linking us up with the Army's tactical operation, we wouldn't be very effective."

"These men not only do a fine job in coordinating air support," said Major Le Roi H. Butler of Lansing, Mich., Air Liaison Officer for the 2nd Brigade, "but they also keep a constant check on our position in case we have trouble and have to go down."



THE COLONEL VISITS—The soldiers' "Miss America," Martha Raye, talks with 4th Division infantrymen at a forward firebase near Dak To. It was Miss Raye's fifth visit to the Vietnam combat zone. (USA Photo by SP4 Al Milburn)

Gives Motherly Advice

Martha Raye Visits Ivy Firebases

DAK TO—"This makes the colonel's fifth tour in Vietnam," said the lieutenant.

A claim like that might be sent to the Army Times as some sort of record, particularly since the colonel is in the reserves and is a woman.

Martha Raye, one of the most durable names in show business and an officer in the Army Nurses Corps since 1939, made a two-day tour of eight bases in the 4th Division area. Her trip included stops at six fire-

bases, LZ Mary Lou and 1st Brigade headquarters at Dak To.

While at the firebases, Miss Raye talked to the men about everything from motherly advice to what the girls were wearing back home. After the talks she posed for pictures with anyone who asked.

At first some of the younger soldiers didn't recognize her. But when she told a photographer to take a light reading off her teeth and flashed her

famous smile everyone knew it could be only Martha Raye.

The men generally agreed that the nice thing about talking with her is that you don't have to waste time getting to know her. Her graciousness makes conversation the easiest thing in the world.

Although she could spend only a short time at any of the bases her presence was a great morale lifter.

It's no wonder she is known as the soldier's Miss America.

Two Battles Rage In Highlands, One Of Bullets, One Of Goodwill

By 1LT Gary Martin

CAMP ENARI — Ivymen in Vietnam's Central Highlands are fighting two wars. The first is a war of bullets and death. Accounts of this war travel the news wires every day.

In the hundreds of Montagnard villages dotting the highland landscape, another battle rages quietly.

The Montagnards have roamed Vietnam's highlands for hundreds of years, growing rice until the land will yield no more, then moving on.

Their nomadic ways have carried them disease, sickness and endless suffering. In an economy of bamboo and rice there are few medicines, few reliefs from pain.

Mounting trucks, armored personnel carriers and choppers, an army of 4th Division soldiers takes to the field each day. In every village there is activity. A school house goes up in one, an aid station in another.

Brown-skinned mothers bathe their babies with soap for the first time while neighbors learn the magic of a doctors cure.

The scene has changed among the 4th Division's Montagnard neighbors. Consolidated villages provide a security unknown to the mountain people in 20 years of continued war.

Leprosy is no longer the dreaded sickness of 10 percent of the people. Malaria's raging fever has met a cure. A newborn child defies an ancient Montagnard law that says, "... only the strong-willed survive."

"There is a tremendous aspect of the Army overlooked," said Lieutenant Colonel Donald Moreau, commander of the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, "that being the Army is for peace and has taken great strides to help rebuild this nation."

And the war goes on!

General's Aide

CAMP ENARI—Specialist 4 Jennings C. Lantz of Hoffman, N.C., served as enlisted aide for the week to Major General Charles P. Stone, commanding general of the 4th Division.

The 19-year-old Specialist from Company B, 704th Maintenance Battalion, commanded by Captain Fredrick W. Dustman of Seattle, Wash., works with fuel and electrical systems at the Oasis, base camp for the Ivy 3rd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Stan L. McLellan of Arlington, Va.

He enlisted in the Army immediately after graduating from Hoffman High School and served at Aberdeen Proving Grounds before coming to Vietnam in May.

An avid hunting and fishing enthusiast, he was chosen as DISCOM Soldier of the Month for October before being selected as aide to General Stone.

Both honors were based on Specialist Lantz's outstanding attitude and dedication while working in the 4th Division.



WORK OF ART — Paige Young, who graces the center pages of November's Playboy, normally works out of a Malibu, Calif., studio as a free-lance artist, creating everything from portraits to bold abstractions. Nothing abstract about her appearance as an art subject!

Highlanders' Pack Rat Hoards M&M Candies

BY SP4 Larry Hogan

BAN ME THUOT — The 4th Division's 2nd Brigade Highlanders, commanded by Colonel Herbert J. McChrystal of Arlington, Va., has the world's largest pack rat operating within their forward area headquarters here.

His name is Ralph. He may look like a dog, but his harmless appearance can be misleading. At heart he is a pack rat.

Each morning Ralph begins his day by making the "rounds" of the various installations at the 2nd Brigade.

At each stop, he begs for his favorite treat—M and M candies.

In the beginning he ate the candy on the spot, but after a while he would merely grab the bag and, without so much as a "thank you," disappear.

Such behavior went unnoticed for a few weeks. It was assumed that he merely took the candy some place and ate it in privacy.

However, one bright Highland day, Ralph made a mistake. He strolled into the orderly room and was about to pick up his snack when he realized he already had a bag of M & M's in his mouth.

In his greed, he had neglect-

ed to get rid of one haul before picking up another.

Word quickly spread through the camp, "Ralph's a crook!"

The next day, when he dropped by the information office, his candy was waiting for him but so was a self-appointed detective.

Ralph grabbed the bag and made a dash for the door. As he scampered away, the detective adjusted his dark glasses and headed off after the mutt.

Like a homing pigeon, Ralph was heading for his tent which he shared with the Red Cross field director.

The detective reached the tent as Ralph scouted inside.

Peering through the slit, the Highlander saw Ralph's great secret.

Neatly hidden in a corner of the tent were nearly 30 bags of M and Ms. Ralph was a hoarder.

The news spread quickly. When Ralph came calling the next morning he found that not one person would feed him.

After being refused for the tenth time, Ralph seemed to understand what had happened.

Without any hesitation, he turned for his tent.

There was an arrogant bounce in his walk.

It's easy to be arrogant when you have a little something tucked away for a rainy day.

Village Trainees Undergo Internship

Banhar Tribesmen Learn First Aid From Cavmen

BY PFC JOHN UHLAR

CAMP ENARI — An insufficient knowledge of man's biological processes, and a system of medicine founded upon faith in both good and evil deities have been, prior to 1966, largely responsible for prolonged periods of ill health among the Banhar Montagnard tribesmen.

In October of that year, 4th Infantry Division soldiers arrived in Vietnam, and by November the first Civic Affairs teams were organized to administer aid to the 13 incorporated hamlets in the vicinity of the Ivy base camp.

What the Ivy Civil Affairs teams found during the formative months of the Hamlet Visitation Program was far from heartening.

Most weak and sickly Montagnards were thought to be inhabited by evil spirits and died needlessly, after elders were summoned to determine a ritualistic cure.

Among the most prevalent diseases were tuberculosis, dysentery, leprosy, typhus and intestinal parasites.

Medical aid made available by the Vietnamese government was oft-times refused by afflicted tribesmen for fear of dying outside one's village, thus, dooming one's soul to wander forever homeless.

Initially, the Hamlet Visitation Program was tailored to meet the needs of the sick, needy and homeless. Later, Ivy Civic Actions teams, together with local tribesmen, undertook the tasks of bettering educational standards, self-defense capabilities and commercial sufficiency.

Expanded Activities

Today, two years after the inception of the first civic aid program, Ivy men have expanded

activities to include not only the surrounding vicinity of Camp Enari, but also villages in the Dak To, Ban Me Thuot and Oasis fire base areas and hamlets lining Highway 19E, from Pleiku to the Mong Yang Pass.

Typical of the 4th Division's efforts to better the Banhar Tribesmen's lot in life is the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Donald Moreau of Leavenworth, Kan., which has a program designed to train Montagnard medical corpsmen.

The course, sponsored jointly by the cavalry's Civil Affairs Section, led by First Lieutenant Paul Best of La Grange, Ill., and the squadron's Medical Platoon, commanded by Captain Shepard Arluck of Staten Island, N.Y., and assisted by Specialist 6 Richard Parkans of Mulbraugh, Ky., encompasses six weeks of practical and theoretical training at Blackhawk Fire-base.

For the 17 Montagnard trainees, their day begins early with reveille, a healthy breakfast, followed by an area police call and organized team sports, volleyball, basketball or soccer.

Organized team sports promote fierce competition and lasting friendships among the trainees, all from different villages.

After the morning sports activities, the trainee medics are chaperoned to the nearby Dak Ayunh River where they wash themselves and their Army issued fatigues.

Emphasis On Hygiene

"Particular emphasis is put on proper hygiene of the scalp, body and teeth until it becomes habitual," said Captain Arluck, "for it has been my observation that all too often these areas of the body are overlooked by the Montagnard tribesmen, resulting in a plethora of disease and skin sores normally associated with unclean living conditions."

Each afternoon is devoted to theoretical and practical class-work.

In a makeshift canopy class room, the aspiring young medics learn not only first aid, but also body structure and physiological functions.

More advanced training to include disease symptoms, the proper procedures in cleaning and bandaging sores, in addition to the art of immobilizing broken joints and bones with available resources are introduced as the medics gain insight into the mechanics of the human body.

By the end of the fourth week the trainees have acquired enough medical knowledge to meet most village emergencies, but to make their class work lessons more meaningful, they undergo a two-week internship with the cavalry's Civil Affairs Team.

Hard Work Pays Off

The many hours of drill and demonstration pay off as the young Montagnard medics take over the cavalry's MEDCAP duties.

For the medics, no wound is too difficult to treat, no sickness too mysterious to identify, and, with the assistance of the cavalry's Medical Platoon, cure.

After six hard weeks of study and practice the Montagnard medics are awarded a Vietnamese medical corpsmen certificate and return to their local villages.

Among the native population a place of honor and esteem awaits them for they hold the key leading to a more healthy and productive life.

Thus, in the tradition of the 4th Infantry Division, the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry will have left a monumental gift, from the fighting cavalymen to the Banhar Highlanders.

Snoopy Sweeps For NVA

DAK TO — Snoopy raced over the treetops, vaulted hills and careened through green canyons.

Almost 50 times in an hour, Snoopy's keen sense of smell picked up the presence of NVA troops.

The device known as Snoopy is an electronic air sampling machine, and resembles a vacuum cleaner — complete with a long hose which snakes out to a clamp on a Huey skid.

A fast, low-flying helicopter carries Snoopy on frequent sweeps of the jungle along the Cambodian border, hunting for the enemy troops.

Snoopy's operator, Private First Class Charles R. Whalen of Redondo Beach, Calif., explains that the device's sensitive mechanism can pick up tiny traces of ammonia left in the air by human perspiration.

The presence of as few as three or four men will register on Snoopy's indicators. "More men," he adds, "make a bigger stink."

While the low-flying Huey often flushes NVA troops out of hiding, Snoopy's main job is keeping track of the enemy.

Heavy readings are a danger sign that the NVA may be massing troops for an attack. And readings that change day by day can indicate where even a scattered force is headed.



DEADLY DEFENSE—Specialist 5 Bobby Lee of Pompano, Fla., works out with karate instructor Sergeant First Class Larry Tluczek; right, from 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry. (USA Photo by SP5 Lew Grass)

Disposable Mine Sweep Saves Lives

CAMP ENARI—"It's mounted on five, two-and-a-half ton truck tires. When it works, you can kiss it good-bye," said Platoon Sergeant Richard Smith of Hodgenville, Ky.

Now, troopers of the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, commanded by LTC Donald Moreau of Leavenworth, Kan., who sweep Highway 19E from Pleiku to the Mang Yang Pass, utilize a disposable mine sweeper instead of the slower, more familiar metallic mine detector.

What was once discarded as salvage truck tires, slightly twisted tubes of pipe and dented, gallon drums, are used to construct the strange looking, car-like vehicle.

When sweeping a road, the mine sweeper is pulled along the shoulder, while the armored personnel carrier remains on the hard surface.

"A stretch of road that once took hours to clear can now be done in minutes, 100 percent effectiveness," said Sergeant Smith.

"And although it takes four or five days to replace a demolished sweeper, if we hit a mine it's more than worth the time and effort when lives and valuable equipment are at stake."

Red Warriors Learn Art Of Self-Defense

BY SP4 Lew Grass

CAMP ENARI—Karate is defined as "a Japanese system of self-defense without a weapon."

Although the personnel of the rear detachment, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, commanded by

RTO Pokes Fun At Ex-Marine

DAK TO—First Sergeant William E. McManus of Cambridge, Mass., first sergeant for the 4th Division's Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, reports that even in serious operations there is still time for humor.

One of his Short Range Patrols (SRP) called into Firebase 6 for a time check late one evening and Sergeant McManus was monitoring the call.

The radio operator replied, "For civilian personnel it is 11 p.m., for military personnel it is 2300, and for any Marines, the little hand is on the 11 and the big hand is on the 12."

Sergeant McManus, an ex-Marine, laughed heartily.

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Palastra of Salina, Kan., have no intention of foresaking their M16s, many are taking instruction in karate.

Teaching the self-defense class is Sergeant First Class Larry Tluczek of Kauai, Hawaii of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, who holds the third degree of the Black Belt in Karate.

Sergeant Tluczek began Karate at the age of seven in Hawaii. "I didn't become proficient until I was about 12," he said. "One reason I began was because of the excellent physical training."

Sergeant Tluczek studied Karate in Korea, Japan and Formosa. The Karate he is teaching is the Japanese style of Shoto Kan.

"Part of the Black Belt training is instructing," he continued.

Earning his Black Belt in 1958, Sergeant Tluczek has taught Karate classes at Ft. Meade, Md., and Ft. Knox, Ky.

While recently in Tokyo on R & R he took a test for his fourth degree of the Black Belt, and awaits results.

Gets VIP Treatment

Rojo Is No 'Chicken'

BAN ME THUOT—If you are one of the people around Duc Lap who rubbed eyes because you thought you saw a chicken in a helicopter, or can't quite believe Bravo Company beats the sun up each morning, read this.

Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, has a new mascot named Rojo, a chicken, that can be held accountable for these new happenings.

First Lieutenant Willis Glass of Hawthorne, Fla., explained that the Regular's mascot was picked "at first to add variety to a Sunday meal."

The purchaser of Rojo, Specialist 4 Delbert McClanhan of Charleston, W.Va., decided to give the brilliantly-colored bird a chance.

"We were going to eat the bird on the following day, but if Rojo crowed at six the next morning, we planned to adopt

him as our mascot."

Rojo got the message. No one was sure when the first crowing was heard as it was too dark to read the time, but crow he did.

"I didn't know what was making all the racket," said company B Commander, Captain Joseph Albrecht, "but I figured anything that could wake up that many men that early had to stay."

The men even built Rojo his own bullet-proof coop.

"The bunker that we built for Rojo is almost like ours, except for the size, and we installed a perch," said Specialist McClanhan.

Around the adopted bird's neck dangles a little leather pouch with "Regulars" painted on it.

"That's where he carries his ammo," Lieutenant Glass smiled. "That way no one can doubt he's a fighting chicken."

Operation Popcorn Gets Underway

San Carlos Adopts Mighty Redlegs

By PFC Tom Hurley
CAMP ENARI—The San Carlos, Calif., city council has passed a resolution adopting the 4th Division's 4th Battalion, 42d Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Edward L. Fronczak of Lansing, Mich.

The resolution, dated Sept. 23, 1968, was received at battalion headquarters last month.

Since then, under the name "Operation Popcorn," packages have been received from California. The packages have contained everything from a mammoth California state flag to home-made chocolate chip cookies.

The instigator of Operation Popcorn was Sergeant First Class John Hagan, a resident of San Carlos for 22 years, currently serving with the Ivy artillery unit.

While on a 30-day leave from Vietnam, Hagan approached Mr. Lloyd Trewthitt with the suggestion that San Carlos adopt his unit. Mr. Trewthitt agreed it was a good idea and in turn contacted Mayor Ernest J. Nackord and the city council. All parties were enthused about the project.

"The idea has gone wild," said Sergeant Hagan. "The San Carlos have been so generous we don't know what to expect next. We now have perhaps the only mess hall in Vietnam with an unlimited supply of chocolate chip cookies, thanks to the people of San Carlos."

A huge Christmas package is expected to arrive by military airlift in the near future. Portable radios, cigarette lighters, hard candies, baked goods and other items are expected to make up the bulk of the merchandise.

"Never have I seen so much interest generated so spontaneously as it has in this operation," wrote Mayor Nackord in an open letter to Sergeant Hagan.

With every package there are letters from people of all ages wishing the men good luck and a safe return home.

One fourth grader wrote, "... I like to write letters so I hope you will stay in touch with me. I'm a girl scout. As it says in Law 4, a girl scout's duty is to be a friend to all and a sister to every girl scout. . . I'm glad we adopted you. Take care of yourselves."

Councilman George F. Seeger commented, "This is a commendable thing San Carlos has taken upon itself, to tell these young men that San Carlos stands behind them 100 percent."

As a token of the men's appreciation, the 4th Division soldiers are preparing a photo album of the unit in action. It will be forwarded to San Carlos upon completion.

In addition, Colonel Fronczak sent a letter to San Carlos thanking its residents for their concern and informing the people that "your state flag will be displayed at ceremonial occasions as a reminder to viewers of your concern for the servicemen here and your appreciation for their contribution to freedom."

Dentists Win Over Natives

BY 1LT Robert Janosko
DAK TO — The little guy couldn't have been more than six, but he didn't flinch a bit, although the novocaine needle must have looked a foot long to him.

And not a tear was shed when the offending tooth was finally pulled.

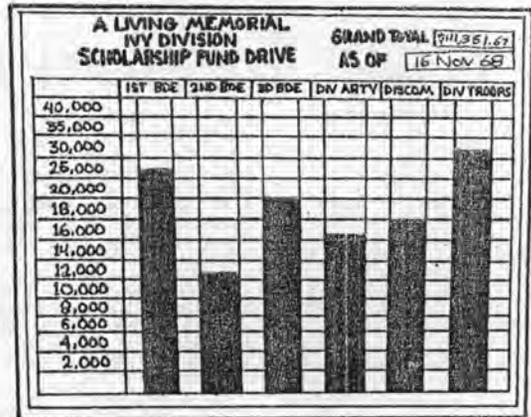
The same scene was repeated many times with patients of all ages. The patients were Montagnards from two villages near here, headquarters of the 1st Brigade, commanded by Colonel

Hale H. Knight of Alexandria, Va.

The dentists were Major John Hermann of New York and Captain Henry A. Maxim of Salem, Ohio, who are assigned to Company B, 4th Medical Battalion commanded by Captain Steven Bell of New York.

That day the dentists were out on a dental MEDCAP giving much needed treatment to the villagers.

In five hours the dentists examined over 100 people and extracted 120 teeth.



"Thanksgiving"

Scholarship Nears Goal

CAMP ENARI—"It was a great effort on everyone's part," said Captain Fredrick Dustman of Bellingham, Wash.

The praise from their commanding officer was well-deserved. The men of Company B, 704th Maintenance Battalion, had contributed \$500 from their October pay to the Ivy Division Scholarship Fund.

The \$500 helped raise the 704th Maintenance Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Durad Hall, to the third place standing it achieved the week before. The battalion's grand total now stands at \$6,011.10.

First place in the standings continues to be held by the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Richard X. Larkin. Their total is \$13,252.60 which averages out to \$15.25 per man.

Still holding second place is the 124th Signal Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant William Rolya. Contributions of \$2,585.45 raised their total to \$6,877.05.

Total Scholarship Fund collections now exceed \$110,000, but reaching the goal of \$150,000 will require the continued support of all Ivymen.

Presidential Citations Awarded Ivymen...

(Continued From Page 1)
 Ivy Division's 3rd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Stan L. McClellan of Ventura, Calif., and are currently operating against enemy forces along the Cambodian border in the Central Highlands.

CPT Beal Accepts Citation
 Accepting the citation for Alpha Company was Captain Richard A. Beal of Dallas, who commanded the company between March and August this year. He said:

"I remember the action back in 1966. At that time I was in the 1st Battalion of the 14th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division, and Alpha Company and Bravo

Company were also part of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division. All the battalions were part of a task force which was operating near Cambodia, west of Pleiku in the battle of 10-Alpha.

"At that time, this was one of the largest battles in the Vietnam War. Both Alpha and Bravo were under extreme enemy fire for a two-day period.

"Tremendous amounts of U.S. air and artillery support were being used. There were about six 12.7mm anti-aircraft weapons captured by the two companies, a number of 82mm mortars, and a large amount of

other enemy weapons and ammunition.

"It was a hard-fought battle, but due to the skill of the commanders and the spirit of the men, they did an outstanding job and really put one over on the NVA."

Another man at the ceremony who remembered the action was Staff Sergeant Santiago Vasquez of Brownsville, Tex. Sergeant Vasquez now serves with Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, but he was with Bravo Company in 1966.

Aboard First Choppers

"I was aboard the first wave of choppers that landed on the LZ," he recalled. "On the way in we started receiving small arms and anti-aircraft fire. When we landed on the LZ, the people on the first chopper were already engaged.

"You could hear the grenades and heavy automatic weapons fire. We got out of the choppers and ran about 10 meters to the woodline of the LZ and hit the ground.

"We hollered for more men to come up to our position, and as I looked back I saw a squad of NVA coming at us.

"I opened up at them, killing several.

"The whole perimeter was engaged. Later on a squad of our men assaulted an anti-aircraft gun which was keeping medevac choppers from landing.

"We captured it and employed it against the enemy. Alpha Company came in and was immediately heavily engaged. But with the aid of air strikes and gunships our two companies were finally able to defeat the NVA.

"The enemy was very determined, but our men were more determined," Sergeant Vasquez said.

Alpha Company is currently commanded by Captain Richard D. Wandke of Vacaville, Calif. Bravo Company's commander is Captain Andrew J. Mundy Jr. of Jersey, Ga.



General Creighton Abrams presents Presidential Unit Citation as Major General Stone looks on. (USA Photo)



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