

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

# Theater Dedication Lauds Soldier's Bravery

By SP4 John Rowe

**CAMP ENARI**—Probably no one in the audience personally knew Private First Class Louis E. Willett. But, like PFC Willett, they were soldiers; and they were grateful for the heroic deeds of their fellow soldier.

From the private first class to Major General Donn R. Pepke, commanding general of the Famous Fighting Fourth Division, the ceremony meant more than the dedication of the Camp Enari theater. It was a time for paying homage to a deceased comrade.

PFC Willett's actions were described by General Pepke as "dedication beyond even the call of duty."

"Let us remember that his actions will inspire all of us to look at our motto which states, Steadfast and Loyal," added General Pepke.

The theater will be utilized for recreational activities such as volleyball, basketball and tennis and for USO shows during inclement weather.

PFC Willett's actions while a member of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry distinguished him as a Medal of Honor winner.

His squad, part of Company C, was providing security near a landing zone (LZ) in Kontum Province, which was to be used on the following day, February 15, 1967, for a combat assault.

The squad was conducting a security sweep that morning when it made contact with a large enemy force. The squad was immediately engaged with a heavy volume of automatic weapons fire and pinned to the ground.

Despite the deadly fusillade, PFC Willett rose to his feet firing rapid bursts from his own weapon and moved to a position from which he placed highly effective fire on the enemy. His action allowed the remainder of the squad to begin to withdraw from the numerically superior  
(Continued on Back Page)

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## ARVN Thanks Fourth

**CAMP ENARI** — The battles that have been fought by the Army of the Republic of Vietnam and American forces in combined operations have been some of the most successful and decisive victories of the war. Two such operations recently took place in the Dak To-Ben Het Districts.

In the period May 15, 1969 to July 8, 1969 Colonel Nguyen Ba Lien, commander of the 24th Special Tactical Zone, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, conducted two joint operations, Dan Quyen and Quyet Thang, with units of the Famous Fighting Fourth Infantry Division.

In a letter of appreciation addressed to Major General Donn R. Pepke, commanding general of the Fourth Infantry Division, Colonel Lien expressed his "appreciation on behalf of the advisors, officers and men of the 24th Special Tactical Zone, Army Republic of Vietnam for the outstanding performance of the Fourth Infantry Division" during the operations.

"The actions of the Fourth Infantry Division during these operations," wrote Colonel Lien, "demonstrated exceptional professional skill, determination and enthusiasm in overcoming the adverse enemy and weather conditions, to soundly defeat the hostile forces. Their actions were in keeping with the highest tradition of the military service."



**TANK POWER**—A 1st Battalion, 69th Armor tank makes a few waves as it plows through a river near An Khe while on a search mission in the Central Highlands. The big tanks of the Famous Fighting Fourth Division keep Charlie on the move.

(USA Photo By PFC Chuck Colgan)

## Two Division Soldiers Receive DSC

By PFC Edward Carroll

**CAMP ENARI**—In ceremonies at the basecamp theater, two Famous Fighting Fourth Division soldiers received the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) in recognition of their extraordinary courage and gallantry in action.

General Creighton Abrams, commanding general of the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, presented the awards to Specialist 4 Melvin E. Jones, a member of a patrol from Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade and Platoon Sergeant James M. McBee of 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry who had received a Silver Star during a previous tour in Vietnam.

Specialist Jones received the DSC for his actions on February 7 in "VC Valley." In the encounter, three members of his team were wounded by enemy fire and it was up to Specialist Jones to hold off the hostile force and remove his injured comrades to safety.

After firing several well-aimed volleys at the enemy, Specialist Jones administered first aid and radioed for help. He then directed gunships on the enemy positions and finally made three trips through withering hostile fire to carry his wounded comrades to a rescue helicopter 100 meters away.

Specialist Jones, 25, was born in London, England, but was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. James Holland of Kansas City, Mo., when he was seven years old. Since then, Kansas City has been his home. The soldier's wife of seven years, Betty, also lives in Kansas City with their four children who range in age from 18 months to six years.

The father of four doesn't hesitate to admit he was frightened during the action in VC Valley, but there were more important things on his mind at the time.

"There were two men with severe wounds," he recalled. "I was scared, I know, but I didn't really think about it. I just thought about getting those men out."

Platoon Sergeant McBee was awarded the DSC for his leadership under fire while on an operation in the Chu Pa region on February 11.

In the encounter, Sergeant McBee's unit was engaged by a numerically superior force of North Vietnamese. Despite wounds in the shoulder and leg, Sergeant McBee refused medical attention and continued to lead his men. He positioned his platoon so that they could engage the enemy effectively and then went to the aid of one of his wounded men. After carrying the injured soldier through intense hostile fire to an area where he could be evacuated, Sergeant McBee again declined medical aid and began distributing additional ammunition to members of his unit.

A native of Oklahoma City, Sergeant McBee has been in Vietnam for three tours. He was here in 1965 for three months  
(Continued on Back Page)

### Coordinated Operation

## Combination Overpowers NVA

**CAMP RADCLIFF** — In a well coordinated operation, gunships from Alpha Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry and a First Brigade Ranger Team combined efforts to kill four NVA soldiers.

The Famous Fighting Fourth Division team quickly jumped from the hovering insertion chopper into the six-foot elephant grass and rapidly made their way to the relative security of an area with more cover.

They set up in a well-camouflaged location, but sounds of heavy movement and a periodic glint from a flashlight told them they were not alone.

"I considered calling in Spooky to work over the area with miniguns, but decided against it because the plane's flares would have compromised our position," recalled team leader Specialist 4 Dennis Price of Two Rivers, Wisc. "Instead I put in a call to LZ Bullet for some of their 4.2 inch mortars."

Within minutes the rounds came crashing into the area around the team's position with deadly accuracy. The movement ceased.

Early the next morning the Rangers moved onto a narrow trail and cautiously followed it for about 100 meters when they heard noise coming

from the opposite direction.

The team members dove into the brush along the side of the trail a split second before an enemy soldier came into view.

"The man couldn't have been out from his base camp too long because his uniform was in good shape and he had a fresh haircut. I also noticed the tread of his Ho Chi Minh sandals had been melted smooth, I guess so he wouldn't leave a track," commented Specialist Price.

Knowing full well that the shots would bring other enemy soldiers, the team moved quickly away from the area of contact.

Overhead, a Hawkeye aircraft reported a group of about 15 NVA less than 150 meters north of their position and heading toward them.

Again LZ Bullet's mortars went into action as the Hawkeye pilot adjusted fire on the enemy troops and gave the team an opportunity to move toward the LZ for extraction.

Within 15 minutes, gunships and the extraction ship from the 119th Assault Helicopter Company were on station and raking the area with rockets and miniguns. Their first two passes resulted in four dead enemy soldiers and gave the Rangers time to cover the 150 meters to the waiting extraction ship.

## Australia- No Need For Visa

**CAMP ENARI**—Visas or passports are no longer required by Vietnam-based military personnel who are traveling to Australia on ordinary leave via R&R aircraft.

The visa requirement was dropped July 1. Now only travel orders, immunization record and military ID card with the individual's social security number are needed.

From The Desk of  
the  
Commanding General



M G PEPKE

## Destroy Paperwork

The enemy realizes that he can't break into our offices to gather up documents as easily as we can assault his base areas to capture his documents. Therefore, the enemy concentrates on one of our vulnerabilities: our careless handling of routine paperwork. Instead of shooting his way into our buildings he waits outside for us to bring him what he wants.

How? The enemy threatens, pays off and rewards people to go through our trash. Our inspections of the trash pits and burn areas have continually discovered information that would be of value to the enemy.

Because some individuals hold the mistaken belief that only "classified" and "Official Use Only" documents need to be destroyed, I'd like to review what must be denied to the enemy by supervised destruction.

Firstly, all "Classified" and "Official Use Only" documents must, of course, be burned. In addition, all drafts and notes must also be destroyed. As obvious as this should be there have been too many note pads with classified information discovered to underestimate this shortcoming.

Secondly, all correspondence either by a unit or by individuals within the unit to family, businesses, and friends must be destroyed. The enemy uses these addresses and names just as we use the enemy's names and addresses when we are lucky enough to get them.

Thirdly, anything else that the enemy could use such as rosters and other unit information. The best way to be sure that you're not "giving away" information is to destroy everything that there is the slightest doubt over whether it could help the enemy. Then follow up with the required supervised burning of these materials. The simplest and best test is to ask whether the papers we call "trash" would also be considered as "trash" by the enemy intelligence agents. Let's keep faith with the soldiers fighting to keep our base areas secure by not giving the enemy what he couldn't take.

## Beyond The Call

### SILVER STAR

Clary, William C., CPT  
Kresge, Louis A., Jr., 2LT  
Pitt, Joe L., SGT MAJOR  
Oller, Steven W., SP5  
Shepardson, Richard F., Jr., PFC  
Alapai, John H., PFC  
Farmer, Glynn D., SGT  
Ferrell, Michael R., SP4  
Garcia, Hector, PSGT  
Goddard, Jack, SP4  
Gray, Terry L., SP4  
Houp, Gerald, PFC  
Jones, Jerry W., SSGT  
Maine, John R., WO  
Martinez, John, Jr., SGT  
Mc Manus, William E., 1SGT  
Mikula, John E., 1LT

### DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Meadows, Charles S., Jr., CWO  
Bentley, Homer L., WO  
Erkie, Norman R., WO  
Vaughn, Elmer D., WO

### SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Hoover, Edward L., 1LT  
Fronheiser, Dale E., SGT  
Bragg, Raymond M., SP4  
Wendt, John L., PFC

### AIR MEDAL FOR HEROISM

Wood, Stephen R., CAPT  
Westmark, Ronald A., 1LT  
Bentley, Homer L., WO  
Martini, Duke L., WO  
Woodward, Virgil V., SP5

### BRONZE STAR FOR VALOR

Aiken, Michael F., 1LT  
Andrews, John 1LT  
Frink, John A., 1LT  
Moriconi, John R., 1SGT  
Haynes, Earl, SSGT  
Brannon, Lloyd L., SSGT  
Doder, Donald, SP6  
Bayliss, Walter F., SGT  
Dunlap, Anthony III, SGT  
Wagner, Paul, SGT

Fornaro, William W., SP5  
Hoyman, Scott, SP4  
Hinchman, Kenneth A., SP4  
Bunch, James P., SP4  
Booth, Douglas, SP4  
Meyran, Glenn R., SP4  
Buckley, Michael V., SP4  
Lindsey, Robert E., SP4  
Qualey, Martin A., SP4  
Melton, Jay D., SP4  
DeLuca, Joseph, SP4  
Lund, Norton W., Jr., SP4  
McClarren, Larry E., PFC  
Genson, Jerry L., PFC  
Gonzalez, Julian O., PFC  
Pflueger, Thomas R., PFC  
ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL FOR VALOR

Carlson, Roy L., Jr., 1LT  
Logue, Robert C., SGT  
Wilfong, Wayne H., SGT  
Bailey, William, SGT  
Smith, Lawrence G., SP4  
Filipi, Aldon, SP4  
Weems, Arthur R., SP4  
Stabb, Richard E., SP4  
Brady, David R., SP4  
Wobszal, David, SP4  
Cole, Owen, SP4  
Kaiser, Gerald J., SP4  
Johnson, Clifford F., SP4  
Skipper, Michael L., SP4  
Zima, Paul C., PFC  
Reece, Curtis L., PFC  
Frietchen, Alan, PFC  
Jacobson, Thomas M., PFC  
Ivie, Dorance A., PFC  
Young, Verl D., PFC  
Walthart, Dennis D., PFC  
Rich, Dave, Jr., PFC  
Aldridge, William J., SP4  
Banks, James, Jr., PFC  
Clark, Lyndon A., PFC  
Chacon, Allen C., PFC  
Bohn, Harold E., PFC  
Beck, Paul A., PFC  
Beadsley, Robert W., Jr., PFC

## Chaplain's Message

# The Lord Will Help You

By Chaplain (MAJ) Arthur F. Bell

The first verse of the 121st Psalm presents an interesting point for our discussion today. "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help," says the Psalmist.

What does this passage mean? Does it mean that my help is going to come from the hills? You men who are out on lonely patrols know that there is both danger and protection in the mountains and hills of the Highlands. Sometimes you are able to hide in their crevices, safely out of sight. The foliage and concealment of the forests permit you to see and not be seen. You rely on your knowledge of the terrain and on war tactics to pull you through.

The solid earth feels good to you. In addition, as the evening casts its long shadows over the hills you begin to think about your perimeter and the necessity of placing a sentry or guard at your most vulnerable spot to warn you of any encroachment by the enemy. As you get ready to drop off to sleep, you make sure he is alert, then, satisfied, you lie back and rest peacefully knowing he is on guard. You are confident in your ability to handle any situation. This is good; but there comes a time in every man's life when he realizes that he cannot depend completely on physical things to carry him through. The Psalmist realizes this. His statement should be read like this, "I will

lift up mine eyes unto the hills. From whence does my help come?"

His statement is not that his help comes from the hills, but he questions the source of the help. Then with sudden clarity he determines the source, as he continues, "My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth." Above and beyond the majesty of nature was the power of God, the source of all strength.

In 1963 a young Special Forces officer was captured by the V.C. Five years later he escaped as a relatively healthy man. During those five years of imprisonment he had endured enough physical and mental suffering to kill an average man. How did this man endure so much and escape with all his mental and

physical capacities intact? He did so because of his very real and vibrant faith in God. When he realized that all the usual physical helps were gone, he turned to God in prayer and God heard his prayers. This man would and has said with no hesitation: "My help comes from the Lord."

Men, you can be assured that if you put your faith and trust in God you will pull through any mental or physical suffering you may experience. God is a personal being who watches over you day and night and does not let any plea for help go unanswered.

"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth."

## CSM Talks

## To His Men

## Save Your Money



CSM STRICKLAND

THE INCREASE OF 12.6 percent in the basic pay of the uniformed services which became effective 1 July 1969 represents a substantial increase in pay for all personnel.

During your year in the Republic of Vietnam you should make every effort to save as much of your monthly paycheck as possible. There are savings programs to suit your individual needs, so, rather than carry all your cash around with you or trying to hide it and run the risk of losing it or having it stolen, participate in one of the savings programs.

The purchase of US Savings Bonds which pay four and a quarter percent and US Savings Notes (Freedom Shares) which pay five percent interest at maturity are excellent methods of saving regularly. The Savings Deposit Program at a ten percent interest rate, compounded quarterly, offers personnel in Vietnam an unexcelled investment opportunity combined with the absolute safety of savings which all of the plans offer.

TO OBTAIN INFORMATION about or to initiate any of these programs simply tell your company clerk what you desire.

In addition to these three savings plans, the military banking facilities in-country offer checking accounts without service charge which pay five percent interest on the minimum quarterly balance maintained, provided it exceeds one hundred dollars.

As you are about to return home don't have to regret not having secured and saved your money AFTER it has been lost, stolen or squandered.

Initiate one of these plans today.



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Commanding General ..... Major General Donn Royce Pepke  
Information Officer ..... Major Kenneth B. Abel

### STAFF

Officer-in-Charge ..... 2LT Brien P. Levy  
Editor ..... SP4 David C. Drew  
News Editor ..... SP4 Michael O. Jones  
Editorial Assistant ..... SP4 John Rowe

## Career Corner

# EM Needed For OCS

**CAMP ENARI**—A recent USARV Troop Topic points out that the Department of the Army has announced that more than 1,200 applications for Officer Candidate School are needed from enlisted men.

This requirement is to fill the vacancies that will exist in Officer Candidate Schools this summer and early fall.

Graduates must serve, according to the Troop Topic, at least two years' active duty as a commissioned officer after graduation.

Warrant Officers and enlisted men on duty with the active Army are eligible to apply providing they meet the requirements. Applicants must meet the following requirements:

Applicants must be at least 18½ years of age and not over 32½ years of age at the time of enrollment in OCS.

Applicants must be a graduate of a high school or a school of similar level or have passed the General Educational Development Test (high school level).

Applicants must be a citizen of the United States or have been lawfully admitted to U.S. for permanent residence or be serving on active duty in the U.S. Army.

Applicants must have achieved an Aptitude Area GT score of 110 or higher, attain a score of 115 or higher on the Officer Candidate Test and be of high moral character.

Applicants must meet moral, medical and training requirements as specified in AR 350-50.

The Troop Topic goes on to point out that personnel in pay grades E-4 or below, upon entrance in OCS, will be appointed to pay grade E-5. Those, however, who fail to complete the course successfully will, upon leaving the school, revert to the grade held when they entered school.

Officer Candidate Schools are located at Fort Benning, Georgia (Infantry School), Fort Sill, Oklahoma (Artillery School) and Fort Belvoir, Virginia (Engineer School). Duration of the course is 23 weeks.

Don't pass up this opportunity to serve your country with pride — SEE YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR TODAY.

## Gunships Cut Down 7 NVA

**CAMP RADCLIFF** — Gunships from the 119th Assault Helicopter Company caught 10 enemy soldiers in an open field and killed seven of them.

The gunships were returning to Camp Radcliff after participating in the extraction of a First Brigade Ranger team from the Famous Fighting Fourth Division when they spotted the soldiers dressed in NVA uniforms and carrying AK-47 rifles.

One of the Slicks following the gunships spotted the squad of NVA walking single file through an open field.

The lead gunship then rolled in with rockets and mini-gun fire. The first rockets were right on target and when the smoke cleared there were seven dead enemy soldiers.

## Smoke Gets In Your Eyes

# Same Old Song... With New Melody

**CAMP RADCLIFF**—A scant hour after the First Brigade Ranger team had surprised a squad of enemy soldiers and killed two, they made their second contact and accounted for two additional NVA killed.

The Famous Fighting Fourth Division Rangers had only been in the field an hour when they ran across a trail junction which looked like a suitable spot to set up an observation post. A short time later five NVA soldiers, wearing the uniforms of regulars and carrying rifles, were spotted coming down the trail. The Rangers' initial burst of fire downed two of the enemy and the others fled.

The team quickly regrouped at a large rock formation 70 meters from, and looking down on, the contact site. In the event other enemy soldiers came to investigate the shots they would be in a position to hit them from the rocks. After waiting two hours, they decided to return to the trail junction and gather up the weapons and equipment.

Team leader, Specialist 4 Jerry Vaughn of Shannon, Ga., explained what happened next. "We moved down a creek bed and up onto a path that ran between the two small hills.

"The enemy was in some old bunkers covered with thick vegetation waiting for us.

"Just as we moved into the area, I spotted two NVA raise up and I started firing. We didn't have much cover and they were really pouring out the lead.

Specialist 4 James Hubbard of Santa Anna, Calif., killed one.

"Three more of them were trying to get behind us and box us in, but we spotted them and got one.

"We went at it hot and heavy until we threw out smoke and the wind blew it into the enemy. Using the smoke was our Kit Carson scout's idea. We simply walked out and went back to the LZ for extraction."

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**MUD CAKES**—What would seem to be a child's delight, PFC Richard Souto, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, finds as very uncomfortable. The monsoon rains in the Central Highlands have made bogs out of previously solid terrain.

(USA Photo By PFC Chuck Colgan)

## Sherwood Forest It's Not!

# Vietnamese Robin Hood

By PFC Chuck Colgan

**CAMP RADCLIFF**—They're a long way from Sherwood Forest, but Robin Hood and Little John are back and earning a name for themselves, 1969-style, in Vietnam.

Staff Sergeant James Little John (real name) of Santa Ana, Calif., and a Kit Carson Scout the men of A Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry have appropriately nicknamed "Robin Hood" serve as a two-man team for Alpha Troop's Aero Rifle Platoon and in a single day's work were credited with two enemy killed and 26 suspects detained.

It was just before noon when a pair of scout ships spotted a series of huts and bunkers in a ravine 10 miles southwest of An Khe.

"We began to search the area," related Sergeant Little John, "and when we came to the foot of a large hill our scout dog alerted us. No sooner had he given the warning when Robin darted up the hill. While the rest of the platoon circled around them, I worked my way to a position where I could see a group of small bunkers our Kit Carson scout was pointing out to me.

Robin worked his way from bunker to bunker and yelled for the occupants to come out with their hands up and leave their weapons inside. There were two or three people in each position and in 15 minutes he had talked all 21 of them into rallying.

"There were both men and women operating a farm, R&R center, and layover point for enemy

troops. We sent them back to Camp Radcliff for questioning."

No sooner had the platoon returned to Camp Radcliff when a call came over the radio. A Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) had spotted and fired upon two enemy soldiers but terrain conditions made it impossible to check the results from the air so the platoon was called in.

Less than 50 yards from where they were inserted, the men found the body of an NVA soldier and within another 50 yards they spotted a bunker complex dug into the wall of a dried up creek bed. Again Robin went to work with Little John backing him up.

"The other men circled the area, while I went down the creek bank," explained Sergeant Little John.

"Our scout got up on the first bunker and yelled for the people inside to Chieu Hoi—five of them walked out. Then he started questioning the men and one of them pointed to a bunker at the end of the complex. We worked our way down to the bunker and again ordered the two NVA soldiers inside to come out.

"The only answer he got was a burst of fire from an SKS, but he tried again and got the same answer. The next thing I knew, he let out with a wild scream and charged in there. Things really cut loose, all we could hear was an SKS and an M16 going full blast. When it all stopped Robin appeared in the doorway holding their weapon. He had killed both of them."

# "It's a Sign of the Times..."

## A Pictorial Peek at the Moods

WE HAVE DONE SO MUCH, WITH SO LITTLE, NOW WE CAN DO DAMN NEAR ANYTHING WITH NOTHING

SERVICE BATTERY  
GOOD BETTER BEST  
WE WILL NEVER REST  
UNTIL GOOD IS BETTER AND  
BETTER IS BEST.  
6<sup>TH</sup> BN 84<sup>TH</sup> ARTY  
TRAVELING GUNS

NEW OR  
9,29

SAN FR  
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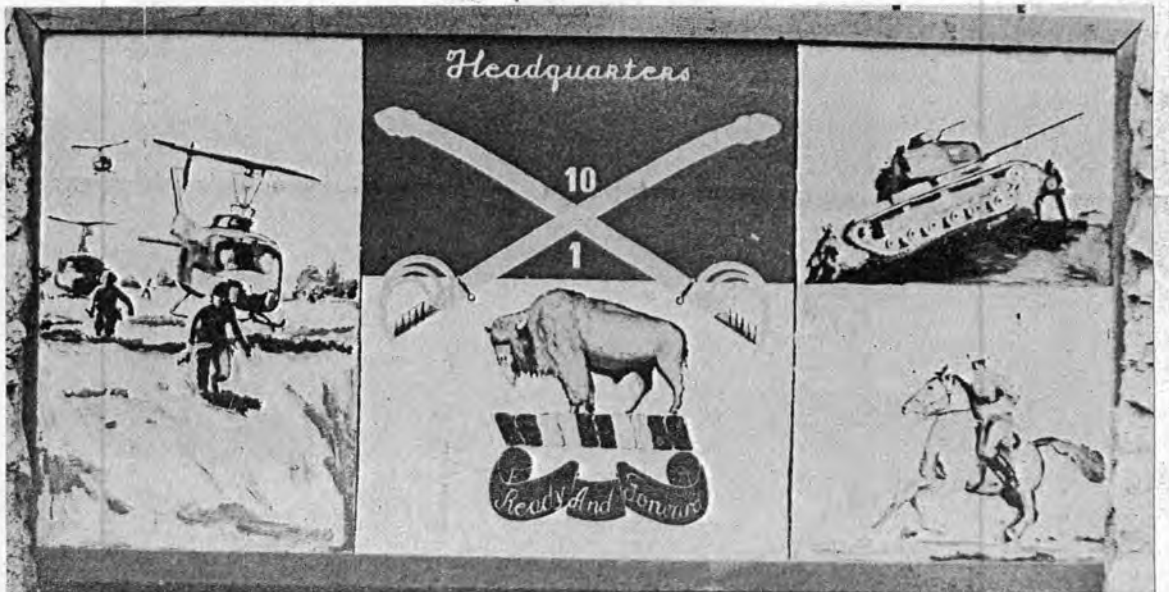
BTRY E (MG.) 41<sup>ST</sup> ARTY

LZ A  
HOME OF THE FA  
BILLY G ACTIO  
NEXT RIGHT  
FOOD · LODGING ·

# of the 4th Infantry Division



BATTERY 4<sup>TH</sup>/42<sup>D</sup> ARTILLERY  
SANDBAGGERS  
YOU YELL • WE SHELL • LIKE HELL  
OPEN 24 HOURS DAILY



← NEW YORK 11,465 MI. CAMBODIA → 61 KIL.

DATA  
PROCESSING  
PLEIKU  
VIET NAM

Photos By  
PFC Chuck Colgan  
SP4 Dan Wesley  
SP4 Jack Behrle



# Acrobatic Rangers Use Rope Trick

By 1LT Robert Janosko

**CAMP RADCLIFF**—A First Brigade Ranger team stopped an NVA patrol cold, then pulled off an acrobatic extraction by climbing up a single strand of rope into a hovering helicopter.

It was Specialist 4 Matthew Gentilella's first mission as a team leader. Before it was over, the New York City native would be an old pro.

The team knew they had been spotted by the enemy on insertion when they saw one individual running from the area of their landing zone (LZ).

The Famous Fighting Fourth Division Rangers quickly moved from the area to higher ground where they established commo. The area was covered by recently used, crisscrossing trails. The possibility of contact looked very good.

A night location was selected next to what looked to be the most traveled trail in the area. Several huts containing food were located nearby, so the team set up and waited for the occupants to return.

Several times heavy movement was heard, but it was not until their last day in the field that they made contact.

On that day a number of airstrikes were going into the area along a ridgeline and the team decided to move up to a point where they could see anybody heading away from the impact area toward them.

Specialist Gentilella had just positioned his team when they saw four NVA, dressed in khaki uniforms and carrying AK47s, moving toward their position in a hurry.

"I got one and Sergeant Hunter hit another with his M16. Then we blew the two Claymores we had just set up and the other two went down," recalled Specialist Gentilella.

He and his teammates, including Sergeant Michael Hunter of Bellingham, Wash., continued to rake the area with small arms fire and grenades. A call was put in for gunships.

Finally the guns and extraction ship from the 119th Assault Helicopter Company arrived on the scene. While the gunships expended on the area, the extraction ship slowly descended on the Ranger's position, but was unable to land in the thick jungle below.

The only extraction device available was a length of rope, so as the ship hovered over the area, the Ranger team went hand over hand up the rope.

"I must have tried going up that 'string' three or four times, but my hands were slipping. Somehow I managed to get up, but my hands were pretty badly rope burned," said Specialist Gentilella.

## Cav House Warming No Party For NVA

By PFC Charles Zewe

**OASIS**—Fourth Division gunships and two elements of division infantrymen threw an Army-style house warming party for a set of North Vietnamese bunkers south of Kontum City, killing one enemy soldier.

Twenty-five bunkers were spotted from the air by the Light Observation Helicopters (LOH) of the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry near the village of Plei Mrong, 10 miles southwest of Kontum. The LOHs, under the command of First Lieutenant Glenn Dalton of Attica, Ohio, were flying screening missions for two companies of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry when they spotted the bunkers.

During screening missions, the LOHs fly ahead of the infantry units and try to find the enemy and neutralize him before the ground units get there.

The LOHs were screening for the infantrymen when Lieutenant Dalton spotted 10 large holes at the base of a tree. As he did, an NVA soldier stuck his head out of one of the holes.

"I've got one in the bunker! He's got a B40," he barked over his radio.

His door gunner took aim and a spurt of M60 machine gun fire accounted for the enemy kill.

Moving out of the area, the scouts made way for the Cobra gunships which rolled in and expended.

Meanwhile, the scouts, screening further to the east of the bunkers, found still other enemy positions surrounded by numerous pieces of equipment. Again the Cobras were called in to the positions with rocket fire.

Two infantry elements swept both sets of bunkers after the gunships left the area, but found the positions deserted.



**HOT BREW**—A Famous Fighting Fourth Division soldier pours himself a cup of steaming hot chocolate, a drink that sure goes good on a windy monsoon morning.

(USA Photo By 4th Div IO)

## Pacification Pow-Wow

# Bullets Meet Village Chiefs

By PFC Jerald A. Krepps

**CAMP RADCLIFF** — Assembled around a small bamboo table, the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry's commanders and civil affairs personnel, conferred with

Major Luu Kim Chau, An Tuc District Chief, First Lieutenant Phuoc, his S-5 and village chiefs from the An Tuc District. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss their mutual pacification effort and plans for future operations.

The meeting introduced the new Bullet commander, Lieutenant Colonel William E. Haas of Winchester, Ky., and two of his company commanders in charge of pacification, to the village chiefs and was designed to familiarize the chiefs with the pacification program and their role in the effort.

Colonel Haas explained how the Famous Fighting Fourth Division battalion could help the villagers the most and brought out several points concerning recent attacks on their village by the Viet Cong.

Colonel Haas placed particular emphasis on effective night positioning of troops in the area surrounding villages to discourage VC attempts to enter the villages, increased support from individual companies by assisting in MEDCAPS and projects such as tree clearing, which will eliminate hiding places and secluded bases from which the VC operate, and special emphasis was placed on assisting and training Popular Forces (PF) and People's Self Defense Force (PSDF) to enable them to better protect themselves.

Presently the PFs and PSDFs are receiving training in such varied subjects as radios, patrolling and weapons. Once the chiefs feel their PFs and PSDFs

# Bunker Complex Found

By PFC Gerald E. Ducharme

**OASIS** — Sixty-six enemy bunkers, including four mess hall bunkers, were discovered by soldiers of the Famous Fighting Fourth Division 15 miles northwest of Pleiku City.

Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, uncovered the enemy bunkers on a late afternoon sweep while heading toward their night location.

Surrounding the suspected company-sized enemy complex were 40 foxholes of various sizes. Inside the complex itself were four water holes.

"Those bunkers were extraordinarily well built with two feet of overhead cover consisting of heavy logs and dirt," said Specialist 4 Kenneth Cookerly of Royal Center, Ind., adding that the positions, which housed three to four men, were well-camouflaged and appeared to be comfortable.

"Everything the enemy needed for security and daily life was within the confines of that compound," explained Specialist Cookerly, "and from the layout and construction of the complex, it must have been quite an effort on the part of the enemy."

After a complete search of the immediate area for more possible enemy positions, the Cacti Green element destroyed the bunkers.

have received sufficient training, joint operations are to be programmed to enable the Vietnamese forces to gain a thorough knowledge of our operating procedures and overall tactics.

Training the PFs and PSDFs to protect their hamlets and villages will accomplish a major goal set by the Bullet Battalion. One which will enable the PFs and PSDFs to provide for their own security and allow the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry to move on to other priorities.

"Assistance, advice and training in village self improvement are important means used by our civil affairs program to help establish independence within the villages," stated Captain Robert Feist of Anoka, Minn., who is in charge of S-5 operations for the Bullets.

"Rather than just giving, we try to teach them how to more effectively utilize supply systems available to them through GVN and MACV."

The meeting held at the An Tuc District Headquarters is a major step in advancing the pacification program, especially in developing understanding between the delegates. Both parties were satisfied with the goals thus far achieved and objectives in mind for the future.

"The day will come when you will no longer need our assistance and the VC will be gone," declared Colonel Haas to the village chiefs at the meeting. "As we approach this goal and until this can be accomplished, we are pleased to be here to discuss and solve these problems so you may gain your freedom."

# Bunker-Busting Clearing Jungle

By CPT David R. Fabian

**CAMP ENARI** — The familiar phrase "search and clear" has taken on added meaning throughout the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's area of operations. For nearly a month, combat engineers were actively engaged in "bunker-busting" and land clearing operations aimed at destroying an elaborate complex of enemy fortifications in a thickly jungled area north of Plei Mrong.

Departing from their usual mission of clearing wide strips of overgrowth from along roadsides and major supply routes, division engineers for the first time employed their Rome Plows and Combat Engineer Vehicles in close tactical support of infantry operations.

Together, the engineers and infantrymen packed a successful one-two wallop: as ground troops swept through suspected enemy sanctuaries and pinpointed sprawling bunker sites, which were impossible to detect from the air, the engineers revved the engines of their Rome Plows and moved in for the "cut," razing 1,399 abandoned fortifications in the 29-day period.

According to Captain Robert E. Keenan, commander of Charlie Company, 4th Engineer Battalion, the Fourth Division's decision to employ Rome Plows to support a tactical mission marks a first throughout the Republic of Vietnam.

"Rome Plows have been characteristically employed to level areas running parallel to highways and major supply routes," said Captain Keenan, a native of Boise, Idaho. "Recently, though, the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry was involved in a number of heavy contacts during a two-week period in which they killed over 150 NVA and discovered a huge chain of bunker complexes strung westward from Landing Zone Nicole toward the Chu Pa Mountain, about 35 kilometers northwest of Pleiku City."

Discovery of the bunkers during late May and early June prompted Major General Donn R. Pepke, Fourth Division Commander, and his staff to initiate

the "bunker-busting" operation. From past experience, they knew that when engineers used explosives to blast a bunker's uprights or overhead cover, partial craters would remain. Thus, instead of resorting to conventional demolitions which often failed to do the job completely, extensive use of powerful Rome Plows was proposed.

"In previous operations," recalled Captain Keenan, "my men would place a block of explosives on the top of one of the bunkers and it would detonate inward, forcing the overhead cover into the hole. If the enemy decided to return later, he'd merely shovel the debris from the hole and reoccupy the emplacement. This new Rome Plow method thought up by the command, however, has proved to be much more effective than explosives."

Actually a D7E Caterpillar tractor equipped with a three foot steel cutting lance mounted to one end of the plow's blade, the Rome Plow rips away the overhead cover of a bunker, fills in the hole, and sweeps away the surrounding trees and brush, depriving the enemy of his concealment and making him more vulnerable to air and artillery fire should he attempt to reoccupy the area.

Essentially, the tractor modification allows the Rome Plow to act as a bulldozer blade and a giant axe. The results are short of amazing. A seasoned operator like Specialist 5 Walter Potter of Rockingham, N.C., for example, is able to reduce one of the towering teak or mahogany trees which spike the terrain near Plei Mrong into a million splinters within minutes.

The Fourth Division's "bunker-busting operation" was launched on June 9, when engineers teamed with ground troops from two companies of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry.

During their reconnaissance the infantrymen located several bunker sites which they marked for the engineers. A majority of the bunkers measured 4 feet deep by 3 feet wide, by 3 feet long and were topped with four to eight inch logs and 18 inches of fill. The com-

plexes were always constructed in areas which afforded the enemy nearly 100% dense overhead canopy, thus making observation from the air nearly impossible.

As the Red Warriors secured the area, the "bunker busters," escorted by additional ground troops, moved toward their "cuts." During the 29-day operation the technique of "block cutting" was frequently employed. A rectangular swatch was first cut to outline the area for clearing. Then the plows ran counter-clockwise in continually smaller rectangles as the blades shoved splintered debris off to the right. The two standard bulldozers followed, matting the thickly fallen timber and brush. As the Rome Plow collapsed the roofs and walls of a bunker and filled the hole, the tangle of fallen trees made the cleared area even more difficult to traverse than the jungle's natural growth. Future enemy movement through the area would be severely hampered and reoccupation was made virtually impossible.

"We had another bunker-busting team working nearby with Bravo Company, so during the 29 days we managed to destroy 1,399 bunkers and clear approximately nine square kilometers of terrain," said Specialist Potter. "And we had very little down-time. A maintenance crew followed us right into the field and did on the spot repairs."

Division spokesmen contend that bunker-busting will pay off in handsome dividends for the future. The Rome Plows have made it possible to deprive the enemy of his much needed training, staging and resupply areas. Likewise, once an area has been thoroughly cleared, enemy movement or renewed activity in the area becomes much easier to spot from the air. Denied these former sanctuaries, military spokesmen feel the forces will be forced to move into tighter confines and decrease their activities.

The success of the bunker-busting operation to date indicates that engineer land clearing has become another of the Fourth Division's effective means of increasing the security of the Central Highlands.

## Surprised Viet Cong Killed

**OASIS** — One Viet Cong was killed when he was surprised by elements of Bravo Company of the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, after walking across the Cacti Green's path 14 miles southwest of Camp Enari.

The American soldiers spotted two enemy soldiers, dressed in green shorts and carrying weapons, exiting from thick underbrush into an open area and opened fire.

Private First Class Robert C. Moretz of Mountain City, Tenn., was one of the first to spot the enemy and immediately fired his M16, killing one of the Viet Cong soldiers.

Other members of the squad mentioned that the two enemy soldiers walked rather nonchalantly as if there were no American troops for miles around.

The other enemy soldier fled the area.



**GROOM AND CLEAN**—Two members of a 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry patrol sit and clean their weapons while a third member pulls security for the group. Constantly alert the infantryman knows that Charlie can strike at any moment. (USA Photo By PFC David Sumrall)

## PX Flies Goods To Field

By PFC William A. Edwards  
**HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS** — "Sarge, may I go into base-camp? I've got to go to the PX."  
"That won't be necessary; we're bringing it to you."  
"What?"

A few minutes later a Huey Slick laden with chests containing everything from stationery and cameras to candles and watches lands at the firebase. It is the Flying Exchange operating from Camp Enari, base-camp of the Famous Fighting Fourth Division, and traveling from firebase to firebase offering its wares to the men in the field.

One of its stops last week was Landing Zone (LZ) Penny, temporary home of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry.

"When you're in the field for months at a time you really hurt for personal items such as radios, cameras, film and the like," said Specialist 4 Wayne Rocky, Jr. of Davenport, Iowa. "This gives us the perfect opportunity to pick them up."

Specialist 4 Jonny Hammeth of Phenix City, Ala., one of the soldiers who works with the Exchange, explained, "We get out to the forward firebases about twice a week. I like going because these guys really appreciate our arrival."

And that they certainly did! The long line attested to it.

When the last man finished his shopping, the PX packed up and the Slick took off for another firebase.

"Man," joked one of the Braves, "I've left many stores in my time but that's the first time I've ever had one leave me!"

## Mess Hall Doubles As Library At Blackhawk

By PFC Dan Weaver

**FIREBASE BLACKHAWK**—When a soldier from the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry enters the mess hall at Firebase Blackhawk he may have reading rather than eating mind.

The Panther mess hall is the site of Chaplain (Captain) Richard W. Lovingood's 500-volume paperback library. Six shelves of past and present best sellers line the mess hall walls, and are tapped for 50 to 100 volumes per day. It is hard for the Famous Fighting Fourth Division chaplain to meet the demand, but he couldn't be happier.

"The majority of the volumes which are sent by church and civic organizations are what you can call quality reading material," said Chaplain Lovingood of Mill Valley, Calif. "Of course we have things which may never leave the shelves, but these are few and far between."

To insure a level of 500 books, the take one leave one system of loaning is utilized. If a soldier takes one and leaves none, however, the chaplain doesn't worry. "There is a shipment of 200 books due this week," he said, "so we aren't hurting for books."

Besides his library, the chaplain operates a "bookmobile" service for troops assigned to security missions on bridges and strong points along Highway 19. The total operation takes 800 volumes and a lot of work.

The chaplain's efforts at erasing the long, sometimes tedious hours of a soldier's life are appreciated by the battalion. "The men may not read 'Pork Chop Hill' or 'How To Play Tennis,'" said the chaplain, "but they still appreciate our efforts."

As one Panther troop put it: "The books are usually first rate, but the service is always top notch."

# Soldiers Display Noble Qualities

**CAMP RADCLIFF**—The great French military leader Napoleon once said that war brought out man's most noble qualities.

The three qualities Napoleon felt were most important are found in great abundance here in Vietnam; courage, loyalty and self-sacrifice.

The American fighting man faces some of the most severe terrain and weather conditions our military has had to cope with in battle and meets the enemy in his own backyard. Still, throughout the longest war our nation has ever experienced, he has set an example for other generations to follow by demonstrating those qualities described by Napoleon.

It was courage that sent Sergeant Ron Hatfield of Williamson, W. Va., into what he knew was a trap to aid a wounded comrade the enemy had set up for bait.

It was loyalty that prompted Ranger Specialist 4 Malvin Jones of Kansas City, Mo. to brave a hail of enemy fire to rescue three seriously wounded friends. Three times he returned to their position to carry each man back the 100 meters to the LZ where they were extracted.

It was Sergeant Kenneth Andrade of El Paso, Tex., who made the supreme sacrifice during one brief period of contact when he treated several wounded comrades, carried ammunition to gun positions under a hail of enemy fire, and killed seven NVA before he was struck down.

These are just a few examples of courage, loyalty and self-sacrifice demonstrated by men of the Famous Fighting Fourth Division.

Another great military leader, Dwight D. Eisenhower, realized full well the demand placed on the Americans in Vietnam.

"Soldiers in Vietnam must find the strength to endure from somewhere deep inside themselves to face the task ahead. A task their country asks of them to protect the liberties we hold so dear."



**ALWAYS OBSTACLES**—These First Brigade Rangers cross this river in the Central Highlands with little trouble. They are trained to overcome whatever obstacles might be in their way and interrupt the completion of their mission. (USA Photo By PFC Chuck Colgan)

## Training Teaches Tactical Techniques

**CAMP ENARI**—Whether he be a replacement for the Fourth Infantry Division, a Vietnamese Regional or Popular Forces soldier, or a former North Vietnamese Army troop turned Kit Carson scout, the soldier leaving the 4th Training Detachment is well prepared for whatever he may face in the future.

Since the first of the year, more than 15,000 soldiers have been taught the tactical techniques which will counter the jungle warfare tactics employed by the Viet Cong (VC) and North Vietnamese Army (NVA).

The training detachment provides newly assigned Fourth Division soldiers with a three-day training orientation which includes weapons familiarization, and for more seasoned Vietnam soldiers there is the NCO Leadership School, Pre-MACV Recondo School and MACV Recondo School.

Added emphasis has recently been placed on the detachment's Special Division-School Training. This division, which includes First Lieutenant Steven Carlson of Hingham, Mass., and four non-commissioned officers, has the responsibility of training the RF and PF soldiers plus the Kit Carson scouts.

A total of 350 Regional and Popular Force troops have participated in the training since its inception in November of last year, while 200 Kit Carson scouts have been trained since January 1. The Kit Carson training program was started in June of 1968.

Regional and Popular Force soldiers are chosen for the two week individual training periods by Government of South Vietnam (GVN) authorities. The majority of the trainees are non-commissioned officers.

During his stay at the training detachment, the Vietnamese soldier receives instruction in weapons firing and maintenance, map reading and leadership training.



**NO PASSPORT NEEDED**—Carol Foster is a 19-year-old green-eyed blonde from Sydney, Australia. With the new visa and passport regulations for Vietnam soldiers (see story page 1) we can't understand why this private secretary with statistics of 34-22-34 is sunning all alone?

## Theater Dedicated

(Continued From Page 1)  
enemy force toward the company perimeter.

PFC Willett covered the squad's withdrawal, but his position drew heavy enemy machine-gun fire and he received multiple wounds which enabled the enemy to again pin down the remainder of the squad.

PFC Willett then struggled to an upright position, and, disregarding his serious wounds, he again engaged the enemy with his rifle to allow his squad to continue movement and to evacuate several of his comrades who had been wounded.

Moving from position to position, PFC Willett engaged the enemy at close range until he was mortally wounded.

"By his unselfish acts of bravery, PFC Willett insured the withdrawal of his comrades to the company position, saving their lives at the cost of his own," cited the award citation. Eyewitness accounts credit PFC Willett with the killing of at least 11 enemy soldiers.

When the RF and PF training had one of its largest graduating classes, 33, earlier this month, Lieutenant Colonel Quang, Vietnamese liaison to II Corps, attended the graduation. Colonel Quang commented on the efficiency of the training program.

Presently the training detachment has its largest enrollment in the Kit Carson program, with 44 former enemy soldiers taking part in 12 days of instruction.

The Kit Carson scout receives instruction in language, and the tactical and technical aspects of an American infantry company.

Thirty-five percent of the instruction is in English. The American instructors, utilizing their Vietnamese interpreters, teach English by drawing the words on a blackboard and then having the Kit Carson scouts memorize the words.

Upon completion of the course the Kit Carson scouts are assigned to infantry battalions within the Fourth Division. In many cases the scouts aid the Americans in fighting against their former units.

Captain Kim Olmstead of Bremerton, Wash., is the commanding officer of the Training Detachment, while the non-commissioned officers on the training staff include Sergeant First Class George W. Chastine of Seneca, S.C.; SFC Patrick C. Mc Cormack of Columbus, Ga.; Staff Sergeant Gerald L. Johnson of North Hollywood, Calif.; and Sergeant Audrey Roseboro of Ozark, Ala.

### Vietnamese Language Lesson

## Understand Your Neighbors

ENGLISH	VIETNAMESE	PRONUNCIATION
Hello (to a man)	Chaaw awng	Chao ong
(to a madam)	Chaaw baa	Chao ba
(to miss)	Chaaw koe	Chao co
Who speaks English?	Aay noy tiang Aann?	Ai noi tieng Anh?
What is your name?	Ten awng laa yi?	Ten ong la gi?
(to a man)	Awng tu daw den day?	Ong tu dau den day?
Where are you from?	Kwan dik?	Quan dich?
Where is the enemy?		

## Soldiers Win DSC

(Continued From Page 1)  
temporary duty and returned in May, 1966 for 18 months. It was during his second trip to Southeast Asia in October of 1967 that the NCO received the Silver Star

for action in the Duc Pho region. Gleason, Wis., is now home for the 27-year-old soldier, and that is where his wife Rose lives with their three-month-old daughter.